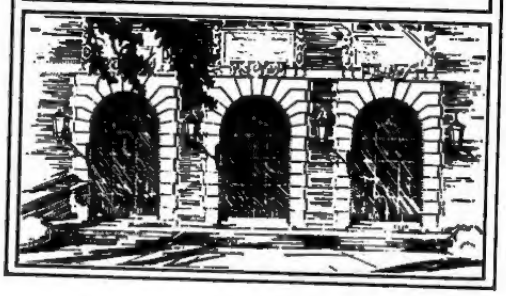
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The Japan Weekly Mail:

A REVIEW

OF

JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS,

LITERATURE, AND ART.

VOL. XXIII.

JANUARY TO JUNE, 1895.

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The Japan Weekly Mail:

A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

No. 1.] REGISTERED AT THE G.P.O. AS A NEWSPAPER. YOKOHAMA, JANUARY 5TH, 1895. 明治二十五年一月十日郵便物認可 VOL. XXII.

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA !"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same: and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, JAN. 5TH, 1895.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

THE Atami *jinrikisha*-tramway is now open from Atami to Yoshihama.

THE bright, clear weather which ushered in the Christmas Holidays still continues.

YOKOHAMA was profusely decorated during he New Year's holidays.

COUNT OKUMA'S mother, a venerable lady of over four-score years and ten, died during the week.

A PROJECT is on foot among Englishmen of Yokohama to give a St. George's Ball on the 23rd April.

PAST GRAND MASTER John C. Smith, of Illinois, lectured on "Oddfellowship" at the Masonic Hall on Friday.

THE police fire brigades of Yokohama, after going through a series of drills, paraded the Settlement on Friday.

THERE have been several big fires in Kobe during the last ten days, and the damage done is estimated at thousands of dollars.

OWING to the Emperor's absence in Hiroshima, the usual New Year's ceremonies did not take place in the Imperial Palace, Tokyo.

THERE fires occurred in Yokohama during the week, the most serious being that in the compound of No. 94, Settlement, a *momban's* house being destroyed. The others were in Japanese town.

FUJITA'S Hotel, Miyanoshita, was largely patronised by the Staffs of various Legations in Tokyo during the Christmas holidays.

H.I.H. THE CROWN Prince paid his New Year's visit to Their Imperial Majesties the Empress and Empress-Dowager on the 1st inst.

AN eleven of Visitors met the Y.C. and A.C. at football under Association rules on Wednesday, and were beaten by eight goals to one.

THREE houses were destroyed by fire at Asakawa-mura, Minami-tama District, Tokyo, on the last day of the year. One man was burnt to death.

NINE houses in Otowacho, Koishikawa, Tokyo, were destroyed by fire on New Year's day. An old women, aged 89, was burnt to death in this conflagration.

IT is expected that the revision of the Treaties between Japan and the United States, France, Germany, and Russia will be completed during this month.

THE Bank of Japan issued convertible notes to the amount of *yen* 2,800,000 on the 29th, and *yen* 1,200,000 on the 30th ult., making a total of *yen* 4,000,000.

THE latest dispatch from Port Arthur states that a Headman has been appointed at that Port, and an independent local administration is now carried on there.

A SALOON-KEEPER named Frame, shot an American sealer named Watts with a revolver during the course of a quarrel on Monday afternoon. Frame is still at large.

THEIR Imperial Highnesses Prince Tsune and Kane have contributed *yen* 100 to the Ladies' Nurse Society formed by some members of the Red Cross Society.

THE Emperor of China has summoned a Supreme Military Council, with Prince Kung at its head, to take into immediate consideration the desperate straits of the Empire.

THE number of dysentery cases reported in the Empire up to the end of last year was 154,000, of which 36,000 were fatal. This is a decrease of 13,000 cases and 5,000 deaths as compared were the previous year.

SOME Athletic sports organised by the ship's company of H.M.S. *Plover* took place on Thursday on the Cricket-ground. Walking against eight of the sailors, Hancock, the professional, was beaten in eight laps by 25 seconds.

MR. HASHIMOTO KIYOSHI, of Nagasaki, who obtained permission to raise the wreck of the Chinese man of-war *Kwang-yi*, which sank during the fight off Phung-do, has salved three guns from the ship. The guns are now in Saseho.

FROM the commencement of the War up till the 6th of December the casualties among the Japanese soldiers, totalled 780. Disease was more fatal than were the bullets and swords of the enemy, 430 dying from the former cause and only 350 from the latter.

COUNTS YAMAGATA and Saigo, Viscounts Kabayama and Shinagawa, Lieutenant-General Kawakami, and several other civil and military officers visited Head-quarters at Hiroshima on the 1st inst. to pay congratulations to His Majesty the Emperor. Counts Ito and Kuroda, Viscounts Watanabe, and Marquis Saionji, Ministers of State, and Higashikuze, and other members of the Privy Council, now in Tokyo, sent their messages of congratulation by telegraph.

THE number of successful applicants in 1894 at the examinations for physicians, dentists, and chemists, was as follows:—249 physicians, 12 dentists, and 26 chemists in Tokyo, 56 physicians and 8 dentists in Kyoto; 23 physicians at Nagasaki, and 23 chemists in Osaka.

H.I.M. THE EMPEROR has been pleased to bestow a decoration of the Second Class of the Order of the Rising Sun on Major-General Meckel, formerly German Military Instructor to the Japanese Army, in recognition of his services. The Emperor of Germany has received the grand insignia of the Order of the Chrysanthemum.

REUTER telegraphs:—An agreement has been entered into between the Governments of Great Britain and Japan, extending for six months the period fixed by the recent Anglo-Japanese Treaty for the conclusion of a supplementary convention providing for the conversion into specific duties of the *ad valorem* rates named in the Tariff annexed to the Treaty. Lord Randolph Churchill has rallied somewhat from his recent attack of illness, but the doctors give no hope of restoration to health. The British Revenue Returns for the last three months of the year just closed show a large increase, which is encouraging evidence of the revival of trade in reality. A German Party is preparing for an anti-British crusade concerning the state of affairs in Samoa. The Press in Germany demands German tutelage. The German Embassy at Paris, in consequences of the repeated attacks made by the Press, announces officially that there have been no dealings whatever with Dreyfus. A Hova outpost has been fired on by a French cruiser in Antongill Bay. The Hovas lost three men killed and withdrew. A French man-of-war has captured a Hova fort near Tamatave. The Wazili capital, on the north-west frontier of India, has been occupied with but slight opposition, by the expedition despatched against the tribe. General Mercier, French Minister of War, has introduced a bill punishing by death any treason or espionage on the part of officers or soldiers.

As a general rule there is little to be said about the Import trade at this period, restricted transactions being the regular outcome of the holidays. Business has not been entirely neglected, however, and indications are not wanting that an early resumption will take place, and activity be resumed in the course of a few weeks. The outlook for Yarns and Shirtings is fair, as well as for a variety of Cotton goods; and in Woollens, while Mousselines and Italians are wanted, most other lines are neglected, and Blankets have at length ceased—almost—to attract any attention. Metals are not in great request, and the demand for certain kinds has fallen off. The Kerosene market is strong and prices are firm, though without quotable change. Sugar is quiet, and holders are waiting for customers. The Silk business is in a healthy condition. The stock of exportable parcels has been much further reduced than was expected a month ago, and Japanese manufacturers have taken a lot of Silk off this market suited to their purposes. A steady, if not large, business has been done in Waste. There is nothing to report in the Tea trade beyond the fact that the stock of leaf remaining is only about a thousand piculs, and that is of [illegible] quality. Exchange has

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THE SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS DURING THE WEEK.

During the past week the vernacular Press, true to the time-honoured custom of Japan, has written much about the departure of the old year and the advent of the new. It will be sufficient for the purposes of these columns to reproduce the *Mainichi Shimbun's* remarks on the New Year, since what it and the other papers say are nearly alike both in tone and substance:—"The New Year has come to renew everything. We cannot but feel glad. The flow of pleasurable sensation has limits, however. We can not drink the New Year's wine freely, for we find many a lesson of temperance in the facts that His Majesty is at Hiroshima superintending affairs of war in person, that there are no New Year's ceremonies and entertainments in the Imperial Household, and that the country's loyal and brave generals and soldiers are enduring great hardships and privations in Manchuria. Yet another thought strikes us, namely, that at no time have we ever had so much cause to rejoice, and so much reason to congratulate ourselves. Hitherto Europe was blind to Japan's true greatness and apt to slight her. Visitors from the civilized West saw the beauty of the rivers and mountains of Japan and did not grudge her the pretty appellation of the 'Paradise of the East.' They praised the works of her painters and sculptors, and called her the leader of Art in Asia. Briefly, Europe loved but did not respect Japan. The Europeans befriended the Japanese but did not fear them. The history of the past thirty years of foreign intercourse has made Japan known to the West only by her Fujiyama and her Lake Biwa, by her temples at Nikko and her brocades of Nishijin. But the war has wrought a sudden and complete change in Europe's attitude toward Japan. This New Year's Day of the 28th year of *Meiji* is the beginning not only of a new year, but also of a new era of Japanese greatness. An old saying has it that the embryo of the year is its opening day. The aphorism must be altered in the present case, the first day of 1895 contains a century in embryo."

* * *

The *Kokkai* urges the Government to take measures to invest itself with competence to hold the Civil Service Regulations in abeyance for the time being. These Regulations may be necessary in the case of employing men at home. But in procuring able officials for the occupied districts in China, work for the successful performance of which innate talent is much more valuable than any amount of book knowledge or any degree of documentary dexterity, the Government ought to set itself free from the trammals of the rules, if it at all desires to prove faithful to the State it serves. Not a few other vernacular journals, provincial as well as metropolitan, have expressed similar views in commenting on the New Year's Day. Indeed, some among them have gone the length of advocating the total abolition of the Regulations in question.

* * *

The *Yomiuri* writes much about the characteristics of France and Frenchmen, and comparing the former with Japan and the latter with the Japanese, declares that the two nations are born friends. Then, referring at some length to what French public opinion says of the present war, the Progressionist organ offers a tribute of gratitude to France in terms that remind one of Bacon's celebrated essays. In conclusion, the *Yomiuri* writes:—"We do not think, however, that the French are the only nation whose character and disposition resemble those of the Japanese, nor do we think that France is the only impartial judge of the Japanese-Chinese War. Among the many nations in the world there may be others that cherish the sentiments and opinions held sacred by the Japanese. But their voice is not nearly so loud as that of France in expressing their sympathy.

* * *

The *Nippon* has an elaborate essay in which it declares that a State, in order to be truly great, must be both rich and strong. Wealth coupled with strength deserves the fate of ancient Carthage, and strength shackled by the fetters of poverty can raise a country no higher than the status of Italy at present. The Independent organ emphatically advocates an increase of the navy and the commercial marine, as well as the encouragement of navigation to distant countries. These steps it considers the most necessary and hopeful that Japan can take, if it seeks to attain the position of a really great State. The extent of the measures is explicitly stated and the expenditure required to cover it is estimated at some 8,000,000 *yen* annually.

* * *

Speaking of the rumour that the Pekin Government has appointed an envoy to the Court of Japan to sue for peace, the *Jiji* takes it to be trustworthy, but attaches very little importance to the fact. It thinks that, however skilfully the envoy fulfils his mission, he is sure to encounter opposition from the ignorant Princes of the Blood and other high personages on his return to the Celestial Court, and to find his necessarily painful services utterly abortive. Peace will never be a *fait accompli*, until China sends an Imperial Prince powerful enough to overcome the foolish opposition of conceited Mandarins, or until she receives with due honour a Plenipotentiary from the Court of Japan.

* * *

It is to be frankly acknowledged, writes the courageous *Kokumin*, that International Law is Europe's gift to the world. But no nation has ever so fully recognised the sacredness of its principles and so faithfully carried them into execution as the Japanese. It is now patent to the whole world that the Emperor has distinctly ordered the nation to obey the tenets of International Law, and that the Japanese Army and Navy have succeeded in keeping within the bounds of that Law. Not a few provisions that existed before the present war, in the minds of European jurisconsults as mere ideal rules for regulating the intercourse of Christian States, have now been carried into practice by the Japanese. Europe, it is true, has given birth to International Law, but Japan has contributed vigour and binding force to its tenets. "We therefore suggest that a meeting of Representatives of all the Powers be held in Japan, after this war, for deliberating and deciding upon advisable additions and amendments in connection with this important Law." The same journal gives the following advice to the literary men of Japan:—"Now that Japan has emerged upon the stage of the world, the talent and learning of not a few of her scholars being worthy of a far greater share of the world's attention than those of Henry Norman or Edwin Arnold, they should frequently send their writings to European and American magazines and newspapers that they may thereby place Japan in her true light before the surprised eyes of the world."

* * *

The *Jiji*, which, as our readers know, is more profoundly solicitous than any other Metropolitan journal about the future of Korea, writes as follows of the progress of administrative reforms in the Peninsular Kingdom:—"Of late we have heard much to make us believe that Korean reforms have shown signs of progress, but we think nevertheless that their consummation will by no means be easy. The measures suggested by Count Inouye are as good as the occasion requires. No better seem possible whoever be the statesman framing them. They are excellent prescriptions for curing the sick politics of Korea. It is, however, extremely hard to conceive that the Cabinet, a group of quack doctors, will prove themselves competent to practically apply the recipes given by such a physician as Count Inouye. Although, by the recent changes in the *personnel* in the Ministry, Boku Eiko and Jo Kwohan have obtained portfolios, it is at best doubted whether they are placed in such a position as will enable them to carry out their designs and wishes to the full. Equal uncertainty exists with regard to the Tai Wŏn-kun's retirement and the Queen's abstention from interference in Administrative and Court affairs. The Korean Government and Court are like a den of evil demons, for every member of each is perpetually engaged at or small [illegible] the intriguer's rank, power, and influence. Even the Tonghak rebellion is said to have its source in the sinister machinations of one or more of these demons. Add to this the far more advanced stage of corruption prevailing in the Provincial governments, whose officials are all tyrants, regarding the people as no higher beings than horses, cows, or pigs. To have recourse to a metaphor, the case of Korea is that of a highly refractory son, whom a stern father may happen to correct, but a fond mother always spoils. Under these and other equally unfavourable circumstances, Korean reforms seem impossible of achievement unless Japanese statesmen are placed in all the important posts of both the Central and Provincial Governments. Such an extent of interference may be condemned as more than protection. But stern facts speak in its favour. The Korean Government, if left in the hands of Koreans, must fail from financial embarrassment, if not from any other cause. The Japanese Authorities must before everything grasp the reins of finance, and, at the same time, Japan must furnish some millions of money to her all but bankrupt *protegé*. Young and educated Koreans, placed in inferior Administrative posts, under the guidance of Japanese superiors, may be gradually initiated into civilized methods and usages.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

DISTRESS IN PEKIN.

ACCORDING to the Tientsin correspondent of a Tokyo contemporary, very great distress prevails at present in the Chinese capital. Not only has the price of ordinary necessities reached a fabulous height, but actual famine does not appear far distant for the poorer classes. The reason of this is that the peasantry of Chihli have either been largely drafted into the army or have else deserted their homes and fields out of sheer panic, with the result that the markets are very scantily supplied with food, vegetables in particular being difficult to procure. Moreover, thousands of these panic-stricken people have made their way to Pekin, where they live a hand-to-mouth existence, or else take to criminal courses in order to earn a livelihood. The Chinese residents of the capital are further said to be suffering greatly from the unlicensed greed and downright cruelty of the recently levied troops now stationed in and about Pekin. Instances of theft in broad daylight, of kidnapping of young women, of rape and even of murder, are by no means rare, the lawlessness of the "city's defenders" being absolutely without bounds, while nobody seems to have any control over their conduct. The calling for seamen to protect the various Foreign Legations is thus a most necessary step; even at present, remarks the correspondent, it is dangerous for a foreigner to walk abroad: and should the success of the Japanese arms continue and the combined armies approach Pekin, it is more than probable that the great city will fall an easy prey because of the disorder within the walls. Rapid preparation is being made, it is finally alleged, for the immediate flight of the Emperor and other members of the Imperial Family.

THE STORY OF THE GENMU GATE.

ACCORDING to the latest information given us by the vernacular papers, the story of the Genmu Gate heroism at the battle of Phyŏng-yang requires to be considerably modified. The popular version is that Harada Jukichi was the hero who scaled the wall and threw the gate open, but we are now told that there were twelve soldiers in all who undertook the dangerous task, all of whom are no less worthy of recognition than Harada Jukichi. Lieut. Mimura of No. 6 Company arrived first at the gate, writes Goto Tatsukichi, one of the 12, from Takushan to his elder brother in Kanaya, Shizuoka. Only twelve soldiers had followed their leader, so rapid was his march. When the Lieutenant found the gate so strongly bolted on the inside that it was beyond the power of twelve men to force it, he commanded his

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himself. Jumping down on the other side the twelve intrepid soldiers led by the gallant Lieutenant at once rushed at the defenders and killed three of them. The rest, however, fired at them from a distance and it was desperate work for the Japanese to keep their ground. Twice the Lieutenant ordered that the rest of the Company should be summoned from without. While Surgeon Kakishima was away carrying out the command, one of the soldiers was wounded and another killed. The Lieutenant, however, still held on, and at the first opportunity ordered Harada Jukichi to unbolt the gate and fling it wide open. Just as this was accomplished the other men of the Company arrived to the rescue of their comrades, and together with other soldiers who had followed, they rushed at the defenders and the position fell into their hands. One other of the twelve men was killed, however, before the rescue-party came up to the place.

A SWISS BOY AND MARSHAL YAMAGATA.

MANY are the letters, write the Tokyo papers, that reach Marshal Yamagata from unknown persons in the west, the purport of them being invariably complimentary to the valour and generalship of the Marshal. One of these epistles, lately received, was quite amusing, inasmuch as the sender is a little Swiss boy. The juvenile correspondent wrote to this effect :—"To his most venerable Excellency Marshal Yamagata. General, I am a common school boy but eight years old. My name is Werter Schultz (?) and I am living in Berne. Switzerland I find on the map to be not so big as Japan. I am very glad that you are to the Chinese what my Swiss forefathers were to their foes, and I am also glad that the brave Marshal has always won victories wherever he fought. I hope that you may subjugate the big Chinese Empire and break down the walls that surround it, for I think it is on account of the walls that I have not yet got a Chinese postage stamp for my album. I think you are very kind. Would you then be so good as to spare me a few of the Chinese stamps that you must find plentifully among the spoils you take in China." The Marshal was mightily amused when he looked at this innocent letter, and at once gave orders that some stamps should be sent to the little boy.

A CHANCE SHOT.

WHILE storming the first line of forts at Port Arthur, a soldier belonging to the 24th Regiment raised his rifle to fire at an unusually conspicuous Chinaman. Just as he was about to fire, a bullet from the enemy's side came whizzing on and, marvellous to relate, entered the barrel of his own gun as smoothly and neatly as if the muzzles had been placed mouth to mouth. Of course there was an explosion, and the soldier's piece was shattered to the stock, but without his receiving any injuries whatever. A fractional variation to the right or left would have caused the hostile bullet to enter his head or face, so that his escape was nothing short of miraculous. He preserved the stock of his now useless weapon and afterwards exhibited it to his colonel, who permitted him to keep it as a memento of his narrow escape. It is probably the first instance of the kind on record.

REGULAR SERVICE TO TALIEN.

THOUGH Talien is one of the places occupied by the Japanese, the opening of a steam service thither would, says the *Jiji*, be a very risky affair while the war is going on. It is of course out of the question that any Company aiming simply at profit should undertake the service. We cannot therefore admire too much the chivalrous public sentiment of the Yusen Kaisha when we learn that it has resolved to accept the risk. Merchants and goods-owners, on hearing this news, expressed great satisfaction, and many of them at once began to procure goods to be shipped to Talien. But while the *Higo Maru* was loading at Jinsen, a telegram arrived from Head-quarters at Hiroshima to the effect that the steamer was not to proceed to Talien. Great was the consternation among shippers and merchants when they were told of this injunction and both they and the Company are, it is said, endeavouring to obtain consent for their scheme. The opening of such a service is of the greatest necessity, especially on account of the coolies who have to be supplied with articles through their inspectors. These latter, however, not being rich men, it is impossible for them to take with them a large enough stock of things necessary for the coolies. They therefore give money instead which, however, does not serve the same purpose owing to the want of commodities. The coolies being thus in a distressed condition, the speedy opening of a regular service to Talien is of the greatest importance.

CUSTOMS RETURNS.

THE following is a summary of the Customs Returns for November showing the foreign trade of the empire for the month :—

	1893. SILVER YEN.	1894. SILVER YEN.
Exports	8,987,347 370	11,025,199 760
Imports	8,252,398 550	10.026,488.960
Total exports and imports		21,051,688.720
Excess of exports		998.710.800

CUSTOMS DUTIES.

Exports	203 719.458
Imports	303.730.387
Miscellaneous	13,509.088
Total	520.964.933

TOTAL VALUE OF EXPORTS TO AND IMPORTS FROM VARIOUS FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

	Exports. Silver Yen.	Imports. Silver Yen.	Total. Silver Yen.
China	323,800.550	2,661,435.630	2,985,236.180
Hongkong	1,122,562.870	735,955.220	1,858,518.080
British India	304,162.330	598,600.220	902,768.550
Korea	358,680.530	106,338.020	465,018.550
Annam & other French India	2,001.400	406,157.660	408,159.060
Russian Asia	163,696.180	144,725.860	308,352.040
Philippine Islands	7,013.442	249,982.930	257,596 370
Siam	—	107,181.490	107,181.490
Great Britain	462,127.010	3,480,281.230	3,942,409.240
France	2,819,204.760	346,088.740	2,165,293 500
Germany	191,054 010	739,458 010	880,512 820
Italy	332,840,620	39,518.400	372,359 020
Switzerland	77,803,000	51,387 530	128,590.580
Austria	77,431 470	1,666.230	79,097.700
Belgium	1,558.860	87,443.780	58,996.640
Holland	6,8 9.900	5,832 980	12,742.880
Spain	2,075.000	2,732.060	5,806.060
Sweden & Norway	—	5,819.100	5,819.100
Russia	3,130.700	401.050	3,530.750
Turkey	2,811.750	—	2,811.750
Denmark	—	443.820	443.820
Portugal	—	109,000	109 000
United States of America	5,375,625.910	1,107,745.640	6,483,371.550
Canada & other British America	99,155.400	4,761.800	103,920.200
Australia	75,616.010	128,527 880	204,135 800
Hawaii	39,722.530	67 000	39,778 830
Other Countries	28,169.580	25,248.350	53,417.930
Total	12,868,811.200	10,026,488.960	20,894,700.060

TOTAL VALUE OF EXPORTS AND IMPORTS FROM AND TO EACH PORT.

	Exports. Silver Yen.	Imports. Silver Yen.	Total. Silver Yen.
Yokohama	7,766,791.590	4,861,080.130	12,627,871.720
Kobe	1,365,774.200	4,472,064.000	6,837,838.260
Osaka	65,509.800	97,177 350	109,687.150
Nagasaki	375,819.230	555,291 600	930,410 830
Hakodate	55,262.650	6,628.720	61,791.370
Niigata	—	4,490 590	4,490.590
Shimonoseki	221,089.330	19,872.880	240,762 210
Moji	86,033.200	—	86,033.890
Karatsu	324 700	—	324.710
Kuchinotsu	72,170.000	—	72,170 000
Idzumihara	3,089.140	106.630	3.195.700
Shiahimi	897 100	283 000	2,080.100
Sasuna	485.720	—	485.720
Fushiki	—	10,093.960	10,093.960
Otaru	12,650.500	—	12,650.500
Specie and Bullion { Exports	5.487.282 700		
Specie and Bullion { Imports	1,755.707.970		
Total	7,242,990 670		
Excess of exports	3,731,574.730		

VALUE OF EXPORTS AND IMPORTS BY JAPANESE MERCHANTS AND GOVERNMENT.

By Japanese Merchants { Exports	1.984,174.620
By Japanese Merchants { Imports	3,190,869 050
Imported by Government	52.054.220

TOTAL VALUE OF COMMODITIES EXPORTED FROM AND IMPORTED INTO JAPAN EACH MONTH DURING CURRENT YEAR.

	Exports. Silver Yen.	Imports. Silver Yen.	Total. Silver Yen.
January	7,556,562.190	8,851,157.800	16,407,720.050
February	6,513,746.710	7,825,479.000	14,339,225.800
March	10,304,410.550	9,465,647.560	19,770,058.110
April	7,720,358.020	9,905,888.133	17,632,196.150
May	9,001,050.140	10,321,784.830	19,337,845.970
June	8,708,573.400	10,270,480.500	18,979,050.900
July	8,355,032.480	9,883,217.000	18,238,258.480
August	11,131,276.090	10,793,848 260	21,924,634.350
September	9,842,689.790	10,073,621.910	19,916,311.700
October	11,008,879.170	10,549,313.980	21,555,193.150
November	11,025,199.760	10,026,488.960	21,051,688 720
Total	102,467,463.500	107,902,949 180	209 370,412.680

ODDFELLOWSHIP.

ON Friday evening Bro. General J. C. Smith, Past Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Illinois, I.O.O.F., and the present Scribe of the Grand Encampment of the same State, gave a lecture in the Masonic Temple, Yokohama, under the auspices of the Far East Lodge, No. There was a very sparse attendance of the general public. Bro. D.D.G.S. E. V. Thorn introduced the distinguished visitor to the N.G. Bro. L. Ph. von Heinert, who then vacated he chair, and Bro. Smith addressed the meeting upon the benefits accuring from membership of the Order of Oddfellows. He had joined the Order in his early manhood and had risen through its various grades until the Brethren had conferred upon the highest honours that could be given in the Order, at least in his State. Having referred to the great antiquity of Freemasonry, and Bro. Smith said that Oddfellowship, unlike Freemasonry, was entirely an outcome of the present century, notwithstanding all that Oddfellow orators might argue to the contrary. It was a belief generally entertained that Oddfellowship originated in England, but he had found, after diligent research, that Oddfellowship existed in New York several years before it was known in England. It was on the records that a few actors had organized a Shakespeare Lodge of Oddfellows in New York in the year 1806. Now the Manchester Unity of Oddfellows in England, the parent of the present Oddfellows' Lodges in the U.S., did not take its rise until 1812. The speaker then explained how that an English Oddfellow, named Thomas Wyldie, a coachbuilder's blacksmith, with three other Oddfellows, one a member of an unrecorded body in America, organised the Washington Lodge, No. 1, in Baltimore, obtaining a charter from the Duke of York Lodge, Preston, England; and this afterwards became the Sovereign Grand Lodge of the United States. From this small beginning the Order has risen till now 1,000,000 active members were on its rolls; its income was $7,000,000 annually, and its registered disbursements $4,000,000 annually, which was only a part of its charity. As an instance of the benevolence of Oddfellows, the speaker alluded to the fact that on the occasion of the great fire at Chicago, the Order contributed towards the relief of the distressed there $135,000. The grand principles of independence, thrift, and charity were then expiated upon, in the course of which many instances were given of the benefits which members of the Order had received on the battlefield, travelling by rail, steamboat, by land or sea, benefits which were only obtained through their possession of the signs and tokens of the Order. Bro. Thorn having thanked the speaker, the meeting dispersed.

GERMANY AND THE NEW CZAR.

THE probable course which will be followed by Czar Nicholas II. has very naturally become a prolific field for speculation. The European press is burdened with deductive opinions on the subject. More especially is the probable attitude of the Czar towards Great Britain, France, and Germany a subject of extensive speculation. As to the Czar's relations towards Germany, we find an interesting article in the *Hamburger Nachrichten*, from which we reproduce the following :—Under the last two Czars, says the *Nachrichten*, good fortune had forsaken the Imperial family of Russia. Alexander II. breathed his last under a Nihilist bomb, and the fate of his successor, who has now died, was also cruel. True, Alexander III. was the first of the House of Romanoff in whose reign there was no war, and the world knows what a debt she owes for the maintainence of peace to the deceased monarch, who was personally averse to all shedding of blood. But the internal affairs of his empire gave him little satisfaction, and his end was highly tragic. Now his son, Nicholas Alexandrovich, has ascended the Russian throne as Nicholas II. What will be the fate of this youthful ruler of 26 years? How will Russia's future shape itself under his reign? What political course will the new Czar pursue, —how will it affect European conditions, war, and peace? These are questions with which the whole world is at present occupied, and rightly so, for the shifting of the situation in Europe, during the past few years, has naturally transferred the political centre of gravity to St. Petersburg. We may have to count with this situation for some time to come, and for this reason we have all the more cause to acquaint our-

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selves with the person who has now become the ruler of Russia. As yet the new Czar appears to Germany in no unfavourable light. From the little that has so far become known of *him* we may conclude that he is not unfriendly towards the German Empire. Upon his union with a German Princess, and the family relation between himself and the Royal House at Berlin, we lay not much stress, as such connections, in our time, exert little, if any, political influence. But what has become known of his attitude toward Germany when visiting this country justifies the assumption that he *is not* without sympathy for the German people and the German army, and that if he is more inclined towards West-European ideas than was his father, such ideas are not to be regarded as specifically French. Moreover, the young Czar belongs to a generation conscious of the fact that Germany has become a great Power, which must be regarded as an unchangeable *fait accompli*, and that the former disconnection of Germany, and her consequent impotence, must be regarded as things of the past. It is also significant that the French papers have frequently spoken of the danger to their projects of *révanche* because the heir to the Russian throne evinced special preference for the German language. This may not signify much; though it justifies the supposition that the Czar cannot be regarded as a special friend of France, and supporter of French chauvinism, against Germany. Outside of this, we believe that for the time being Nicholas II. will follow the precedents of his father. This will be in keeping with the manifesto he has issued, in which he says that he is conscious of the legacy of Alexander III., and that his sole aim will be to peaceably develop the power and glory of Russia, and to be constantly mindful of the happiness of his subjects. Such proclamations, of course, are never binding upon subsequent determinations; these always depend on the course of political events. But for the present there is no ground to doubt the good intentions of the monarch, and that he desires peacefully to carry out this programme. Very much will depend, however, on the power of resistance that the new ruler may possess against the divergent and combating influences that will, if possible, be brought to bear upon him from all sides. We can only hope that like his father, he will find sound precedents for his determinations for the well-known interests of Russia. Without doubt the interests of Russia point to the maintainence of peace in Europe and the friendship of Germany, for without these two the aims of Russia in Asia and in the Balkans will scarcely be realized. We hope German policy will aid the new Czar in maintaining friendly relations with this country. Emperor William II., when toasting the new Czar at Stettin, has already referred to the traditional relation and brotherhood in arms (*Waffenbruederschaft*) between Germany and Russia. Our policy should be, that in all matters in which we are not directly concerned, we give Russia a free hand to act, and that in all such matters we never give the appearance of favouring her opponents. Then our position, to guard our own interests, will be all the stronger without cause to fear strained relations. And then we need make no concessions in order to be treated as valuable friends at St. Petersburg. At any rate, we Germans have no cause to distrust the sincere motives of the young Czar. We wish him a successful reign, free from a fate unkind to himself, his house, and Russia. May Russia reach her goal both at home and abroad. A strong and mighty Russia with which we are on friendly terms is the best pillar we could wish for ourselves in Europe.

A PORT ARTHUR EPISODE.

AFTER Chinchow had fallen and the Japanese Army was ready to march on Port Arthur, the Japanese officers decided, by way of diversion, to send a letter to the Chinese Generals in command at the latter place, advising them to surrender. An officer who had been for some years a military *attaché* in the Japanese Legation in Pekin, countersigned the letter, of which two copies were sent, one by a native, the other by a prisoner of war. The letter was to the effect that as the Japanese Army, 50,000 strong, was about to attack Port Arthur, believed to be but poorly defended by raw levies, and that as it was decreed by Heaven that China should be vanquished in this war, as amply proved by the battles of A-san, Phyông-yang, the Yellow Sea and so forth; the defenders of Port Arthur had better give up any attempt at resistance. They would then be able to enjoy the hospitable treatment extended by Japan to her prisoners of war, which would be better than undertaking the hopeless task of defence and causing the unnecessary slaughter of Chinese soldiers. It was feared that the letters would not reach the Chinese Generals, but much to the amusement of the Japanese officers both of the copies sent were found among the documents seized in the Chinese camp in Port Arthur. They also discovered an answer, which must have been drawn up by the Chinese Generals, though it had apparently never been despatched. It was couched in bombastic and grandiloquent terms, and attributed the defeats sustained by the Chinese since the commencement of the war, not to the valour of their antagonists, but to defective preparations and an unlucky choice of generals and *so forth* on China's part. It warned the Japanese officers not to be over-confident and not to underrate the strength of the foe. An account of their brief military career is then given and a statement made that the 30,000 men under them were ready to defend their positions to the death, all being of one heart. They would fight with the water in their rear, a famous disposition from ancient times, making the soldiers desperate and victorious. Success was always said to attend the righteous cause, which of course is China's, Korea having been a dependency of the Middle Kingdom for two centuries. The letter concluded by asking for information as to the date on which the Japanese intended to fight, as they, the Commanders of the garrison, would then march out from their positions at the head of their troops and engage in a pitched battle.

THIS YEAR'S PELAGIC SEALING.

THE official statement regarding the pelagic sealing of 1894, compiled from log-books sworn to, has been forwarded to Ottawa, London and Washington. Data is given as to the latitude and longitude in which seals were secured, and a chart accompanies the many tables of statistics on which is traced the blood-red trail of the hunters. This being the first season since the international complications arose, in which sealers had access to Behring Sea, they spent from the 1st of August to the middle of September, strictly observing the law prohibiting the use of firearms under the watchful supervision of United States' gunboats, and confining themselves to the use of spears. Only about half of the fleet were able to secure spearsmen, and these did remarkably well. Despite this and other interferences, the total for the year is the largest on record, the catch of the fifty-nine vessels being 294,474 this year's skins, against 70,332 for the fleet of fifty-five in 1893, and 45,383 for the sixty-five schooners in 1892. There were engaged this year 818 whites and 518 Indians, last year's crews including 847 whites and 432 natives. Divided in sections, the catch of the Canadian fleet this season as compared with last is as follows:—British Columbia catch for 1894 was 11,703, for 1893, 20,113; Japan coast catch, 248,993; 29,206; Copper Islands, 7,487; 12,013; Behring Sea catch, 26,341; blank; totals, 294,474; 70,332. It will thus be seen that the Behring Sea catch made all the difference. Despite the magnitude of the catching, vessel owners are still complaining. They say that with three breaks in the season they are forced to hold their crews together, and taking the whole fleet into consideration, its operation has shown a margin of loss to owners, four or five of whom have recently sold their vessels to thrifty Indians. One of the most important features of the whole report is the statement showing how many of the seals taken in Behring Sea were bulls and how many cows. The figures the Collector has obtained on oath go to show that the proportion of bulls is far higher than had been claimed by some who fear the extermination of the seal herds, and the conclusion arrived at is quite different from that pointed to by figures sent from San Francisco to Washington a few weeks ago on the catch delivered at that port.

SUGGESTIONS OF THE "KOKUMIN-NO-TOMO."

THE *Kokumin-no-Tomo* has two suggestions to make in connection with the war. One is that Their Imperial Majesties the Emperor and Empress should make a tour through Europe and America, and the other, that the scope of the 4th Domestic Exhibition to be held in Kyoto, be enlarged and its opening postponed till the conclusion of the war. The tour of the Imperial Pair through the West needs no special explanation, observes the periodical; it is simply to show Japan's greatness and to make her one of the Powers of the world. While Western nations are still full of admiration of Japan, her Emperor and Empress should travel abroad with all suitable pomp, and thus elevate the status of this country to a great height. The time settled for the opening of the great Kyoto Exhibition will most likely coincide with the termination of the war, and it is therefore extremely desirable that the period should be deferred a little so that Western people, already dazzled by the glorious achievements of the Empire, may have time to come over and see the Exhibition. Its opening should be a triumphal commemoration.

THE WAR.

ON the subject of the war with China, the *Miyako Shimbun* has a paragraph that is interesting. "Japan must strike," remarks our contemporary, "*is* a saying always in the mouths of the people, and there are those who contend that Japan could have gone to war with China long ago, as this country is not one to tamely brook such international policy as it has ever been China's delight to pursue. But the announcement of hostilities was, in the first instance, not by any means of Japan's seeking. That she would take a step the necessity for which was literally compelled had long been apparent. Every year nearly one hundred memorials have been sent in to the Chinese Throne urging at once the necessity of declaring Korea a *bond fide* dependency of China, and striking a decisive blow at Japan, in order to force this country to relinquish the Ryukyu Group and cripple its trade. China has been for over two decades longing to declare war with Japan. In the Formosan War it was with the greatest difficulty that China's hostile interference was prevented by the foreign Powers; and in the present instance one has only to cast a glance as the diplomatic correspondence immediately preceding the war to see that China was wholly opposed to any half-way measures and eager to throw down the gauntlet. The whole Tsung-li Yamên has for many years been in favour of decisive action against Japan, believing that this Empire could speedily be wiped out or set aside as impotent. We have only done as the Chinese hoped we should, declared war with an opponent more than a dozen times our size—but with a (from a Chinese standpoint) wholly unexpected result.'

A NEAT SCHEME.

THE *Yamato Shimbun* has to tell of a certain Tokyo man who, because of his great need of ready money wherewith to worthily usher in the New Year and observe the appropriate ceremonies, struck upon the rather neat idea of stealing buckets from as many kitchens as he might be able to enter unawares and then selling his misappropriations for sums so small that every one would be glad to buy. Having evolved this plan from his inner consciousness, and by dint of painstaking stealth and peculative *legerde-main*, he managed to get together over three hundred and sixty buckets by the 25th ultimo. The best of these he piled upon a cart and set out in the capacity of an itinerant cooper, ply-

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ing his trade with honest zeal. He had managed to get rid of about half when Nemesis, in the shape of a police-detective, spotted him, and all his plans were shattered in a moment. A large number of buckets are now awaiting identification at the Asakusa District Station, while the enterprising cooper is chewing the cud of bitter regret in an adjoining cell.

WITH NAKED HANDS.

A few days ago we noticed an instance of remarkable bravery on the part of a body of Japanese coolies suddenly attacked by fugitive Chinese soldiers. Now the *Yamato Shimbun* narrates an incident of no less surprising a nature. Two days after the fall of Port Arthur, a Japanese commissariat station, about thirty Chinese *li* from the Port, was attacked by some Chinese soldiers, numbering about 800 men all told. Fifty Japanese soldiers were on guard at the station and these men fought with unflinching valour until their ammunition began to get short. Nothing less than dying to a man seemed to be the inevitable fate of the little troops of defenders, when the Captain in charge of the commissariat was approached by several of the commissariat coolies, who stated that they had a request to make. There were seven hundred of these men who has acted as porters, cooks, and what not. Not one of them was armed; but their representatives begged for permission to sally out against the Chinese with their naked hands. They might, the men declared, be able to drive back the attack for a while, or else divert the attention of the Chinese until other aid came. In default of all else, this request was somewhat reluctantly granted, and with wild cheers the Japanese threw themselves on the astonished Chinese. Troopers were pulled from their horses, swords wrenched from the grasp of foot-soldiers: in a word, the coolies, backed by the fifty soldiers, not only repulsed the Chinese but killed thirty of the number, took twice that many prisoners, and put the whole attacking force to flight. Five of the coolies were killed and wounded in this savage onslaught. If the *Yamato* is correct in its statements, this is certainly one of the most remarkable scenes of the war.

PILOT CHARTS OF THE NORTH PACIFIC OCEAN.

We have received from the Hydrographic Office of the Bureau of Navigation in Washington, specimens of the pilot charts of the North Pacific Ocean prepared in that Department under the direction of Commander Charles D. Sigsbee, U.S.N., Hydrographer. They are beautiful sheets, compiled in such a manner as to afford a mass of information in the clearest and briefest form. One of the charts showing the average tracks of storms over the northern hemisphere is particularly interesting. We note that the lines indicating the routes of the storms for the various months of the year begin to converge to the south of the Japanese islands and gather into a perfect sheaf between Yezo and the Aleutians. A corresponding convergence is observable on the opposite side of the hemisphere; that is to say, between the British Islands and the United States. Very curious, too, are the investigations recorded as to the intermittent character of sound emanating from a steam fog signal. The source of sounds appears to be surrounded by a belt varying in radius from one to one and a half miles from which the sound seems to be entirely absent. There is reason to think that the waves of sound travel in a series of eliptical segments, the sound being most audible at the points where these segments are cut by the surface of the sea. We need scarcely say that these charts are invaluable to masters of ships navigating the North Pacific.

OFFICIAL MERCHANTS.

The Moji correspondent of a metropolitan daily brings grave charges against the *go-yō-shōnin*, or merchants accustomed to supply the Government. The attack is mainly directed against a well-known Tokyo firm, mentioned by name, and two others who remain anonymous. It is alleged that in the matter of supplying Japanese quilts (*futon*) for the soldiers afield the greatest swindle has been detected. The *futon* are sold to the military authorities for two *yen* fifty *sen* each, and are outwardly attractive. Inspection, however, shows that they are filled with rotten cotton and sawdust, so that they become valueless after having been used two or three times. It is a burning shame, writes the correspondent indignantly, that the contractors cannot be held legally responsible for their unpatriotic cheating. One of the other firms supplied a lot of tinned *rakkyo*, that most evil-smelling vegetable of the leek variety, whose use is said to be as wholesome as the taste is strong. On being opened nearly all of the *rakkyo* was found to have been put up raw, or else so inadequately pickled that it was absolutely inedible. Whole mountains of the stuff have been thrown away. "I predict," concludes the correspondent, "that when our brave soldiers have polished off the whole lot of pigtails they will return to Japan,—but not to lay aside their arms. Their next step will be to exterminate the whole fraternity of *go-yo-shōnin*: the men that have sent them bad beef and rotten vegetables; that for the sake of gain would keep them cold at night and chilly by day; that care nothing for the health and comfort of this country's brave defenders, so long as their purses get heavier."

CHRISTMAS FESTIVITIES.

A second Christmas Ship entertainment was given at the Seamen's Free Reading Rooms, No. 82, Settlement, on Friday evening, and proved equally as attractive as the one held on Christmas night. One hundred and twenty seamen put in an appearance, one-twelfth of the number being British blue-jackets and the remainder merchant seamen. The programme consisted of vocal and instrumental music, recitations, etc., with short addresses from the Chaplain and his wife. The Christmas Ship was brilliantly illuminated with coloured candles, and at the close of the entertainment its cargo of gifts was discharged. Refreshments were then served. After a farewell song, with a rousing chorus, cheers were heartily given for the promoters of the entertainment. It was announced that a New Year's ship entertainment would be given at the mission on the evening of New Year's Day.

CURIOUS SPECULATION.

The special meeting of the British Cabinet, which was called during the vacation season, gave rise to an enormous amount of speculation as to the probable cause of the call. In this the papers at home and abroad have freely indulged. Among others, the *Wiener Tagblatt* has a long leader on the subject, in which it ransacks the political world for a reason why the British Cabinet was so suddenly called together. In the following we reproduce that portion which refers to the war, and the political situation in Eastern Asia:—The Japanese, says the *Tagblatt*, have gained great victories, both by land and sea. The situation of the great Celestial empire has become desperate. It seems Japan is determined to strike a fatal blow. But of what concern is it to Europe, whether China is ruined or not? However, the English are concerned, and the Russians perhaps even more that the English. The Russians too have cast a longing eye on Korea, which has now been conquered by Japan. But the Russians want even more than Korea. After they have completed their Siberian railway they may also want China. It seems Japan has anticipated them. Intervention on the part of Russia would at once be followed by intervention on the part of England. The latter can never permit Russia to proceed alone, inasmuch as there are not merely political but immense commercial interests at stake which England must protect. Perhaps the English Cabinet had received information to the affect that Russian troops were about to enter China from the north. Possibly the Russian fleet, which had concentrated at Vladivostock, has proceeded into Chinese waters. For what purpose? To separate the combatants? To bring pressure to bear in favour of negotiations for peace? Or, in case the Chinese empire is dissolved, to tear off pieces for the Russian empire? At all events, England has every reason to be on its guard and never permit Russia to proceed alone in this matter. True, Russia may have submitted a proposal to unite with England in the negotiations between China and Japan, and to use joint force if necessary rather than that the worst should happen to China, or that Japan should develop into a leading power in Eastern Asia. Such joint action would also be a very serious affair, and would require exceedingly careful consideration, all of which may have justified the meeting of the British Cabinet.

PRICES IN PORT ARTHUR.

We note in the columns of the vernacular press an instructive comparison of the prices ruling in Tokyo and Port Arthur with regard to certain indispensable commodities, though not strictly necessities. There are, a correspondent states, but two *sakaya*, or dealers in native wine, in the port, and they are able to sell their wares at fabulous prices. On the 16th instant there was not a bit of Japanese tobacco to be got anywhere for love or money, though a lot was shortly expected. The following table gives a fair idea of the scarcity of pretty much everything:—

	Price in Tokyo.		Price in Port Arthur.
Brown sugar, per lb.	6- 7 *sen*	...	70 *sen.*
Large slice of bread	1 *sen*	...	5 *sen.*
Japanese *saké*, per *go*	3- 4 *sen*	...	15 *sen.*
Beer, per bottle ...	13-16 *sen*	...	1 *yen.*
Cheap *tenugui* (towelling) the piece	3 *sen*	...	18 *sen.*
Ordinary cigars, each	10 *sen*	...	60 *sen.*
Package of 50 cigarettes	20 *sen*	...	80 *sen.*
Cotton handkerchiefs, each	2 *sen* 5 *rin*...		17-18 *sen.*
Large oranges, each	8 *rin*...		10 *sen.*

Even these enormous prices are paid, continues the correspondent, eagerly, as there is a keen competition for goods of the above kinds. If the would-be buyer does not present himself quickly, the chances are that everything will be sold out before he reaches the shop. Persons using sugar in cookery, according to the Japanese style, are nowhere to be found; salt is the condiment, and fish boiled in salted water are not at all nice, grumbles the correspondent. There is evidently a fine opening in Port Arthur for merchants of all sorts.

A STRANGE FIND.

On the morning of the 27th ultimo a strange discovery was made in the fine garden surrounding Mr. Iwasaki Yanosuke's residence at Surugadai, Tokyo. This was the corpse of a man of about thirty-five, in an advanced stage of decomposition. The body was dressed in a coarse shroud. The theory of the Kanda police is that some one must have brought the body through the creek in a boat to the foot of the garden, which runs down to the water's edge. To judge from the appearance of the corpse, which was greatly emaciated, poverty must have been the incentive for the act, the relative or relatives being too poor to defray the cost of proper obsequies, and hence leaving it on the premises of a wealthy man.

NEW YEAR'S GIFTS FOR THE SOLDIERS.

The advent of the New Year is causing renewed activity among patriotic Japanese who are not insensible of the great services rendered by the armies afield. For the last few days gifts of all descriptions have been forwarded to the War Department, begging that they should be sent on to the soldiers in time for the first three days of January. The Authorities themselves have placed an order with the Fugetaudo for twenty-four *koku* weight of *mochi*, white and red, that description of rice-dough or rice-bread which is considered indispensable at New Year's time—like our own Christmas plum pudding or the American turkey and cranberry sauce at Thanksgiving. It is said that a large proportion of the voluntary contributions

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had to be rejected, owing to their quickly perishable nature; yet packing cases of cakes, vats and tubs of wine, mits and socks, tobacco and cigarettes, note-books and cigarette holders, pictures, newspapers and magazines, have been forwarded to the front by the cartload. A ladies' association in Yokohama (*Fujin Jippei Kwai*) has sent in five hundred warm blankets; another association in Osaka has presented several hundred weight of cakes and a quantity of *mochi*: in a word, the people the country over have been thinking of the soldiers who have to spend their holiday surrounded by semi savage enemies and exposed to the exceptional rigour of a Manchurian winter.

ITEMS FROM PORT ARTHUR.

FROM correspondence published in several Tokyo journals we learn that the Chinese proprietor of the largest local theatre has, from the outset, shown himself especially willing to serve the Japanese. He has not only contributed a large sum to the Red Cross but has just finished building a bath-house in Japanese style, which attracts enormous crowds of patrons, the receipts being something fabulous, although the comparatively low price of three *sen* only is charged for a bath. The Chinaman is reported to be making money hand over fist says the *Yomiuri*.

* * *

On the other hand, the *Miyako's* correspondent relates that the pickets and outposts around Port Arthur are suffering greatly from the cold, which falls every night far below zero. No less than twenty-eight soldiers have already had to lose either ears, hands, or feet, in consequence of frost-bite, those first to suffer, strange to say, being men that have come from the central or northerly provinces of Japan. The Hiroshima and Kyushu men seem to stand the cold better, which is quite contrary to what had been expected. Several pickets have already been found frozen to death at their posts. The scarcity of fuel is severely felt in many places, the soldiers sometimes going so far as to burn up camp-requisites and even indispensable wooden articles. In Port Arthur things are better and fuel is not too scarce.

TWO CONTRIBUTORS.

EAGERNESS to contribute towards the comfort of the soldiers in the field, is manifest among all classes of Japanese citizens. The subscription-list opened by the *Yorozu Choho*, for instance—subscriptions from two *sen* and above being acknowledged and the names of the contributors printed in full—has reached a total of over fifteen thousand *yen*, by far the larger portion of this sum having been sent in by poor people, the students of primary schools, peasants, and the like. When unable to make gifts of money, many people use most of their leisure moments in knitting mittens and socks, canning toothsome food, sewing warm under-garments, or otherwise striving to show their deep interest in the welfare of those that are doing so well in the field. Two cases in point are instanced by the *Yomiuri* and *Miyako Shimbun*. The first is that of the wife of a Captain of Engineers, whose husband is now in Berlin. This lady has dismissed her one servant and retrenched her expenses to a minimum, and by so doing has managed to buy sufficient wool to knit five hundred and thirty pairs of warm gloves. In the other case, an old man of eighty years of age, residing in Iidamachi, Tokyo, has with his own hands made over seven hundred pairs of straw sandals of a novel kind. The soles are of double thickness and the tips are supplied with a sort of leather covering to keep the toes warm. These are by no means isolated instances.

AN OFFICIAL NOTIFICATION ABOUT A DISHONEST CONTRACTOR.

ON the 29th ultimo, the Headquarters at Hiroshima issued the following notification with respect to a certain dishonest contractor:—A statement having appeared in the latter part of December in the *Moji Shimbun* and the *Chu... Shimbun* to the effect that the majority of ...oxes of canned meat lately carried by the ... *Nagoya Maru* to Talien were filled with stones, the Commissariat Department at Head-quarters summoned the purser of that steamer and also the Superintendent of Military Warehouses at Ujina to the Office on the 29th ultimo, in order to question them as to the authenticity of the statement. The purser's reply was as follows: On the 20th ultimo the steamer left Ujina for Talien with a number of troops and provisions on board. She reached her destination on the 25th, and at once began to discharge her cargo. As the boxes of canned meat were being transferred from the ship to the lighters, three of them fell by accident and, striking against something hard, were broken open. A startling fact was then revealed. In one of the three boxes thus broken a number of big stones had been laid in the upper part and cans were found in the bottom only. The box bore the name of the contractor, Henmi Katsuzo, Sanyodo O-denmacho, Ichome, Tokyo. It was at once sent to the Commissariat Office at Talien, together with a minute account of what had happened to it. On receiving this information from the purser of the steamer, the Inspector-General of the Commissariat Department at once conveyed instructions to the branch office at Talien to undertake the strictest possible scrutiny of all the boxes supplied by the same contractor, and to forward a report on the result of the examination. At the same time, the Superintendent of the military ware-houses at Ujina was instructed to undertake a similar inspection of all the cans sent by the same contractor and his partner Seiyodo, should any of them be still remaining unshipped in the ware-houses. The packing of stones in the box had evidently been intentional, but should it be found that the fraud was limited to the single box broken by accident it may have been the doing of coolies on board the steamer. The statement in the two local papers that the majority of the boxes were filled up with stones is not correct, and judgment must be suspended until the receipt of a report from Talien. The Inspector-General, however, asked the War Department to refrain from buying the cans of the two contractors implicated until the facts of the case had been thoroughly elucidated. A minute examination of all the meat sent in by the Army contractors in quite impossible owing to the limited number of officials at the Commissariat Department. What is now done is simply to take out at random three or four cans from a box containing a hundred, and these selected cans being opened, their contents are regarded as a fair sample of the whole.

NEW YEAR PICTURES.

THE *Jiji Shimpo* delights the patriotic souls of its readers by two New Year's pictures. The first is comparatively unimaginative. It represents a colossal Chinaman prone on agonized face, pig-tail floating behind, long-taloned fingers extended over the fragments of a splintered lance, and over him, one foot on his neck, sword in hand, and in the act of shouting victory, a Japanese officer. The legend, of course, is *Nippon Teikoku Bansai*. The second picture is more interesting. In the car of a balloon, burst or dropping from the clouds, sits a Chinaman mortally terrified, clinging for life to guy-ropes, many of which have parted from metal sockets inscribed with the names of Phyŏng-yang, Port Arthur, Feng-hwan, Talien, and so forth. This delination, spirited and vivid, is headed "Crisis."

THE NEW YEAR IN TOKYO.

THE capital has worn an unusually festive appearance for the last few days. Of course, the *jour de l'an* and the immediately preceding and following days are always marked with a white stone in the Japanese calendar, and Tokyo is never slow to do full honour to the occasion. But this time in particular the decorations seem to be prettier and on a larger scale than ever before, the reason being that the people have been eager to close befittingly a year of such wonderful successes, and welcome in no less becoming manner the hoped for still greater triumphs of the future. In a large number of ... plum-trees have already blossomed, thanks to the continuence of sunshiny weather, and so the floral decorations in nearly every house have been exceedingly attractive. More than this, business has been brisk of late, so that private as well as public rejoicings have been quite *en règle*. The *ennichi* in several parts of the city towards the end of the month, notably that of Go-to Inari in Kanda District and the Kompira Shrine in Shiba, were attended by great crowds of sightseers and purchasers, these open-air, semi-religious fêtes bearing a strong general resemblance to the German *Jahrmarkt*. No house so humble but has its bit of pine, draped with ferns and the pretty *yuzuriha* at the door way, in humble imitation of the large and beautiful *kadomatsu* of the wealthier residents. Tokyo has, on the whole, presented a very charming appearance. The spirit of the well-known ode on these "gate-pines" (*kado matsu*) has been well rendered by Sir Edwin Arnold:—

> The gate-way pines we plant
> Are milestones of life's road,
> Marking the stages passed;
> And glad the way for some,
> And sad for some the way.

THE BOWES MUSEUM.

AMONG Liverpool's wealthy and public-spirited citizens Mr. J. S. Bowes is conspicuous for his patronage of Japanese art, and for his liberality in introducing his fellow residents to beautiful specimens of this country's artistic work. Mr. Bowes is well known as the author of most useful works on Japanese porcelain and pottery, enamels, lacquers, and so forth; works that have done more than any other books to familiarize the public with Japan's capacities. In 1890 he opened a fine museum, attached to his private house, Streatham Towers, Prince's Road, Liverpool, and we have just received a copy of his "Handbook to the Bowes Museum," a pretty book, cleverly illustrated, excellently printed, and written so as to convey much information in little space. The Museum is a noble room, 120 feet by 45, opening at one end into a picture gallery where a choice collection of Japanese paintings, chromoxylographs and so forth are shown. It is, of course, impossible to form any adequate idea of such a place from mere plans on paper, but we can, at all events, perceive that Mr. Bowes has brought together a magnificent collection of the finest Japanese work. "The museum is open gratis on each week-day throughout the year: April to September, from 3 to 5 p.m.; October to March, from 2 to 4 p.m.; and from 3 to 5 p.m. on the first Sunday in each month from April to September. At other hours on week days admission may be had from the Prince's Road entrance, on purchase of a card at the door, price one shilling each visitor, the proceeds being devoted to charity." Liverpool is very fortunate. We wonder when any wealthy Japanese will develop sufficient solicitude for public art education to build, furnish, and throw open a similar museum.

THE "OBERON."

THE Chinese naval authorities have had another opportunity slip through their fingers, although it must be admitted that the "fortune of war" was somewhat against them. They had received information that the steamer *Metapedia* had entered the China Sea loaded with contraband of war. Some of their war-vessels sighted the ship and followed her for a time. A typhoon unfortunately swept down and the *Metapedia* was lost sight of. When the gale abated the *Oberon* appeared in the offing and the Chinese officials at once boarded her. Nothing contraband was found on board, and after apologies for the mistake, the *Oberon* was allowed to proceed. The *Metapedia* is at present unloading at Yokosuka.

THE CHAUTAUQUAN ASSOCIATION OF JAPAN.

ON the 15th of last month the Dai Nippon Chugak'kwai, or Chautauquan Association of Japan, published the first number of a magazine that is henceforth to be issued monthly. This is a novel publication, for its columns are principally filled by essays, poems, and letters written by the members of the Association, who

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are all, or nearly all, young people. The total number of those that subscribe to the course of instruction is now little short of five thousand, and the popularity of the scheme is constantly increasing. This is, however, not only ascribable ■ the excellence of the instruction supplied, but also to the fact that the Prince Imperial takes a lively interest in the course, and H.I.H. Prince Kitashirakawa acts ■ a most efficient and kindly patron.

HOW TO COMMEMORATE JAPAN'S TRIUMPHS.

Some weeks ago a foreigner suggested in the columns of the *Jiji Shimpo* that, as one way of commemorating Japan's triumphs, the main thoroughfare of Tokyo should be reconstructed, and, ■ in the case of Paris, statues and such things should be erected on both sides. The *Keisai* also offers a proposal. It condemns the erection of triumphal arches and such things as merely decorative and wholly unnecessary in Tokyo. What it would have is an elevated railway connecting the Terminus of the Tokaido line with the proposed site of the Central Station, that is to say, with the open space in front of the Imperial Palace, and it suggests that the new railway be called "the Triumph Railway." Simultaneously with this transfer of the Shimbashi terminus to the castle grounds, the Uyeno terminus of the Nippon Tetsudo Kaisha should also be moved to the same point, thus bringing the two termini into connection. Not merely from the standpoint of time, but also from that of cost, the *Keisai* thinks it extremely advisable to put this scheme into practice at once, in order that the line may be finished in time to carry the Emperor and his victorious army when they return to Tokyo. The conclusion of the war will undoubtedly witness a rapid development of prosperity in Tokyo, and an immense rise in the price of land, making it well-nigh impossible to undertake any such work. Our contemporary concludes by saying that the benefits to be derived from the construction of the proposed railway are too well known to need re-capitulation, and that the present is just the time to put this much talked-of scheme into execution.

DEATH OF KOHITSU RYOETSU.

Kohitsu Ryoetsu, unquestionably the greatest art connoisseur of modern times, is dead. His opinions on old caligraphic specimens, pictures, and swords were invaluable. Every piece of old art considered good was invariably brought to him for identification, and specimens which were thought by their owners to be of but small value became treasures after the great critic had passed a favourable verdict on them. Kohitsu, like almost every Japanese artist or art-artizen of genius, was very simple in his habits. It is said, writes the *Nippon*, that when he was employed in the Imperial Museum, he only received 10 *yen* a month, but seemed perfectly satisfied with that scanty remuneration. A certain merchant desirous of patronizing him, told him that if he were contented with pay of 10 *yen* a month, he could well afford to engage his services. Kohitsu accepted the merchant's offer as he could in this way have far more leisure than when employed in the Museum. At the outset of his new engagement he received 50 *yen* as pay for five months, but little by little the amount was reduced till at last he was only paid four or five *yen* a month. Kohitsu, however, was entirely indifferent to the matter, being perfectly contented if he had enough to buy the necessaries of life. His disinterestedness was specially noticeable when he was engaged in his favourite work of judgment. When any counterfeit piece supposed to be of great value was put before him his habit was to keep perfectly silent. A certain high official once asked Kohitsu to examine an art specimen that he wanted to sell to a wealthy merchant for a high price. Kohitsu saw at a glance that it was not genuine and kept his customary silence. The official promised him 50 *yen* if he would pass a favourable verdict, and even increased his offer to 100 *yen*, but to no purpose. The connoisseur was silent to all such bad proposals, but the official gave up his solicitation, full of admiration for Kohitsu's uprightness. Japan has indeed lost a treasure and will greatly miss the valuable judgment of the great connoisseur on old art objects.

U.S. CONSULAR FEES.

Over the signature of the U.S. Consul-General the following notice, dated Jan. 1, 1895, has been issued:—

Until further notice the following tariff is established for the collection of fees at this office. Invoices should be made out in Silver Yen, which for the purpose of this notice are estimated as equivalent to 47 cents, U. S. Currency.

	Yen.
For Invoice Certificate	5.32
For Extra Copy of Invoice	4.26
For Currency Certificate	2.13
For Landing Certificate	5.32
For Bill of Health	5.32
For Endorsement to Bill of Health	1.06
For Personal Effects Certificate	1.06
For Emigration Manifest	.53

To avoid delay in transacting business at this office, persons paying fees are requested to present the exact change.

REUTER'S TELEGRAM ABOUT THE TARIFF.

Reuter has been at some trouble to send us a long telegram about an arrangement of very little importance. The Protocol annexed to the Anglo-Japanese Treaty provides that a Supplementary Convention relating to the conversion into specific duties of the *ad valorem* rates named in the Tariff annexed to the Treaty, shall be concluded within six months from the date of the Protocol. The latter being dated July 16th, 1894, the six months expire on January 16th, 1895. That period, being obviously too short, has been extended for six months, namely, until July 16th, 1895. Such is the news sent by Reuter. Probably the agent that telegraphed it did not understand the matter, and imagined that some big question was involved.

NOTICE TO MARINERS.

The following Notice to Mariners, referring to a danger in the Amoy District of the China Sea, has been issued from the Coast Inspector's Office of the Chinese Imperial Maritime Customs:—Notice is hereby given that Captain H. W. Hogg, of the steamer *Taisang*, reports that at 8.16 a.m. on the 15th instant and low water of a spring tide, the wind N.E., force 7, sea very rough, his ship touched some danger with Chapel Island bearing S. 67° E., true, distant 4½ miles, where the Admiralty Chart No. 1,760 shows between 10 and 11 fathoms.

THE JAPANESE LANGUAGE AND FOREIGN UNIVERSITIES.

A Japanese medical student at the University of Edinburgh, says an American paper, recently claimed the privilege of being examined in his native language, which by the rules is allowed to all foreign students who are not French or German. The faculty was not put out, but found one of its own members who could examine him. Harvard University for two years past has accepted Chinese as a substitute for Greek at admission from Japanese students.

NAVAL NEWS.

The *China Mail* of the 24th ult., says:—H.M.S. *Gibraltar* (Captain A. McLeod) left Singapore for Hongkong on Friday night or Saturday morning, and is expected to arrive on Thursday next. The *Peacock* arrived on Sunday from Shanghai and the *Archer* is expected soon. Both vessels pay off prior to recommissioning for another term on the China Station. The *Tweed* paid off on Friday last, and has gone back to her old quarters near the Torpedo Depot at Kowloon.

EARLY PLUM BLOSSOMS.

We hear from Atami that the season there is so mild and so far advanced that the trees in the celebrated plum garden bid fair to be in full bloom by the middle of this month.

MR. KOMURA JUTARO.

Mr. Komura Jutaro has been appointed Chief of the Political Business Bureau in the Foreign Department in succession to Mr. Kato, lately despatched as Japanese Minister to England.

THE OATH OF THE KING OF KOREA.

Count Inouye's programme for the reform of Korea is being steadily carried out, and we are now informed by the *Kokumin* that the King has taken oath to cause the said reforms to be made. The oath was proclaimed on the 10th of November (Korean Calender) under the countersignatures of the Ministers of State. It consists of six Articles, all of which touch on questions of fundamental importance. The first and third embody the most radical changes in Korean affairs. The former declares that while proclaiming herself free from any assumption of power on China's part, most strenuous efforts should be made by Korea to establish her independence on a firm basis, to accomplish the grand work of restoration and to maintain the dignity of the Court. The third Article is to the effect that careful provision should be made against the usurpation of power by any person on the ground of his being a relative of the Queen, and that the Ministers of State should strive to do away with the old trouble of multiplicity of administrators. The second article is in connection with securing the peace and stability of the Court; the fourth, with the responsibility owed by the Ministers of State to the King; the fifth, with the preferment of men of ability, while the last treats of the abolition of caste. It is said that Count Inouye has been charged by the King with the task of supervising the management of the domestic and foreign affairs of Korea. The King's oath was accompanied by several supplementary provisions, one of which disposes of the Queen's meddling in Government matters in a very brief manner, saying that she should confine herself to giving help in affairs connected with the Court and not interfere with those of the State. The prospects of Korean reform are therefore very good at present.

FINE ARTS EXHIBITION IN KYOTO.

One of the enterprises that the citizens of Kyoto have decided to undertake in the coming Fourth Industrial Domestic Exhibition, is to display collections of representative specimens of fine arts products, ancient and modern, in large numbers. The plan is to collect art products by eminent artists that lived since the era of *Tenryaku*, that is to say, eleven hundred years ago. Visitors will thus be enabled to compare the ancient fine arts of Japan with those of the present day, and to note what changes have taken place since that remote period. This special display will be held for 67 days, between the 25th of March and the 2nd of June. It will be in the Imperial Gardens. The samples will be arranged in sections, thus: *Tenryaku* and *Fujiwara* periods; *Tang*, *Sung*, *Yuen* (Chinese dynasties) and *Kamakura* periods; *Ashikaga* and *Toyotomi* periods; *Tokugawa* period; *Ukiyo* paintings; *Ming* and the present dynasty of China; the *Meiji* era. The objects shown will be pictures, caligraphic specimens, glyptic wares, porcelains, cloissoné wares (shippo), dyed woven fabrics, embroideries, metal works and lacquer works. Persons desirous of displaying specimens from their collections are invited to send a list to the Office by the 10th of March. Charges for transportation and arrangement will be borne by the Office; but the exhibitors are required to defray the cost of any special decoration employed in exhibiting their contributions. The exhibits will be carefully protected, and except in cases of unavoidable calamity, as fire and so forth, the Society will undertake to make good a certain part of the loss in the event of any accident befalling the object while under exhibition. To persons lending specimens letters of thanks will be forwarded when the undertaking is concluded, but to temples and shrines a certain remuneration will be given.

The bones of all flying birds are hollow and filled with air, thus combining the greatest strength with the greatest possible lightness.

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WAR NEWS.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 29TH.

According to reports previously received, the important town of Kaiping was occupied by the left wing of Lieut.-General Katsura's forces on the 20th of December, having been evacuated by General Sung and his army of 10,000 on the 17th and 18th instant. But a telegram sent from Hiroshima at 8.40 p.m. on the 27th inst., and published by the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, says that no official report of the place's capture has yet been received, as would certainly have been the case had Colonel Sato's regiment obtained possession of it a week ago. On the contrary, Kaiping is supposed to be still garrisoned by no less than 20,000 men, who have assembled there from Fuchow and other places. The *Hochi Shimbun* gives a telegram despatched from Hiroshima on the same day as that quoted above, but nearly 8 hours earlier, to the effect that there are no Chinese troops in Newchwang, and only a few remaining in Kaiping. Of the two reports, that of the *Nichi Nichi* would command credence under any circumstances, and is, moreover, the later. It should be mentioned here that whenever Japanese telegrams or newspapers speak of Newchwang, they refer to the old Chinese town, 30 miles distant from the modern Newchwang, where there is a foreign settlement. The modern town is always called Yingkow, or Yingtsz. Of course, if it be true that twenty thousand men still hold Kaiping, we must modify our comments upon General Sung's strategy. The original account made it appear that he had allowed himself to be cut off from the northern half of the Chinese line of defence—stretching 80 miles from Kaiping to Laoyang—and that he had no choice but to evacuate Kaiping, a week too late, and endeavour to force a way past the Japanese front at Haicheng. In a sense that remains true. If his place was on the northern part of the line, with the object of covering the approaches to Mukden, he ought not to have been *found in* Kaiping when Katsura severed the line 40 miles further north, at Kaiping. But there is the alternative hypothesis that Sung's march, which ended so disastrously at Kangwasai—not Hungwasai as previously printed—may have been dictated by the project of attempting to recover Haicheng. The direction of his front at the time of his encounter with Oseko's forces was not inconsistent with that supposition. We do not think the idea tenable, however, in view of the fact that Sung has actually made his way toward Laoyang. After his defeat at Kangwasai, he himself with the larger body of his remaining forces, retired upon Newchwang, and being joined by Ma's troops, in garrison there, retired to Tienchwangtai, a town 20 miles from Yingkow on the coastwise road leading toward China proper. Tienchwangtai lies on the western bank of the Liao river, which, being there very wide, constitutes a good defence. The other remnant of Sung's men, having fled in the first place to Yingkow, subsequently pushed on to the west, and effected a junction with the rest of their comrades at Tienchwangtai. Thence, according to the latest reports, the whole force managed to make their way toward Laoyang. The *Yomiuri*, which publishes the telegram containing this information, adds that Sung's men moved by the main road, from which we infer that they headed, in the first place, to Newchwang, and thence marching northward, struck the main road beyond Haicheng. The same telegram says that the Chinese forces at and about Laoyang aggregate 30,000. If that be so the position in south-western Manchuria is very interesting. The First Army has gradually been recruited until its full strength is believed to be somewhere in the neighbourhood of 40,000. Hence the left wing under Lieut.-General Katsura can not exceed 20,000 nominally, and seeing that he has to preserve communications with Taku-shan, 93 miles distant, it is not possible that he have more than from ten to twelve thousand available for any operation at the front. se that he has an army of that size in Hai- in the centre of the enemy's line of defence, then there are thirty thousand Chinese troops on his right, distributed along the 40 miles of road leading to Laoyang, and twenty thousand on his left in Kaiping, also 40 miles distant, at the southern point of the line. In such a position there are great opportunities for a General to make brilliant coups, but there are also great opportunities for an active enemy to inflict disaster upon him. The apparent solution of the situation would be a movement of the Second Army up the Liautung peninsula against Kaiping and Yingkow (Newchwang). Until quite recently, such a movement was generally believed to be in progress, but we now know that the Second Army never pushed farther north than Fuchow, and that the regiment left to garrison that place subsequently fell back to Port Adams. The inference we draw from the absence of any attempt to utilize the Second Army in cōperation with the First, is that the troops of the former are being reserved for some independent operation that requires their concentration in the vicinity of Talien Bay.

The *Nippon* has a Hiroshima telegram to the effect that the ships of the Peiyang Squadron, appreciating the impossibility of remaining much longer in Weihaiwei, seem to be planning an escape to Woosung, near the mouth of the Yangtsz. Our contemporary, always ready to credit any story that reflects on foreigners, adds that the war-ships of a certain Power are doing everything possible to facilitate the escape of the Chinese Squadron. If Admiral Ting really wants to get to Woosung, we do not believe that he need experience much difficulty. It is almost impossible for the Japanese to blockade a strongly fortified harbour like Weihai-wei in the winter, and the entrance to the Gulf of Pechili is 110 miles across.

We find in the *Kokkai* various statements as to the forces prepared by China for the defence of Mukden and Shanhaikwan, but as the source of authority seems to be Shanghai, and as stories on such topics seldom survive more than a few days, we refrain from reproducing them. Their gist is that the Chinese Authorities are experiencing serious difficulties.

It is stated that up to the 25th instant there had been no change in the situation at Fenghwan, and in its immediate north and east.

The *Yomiuri* says that although Port Arthur has become a Japanese naval station to all intents and purposes, it is not called a naval station, but a base of operations (*Konkyochi*). Over 250 civil and military officials, who are to administer the place, left Hiroshima by the *Bankoku Maru* on the 26th instant.

A telegram from Shanghai says that a mutiny occurred among the troops at Weihaiwei, owing to the failure of the authorities to give them their pay. The trouble was with difficulty settled on the 26th instant.

The same message (published by the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*) reports that great fears of a Japanese attack are entertained at Shanghai, and that the Viceroy Chang Chitung is engaged in making an inspection tour of the fortified places in his district. A foreign expert of the Customs, whose name appears to be Muirhead, is said to have been engaged to teach strategy and tactics to the Viceroy's troops.

The *Nichi Nichi* tells a story of a Chinese soldier at Port Arthur. Disdaining to join his comrades in their attempt to escape by swimming, he advanced, nearly naked, to the front of the nearest Japanese force, seated himself on the ground, and crying out that he was a soldier, bade the troops cut off his head and present it to their General. Thinking that the man must be mad, the troops pushed him away, whereupon he became very angry, and proceeding to the 15th Regiment repeated the manœuvre, accompanying his request with abuse. This time he found a soldier to comply with his challenge, but it took two blows to decapitate him, and after the first he is said to have raised his head and glared round him. It is a pity that such brave men should be so badly led.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 31ST.

The *Yomiuri Shimbun* has a long paragraph about the Chinese ships-of-war, but we learn nothing from it except that the *Yoshino Kan*, on her latest reconnoitering expedition, found ten Chinese ships behind the island of Liu-kung, at the entrance to Wei-hai-wei. They were the *Fing yuen*, the *Chen-yuen*, the *Tsing-yuen*, the *Chi-yuen*, the *Ping-yuen*, the *Kwan-ping*, the *Chen-tung*, the *Chen-pia*, the *Chen-nan*, and the *Chen-poh*. Among these the last four are coast-defence ships, with a speed of not over 5 knots. They are, however, heavily armed, each of them carrying five 26-centimetre guns. The *Lai-yuen* has not yet been seen, but it is beyond doubt that she was in dock at Port Arthur until shortly before the fall of that place. She had all her woodwork destroyed by fire at the battle of Haiyang, and her fighting capacity is now considered insignificant. The *Yoshino Kan* has been fired at several times by the forts at Weihaiwei, but not one shot has hit her.

A telegram from Shanghai says that although the Chinese ships are not at all in a condition to do battle with the Japanese, the Government in Pekin has no idea of the fact. It imagines that the Peiyang Squadron would win a decisive victory could it meet the enemy, and it has ordered that the ships must go at once in search of him. That is an apocryphal story.

The *Kokkai* has a telegram sent from Shimonoseki under date of the 28th instant at 1 p.m., to the effect that General Ma Shangch', acting under instructions from the Viceroy Li, has organized a force, called the Shangtsz army, consisting of 2,000 infantry recruits, 800 cavalry from Tientsin, and 500 artillery. These 3,300 men he carried by *transports* to the mouth of the Liao river, and landed them on the 17th instant. After landing, the troops were set to throw up *fortifications* in which five guns were mounted. On Ma's arrival, General Chang Kao-yuen, at the head of 1,500 men who had been previously stationed at the Liao's mouth, proceeded by the Hwanho to Mukden. We find some difficulty in crediting these statements. The Liao river is usually blocked by ice from the middle of November to the middle of March, and to land troops at its mouth on the 17th December seems an impossible operation. As for the Hwan river, it must be completely frozen over by this time, so that the idea of General Chang's carrying 1,500 troops to Mukden by such route requires explanation.

The Japanese press naturally attaches importance to the rumour that dissensions have broken out in the Chinese Government with reference to the question of peace. The rumour, if not true, is at all events cleverly constructed. It puts the Empress-Dowager, Prince Kung and the Viceroy Li in the same camp as advocates of peace at any price, whereas the Emperor, General Liu, and General von Hanneken are equally stout in their advocacy of war. Prince Kung has always been a pacific factor in China's councils, and it is evident that the Viceroy Li has no longer anything to gain, but may lose a very great deal more than he has already lost, by the continuance of the war. On the other hand, Generals Liu and von Hanneken are personally interested in keeping the sword drawn. We do not wish to impute motives, but General von Hanneken himself must know thoroughly well that the war has made him, and that its continuance will probably bring him further favour and emoluments. His advancing of a protracted struggle must therefore be viewed by the public with suspicion. Granting, however, as we are very ready to admit, that he is actuated solely by solicitude for China's benefit, the difficulty is to see how he can hope to improve her position by maintaining the war. Troops can not be organized or effective preparations for resistance made, in the face of the enemy. If peace is now restored, China, if she be capable of taking any lesson to heart, will already have learned that unless she remodels her whole military system, she must remain always at the mercy of her neighbour. In that event there would be plenty for General von Hanneken to do. It is not necessary that China's bitter experiences should be multiplied. There is, however, a possibility that General von Hanneken may have succeeded,

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or may be about to succeed, in obtaining the services of a large number of German officers. We believe that he was undoubtedly authorized to take such a step, and he may estimate its consequences much more highly than the general public is disposed to do. Whatever General von Hanneken does, however, we can only repeat what we wrote on the eve of this war, namely, that wherever the Japanese find the Chinese they will beat them. The sooner peace is restored, the less danger is there of a crisis involving the disintegration of the Chinese empire.

Lieut.-General Nodzu's account of the battle of Kangwasai on the 19th instant is now published. It is dated the 27th instant, and must therefore be taken as the latest available intelligence. It will be remembered that some doubt existed as to whether Major-General Oseko's force had marched with the expectation of meeting the enemy, or whether it was simply moving south toward Yingkow when it fell in with Sung's troops. The point is now cleared up. Sung with his ten thousand men probably marched out of Kaiping on the 16th instant, for on the 17th intelligence was brought to Lieut.-General Katsura in Haicheng that they had reached Tashihchiao, a town about midway between Kaiping and Hai-cheng (20 miles from each.) Thence they advanced northward, and, on the 19th, showed in considerable force on the west of Haicheng. Katsura resolved to attack. On the 19th he moved forward a considerable body of troops with that intention. But the more advanced forces of the enemy (at Liukungtien and Kaichiatien) retreated at his approach, and he accordingly halted the main part of his troops at Palihotsz, sending forward only three battalions of infantry, one troop of cavalry, and three batteries of artillery under Major-General Oseko. The ground was covered with snow, and marching was very difficult, the cold also being severe. Oseko's total force numbered 1,721 infantry of all ranks, 161 cavalry, and 12 guns, supposing his battalions to be of their full nominal strength. But it is most improbable that he had more than a total of 1,500 men actually under his command. His orders were to advance as far as Kangwasai, about 10 miles from Haicheng, while the main body of the troops halting at Palihotsz commanded the road from Kaiping. Oseko's scouts reported the presence of the enemy in great strength a little to the westward of a place called Hachiaho, that is to say, some 5½ miles distant from the hamlet at which the main body of the Japanese troops had halted. This intelligence having been carried to the hamlet (Palihotsz), the forces there were put in motion, one battalion only being left to guard the Kaiping high-road from the south. Meanwhile, Oseko's troops had come into action between 12 and 1 p.m. The enemy, 10,000 strong, stationed in Kangwasai and the woods westward of that place, resisted stubbornly. The fight continued between these very unequal forces until past 4 o'clock, when the Japanese reserves reached Hachiaho, within two miles of the battle ground. By that time Oseko had succeeded in driving back the enemy's right wing, and taken possession of the position occupied by it. His artillery was immediately re-inforced by 8 guns, and at the same time Major-General Oshima was sent against Kangwasai. Daylight was now waning and Oshima resorted at once to the bayonet. Four charges completely demoralized the enemy. They broke into two, one body flying northward toward Newchwang (the old city), the other and larger section, southward toward Yingkow (new Newchwang). The immediate destinations of these two bodies are given in the official report as Lanchiken and Kaokan, respectively. The enemy had thrown up defensive works in front of Kangwasai and mounted 7 or 8 guns, so that it is not altogether correct to call the affair a battle entirely in the open, as has hitherto been done. The Chinese loss is estimated at from 200 to 300 killed and about twice as many wounded. The Japanese loss, as already reported, was 54 killed and 358 wounded. Lieut.-General Nodzu speaks of the Chinese resistance as very stubborn, and says that they held their ground until the Japanese reserves came into action. But we have to note that from about 12.30 p.m. until past 4 o'clock, the combat was between 1,500 Japanese and 10,000 Chinese, the former being the attackers, and that, despite such a glaring disparity of strength, the right wing of the Chinese was dislodged. No one can claim much credit for Sung's men under such circumstances. The official report has only this to say about the conduct of the Japanese:—"That despite the snow and the great difficulty of manœuvring, such a powerful foe was broken and defeated, must be attributed entirely to the virtue of His Majesty the Emperor and to the loyalty of all ranks." The troops gave three shouts of "*Teikoku bansai*" (long live the empire) as they took possession of the enemy's position at Kangwasai. The portion of Sung's forces that retreated toward Yingkow (new Newchwang where the foreign settlement is) turned westward before leaving that place and halted, some at Kenchiayinfang, and some at Tienchwangtai, on the western bank of the Liao river. Our readers may remember that according to reports published by vernacular newspapers and translated in these columns, the fugitives that chose the northern road to old Newchwang were said to have been joined by the garrison of that place under Ma, and to have pushed on to Tienchwangtai, there effecting a junction with the remnant under Sung. The same journals added that Sung subsequently contrived to carry out his original intention of leading the whole body northward to join the forces between Haiching and Laoyang. All those statements must now be considered erroneous. The official reports speaks of Sung's beaten troops being distributed along the coast road from Kenchiayinfang to Tienchwangtai, and says nothing whatever about the section that headed for Newchwang, or about a subsequent junction of the two bodies of fugitives, or of Sung managing at a later date to push northward past Haicheng; and as the official report is dated the 27th instant, the other stories must evidently be abandoned. Sung's purpose—supposing it to be as stated above—appears to have been frustrated, and he and his 10,000 men are almost out of the field, for the present at all events. After the battle one battalion of Japanese troops was left in Kangwasai and the rest returned to Haicheng. The hardships endured by the troops in such operations must be terrible. For example, the main body of the troops had to march 24 miles through snow on the 19th, one half of the distance being covered after the battle, that is to say, after dark. On the other hand, it certainly must be placed to Sung's credit, as it seems to us, that under such rigorous climatic conditions he left Kaiping and undertook a march of at least 50 miles northward. Further, looking at the place where the battle occurred, it would seem that Sung's intention was not to march past Haicheng on the west and effect a junction with the troops massed northward of Haicheng, but that his real purpose was to bar Katsura's passage by the direct road to Yingkow. The fact that he intrenched himself at Kangwasai constitutes conclusive proof, we think, that a rapid and unobserved march northward was not his purpose. There are two ways of reaching Yingkow (new Newchwang) from Haicheng; namely, the direct road viâ Hachiaho and Kangwasai, and a more circuitous route *viâ* the main road to Kaiping, in the first instance, and subsequently by a cross-road from Tashihchiao. Posted at Kangwasai, some six miles from the point where the Newchwang direct road joins the main-road to Kaiping, Sung practically held both routes, for he actually blocked the one, and could strike at the flank or rear of an enemy marching by the other. We cannot doubt, therefore, that when he led his 10,000 men from Kaiping and marched to Kangwasai, his idea was to bar the progress of Katsura's forces toward Yingkow. It was a sound and enterprising conception, but Sung has no troops capable of effectually checking the Japanese. With regard to his line retreat, it is to be noted that the portion of his [illegible] now at Kenchiayinfang still covers the approach to Yingkow by the direct route from Haicheng, while the portion that has retreated to Tienchwangtai is out of the immediate sphere of operations.

The *Nippon* publishes a telegram from Shanghai, under date of the 29th instant, to the effect that Admiral Fremantle, leaving the *Caroline* at the Saddles, has proceeded with 11 ships to Woosung and anchored there near the forts, sending about 1,000 armed men ashore and relieving them every 48 hours. The telegram adds that the Chinese southern fleet is lying near the British Squadron.

In the same paper we find a telegram from Hiroshima saying that the Tonghaks in Chôlla-do are developing considerable strength. They have erected a Kingdom, calling it Kanan, and have elevated one of the nobles of the locality to be its sovereign, appointing Ministers and other administrative officials.

Wednesday, January 2nd.

The *Official Gazette*, for a long time past, has published minute records of the number of deaths occurring among the Japanese troops abroad. We have collected the figures from July 16th up to December 6th, with the following results:—

		Total.
Died in Korea.		
Killed in battle	219	
Died of wounds	38	 663
Died of disease	406	
Died in China.		
Killed in battle	72	
Died of wounds	21	 117
Died of disease	24	
Grand total		780

It will be observed that disease was more fatal than were the bullets and swords of the enemy, 430 dying from the former cause and only 350 from the latter. Altogether, it has been one of the most bloodless wars ever fought, so far as the victors' casualties are concerned. A campaign of six months' duration has produced only 350 deaths in battle—excluding the navy. The point is well worthy of consideration by journals like the *Kokumin Shimbun*. No one desires to detract from the merits of the Japanese troops or the excellence of the Japanese military organization, but an enemy that does not succeed in killing more than 350 of its foes—especially when they invade its territory—in six months' fighting, can only be called contemptible, and certainly to defeat such an enemy, however, signally, furnishes little proof as to the real capacity of the victors.

The *Jiji Shimpo* speaks of General Sung's recent march from Kaiping to Kangwasai as an attempt to escape northward, lest he be caught between the First and Second Japanese Armies. We do not take that view. The position chosen by Sung to halt his forces and throw up entrenchments is inconsistent, we think, with any hypothesis of mere retreat. Posted at Kangwasai, he effectually barred the progress of the Japanese army to either Yingkow or Kaiping. Had he desired to simply avoid an encounter with the Japanese and effect a junction with the Chinese troops massed to the north of Haicheng, he could easily and safely have marched by Newchwang (the old town), leaving Haicheng 12 miles on his east. By heading toward Kangwasai, he evidently intended, if not to attempt the recovery of Haicheng, at any rate to obstruct the southward passage of the Japanese. It was a plucky and well conceived operation, and if Sung's troops had been able to stand their ground, his strategy would have been thoroughly justified.

The *Yomiuri* describes the latest stratagem of the Japanese to procure exact information as to the number of the enemy's vessels in Wei-hai-wei. A certain vessel, evidently one of the converted cruisers, received orders to re-paint with the utmost possible despatch. About three hundred men were employed to accomplish the task, and when it was done, she hoisted the Chinese flag and started for Weihaiwei pursued by a Japanese man-of-war. The pursuing vessel fired several shells at the disguised cruiser, and the people in W[illegible]

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wei, completely taken in by the stratagem, signalled the flying steamer to enter the port. How far she availed herself of the invitation, our contemporary does not say, but she succeeded is ascertaining that the *Chen-yuen*, the *Ting-yuen*, and six other ships-of-war were lying at anchor in the harbour.

The record of encounters between the Japanese and the Tong-haks has been uniformly characteristic of the remarkable superiority of organization and discipline to mere numerical strength. Time after time we have heard of handfuls of Japanese, soldiers or gendarmes, overcoming ten or twenty times their number of rebels. The most striking instance, however, is that related in the *Jiji Shimpo* of the 31st ultimo. It occurred at Chhöngju. On the 9th of December at 6 a.m. a body of Tong-haks estimated at over twenty thousand, attacked that place (lat. 36° 41, long. 127° 38 in the province of Chhungchhöng). It was defended by only 19 Japanese soldiers, but they managed to put their assailants to flight, capturing a quantity of their weapons and ammunition. Ensign Kuwahara, who arrived at Fusan in the closing days of December, is responsible for this remarkable story.

The Emperor, says the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, has addressed to Lieut.-General Nodzu the following message :—

We profoundly appreciate and applaud the loyalty and courage shown by a portion of the troops under your command, in attacking, and carrying on for several hours in the snow near Hai-cheng a fierce and triumphant conflict with a strong and resolute foe.

Lieut.-General Nodzu, telegraphing from Antung under date of the 29th ultimo, speaks in most satisfactory terms of the disposition shown by the people in the conquered districts of Manchuria. Confidence is said to be completely restored. Merchants and artificers have resumed their business, their wives and children living with them without fear; Japanese money is taken freely in exchange for commodities, and everything required for the troops is furnished gladly, not excepting labour. The Lieut.-General declares that the Manchurians are far superior to the mean and cunning people of Korea. At Antung, Fenghwan, Suiyen, Takushan, and so forth, everything is quiet and orderly, the inhabitants pursuing their usual avocations and the markets being well supplied. We learn incidentally from this message that the important town of Kwantien is also in Japanese occupation, for General Nodzu says that its citizens were from the first well disposed, and that they frustrated the attempts of the local militia to assemble there. Kwantien lies 48 miles westward of Fenghwan as the crow flies.

The *Shogyo Shimpo*, justly as we think, comments on the fact that the Chinese troops are massed in great strength in Laoyang and its vicinity. Our contemporary says that General I, whose forces recently advanced from Saimatsui as far as Yimiaushan, with the idea of recovering Fenghwan, has his head-quarters in Laoyang, which place is also the basis of the troops holding the Fenghwan-Laoyang road and the Motien Pass. Laoyang, according to the *Shogyo*, has already been reconnoitered by the First Army, and an attack upon it may be expected soon.

The latest intelligence from Weihaiwei, says the *Chiuo Shimbun*, is that the Chinese vessels anchored there are 15 torpedo-boats and thirteen men-of-war, including the two ironclads.

News begins to come from China that the much talked-of mission of H.E. Chang, who was nominated ambassador to sue for peace, is likely to remain in the lap of the future, for some time at all events. Our information is too vague to be accepted as conclusive, but the prospects of peace certainly have not improved during the past few days.

Thursday, January 3rd.

This morning we are almost completely without war news. The only piece of intelligence published by the vernacular press is an item in the *Yomiuri* relating to telegraphic communication between the First and Second Armies. The head-quarters of the First Army are in command of Colonel Mihara, had moved out Antung, and those of the Second at Chinchow. A wire was laid between the two places some weeks ago, but for some reasons not explained messages could not be sent along it until the 30th ult. at 3.25 p.m., when the first telegram passed over satisfactorily. Pitszwo is mentioned as the point to which the wire has been carried in the Laotung Peninsula, and from Pitszwo to Chinchow is 43 miles, but we imagine that Chinchow also has been brought within the circuit. By the completion of this line intelligence from Talien can be obtained in 24 hours.

In the absence of intelligence from the seat of war, the vernacular press publishes some interesting details as to the composition of the Japanese forces now operating abroad. They consist of three whole Divisions, namely, the First, Third, and Fifth, and one half Division, namely, the Sixth. Some of the troops are in Korea, but the great majority are in Chinese territory. A Division (*Shidan*) consists of two Brigades (*Riyodan*); a Brigade, of four Regiments (*Rentai*), and a Regiment, of three Battalions (*Daitai*). A Division is commanded by a Lieut.-General, a Brigade, by a Major-General, and a Regiment by a Colonel. The Ninth Brigade of the Fifth Division under Major-General Oshima was the first to embark for foreign service. It landed at Chemulpo on the 12th of July and marched on the following day to the vicinity of Sōul, where it encamped. On the 25th of the same month this Brigade was marched against the Chinese troops at Asan, and on the 29th it won the victory of Sōnghwan. Subsequently it formed part of the column that that moved against Phyŏngyang, at the capture of which stronghold it played an important though not altogether faultless part. A month later it crossed the Yalu, and is now quartered in Chiulien and Antung. Of Major-General Oshima we have heard nothing since the taking of Phyŏngyang. The truth is that he does not appear to have won credit only. He gained the battle of Sōnghwan, but allowed the greater part of the Chinese troops to escape unscathed, and he fought splendidly at Phyŏngyang, but not in strict accordance with the plan of his Commander-in-Chief, for he imparted to an attack intended to be feigned an element of reality that involved a heavy and needless sacrifice of lives. In the last battle fought (Kangwasai) the finally victorious troops were commanded by a Major-General Oshima, but not the Oshima spoken of above. The Tenth Brigade, forming the second half of the Fifth Division, and under the immediate command of Major-General Tatsumi, entered Sōul on the 19th of August. A portion of it, with which was Lieut.-General Nozu, the Commander of the Division, had landed at Fusan, the rest at Chemulpo. This Brigade was present at the taking of Phyŏngyang, and marching northward immediately afterwards captured Chiulien on the 26th of October and Fenghwan on the 29th of the same month. Its head-quarters were established in Fenghwan, and it thenceforth played the principal part in various minor engagements, always led by Tatsumi, than whom no commanding officer has earned a higher reputation in this war. The Brigade now has its outposts in the neighbourhood of Lienshankwan, 40 miles north of Fenghwan. The Third Division, like the Brigade of which we have just been speaking, marched to the scene of operations in two parts, one entering Sōul on the 15th of August, and one landing at Gensan at the end of the same month, where a portion of it went into quarters and a portion under the command of Colonel Sato marched at once to the attack of Phyŏngyang. The Gensan Brigade was commanded by Major-General Oseko, and the Sōul Brigade by Major-General Oshima, the whole being under Lieut-General Katsura. After the capture of Phyŏngyang the two Brigades of this division were reunited, and marched northward to the passage of the Yalu, the battle of Hushan and the taking of Chiulien whence Oseko's Brigade was once more separated and despatched westward to Takushan. Marching from Takushan on the 15th of November, this Brigade, acting in concert with a portion of the 10th Brigade, which, under the

of Fenghwan for the purpose, attacked the Chinese in Suiyen, captured that place on the 18th of November, and marching out of it on December 9th, took part in the battle of Tomuchang, and there joining forces with the Sixth Brigade under Oshima, captured Haicheng on the 13th of December. This Third Division now forms the Left Wing of the First Army. By it was won the battle of Kangwasai on the 19th of December. The First Division, commanded by Lieut.-General Yamaji, landed at Hwayuenkow, in the Liaotung peninsula, on the 24th of September. It took Chinchow on the 6th of October; Port Arthur on the 22nd of November, and Fuchow on the 3th of December. The Division is now encamped in and about Chinchow. The Twelfth Brigade (Mixed Brigade) under Major-General Hasegawa, accompanied the First Division to the Liaotung peninsula, and participated in the capture of Port Arthur, which place it is now garrisoning.

The *Hochi Shimbun* has an article explaining the difference between a battle in the open and a battle under-cover, for which expressions it introduces us to the convenient terms *Soguen* and *Yotaisen*. It speaks with enthusiasm of the valour and *élan* shown by the Japanese troops at Kangwasai, the only open fight in the war; praises the Chinese soldiers for standing their ground against three bayonet charges, and claims that battles in the open are specially adapted to the qualities of the Japanese soldier.

Friday, January 4th.

Funayama Ichinosuke, a private in the Third Regiment of the line, is now included in the little band of heroes whom Japan delights to honour. At the assault of Port Arthur he is said to have been the first to mount the parapet of the Itszu-shan fort. Turning to his comrades, he gave a stentorian shout of *Tenno Heika Banzai* (long live the Emperor), and then danced forward, followed quickly by the rest of the battalion. We take this from the *Yorozu Choho*, a paper seldom quoted.

The *Shogyo Shimpo* says that the Second Army is organizing a force to advance northward up the Liaotung peninsula, and attack Kaiping and Yingkow (modern Newchwang), thus coming into cōoperation with the Left Wing of the First Army. Our contemporary adds that this junction of the two forces will be the prelude to a great operation. As to the latter prediction, we have nothing to say, but it is certain, as more than once stated in these columns that to construct an intelligible and feasible plan of campaign in the south of Shingking, a second force, operating in the neighbourhood of Kaiping and Yingkow, is urgently needed. That would free Katsura's troops to turn northward against the Chinese massed between Haicheng and Laoyang. At present the Left Wing of the First Army is playing a simply auxiliary part. It serves to guard the Liaotung peninsula against an ingress of enemies from the north, but for independent purposes it is virtually useless, whereas a northward advance of a portion of the Second Army from Chinchow would completely metamorphose the situation.

In the *Miyako Shimbun* we find an interesting statement of the spoils taken by the Japanese armies from the commencement of the war to the close of December. The guns are :—

At Sōnghwan	8
At Phyŏngyang	48
At Chiulien	78
At Fenghwan	5
At Chinchow and Talien	129
At Port Arthur	330
At Suiyen	6
At Haicheng	4
Total	607

These guns our contemporay values at 2 million *yen*. As to small arms, the figures are :—

At Sōnghwan	83
At Phyŏngyang	1,165
At Chiulien	4,395
At Chinchow and Talien	621
At Port Arthur	1,086
At Chinchiahotsz	50
Total	7,400

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These are valued at 30,000 *yen*. Next comes the big-gun ammunition, namely:—

At Phyôngyang	840 rounds.
At Chinlien	36 384 rounds.
At Chinchow and Talien	2,468,200 rounds.
At Port Arthur	96,317 rounds.
Total	2,601,741 rounds.

This total figures at 3 million *yen*. As for small-arm ammunition, we have:—

At Phyôngyang	560,000 rounds.
At Chinlien	43,000,660 rounds.
At Chinchow	33,814,000 rounds.
At Port Arthur	84,125 rounds.
Total	77,458,785 rounds.

The value of this big total is given as 100,000 *yen*. Then we have rice:—

At Sôughwan	200 *koku*.
At Phyôngyang	4,600 ,,
At Chinlien	4,015 ,,
At Fenghwan	5,537 ,,
At Chinchow and Talien	2,605 ,,
Total	16,957 ,,

This is valued at 50,000 *yen*. The other items are 368 horses (valued at 2,000 *yen*); bullion and coin, 1 million *yen*; tents 3,326 (valued at 30,000 *yen*); flags 477; ships (21 valued at 100,000 *yen*), the details of this last item being:—

At Kwaynenkow.....15 junks.
At Talien ..... 1 steamer (30 tons).
At Port Arthur ..... 2 steamers, 2 sailing vessels, and 1 dredger.

Men-of-war 3, namely:—

On July 25th .....1, the *Tsaochiang*.
In Port Arthur .....2, the *Mintsu* and *Haiching*.

The value of these three is put at 1 million *yen*.

In addition to the above there are quantities of miscellaneous articles, as drums, swords, spears, trumpets, bayonets, carts, tools, saucepans, boilers, torpedoes, mining apparatus, gunpowder, boots, umbrellas, clothes, surveying chains, harness, &c. The total of the values noted above is 7,312,000 *yen*. If we add the value of the fortifications machines and works at Talien and Port Arthur, the total will not fall short of 70 million *yen*.

The *Cheya* publishes a telegram from Fusan to the effect that the Tonghaks in Chôllado are developing great strength. They number many tens of thousands and almost all the inhabitants are with them, only a few places standing aloof. They have made their head-quarters at Shyonchyong, and are engaged in a strong attack upon Sashogaug. Two hundred Japanese troops started for Chôllado on the 30th ultimo. Chôllado is the south-western province of Korea.

TWO FIRES IN KOBE.

About 2.30 a.m. on Tuesday, fire broke out at No. 36, Division Street, Kobe, on the premises occupied by Mr. A. Michel, wine and spirit merchant and general provision dealer. Commencing somewhere on the back premises, the fire must have been smouldering for some time before it was discovered, as when the alarm was given the back of the house was well alight and there was little hope of saving the building. Efforts were therefore mainly directed to saving the adjoining premises, consisting of a godown stored with sugar, and Messrs. Thompson & Co.'s drug store just across the narrow turning leading from Division Street into the Japanese town. These efforts were fortunately successful. Messrs. Thompson's premises, though scorched, are practically uninjured, while the godown is also safe. A fire which broke out on the premises of Messrs. Strachan & Co. at No. 1, caused by sparks carried across the street by the wind, was also extinguished by the efforts of the foreign brigade. A considerable number of Japanese brigades also rendered assistance, and were successful in keeping the fire within bounds—a most fortunate circumstance, considering the crowded nature of the locality and the immense destruction which would have been caused had the fire extended.

KOREAN NEWS.

It appears from what the *Jiji's* Sôul correspondent writes, that Count Inouye is steadily winning the confidence of the Korean Court. Already since his assumption of the office of Japanese Representative in Korea, he has had audience of the King eight times, and on each occasion he submitted matters of such importance that the conversation lasted from three to seven hours. It seems that the immemorial Court usage is now laid aside for Count Inouye, and even the Queen does not think it contrary to etiquette to see the illustrious well-wisher of Korea. On the 20th ult., for instance, the Count obtained audience of both the King and Queen at the same time, and had an important conversation for some hours with the Royal couple. They were much struck by his remarks and are said to have declared that they had never before heard anything so instructive and interesting. The *Jiji* thinks that they might well make such a comment, inasmuch as they had been accustomed to hear words of flattery and adulation. In fact, absolute confidence is now placed in Count Inouye, and he was asked on the above occasion to lend his assistance to the utmost for the benefit of the Court and the country. He appears to be regarded no longer as an alien, but in the same light as a Korean subject zealous for the reform of the state and the stability of its independence. Side by side with this increase of Count Inouye's credit, Boku Yeiko, the new Home Minister, is also gaining favour at Court. That is of course due primarily to the good offices of Count Inouye, who, on every available opportunity, has not failed to plead on behalf of Boku. The King and Queen had thus been somewhat softened toward Boku, and his representation for the welfare of the country on the second occasion of his audience with the royal couple—so earnest, it is said, that he was carried away by zeal and could not restrain his tears—still, further inclined the King to view him with consideration and confidence.

The result was that when Count Inouye waited upon the King on the 20th, his Majesty is said to have declared that Boku had lately become loyal and sincere, whereupon the Count spoke strongly on Boku's behalf, declaring that his loyalty was not a new thing but had been deeply inscribed on his heart from the outset. If the King had failed to discern it, the fact was due to the misrepresentation of malicious persons.

The same correspondent says that the Tai Wôn-kun is no longer connected even with the management of the Court, severance of his connection with it having been brought about by a divergence between his views and those of Count Inouye in connection with drafting the Law of the Royal Household. The Count maintained the necessity not only of having such a law being drafted, but also of supplementing it by a law declaring the Royal succession unchangeably fixed. To that the old Prince objected, on the ground that to settle anything about the Royal succession while the king was still reigning over the country would be inauspicious. No wonder that the opinions of the two are always liable to clash when their minds are so differently constituted. After the Count had succeeded in convincing the old statesman of his misconception, he advised him to sever his connexion even with Court affairs, and the Tai Wôn-kun assenting, he is henceforth to play the rôle simply of a venerable Prince with no official power whatever. The work of purifying the atmosphere of the Court has been started and by way of commencement several hundred eunuchs and maids of honour have been released from service. So extensive was the clearing out that rumour declares the Queen to be without even one attendant to put charcoal into the brazier in her room. The first Royal ordinance was published in the new style on the 21st of November (Korean calendar). It fixed the forms in which Notifications issued hereafter from the various sections of State are to be drafted.

THE EXTENSION OF THE JAPANESE NAVY.

Now that China has been virtually brought to Japan's feet and the latter country has obtained ascendency in the East, a certain Japanese Admiral is said to have told a representative of the *Mainichi*, that in his opinion the Navy should in future be at least quadrupled. The Navy in its present condition has been found strong enough to conquer that of China, but it must be strengthened sufficiently to enable it to overpower the Eastern fleets of England, France, and Russia. The number of war-vessels should therefore be increased, and a law of conscription for seamen enacted so as to have a reserve in readiness, as is the case in the Army. The question of augmenting the number of war-ships requires careful deliberation. About seven years ago, when Japan had only one iron-clad, the *Fuso*, and China caused the two iron-clads, the *Chen-yuen* and the *Ting-yuen* to be constructed, an opinion was held by some that Japan should also procure two strong iron-clads. That, however, was not the view taken by the Admiral in question. He argued that if Japan wished to prepare for any rupture with China, she ought not to follow the latter's example, but ought to expend the same amount of money on the purchase of a number of cruisers. The cost of one iron-clad of 10,000 tons is equivalent to that of three cruisers of from 4,000 to 5,000 tons each, but when it comes to fighting, it is needless to say that three cruisers are far more useful than one iron-clad. His opinion prevailed in the end, and the result was the construction of the *Naniwa*, *Takachiho*, and *Unebi*. A few years after, the construction of ironclads was again advocated in some quarters, but once more the idea was overruled, and the *Matsushima*, *Itsukushima*, *Hashidate*, *Yoshino*, *Chiyoda*, and *Yayeyama* were built. Who knows what the result of the battle of Yellow Sea might have been had Japan had only one or two ironclads instead of such ships as the *Matsushima*, *Itsukushima*, *Yoshino*, *Naniwa*, and others. The Admiral is afraid that the decision of the Diet to construct two ironclads of above 10,000 tons each was a mistake, and thinks that perhaps it would be better to have in place of them eight or nine cruisers of from 5,000 to 6,000 tons equipped with powerful ordinance. The order has, however, already been given and cannot be withdrawn. Moreover, ironclads will be necessary for purposes of defence when an adequate number of cruisers has been completed. The Admiral considers that Japan should procure about a dozen more cruisers of over 5,000 tons each, equipped with the best guns.

JAPAN'S NEW NEEDS.

The *Hochi* and the *Kokumin* (from the pen of Mr. Kawajima, M.P.) write about the above topic. Now that Japan has won the sovereignty of the East, writes the *Hochi*, and has become the guardian, so to say, of China, the extension of her Army and Navy becomes a necessity. It is absolutely essential that two divisions of troops be stationed in the districts Japan has occupied in China, while at the same time the Navy should be enlarged by at least 150,000 tons within the decade to come. Estimating at the rate of 1,000 *yen* per ton, we have a total of 150 million *yen*, or 15 million *yen* per annum. Further, the expenses required in Port Arthur, Talien, and many other places; the expenses involved in stationing troops, in re-organizing the system of the Army, in strengthening the defences of the empire:—all these and many other concomitant items will amount to at least 35 million *yen* annually. In other words, the ordinary yearly outlay, now about 80 million *yen*, will have to be increased to 120 million *yen* or thereabouts. Against this development of outlay, the *Hochi* has to suggest that as the foreign commerce of the country is growing more and more prosperous, it would be possible to realize an addition of about 8 million *yen* from custom duties on goods imported from abroad, even though a general tariff of 8 per cent. be the maximum. Moreover,

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a yearly surplus of about 12 million *yen* will accrue after 1896 out of the state revenue, so that the sum to be supplied from new sources is reduced to about 15 million *yen*. How this deficiency is to be obtained the *Hochi* has nothing to say.

Mr. Kawajima enlightens us on the subject. He suggests that the new sources from which funds to meet the additional outlay may be obtained are amending the income tax, the imposition of a tax on capital, and on tickets of admission to theatres, &c., and the monopoly of *saké* and tobacco. Mr. Kawajima's idea about the amendment of the income tax is simply to enlarge its scope, not to raise the rate. He suggests that in future income tax should be made the standard for gauging the national or prefectural or district taxes. Preliminary inquiries for the purposes of this tax should be left to each *shi*, *cho*, or *son*, and the final settlement should be in the hands of national or local inspectors, as the case may be. Further, the income tax should be divided into two kinds, namely, a professional tax and a property tax. In the former all incomes derived from professions of every description should be included, while the latter should be assessed on bonds, shares, lands, houses to let, and so forth. The professional income tax should be graded into 10 classes, the lowest at the rate of $\frac{1}{200}$ of the income, the next higher at $\frac{1}{150}$, then $\frac{1}{125}$, and so on. Moreover, each class should be subgraded according to localities. The three Municipalities of Tokyo, Kyoto, and Osaka should come under the 1st grade, and Kanagawa, Aichi, and Hyogo, for instance, should be grouped under the 2nd grade, of the same class. The property income tax should also be subdivided into 10 classes, the lowest at the rate of, say, $\frac{1}{150}$, as in the assessment of the income tax now in force. Taxes on capital should be imposed on the dividend paid by a bank or company, at the rate of, say, $\frac{1}{200}$ or $\frac{1}{150}$. The property tax is assessed on incomes derived from the properties of wealthy men, but the tax on capital should be independently levied on the net profits of banks or firms, being thus quite distinct from ordinary income tax. Tickets of every description, from tickets sold by steamship or railway companies, to entrance tickets to places of amusement, should be subject to inspection by tax collectors, and a suitable impost should be assessed, say, at the rate of $\frac{1}{100}$ of the price of the ticket. As to the *saké* and tobacco monopoly, Mr. Kawashima suggests that either all the *saké* brewed should be bought up by the Government and then sold at a certain fixed rate; or *saké* and other liquors, whether for sale or for home use, should be placed under very strict control and the tax upon them levied with all rigour. Together with the introduction of the above changes in the taxation of the country, national taxes on carriages and waggons, horses, and so forth, and local taxes on business pursuits should be abolished. Mr. Kawashima does not say how far the Revenue of the State would be increased by the changes he indicates, and we remain, therefore, entirely uncertain whether his proposals are altogether in the air, or whether he has accurately calculated their practical results.

THE NEW YEAR.

So far as Yokohama and its immediate neighbourhood was concerned, 1895 has been ushered in with bright sunshine and a genial warmth of temperature, a happy augury we hope for the ensuing twelvemonth. The year just closed has been fairly prosperous for most, if not all, of those connected with the trade of the port—the depreciated dollar notwithstanding—and complaints as to the poorness of business are happily the exception and not the rule. This no doubt accounts for the more than usually lavish street decorations in all the principal quarters of the native town. The Motomachi has seldom looked prettier than on New Year's Day, nor have the gaily dressed crowds that thronged this as well as all other thoroughfares presented a happier appearance. All-sions to the war were plentiful, but in no case obtrusively so, among the principal designs over the house-doors, and if any member of His Majesty's land or sea forces chanced along he received an amount of hospitable attention which proved in some cases more than could easily be uprightly sustained. The usual hearty good-humour of "Shogatsu" prevailed on every hand, though two or three *jinrikisha* men and *sendoes*, who had been indulging not wisely but too well, went in for some displays of fisticuffs during the morning to the scandal of more peaceable passers-by.

FOOTBALL.

YOKOHAMA V. VISITORS.

Considerable interest was taken in the football match played on Wednesday afternoon, when the Y.C. & A.C. met a team composed of visitors, and officers and men from H.M.S. *Plover* and the P. & O. steamer *Ancona*. The latter team were naturally at a disadvantage, being composed of men who have seldom an opportunity of playing, and although they were beaten by eight goals to one, yet, all things considered, their game was very good. In the first half six goals were registered against them to *nil*, but upon Lias changing over to their side things became more equal and they managed to notch a point. The Visitors kicked off, but their lines were quickly menaced, Sutter planting the ball almost in the mouth of goal, but the leather passed outside. Soon after McNeill scored the first goal. Mair obtained the next after being stopped once in his attack by the Visitor's goal-keeper; Morriss took the third goal, McNeill, the fourth, Mair the fifth, and Pinckney the sixth. Upon resuming at the change of ends, Lias went over to the Visitors and proved a tower of strength, the ball being much more frequently in the near vicinity of Kenyon's goal. McNeill made the seventh point for Yokohama, and then Walker succeeded in obtaining the only goal for the Visitors, after some very pretty play by Rogers. It having been decided to play an extra ten minutes, the Yokohama team added another goal to their score through the agency of Morriss. Sides:—

YOKOHAMA.		VISITORS.
Mr. Kenyon.	Goal	Mr. J. Smart.
Mr. Goddard. Mr. Lias.	Backs	Mr. C. S. Wills. Mr. A. J. Fancy
Mr. Hall. Mr. Pinckney. Mr. Sutter.	Half Backs	Mr. A. B. Garwood. Mr. E. H. Firth. Mr. C. W. Arnould.
Mr. Pearson. Mr. E. R. Morriss.	Left Wing	Mr. W. Penny. Mr. F. Penny.
Mr. McNeill. Mr. Mair. Mr. Libeaud.	Centre Right Wing	Mr. R. F. Walker. Mr. C. R. Rover. Mr. A. G. Johnson.

FIRES IN YOKOHAMA.

Three fires in Yokohama is the record for the first twenty-four hours of the New Year. The first was discovered about half-past six o'clock on Tuesday morning, by one of the Yokohama Fire Brigade's patrols, upon the premises occupied by Messrs. Sale & Co., at No. 94, Settlement. The Brigade turned out in force with hose and stand-pipes. Arrived at the scene of the outbreak, it was found that a small *momban's* house was on fire, and the flames were attacking the wooden shutters of the main building. The fire was put out within a quarter of an hour, but there can be no doubt that had the Brigade not arrived as quickly as they did, the loss would have exceeded the house just mentioned.

About 6 o'clock on Tuesday morning the second fire occurred at No. 11, Nichome, Horaicho, and a godown was destroyed. At 1.45 on Wednesday morning the alarms were again set ringing. This time the outbreak was situated in Masago-cho, near the fish market. It evidently originated at the fourth house in this street. The wind was blowing strongly at the time, but the Y.F.B. and the police and native brigades managed to get the conflagration under control within an hour, there being a good supply of water handy. Seven houses were destroyed and three partially damaged.

RELIGIOUS NEWS FOR THE LATTER HALF-YEAR.

A good many changes have taken place in the religious world of Japan, observes the *Waseda Bungaku*, in the latter half of 1894. In the first place, as already noted, Buddhism and Christianity appear to be gradually approaching each other in some respects, as indicated by the movements of the Unitarian sect of Christians and the so-called progressive section of Buddhists. The views of the former are embodied in its organ, the *Shukyo*, and those of the latter in the *Bukkyo*. Both sections believe in the compatibility of faith and reason, and aspire to found their religions on the firm basis of rationalism, and both aim at reconciling their creeds to the rationalistic ideas of the generation. The notion that Christianity can be adapted to the Japanese, and that it is not inconsistent with the principle of nationality, has set up a barrier between the pastors of advanced views and those of orthodox principles. In the same way the Buddhists of original and progressive spirit declare that the teachings of Gautama are not pessimistic but embody the principle of activity. The present war with China and the victories achieved by the Japanese have, strange to say, given a practical impetus to these views of Christians and Buddhists. Both assert that the right is on Japan's side. As an instance of this we may mention, says the Waseda magazine, the dismissal of several foreign pastors in the *Friend Kyokai* for having condemned the actions of some Japanese clergymen who joined the Army, in obedience to a demand for their services, as against the principles of humanitarianism, while on the part of the Buddhists Messrs. Ouchi and Koga are never weary of justifying, both in pamphlets and periodicals, the present expedition of Japan against China as a righteous undertaking in the cause of justice. Among the Christians prominent men, such as Messrs. Oishikawa, Honda, Iwamoto, Matsumura, and Harada have established a Society with a view to propagating Christianity outside Japan and endeavouring, *first of* all, to diffuse the teachings of Christ in Korea. On the side of the Buddhists the various sects of Jyodo, Shingen, Nichiren, with Mr. Osu Tetsuzen of the Nishi Hongwan Temple at their head, are eager to bring about the spread of Buddhism in Korea and have despatched many distinguished priests to that country for the purpose. Both Christians and Buddhists appear to hold the view that the course to be pursued in Korea is to cause evangelists to undertake the work of instruction and to make religion and education complementary to each other. Some Buddhists are also anxious to preach to the soldiers and prisoners-of-war, but the Christians seem to entertain doctrinal scruples in the matter. The adherents of both religions are, however, equally earnest in the celebration of religious ceremonies for those who have been killed in battle and in prayers for the success of the Japanese arms. Though endeavouring to extend their influence abroad, they do not neglect to strengthen their foothold at home. The Young Men's Christian Association intends to enlarge the scope of its local churches so as to make them educational and social at the same time, and the Otani Sect of the Hongwan Temple has established five ordinary middle schools in the country. Other changes have taken place, or are about to take place, in connection with Japanese Buddhism. A prominent priest in the Sodo Sect, Mr. Onichi Choan, has announced his intention of founding a new branch called the *Kyusei-kyo* or Salvation Sect. The establishment of a new Buddhist sect is approved of on many sides. Altogether, concludes the *Waseda Bungaku*, the latter half of the past year has been of great activity in the religious circles of Japan.

We may here note what the *Kokumin-no-Tomo* has to say about the latest work of Mr. Yokoi Tokio, a prominent Japanese Christian. The book is entitled "The Problem of Christianity in Japan." The first half, remarks the Tokyo journal, treats of the history of Christianity in Japan, while in the second

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part the writer gives his views upon that religion. He strongly denounces the old theology. About three years ago Mr. Hanamori Tsurin published a pamphlet called "The present and future of Christianity in Japan." His advanced views started the majority of Japanese Christians and the work met with loud disapproval. Mr. Yokoi goes a step further than Mr. Kanamori. His view is that Christianity should resemble Unitarianism as much as possible. Otherwise it cannot gain a fooling as a religion in Japan.

CHINESE NEWS.

The *North China Daily News* states very positively that "Their Excellencies Chang Ying-huan, ex-Minister to the United States, Spain, and Peru, now Chinese Senior Vice-President of the Board of Revenue, and Shao Yu-lien, ex *Chargé d'Affaires* at St. Petersburg, Governor of Formosa, now transferred to be acting Governor of Hunan, have been appointed Joint Ambassadors to Japan to enquire what terms Japan will demand to bring the present war to an end." That is probably the most correct—though accidentally correct—description of the envoys' purpose, namely, to ask what Japan wants. But such a method of suing will never restore peace. Concerning the route to be taken by the envoys in coming to Japan, we read that Shao Yulien was in Shanghai on December 24th, and Chang was expected to travel overland from Pekin to join him. It is about a month's journey overland, we believe, from Pekin to Shanghai.

The same Journal has the following:—

Owing to the continual drafts of troops which have been sent north from the Yangtze Valley, and the tardiness with which raw levies have been raised, the many towns in that quarter are virtually without protection of any kind. This state of affairs has emboldened the numerous lawless characters always to be found in the neighbourhood of the riverine ports, to band together for the purpose of robbery and violence, the houses of those reputed to be wealthy, and pawnshops having a special attraction for these worthies. Last week an armed band of about three hundred robbers attacked a pawnshop in a small town not far from Hankow. A forcible entry was made into the establishment, the shopmen were bound and gagged, and the robbers succeeded in carrying off money and valuables amounting to upwards of Tls. 10,000. The robbers retired to the hills with their booty, none of the local troops venturing to interfere with them.

Canton has subscribed and forwarded to Pekin 2 million taels out of a contribution of 5 millions that the city is required to make to the war chest.

It is interesting to learn how the Chinese report operations that have lately been occupying our attention here. Our readers remember General Katsura's march from Sui-yen on the 9th of December, the subsequent fight at Tomucheng, and the capture of Hai-cheng. Here is the Chinese manner of stating the case:—

According to despatches recently received from General Sung Ch'ing, the Chinese generalissimo of Manchuria, the country north of Kinchou, trending north-east towards Kaichou (Kai-ping) is now held by General Chang of Têngchou (Chefoo) and General Hsü, whose joint forces number some 12,000 men. On the 13th instant a force of Japanese marching westwards from Hsiuyen (Sui-yen) attacked General Hsü's entrenchments at a place a few miles east of Kaichou. The enemy was finally repulsed with the loss of between 500 or 600 men. The main army under General Sung Ch'ing, recently reinforced by the whole of the Ming division, are now encamped a short distance north of Hai-cheng protecting the road to Liaoyang and Mukden, and Generals Nieh and Lü with some 8,000 men are still at Motienling, threatening Fênghuangch'eng, so as to cut the enemy's communications with Korea.

How on earth General Nieh and Lü, posted on the top of a pass some 60 miles from Fenghwan can be "threatening" that town, is a riddle that the Chinese may be left to solve. But in truth the knowledge of the war possessed by the Chinese public is very curious. The Kiukiang correspondent of the Tsungli Shang Pao Shanghai paper writes:—

The Chinaman is one of the most wonderful creatures that exist. His general make up passes the wit of man to describe. On the one hand he is matter-of-fact to a degree and concerned only with his present temporalities, and the present war shows he has another side and that he is blessed with a magnificent (!) imagination. The overwhelming victories won by Celestial troops over the despised dwarfs have only served to stimulate his powers. In this city anyone walking along the street will see booksellers plying their trade in a way that would put English and American newsboys to shame. Armed with a bundle of illustrated cartoons and a gong, he attracts attention by shouting "Great victories over the foreigners—the French utterly defeated—sketches by the eye-witnesses," etc., etc. It appears that on the 8th day of the present moon the French fought a great battle with the Chinese and were repulsed on sea and land, losing 13 men-of-war in the naval action and so on. All the news comes as good cheer for the New Year! But where do all these lies, so well defined as to detail, come from? That the Chinese after suffering a few minor defeats have startled the world by their feats of arms the natives believe, and so do foreigners, but foreigners and natives unfortunately look at these same "feats of arms" from different standpoints.

Your correspondent a few days ago asked an intelligent native what was the latest news from the north. He replied, with what Mark Twain would call "childlike confidence," "Oh, the Russians have been overcome in a series of engagements by our troops and have retreated beyond the border!"

Generals Chang Kuei-t'i, Cheng Yun-ho, and Chang Kuangtsai, upon whom the responsibility of losing Port Arthur fell, have been leniently treated by the Emperor of China in deference to representations by the Viceroy Li. They managed to escape with the remnants of their troops to the outposts of the army under Sung, or to Kai-ping, where General Chang Kaoyuan commands. An Imperial Decree, issued on the 22nd of December, says:—

It cannot be denied but that the Generals responsible for the loss of Port Arthur are deserving of the most severe punishments. We are, however, willing to stretch a point since the officers referred to in Li Hung-chang's memorial have been trying their best to atone for their past offences. We therefore simply punish Chiang Kuei-t'i, Ch'eng Yün-ho, and Chang Kuang-ts'ai by depriving them of rank and titles, and allow them to serve under Sung Ch'ing, for the present, in order to give them a chance to redeem their characters. If, however, they be indeed so lost to the feeling of shame as to show cowardice in the future, then Sung Ch'ing is hereby commanded, without the necessity of any further reference to us, to behead these three men at once in accordance with martial law."

The *North China Daily News* says:—

The Chinese authorities have now in their possession duplicated copies of the likenesses of one hundred and eighty Japanese alleged to be the emissaries of their government now scattered over the maritime coast towns of China and the Yangtze littoral. These likenesses contain the faces only of the subjects and are a quarter of an inch square attached to each other by some photographic process so as to form one sheet, fourteen inches long and about a foot broad. A few of those unmounted sheets were found upon the persons of certain spies captured last November by the native authorities, and having been reproduced are now being sent out broadcast to the civil and military officials of this empire, in order to enable them to identify any strangers or suspicious characters who may fall into the hands of the mandarins. These photographs are numbered and were acknowledged by the captive emissaries to have been given them by the Japanese Intelligence Department for the purpose of identifying one another when occasion arose.

The vernacular press in China is doing everything in its power to induce the Government to prolong the war. It interprets Japan's war loans as evidence that she is seriously embarrassed for funds, and it alleges that she can not find men to send abroad, where as China has millions of taels and tens of thousands of troops always at command. The Pekin authorities are assured that if they only hold out, Japan must soon be found suing for peace.

Here is an example of China's method of raising a war loan:—"Orders have been received from the high provincial authorities at Canton, [illegible] your intention to introduce [illegible] reforms

from Pekin, instructing them to collect Tls. 5,000 from each of the first-class pawnbroking establishments in Kuangtung, and Tls. 3,000 each from the smaller establishments of a similar nature, of which there are no fewer than 1,400 in the province." The pawnbrokers doubtless belong to the peace party.

The Wunieh correspondent of the *North China Daily News*, writing on the 24th of December, says that there was a panic in that city, the advent of the Japanese being daily expected. People were leaving the place in great numbers.

So firm a hold have these mere reports over the people that it has affected them in that which is dearest to the heart of most Chinamen—their pockets. The reason the Japanese are coming here is that they wish to seize the large stocks of rice of which there are always large quantities on hand and especially at this time of the year. Consequently, this staple of life has taken a drop, that in a foreign market would prove fatal to many. The day before yesterday the best quality of polished rice sold for $3.23 per picul. At 4 o'clock yesterday it was varying from $2 50 to $2.72, and is to-day equally unstable. Pork in the stalls has gone down more than 2 cents per pound in 18 hours. While as for ducks, chickens, game, etc., for which this is usually a splendid market, no one wants them, and of course they are, even in the natives eyes, ridiculously cheap. In fact, practically a financial panic prevails, for which there is no reason whatever. Banks refuse to acknowledge drafts for large sums, though on the best security, while the percentage on those that are paid is very high. Articles that a few days since would be taken in the pawnshops at fair prices are now not wanted at all, and those that are taken are at only about one-third the usual price. Gold yesterday morning was sold readily for $50 per ounce, but to day can scarcely be had at $66. Raw silk has not escaped. It is to-day from 1½ cents to 3 cents per lb. cheaper than yesterday morning. On the other hand, unpolished rice has a tax now of 30 *cash* per picul—whereas before there was none. Salt—a government monopoly—has gone up, and so, looking at the whole case, it is a hurly-burly as complete as might be.

But I am glad to say that reports against foreigners in general have died out almost. And while the upper classes are in panic the masses are standing by in comparative indifference, many saying that if the Japanese do come they will be safe. In fact, those who should naturally control and lead seem to have lost their heads entirely.

The following Imperial Decree has been published in Pekin:—

The missionary chapels and associations at the capital have been in existence for many years, and the members thereof have done their work quietly and unobtrusively, hence it is but right that they should be protected and looked after in accordance with our treaties with their respective countries. As we are now plunged in a war with the Eastern Wojen (Japanese) it is also necessary to make it known that the war has nothing whatever to do with the various countries of the West. But owing to the fact that on this particular year there will be larger crowds than usual from without entering the capital to witness the Imperial birthday celebrations, it is to be feared that the ignorant might be filled with suspicion without just cause, and, moreover, rowdy characters might take it into their heads to create disturbances on the slightest pretence, hence it is but right that proper precautions be taken to prevent such possibilities. In view of this, therefore, we hereby instruct the Commander of the Peking Gendarmerie and the Police Censors to issue instructions to their subordinates to be diligent in their patrolling duties and take extra precautionary measures to protect the missionaries in question. Should any lawless characters trump up pretences to seek a quarrel with the former, full permission is now granted to arrest the disturbers of the peace and submit them to severe punishment. Any laxity, indeed, will not be overlooked by us.

We take the following from the *North China Daily News*:—

The following extraordinary edict has been kindly furnished us as coming from official circles in Pekin:—

Wêng T'ung-ho, Li Hung-tsao, and Wên T'ung-shih memorialised the Emperor lately suggesting the removal of the capital westward. In reply the young Emperor is said to have issued an edict, the purport of which was this:—When we first took charge of the affairs of the empire it

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Suddenly and unexpectedly the Japanese have broken the peace, taken away our Korean dependency and taken possession of the borders of our empire. We have sent our generals with their armies to punish the Japanese and drive them away, but we never intended to disturb the peace of the Japanese empire. This our ancestors and foreign nations all know. Little did we expect that the generals were incompetent and the soldiers insubordinate, so that the Japanese gained victory after victory and place after place till our ancestors in their very graves are disturbed. This is because we are unworthy and have employed unfit men. If, however, the worst came and the Japanese got the sacred altars, then there remains nothing for us but to perish with them. When that time comes may you reverently escort the Empress-Dowager westwards and elect a worthy man to be the Emperor, and to look after the sacred altars of our ancestors and wipe off this disgrace.

It appears that this edict was issued to those within the Palace precincts nearly a month ago, but has only just been known outside.

We (*Japan Mail*) venture to doubt whether any such Decree as the above was issued.

The Chinese do not fight well or manage warlike affairs well, but they seem, nevertheless, to entertain a strong contempt for cowards and incompetents, as the following extract from the leading Shanghai journal shows:—

The remains of the late Lin T'ai-tsang, Senior Commodore of the Peiyang fleet, and captain of the ironclad *Chenyuen*, who committed suicide owing to the accident to his ship when entering Weihai wei, arrived at Foochow, the native city of the deceased, on the 17th of November. The funeral was far from what would have happened if the deceased had died with his face to the enemy, many of the inhabitants of the city even going so far as to spit at the coffin. According to despatches received recently from Foochow this was politeness compared with what took place when the remains of the late Fong Peh-kien, the Captain of the *Tsiyuen*, executed for cowardice at the Yaloo naval battle, were taken to their last resting place the other day. Stones were thrown at the funeral procession and attempts were made by the mob to smash the coffin, the people declaring that such cowards had no right to be buried in their town, etc. After considerable difficulty the coffin was rescued and taken back to the temple where it had been placed since its arrival from the North a month ago. A few days ago another funeral took place under cover of the darkness and the remains of the unfortunate Captain were quietly buried in a special plot of ground.

AMERICAN NEWS.

The Texas and Pacific Railroad has been the scene of another train robbery, the thieves securing $140,000 in money gold bullion, which was being carried from San Francisco to Washington and Texas, and Texas Pacific agents' remittances.

The robbery is quite remarkable in one respect —the messenger's iron safe was thrown from the train and carried away.

The train is due here at 6.05 o'clock, and when nearing Mary's Creek it was brought to a sudden standstill by a danger signal on the trestle. The instant the train came to a stop the robbers sprang up from the bushes at the side of the track near the engine and jumped into the cab. They covered the engineer and fireman with their revolvers and ordered that the train be banked up. This was done.

The robbers ordered the fireman to burst in the front door of the express car. The fireman refused to obey at first, but being threatened with death he finally consented, bursting the door in with a pick. The largest of the men stood guard over the fireman and engineer while the other two went into the express car.

Fort Worth is the end of the express run, and all the safes are usually opened when nearing the city. The robbers, it seems, knew this, and while one covered the messenger the other went through the safes. When the robbers had finished their work they mounted their horses, told the engineer he could go on, and then rode off leisurely in a north westerly direction.

The Nicaragua trouble continues to develop new complications. Its latest feature is that President Zelaya's officials have ignored the treaty with Great Britain and have named General Cabeza to be Governor of Mosquito, his brother being appointed Governor of Corn Island. Cabeza, upon assuming office, issued formal invitations to a State banquet to the officers of H.M.S. *Mohawk* and to the officers of the U.S.S. *Marblehead*. The former at once declined, but the latter accepted and were welcomed with a salute of 21 guns. One of Zelaya's most recent acts has been the seizure of property belonging to the Moravian missionaries in Mosquito. This is expected to lead to serious complications with Great Britain.

The Moravian mission is a large and influential one. The Bishop and nearly thirty clergy have conducted a mission among the Mosquito and Sarna Indians. At the time they purchased their holdings from the Government of Mosquito it was with the full approval of Great Britain. The deeds were duly registered in London. Great Britain, it is reported, has promised them protection and full redress.

Nicaragua is practically under a dictatorship. Under the new condition formulated by General Zelaya, the President, any one denounced by the Government of Nicaragua as unfriendly to it may be fined $50,000 or have his property confiscated.

The members of the National Live Stock Exchange are taking active measures to secure redress against the prohibitive legislation of foreign countries, especially Germany, in the matter of American cattle. They are sending a memorial to Congress praying that steps be taken to placate the foreign countries in question. Delegates of the Exchange recently met at St. Louis and adopted a form of memorial concerning which the following paragraph conveys full information:—

The presentation of the paper was preceded by an explanation of its purpose, viz.:—"The obtaining of relief through Congress from the unfortunate embargo placed upon a few American products, namely live stock, dressed beef, and hog products on account of duties imposed by our recent tariff act upon raw and refined sugars from Germany, France, Belgium, Denmark and Austria, thus practically closing these markets to us, a continuance of which means disaster to the farming and live-stock interests of this country."

The paper goes on:—"From 1849 to a very recent date we have enjoyed a large business with those countries, particularly Germany and France. This was undoubtedly because of the fact that in the tariff no duty was imposed by the United States upon raw sugar. Under those conditions these countries could well afford to adapt their farm lands and their efforts to raising beets for sugar production and to depend almost entirely upon us for their animal food supply.

"Heretofore we have been enabled to send our products to them while they in turn sent raw and refined sugar to the United States. The recent placing of a tariff on raw sugar has destroyed this commerce, for it is an unquestionable fact that the action of these countries is wholly and entirely due to the attitude of our tariff measures in relation to the exportation of sugars, and it must be conceded that our live stock and dressed beef shipments will continue to suffer so long as the present laws on sugar are in force.

"The excuse which is given by these foreign countries for their action in excluding our animal products is on account of the Texas fever, but this is understood to be a mere subterfuge. From 1890, when the exchange of commerce went into effect, up to a recent date, these countries had not discovered an unhealthy animal among all the cargoes which we have exported nor a diseased piece of meat. Indeed, the rigid inspection in this country which is given to all such products before shipment affords sufficient guarantee of the quality and condition of all our animals and products, especially when coupled with the fact that the best grades of cattle and dressed beef are shipped abroad. In fact, we do not export Texas cattle.

"The motive of the foreign countries mentioned is found in the fact of our placing this obnoxious tax on their raw and refined sugars, and should this be removed or modified at once we know that there would be no further fault found with our hogs.

"We urge immediate action on the part of Congress toward repealing the duty on raw sugar and modifying that on refined, thus restoring our pleasant commercial relations with these countries. Also the farming districts of this country will be very greatly crippled and our live stock interests very badly injured, as our home production is not sufficient to absorb more than a small percentage annually of what we raise. Millions of dollars' worth of cattle and hogs and their products have been handled annually from this country to Germany and other countries, and unless the existing embargo is raised from our cattle, dressed beef, and hog products, the loss of this outlet will be very great and cause irreparable injury to us.

An extraordinary charge has been preferred by an old man, formerly a clerk in the New York Controller's Office. He says in effect that 15 million dollars' worth of city bonds have been sold, the proceeds appropriated and duplicate bonds forged. The accusation sounds incredible, but it is apparently viewed seriously for a committee has been organized to investigate it. The informant's name is Matthew Jephson O'Rourke who is described as an old, vindictive, testy person.

We read in the American journals of an extraordinary use of the portable telephone. A certain Dr. Janns of Chicago had been blackmailed for a long time by Attorney Toas. There figured in the affair a letter, the writing of which Janns was anxious to induce Toas to confess. The Attorney, though frank enough about the matter when Janns only was present, kept his mouth close sealed at other times. Janns accordingly fitted into his hat a small telephone connecting with a large instrument in a barrister's office at which a detective and a stenographer were stationed. Janns then carried his mechanical hat into the blackmailer's room, and the latter, seeing no witnesses present readily made fatal admissions that were carefully listened to by the detective and copied by the stenographer. That is the story. We don't understand it. To pray into one's own hat is an old custom, but to converse into another man's is a novelty.

A telegram from Washington dated December 6th says:—

The Senate in executive session to-day referred the new Japanese commercial treaty to the Committee on Foreign Relations without reading. It is understood that there will be no opposition to this treaty by the Pacific Coast Senators for race reasons.

President Cleveland has reconsidered his original decision and has agreed that an American Delegate shall accompany the Turkish Commission appointed to enquire into the Armenian outrages. Turkey was naturally anxious that some Christian Power should be represented on the Commission since its finding would otherwise carry comparatively little weight, and as the European States were all more or less tainted with suspicion of partiality, the Porte turned to America. What further occurred is best described by quoting Secretary Gresham's own words:—

"The United States having declined to join in the committee, the Porte was obliged to yield to the extent of permitting the European governments to name commissioners. Up to this point the Government has been in doubt as to the reality of the reported outrages.

"The Turkish Government had declared positively that the Armenian affair was nothing but a rebellion, and that it had been suppressed in a legitimate manner. There had been a battle, some sixty or seventy Turkish soldiers had been killed, and the rebels had lost 500 or 600 men.

"But at this juncture came reports from trusted agents discrediting official reports of the Turkish Government and affording reason for the belief that the Armenians had been terribly outraged.

"Then Great Britain appealed to the United States, in the interest of justice and to insure a report above suspicion and above contravention by the Turks themselves, to appoint a member of the committee of inquiry. This appeal turned the tide and induced the President to reconsider his first decision.

"But to any appearance of entanglement with other Powers which might in the end result in making the United States an active party to a controversy with which it is contended we have properly nothing to do, it was decided that the American representative should, while accompanying the committee, act with absolute independence, should hear what he could in Armenia, and instead of joining in the conclusions of the committee should make a separate report to the State Department."

Trouble of a serious nature threatens between Mexico and Guatemala.

City of Mexico, December 7.—The last reports from the Guatemalan frontier state that a Mexican Colonel, a member of the staff of General Lullane, has been assassinated by the Guatemalans, and it is reported that a company of 170 Mexicans had a skirmish with 400

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Guatemalan guerrillas, in which two Mexican soldiers were killed. This particular body of mounted Guatemalans is reported to be still hovering about the vicinity of the Mexican troops, but it is believed that after making the attack they retired to the Guatemalan side of the international line.

The Connecticut Supreme Court has delivered a judgment that strikes at the root of one of the oldest tenets of British justice. It has hitherto been regarded as an action of jurisprudence that a person accused of a crime cannot be put in jeopardy a second time after having been once acquitted by a jury. According to the view of the Connecticut Supreme Court, however, this principle was based entirely upon the great cruelty of the old English common law: a man having once escaped the clutches of such a law, it was universally felt that he ought not to be again brought within its grasp, But the law having now been greatly modified, the Connecticut tribunal thinks that a criminal ought not to benefit by the former practice which is obviously opposed to the satisfaction of justice. The Court accordingly ordered the re-trial of Dr. J. E. Lee who had been acquitted of murder by a jury.

The prospects of the Nicaragua Canal are distinctly brighter. Senator Morgan has introduced a Bill for its construction, and "it is reported from the House of Representatives that the entire Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce is favourable to the canal, and that Speaker Crisp, who controls the Committee on Rules, also favours it, and therefore that no delay need be apprehended when the bill comes up in the lower house."

The latest attempt to restore royalism in Hawaii proved an utter fiasco. Its details have been divulged by one Katzer, a young Austrian, who up to August last was a corporal and battery clerk of Light Battery F., Fifth United States Artillery. His term of service having expired, Katzer sailed for Honolulu, and on the voyage seems to have offered himself in a general sort of way, in the capacity of fighting plotter, to the commissioners sent by Queen Liliuokalani to Washington, who happened to be on board. It was arranged that an attempt should be made to seize the palace. The silliest feature of the whole affair is a pretence that in the event of the conspirators' being able to obtain possession of the palace, now a barracks, a force of blue-jackets and marines would be landed from H.B.M.S. *Hyacinth* to assist them, and under the order of Acting Commissioner, Consul-General Hawes—our old friend, Mr. A. J. Hawes—would be stationed about the city, ostensibly for the protection of British subjects and their property but really to render moral assistance to the ex-Queen and her adherents. That of course is all nonsense. The rest of the story may be learned from the following:—

The plan was to make the assault at 9.45 p.m., the hour when the native band usually plays at the hotel. The plotters counted on about 250 men, half armed with rifles and revolvers and the rest with rifles. A few picked men, uniformed as mounted policemen, were to gain entrance to the palace grounds from Richards-street on an order purporting to come from Marshal Hitchcock. This part of the scheme, it is said, was tested by Katzer and found on repeated trials to work easily. These men were to throw open the gates after "silencing" the men on guard. A hundred men carrying revolvers were to rush up the main drive—forty to capture the cannon on the porch, and sixty to seize the gun-room in the basement, and then engage the soldiers in a hand to-hand fight as they tumbled out of their quarters. Then the rabble gathered for the evening concert was to rush in and add to the confusion.

Meanwhile, the riflemen were to seize and hold the sixty-eight guard posts, and five details of three men each, armed with pistols, were to capture the Cabinet Ministers in their houses, while a party of twenty seized the telephone stations and then the police station, if possible.

Katzer's plan was approved and adopted, and he was assigned to the duty of leading the attack on the palace. The nearest that it came to execution was on the night of October 20th, but the Royalists, according to Katzer, lacked the "sand." He and Nolan could find only a dozen men with nerve enough to be fully trusted, so the attack was not made, and after a week or two of waiting the plotters, finding that they were likely to be [illegible] arrested, left without the formality of a public farewell.

"Commissioner Hawes," said Katzer, "did not talk to me in person, but through Rickard. It was to the latter that he promised the indirect support of marines from the *Hyacinth*, and the promise was a cautious one, made in reply to a hypothetical question as to what would be done in case case of an uprising. It was generally understood among the Royalists that the representative of England, which had not then recognized the republic, would take advantage of any outbreak to land troops and help Liliuokalani re-establish her rule."

Admiral Walker, in his report to the Navy Department on Hawaii, advocates the annexation of the islands. He does not express that opinion in so many words, but his whole argument tends in that direction. Not the least interesting part of the report describes the Admiral's views as to England's action in Hawaii:

The report deals more especially with the political situation in Hawaii, and the subject is treated in the thorough manner that might be expected in an important document from an officer of Admiral Walker's ability and experience. Particular attention is given to the past and present foreign influences at work in the Islands against the interests of the United States, and to the relations and duty of this country in Hawaii.

What England has tried to accomplish, first through Consul-General Wodehouse and afterward through his successor, Mr. Hawes, in the interest of Liliuokalani, is fully set forth in the report. It is shown that Mr. Wodehouse arrayed himself against the annexationists from the start and that he persistently adhered to this line of action. Mr. Wodehouse kept up his opposition to the annexationists even after the ex-Queen was dethroned and the Provisional Government was established. He was a partner in all the intrigues looking to the restoration of the dissolute monarch even after he had been formerly accredited to Mr. Dole's Government. Evidences of this fact are set forth in the report. The impression is conveyed that England's Minister was prepared to go to practically any extreme in furthering the restoration of the ex-Queen and thereby benefiting his own Government.

Mr. Hawes had succeeded Mr. Wodehouse shortly before Admiral Walker reached Honolulu. In his report the Admiral removes all doubt as to the belief that Mr. Wodehouse had been working with a distinct purpose, and that his course was in line with the policy of his superiors in London.

Here is what the *San Francisco Chronicle* has to say about the revised Treaty between the United States and Japan:—

The Cleveland Administration is taking to itself great credit for the negotiation of a new treaty with Japan, though it is known to every person of average intelligence that Japan has stood ready for a number of years to readjust its relations with the United States on terms, practically, of our own dictation, or, more properly, suggestion. Japan has long regarded this country as its friend par excellence, and we could have had anything in reason that we asked. The new treaty, as it goes to the Senate for approval, is distinctly not to the advantage of this country, but this is not to be understood as meaning that it embraces any special element of unfairness to this country. The point of objection, if any there be, is that we have not been granted special privileges to which, under our amicable relations with Japan, we were fairly entitled.

Taken as a whole, the treaty is fair and just to both the contracting parties. It is true that Article 2 contains the "most favoured nation" clause, but the same article provides that the stipulations therein contained do not in any way affect the laws, ordinances, and regulations with regard to trade, immigration of labourers, police and public security which are in force or which may hereafter be enacted by either of the two countries; so if the United States shall deem it necessary or expedient to restrict Japanese immigration it will be at perfect liberty so to do.

The consular courts and courts of mixed jurisdiction which have prevailed in Japan under former treaties are done away with, and wisely. They have outlived their usefulness, since Japan has become sufficiently civilized to conduct judicial proceedings in accordance with Occidental ideas of jurisprudence. Most of the Judges of the Japanese courts at the present day have been educated abroad and have learned and embraced the principles of law and justice as understood in Europe and America. One who studies this treaty carefully will find little in it to condemn and much to commend.

Mr. James Creelman's attempt to convict Mr. de Guerville of a plot to bring about his murder—for that is the sensational form that the affair now takes—elicits the following sympathetic remarks from the *San Francisco Chronicle*:—

The story told in a morning contemporary of the plot against the life of James Creelman, an American war correspondent in Korea, does not seem credible. No newspaper man would conspire against the life of a comrade, because he would know that his offence could not remain hidden, and that the knowledge of it would blacklist him in his profession from the Atlantic to the Pacific. It may be that Mr. Creelman is honest in his belief that he was placed in grave peril by a comrade, but the public will look upon the story with doubt, especially since it has leaked out that Creelman was taking his ease in his Yokohama hotel when he claimed to be on the battlefield of Ping Yang. A man with so little conscience as to represent that he was at the front with the victorious Japanese army when in reality he had not left his comfortable quarters in Yokohama cannot be trusted when he comes to speak of his personal adventures. What made Forbes, McGahan, Millet and others great war correspondents was their truthfulness fully as much as their daring and endurance. If they had been given to lying or false pretences they would never have reached the front rank of their profession.

We take the following from an American exchange:—

Washington, December 12th.—The following statement was issued from the Japanese Legation to-day:—"The Japanese Minister expresses the strongest disbelief in the reports of atrocities alleged to have been committed by the Japanese troops at Port Arthur. He does not hesitate to denounce as unqualifiedly false the statement contained in one account telegraphed from Yokohama that there was an unrestrained reign of murder at Port Arthur for three days after its capture, and that practically all the inhabitants were butchered in cold blood.

"The reputation of Marshal Oyama, whose orders to his troops against excesses of any kind were of the strictest nature, and the discipline maintained in the Japanese army, in his opinion, renders such a state of things impossible. He believes, therefore, that these reports are exaggerated and thinks that the official report of what has really happened, which will certainly be made public, will prove them to be so. The Legation has as yet no definite advices upon the subject beyond a report that a number of Japanese labourers, who had been armed with swords for their own protection, entered the town during the battle and were guilty of some excesses. After the fights at Chinchow and Talien-wan, the Japanese dead were found decapitated and otherwise horribly mutilated. It is possible that the Japanese labourers, inflamed by these atrocities and intoxicated with the liquor found in the town, may have done the things alleged while the fight was going on, but the officials at the Legation report their disbelief, and are certain that the culprits will be summarily and quickly dealt with.

"The circumstances attending the capture of Port Arthur show that something of this kind might easily have happened. It was not until late on the afternoon of November 21st that the right wing of the Japanese army entered the town. Some of the forts forming the coast defence still held out and the battle practically continued all night and until 10 o'clock the next morning. It may have been that during this interval excesses were committed by camp followers, but it is not believed by the Japanese Minister that they could possibly have been of the nature or of the extent described in the cablegrams."

DOCUMENTS SEIZED IN PORT ARTHUR.

The following documents from Admiral Ting, Kung, Superintendent of the Port Arthur Dockyards to Earl Li and to Taotai Shing of Tientsin, were seized by the Japanese when Port Arthur fell into their hands:—

DESPATCH TO THE VICEROY LI. (NO DATE.)

Of the ships damaged in the battle of the Yellow Sea, the *Ping-yuen*, *Kwang-ping*, *Chi-yuen*, and *Ching-yuen* suffered least, and it is expected that by attending to their repairs with the utmost promptitude, they will be ready for use in about two weeks. The *Ting-yuen* and *Chen-yuen* had their propellers, batteries, anchor gear, and so forth injured. It will therefore be impossible to complete their repairs in a thorough manner before

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the end of the month after next. The *Lai-yuen's* stern is almost broken in half, her store-rooms are burnt, and many of her iron beams bent by heat. She can not be ready in less than two months. In short, there is not a single ship seaworthy at present.

DESPATCH TO THE VICEROY LI. (NO DATE.)

The battle fought off Ta-tung lasted three hours and was more terrible than any to be found in the Naval records even of Western countries. The ships of both sides were considerably damaged, especially those of the enemy. The enemy retired first, so that victory may more or less be said to have rested with us. Had not our rear become disordered, the entire victory would have been ours. Rewards and punishments must be dealt out with strict justice in war. As those who ran away in a craven manner have received the treatment they deserved, it is to be highly desired that those who rendered distinguished services during the fight be suitably rewarded.

TELEGRAPHIC MESSAGE AS TO THE PERIOD OF COMPLETION OF THE REPAIRS OF THE "CHI-YUEN," "KWANG-PING," AND "PING-YUEN." (NO DATE.)

It is needless to say that though it is impossible to check the enemy's movements positively, it is important to defend the Port from the outside so as to impress on the enemy the fact that we are not cowards enough to be entirely at his mercy. The purport of the Imperial order that officers and mechanics should attend promptly to the work of reparation on pain of being severely punished, will be borne in mind by everyone connected with the repairs of the ships. The refusal of Chili to sell her warships to China in spite of the preliminary agreement having been made, is probably due to Japan's instigation. Admiral Ting is recovering from his wound, &c., &c.

DESPATCH TO TAOTAI SHING. (NO DATE.)

In reply to yesterday's telegram urging that the repairs of the *Ching-yuen*, *Chi-yuen*, *Ting-yuen*, and *Kwang-ping* be carried out with the utmost promptitude so that they may be enabled to put out to sea and engage in the defence of the coast, we now state that the *Kwang ping* will be in readiness by the 2nd, the *Ping-yuen* by the 3rd, the *Chi-yuen* and *Ching yuen* by the middle, and the *Ting yuen* and *Chen-yuen* by the end, of the month. The *Lai-yuen* having been seriously damaged, her repairs will not be completed till the middle of October. We are of opinion that as our torpedo-boats and other important accessories are not sufficient, it will be impossible to cooperate with the land forces unless all the ships now undergoing repairs are in proper order. The six warships would be ready to engage the enemy provided his strength were not greatly superior. Of course they will be obliged to stand against the enemy's fire, however disadvantageous the odds may be to them, but as the enemy's ships are of greater velocity, our vessels will be subjected to great hardships whether victorious or otherwise. The steel bottoms and steel belts of the batteries of the *Ching-yuen* and *Chi-yuen* are entirely destroyed, the shells for the *Ping-yuen* have not yet arrived, and for the three quick-firing guns of the *Kwang-ping* there are only 30 rounds of ammunition left. Moreover, the guns of the various ships are more or less damaged, and only a few of them can be used. We think that in order to make good this loss, no better plan can be pursued than to purchase two more ironclads and eight cruisers. The law of neutrality stands in the way, but should cost be disregarded and men freely bribed with money, it might not be difficult to procure ships. The addition of those vessels to our Navy would make it possible for us to be victorious over the enemy sooner or later. The sea being now closed, so to say, to our Navy, even if our Army be victorious, the enemy's Squadron will doubtless attempt to descend upon the ports along the coast and harrass the defenders. As the Viceroy must be filled with deep anxiety, any unnecessary particulars likely to vex him will not be mentioned.

The letter concludes with a petition to the Taotai to exert himself in order that the suggestion about the purchase of additional ships should be carried into effect.

DESPATCH TO TAOTAI SHING. (NO DATE.)

We have received yesterday's message enjoining that the damaged vessels be promptly repaired and put to sea for purposes of defence. The repairs are being attended to night and day without neglect. The steel bottoms and belts of the batteries of the *Ching-yuen* and *Chi-yuen* are in a very bad condition, and unless they are repaired it will not be possible to use their guns. The shells for the *Ping-yuen* have not yet arrived, while there are only 60 rounds of ammunition left for the three quick firing guns of the *Kwang ping*. It is useless to keep up a contest with the enemy. Were the repairs of the four ships completed, they would be able also [illegible] sea and undertake the defence of the coast, but their speed being far inferior to that of their antagonists, it is impossible to hope for victory. Moreover, as the enemy excels in daring exploits we are debarred from assuming the offensive and giving battle to him, for it is apparent that if a challenge were given and a fight ensued the result would simply be that we should hand over our ships to the foe. From the first our Navy was far from strong, and it is now still weaker on account of having lost four ships by burning, sinking, and stranding. It is true that we have still the *Ting yuen*, *Chen-yuen*, *Lai-yuen*, *Ping-yuen*, *Chi yuen*, *Ching-yuen* and a few others, but of these the *Ping-yuen* is extremely slow in her movements, while the repairs of the *Lai-yuen* will not be completed till the middle of October. The two guns on each ship are very badly injured. The loss of one or two cruisers at this juncture would be a grave calamity. I thought at first that as soon as my wound was healed I should resume my duties on board, and as soon as all the ships were repaired, would try another decisive engagement with the enemy, no matter at what odds, with the idea that the obligations owed by me and my colleagues to our country would only be fulfilled by our sinking to the bottom with our ships. Upon calmer reflection, however, I see that such a desperate venture would not benefit China in any way. Japan will get next year two iron-clads of 10,000 tons each. It is necessary therefore that China should procure by some means or other four more ships, two at least of which should be a grade higher than Japan's new vessels. China should also procure 8 additional first-class cruisers of greater velocity, if possible, than the *Yoshino*. Should their speed be slow, the mere addition of three or four ships would do no good to the defences of the country.

The letter then urges that sanction be obtained from the Emperor and the project carried promptly, for which purpose the necessary funds should be raised either at home or abroad.

SILVER.

It will interest our readers to examine the following extracts from American journals (reproduced by the *Literary Digest*) in connection with the defeat of Congressman Bland, the great champion of silver in the United States:—

THE LOGIC OF EVENTS AGAINST SILVER.

"It [the election] settles the question in favour of the single standard, at least until the nations of the world agree upon a ratio for the free coinage of the two precious metals. . . .

"Our farmers do not want to take pay for their cattle, hogs, corn, wheat, oats, butter, etc., in dollars coined from fifty cents' worth of silver. Our working men do not want their wages paid in silver dollars freely coined. Those who are almost hopelessly in debt may desire silver-coinage in order to lighten the burden; but those who depend on the progress of business and the development of industry for prosperity do not want conditions unsettled by opening the mints for the coinage into dollars of silver bullion worth only fifty cents in the markets of the world. This will be unpalatable to many earnest and worthy men, but the logic of events has decided the day against them."—*The News* (*Rep.*) *Des Moines.*

SILVER COMING TO THE FRONT.

"The silver question now comes to the front. . . .

"The Republican Party will neglect this duty at its peril. If it shall hesitate and doubt and consider, there is something like certainty that the Democratic Party will seize the opportunity and raise the standard of bimetallism. Let Republicans observe the condition of popular feeling in the West and the South, and estimate the consequences to them if their party shall be forced to assume the championship of British gold monometallism. The Democrats, absolutely without fixed principles of any kind, will be eager to drop the Free Trade cause which brought them to defeat, and to take up a silver cause which has high promise of victory. The time for Republican decision is the present time. Let the question be presented fairly to the Nation so that the matter be fairly understood. Let the leaders of the party and the influential newspapers proclaim without fear the truth concerning which they have been shuffling and evasive, and let us have before the year closes a positive and authoritative declaration that the Republican Party stands for the quick remonetization of silver by any safe means that are available."—*The Manufacturer* (*Rep.*), *Philadelphia.*

SILVER NOT SNOWED UNDER FOR GOOD.

"It is a poor idea, indeed, that cannot manage to gather some comfort to itself out of such a mass of election returns as were precipitated on the country last week. But we fear we must [illegible] notice as particularly silly the conclusion of *The New York Evening Post*, *The Financial Chronicle*, and other papers that the silver movement was snowed under for good and all. There is not the slightest evidence anywhere to show this, we are sorry to say. Mr. Bland was beaten, to be sure. But so was Mr. Wilson, anti-silver; and so were Mr. Springer, anti-silver; and so were Bynum of Indiana, Johnson and Outhwaite of Ohio, and a whole long list of Democrats in other States who voted in the House to repeal the Silver Act. We might with a good deal more reason conclude from this that the people were trying to punish those responsible for the repeal of the Sherman Law.

"Equally inconclusive is the argument built up on the fact that the Ohio Democrats declared for free silver and were utterly annihilated; while the California Republicans went the same way and were also beaten. This would prove absolutely nothing, even did we fail to take into view the facts that the railroad issue turned the scale in California, and that the Republicans of Ohio declared in favour of a free silver and customs-union with some other nations. The Republicans of Pennsylvania declared for a $40 per capita currency—which was worse than any free silver demand—and scored the biggest victory of all. Does it follow that the country wants that monetary policy adopted? The Kansas Republicans spoke for free silver and were victorious. The Colorado and South Dakota and Michigan Republicans did the same and swept all three States. It would be as reasonable to conclude from this that the whole country was hot for the remonetization of the white metal. Furthermore, throughout the South, where the Democrats saved most of the pieces, the anti-silver policy of the Administration has been most strongly antagonized by the Democracy.

"What the mind of the majority of the people is toward this question of silver still remain to be determined."—*The Republican* (*Ind.*), *Springfield.*

THE REPUBLICANS MUST RESTORE SILVER.

"It is the duty of the Republican Party to anticipate a complete victory in 1896, and to be ready to make prompt and good use of the power that will then be put in its hands. It is time at once to begin in the national forum the shaping of the policy that shall bring salvation to the currency. The financial issue forces itself to the front and cannot be thrust aside. The people expect the Republicans in Congress to settle it. They must not be disappointed. The fact that Grover Cleveland still hangs like a millstone on the neck of reform does not alter the duty of the Republicans. It is for them to give the country thoroughly to understand that Cleveland is the only obstacle to the rehabilitation of silver."—*The Journal* (*Rep*), *Detroit.*

SILVER PLAYED A SMALL PART.

"The silver issue played some small part in the Congressional canvass, and was mentioned and then by speakers who were expatiating in general on Republicanism or Democracy, but it can hardly be said that the result turned on this point. We presume that the same is true in other States, with this qualification, that the Republican Party has a reputation for its devotion to the principles of sound currency, which must have contributed its share to the swelling tide of Republican popularity."—*The Bee* (*Ind. Rep*), *Omaha.*

"The recent elections, especially those in the South and the West, were as much a repudiation of the Cleveland currency-policy as of the Cleveland Tariff policy. The gold loan caps the climax of the Administration's unpopular policies. Congress will perform a great national service by declaring, in the people's name, that the Administration's financial programme has been vetoed at the polls and will be reserved at the earliest possible moment.

"With Mr. Cleveland on its hands, neither this Congress nor the next will be able to enact a Silver Coinage Law. But the action of Congress in passing it, even though Mr. Cleveland vetoes it, would have an important and valuable influence on the monetary situation. It would be a formal declaration to Europe that the United States was not permanently represented as to its fiscal policy by Mr. Cleveland, and that as soon as it can unload the present Executive it will revert to the true sound-money basis on which it stood until 1873."—*The Recorder* (*Rep.*), *New York.*

"One would think that any reasonably clear thinker would see that the lesson of the futile bond-issues is that the limited stock of available gold should be given aid in performing its functions as money of ultimate redemption rather than to have other duties added to those it is already incapable to perform. There is not enough gold in the world to do the world's work is the simple fact, and if a great nation like this double the burden already laid upon gold nothing but calamity can result. Silver must be brought to the aid of gold."—*The Times* (*Dem.*), *Chicago.*

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THE ARMENIAN MASSACRE.

RUSSIA has always been able to urge in justification of her wars with Turkey that they were undertaken with the object of delivering from intolerable oppression a large number of Christians labouring under the misfortune of being Turkish subjects. But if other Western Powers credited that philanthropic design on Russia's part, they invariably interfered to prevent its full consummation. It is true that something was accomplished. The Christians in Bosnia, Eastern Roumelia, Bulgaria, Thessaly, and the Herzegovina were rescued from the immemorial suffering inflicted by the tyranny of the Porte, and obtained the blessing of security of life and property. But the Berlin Congress interposed its veto to prevent the CZAR'S retaining his conquests in Asia Minor, and he was obliged to restore to Turkey a large portion of the Armenian territory won by him. The result was that some two millions of Armenian Christians were replaced for an indefinite period under Turkish tyranny, and it is they that were the victims of the recent massacres. The *Philadelphia Press* has the following interesting information on the subject:—

"Armenia unfortunately is not inhabited by Armenians. In the tract where these massacres have occurred, Armenians are not over a fourth of the population. In the eight provinces, or vilajets, usually counted as Armenia, there are of all creeds 3,979,019 souls, and of these 587,285 are Armenians, according to Turkish statistics. Accepting the fullest claims of Armenians, not over thrice this number are found in this region, or about a third of the population. . . .

"In the rugged highlands and elevated plateaux which constitute North-eastern Turkey are scattered the last remnants of a race which once played a great part in the history of the region. Their villages are intermixed with Kurds, the most warlike race of Western Asia. The Armenians are unarmed, cowed by oppression, for centuries the unresisting prey of the savage brutality of their neighbours. The Kurd is armed, predatory, and savage, and has for centuries ravaged these Armenian villages at will, save as some Kurdish chief gave protection in return for ordered taxes as heavy though less cruel than the plunder of his followers.

"Sixty years ago, when Turkish regulars first crushed these chiefs, the plight of the Armenians was improved. Villages grew, population increased, emigration began, and Armenian education was organized. Political agitation began, and the demands of 'Armenia' for autonomy commenced. The Turkish Government increased both its taxes and oppression. The European Powers protested. The fourteenth article of the original Treaty of San Stefano provided for a Russian occupation of the region until Armenian autonomy was secured. The sixty-first article of the Berlin Treaty exchanged this for the pledge, guaranteed by the Powers, that Turkey would organize a local police, reduce the Kurds to order, and protect Armenians from pillage. The Cyprus Convention between England and Turkey gave England a special charge and ward over Armenian rights, which since 1879 has been asserted yearly by every English foreign minister in turn—Lord Salisbury, Lord Granville, and Lord Rosebery.

"Turkey has, meanwhile, sought only to crush budding revolution and let reforms go. The Kurds have been left free to ravage. Four years ago they were armed and organized as an irregular cavalry. 'Hamadish,' and it is doubtless these half-organized freebooters to whom these atrocities are due. For six or seven years past the Turkish policy has been to crush all education, to arrest and imprison educated Armenians, and by winking at Kurdish plunder drive out the Armenian population, which has been pouring into Russia, where 1,000,000 Armenians are well, contented, and happy, though enjoying neither civil nor religious liberty."

As for the massacres, the first reports of them seem to have been exaggerated, as is invariably the case. Six thousand men, women, and children were said to have been killed by the Turkish soldiers, and sensational details were added of women ravished and children bayonetted. But the terrible total is now reduced to two thousand, a large enough figure in truth. The unfortunate Armenians, perpetually raided by the Kurds, seem to have been unably to pay the taxes demanded by the Turks, who shamefully neglect the first duty of a Government, namely the protection of its subjects against pillage and murder. The Governor of Bililis, apparently glad of an excuse to oppress the Christians, took advantage of a collision between them and the Kurds, ordered his troops to suppress the Christians, and the result was a cruel massacre. Writers in Europe and America are plainly of opinion that the affair may re-open the Eastern Question. If the young EMPEROR of Russia, moved by the prayers of the persecuted Christians, follow the example of his grandfather, and sends an army into Asia Minor despite the Berlin Treaty, it will be hard to say that he deserves censure. The Powers talk of united action, but of course no step will be taken until the result is known of a commission of inquiry appointed by the SULTAN. NICHOLAS II. sees himself confronted by the old problem on the very morrow of his accession. His manner of dealing with it will furnish a guage of his capacity and disposition.

A NATIONAL NEED.

ACCORDING to the ethical teaching of SCHOPENHAUER, the springs of action are of three kinds: first, pure egoism; secondly, pure malevolence—that is the positive desire to injure others independently of desire for our own advantage; thirdly, sympathy. In a rational being, conducts pringing from either of the two former impulses is immoral, but conduct based upon the emotion of sympathy is of true moral worth. In this view, SCHOPENHAUER differs notably from KANT, who regards sympathy as a weakness, and calls those actions alone virtuous that are based, not upon the emotions, but upon the abstract idea of duty. Without entering into the merits of this controversy, which is not likely to be settled for a good many centuries, let us examine further the views of SCHOPENHAUER, since these are more to our present purpose than those of KANT. Sympathy—we wish we had a truly English equivalent of the German *mitleid*, instead of the Greek *sympathy*, less forcible to a Teutonic ear—sympathy, then, according to SCHOPENHAUER, manifests itself as two different virtues: the sentiment of justice, on account of which a man represses the activity of his egoism and his malevolence as soon as he perceives that their exercise is injurious to others; and the love of humankind, on account of which a man strives as far as lies in his power to alleviate or to remove the suffering of others. Thus sympathy is the foundation of all true morality.

The good of another must be the pure motive of the moral act, just as in a man's egoistic act his own good is his single aim. But how is this possible? To understand fully SCHOPENHAUER'S answer, it is necessary to be familiar with the main principles of his philosophy, to have read the books in which, with all the magic of his marvellous style, he sets before us a semi-oriental mysticism with the clearness and simplicity of a geometrical demonstration; but briefly his answer is this. Each man sees himself subjectively, others objectively only; but by the power of reflection it is possible to each man to recognize that in its innermost nature his own being is identical with the being of those others whom he is compelled to contemplate from such a different point of view; and for him who recognizes this, the barriers that separate one individuality from another fade and disappear. Then the man says to himself, as he contemplates the suffering of another: "Thou it is, thou thyself, that sufferest there." This is the true nature of sympathy; and in this manner it is that we can understand how the feeling of sympathy extends to other animals besides man. This last point was regarded by SCHOPENHAUER as an especially valuable element of his ethical doctrine, and it is on this that we chiefly wish to dwell.

It is noteworthy that the feeling of sympathy with the suffering of animals, and moral efforts, based upon that sympathy, for the relief or prevention of their suffering, derive little support from the teachings of Christianity. In the Judaic Scriptures, indeed, there are several references to the duty of treating animals with kindness and consideration: but in the teaching of CHRIST himself there is not, so far as we can remember, any reference whatever to the question; and the greatest of the Apostles, referring for illustrative purposes to the Hebrew text, "Thou shalt not muzzle the ox when he treadeth out the corn," asks, almost contemptuously, "Is it for the oxen that GOD careth?" And the general tendency of Christian doctrine is to fix an impassible gulf between man and other animals.

If we wish to find in religion the prototype of the views of SCHOPENHAUER, the source, indeed, in great measure from which they were derived, we must turn our faces to the East, we must go to India and examine the doctrines of Brahmanism. The Brahmanic theory of Metempsychosis endows with a vivid significance one that appeals to the popular mind, the mystical teaching of SCHOPENHAUER. Tell a peasant who is ill-treating his horse or his dog that it is in truth himself who suffers the pain that he is inflicting, and he will laugh in

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your face: but tell him that some day he will be reborn in the form of the animal that he is now ill-treating, and, in a country in which this doctrine is one of the common-places of daily life, your words will not be without effect. This theory of transmigration was adopted into Buddhism, of which, in connexion with the doctrine of *Karma*, it forms indeed a most essential part; and on this no doubt depends, as well as on the gentle, loving nature of SAKYAMUNI, the great stress that is laid in Buddhistic teaching on the duty of kindness to animals. In illustration of this teaching, we may quote, from the *Dhammika Sutta*, a precept to which no parallel can be found in all the literature of Christianity:—"Let no lay disciple destroy, or cause to be destroyed, any life at all, or sanction the acts of those that do so. Let him refrain from hurting any creature, both those that are strong, and those that tremble in the world."

Such being the outspoken utterances of Buddhism, it is somewhat surprising to find that in Japan, a country in which for so many centuries Buddhism was the dominant faith, there is so little recognition of our duties towards animals, so little evidence of any desire to assist in the great movement for the prevention of cruelty to animals, the growth of which this century has witnessed in the West There, indeed, the growth is of this century only; for, as might be inferred from what we have already said, the idea that animals have rights is a result of the general progress of enlightenment rather than of the influence of Christianity; and the lateness of the recognition of the rights of animals will not surprise those who recollect that little more than thirty years ago in the United States, and little more than sixty years ago in the British colonies, there existed a class, not of animals but of men, who had no legal rights whatever. But the movement of which the abolition of slavery was one of the fruits was a general broadening and deepening of the conception of duty; and a noteworthy result of that movement has been the granting of legal rights, not to all men merely, but to all other animals. For in most of the countries of the West there are laws by which one who wantonly or thoughtlessly ill-uses an animal is punished as swiftly and as surely as if the sufferer were a man. But in this matter Japan lags behind the rest of the world, and her Codes contain no recognition of the rights of animals.

Is this because Japan has no need of such laws; because her gentle and kindly inhabitants display an invariable tenderness also towards animals? Unfortunately this is not so; for all foreign observers will agree, and all Japanese who devote attention to the matter must admit, that there is in this country a large amount of preventible cruelty to animals. And the reason of this cruelty is not difficult to find: it is not mainly egoism, for the Japanese are, as a rule, a singularly unselfish people; it is not malevolence, for the Japanese are naturally kindly, and we see in Japan less wanton and deliberate cruelty than we see in many countries of the West; the cause lies simply in this, a lack of sympathy with animals, a lack of the power of representing in the mind the pain that animals suffer. In this respect, unquestionably, SCHOPENHAUER is right; it is the wider power of sympathy that men have gained, the keener understanding of animal suffering, the pain that those of cultivated sensibilities feel when they see or think of a fellow-creature, however lowly, in pain—these things it is that have led to the agitation for the prevention of cruelty to animals. Here, at least, sympathy has been the mainspring of moral action.

We have *no* desire at this moment to enumerate instances of the kind of preventible cruelty to which we refer that may commonly be witnessed in Japan. Those of our readers that have already devoted attention to the subject will at once think of many; and those whose attention we hope to arouse, among whom we would more especially mention the leaders of Japanese thought, will find them wherever they choose to look. But lest we should seem to some of these last to be making many words about a small matter, we shall allow ourselves to mention one concrete instance which recently came under our notice, and which for the price of two *sen* any one may have the opportunity of studying for himself. When the visitor enters the Zoological Gardens at Uyeno one of the first houses to attract his attention will be that of the elephant. Let him examine the manner in which this unfortunate animal is tied. Round both the fore-legs are wound many feet of iron chain in a figure-of-eight coil, binding the feet closely together and to a wooden upright. The right hind-leg is also chained, and so chained that it is drawn somewhat backwards, and it is quite impossible for the animal to stand in an easy posture. The chains lie on the bare skin, and the skin even of an elephant must be galled by an iron chain. But the galling of the chains is a minor matter compared with the constraint they exercise. Let the spectator try for a moment to forget those barriers of which SCHOPENHAUER speaks, the barriers that separate one individuality from another; let him project his personality into the body of the elephant. Let him feel his limbs racked with cramp by the unvarying posture, with no rest by day or by night; let him wearily get all the relief that is open to him by swinging to and fro like a pendulum his one free leg, and by striking himself on the forehead with his trunk; and all the while, hour by hour, day by day, let those chains of iron bite into the limbs they stiffen—will he then, that spectator, when he resumes his proper individuality, go away, as did all those who looked at the elephant while we ourselves were going through the experience we have just described, with no thought but one of wonder and amusement at the strange, big beast? We hope not, we believe not. That spectator will have felt as we felt when we made ourselves mentally one with the suffering elephant, that death would be better than such a captivity; that an animal so dangerous that it must be chained as we have described for days together, and released only for an hour or two at long intervals when a sufficient number of men can be got together to allow of this being done without too great hazard, should, for its own sake and for that of those who suffer in seeing its suffering, be speedily released from its misery by a painless extinction. And we trust that that spectator, and others who, without having seen what we have described, can none the less sympathise with our aims, will undertake to form a society to deal with the whole subject of cruelty to animals in Japan. Such a society would agitate for penal legislation in the matter; it would educate public opinion; it would appoint inspectors to report flagrant cases of cruelty; it would, when the necessary laws have been enacted, undertake the expense of prosecution. If some of the leaders of Japanese thought will take steps for the formation of such a society, they will receive, we feel confident, much sympathy and support from foreigners resident in the country. And such a movement will do far more than the successful prosecution of a great war to raise Japan to the place she is eager to occupy as one of the leaders of enlightenment and civilization.

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE JAPANESE NEW TESTAMENT TRANSLATION.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

Sir,—Rev. J. M. McCaleb's exceptions in his letter to your paper to the translation of Acts VIII. 33, and 1 Timothy III. 11 are well taken.

As to the former passage no authority for the insertion of *tadashiki* can be found, either in the Greek (New Testament text and Septuagint) or in the original Hebrew from which the passage is taken. English and continental translators also give no countenance to such a translation. Luther, Allioli, de Wette, Knapp, van Ess, and Griesbach, the Vulgate, as well as the late Revised English Version, will be consulted in vain. The same is in a still higher degree true of the second passage, where the Greek text, the Vulgate (Ed. Clementina), and all later translators known to me fail to afford justification for the word *yoshitsuki*. This word and *tadashiki* may or may not give a correct interpretation of the verses quoted—this is a question by itself and not relevant to the issue raised by the Rev. McCaleb—but there seems to be no really decisive authority for the present translation, and *stare decisis* wherever reasonable is a good maxim in law and out of it.

Both passages ought to be carefully looked into when the present New Testament translation is to be revised, which may be at no distant day, for in human achievements *nihil est ab omni parte beatum*.

Respectfully,
Tokyo, December 28th. EPSILON.

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THE OUTLOOK FOR CHRISTIANITY IN JAPAN.

AN ADDRESS DELIVERED BEFORE THE TOKYO CONFERENCE, DECEMBER 6TH, 1894.

In preparing this address for publication, some changes have been introduced, both in the form and in the thought. These changes consist chiefly in the introduction of certain illustrations which, owing to the pressure of time and other reasons, were necessarily omitted. They do not, however, affect the substance of the address.

In appearing before you this afternoon in response to the urgent invitation of certain friends, I must not be understood as presuming to pass a dogmatic judgment upon the very complicated situation which confronts us. Even a satisfactory analysis of this situation is, for the present at least, beyond our reach. Certainly I shall not attempt any thorough-going analysis, but shall content myself with the more modest task of setting forth certain opinions which have gradually formed themselves in my mind, together with a few of the considerations upon which those opinions are based. If, in doing so, I fail to dwell upon what some call "spiritual" forces, it is not because I ignore them or underrate them. It is simply that I am forced to limit myself to one side of a great subject, a subject so great, indeed, that even with this limitation, it cannot be treated adequately in the time at my disposal. You will not, however, infer that I admit that the forces with which this address deals are in any proper sense less spiritual than those to which that term is sometimes restricted. As I have thought over this subject, the words of Christ have stood out before my mind in letters of burnished gold,—"My Father worketh hitherto." God is in His world; its forces are His and the ultimate goal of their operation is the establishment of His Kingdom of righteousness and peace; and the movements which I shall endeavour to describe are simply the methods of a Divine Providence working in human society.

I will not claim the right to declare "those things which are most surely believed among us," and yet as I have personally gained much encouragement from the considerations which I am about to set forth, I am not without hopes that they may so far commend themselves to others, that they too may gain similar encouragement.

In the first stage of the missionary work, which roughly speaking may be said to have closed with the year 1871, the prospect was far from bright. After twelve years of labour the results were small, the opportunities for evangelistic effort few and the opposition bitter and persistent. In the next stage, which may be said to have closed with the year 1890, the restrictions were in large degree removed, and the progress of Christianity was encouraged rather than hindered by those in positions of authority. So rapid was the growth, that the most sanguine prophecies of the final victory seemed by no means incredible. During the third period now current, it is seen plainly that the growth was less healthy than had been supposed, and that the brilliant promise of former years cannot be realized for many years to come. While thus frankly admitting that we have in the past underestimated the difficulties which oppose the progress of Christianity, is it not possible, on the other hand that, impressed as we naturally are by these difficulties, we lose sight of those auxiliary forces, the sappers and miners of the Christian army, if we may call them so, which are destroying the foundations of the trusted strongholds of our opponents? Their operation is unobtrusive and is easily overlooked, but yet its efficiency can hardly be over-estimated. It will be my main purpose this afternoon to enumerate some of these auxiliary forces and indicate the part which, in my view, they are playing in the drama now unfolding itself before us. First of all, however, I shall endeavour to set before you, possibly with unnessary fulness, certain features of the present situation which must be borne in mind throughout this discussion.

The first feature which I wish to mention is the lack of a vivid sense of personality on the part of the Japanese people. This lack may be emphasized unduly. Mr. Percival Lowell has, as I think, so emphasized it in his book "The Soul of the Far East." Still, that the sense of personality has developed more slowly in Japan than in most western countries must be admitted. This slower development has been in large degree owing to the influence of Buddhistic and Confucian philosophy, and has served to make the people less responsive to the appeals of Christianity. A prominent Japanese scholar, who is also well read in the philosophical literature of the West, not long since denied in my hearing that there was among his countrymen any conscious longing after a personal God. The deep yearning after communion with a personal God embodied in that pathetic utterance of Professor Clifford, I quote from memory, "I have seen the sun go down on a soulless heaven; the great companion is dead," would seem to have been quite foreign to his mind. The late Professor Romanes, in a period of great despondency, wrote to a friend that with the loss of his faith "all the worth passed out of life." The Psalmist in like distress cried out:—"Oh that I knew where I might find him!" Such a longing after God is dependent upon a vivid sense of personality. This sense of personality is the natural concomitant of theism and has been markedly developed in the West since the Protestant Reformation. Where it exists, it predisposes the heart to faith. In so far as it is undeveloped, faith must suffer.

In earlier years we did not notice this undeveloped sense of personality. Our attention had not been called to the matter, and it was natural to attribute to superficial causes what was due to a different habit of mind. Moreover, since all such national characteristics are relative, and are not evenly distributed through the nation, there were early brought in contact with the missionaries some, at least, whose mental habit was inclined towards faith. Then again, the necessarily direct relations of the missionaries to the individual Christians during the first years served to foster in their Japanese associates the development of this sense of personality which Dr. Martineau has called the great gift of the West to the East. In those days when the work was small, nearly every Japanese Christian was in close relations with some missionary, and was able in a degree to see spiritual things through the eyes of his foreign teacher. Now, however, our relations are necessarily more remote. We come near to individuals still, but so far as the great mass of the 100,000 Christian Japanese are concerned, they hardly come within the circle of the personal acquaintance of any missionary. This is not on the whole to be regretted. It is eminently fitting that the growth of Christianity, both as an organization and as spiritual life, should be a natural, unforced growth. The immediate result might seem better if we could transplant our own faith into the hearts of our Japanese hearers as freely as in other days, but that is impossible, and it is doubtless well that it should be so.

During the past few years, the old philosophies have seemed to be re-asserting themselves. Even in Christian circles the attempt is made to trim Christianity to the measure of a pantheistic faith. In a recent number of the *Rikugo Zasshi* there appeared an article which has been described by a Japanese reader as nothing more nor less than the old Confucian philosophy of the Tokugawa days clothed in Christian phrase. The writer, apparently an agnostic as regards the existence of a personal God, ridiculed as idolaters all who insist on the existence of such a God, as an object of faith and worship. Men of this class emphasize ethical Christianity, but their grasp of the personal element is weak. Their faith can not rise to the passionate loyalty of a Bernard of Clairvaux, and in the face of a strong social movement it fades away, as their loyalty to the chiefs of their old clans in the short space of twenty-five years has faded out of sight. This rapid decadence of the sense of loyalty toward the feudal lords is, I may remark in passing, of much significance. As a social force it no longer exists. Keen observers, not foreigners only but Japanese statesmen as well, were at one time deeply anxious lest even the sense of loyalty towards the Emperor should be seriously weakened by the political controversies of the day. Happily that danger has passed away. The war now in progress has been the means of bringing the Emperor much nearer to his people. It has given opportunity for the manifestation of personal traits which have won for him the affectionate, the personal, regard of his subjects. Loyalty is no longer directed mainly to the *Mikadothum*, as a German observer has expressed it, but to the Emperor himself. Without underrating the impressive exhibitions of devotion which have marked the history of Japan in the past, it certainly will not be denied by any well-informed student of history, that the moulding force of the principle of loyalty upon life and character would have been far greater if there could have been added to it a larger element of that personal reverence and affection which, as now directed towards His Imperial Majesty, is, I believe, one of the greatest blessings incident to the present war. The same causes which rendered this loyalty weak in a time of great political excitement, have served also to sap the foundations of religious faith in many minds, and to causes analogous to those which have revived and ennobled that loyalty, we may look for much help towards a deeper and brighter faith in a personal God.

Another feature of the present situation which I will notice is the sensitiveness of the Japanese people to the great world movements of the age. This is, perhaps, owing in part to their long seclusion, but there are other reasons to be assigned for this very abnormal degree of sensitiveness. The most important of these lies in the smallness of the educated class and the gulf which separates it from the mass of the people. This gulf is gradually closing as the result of the common school system; but the scholars of Japan still live in a world relatively remote from the mass of their countrymen. There are those among them who have gained an enviable place in the world's estimation. There are many others, less known but not less worthy, who have been initiated into the cosmopolitan guild of scholarship. While they are not less patriotic than their countrymen, their minds are open to the currents of the world's thought, and owing to their, as yet, relatively small numbers, the resistance to these currents is less marked than in the case of their European compeers. In the Christian community this sensitiveness to the world movements is very strong. It has often been said that the Christians are found chiefly among the lower classes. There could not be a greater mistake. The whole Christian community numbers not far from 100,000, that is, about one-fourth of one per cent. of the total population. I think I am quite within bounds in saying that 25,000 of these are *shiuoku*, who constitute five per cent. of the population. This means that there are five times the normal number of *shiuoku* among the Christians. In a recent Cabinet, one minister was a Christian, besides two or three vice-ministers, the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court and several judges of the Court of Appeals are Christians. In the first Diet twelve members were Christians, including the President of the Lower House and the Chairman of the Committee of the Whole—sixteen times the normal proportion. In the Upper House, the proportion was about six times the normal. In the later Diets the number of Christians has varied. In the present, I think there are seven Christians, including the Vice-President of the Lower House. In the Imperial University, both among the professors and students, the proportion is also several times above what would naturally be expected. This disproportionate number of men of education and influence among the Christians, taken in connection with the smallness of the educated class in the country at large, will, I think, account for the amenability of the leaders of public opinion in general and the Christians in particular to the great world movements of the age.

Let me refer to some of these in the order in which they have attracted my attention. The first which I will mention is the evangelistic movement, which was at its height during the two decades closing with 1890. There was great enthusiasm all over the Western world. The missionary societies were unusually prosperous. The Young Men's Christian Association took on new life. The Christian Endeavour movement began and attained to great proportions in all English speaking countries. In Germany the evangelistic efforts of Dr. Stöcker and Counts Bernsdorf and Pückler met with large success. A prominent Japanese statesman who visited Germany during this period told the late Dr. Neesima that the Emperor William, Prince Bismarck, and the Grand Duke of Saxe-Weimar, if I mistake not, all expressed to him their great interest in the progress of Christianity in Japan. He further said that though he had formerly believed that religion with these men was a mere matter of political expediency, he was now convinced of the sincerity of their faith and the earnestness of their evangelistic purpose. Here in Japan not merely the missionary body, but very many teachers in the Government Schools entered heart and soul into evangelistic service. Japanese returning from America, England, and Germany brought with them in some degree the same spirit. It was natural that this enthusiasm should spread, and that the whole community should be in a condition of great expectancy. That this enthusiasm has been to some extent dulled must be confessed—not merely in Japan, but in other parts of the world. In my judgment, this is owing partly, if not mainly, to the readjustments which have followed the general acceptance of the theory of evolution. The attention of the Church is occupied more largely than at any other time during recent years with the intellectual aspect of religion. Many men who would otherwise be leaders of evangelistic effort, are giving themselves to the solution of the new problems of theology. It is not strange that in such a time of intellectual ferment there is some letting down from the high standards of evangelistic enthusiasm of more peaceful days. The great movement has slackened, and we feel the lack of its stimulus and support. It has slackened, but it has not ceased.

Another movement which I will notice is that which leads towards nationalism. It is seen in

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Russia in the persistent effort to secure homogeneity throughout that great empire. A similar tendency has manifested itself in Germany. In America and Australia, the agitation against immigration is but another form of the same spirit which induces an emphasis of the national as against the universal. The so-called reaction in Japan is, as I believe, a result of this wide current which has affected so strongly the national life of nearly every country of the West. It takes on a special form in Japan and combines with itself certain reactionary tendencies excited by the rapid growth of the Christian community in numbers and influence, but it is none the less a part of the same movement. This tide has gained greater momentum here chiefly because of the less degree of inertia which the small educated class possesses; but even in other lands, its influence has led to a strange blindness to the principle of unity in history. The late Prof. Green of Oxford seemed inclined to deny the unity of Christianity, so great was his insistence upon the national element in the Christianity of different countries. To us who can take our position in a sense outside of the civilization of Europe, such emphasis of the national seems strangely forced; but it is not to be wondered at that many of our Japanese associates should be impressed by it and stimulated to originate in Japan a distinct form of Christianity. This purpose on their part is due to a misreading of history through an over-estimate of the part which national characteristics have played in the development of Christianity.

Another of these world movements is the liberal movement in theology. As distinguished from the rationalism of the latter part of the eighteen and the first half of the current century, liberalism is a new movement and has only become a factor of special power in England and America, at least, within very recent years. However much we may be convinced that its positions are extreme and untenable, we must admit that it has a part to play in the great scheme of Divine Providence. It will doubtless lead to a more just and symmetrical view of God in his relations to His world. Extreme though this movement has shown itself in the West, it has yet, so far as the Church at large is concerned, been restrained by important checks which are lacking in Japan. The first of these checks is found in the dependence of the leaders of public opinion upon the general sentiment of the community. The second of them is the influence of mysticism upon even many advanced theologians. Along with this mysticism there is a strong sense of personal loyalty to Christ displayed even in the most unexpected quarters. Some of the most impressive tributes to Christ have come from the lips of men whose theories about His person seem to us to render personal loyalty impossible. John Stuart Mill's eloquent words illustrate the deep hold which the personality of Christ has had, and has still, upon minds which intellectually speaking are very far removed from us.

In Japan these checks, so far as they exist at all, operate more feebly, and, as I have already said, we see interpretations put upon the doctrines of Christianity which appall many men who are in full sympathy with the so-called new theology. The liberal movement in the absence of these restraints has gained an exaggerated impetus which justly awakens much anxiety, not because we are doubtful of the final issue, but because we are impressed with the sad losses to individual faith and to the immediate well-being of society which must be caused by this strong tide. Allow me to say in passing, that, knowing as I do the representatives of the new theology in Japan, I feel, radical though their views may sometimes seem, that on the whole, they are acting with us as a conserving force in Japanese society.

In what I have said of the extreme position of the Japanese in matters of theology, while I had in mind certain leaders of thought among the Christians, my main purpose is to indicate the general trend of thought in educated circles. I believe the great body of the Christians while less assertive still cherish the faith delivered to them.

What then is the outlook for Christianity? Are the high hopes of other years to be utterly lost? While the forces which are in operation against the missionary work seem at times so strong and their effects so lamentable, what are the sources of hope and encouragement?

I have already indicated my belief that there are such sources of hope. They might be all summed up in one, namely, the well-recognized tendency towards unity which is to be seen in the general progress of modern civilization. Our attention has often been called to the fact that whereas in ancient times, there were many and varied civilizations, in these modern days civilization is essentially one. Over and above all distinctions of nationality, the principle of unity is conspicuous in the social life of the West. The rate of progress may vary, but history moves on along essentially the same lines in the different countries of Europe and America. Japan, in joining hands with the nations of the West, has become a partner in their history. In spite of much that is untoward in that history, its main current is in the direction of Christianity. The spirit of Christianity becomes year by year more manifest in it. In view of the increasing intimacy of Japan's relations to the Western world, however much she may emphasize her own past, her future is inseparably bound up with that of her new allies. The volume of influence which comes to her from them is to be the controlling factor in her history. The times are past never to return when any nation, however favourably situated, can erect barriers to stay the tide which makes for unity. The inertia of an immense mass of population, as in China, may seem for time to resist successfully, but even that empire must sooner or later give way.

As regards Japan, the progress of the past thirty years indicates how strongly she has been moved. I am aware that some maintain that the changes around us are superficial and have hardly affected the mass of the people. I confess I do not know the meaning of the term *superficial* when used in this connection. I am not so much impressed as some by the material evidences of civilization, the steamers, railways, telegraphs, electric lights, though these in many ways are affecting the social, and indirectly the spiritual life of the people; but I am profoundly impressed by what I have seen in twenty-five years of careful observation of the social life of the people. Let anyone read Mr. Mitford's reproduction of the story of Sakura Sogoro and compare the utter helplessness of the lower classes in those days with the freedom now enjoyed throughout the land, and it will be impossible for him to call these changes superficial. There is a new principle at work in the very foundations of society, and there is not a man or woman in Japan who does not feel its influence. Look at the changed relations of the different classes to one another. The privileges of the *samurai* under the old régime meant the oppression of the poor. Only ten days ago I visited a valley in the north-western part of Musashi, where the peasants once actually belonged to the soil, with no liberty worth mentioning. In the family also the same principle is at work, and the limitations of the paternal authority are many and various. There is not a child in Japan but which lives a markedly different life from that of the children of thirty years ago. The whole atmosphere which he breathes is permeated by the new thought of the value of the individual. He is bound to grow up with a ripe sense of personality.

Some have thought to break the force of these considerations by asserting that in practice all these changes lag far behind the theory. This is true in all lands, but it is no small matter to have a high ideal represented in the laws of the land. Moreover, it must be admitted by all candid men that the practical working of the laws shows an immense gain. My time will not allow of extended illustration, but one case often occurs to my mind in this connection. It was this:—Some years since a man felt himself aggrieved at a ruling of the Minister of the Department of Agriculture and Commerce and appealed to the courts against it. He lost his case, it is true, but his right to appeal was recognized as well as the right of the courts to review, within limits, the acts of the executive officers of the Government. Whatever criticisms may be legitimately passed upon the courts by foreign observers, and I concede that some of these criticisms have much weight, the fact remains that they have won the confidence of the Japanese people to an extent which can hardly be overstated. Even in the case of political contests, where the courts have intervened, there has been a remarkable acquiescence in the equity of the judicial decisions. I have repeatedly listened to similar testimony from men most bitterly opposed to the Government. There could hardly be a more impressive indication of the influence this new conception of the rights of the individual is exerting upon the public sentiment of the nation than is exhibited in the practical working of the judicial system. Thus beneath the surface agitations which seem adverse to the interests of our work, there is a current which in important respects is favourable to it—a current which is a part of the one great stream of modern history.

Through what channels does this influence from the West flow?

The first which I will mention is that afforded by the missionary work. I do not claim that this is the most important, but simply that the influence of the missionary is great and is important. There were, according to a late report 776 adult foreigners connected with the missionary work. Each one of these has a circle of influence larger or smaller. Some of them are very widely known, and have an influence which any man might covet. There were according to the same report 824 organized Christian congregations. Adding to these the less organized communities and evangelistic stations, at a low estimate, we may say there are more than 1,200 places where Christianity is regularly taught, not to speak of many others which are occasionally visited. In the Protestant schools alone there were reported 7,393 scholars. If we suppose each scholar to spend four years in school, we have over 1,800 young men and young women going out of these schools each year, and in spite of many discouragements the number of scholars in these schools is increasing. Allowing everything that can reasonably be asked, and we have here a large body of young people who for a considerable time have kept before their minds the Christian idea of God in his relations to mankind. They may not all accept this view in its entirety, but it is sure to affect in an important degree their conception of life and its duties. As they go out into the world they will have a share in moulding the public sentiment of the nation.

The circulation of the Scriptures has reached large proportions. At a low estimate over a million copies have been distributed within the past thirty years, and about 75,000 copies during the present year. Naturally this circulation has been attended with some waste, but a very large number of thoughtful readers has been found even outside the Christian community. Not long since, at a public meeting in the interest of one of the irregular Shinto sects, a speaker had much to say about the Lord of Heaven (*Tenteі*). His sect is nominally polytheistic, but here he was preaching monotheism. There is no question, but that he found his monotheism in the New Testament. As a matter of fact, he was rebuked by the next speaker for his Christian opinions, but this very man, confessedly hostile to Christianity, then delivered a discourse upon sincerity in religion, the thought of which was really taken from the Sermon on the Mount, and which contained several almost verbatim quotations from the sixth chapter of Matthew. Thus men inimical to Christianity illustrate its influence upon society and are directly propagating its truths.

Again we may mention the foreign communities as an important auxiliary. I am not unaware of the dark side in the life of these communities. At times it seems dark indeed, and we are inclined to agree with a Japanese writer who recently declared them to be the greatest existing obstacle to the spread of Christianity; but lay what stress we may on this dark side of the picture, it cannot be denied that these communities have stood for some important truths, and by their emphasis upon these truths have done incalculable service to Japan. They have been an object lesson, for one thing, of the value which we of the West set upon the individual. No doubt this stress upon individualism has often been excessive; but without it, we may well question whether the recent legal and judicial reforms in Japan would have been possible. Then we may confidently say, that in spite of much laxity of morals, which I certainly have no purpose to excuse or palliate, there have been exhibited in these communities examples of the Christian family of the most attractive type. Further, the Christian ideal of commercial honour, after making all allowance which the severest critic can ask, is clearly to be read in the life of these foreign settlements. Eminent Japanese writers have at different times conceded all that I assert. What they have recognized amounts, in the aggregate, to a lesson of inestimable value. Further still, while many speak lightly of material civilization which these communities in an especial sense may be said to represent, in my judgment, it is tributary in many ways to the general movement, which is tending to increase the sympathy of the Japanese people with Western thought. This is too large a subject to be dealt with in passing, but I may say that it is no mere accident that has made the races which possess in its ripest form the idea of personality, at the same time the foremost in material civilization. We find still another auxiliary in the literature of Europe and America. This literature is being widely disseminated, partly in its proper dress and partly by means of translations. A walk through the streets of Kanda in Tokyo, where the book-stalls are so numerous, will convince anyone of the great number of those who are busied with foreign books. On the editorial tables of the capital will be found the best of English and American periodicals. One editor of my acquaintance subscribes for seventeen such periodicals, including, the *Spectator*, the *Speaker*, the *Nineteenth Century*, the *Contemporary Review*, the *Forum*, the *Political*

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Science Monthly, the *Nation*, etc. In some measure his own subscribers get the benefit of his reading. The schools, too, are stimulating the circulation of this literature which embodies our sense of personality.

It is claimed by some that this literature after all only touches the surface of Japanese society. This is a great mistake. Its influence is seen in the most unexpected quarter. Some time since I had occasion to pass from one of the Joshu valleys to another. My road lay over a rugged mountain path and as *jinrikisha* were not to be had, I arranged for a farmer's son to carry my luggage. As we walked along he told of his home life and how in his leisure hours he was reading the poetical books of the Old Testament. He had also read Tennyson's "Enoch Arden" and some of Longfellow's poems. My objective point was a village of a few hundred houses on the Mikuni Kaido some half a dozen miles from the summit of the pass. In these days there is little travel along that way and one might suppose that the influence of western thought would be scarcely felt. On my arrival I was invited by my host, a young man of twenty-three or four, to spend the night at some hot springs near-by, and in the evening he invited in one of the village schoolmasters who was a graduate of the Prefectural Normal School. Though he could not talk English, he was, I found, a great reader of English books. He had read in English translations Guizot's "History of France" and also his "History of Civilization." He had read Carlyle's "Heroes and Hero Worship," one or more of his biographies, besides considerable of the writings of Lord Macauley. In the same village was another schoolmaster, a graduate of Mr. Fukuzawa's School, also a reading man. There were besides these, two graduates of the Doshisha, both of whom were men of intelligence and industrious readers of English books. At the request of these young men, after my return home I sent up two recently published lives of Washington. I do not maintain that these students were in a position to gain all from their books that one of us might gain, but their minds were nevertheless busied with English thought. The children who came to them for instruction could not fail to catch, in some degree, their spirit. All school teachers in Japan may not be equal to this standard, but hundreds of men are going out from the normal schools with a similar taste for foreign literature and are disseminating through their scholars thoughts which are dominated by a radically different theory of God and of nature from any which prevailed in olden time, and the leaven of these thoughts is working in the minds of tens of thousands of children.

The influence of foreign literature is strikingly illustrated by the development of the Japanese language. A new vocabulary has grown up. Japan finds her philological materials chiefly in a Chinese quarry, but she builds up her verbal structures to meet the needs of modern—cosmopolitan—thought. The rapid growth of this vocabulary is evidence of the firm hold these thoughts have already gained. Some of these new words are very interesting, for they indicate not merely new ideas, but a new habit of mind. Such a word is *katachi-tsukuru*, meaning to *form*, as a substitute for the verb *to be*. But more than the new words certain changes in the idiom deserve our attention. All students of Japanese grammar know how the genius of the old language rebels against the use of an inanimate thing as the subject of a transitive verb, either in the active or the passive voice. Under the pressure of foreign literature, however, the stiff rules of the old speech have had to yield. In modern writing the usage as regards these points conforms very nearly to the English standard. Gradually this spirit of grammatical independence is finding its way into the colloquial. How often of late have we heard the boys cry out, *Ryōjunkō ga senryō serareta* (Port Arthur has been taken)! A Japanese of thirty years ago would hardly have so used the passive voice. To do so involves a breach of two important rules of the old grammar, but the new wine has burst the old bottles.

To my mind all these changes represent a Divine Providence. They do not necessarily mean the triumph of Christianity in the near future, but they do mean a more congenial attitude of mind, a more fertile soil in which to sow the seed of Christian truth, a healthier growth and a more vigorous plant. The direct work goes on receiving ever increasing support from those deep-seated forces which are guided by our Father's hand, our Father "who worketh hitherto."

But it may be said these mental and moral tendencies must needs require time—perhaps hundreds of years—to reach their goal. This, many assert, is the lesson of history. Is it not possible, however, that we may read the lesson too literally, and forget the new conditions of life and the more rapid progress which they imply? Some years ago, when in company with the late Prof. Whitney the conversation turned upon the development of language, he referred to the common school system of Italy and its influence upon the Italian language, intimating that it had within a few years induced changes in the local dialects which in former days would have been impossible. Japan has been introduced into the family of nations. She feels her community of interest more and more strongly every year. The influence of these new ties is exerted directly upon her. With almost weekly mails, and daily messages from the centres of western life, she is brought very near to her sister nations. As I sat in that mountain hotel to which I have referred I heard for the first time, perhaps within sixty hours of the event, that the Home Rule Bill had passed the second reading in the British Parliament. Thus the very pulse-beats of the world's life are felt in the remote valleys of Japan. Under such circumstances progress must be rapid.

How far particular organizations of Christians will prosper we may not know, but that the Spirit of Christianity is to rule in Japan we cannot doubt. Even now outside the Christian Church are many who believe in a personal God. The Great Companion whom Clifford lost, they have found. I believe that these and a multitude of others, the results of the influences I have sought to describe, the fruit of our Father's work, will ere many years recognize Him in the face of Jesus Christ and cry out with Thomas: "My Lord and my God."

LETTER FROM CHICAGO.

(From our own Correspondent.)

Chicago, December 9th.

A new life of Joseph Hardy Neeshima, by Rev. J. D. Davis, D.D., of the Dōshisha, is announced by Fleming H. Revell and Co., of this city.

Percival Lowell's "Occult Japan" is out, published by Houghton, Mifflin and Co. It is practically a reprint of his papers on "Esoteric Shinto," read before the Asiatic Society of Japan. The book is a valuable contribution toward the understanding of Shinto, and will prove particularly useful to students of comparative religion.

Another interesting contribution along the same line is Nobuta Kishimoto's article on "Shinto" in the December *Popular Science Monthly*.

Lieut. E. B. Rogers has an illustrated article on "The Japanese Theatre," in the December number of *Outing*.

C. T. Wyckoff, formerly a teacher in Osaka, and afterwards in the Dōshisha, is pursuing post-graduate work in history and political science at the University of Chicago.

Most of the magazines contain often large advertisements of a "new Japanese perfume," called "Matsukita du Japon Parfum," sold by the Crown Perfumery Co., of London.

At a recent meeting of the Sons of the Revolution in this city, Judge Waterman, who had just returned from a visit to Japan, was one of the speakers. The Chicago *Herald* reported his remarks as follows:—

Judge Waterman dwelt on the changes in the meaning of patriotism at various periods of history, and was glad he could say that the time had come when no patriot, in loving his own country, was required to hate another land. The time had come when the true patriot was just as anxious that his country should do justice to other people as that she should be justly dealt with. The speaker referred to the treatment of Japan by the United States, holding the Perry expedition and its results contrary to the rule of right which permits every nation to run its own internal affairs. "Saloons are not common in Japan," he said, "and drunkenness among the natives rare; yet, on the various 'concession grounds' ■ the ports, foreigners sell liquor in sixteen different languages and the Japanese Government under the treaties can neither license, restrain, nor abolish." Judge Waterman referred to the treaty clause requiring all foreigners to be tried, for offences committed on Japanese soil, before consular instead of native Courts. Americans, he declared, would not stand such treatment though the nations of the world united to enforce it. "An honest man," he concluded, "pays his debts because he ought to, not because others do. The United States ought to abrogate this treaty without conditions, no matter what other nations do."

The war in the Orient has not, of course, passed unnoticed in the present session of Congress. In the House of Representatives a resolution by Mr. Blair, of New Hampshire, calling for the correspondence between the U.S. and China with reference to the war, was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs. A similar disposition was made in the Senate of Mr. Lodge's resolution calling for information concerning the two Japanese students who had been surrendered to China.

The new treaty with China has at last returned to this country: it was sent around by way of Europe instead of across the Pacific. Secretary Gresham and Minister Yang Yu have exchanged final ratifications; so that the promulgation is expected soon. "The appearance of Mrs. Yang Yu at a formal dinner given by her husband, the Chinese Minister, in Washington, recently was a very important event in her life. From the Chinese point of view this made her a very advanced woman. It was the third step in her progress toward liberty—the first having been taken when she appeared at a Legation reception, and the second when she attended a state dinner at the White House."

The new Republic of Hawaii has now been officially recognized by the United States, Great Britain, France, Russia, Italy, Belgium, Mexico, Guatemala, and soon will be recognized also by Germany and Peru.

As there have been two skirmishes on the frontier of Guatemala and Mexico, and several Mexicans have been killed, the condition of affairs is more serious than ever, and war is anticipated between the two countries.

For two or three days lately the bold headlines of the daily papers called attention to a serious dispute and probable war between the United States and Great Britain over the Mosquito territory; but it now transpires that there was no difference of opinion at all.

Rumours of revolutions come from Nicaragua and Argentina, and of restored peace in Venezuela and Brazil. It is said that in the latter country the menaces of foreign foes has united the internal factions.

Refugees from Armenia have reached Athens and confirm the report of horrible massacres. The Turkish Government, however, claims that the Armenians massacred were rebels and bandits, and quotes Dr. Cyrus Hamlin, ex-President of Roberts College, to prove the existence of a "Revolutionary party among Armenians." Dr. Hamlin, however, claims that his article has been misunderstood and misrepresented.

Chile has at last succeeded in setting her cruiser the *Esmeralda*, to Japan for more than $1,000,000. Chile first sold the vessel to Ecuador, which then transferred her to Japan.

Col. W. C. Oates has taken the oath of office as Governor of Alabama, and has control of the Capital. Captain Kolb was also sworn in, and delivered an inaugural address; but has not been able to perform any other duties of Governor.

The official vote of Tennessee is at last published, and gives Henry Clay Evans (Republican) a plurality of 841 for Governor.

Edward H. Strobel, of New York, has been transferred from the Ecuador mission to that of Chile.

The following is an important and significant statement:—

Washington, December 5.—Chairman Babcock, of the Republican congressional committee, ventures to predict that McKinleyism will not be revived in Congress. "The McKinley bill," he says "did not have the support of one Republican in five when it passed. It was responsible for the Republican defeat in 1890, and that defeat was one of the strongest expressions of the intelligence of the American people. This widespread intelligence is one of the most gratifying things to me as an American citizen. Our people will cross party lines when they think that it has not dealt fairly with them. There was a deep seated prejudice against the McKinley bill. It was regarded as too friendly to the manufacturers and not sufficiently in the interest of the people, and they put the party out of power that was responsible for the legislation. The average American citizen believes in proper protection, but he believes still more in the principle of fair play, and that principle they thought, was violated in the McKinley bill."

When asked why the people did not seem to be satisfied with the work of the present Congress in the way of tariff legislation, Mr. Babcock said:—"The present bill is not a Democratic bill. It is really a protection measure, for the Republicans added to it after it went to the senate something like 250 amendments. It is not such a bill as the Republicans would have framed, nor does it suit the wishes of the extreme Democrats. It is highly protective in some particulars, more so than the McKinley bill, while touching the extreme of free trade in other directions. We shall have the house and the President in 1896. Meanwhile, we shall see how the present law works and it will be time enough to smooth out its crudities and make it what it ought to be."

The obituary list this time includes several prominent persons: Congressman A. J. Campbell, of New York; ex-Governor Leon Abbett, of New Jersey; ex-Governor Bowie, of Maryland; ex-Governor ("War Governor") and ex-Senator Joseph E. Brown, of Georgia; and Rev. Henry M. Stows, D.D., the eminent Presbyterian clergyman of New York City. One son of Dr. Stows is Charles B. Stows, who was formerly a professor in the Imperial University, Tokyo, and is now a member of the New Jersey Assembly.

The trustees of the Central Church of this city have extended a call, with practical unanimity, to Rev. N. D. Hillis, of Evanston, Ill., to take Dr. Swing's place. Mr. Hillis is only 35 years old, a liberal minded Presbyterian, an able preacher and an active worker.

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The calender of the University of Chicago for the current quarter is just out, and shows an enrollment of exactly 1,000 students.

Japanese girls have annually the *Hina-matsuri*, or Dolls' Festival; and Chicago is now enjoying a Dolls' Bazaar, at which are exhibited hundreds of dolls of all sizes, countries, and epochs.

Yale defeated Princeton at foot-ball by a score of 24 to 0. In a billiard match in this city Ives is far ahead of Schaefar, and has made two wonderful "runs" of 334 and 359.

Another train robbery must go on record. It occurred near Fort Worth, Texas, on the Texas and Pacific Railroad, and netted bandits more than $100,000, part of it in gold bullion.

R. G. Dun and Co.'s trade report says:—"It is difficult to detect any change in current business. Prospects for business after January 1st are quite generally considered more hopeful; in some branches there are larger orders, and the Westbound shipments of merchandise are a little larger, but the working force naturally diminishes near the end of the year, and the holiday traffic brings just now a temporary activity which is not of much general significance."

President Cleveland's message to Congress is a voluminous document which occupied nine columns in the *Chicago Herald*. It has not been so favourably received as his previous messages, because, perhaps, it does not contain anything extraordinarily important. There are some who think that, owing to his indisposition, he did not write it all, but left a great deal to his subordinates. He mentions the new treaties with China and Japan, and speaks appreciatively of "the Japanese Empire of to-day" as "no longer the Japan of the past." He recommends strongly a new system of finance as a necessity.

SAILORS' ATHLETIC SPORTS IN YOKOHAMA.

The ship's company of H.M.S. *Plover* carried out a short programme of Athletic sports on the Cricket-ground on Thursday afternoon. The weather was most genial and a good many spectators were on the field. Each event was gamely contested, and much delight was evinced when it was found, that in spite of one "break," the sailormen had beaten the professional, Hancock, in a two-mile walk. Prizes were contributed for the various events by Messrs. Lane, Crawford, & Co., Messrs. Kelly & Walsh, Messrs. Arthur & Bond, and Messrs. Curnow & Co. Details:—

100 YARDS. (Scratch.)

A. Bryan (Blue-jacket)..... 1
R. Johnston (Marine) 2
F. Penny (Hospital Corps)..... 3

Six started. Bryan, who has a splendid action, soon opened out from his competitors and won easily. Time, about 12 secs.

WALKING MATCH. (Start 3.35 p.m.)

A. Johnson	37.40	Hancock	37.35
R. Jordan	40.30	Hancock.....	40.14
A. Clarke	43.23	Hancock.....	42.55
S. Roderick	46 01	Hancock.....	45.39
R. Johnston	48.24	Hancock.....	48.18
F. Penny	51.04	Hancock.....	51 05
J. Collins (disqualified)		Hancock.....	53 41
J. Campbell	56.17	Hancock.....	56 42

The amateurs only walked one lap each. In the first round Hancock obtained a lead of 5 seconds, which he increased in the next lap to 16, or about 60 yards. Roderick, the fourth man, fell even further behind. Then Johnston took up the contest and quickly began to overhand the professional. At the top corner he had drawn up well, but Hancock pulled up again and got in with 20 yards to spare. Penny, the sixth man, soon reduced the distance, and at the side gate drew level. At the far top corner Hancock was a little to the bad, but he stuck gamely to the task and was only one second behind as Collins started off. This competitor, unfortunately broke into a trot, though quite unconsciously, and the last man, Campbell, had to forego all the lead and start level with Hancock. The new-comer has a very good style and at once forged ahead, increasing the distance steadily. Coming down the straight he gained still more and eventually finished 25 seconds to the good, amid rousing cheers. Time 21.17.

ONE MILE FLAT RACE. (Scratch.)

A. Clarke 1
A. Johnson 2
R. Jordan..... 3

Ten started, but only three finished, the others dropping out, some in the first and the rest in the second lap. Several of the men in their eagerness [illegible] the ground and the finishing were received by [illegible]s of derisive applause. The winner romped in with 70 yards to spare, about 80 yards seperating second and third. Time, 6m. 9s.

VETERANS' RACE. (Over 17 years in H.M. Service.)

W. Toms (Blue-jacket)..... 1
A. Collings (Chief stoker) 2

Both veterans have served the Queen for over twenty years, but this did not deter them from entering pluckily for the race, which was once round the ground. The blue-jacket got ahead at the first corner, and going along the top was left to continue the race all alone, Collings retiring. Time, 1m. 43s.

THE NEW TREATY WITH THE UNITED STATES.

Washington, December 8th.

The following is the text of the new Japanese treaty which was signed November 22, 1894, between the United States and the Empire of Japan. There is also connected with it a protocol signed on the same day relating to certain political matters of mutual concern. President Cleveland, in transmitting the treaty to the Senate, makes no comments. Secretary Gresham's note to the President is of the same character. The message was transmitted to the Senate December 6 and referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations. The treaty is as follows:—

The President of the United States and His Majesty of Japan being equally desirous of maintaining the relations of good understanding which happily exist between them by extending and increasing the intercourse between their respective states, and, being convinced that this object cannot better be accomplished than in revising the treaties hitherto existing between the two countries, have resolved to complete such a revision, based upon the principles of equity and mutual benefit, and for the purpose have named as their plenipotentiaries, that is to say, for the President of the United States of America, Walter Q. Gresham, Secretary of State for the United States, and for His Majesty, the Emperor of Japan, Jushii Shinichiro Kurino of the Order of the Sacred Treasure and of the Fourth Class, who having communicated to each other the full powers found to be in full and due form, have agreed and concluded the following articles:—

Article 1.—The citizens and subjects of each of the two high contracting parties shall have full liberties to travel or reside in any part of the territories of the other contracting party, and shall enjoy full and perfect protection for their persons and property. They shall have free access to the courts of justice in pursuit and defence of their rights, they shall be at liberty equally with native citizens or subjects to choose and employ lawyers, advocates, and representatives to pursue and defend their rights before such courts and in other matters connected with the administration of justice they shall enjoy all the rights and privileges enjoyed by native citizens or subjects. In whatever relates to rights to residence and travel, to the possession of goods and effects of any kind to the succession to personal estates, by will or otherwise, and the disposal of property of any sort and in any manner whatsoever which they may lawfully acquire, the citizens or subjects of each contracting party shall enjoy in the territories of the other the same privileges, liberties, and rights, and shall be subject to no higher imports or charges in these respects than native citizens or subjects of the most favoured nations. The citizens or subjects of each contracting party shall enjoy in the territories of the other entire liberty of conscience and subject to the laws, ordinances, regulations, shall enjoy the right of private or public exercise of their worship and also the right of burying their respective countrymen according to their religious customs in such suitable and convenient places as may be established and maintained for that purpose. They shall not be compelled under any pretext whatever to pay any charges or taxes other or higher than those that are or may be paid by native citizens or subjects of the most favoured nations. The citizens or subject of either of the contracting parties residing in the territories of the other shall be exempted from all compulsory military service whatever, whether in the army, national guard, or militia, and from all forced loans or military exactions or contributions.

Article 2.—There shall be reciprocal freedom of commerce and navigation between the territories of the two high contracting parties. The citizens or subjects of each of the high-contracting parties may trade in any part of the territories of the other by wholesale or retail in all kinds of produce, manufactures and merchandise or lawful commerce, either in person or by agents, singly or in partnership, with foreigners or native citizens or native citizens or subjects; and they may own or hire and occupy houses, manufactories, warehouses, shops, and premises which may be necessary for them, and lease lands for residential and commercial purposes, conforming themselves in the laws for lease and customs and regulations of the country, like native citizens or subjects. They shall have liberty freely to come with their ships and cargoes to all places, ports, and rivers in the territory of the other which are or may be open to foreign commerce, and shall enjoy, respectively, the same treatment in matters of commerce and navigation as native citizens or subjects, or citizens or subjects of the most favoured nation, without having to pay taxes, imposts, or duties of whatever nature and under whatever denomination levied in the name of or for the profit of the Government, public functionaries, private individuals, corporations, establishments of any kind, or greater than those paid by native citizens or subjects, or citizens or subjects of the most favoured nation. It is, however, understood that the stipulations contained in this and the preceding article do not in any way affect the laws, ordinances, and regulations with regard to trade, immigration of labourers, police and public security which are in force or which may hereafter be enacted in either of the two countries.

Article 3.—The dwellings, manufactories, dwelling-houses and shops of the citizens or subjects of each of the contracting parties in the territory of the other, and all premises pertaining thereto, destined for the purpose of residence or commerce, shall be respected. It shall not be allowable to proceed to make search or a domiciliary visit to such dwellings or premises, or to examine or inspect books, papers, or accounts, except under the conditions and with the forms prescribed by the laws, ordinances and regulations for citizens or subjects of the country.

Article 4.—No other or higher duties shall be imposed upon the importation into the territory of the United States of any article the produce and manufacture of the territory of his Majesty the Emperor of Japan, from whatever place arriving, and no other or higher duties shall be imposed on the importations into the territories of his Majesty the Emperor of Japan, of any article the product or manufacture of the territories of the United States, from whatever place arriving, than on the like articles produced or manufactured in any foreign country, nor shall any prohibition be maintained or imposed upon the importation of any article, the product or manufacture of the territories of either of the high contracting parties, into territories of the other from whatever place arriving, which shall not equally extend to the importations of the like article being the product or manufacture of any other country. This last provision is not applicable to sanitary and other prohibitions occasioned by the necessity of protecting the safety of persons or of cattle, or of plants useful to agriculture.

Article 5.—No other or higher duties or charges shall be imposed in the territories of either of the contracting parties on the exportation of any article to the territory of the other than such as are or may be payable on the exportation of the like article to any other foreign country; nor shall any prohibitions be imposed on the exportation of any article from the territories of either of the two high contracting parties to the territory of the other which shall not equally extent to the exportation of the like article to any other country.

Article 6.—The citizens or subjects of the high contracting parties shall enjoy in the territories of the other, exemption from all transit duties and a perfect equality of treatment with native citizens or subjects in all that relates to warehousing, bounties, facilities, and drawbacks.

Article 7.—All articles which are or may be legally imported into the ports of the territories of His Majesty, the Emperor of Japan, in Japanese vessels, may likewise be imported into those ports in vessels of the United States without being liable to any other or higher duties or charges of whatever denomination than if such articles were imported in Japanese vessels, and reciprocally, all articles which are, or may be, legally imported into the ports of the territories of the United States in vessels of the United States may likewise be imported into those ports in Japanese vessels without being liable to any other or higher duties or charges of whatever denomination than if such article were imported in vessels of the United States. Such reciprocal equality of treatment shall take effect without distinction, whether such articles come directly from the place of origin or from any other place. In the same manner there shall be perfect equality of treatment in regard to exportation. In the same export duties shall be paid and the same bounties and draw-

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backs allowed in the territories of each of the high contracting parties on the exportation of any article which is or may be legally exported therefrom, whether such exportation shall have taken place in Japanese vessels or in vessels of the United States, and whatever may be the place of destination, whether a port of either of the high contracting parties or of any third power.

Article 8.—No duties or tonnage, harbour, light-house, quarantine or other similar or corresponding duties of whatever nature or under whatever denomination, levied in the name and for the profit of Government perfunctories, private individuals, corporations, or establishments of any kind shall be imposed on the imports of the territories of either country or upon the vessels of either country which shall not equally and under the same conditions be imposed in the like cases on national vessels in general or vessels of the most favoured nation. Such equality of treatment shall apply reciprocally to the respective vessel from whatever port or place they may arrive and whatever may be their place of destination.

Article 9.—In all regards the stationing, loading, and unloading of vessels in the ports, basements, docks, roadsteads, harbours or rivers of the territories of the two countries, nothing shall be granted to national vessels which shall not be equally granted to the vessels of either country.

Article 10.—The coasting trade of both the high contracting parties is excepted from the provisions of the present treaty, and shall be regulated according to the laws, ordinances, and regulations of the United States and the Japanese governments respectively. It is, however, understood that the citizens of the United States in the territories of his Majesty the Emperor of Japan, and Japanese subjects in the territories of the United States, shall enjoy in this respect the rights which are or may be granted under such laws, ordinances, and regulations to the citizens of subjects of any other countries.

A vessel of the United States laden in foreign countries with cargo destined for two or more ports in the territory of Japan, may discharge a portion of her cargo at one port and continue her voyage to the other port or ports of destination where foreign trade is permitted, for the purpose of landing the remainder of her original cargo there, subject always to the laws and customs regulations of the respective countries. The Japanese Government, however, agrees to allow all vessels of the United States to continue as heretofore for the period of the duration of the present treaty to carry cargoes between the existing ports of Osaka, Nijita, and Ekisminato.

Article 11.—Any ship of war or merchant vessel of either of the high contracting parties which may be compelled by stress of weather or by reason of any other distress to take shelter in a port of the other shall be at liberty to refit therein, to procure all necessary supplies and to put to sea again without paying any dues other than would be paid by national vessels. In case, however, the master of a merchant vessel should be under the necessity of disposing of a part of his cargo in order to defray expenses, he shall be bound to conform to the regulations and tariffs of the place to which he may have come. If any ship of war or merchant vessel of the high contracting parties should run aground or be wrecked upon the coast of the other, the local authorities shall inform the Consul-General, Vice-Consul, or Consular agent of the district of the occurrence. Or if there is no such Consular officers, they shall inform the Consul-General, Consul, Vice-Consul, or Consular agent of the nearest district.

All proceedings relative to the salvage of Japanese vessels wrecked or cast on shore upon the territorial waters of the United States shall take place in accordance with the laws of the United States, and reciprocally all measures of salvage, relative to vessels of the United States wrecked or cast on shore in the territorial waters of His Majesty, the Emperor of Japan, shall take place in accordance with the laws, ordinances, and regulations of Japan.

Such stranded or wrecked ship or vessel, and all parts thereof, and all furniture and appurtenances belonging thereto and goods and merchandise saved therefrom, including those which may have been cast into the sea or the proceeds thereof sold, as well as papers found on board such stranded or wrecked ship or vessel, shall be given up to the owners or their agents when claimed by them. If such owners or agents are not on the spot the same shall be delivered to the respective Consuls-General, Vice Consuls, or Consular agents upon being claimed by them within the period fixed by the laws, ordinances, and regulations of the country, and such consular officers, owners, or agents shall pay only the expenses incurred in the preservation of the property together with the salvage or other expenses which would have been payable in like cases in case of a wreck of a national vessel. The goods and merchandise saved from the wreck shall be exempt from all duties of customs unless cleared for consumption, in which case they shall pay the ordinary duties.

When a vessel belonging to the citizens or subjects of one of the high contracting parties is stranded or wrecked in the territories of the other, the respective Consul-General, Consuls, Vice-Consuls, and Consular agent shall be authorized in case the owner, or master, or agent is not present to lend their official assistance in order to afford the necessary assistance to the citizens or subjects of the respective States. The same rule shall apply in case the owner, master, or other agent is present, but requiries such assistance to be given.

Article 12.—All vessels which according to United States laws are to be deemed vessels of the United States, and all vessels which according to Japanese laws are to be deemed Japanese vessels, shall for the purpose of this treaty be deemed vessels of the United States and Japanese vessels respectively.

Articles 13.—The Consuls-General, Consuls, Vice Consuls, and Consular agents of each of the high contracting parties residing in the territories of the other shall from local authorities obtain such assistance as can by law be given them for the recovery of the deserters from vessels from their respective countries. It is understood that this stipulation shall not apply to the citizens or subjects of the country where the desertions take place.

Article 14.—The high contracting parties agree that in all that concerns commerce and navigation any privilege, favour or immunity which either high contracting party has actually granted or may hereafter grant to the Government ships, citizens or subjects of other States, shall be extended to the Government, ships, citizens or subjects of the other high contracting party gratuitously, if the concession in favour of that other State shall have been gratuitous, and on the same or equivalent conditions of the conditions, if the concession shall have been conditional, it being their intention that the trade and navigation of each country shall be placed in all respects by the other on the footing of the most favoured nation.

Article 15.—Each of the high contracting parties may appoint Consuls-General, pro-Consuls, or Consular agents in all the ports, cities and places of the other, except in those where it may not be convenient to recognize such officers. This exception, however, shall not be made in regard to one of the high contracting parties without being made likewise in regard to every other power. The Consuls-General, Consuls, Vice-Consuls, and Consular agents may exercise all functions and shall enjoy the privileges, exemptions and immunities which exist now or may hereafter be granted to the consular officers of the most favoured nation.

Article 16.—The citizens or subjects of each of the high contracting parties shall enjoy in the territories of the other the same protection as native citizens or subjects in regard to patents, trademarks, and designs upon fulfillment of the formalities prescribed by law.

Article 17.—The high contracting parties agree to the following arrangement:—

The several foreign settlements in Japan, shall, from the date this treaty comes in force, be incorporated with respect to the Japanese communes, and shall henceforth form part of the general municipal system of Japan. The most competent Japanese authorities shall thereupon assume all municipal obligations and duties in respect thereof, and the common funds and property, if any, belonging to such settlements shall at the time be transferred to the said Japanese authorities.

When such incorporation takes place existing leases in perpetuity upon what property is now held in the said settlement shall be confirmed, and no conditions whatsoever other than those contained in such existing leases shall be imposed in respect of such property.

It is, however, understood that the Consular authorities mentioned in the same are in all cases to be replaced by the Japanese authorities. All lands which may have been previously granted by the Japanese authorities free of rent for the purpose of said settlements shall be subject to their right of eminent domain, be permanently reserved free of all taxes and charges for the public purposes for which they were originally set apart.

Article 18.—This treaty shall from the date it comes into force be substituted in place of the treaty of peace and amity concluded on the third day of the month of the seventh year of Kayeim, corresponding to the 31st day of March, 1854; the treaty of amity and commerce concluded on the 19th day of the sixth month of the year of Ansei, corresponding to the 29th day of July, 1858; the tariff conventions concluded on the 16th day of the fifth month of the second year of Keio, corresponding to the 25th day of June, 1866; the convention concluded on the twenty-fifth day of the seventh month of the eleventh year of Meiji, corresponding to July 25, 1878, and all arrangements and agreements subsidiary thereto concluded or existing between the high contracting parties, and from the same date such treaties, conventions, arrangements and agreements shall cease to be binding, and in consequence jurisdiction exercised by the courts of the United States in Japan and all the exceptional privileges, exemptions and immunities there enjoyed by citizens of the United States as a part of, or appurtenant to such jurisdiction, shall absolutely and without notice cease and determine, and thereafter all such jurisdiction shall be assumed and exercised by Japanese courts.

Article 19.—This treaty shall go into operation on the 17th day of July, 1895, and shall remain in force for the period of twelve years from date. Either of the high contracting parties shall have the right at any time after eleven years shall have elapsed from the date it goes into operation to give notice to the other of its intention to terminate the same, and at the expiration of twelve months after such notice is given this treaty shall wholly cease and terminate.

Articles 20.—The treaty shall be ratified and the ratification thereof shall be exchanged either at Washington or Tokyo as soon as possible, and not later than six month after signature.

In witness whereof the representative plenipotentiaries have signed the present treaty in duplicate, and have thereunto affixed their seals.

Done at the city of Washington, the 22d day November, in the eighteen hundred and ninety-fourth year of the Christian era, corresponding to the 22nd day of the eleventh month of the 27th year of *Meiji*.

[Seal.] WALTER Q. GRESHAM.
[Seal.] SHUICHIRO KURINO.

The protocol attached to the treaty deals in other subjects of general interest between the two countries, and provides that one month after the ratification of the treaty the import in respect to merchandise imported into Japan shall cease to be binding—and gives some details governing the passports of citizens of the United States in Japan.

SHOOTING AFFRAY IN HONMURA ROAD.

An American named George Watts, a seaman belonging to the British schooner *W. P. Hall*, was shot on Monday afternoon about 1 o'clock by a saloon keeper named J. A. Frame. It appears that Watts had been a boarder at Frame's house, which he recently left, and this seems to have engendered some ill-feeling between the men. Watts went into Frame's saloon at tiffin time, on Monday, and shortly afterwards a pistol shot was heard. Some men rushed into the bar-room where they found Frame doubled-up on a bench with Watts standing over him. Watts then made off. Frame stated that he had fired into the floor. There being no sign of the bullet, attention was turned to Watts who had taken shelter in a house lower down the street, when it was discovered that he had been shot through the left leg, the bullet lodging in the right limb. The wounded man was immediately taken to the hospital as he was bleeding profusely. Frame, who claims to be an American, is not recognized by the United States Consulate-General, while the British Court equally refuses to acknowledge his nationality, although the man protests that he was naturalized in Australia and used his vote. Under the circumstances, the police authorities applied to their own Department of Justice, and on Monday, Frame, whose right name is supposed to be James Mc-Adoo, was arrested by Japanese officers of the law. Frame was formerly in Shanghai, where he shot a coloured man named George Lemon. A Preliminary Judge having examined Frame at the Police Station, he was released, pending trial, until which time he will be under surveillance.

CHINA AND JAPAN.

The Times of November 7th publishes the following in its leading columns:—

How despondent is the view of the situation held by the Chinese authorities may be judged from the news we publish this morning. To the representatives of all the Powers, convened at the Chinese Foreign Office on Sunday, Prince Kung calmly avowed the complete inability of his country to withstand the Japanese attack, and made appeal for their assistance in bringing about some agreement for the termination of the war. He went on to indicate as the basis of

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negotiation the willingness of China to abandon her claim to the suzerainty of Korea, and to pay a war indemnity to Japan. This appeal, as appears on the face of the reported transaction, and as the Chinese Government has taken pains to state with unmistakable emphasis, is made formally and officially. It cannot be too clearly understood that it is thereby broadly distinguished from whatever suggestions may previously have been made, or whatever aspirations for peace may previously have been uttered on behalf of China. It is matter for congratulation that we now have what has hitherto been wanting—a well-defined and trustworthy *locus standi* for any Powers that may see their way to furthering the restoration of that tranquillity in the Far East which is of such high importance to all European nations having relations, commercial or other, with that quarter of the globe. A formal and official offer of concessions, fitted at least to serve as a basis of negotiation, is the first and indispensable condition of any attempt to bring the war to a close. But it is only the first step in a path which is by no means free of formidable obstacles, and we shall avoid the risk of painful disillusionment if we bear this fact steadily in mind. The attitude of the French Government is already indicated in a telegram which we publish to-day, and it may without serious risk of error be taken as typical of the reception which every cautious diplomatist will be disposed to give to the Chinese appeal. M. Hanotaux shows no disposition to play a leading part in dealing with the Chinese proposals, but at the same time intimates that he will give the most favourable consideration to any course which secures the approval of the Great Powers. While every civilized nation is undoubtedly anxious to see the war terminated, the situation is much too difficult, and conflicting considerations are much too delicately balanced, to permit of anything like impulsive espousal even of so good a cause as that of peace. While in a general way all the Powers have an interest in the restoration of tranquillity, they have many private and divergent interests, one or other of which is sure to come into active operation upon any attempt to force the pace. Aspiration after peace is one thing, but practical acceptance of some specific and concrete proposal for procuring peace is quite another. We are far from affirming that the Chinese appeal and the reception to be given to it by the Powers will not provide a way out of the present difficulty. We sincerely hope that it will; but we desire to avoid the hasty assumption that, because the first step is taken, the goal is certainly within reach.

Whatever concerted action may be taken by the Powers in response to the Chinese appeal must be expected to lie wholly within the somewhat limited sphere of good offices. It is almost unnecessary to say that anything of the nature of intervention is excluded by practical considerations of the most stubborn character. No self-respecting Power can assume an authoritative attitude, unless it has fully counted the cost of making its authority respected in the last resort. We are not concerned to decide whether, if there were only China and Japan and one Great Power in the world, it might be possible and wise for that Power to insist upon peace. As a matter of fact there are several Great Powers having interests in the Far East, so that it is a practical impossibility for any one Power to act with the least implication of compulsion in the background. The idea that the Great Powers could be induced collectively to take the authoritative attitude which is impossible for any one among them may be dismissed as chimerical in the present condition of affairs. Japanese statesmen would indeed do well to remember that a point may be reached at which the collective interest becomes more powerful than all private interests put together. But, though there is a limit somewhere to the permissible expansion of Japan, it does not at this moment affect the course of practical politics. The solution of the actual difficulties must be approached with recognition of the fact that neither intervention, nor even mediation, between China and Japan is at present practicable, although there is room for the good offices of interested Powers acting in concert. In calculating the chances of immediate or proximate success for any negotiations that may be set on foot, it is very important to remember that, while China is in a hurry, Japan's interests lie in the direction of procrastination. The natural resource of her diplomatists at the present time is undoubtedly what are known as *négociations dilatoires*. However courteously she may listen to representations, she cannot forget that she is in the midst of combinations which promise to result in placing China much more completely at her mercy. The impending attack upon Port Arthur is of itself an important factor in the determination of Japanese policy. It is practically admitted by Prince Kung that China has no serious hope of defending the place, and it is certainly believed by the Japanese that its capture is inevitable. With such a blow ready for delivery, it is not to be supposed for a moment that Japan will be in any hurry to accept even such proposals as she may think fairly adequate. When the weather compels the suspension of military operations she will probably be more disposed to listen to suggestions from without, but in the meantime she is bent upon making the most of the opportunities remaining, being well aware that, if further successes bring no other permanent reward, they will at all events justify enhanced demands for indemnity.

It may be doubted, apart from these considerations, whether the actual Chinese proposals can be considered adequate. It is all very well for China to abandon her suzerainty over Korea, but the simple withdrawal of her claims makes no provision for the future government of that country. Yet it is precisely the disorganized and turbulent condition of Korea which was the ostensible cause of the war. Japan cannot be content with a simple withdrawal of claim which leaves Korea without any recognized suzerain. She will naturally demand the frank recognition of her overlordship and her right to exercise a more than nominal authority. It is evident from the accounts of our Correspondents that Korean does not contain the elements of self-regeneration. The nobles are divided by hereditary feuds as well as by more recent differences of opinion, and they have no notion of settling a quarrel by anything short of bloodshed. Government in any practical form does not exist, and the very conception of reform has yet to be instilled into the Korean mind. Whatever vestiges of authority may have existed have been shattered by the war, and the chaos cannot be reduced to order by the mere renunciation of Chinese claims. The Japanese will naturally hold it their right to undertake the reconstruction of the Korean State, and, in addition to the right of conquest, they can undoubtedly plead their proved and very remarkable aptitude for assimilating and practising the conceptions of Western civilization. Yet though the Japanese claims are very strong, and though there is no visible chance for Korea except in Japanese tutorage, it is very far from certain that perfect harmony will be found to exist among the Great Powers upon the question of giving Japan effective control. There is no need to labour the point at this stage. It is enough to indicate that the Chinese offer, as it stands, does not go far enough for Japan, and that upon the amended offer, which might satisfy Japan, there is ample room for such differences of view among the Powers as would preclude any very effective presentation of a joint opinion.

ATTEMPTED ASSAULT IN KOBE BY A JAPANESE SOLDIER.

On Wednesday a Japanese soldier, infuriated by drink and the desire for revenge, made an attack upon foreigner at the Seamen's Home, Kobe, which, had it not been for the quickness with which the assaulted man evaded the blow aimed at him, might very easily have proved fatal. Shortly after 2 o'clock in the afternoon Mr. H. Lackmann, who is employed at the Seamen's Home, was standing at the door in Division Street, when hearing a rush across the street, he turned, and saw a Japanese soldier making for him with a naked sword bayonet in his hand. Quickly jumping on one side and thus avoiding the blow, Lackmann retreated into a room on one side of the hall, where Mr. Scofield, the manager of the Home, and two lads were sitting, and quickly closed the door. The soldier followed him and attempted to enter, but finding the door was held fast, began to stab at the panels with his bayonet. The two lads thereupon jumped out of window and went for the police, while Mr. Scofield went to Lackmann's assistance in holding the door. Evidently the soldier was fully aware that the door was being held against him instead of being secured by a lock, as the stabs were directed at the panel above the lock just in the place that a man would usually stand in preventing a door from being opened. Fortunately none of the thrusts took effect on the two men within the room, who stooped down and held the door from below.

After stabbing at the door twenty or thirty times, some of the thrusts completely penetrating the panel, the soldier desisted from the attack, and then Mr. Scofield got out of window and went to the front with the object of securing the man. As soon as the soldier saw Mr. Scofield, however, he came towards him and held out his hand, saying in broken English that he had no bad feeling towards him, but wanted to kill the other man, the fat man. At this point Mr. Eastham, the representative of Messrs. Dobson and Barlow, happened to pass, and seeing there was a disturbance endeavoured to induce the soldier to go away quietly. The man offered no objection, and Mr. Eastham took hold of his arm and led him away to the Club Hotel, where he was given a drink. Unfortunately no effort was made to detain the man, it not being known at that time how serious the affair was, and he was allowed to leave the hotel without opposition, and had not been arrested up to a late hour on Wednesday night.

The soldier, who belonged to the 20th Regiment (Osaka), told the crowd that assembled outside the Seamen's Home while the disturbance was going on, that he had formerly been a jinrikisha-man in Division Street, and that some time ago the foreigner struck him a blow in the face, of which he still bore the scar. He had therefore determined to kill the foreigner before going to China. Mr. Lackmann says he recognises the man as a former jinrikisha-puller in Division Street, but emphatically denies ever striking him. All he did was on one occasion to act as interpreter between the jinrikisha-man and some Russian sailors with reference to the payment of fare, for which the man appeared to bear him a grudge.

The police did not come upon the scene until the disturbance was over and the soldier had gone away—in fact Mr. Scofield had to go to the new police station near the Paper Mill before he could secure assistance. The police then became active enough, visited the premises, carefully examined the door, took down the names of the persons engaged, and inquired fully into the circumstances of the affair. They believe they will have no difficulty in arresting the man from the description given them.—*Chronicle.*

CHESS.

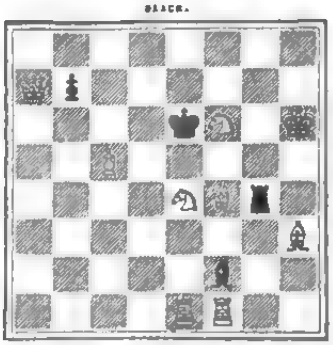
(All Communications to be addressed to the Chess Editor.)

The Yokohama Chess Club meets at the Club Hotel, No. 5, Bund, on Monday and Thursday in each week from 5 to 11 p.m.

The Tokyo Chess Club meets at the Tokyo Hotel every Friday from 1 to 11 p.m.

Problem No. 159.
By F. R. Gittins.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in two moves.

Paris v. St. Petersburg.

The telegraphic match between the chess circles of Paris and St. Petersburg, which was adjourned for the holiday season, was to be resumed on the 15th of September. The positions are shown in the diagrams below. The next moves have been sealed and intrusted to the keeping of Baron Albert de Rothschild of Vienna, who acts as umpire.

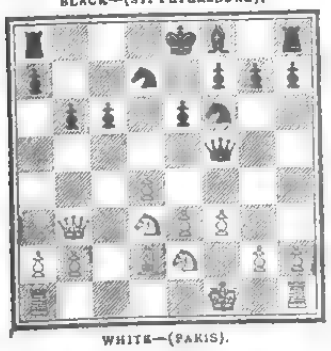
THE PARIS GAME.

WHITE. Paris.	BLACK. St. Petersburg.
1—P to Q 4	1—P to Q 4
2—Kt to K B 3	2—Kt to K B 3
3—P to K 3	3—B to Kt 5
4—P to B 4	4—P to K 3
5—Kt to B 3	5—P to B 3
6—Q to Kt 3	6—Q to B 2
7—Kt to K 5	7—B to K B 4
8—B to Q 3	8—B takes B
9—Kt takes B	9—Q Kt to Q 2
10—Kt to K 2	10—Kt to K 5
11—P to B 3	11—Q to R 4 ch.
12—K to B sq.	12—P takes P
13—Q takes B P	13—Kt to B 3
14—Q to B 3	14—Q to K B 4

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15—Q to Kt 3 15—P to Q Kt 3
16—B to Q 2

BLACK—(ST. PETERSBURG).

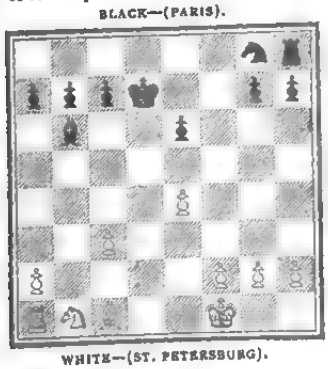


WHITE—(PARIS).

THE ST. PETERSBURG GAME.

WHITE. St. Petersburg.	BLACK. Paris.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—Kt to K B 3	2—Kt to Q B 3
3—B to ■ 4	3—B to B 4
4—P to Q Kt 4	4—B takes P
5—P to B 3	5—B to R 4
6—Castles	6—P to Q 3
7—P to Q 4	7—B to Q 2
8—Q to Kt 3	8—Q to K 2
9—P takes P	9—P takes P
10—R to Q sq.	10—R to Q sq.
11—R to Q 5	11—B to Kt 3
12—B to Q Kt 5	12—Q to K 3
13—B takes Kt	13—Q takes ■
14—Kt takes P	14—Q to K 3
15—R takes B	15—R takes R
16—Q takes Q ch.	16—P takes Q
17—Kt takes R	17—K takes Kt
18—K to B sq.	

BLACK—(PARIS).



WHITE—(ST. PETERSBURG).

Lasker (news of whose illness was cabled from London, 22nd Oct.) was taken with typhoid fever and when last mail left home was an inmate of St. Thomas's Hospital, London. His brother the Doctor went over from Germany to be with him and the fever seemed to be taking a favourable course. We hope that long ere this the new Champion is in good trim once more.

Mr. Stubbs' End-Game.

Several correspondents have informed us that this puzzle is unsolvable "unless there is a catch in it." We append the author's solution, which we consider is perfectly legitimate and free from trickery. It must be remembered that an end-game differs from an ordinary problem in this respect—that in the latter no moves have been made when the position is submitted to the solver, while the former is supposed to be the result of actual play, and to get at the possibilities of the position it is necessary to know something of the moves already made.

Mr. Stubbs explains his puzzle as follows:—

WHITE.	BLACK.
1—P takes P en pas	1—P takes P
2—B takes P mate.	

A study of the position will show that Black's last move must have been P from Kt 2 to Kt 4. The Black K cannot have moved from Kt 2 because that square is guarded by two White pawns. It is obvious that the Black ■ cannot have moved from any other square. The Black R and the Black P on B 2 cannot have moved. The Black P on Kt 4 cannot have come from Kt 3, because the White K would have been in check and could not be on R 5. It also could not have taken a piece and gone from B 3 or R 3, because they are already occupied by White Pawns. Therefore the Black P must have come from Kt 2 and can be taken *en passant*.

Game No. 201.

Played in the *Staats Zeitung* Cup Tournament at the recent meeting. A very pretty game.

WHITE. Showalter.	BLACK. Albin.
1—P to K 4	1—P to Q 3
2—P to Q 4	2—P to K Kt 3
3—B to Q 3	3—B to Kt 2
4—P to Q B 3	4—Kt to Q 2
5—Kt to K 2	5—P to K 4
6—P to K B 4	6—Q to R 5 ch.
7—P to Kt 3	7—Q to R 6
8—Kt to Kt sq.	8—Q to K 3
9—Kt to B 3	9—P to K R 3
10—Castles	10—P takes B P
11—B takes P	11—P to K Kt 4
12—B to Q 2	12—Kt to K 2
13—Kt to R 3	13—Kt to Q Kt 3
14—Kt to Q Kt 5	14—K to Q sq.
15—B takes P	15—P takes B
16—Kt takes Kt P	16—Resigns. (a)

(a) Black had a bad game from the early part, P to Q 3 being poorly continued with P to K Kt 3 instead of P to Q B 4 and P to Q Kt 3. The following moves would probably have occurred had the game been played out:—16....., Q to Kt 3; 17—Kt takes B P ch., K to Q 2; 18—P to K 5, Q to R 4; 19—P to K 6 ch., K to B 3; 20—Q takes Q, R takes Q; 21—Kt to Q 8 ch., K to Q 4; and 22—Kt takes B P mate—a grand design.

Game No. 202.

Played in the South Australian Tournament.

FRENCH DEFENCE.

WHITE. D. F. Macdonald.	BLACK. E. H. Coombe.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 3
2—P to Q 4	2—P to Q 4
3—P takes P	3—P takes P
4—P to Q B 4	4—P takes P
5—B takes P	5—Kt to K B 3
6—Kt to K B 3	6—B to Q 3
7—Kt to Q B 3	7—Castles
8—Castles	8—P to B 3
9—P to Q R 4	9—B to B 2
10—Q Kt to K 2	10—B to K Kt 5
11—Q to Kt 3	11—Q Kt to Q 2
12—Kt to Kt 3	12—Q Kt to Kt 3
13—B to K 3	13—B takes Kt
14—P takes B	14—Kt takes B
15—Q takes Kt	15—Kt to Q 4
16—B to Q 2	16—Q to B 3
17—Q to Q 3	17—B to Kt 3
18—Kt to K 2	18—B to B 2
19—K to R sq.	19—Q to R 5
20—Kt to Kt 3	20—P to K B 4
21—R to K Kt sq.	21—B to B 5
22—B to K 3	22—R to B 3
23—R to Kt 2	23—Q R to K B sq.
24—Q R to K Kt sq.	24—Q to R 6
25—Q to Kt 3	25—Q R to B 2
26—B to B sq.	26—B takes B
27—R takes ■	27—Kt to B 5
28—Q R to K Kt sq.	28—R to K Kt 3
29—Q to K 3	29—Kt takes R
30—K takes Kt	30—P to B 5
31—Q to K 2	31—P takes Kt
32—B P takes P	32—R to K 3
33—Q to Q sq.	33—Q R to K 2
34—Q to Q 2	34—R to K 8 ch.
35—R to Kt sq.	35—K R to K 7

Black wins.

Game No. 203.

A smart little skirmish. Score from the *Glasgow Weekly Herald*.

KING'S GAMBIT DECLINED.

WHITE. Amateur.	BLACK. Rev. J. Coker.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—P to K B 4	2—P to Q 4
3—P takes Q P	3—P to K 5
4—B to Kt 5 ch.	4—B to Q 2
5—B takes B ch.	5—Kt takes B
6—P to B 4	6—Kt to B 4
7—Kt to K 2	7—Kt to Q 6 ch.
8—K to B sq.	8—Q to R 5
9—P to K Kt 3	9—Q to R 6 ch.
10—K to Kt sq.	10—B to B 4 ch.
11—Kt to Q 4	11—B takes Kt mate.

We clip the following from the Chicago *Times*:—"Professor Peipers of San Francisco is a strong chess player. He is one of the mightiest chieftains on the Pacific Coast, and from his belt dangle the scalps [of Zukertort, Showalter and many doughty but lesser chiefs. He now resides at Los Angeles, Cal., as also does the champion chief of all American tribes, S. Lipschutz. Chief Peipers fought many battles with the medicine man of the Los Angeles tribe, and almost invariably won. But he persistently refused to cross tomahawks with Champion Chief Lipschutz. So the bad Indians, who wanted very much to see a duel between the two, one day played a joke on Chieftain Peipers. Champion Chief Lipschutz was hidden in the wigwam adjoining that of the medicine man. Chief Peipers, who, by the way, is deaf, played in the medicine man's wigwam. The latter called out the moves made by Peipers; Lipschutz called out his own move and the doctor made them against Peipers. The doctor won the first game and was complimented by Peipers on his good form. But when he also won the second game Chief Peipers arose and said: "Doctor, you have improved a knight in strength since we played last. If you played like this all the time you could hold your own against Lipschutz." Tableau.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[Reuter "Special" to "Japan Mail."]

London, December 29.

An agreement has been entered into between the Governments of Great Britain and Japan, extending for six months the period fixed by the recent Anglo-Japanese Treaty for the conclusion of a supplementary convention providing for the conversion into specific duties of the *ad valorem* rates named in the Tariff annexed to the Treaty.

London, January 1.

Lord Randolph Churchill has rallied somewhat from his recent attack of illness, but the doctors give no hope of restoration to health.

The Revenue Returns for the last three months of the year just closed show a large increase, which is encouraging evidence of the revival of trade in reality.

London, January 2.

The Rescript of the Emperor of Russia, appointing General Shouvaloff Governor of Warsaw, re-affirms his earnest desire for peace and equals his father's policy in that direction.

(From the "N.-C. Daily News.")

London, December 28.

The column sent against the Waziri tribe destroyed the defences of two Waziri positions on Saturday.

The Dutch expedition in Lombok has been disbanded but two regiments remain to garrison the island.

London, December 27.

Fatal conflicts have been taking place between the white men and the negroes in Alabama and Georgia, and the militia have been called out to restore order.

The *entente cordiale* between Great Britain Russia is looked upon with favour in St. Petersburg, especially because it is hoped that it will have an important bearing on affairs when the time comes for a settlement between China and Japan.

(From "Le Courrier d'Haiphong.")

Paris, December 15.

The obsequies of Count Ferdinand de Lesseps were attended by a vast concourse.

M. de Munster has visited the President and conveyed to him the regret of the Emperor William at the death of M. Burdeau (the President of the Chamber) who made himself most valuable at the Berlin Labour Conference.

December 16.

The obsequies of M. Burdeau were imposing. The President attended the ceremony at the Palais Bourbon.

The documents delivered up by Signor Giolitti have caused a sensation at Rome. Parliament has been prorogued.

December 17.

Signor Crispi has stated the prorogation is in order that the Chamber may recover its calm. The sensation is profound all over Italy; 150 Opposition deputies have protested.

(From Japanese Papers.)

Matsuyama, January 2.

At a review of artillery, which took place on the parade ground to-day, two Chinamen, said to be spies, were discovered among the spectators, and both were arrested on the spot.

Shimonoseki, January 3.

A Ninsen correspondent, writing under date of the 29th ult., states that Chung-hwa in Phyŏng-an-do is disturbed by the Tong-haks, and a state of anarchy prevails there. It is

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added that the work of constructing a railway along the bank of the Tai-dong is greatly hindered and it is said that it will not be completed in January.

Pekin, January 3.

General Liu has been appointed the Supreme Command of the Army and Navy in place of the Viceroy Li, but has declined the offer. His resignation has not yet been acknowledged by the Emperor. A rumour is current to the effect that the General has no ability for such a high responsibility.

Toyama, January 4.

A report has reached here to the effect that a great conflagration has occurred at Namerigawa.

Hiroshima, January 4.

Major-General Kotama, Vice-Minister of War, and Viscount Kagawa, Grand Master of Services to H.I.M. the Emperor, left here for Tokyo to-day.

Pekin, January 4.

General von Hanneken's project for the reorganization of the Army has proved a failure owing to the inability of the Treasury to provide funds. The command of the troops still remains in the hands of the Chinese generals.

Hiroshima, January 4.

Half of the railway between Nam-pho—a port used as the landing station for the Japanese commissariats immediately after the port of Kim-jin was frozen up—and Phyông-yang, a distance of eighteen miles, has been completed.

Hiroshima, January 3.

The telegraph line between Hu-tung and Port Arthur, the work on which was delayed through various obstacles, have been completed.

Hiroshima, January 4.

A reconnoitering column sent in the direction of Kaiping reports, says a telegram dated the 3rd inst. and dispatched by Lieutenant-General Nozu, that about four thousand Chinese soldiers, commanded by General Tsao, have been seen between Kaiping and Tantien, and another scouting party sent to Kokan states that a number of soldiers, led by General Seh, are staying in the neighbourhood of the latter district. Fresh soldiers have been enlisted there. A Chinese native states that it is rumoured that General Sung is marching towards Hai-cheng.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From America	per O. & O. Co.	Saturday, Jan. 12th.*
From Europe, viâ Hongkong	per M. M. Co.	Sunday, Jan. 6th.†
From Hongkong	per P. M. Co.	Sunday, Jan. 6th.†
From Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Sunday, Jan. 13th.
From Canada, &c.....	per C. P. R. Co.	Monday, Jan. 21st.
From America	per P. M. Co.	Thursday, Jan. 22nd.
From Europe, viâ Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd	Wed'day, Jan. 23rd.
From Hongkong	per C. P. R. Co.	Thursday, Jan. 31st.

* *Gaelic* left San Francisco on December 24th. † *Nasal* will leave Kobe on January 5th. ‡ *Peru* left Kobe on January 4th.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For America	per P. M. Co.	Tuesday, Jan. 8th.
For Europe, viâ Shanghai	per M. M. Co.	Saturday, Jan. 12th.
For Victoria, B.C., & Tacoma, Wash.....	per N. P. Co.	Saturday, Jan. 12th.
For America	per O. & O. Co.	Friday, Jan. 18th.
For Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Saturday, Jan. 19th.
For Hongkong	per C. P. R. Co.	Monday, Jan. 21st.
For Europe, viâ Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd	Friday, Jan. 25th.
For Canada, &c, ...	per C. P. R. Co.	Friday, Feb. 1st.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Else, German steamer, 747, Christiansen, 29th December,—Moji, Coal.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Matsumaye Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,934, J. A. Allen, 29th December,—Ujina, Light.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ancona, British steamer, 1,880, W. D. Mudie, 30th December,—Hongkong viâ ports 21st December, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Gloucester City, British steamer, 1,686, D. Dwyer, 30th December,—Otaru viâ ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Mount Labanon, British steamer, 1,555, Chas. Hendry, 30th December,—Fushiki, Rice.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Nürnberg, German steamer, 2,007, Hugo Walter, 30th December,—Hongkong 24th December, Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.

Pathan, British steamer, 1,735, Wright, 30th December,—West Coast, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tokai Maru, Japanese steamer, 634, McIvor, 30th December,—Bonin Islands, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Afghan, British steamer, 1,439, R. Barton, 31st December,—Yokkaichi 30th December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Anger Head, British steamer, 1,826, Molyer, 31st December,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Mutsu Maru, Japanese steamer, 552, Nakajima, 31st December,—Yokosuka 31st December, Light.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Benedict, British steamer, 1,865, Hansey, 1st January,—Middlesboro' viâ ports, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Daventry, British steamer, 1,876, Garnsworthy, 1st January,—Otaru, Coal.—Hokkaido Tanko Tetsudo Kaisha.

Meiji Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,010, N. Masakiyo, 1st January,—Kobe, Light.—Lighthouse Department.

Keemun, British steamer, 1,985, G. Gratton, 2nd January,—Liverpool viâ ports, General.—W. M. Strachan & Co.

Boulogne, British steamer, 1,452, E. Le Boutillier, 2nd January,—London viâ ports, General.—Comes & Co.

Taiyick, German steamer, 903, Schuldt, 2nd January,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Victoria, British steamer, 1,991, J. Panton, R.N.R., 2nd January,—Tacoma, Wash., 11th December, viâ Victoria, B.C., 12th, Mails and General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

City of Rio de Janeiro, American steamer, 2,246, J. T. Smith, 3rd January,—San Francisco 13th December, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Empress of Japan, British steamer, 3,003, G. A. Lee, R.N.R., 3rd January,—Hongkong viâ ports, 26th December, Mails and General.—Frazar & Co.

Esmeralda, British schooner, 130, J. T. Harrison, 3rd January,—Guam, Copra.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Kara, British steamer, 1,507, T. Walker, 3rd January,—Hongkong 25th December, Sugar.—Butterfield & Swire.

Servia, American ship, 1,778, Gilmore, 3rd January,—New York 1st August, Kerosene.—Standard Oil Co.

Auretta, British steamer, 1,729, Henderson, 3rd January,—Moji, Coal.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hokoku Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,560, Kawamura, 3rd January,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Glucksburg, German steamer, 1,093, Thomsen, 4th January,—Kobe 3rd January, General.—Japanese.

Tosa Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,200, J. B. MacMillan, 4th January,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tokai Maru, Japanese steamer, 634, McIvor, 4th January,—Yokkaichi 3rd January, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

DEPARTURES.

Belgic, British steamer, 2,695, W. H. Walker, 29th December,—San Francisco, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,342, Miyagi, 29th December,—Ujina, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Boynton, British steamer, 1,630, Irving, 29th December,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Chuyetsu Maru, Japanese steamer, 928, Toyoshima, 30th December,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Fuyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 875, Eden, 30th December,—Moji, Ballast.—Mitsu Bishi Sha.

Glenfruin, British steamer, 1,918, Darke, 30th December,—London viâ ports, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Eskdale, British steamer, 1,575, Houston, 31st December,—Otaru, Ballast.—Hokkaido Tanko Tetsudo Kaisha.

Protos, German steamer, 1,150, Johansou, 31st December,—Moji, General.—Japanese.

Tokai Maru, Japanese steamer, 634, McIvor, 31st December,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Nagato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,160, G. W. Conner, 31st December,—Yokosuka, Ballast.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Riojun Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,046, J. W. Renny, 31st December,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ashdown, British steamer, 1,893, Jas. Cowie, 1st January,—Otaru viâ ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ching-tu, British steamer, 1,369, Innes, 1st January,—Australia viâ ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Nürnberg, German steamer, 2,007, Hugo Walter, 2nd January,—Hongkong viâ ports, Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.

Mutsu Maru, Japanese steamer, 552, Nakajima, 2nd January,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Altonower, British steamer, 1,643, Turner, 3rd January,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Rynda (10), Russian cruiser, Captain N. Rimsky-Korsakoff, 3rd January,—Nagasaki.

Aglaia, German steamer, 1,686, Petersen, 4th January,—Hamburg viâ ports, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

City of Rio de Janeiro, American steamer, 2,246, J. T. Smith, 4th January,—Hongkong viâ Nagasaki, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Else, German steamer, 747, Christiansen, 4th January,—Ujina, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Empress of Japan, British steamer, 3,003, G. A. Lee, R.N.R., 4th January,—Vancouver, B.C., Mails and General.—Frazar & Co.

Matsuyama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,934, J. F. Allen, 4th January,—Yokosuka, Light.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Victoria, British steamer, 1,991, J. Panton, R.N.R., 4th January,—Hongkong viâ ports, General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Ancona, British steamer, 1,880, W. D. Mudie, 5th January,—Hongkong viâ ports, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per British steamer *Ancona*, from Hongkong viâ ports:—Mr. C. W. Arnauld, Mr. A. Frank, Mr. F. Topiita, Mr. and Mrs. Hughes, and Mr. F. W. Warburton in cabin.

Per German steamer *Nürnberg*, from Hongkong:—Professor Jiro Tsuboi, Messrs. Voss, Po Kee, Ho Yue, Yip Yee, Chan, A. Yuen, and Husam Adam in cabin.

Per British steamer *Victoria*, from Tacoma, Wash., viâ Victoria, B.C.:—Mr. J. H. Bearom, Miss M. Hancock, Miss L. A. Batty, Miss E. L. Fuller, Miss H. Newcombe, Mr. and Mrs. Brockhurst and 2 children, Mr. G. G. Sudzuki, Mr. H. Ginn, Mr. and Mrs. Morrish, and Dr. Rabe in cabin.

Per American steamer *City of Rio de Janeiro*, from San Francisco:—Mr. H. Rodgers, Mr. H. A. Ahrens, and Mr. B. Hashiguchi in cabin.

Per British steamer *Empress of Japan*, from Hongkong viâ ports:—Mr. R. P. Duncan, Mr. G. W. Ward, General and Mrs. Solomko, Mr. R. N. St. John, Mr. P. Kunnell, Mr. Jose Vidal, Dr. J. H. Gaines, U.S.N., Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Tuska, Mr. A. Brooke Smith, Mr. A. H. Dare, and Captain F. J. Brown in cabin, and Messrs. Kohn, Traeder, and Nierstein in second class. In transit:—Mr. J. C. Harris and Commander Goodrich, U.S.N., in cabin, and 73 Chinese in steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per British steamer *Belgic*, for San Francisco:—Miss E. L. Francillon, Mr. Munday, R.N., Dr. A. Henry, Mr. and Mrs. F. N. Drosdof, and Mr. D. Ivanov in cabin.

Per German steamer *Nürnberg*, for Hongkong viâ ports:—Mrs. J. Efford, Miss Efford, Dr. Fesca, Captain Orr, Messrs. N. L. Whitburn, G. Schoffler, L. Boehmer, and E. Franke in cabin; Messrs. Arthur K. Lees, F. Omori, Kobayashi, F. Horiye, F. P. Aubin, A. E. Harris, A. E. Sprusen, Y. Doy, H. A. Cutle, H. G. Griffiths, John Eyton, John McCanse, F. Baden, and Mrs. H. Baden in second class; 37 Europeans in third class, and 18 Lascars, 2 Indians, and 3 Chinese on deck.

Per American steamer *City of Rio de Janeiro*, for Hongkong viâ Nagasaki:—Mrs. White, Mr. C. F. Fearing, and Mrs. A. Sharp and son in cabin.

Per British steamer *Empress of Japan*, for Vancouver, B.C.:—Mr. J. O. Averill, Commander Goodrich, U.S.N., Mr. J. C. Harris, Mr. T. Nossé, Dr. G. Schmidt-Leda, Consul-General, Mr. F. Villiers, Mr. A. V. Watson, and Mr. J. D. Watson in cabin.

CARGOES.

Per German steamer *Nürnberg*, for Hongkong viâ ports:—Raw Silk for Europe, 75 bales; Waste Silk for Europe, 651 bales.

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Per British steamer *Belgic*, for San Francisco :—

TEA.

	SAN FRANCISCO.	NEW YORK.	CHICAGO.	MONTREAL.	OTHER CITIES.	TOTAL.
Yokohama	1,044	—	—	—	—	1,044
Hongkong	121	—	—	—	—	121
Amoy	—	5,186	1,153	—	—	6,339
Total	1,165	5,186	1,153	—	—	7,504

SILK.

	SAN FRANCISCO.	NEW YORK.	HARTFORD.	TOTAL.
Hongkong	—	125	—	125
Yokohama	—	1,027	100	1,127
Total	—	1,152	100	1,252

Per British steamer *Empress of Japan*, for Vancouver, B.C. :—

TEA.

	CANADA.	CHICAGO AND WEST.	NEW YORK AND EAST.	PACIFIC COAST.	OTHER CITIES.	TOTAL.
Hongkong	30	—	—	15	30	75
Amoy	—	665	1,148	—	—	1,813
Foochow	214	—	—	—	—	214
Shanghai	—	—	626	—	—	629
Colombo	—	40	—	—	—	40
Hyogo	1,333	1,079	—	—	—	2,412
Yokohama	655	—	272	—	—	927
Total	2,232	1,784	2,046	15	30	6,107

SILK.

	NEW YORK.	OTHER CITIES.	TOTAL.
Hongkong & Canton	170	—	170
Shanghai	300	—	300
Yokohama	15	—	15
Total	485	—	485

REPORTS.

The German steamer *Nürnberg*, Captain H. Walter, reports :—Left Hongkong the 24th November at 4 p.m. and arrived at Yokohama the 30th December at p.m.; through the Formosa Channel had strong N.E. monsoon and rough sea; from Tutuabout up to Van Diemen Strait strong N. and N.W. winds, increasing to a fresh gale with high sea; thence to port fresh N.W. winds and moderate sea.

The British steamer *Victoria*, Captain J. Panton, R.N.R., reports :—Left Tacoma, Wash., the 12th December at 6 a.m., and Victoria, B.C., the 12th at 10.20 a.m.; experienced strong head winds and high seas throughout the passage; crossed the meridian on the 24th, and passed Inuboye-saki the 2nd January at 5 a.m. Arrived at Yokohama at p.m.

The American steamer *City of Rio de Janeiro*, Captain J. T. Smith, reports :—Left San Francisco the 13th December at 4.13 p.m. Arrived at Yokohama the 3rd January at 4.55 p.m. Passage, 19 days 19 hours 14 minutes; had westerly winds and head sea most of the passage.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

Business has been naturally restricted by the New Year holidays; but the outlook all round is fair for an early resumption of trade in 1895. Grey Yarn and Grey Shirtings are in a good position, and fair dealings have been made. Nothing done in T. Cloth, T.-Reds, and Indigo Shirtings. A few small lots of Lawns, Velvets, Prints, and Cotton Italians have moved. In Woollens there are small sales of Mousselines and Italian Cloth, but other kinds including Blankets, are at a standstill.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirtings—8½ lb., 38½ yds. 39 inches	$2.25 to 2.90
Grey Shirtings—9lb., 38½ yds. 45 inches	2.50 to 3.25
T. Cloth—7lb., 24 yards, 32 inches	1.60 to 1.90
Indigo Shirtings—12 yards, 44 inches	1.70 to 2.35
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches	2.00 to 3.75
	PER YARD.
Cotton—Italians and Satteens Black, 32 inches	0.16 to 0.21
	PER PIECE.
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	7.25 to 9.50
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches	0.85 to 1.00
Turkey Reds—2.0 to 2.4lb., 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.60 to 1.70
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3lb., 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.80 to 2.00
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4lb., 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.25 to 2.55
Turkey Reds—4.8 to 5lb., 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.75 to 3.05

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.
Flannel	$0.30 to 0.50
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches best	0.32½ to 0.37½
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Medium	0.27½ to 0.30
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Common	0.20 to 0.25
Mousseline de Laine—Cape, 24 yards, 32 inches	0.15 to 0.22½
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches	0.35 to 0.50
Cloths—Presidents, 54 @ 56 inches	0.60 to 0.65
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0.70 to 0.75
Blankets—Scarlet and Green Dyed, per lb.	0.60 to 0.80

COTTON YARNS.

	PER PICUL.
Nos. 10/24, Ordinary	—
Nos. 16/24, Medium	$34.50 to 35.00
Nos. 16/24, Good to Best	35.50 to 36.00
Nos. 16/24, Reverse	—
Nos. 28/32, Ordinary	—
Nos. 28/32, Medium	36.00 to 36.50
Nos. 28/32, Good to Best	37.00 to 37.50
Nos. 38/42, Medium to Best	42.00 to 43.00
No. 32s, Two-fold	39.00 to 40.00
No. 42s, Two-fold	43.00 to 46.00
	PER BALE.
No. 20s, Bombay	—
No. 16s, Bombay	—

METALS.

Some enquiries for Bar Iron; both spot and forward being in request. Other sorts quiet. Wire Nails—Buyers have supplied their wants at auction sales of damaged cargo ex steamer *Irene*. Tin Plates again lower in price.

	PER PICUL.
Flat Bars, ¾ inch	$3.60 to 3.70
Flat Bars, ½ inch	3.70 to 3.80
Round and square up to ¾ inch	3.60 to 3.80
Iron Plates, assorted	3.90 to 3.95
Sheet Iron	4.90 to 5.10
Galvanized Iron sheets	9.00 to 9.25
Wire Nails, assorted	5.75 to 6.00
Tin Plates, per box	6.50 to 6.75
Pig Iron, No. 3	1.65 to 1.70

KEROSENE.

Market strong and prices firm without any quotable change. Deliveries at the close of the old year were good, and the stock is now below 500,000 cases. Fresh arrivals and new bargains are expected shortly.

Chester	$1.75 to 1.77½
Comet	1.72½ to 1.75
Devoe	—
Russian Anchor	1.73½ to 1.75
Russian Moon	1.70 to 1.72½

SUGAR.

Generally quiet and slow. Brown—Arrivals exceed sales and dealers hold back looking for lower prices when trade reopens after the New Year holidays. White—Market dull with small sales, but prices unaltered.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Takao	$4.20 to 4.30
Brown Manila	4.90 to 5.00
Brown Daitong (New)	3.45 to 3.50
Brown Canton	3.70 to 4.25
White Java and Penang	6.60 to 6.70
White Refined	8.50 to 9.00

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

A good business marked the demise of 1894, many transactions being entered for delivery after the New Year holidays. Prices all round are up, the low exchange assisting holders in this respect. Stock generally is much reduced; the native manufacturers retiring coarse Re-reels and Common Kakeda for their own use.

QUOTATIONS.—(NEW SILK.)

Hanks—No. 1	—
Hanks—No. 1 (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 2 (Joshu)	—
Hanks—No. 2½ (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 2½ (Joshu)	—
Hanks—No. 2½ to 3	—
Hanks—No. 3	—
Hanks—No. 3½	—
Filatures—Extra 10/12 deniers	—
Filatures—Extra 13/15 deniers	Nom.
Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers	$810 to 830
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den	810 to 820
Filatures—No. 1½, 10/14 deniers	770 to 780
Filatures—No. 1½, 13/16, 13/17 den	780 to 790
Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers	740 to 750
Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	740 to 750
Filatures—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	—
Re-reels—Extra	—
Re-reels—(Oshu) Item No. 1	—
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 deniers	780 to 785
Re-reels—No. 1½, 13/16, 14/17 deniers	750 to 760
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	720 to 730
Re-reels—No. 2½, 14/18 deniers	—
Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	—
Kakedas—Extra	770 to 780
Kakedas—No. 1	750 to 760
Kakedas—No. 1½	730 to 740
Kakedas—No. 2	710 to 720
Kakedas—No. 2½	—
Kakedas—No. 3	—
Kakedas—No. 3½	—
Kakedas—No. 4	—
Oshu Sendai—No. 2½	—
Hanatsuki—No. 1, 2	—
Hanatsuki—No. 3, 4	—
Sendai—No. 2½	—

WASTE SILK.

A steady business at unchanged prices. Present stock is now 18,000 piculs.

QUOTATIONS.—(NEW WASTE.)

Pierced Cocoons—Good to Best	$110 to 135
Noshi-ito—Filature, Best	130 to 135
Noshi-ito—Filature, Good	120 to 125
Noshi-ito—Filature, Medium	110 to 115
Noshi-ito—Oshu, Good to Best	120 to 130
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Best	—
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Good	80 to 90
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Medium	—
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Best	110 to 115
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Good to Best	—
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Good	70 to 75
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Ordinary	60 to 65
Kibiso—Filature, Best selected	100 to 110
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds	90 to 95
Kibiso—Oshu, Good to Best	—
Kibiso—Shinshu, Best	—
Kibiso—Shinshu, Seconds	—
Kibiso—Joshu, Good to Fair	30 to 27½
Kibiso—Joshu, Middling to Common	25 to 22½
Kibiso—Hachoji, Good to Fair	25 to 23
Kibiso—Hachoji, Medium to Low	22 to 20
Kibiso—Neri, Good to Common	12 to 8
Mawata—Good to Best	150 to 200

TEA.

Small dragging market. Present stock is not much over 1,000 piculs, mostly inferior leaf, and dear at quotations.

QUOTATIONS.	PER PICUL.
Choicest	$36 to 40
Choice	32 to 34
Finest	28 to 30
Fine	26 to 27
Good Medium	22 to 24
Medium	19 to 20
Good Common	16 to 17
Common	13 to 14

EXCHANGE.

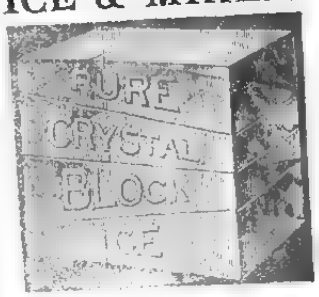
Exchange remains steady at the low rates prevailing last week.

Sterling—Bank T.T.	1/11¾
— — Bills on demand	1/11¾
— — 4 months' sight	1/11¾
— Private 4 months' sight	2/0¼
— — 6 months' sight	2/0¼
On Paris—Bank sight	2.46
On Lyons—Private 4 months' sight	2.54
On Hongkong—Bank sight	2% p.
— Private 10 days' sight.	Par.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	72
— Private 10 days' sight.	73
On India—Bank sight	186
— Private 30 days' sight	189
On America—Bank Bills on demand.	47½
— Private 30 days' sight..	49
— — 4 months' sight	50
On Germany—Bank sight	1.99
— Private 4 months' sight	2.06
Bar Silver (London, 2nd)	27 3/16

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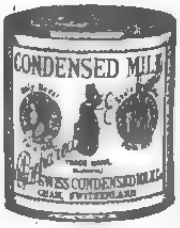
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The Japan Weekly Mail:

A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

No. 2.] REGISTERED AT THE G.P.O. AS A NEWSPAPER. YOKOHAMA, JANUARY 12TH, 1895. 明治二十五年三月十三日 郵便物認可 VOL. XXII.

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, JAN. 12TH, 1895.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

THE war news of the week is very scanty.

MR. MUROTA YOSHIBUMI has been appointed Japanese Consul-General in Mexico.

MR. WATANABE FUKUSABURO has been elected President of the Yokohama Town Assembly for the year.

THE amount of public subscriptions acknowledged by the Naval Department reached *yen* 481,406.315 on the 6th inst.

THE Englishmen of Yokohama have decided to give a St. George's Ball on their national Saint's anniversary, April 23rd.

MR. INOUYE KI, ex-Minister of Education, who is dangerously ill, has been promoted to the peerage with the rank of Viscount.

FIVE doctors, two dispensers, thirty nurses, and one pay-master of the Red Cross Society, left Ujina on the 5th inst. for the seat of war.

A thief broke into a watchmaker's shop in Tokyo, on the 4th inst., and got away with thirty-nine silver watches, valued at about 200 *yen*.

DURING December last the Kanagawa Kenchō issued passports to 47 Japanese wishing to proceed to Korea, and 174 Japanese who returned home from foreign countries during the month were 174; most of these came from Hawaii.

SKATING was indulged in on Sunday and Monday on the Skating Club's Pond, near the Bluff, but the rain of Wednesday destroyed the ice.

THE Budget for the 28th fiscal year of *Meiji* shows a total estimated revenue of *yen* 90,300,700.453, and an expenditure of *yen* 89,757,415.73.

MR. J. W. FOSTER, ex-Secretary of State in the U.S. Government, has accepted the appointment of Foreign adviser to the Chinese Envoys of peace.

MR. G. H. SCIDMORE gave an illustrated lecture on Fiji and its People on Friday evening, at the fortnightly meeting of the Yokohama Literary Society.

A JAPANESE coolie working on board the steamer *Nestor* in Yokohama harbour on Sunday, fell into the hold and received injuries from which he died the same day.

THE death is announced of Mr. Iwashige Iwaho, one of the ablest Public Procurators of the Supreme Court, which took place in Tokyo on the 2nd inst.

JAPAN total foreign commerce rose to 230 millions last year, exceeding the average by 30 per cent. The imports were 113,246,084 *yen*, and the exports 230,728,035 *yen*.

THE shareholders of Messrs. Deakin Bros., Limited, have resolved to wind-up the company voluntarily. A liquidator, Mr. C. H. Fearon, was appointed on Wednesday.

THE Government has decided to sell the transport *Fusan Maru*, 2,362 tons, to the Osaka Shosen Kaisha. The steamer is to be paid for in fifteen annual installments.

A SERIOUS landslip took place at Miyagawamura, Fuin District, Toyama Prefecture, on the 28th ult. Three women were more or less severely injured, and two were killed.

MR. OKOSHI, late Japanese Consul-General in Shanghai, and formerly of the London Consulate, succeeds Mr. Megata as Superintendent of he Yokohama Customs House.

THE Government has issued instructions that all beef supplied by army contractors is to be rigidly inspected. Only a few of the old contractors have had their contracts renewed.

THEIR Imperial Highnesses Princes Arisugawa Taruhito and Takehito and Princess Fushimi Toshi-ko are in mourning through the death of Countess Ii Yoshi-ko, wife of Count Ii Naonori.

THERE have been several fires in the native quarters of Yokohama this week. About forty houses in all have been destroyed. Two firemen received severe injuries at one conflagration.

THE Korean foreign loan has been refused by the Japanese banks and private capitalists. It is expected that the Japanese Government will now have to advance the money from the War Fund.

THE Nippon Yusen Kaisha is to receive a charter from the Government authorising them to run a line of steamers between Kobe and Talien, *via* Ujina, Shimonoseki, Ninsen, Taidong, and Tatung.

COUNT ITO made a studiously moderate speech at the reassembling of the Diet after the New Year recess, in which he expressed the hope that all the Government during the present crisis. Only legislation of an urgent character will be discussed this session.

THE P.M. steamer *City of Rio de Janeiro* struck a rock near Van Dieman's Straits, coast of Kiushu, at midday on the 6th. She was beached and temporarily patched before proceeding on to Nagasaki. The passengers and crew are safe.

IT is stated that a number of Aino in the Hidaka Province of Hokkaido intend to apply to the Government for permission to follow the Japanese expeditionary army as coolies. Should their request be accepted the services they could render in North China would be very great.

IT is stated that the Government has decided to accept the request of the Yokohama Town Assembly to prolong for the following three years the time within which the Assembly have to pay back money borrowed from the Government on behalf of the Water-works.

REUTER telegraphs:—An expedition from Batavia against the Karagasen will probably start in January. T.I.M. the Czar and Czarina meditate making a tour of the Empire next year. M. Lanessan, Governor of Indo-China, has been recalled from his post, on account of his having divulged official documents to the Press. The death is announced of the poetess Christina Georgina Rossetti, at the age of sixty-four. News has been received from St. Petersburg that the Russian Government has decided to settle the Pamirs question by great concessions, viz., agreeing to rectifying the map whereby the Chitral road, and the so-called Jonoff road are conceded to Great Britain. A Russian official mission has started for Abyssinia on a visit to the Negus and petty chiefs, taking with them superb presents. Captain Dreyfus of the French Army, has had his epaulettes stripped from his shoulders and his sword broken in the presence of 5,000 troops of the Paris Garrison. Prince Hohenlohe has paid a visit to Prince Bismarck in compliance with the request of Emperor William, who follows shortly on a similar errand. M. Rousseaux goes to Tonquin as Resident-General. The Red Cross Society of Great Britain has voted the sum of £500 to the Red Cross Society of Japan.

THERE is not much movement yet in Imports, and, especially in Textiles, matters are decidedly quiet. A few small purchases of Yarns and Shirtings have been effected, but little else has been done. The Metal trade in general is dull, though future prospects are said to be good. There is little or no alteration in the value of the various kinds of Sugar on the market, but arrivals have exceeded sales, and both Whites and Browns of all brands are unchanged, except perhaps Manila sorts, which may be called a shade lower. The large settlements recently made in the principal Export have considerably reduced the stock of Silk on offer, especially that of fine-sized parcels. Prices are full and firm, and as the general stock is now down to 11,000 piculs, and most of the Filatures and Re-reeling factories are closed for the winter, it appears that present prices are likely to be maintained in view of the fact that heavy arrivals must now cease for the time. Waste Silk has only seen a small business, and values are practically unchanged. As there is nothing left on the Tea market but the remnants of a small stock of inferior leaf, business in this staple may be said to be finished for the season. Exchange remained steady at [illegible] last week's [illegible]

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THE SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS DURING THE WEEK.

The Diet has met again after the New Year's holidays, but nothing momentous or exciting having yet taken place in either House, the comments of the vernacular press are dull and apathetic. The papers are not, however, silent as regards the hopes they entertain of the Legislature. What the *Niroku* says in one of its leaders headed "The Responsibility of the 8th session of the Diet," may be reproduced as a fair example of the general tone:—"The responsibility of the Diet in the present session cannot be better stated than by repeating our old argument that the Diet will disgrace itself should it neglect, because of the war, to oppose or challenge any measure or procedure demanding such action. Some argue that the exceptional exigencies of the time, both belligerent and diplomatic, must be given precedence over affairs relating to internal administration. That is a dangerous opinion, tending to further alienate the people's minds from domestic matters, which already receive from the public an amount of attention far smaller than is compatible with their importance. Can it be for the benefit of the State that the people should be diverted from home questions? In our opinion it is next to impossible that diplomacy should yield good fruits side by side with a stunted growth of home politics. To say nothing of the advisability of considering the Budget in full, does not the Diet find in the Ministers' past and present doings anything to call in question? Has it nothing to ask about the future? A spiritless peace with the Government would doubtless be satisfactory to the Ministers, but would not be consistent with the best interests of the State. Let it be observed, however, that nothing is farther from our thoughts than sympathy with a Lower House enslaved by narrow party-feeling."

* * *

The *Mainichi Shimbun* declares it to be of immense importance, for making Japanese influence felt by Orientals, to diffuse the Japanese language among the Koreans and Chinese. For the achievement of that object, writes the Progressionist organ, the Japanese must first study the tongues of their unprogressive neighbours. It is needless to say that education must be invoked to secure lasting results in such a matter. But a means promising more speedy though less permanent success may be found in the development of commerce with those countries. Our contemporary urges its nationals to take the first opportunity to study Korean and Chinese, on the commonplace but reasonable ground that to teach others one must first learn himself. Not a few other Metropolitan journals write in favour of having Korean and Chinese inserted, at an early date, in the curriculum of commercial, military, and other schools.

* * *

The appointment of a second Chinese embassy to sue for peace has evoked voluminous comments from several of our Tokyo contemporaries. The *Yomiuri* writes:—It may be a matter of much concern to the tottering Chinese Government to send ambassadors to sue for peace, but Japan takes little stock in such proceedings. In the present war Japan has an aim to achieve, and the whole nation is a unit for its achievement. Until it is achieved, China may send any number of peace envoys without producing any effect upon her foe. Speaking of the alleged absence of any territorial concession in the terms Chang, the Chinese Ambassador, is supposed to be entrusted with, the Progressionist organ declares that it is easy to foresee the fate awaiting his mission as well as the destiny of the State he serves. The pain thus far inflicted on the old Mammoth State by the Japanese forces seems insufficient to awaken her morbid senses to a proper understanding of her situation. This train of thought leads our contemporary to conclude its argument by urging the A[illegible]es abroad to employ all possible expedi[illegible] the Province of Pechili and se[illegible] of Pekin. On the supposition that an armistice must necessarily precede a treaty of peace, the *Niroku* is painfully anxious about the conditions that the Authorities intend to impose before agreeing to a suspension of belligerent operations. The *Kokkai* says that China is behaving like a veritable tyro in politics if she imagines, as she apparently does, that the war can be concluded by sending men like Chang and Cho, the latter of whom is known to have been guilty of the savagery of putting rewards upon Japanese heads. Prince Kung and the Viceroy Li themselves, in the opinion of the Independent organ, are the only persons by sending whom the Celestial Emperor can hope to bring the war to an early termination. The *Kokkai* does not fail to urge the forces in China to march onward with unabated speed.

* * *

The *Kyoiku Jiron* (Educational Times) which, as our readers know, is one of the best educational magazines published in Tokyo, gives the following as the views expressed by the present Minister for Education in an interview with its representative a few days ago:—

1.—WHAT SHOULD JAPANESE EDUCATIONALISTS KEEP IN MIND AT THE PRESENT JUNCTURE?

It is plainly observable that the Japanese have of late had their self-confidence established as to the position they occupy among the nations of the world. Before the new treaty between Japan and Great Britain was signed, and before the Japanese forces had had their strength put to the test in a foreign war, the people of this country could not believe in the degree of development they had attained. Although the rapid strides made by Japan of late years in civilization were indisputable, she could not fully depend upon the substantiality and genuineness of her progress, in view of the short period that had elapsed since she emerged from old-time seclusion. The completion of the new treaty with Great Britain testifying the altered attitude of Europe towards her, and the present war showing the strength of the Japanese Army and Navy to be considerable, have made the Japanese at once believe in their country's real force and genuine civilization. It rests with ourselves to establish a permanent title to self-confidence and to display it in our future work. Well directed education and nothing else will lead us along the right path to the achievement of our ambition. Education alone can justify our belief that we are a civilized people as regards both moral and intellectual development.

2. THE ENCOURAGEMENT OF THE STUDY OF SCIENCE.

Just as I am naturally disinclined to bigotry in religion, so I hold by the liberal element in education. To prevent misconception, let me state that when I speak of religion, I do not refer to any particular faith, but to religious fanaticism in the broadest sense. If I hold it a prime object of education to inculcate in the minds of the young a belief in the sacredness of national spirit (*yamato damashii*), I am nevertheless indisposed to give overwhelming importance to that point. I am deeply impressed with the valuable aid science has conferred upon modern civilization. Science is harder to grasp than religious or moral ideas and tenets, and for that reason it is not liked by persons of ordinary intellectual calibre. I deem the spread of science to be an object demanding the special attention of educationalists.

3.—THE STUDY OF FOREIGN LANGUAGES.

Upon this head the Marquis states his willingness to encourage foreign languages in general. He gives the preference to English, supporting his view by an exhaustive statement of reasons. His Excellency takes up another topic, "Female Education," and asserts his zeal for its encouragement, owning frankly that Japanese women are below their Western sisters in the scale of intellectual development. The interviewer notes distinctly that the above are the opinions of Marquis Saionji as an individual, and not the views he may hold as Minister of State for Education.

* * *

We refer briefly to several topics touched upon by the vernacular journals. The *Nippon* writes much about the ban of suspension, the pain of which no other journal, metropolitan or provincial, has so often experienced as itself. Our readers being already conversant with the *Nippon's* views as to the proper mode of controlling newspapers and magazines, we need not reproduce its writings here, spirited and well stated as they are. The *Kokumin* says that China is Turkey, Korea is Egypt, and Japan is Great Britain minus England's symptoms of decrepitude and corruption. Our contemporary, with its usual intrepidity of opinion, adds that in the three Oriental countries thus considered, there lie, hidden from ordinary observers, great designs, large plans, and vast germs of fortune! The same journal refers its readers to the following tables, and compares the rapid growth of Japan's productive capacity to the springing up of bamboo shoots:—

EXPORTS AND IMPORTS DURING THE YEARS 1893 AND 1894.

	Exports (in *yen*).	Imports (in *yen*).	Total (in *yen*).
1894.....	113,246,084...	117,482,951...	230,728,035
1893.....	89,712,861...	88,257,170...	177,970,031
Difference in favour of 1894 ...	23,553,223...	29,244,781...	52,758,004

The total for the year 1894, namely, *yen* 230,728,035 is proved by the following table to be double that of 1887:—

	Exports in *yen*.	Imports in *yen*.	Total in *yen*.
1894.....	113,246,084...	117,482,951...	230,728,035
1887.....	52,407,881...	51,699,770...	104,107,451

"Is not that rare progress?" ask the *Kokumin*. "The excess of imports over exports (in 1894) is an inevitable consequence of the fall in the gold price of silver and the war with China. The *Yomiuri* urges the Diet now in session to take steps to have a Special Committee for State Defences organized at an early date, and to take care that it shall include, besides technical experts, some Ministers of State and Members of Parliament. The *Niroku* is wroth with the now well-known evil practices of the so-called official merchants that supply stores to the forces abroad, and advises the Authorities to punish all officials that entered into contracts with culpable merchants. The *Choya Shimbun* urges, as one of the best means of regenerating Korea, that newspapers be published in the Korean language.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

THE EMPEROR.

It is needless to say, writes the vernacular press, that the person filled with deepest anxiety for the success of the Japanese arms is the Emperor. His indefatigable zeal in attending to war affairs and his earnest solicitude for the welfare of his soldiers and seamen fightings abroad, are well known to every person in the realm. No wonder that the Emperor is regarded with respect approaching worship by the soldiers and seamen; no wonder that every victory achieved by them is invariably attributed to their Sovereign's virtue. On the 1st inst., writes the *Yomiuri*, when the high dignitaries, civil and military, now in Hiroshima waited upon the Emperor to tender the congratulations of the season, his Majesty caused one of his chamberlains to bring an ordinary uniform worn by a soldier of the second rank. He then took off his own uniform and put on the rough garments of the common soldier. Thus attired, he walked in the precincts of his residence for some hours, and finally turning to his attendants, said:—"What privations the soldiers in Manchuria must be suffering. Nothing must be left undone to alleviate their hardships." How much the soldiers will be moved when these tidings reach their ears, can be easily imagined by any one acquainted with the temper of the Japanese troops. The Emperor is magnanimous, and though naturally anxious for the success of his empire's arms, harbours no resentment against China and the Chinese. It is said that when the news of the capture of Port Arthur reached him, his satisfaction was not unmixed; on the contrary, he observed to his attendants that the same news must cause deep sadness to the Chinese Emperor. He sympathized even with misfortunes of the enemy.

SOME NOVEL DISHES.

The Jiji[illegible] is well and favourably known [illegible] in the outlying portion of Hongo District, not far from Nezu. It is largely patronised not

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only on account of the picturesque situation and surroundings, but also because of its medicinal baths, the water being the same as that of the famous thermal springs of Isobe, whence it is brought in large vats. Since the date of the great festivities at Uyeno Park, the Jinzentei has added three novel dishes to its bill of fare, to the great amusement of the guests. The first is a "Port Arthur Fry," which consists of slices of pork, cut so as to vaguely resemble a China-man, done in bread-crumbs and sesamum oil, with dried seaweed (*nori*) similarly fried, and three or four *kuwai*, a sort of water-chestnut, the stems being retained so as to look like Chinese heads. The second *plat* is still more elaborate, and rejoices in the name of "Triumph." This is simply a dish of *daikon* and carrots, the white and red vegetables being so arranged as to portray the Imperial Standard. The third and last delicacy is known as *nottori shiru*, or "Storming Soup." It is a not-at-all-bad soup composed of balls of forced pork. Of course the pork is in reference to the term *buta* so scornfully applied by the Japanese to their foes.

PULSOMS BIOGRAPHY.

THERE can be no doubt that the lately deceased mother of Count Okuma was a remarkable old lady. She preserved her mental and physical vigour to an age beyond that allotted to ordinary people. Still that by no means justifies the publication of a long-winded biography, such as has been appearing for several consecutive days in the *Yomiuri* and other *Kaishin-to* organs, composed of the most common-place and uninteresting anecdotes. When the old lady found, on one occasion, that her grand-son had a larger orange than the one she possessed, she insisted on an exchange being made; and when a rat had once bitten her finger she went out into the garden and got some healing leaves which she applied to the hurt. But that is what any body might do: there is nothing of the heroic or unusual in such storiettes, of which the *Yomiuri*, in particular, seems to know no end. The *Choho* and *Nippon* are vastly amused with this style of indirect flattery, and call the biographers "machine-writers," who have to do as they are bid. To the disinterested observer it really seems that the publication of such items defeats rather than assists the purpose for which they are penned. The laugh is deservedly against the *Yomiuri* and its *Kaishin-to* colleagues.

NEW YEAR'S ADVERTISEMENT.

IT is the custom of a good many people in Japan to insert advertisements in the columns of the best known papers to the effect that "they are unable to personally visit all their friends and therefore chose this method of thanking one and all for their many favours and wishing them, most respectfully, a Happy New Year." This year, in particular, the changes have been rung on the above words, and hundreds upon hundreds of good citizens have adopted this easy mode of paying calls; but some of the advertisements have been very amusing reading. One lusty patriot in a central province made the following announcement:—"Not having had time hitherto to worthily celebrate the victories of our brave soldiers in Korea and China, I propose doing so during the first three days of the New Year. As I shall doubtless drink many cups of *sake* in their honour I shall probably be physically unable to pay or receive calls. I beg all friends and acquaintances to take this honest statement in good part." An-other, somewhat sybaritic, advertiser says: "The paying of New Year's calls is a very good custom and one that all should observe. But as I have been very busy during the past year, I intend to stay at home and sleep (*Yasumu*) for a week or thereabouts instead of calling on my friends. By doing so I shall gain fresh strength to execute their kindly commands in the New Year." Finally, a third writes as fol-lows:—"There are so many people whom I should visit that it would be impossible for me to finish all calls even in ten days' time. If I tried to call on my friends, I should have to omit many, thereby possibly arousing ill-feeling in some quarters. So I shall personally pay no calls whatever, and take this opportunity to," etc. Some people, however, both adver-tise and pay calls, as witness the following:—"I have run around the town for three days until I am too exhausted to pay any more calls. I beg those friends whom I have not yet seen to excuse my negligence, and to believe that I most heartily wish them a Happy New Year."

SLIGHTLY MISLED.

IN *Truth* of November 15, that witty man-about-town "The Linkman," likewise well known as "Marmaduke," has led his "dear Lady Betty" sadly astray, or else someone has been serving up to his willing ear a gossipy but un-true tale of the big earthquake of June 20, which he has taken the first opportunity to retell. This is what he writes:—"Mr. Trench, the recently-appointed British Minister to Japan, only reached his post a few weeks ago, and his first experience of Tokyo in his new capacity cannot be regard-ed as a good omen, for the British Legation has been razed to the ground by an earthquake that occurred since his arrival. It seems, however, singular that so important an item as the de-struction of a British Legation should not have been communicated by the Press Agencies to the papers. Fortunately for Mr. Trench the Legation House at Tokyo is Government pro-perty, so that whatever loss he may have in-curred by the catastrophe is not expected to be serious.' What a pity the tale is not true and that the genial "Marmaduke's" surprise at his sole possession of this choice item of news can not be shared by us out here. By-the-way, Mr. Trench did not reach Tokyo till August 20th, two months after the great shake-up of June. Bunders are evidently not the monopoly of the China ports.

OUTRAGE ON THE RAILWAY.

LAST Friday afternoon, just as the train from Tokyo was nearing Kyoto Station, and was slowing down—about 3 o'clock—a shot was fired into the first-class carriage, in which Messrs. Voigt and Geslien were sitting. Just before the shot broke the window, Mr. Voigt had for-tunately risen from his seat, otherwise he would certainly have been killed, the shot as it was passing a few inches in front of him, exactly where is head would have been had he remained sitting. Mr. Geslien, who was lying down, got several glass splinters in his face. The ball could not be found, but it was clear that only a shot could have penetrated the glass with sufficient force to leave merely a circular hole. The police at Kyoto Station were in-formed of the occurrence as soon as the train arrived, and are instituting inquiries, but with what result is not yet known. It is stated that a similar occurrence, which took place some time ago near Maibara, has never been satis-factorily explained.—*Kobe Chronicle.*

MATSUNAGA O-RYU.

AMONG Japanese musicians, as well as among actors, there are a few that have achieved na-tional fame, and beyond whom, like the seventh heaven in Mohammed's paradise, there is no going. Yamase is unexcelled as a player of the *koto*; Araki as a performer on the *shaku-hachi*, that most melodious of Japanese wind-instru-ments; Kowasa is the chief of *tokiwazu* singers; and Kineya Rokusaburo is *facile princeps* of *samisen*-players and singers of *naga-uta*. The last-named has not only won celebrity but actual wealth by the magic of his music, and his im-mediate family is not less gifted. Some fifteen or sixteen years ago he was desirous of finding a suitable husband for his daughter, then a young lady of not only unusual good looks but also of remarkable skill in playing the *samisen*, and withal endowed, from a Japan-ese standpoint, with the most witching and dulcet of voices. Many desirable suitors sought her hand, but she would have none of them, declaring that she would wed only with a man, if such might be found, who was her match in singing and playing the *samisen*. After considerable search, the father learned that there was a young musician living in Kanda District, Tokyo, named Matsunaga Tetsugoro, of most exceptional talent. He, Danjuro, thought there was none to compare with him, and always engaged him as an accompanist when he had to dance on the stage. Without informing Tetsugoro of his intention, Kineya invited him and the most celebrated profes-sional instrumentalists to a great feast at Uyeno. During the course of the entertain-ment Kineya proposed that Tetsugoro should match his skill against that of his, Kineya's, daughter. The young man would have declin-ed this public test of his ability, but finally consented, and then began a contest which still lingers in the memory of Tokyo musicians. After playing for some hours the assembled guests declared that there was really no choice between the two, both being unquestioned masters of their art. Immediately upon the conclusion of the feast, Kineya suggested that Tetsugoro should become his son-in-law, a proposal which was eagerly accepted. Three years later, after having spent this time in ut-most harmony with his gifted wife, Tetsugoro died, leaving one daughter, Oryu. This young lady is now fourteen years of age, a skilled musician of the highest order, and, to judge from what the vernacular papers state, of ravishing beauty. Young as she is, she has already received innumerable offers of marriage, from not only wealthy commoners but even noblemen of high rank and means. To all overtures both the mother and daughter have replied with an emphatic negative. To-wards the end of last year, however, the son of a Viscount residing in Bancho, Tokyo, happen-ed to see and hear the young beauty at an entertainment. He was at once captivated and sent the steward of his family to make proposals for a betrothal so soon as the young lady should arrive at a marriageable age. The steward was instructed to offer a large dowry, a separate and fine establishment for the mother, and not to take "no" for an answer. So kind were the promises made, and so generous, that the mother has been at her wits' end to know how to avoid the alliance; but a few days ago the young musician requested permission to settle the matter herself. Dressed in her finest, she proceeded to the residence of the nobleman in question. On being admitted, with every mark of admiring respect, she began: "You have, Sir, been so kind as to solicit my hand in mar-riage. I am fully persuaded that your inten-tions are honest and most flattering to me, who am but the daughter of a townsman (*chonin*) and hence unworthy of the honour proposed. But it is my firm intention either to marry a millionaire like Mr. Iwasaki or Mr. Shibusawa, or else a man of my own station in life who can assist me in the profession I have chosen. You, Sir, I regret to say, are not rich enough to suit me; besides, although a nobleman, your rank is still low. I must therefore refuse to admit your addresses. Thanking your for your kindness hitherto, I beg that in future all communication between us shall cease." This was definite, and the nobleman disenchanted. But the Tokyo papers can find no words too extravagant to praise the conduct of the young lady, who thus refuses ease and rank to live for her art alone. They claim that she is as spirited and disin-terested as she is beautiful.

THE KYOTO EXHIBITION.

THERE has latterly been a good deal of talk concerning the Domestic Exhibition to be held this year in Kyoto. As our readers may re-member, the date of the opening was last year fixed for April, 1895, or a little less than three months from the present date. It is now alleged, however, that it will be almost if not quite impossible to get everything ready by the ap-pointed time, and some of the chief promoters have been advising the postponement of the open-ing until June. This idea has, on the other hand, been opposed by those eager to be ready, at any cost, at the appointed date. There is finally a third and very influential party, who declare that, as many vernacular newspapers have urged, it would be far wiser to postpone the Exhibition for another year, or [illegible] until the

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war is successfully completed. Several of these gentlemen, particularly silk men, again propose that the Exhibition should not be limited to domestic manufactures but should be given the nature of a World's Fair, so that this following close upon Japan's ultimate triumph over China, might worthily usher Japan into the position she has so long merited, besides attracting a greater or less number of wealthy foreigners to her shores. Viewed in the light of an industrial fair, it certainly would be better to postpone the date until there was a greater likelihood of a larger concourse of foreign visitors.

METALS.

Messrs. S. W. Royse & Co. in their report dated November 24th, 1894, say:—There is at present a pronounced dulness in the Iron Trade. Prices of both Scotch and Cleveland Iron have drooped, though only slightly, since the beginning of the month, and there is very little business passing just now for any position. Most consumers have their requirements well covered for some little time ahead, and with the prevailing dulness and the end of the year approaching they are naturally not caring about making further purchases at present. Nevertheless, shipments from both Glasgow and Middlesbrough during this month are fairly good, and compare favourably with those for the corresponding period of last year. The total shipments from Glasgow since the beginning of this year, however, are over 50,000 tons less than during the corresponding period of 1893. Copper has lost some 20 shillings per ton during the month, and is weak at present. Tin has quite given way, being some £5 per ton cheaper, but is now firmer. Spelter also is some 10-per ton lower, but is now firm. Lead has given way slightly, and is steady at present.

FOOTBALL.

Saturday's football game was characterised by some good play on the part of the younger members, and much better combination prevailed than at any match during the season. The sides were captained by Messrs. Pearson and Lias, and the latter's men won by three goals to none. Two goals were secured in the first half and one after the change of ends, the scorers being McNeill, Smith, and Morriss. The teams were as follows:—Pearson's side—A. C. Read, goal; B. H. Pearson and E. O. Kenyon, backs; H. E. Campbell, H. Pinckney, and C. W. Arnould, half-backs; J. Penny and K. F. Crawford, left forwards; H. R. Mair, centre; W. H. Brackenbury and W. Young, right forwards. Lias' side—W. D. S. Edwards, goal; F. J. Lias, and F. E. Elliott, backs; W. Sutter, H. Drummond and W. Moss, half-backs; E. H. Hickman and G. B. Smith, left forwards; D. McNeill, centre; E. R. Morriss and A. Johnson, right forwards.

A SAD TALE.

A piteous story of a father murdering his own child through stress of poverty is reported by the vernacular papers. The man's name is Nita Minoru. He is fifty-three years of age and a native of Gumma Prefecture, but was residing in Tokyo when he committed the deed. He had seven daughters, the eldest 25 and the youngest, the unfortunate victim, only eight years old. Till about 20 years ago, Minoru was a well-to-do Government official, drawing a salary of 80 *yen* a month. On the amendment of the official organization in 1885 he was one of the employés dismissed with a view to retrenching Government expenses. He then turned his attention to mining matters, in which he was already initiated, having been connected first with the Mining Bureau of the Department of Public Works and afterwards with that of the Department of Agriculture and Commerce. For the purpose of carrying on his business more advantageously, he went with his family to Hokkaido. Fate seemed, however, to be against him: he failed in all that he undertook, so that a few years ago he and his family were obliged to return to Tokyo. The first thing resolved on by the unfortunate man and his wife on their return to the capital was to lessen the number of mouths to be fed by them, and five of the daughters left their parents to earn their own living as servants. Even with only two daughters to support, the poverty-stricken pair barely managed to struggle on. Last fall was a most critical time for them, as several debts had then to be paid or arranged for in some way, to say nothing of preparations to be made for the New Year. The youngest daughter had been most unfortunate from her birth. She came into the world with her brain affected and her head swollen out of all proportion. When she began to speak it was found that she stammered, apparently owing to the brain trouble. The parents were ashamed of their deformed child, and obliged her to live indoors most of the time. As poverty pressed harder and harder upon the family, Minoru began to look at the miserable girl with unfatherly eyes, and was more than once heard to mutter that had the family not been burdened with that child it might have been spared such bitter days of wretchedness as it then experienced. On these occasions his wife tried to dissuade him from such cruel and unparental utterances, and acted as a sort of shield for the child. On the 3rd instant, the wife and her elder daughter left their home at about noon to call on a relative living in Hongo. After a humble supper partaken of by the father and the youngest child, the latter went to bed and was soon fast asleep. Minoru sat by her side pondering over his past life and the dreary prospect before him. He must have remained in that gloomy state for over three hours. With the child lying before him and his mind harrassed with cares, the fatal idea of getting rid of one part of his burden rose to his mind and overwhelmed him. Winding a towel round the neck of his unconscious daughter he tightened it and strangled her. Then frantic with remorse at what he had done, rushed wildly to the police office in his street and confessed his crime. A policeman accompanied him back to his home where the little girl was found dead with the towel round her neck. The news was then conveyed to the Koishikawa Police Office, and the Peace Court of the same district, and a coroner's inquest duly held, at which the verdict given was identical with Minoru's confession. The man was taken to the Public Procurator's Office to be subjected to examination. Whether his crime will be regarded as real infanticide or commuted on the ground of mental aberration brought about by extreme poverty, is not yet known.

SILK DUTIES IN THE UNITED STATES.

In the case of A. A. Vantine & Co. and the American Trading Company against the Collectors at New York, the Board of General Appraisers recently decided as follows:—The merchandise consists of silk scarfs, table covers and other like completed articles manufactured from silk textile fabrics, all of which are embroidered with silk by hand or machinery. The goods were classified and assessed for duty at sixty per cent. ad valorem under paragraphs 413 and 373, Act of 1890, as silk "embroideries," but were claimed by appellants to be dutiable at fifty per cent., under paragraph 414, as manufactures of silk not specially provided for in same Act. The appeal was sustained, the Collector's decision being reversed.

A SCHEME TO ACHIEVE NATIONAL WEALTH.

"Shortly after the fall of Port Arthur," writes the correspondent of a Tokyo vernacular contemporary, "several of us war-correspondents were lodged in a half-ruined farm-house for a night. We were pretty hungry and very cold, so that sleep was out of the question. Naturally the conversation turned first on edibles of various description, and each described, with a fervour warranted by the occasion, the viand which he preferred to all others. After this Barmecide feast, we began talking of what should be done upon conclusion of the war, and then the question was broached as to the speediest method of making our country the wealthiest nation in the Orient, if not in all the world. Our ideas were slightly confused, and I remember that the talk was decidedly visionary, practically [illegible] their information ary but anyhow we unanimously decided upon the following plan:—Of course China will, as an Empire, soon be in the hands of Japan. Let us then, as the Empire is far too vast and unwieldy to govern with ease or even satisfactorily, sell the larger portion of the conquered territory to Europe, be the buyer Russia, England, or any other country. We ought to get at least 6,000,000,000 *yen* for our bargain. With this sum in hand we might get along for a while; and when that was finished start another war with the Chinese Government then in power, conquer another piece as large as the Liautung Peninsula, and sell this again to Europe. By doing this repeatedly, there seemed to us to be no reason why Japan should not, in another decade, rival the richest nation *on* earth."

A BASELESS SCARE.

Two or three Tokyo journals report a rather amusing incident in connection with the *dezome*, or first drill, of the metropolitan firemen, which took place early on Sunday morning, the 6th instant. In the Hongwan Temple at Asakusa there are at present some sixty or seventy Chinese prisoners, recently sent up to Tokyo from the Lioutung Peninsula. They are reported as being very quiet and well-behaved and generally in the best of spirits; yet it seems impossible to disabuse their minds of the idea that some dreadful fate is still in store for them, probably in revenge for the atrocities they and their countrymen committed on the hopeless Japanese soldiers who had the misfortune to be taken alive. At any rate, hearing the continual ringing of the fire-bells, the unusual commotion in the streets at an early hour on the morning in question, as well as the shouts and cries of the passing firemen, they deemed that their last moment had come and began weeping and wailing in the most pitiful manner. Some threw themselves at the feet of the soldiers on guard and in dumb show begged for mercy; others rocked silently to and fro, wringing their hands in an extremity of despair. It took, according to the vernacular press, nearly an hour to allay their baseless fears, and then their joy was as great as had been their grief.

COAL IN PLENTY.

The Port Arthur correspondent of the *Asahi Shimbun* states that enormous quantities of coal have been discovered in that place, quite enough to supply all the needs of the Japanese Army and Navy for at least six months to come. Upon examination it was found that most of this coal had been imported from Japan, the major part coming from the Miike and Hokkaido mines. The coal must have been transhipped at Shanghai prior to the outbreak of the war and sent on direct to Port Arthur, so that this, writes the correspondent, is an additional proof of the warlike preparations China was engaged in long before the actual declaration of hostilities. Besides Japanese coal, a comparatively large quantity of Australian coal was also discovered, the latter being mainly used in the machine-shops.

THE LATEST ROUND-THE-WORLD DEADBEAT.

The *Overland Mail* says:—We have received a call from an American, who is on tour round the world without money, and, so far, without work either. The American newspapers have been "booming" him for a good deal more than his case seems to us to be worth; and on the strength of mere mention in those columns, railway and steamship people have given him food and passage across America and the Pacific to Australia, and thence to Hongkong. He says he was chased by Indians, who were not able to catch him. He is not proposing to write any book, which is a novelty as far as it goes—a negative novelty. For this forbearance, perhaps, he deserves some gratitude; but it will never do to establish a predecent that every man who refrains from inflicting a book on us should be maintained in idleness and comparative luxury—for a first-class passage absolutely gratis is a distinct luxury. He says he is bound by the terms of his bet (as to which the news-

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from him, vary in amount, though he now says it is 20,000 dols.), to go through India, Afghanistan, Beloochistan, Persia, Turkey, and Europe. His ideas of geography are delightfully original, but then he says he is an American journalist, which perhaps explains it: He proposes to go across China, sponging on the missionaries probably from Shanghai up westward; then he calmly contemplates crossing Thibet, climbing the Himalayas, into India. He airily mentions a week as the time this mountaineering feat will take; and he confidently asserts that he knows all about the difficulties he is contemplating. Meantime he is staying with some highly respected Americans, whom he expects to keep him for two or three weeks pending the arrival of some letters from Australia. He says he is willing to work for his keep, but what work he can do or has done does not appear. We sincerely trust that his success will be so modified as to effectively depopularise the "bumming" profession.

TOBACCO AT A PREMIUM.

ACCORDING to correspondence published in the vernacular press, dated December 22nd, there seems to be an actual "tobacco famine" not only in Port Arthur, but also in Talien and Antung. Ordinary Japanese leaf of the cheapest grade sells readily at two *yen* fifty *sen* for one hundred *momme*, or a little over one pound. Recently arrived coolies, who generally have a little stock of tobacco on hand, peddle their wares at two *sen* per pipe, or about three whiffs! The Manchurians, it is said, are not so fond of tobacco as are the Japanese, and those who do smoke use a coarse and unpalatable description of leaf that is repugnant to even the most inveterate Japanese smoker. At the same time it is said that some of the soldiers, in default of real tobacco, have been using dried willow leaves, very probably after the style of the North American Indian killikinnick. Gifts of tobacco sent from Japan are declared to be more acceptable than any others.

WOUNDED SOLDIERS IN TOKYO.

THERE are now several hundred wounded Japanese soldiers in the metropolis, mostly at the military hospitals at Kasumigaseki and Aoyama. Every one of these is reported as doing well, although since their arrival in the city a number have been subjected to surgical operations of the severest nature, such as resection of the hip-joint, fore-arm, foot, and hand. Whatever may have been their bravery and fortitude in the field, in Tokyo at all events the nurses report that they are impatient of pain and decidedly fractious. All operations are performed with the patients under the influence of anæsthetics; and thanks to the rigidly antiseptic precautions observed there has not yet been one unfavourable case, the wounds healing nicely and generally by first intention. There is one remarkable case at the Kasumigaseki Hospital. A bullet entered just below the orbital process of the left eye, went completely through the head and came out a little to the left of the third upper vertebra. Remarkable to say, the man is doing well and will shortly be completely restored to health; even the left eye has been preserved, the optic nerve fortunately escaping any serious injury.

CHINESE FUGITIVES ABOUT PORT ARTHUR.

A CORRESPONDENT of the *Yomiuri Shimbun* writes that there are still a large number of Chinese fugitive soldiers concealed in the hills and out-of-the-way places in the vicinity of Port Arthur. It is estimated that there are no less than two thousand of these men, all armed with swords and many having a rifle as well. A strict lookout is being kept for them, but as they do not appear in large bands but rather in twos or threes or even singly, it is difficult to trace their hiding-places. Placards have been posted to the effect that if they will yield peaceably no harm will be done them, while if they continue their marauding raids on the peasantry they will be shot down at sight. A few only have taken advantage of this, the majority preferring a semi-bandit existence that can only lead to one conclusion. Owing to the severe cold as well as to the difficulty in obtaining sufficient food, it is confidently expected that even the most desperate of these men will shortly be either taken prisoners or else compelled to betray their refuges.

FIRE IN SHANGHAI.

THE *North China Daily News* writes:—

A fire broke out on Thursday evening in the Rue due Consulat in the upper storey of a shop. It appears that an old man was getting into bed, and while so doing upset a lamp which set fire to the bed curtains. Twenty-four houses were destroyed before the firemen left the scene at midnight. A fire occurred on the same ground in January, 1893. The insurances on the contents amounted to Tls. 42,000, distributed among the following offices:—

London and Lancashire	Tls. 14,500
Union of London	6,000
Sun	6,000
North British and Mercantile	7,000
Hamburg of 1877	3,000
Imperial	2,000
Hongkong Fire	3,000

Some of the Insurance Companies had reinsured, among them being the London and Lancashire, whose actual liability is only some Tls. 3,500. There will be considerable salvage. The buildings were not insured.

MORITURI SALUTAMUS.

THE *Choho* publishes two or three odes, composed in the *Waka* metre, by a certain Captain Hayashi of the Artillery, who is said to be unusually skilful in poetic composition. Captain Hayashi is at present in Japan, but is shortly to leave for the front, and it was on receiving the announcement of his call that he penned the following, under the title of *Takara*, or "Treasures":—

Kimi no tame ni
Shinamu to omou
Masurao no
Kokoro so kuni no
Takara nari keru.

"The true treasures of our land are the hearts of warriors who are ready to die for thee (the Emperor)." The idea thus poetically expressed embodies a great truth. Not one of the soldiers hitherto called to fight for the Emperor and their country has gone unwillingly or without joy; while those that have fallen have not in a single instance shown any other regret besides that for being no longer serviceable to Japan. So at least say their countrymen.

THE HON. G. CURZON IN INDIA.

THE Hon. G. Curzon, whose visit to India during the Parliamentary recess has been noted by the home papers, seems to be having a very successful trip. Writing from Cabul, on November 20th, after his return from the Pamirs, to a friend in Tokyo, he says:—"I certainly never thought that I should ever write a letter to you or to anybody else from this place. * * * Here I am, the first Englishman that has ever been invited to Kabul as the private and unofficial guest of an Amir of Afghanistan. I rode in yesterday, and had a great reception, being escorted by a big cavalry following, and being lodged in the Palace, where I write this. I had my first audience with the Amir a few hours ago. * * * He is certainly a remarkable man."

YOKOHAMA LITERARY SOCIETY.

WHAT promises to be one of the most interesting evenings arranged by the Committee of the Yokohama Literary Society, comes off on Friday in the Van Schaick Hall. Mr. G. H. Scidmore, the lecturer on "Fiji and its people," will exhibit a collection of Fijian armour, ornaments, and curios which are well worth seeing. His address will be illustrated by lime-light views.

P. AND O. LOCAL CHANGES.

IT will be of interest to many, says the *Hyogo News*, to hear that the genial P. & O. Agent at Kobe, Mr. A. Woolley, has been appointed to take charge of the Agency in Hongkong, from early next month, during Mr. Joseph's absence on leave at home. All will wish him well in his administration of the important duties attaching to this post, and for our own sakes we must wish him also a safe return. We are informed that Mr. Abbott takes Mr. Woolley's place for the time being in Kobe; he is not quite a stranger, having come as one of the Shanghai cricket team in 1893. Mr. Hewett, who was here before, goes to take charge in Shanghai, as Mr. Ritchie is also going home.

THE BRITISH FLEET.

THE *Alacrity* left Shanghai on January 2nd in order to take Admiral Fremantle down to the flag-ship at Kintang, and it is probable that the British fleet will go northward for a cruise. The *Caroline* will return at once to Shanghai, but owing to neap tides will be detained at Woosung for some days. H.M.S. *Pigeon* left Woosung on January 5th for Chinkiang.

OFFICIAL REMOVALS.

MR. OTSUKI, Councillor of Kanagawa Prefecture, has been removed to Kyoto, and his late position given to Mr. Oki, Councillor of Toyama Prefecture, who has been succeeded by Mr. Rika, Councillor of Oita Prefecture. The latter's position has been taken by Mr. Yokoyama, a Probationer in the Home Department.

MR. INOUYE KI.

THE *Official Gazette* announces that Mr. Inouye Ki, who recently resigned the portfolio of Education on account of ill-health, is raised to the peerage with the title of Viscount. This announcement, coming immediately after intelligence that Mr. Inouye's illness had assumed a grave character, inspires much uneasiness.

SILK EXPORTS.

"JAPAN," says the *Textile Mercury* of Manchester, "formerly purchased from Europe good quantities of satin in wide widths. This trade has gradually fallen off and has now entirely ceased, while, on the other hand, Japan sends every year an increased quantity of silk fabrics to Europe, and, reversing the position, from a buyer has become a seller."

JAPANESE SILK HANDKERCHIEFS.

AMONG the auction sales of silk productions recently in New York was one of 30,000 dozens Japanese handkerchiefs, by order of the Japanese Fan Company, the prices realized for the more attractive goods being very fair, while others sold at way-down figures. It was the largest offering of this class of goods ever made.

"THE CITY OF RIO DE JANEIRO."

THIS steamer, reported by telegraph as being on shore near Van Diemen's Strait, left this port for Hongkong *vid* Nagasaki on the 4th inst. She had when leaving but few passengers—Mrs. White, Mr. C. F. Fearing, and Mrs. A. Sharp and son.

SILVER.

AN American paper asks:—"What are the silver men about that they don't send a deputation to Japan to ask the Mikado to demand his indemnity in silver coin? That is the way to do something for silver. It would start every silver mine in America."

THE "AMARANTH" TRIAL.

WE are requested to state that owing to the non-arrival of the steamer *Amaranth*, the trial of Peter Garry has been postponed from Saturday at 10 o'clock till Monday at 10.30 a.m.

ARMY PROMOTIONS.

MAJOR-GENERALS Yamagata Seigo and Okazawa Sei are raised to the rank of Lieut.-General, and Colonels Katsuda Yomazo and Yabuki Hideichi are promoted to be Major-Generals.

YAMAGATA EARTHQUAKE RELIEF FUND.

THE following is the state of this fund to date:—Brought forward, $308.20; A friend $10.00, total; $318.20.

THE PRINCE IMPERIAL.

HIS IMPERIAL HIGHNESS PRINCE YOSHIHITO is gazetted a Captain of Infantry. The Prince Imperial is now in his sixteenth year.

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WAR NEWS.

Saturday, January 5th.

We remain still without any intelligence of importance from the seat of War. The *Jiji Shimpo* has some items relating to Weihaiwei. It says that forts in rear of that place have been constructed and armed, but that they are not nearly so strong as were the forts at Port Arthur on the land side. In the neighbourhood of Yingcheng, on the east of Weihaiwei, troops have been posted at various commanding positions in anticipation of a Japanese landing. The *Jiji* further alludes, with evident credence, to the news recently transmitted from Shanghai that a mutiny occurred among the soldiers at Weihaiwei in consequence of their not being paid, but that the receipt of the amounts due to them converted them at once into loyal troops.

A vernacular newspaper gives the following statement of the ships lost by China in the present War :—

Captured off the island of Phongdo, the *Tsao chiang*, wooden gun-boat of 95 tons.
Sunk in the battle of Haiyang, the *Chingyuen*, iron cruiser of 2,900 tons.
Sunk in the battle of Haiyang, the *Chiyuen*, iron cruiser of 2,300 tons.
Sunk in the battle of Haiyang, the *Chaoyang*, iron cruiser of 1,350 tons.
Burned in the battle of Haiyang, the *Tsi-yuen*, iron cruiser of 1,350 tons.
Taken in Port Arthur, the *Mintsie*, wooden war-ship of 750 tons.
Burned in Caroline Bay, the *Kwangyi*, iron cruiser of 1,000 tons.
Burned in Talien Bay, the *Kwangchia*, iron cruiser of 1,295 tons.
Taken at Port Arthur, the *Kaiching*, wooden war-ship of 1,450 tons.

These figures give a total tonnage of 13,346 tons, which, at an average of $800 per ton, represents a sum of over 10½ million *yen*. We do not vouch for the list. That China has lost 9 ships-of-war is more than we had supposed.

The *Nippon* says that, as China's peril has become more pressing, the Emperor has issued a decree establishing the general head-quarters at Fangliaokwan, and has appointed the following five officials to be chiefs of staff, Prince King, Wang Tangho, Li Hungtsao, Su Yangi, and Kang I.

According to the *Yomiuri*, there are now only 4,000 Chinese troops in Kaiping, and its capture may be expected soon. In the old, and new Newchwang, however, there still garrisons, contrary to recent reports.

We read in the *Nippon* that Mr. Tei, Secretary of the Japanese Legation in Sōul, has been sent to Japan by Count Inouye, to recommend that this empire lend Korea a sum of 4,000 *yen*, for the purpose of carrying out the proposed reforms.

Monday, January 7th.

Divested of names puzzling to non-geographical readers, the news from the Left Wing of the First Army is briefly this, that Generals Sung and Nieh are massing their troops a little to the north of Yingkow, with the rumoured intention of marching against Haicheng. After the battle of Kangwasai on the 19th of December, the greater part of Sung's troops, consisting originally of 10,000 men, retreated in the direction of Yingkow, some halting a few miles to the north of that city and some pushing farther west. Sung seems to have brought these troops together again at and in the neighbourhood of Kaokan, a town 13 miles to the north of Yingkow. We hear now of only 4,000 troops in Kaiping and its neighbourhood, from which it may be inferred that General Nieh has led the rest to join Sung's forces. Lieut.-General Nozu's report dated the 3rd inst. at Tuchengtsz, from which we take these details, adds that Nieh is enrolling all the male inhabitants of 20 years of age and upwards and organizing such of them as show any proficiency in marksmanship. The fact that General Nozu telegraphs from Tuchengtsz seems to indicate that he himself finds the operations of the Left Wing of his army sufficiently interesting and important to require his personal superintendence. Tuchengtsz is on the road from Takushan to Suiyen, whence Katsura's Division set out on its march against Haichien. Nozu has therefore left the general head-quarters at Antung and followed his Left Wing. Possibly he is at the head of reinforcements, but if that were the case we should probably have had some definite intelligence of the fact. We pointed out several days ago that the position of the Left Wing of the First Army is not strategically sound and could only be made so by a northward movement on the part of the Second Army from the Liaotung Peninsula. That such a movement has not hitherto been made, or rather, that it was abandoned at Fuchow, is plainly due to the exigencies of the other important operation now pending. The Army in the Liaotung Peninsula consists of one whole Division, the First, and one Brigade forming half of the Sixth Division. The Brigade has hitherto been occupied garrisoning Port Arthur, and the Division has been quartered at Chinchow and Talien, in readiness to embark at the latter place for the purpose of cōoperating with the Second (Sendai) Division in the expedition of which the objective is kept secret. Meanwhile, it is understood that the second Brigade of the Sixth Division has sailed for Talien, and on its arrival there is strong probability that it will not remain idle at Chinchow, but will push northward against Kaiping and Yingkow. That would make a complete plan of campaign in Shinking, but unless something of the sort is done it looks as though Katsura cannot hope to accomplish more than to hold his ground, which is not the rôle appropriate for an invading army. On the other hand, the *Tokyo Asahi* publishes a telegram from Shanghai, which it describes as trustworthy, to the effect that Katsura's troops have pushed on from Haicheng to old Newchwang, driving the Chinese before them, and that the latter have fled by the coast road toward Chinchow (not Chinchow in the Liaotung peninsula, but Chinchow on the main road to Shanhaikwan). We do not believe this intelligence. In the first place, General Nozu's report dated the 3rd instant says nothing about it. Of course Nozu telegraphing from Tuchengtsz could only have known what was happening at Haicheng up to about four days previously. But in the second place it is strategically most improbable that Katsura should have pushed westward to old Newchwang although aware that Sung and Nieh were gathering a large force to attack him from the south. We believe for our own part that Katsura has not moved out of Haichien. But just as we had written this comes the *Nippon* with a strange item of news, namely, that the First and Second Armies have joined forces at a point some seven miles from Newchwang, and are about to make a combined attack upon the enemy. And in the context of that remarkable piece of intelligence we find the still more startling item that a portion of the First Army has invested Mukden. The same paper says that 5,000 Chinese troops started from Chinchow, Talingho and other places in that district on the 29th of December for the purpose of reinforcing the troops in Newchwang, and further that great efforts are being made to strengthen the forces covering Mukden. The *Hochi Shimbun*, on the other hand, represents the situation of the First Army thus :—The General Head-quarters in Antung; detachments of the Fifth Division stationed between Saimatsi and Tsaokokow; the Third Division quartered in Haicheng with detachments between that place and Tomucheng. From these positions, the *Hochi* says, the Japanese troops are not likely to move for the present. Neither will they undertake any offensive operations. That seems to us a much more correct *résumé* of the situation than the *Nippon's* sensational news. The *Yomiuri Shimbun* appears to think that the next movement of Katsura's troops will be in the direction of Laoyang where the Chinese forces are massed in great strength, but this appears to be nothing more than an inference from the recently received intelligence that a reconnaissance had been effected in the neighbourhood of Laoyang. Finally, to conclude the statements of the vernacular press, we note in the *Kokumin* a telegram sent from Hiroshima at 11.25 a.m. on the 5th instant to the effect that the van of the Second Army starts from Fuchow on the 1st inst. to march northward, and that it will probably attack Kaiping in a few days. Evidently our vernacular contemporaries are perplexed to unravel the situation.

The *Hochi Shimbun* has a paragraph explaining that there are no Chinese troops in Yingkow, and that consequently no occasion exists for occupying the place. We do not understand this statement, seeing that Generals Sung and Nieh are reported to have massed their forces on the roads immediately to the north of Yingkow. The *Hochi* goes on to say that as Yingkow contains a foreign settlement its occupation would involve troublesome complications, and will therefore be avoided as long as possible. That seems a reasonable argument.

Naturally much attention is at present directed to Weihaiwei. We read in the vernacular press that the most recent reconnaissance made by the Japanese Navy showed 13 men-of-war and 15 torpedo-boats at anchor there. It is also stated that the troops collected there and in the immediate neighbourhood aggregate seventeen or eighteen thousand. With regard to the latter point, the *Jiji* is most explicit. It says that the Chinese have posted the forces available for the defence of the province of Shantung chiefly along its northern shore, Taugchow, Chefoo, and Weihaiwei being the principal points of concentration. On the southern and eastern coasts, however, with the exception of Chiao-chow Bay, there are no preparations for defence. The *Jiji* does not give any estimate of the numerical strength of the defenders. The *Nichi Nichi* has a note saying that the Chinese Government has employed an Englishman and a German—the names, as transliterated, seem to be Bushel and Friese—to superintend the defences of Weihaiwei and Chefoo, and that the two men are constantly engaged passing to and fro for purposes of inspection. The information is said to have been obtained from a foreigner lately come from China. He adds that the two experts are serving as Generals with executive command, but the *Nichi Nichi* doubts the latter allegation.

According to the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, the Chinese Government was induced to decide upon sending an embassy to sue for peace by the discovery that Foreign Powers were losing all confidence in China's ability to defend herself, and had become convinced that wherever her troops encountered the Japanese, victory would rest with the latter. This conviction has begun to make itself only too apparent in the attitude of European Powers towards the Middle Kingdom, and the authorities in Pekin thought it wise to agree with the enemy at once lest worse things befal.

Tuesday, January 8th.

The *Yomiuri Shimbun* says that according to the latest calculations made by the Head-quarters Staff, the number of Chinese troops in Kaiping is 4,000. Further, no doubt is entertained that General Sung has moved toward Laoyang. The total Chinese forces massed at and about Laoyang, Mukden, and Newchwang are estimated at 37,000, and if the troops guarding the road from Lieushankwan to Laoyang be included, the aggregate of the Chinese armies now confronting the Japanese in Shinking is about 50,000.

In default of any other news, the *Jiji Shimpo* gives a table showing the distances of various places in Manchuria :—

By the Chiulien-Laoyang Road.

	Miles (English.)
From Fenghwan to Suchlichan	17½
From Suchlichan to Tungyuenpu	25
From Tungyuenpu to Lieushankwan	20
From Lieushankwan to Tieushuichan	15
From Tieushuichan to Tanghoyen	22½
From Tanghoyen to Laoyang	20
From Laoyang to Changtaitsz	12½
From Changtaitsz to Shahopao	20
From Shahopao to Mukden	20
From Fenghwan to Mukden	170½

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BY THE FUCHOW-LAOYANG ROAD.

	Miles.
From Fuchow to Taiaochiatien	15
From the latter to Hiungyocheng	30
From the latter to Kaiping	25
From the latter to Lanchichong	17½
From the latter to Yingkow	15
From the latter to Haicheng	45
From the latter to Laoyang	50
From the latter to Moukden	52½
From Fuchow to Mukden	250

BY THE HIGH ROAD FROM MUKDEN.

	Miles.
From Mukden to Chulinho	25
From the latter to Pochipaochan	17½
From the latter to Ritaotsingchan	30
From the latter to Siaoheishanchan	20
From the latter to Hwangning	20
From the latter to Shisanshan	30
From the latter to Siaolingho	35
From the latter to Kaochiao	22½
From the latter to Mingyuen	25
From the latter to Tungkwan	25
From the latter to Liangshuiho	27½
From the alter to Shanhaikwan	32½
From Mukden to Shanhaikwan	310

To complete this table the distances by the coast road from Yinkow to Shanhaikwan should be added.

According to the *Yomiuri Shimbun*, there are now 14,000 Chinese troops collected behind Weihaiwei, under the command of General Ping Pitao. The same journal says that there are six Chinese Generals—Liu, Tsung, Ping, Sun, Chin, and Pizo—in and about Chefoo, the command-in-chief being vested in Ping Pitao and Liu Hanfang.

The *Shogyo Shimpo*, on what authority we do not know, undertakes to give a statement of the conditions of peace formulated by the Emperor of China for the guidance of the Envoy Chang. They are:—

1.—Recognition of the Independence of Korea.
2.—The payment of an indemnity of from 50 to 70 million taels.
3.—Exchange of prisoners.
4.—The opening of several ports specially for Japanese trade, the places to be selected by China.
5.—The payment of 20 million taels to the wives and families of Japanese killed in the war.

To the above five conditions China, says our contemporary, is ready to consent, but she will not give so much as a square inch of territory. As for the indemnity, however, she will pay it immediately on the conclusion of the treaty of peace.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 9TH.

If the *Yomiuri Shimbun* be correctly informed, a northward march up the Liautung peninsula was commenced by the First Brigade of the First Division, under Major-General Nogi, on the 2nd instant. In connection with this movement, Lieut.-Colonel Uchiyama, of the Divisional Staff, accompained by two interpreters, set out on the 31st ultimo, but whence and whither we are not told. In the same provokingly vague paragraph our contemporary adds that the Chinese forces, massed between Haicheng and Laoyang, to the number of 37,000, are moving southward against Katsura in Haicheng, and that there are 3,000 men garrisoning Yingkow. Apparently Katsura is to be attacked from the south also, for the *Shogyo Shimpo* tell us that General Sung, at the head of the forces collected after the battle of Kangwasai, and re-inforced by 3,000 men lately landed at Yingkow, is about to march against Haicheng. Shanghai, however, is responsible for the last item.

Nine steamers, says the *Yomiuri*, four foreign and five Chinese, are busily engaged transporting material of war to Chiaochow Bay, in Shantung.

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, on the strength of news from Hongkong, says that two or three ships of the Chinese Southern fleet have lately been seen in the neighbourhood of Singapore.

The *Nichi Nichi's* war correspondent sends an account of General I's attempt to recover Fenghwan and the subsequent dispersion of the much-talked-of Amoor troops. Major-General Tatsumi's detachment started from Suehlitien in the direction of Lienshankwan on the 10th of December, in order to check the movements of the Chinese troops in the vicinity of the Motienling Pass, so that the Third Division under Lieut.-General Katsura might carry on its offensive operations against Haicheng unmolested. The enemy resolved at that time to make a decisive attempt to win Fenghwan back from the Japanese. They were labouring under the erroneous belief that the retreat of the Japanese detachment from Tsuichiafang and Tsaohokow was real, and not merely dictated by strategical considerations. General I divided his forces into two columns, one of which proceeded along the Mukden road and the other along the Saimatsui road. The former, from two to three thousand strong, followed Tatsumi's retreating column with a view to preventing it from joining the Fenghwan garrison, while the latter, estimated at about four thousand, was to march upon Fenghwan and take it while the garrison was comparatively weak. As soon as Colonel Tomoyasu, who was with the garrison at Fenghwan, received tidings of the enemy's approach, he promptly made all necessary arrangements for the defence of the place. It was, however, his intention not to encounter the enemy till they had crossed the river Ai, when he would deliver a furious charge and drive them back across the river. By dawn on the 13th of December General I's troops reached the elevation on the opposite side of the river. They had four guns, which were placed in the centre of the line. By 1 p.m. the left wing had commenced to move, apparently with the intention of attacking the right wing of the Japanese. When it reached the Kirin road, three signals for general advance were fired from the central part of the enemy's line, and presently trumpet calls were heard. The enemy moved about 300 metres, and then stopped—apparently on account of the ominous silence on the part of the Japanese. The distance between the two Armies at that moment was about 2,000 metres. The left wing of the enemy resumed its advance, however, and attempted to cross the river in the vicinity of Siaowai. There Major Tomita awaited in ambush the coming of the foe. They again showed signs of hesitation, and instead of proceeding to cross the river, retreated somewhat from the bank and were seen to enter some houses that stood not far off. In the meanwhile, a reinforcement of one battalion arrived at Fenghwan from Tangshancheng, and the Japanese therefore resolved to take the offensive the next morning. Before dawn of the following day, Major Tomita's battalion, constituting the right wing of the Japanese, crossed the Ai along the Kirin road, and stealthily approached the hamlet where the left wing of the enemy was quartered. The Chinese were off their guard, and asleep. They showed, therefore, the greatest signs of confusion when the Japanese coming close to the village, opened a fusillade from all four sides. The Amoor troops are, however, of better stuff than the Chinese have hitherto shown themselves to be. Surprised as they were, they resisted stubbornly for a few hours. The Japanese then set fire to the village, at the same time charging at close quarters. That was too much for the defenders. They fled, *pêle-mêle*, along the side of the mountain in the rear of the village. More than thirty were burnt to death. Major Yamaguchi's battalion attacked the enemy's centre, assisted by Major Tomita's men. They routed the Chinese completely, causing them to abandon their four guns. The right wing of the enemy proved more obstinate chiefly owing to its advantageous position. It occupied an elevation, and at first offered a stout resistance to the attack of Major Handa's battalion. The latter was then reinforced by the troops that had scattered the enemy's left wing and centre, and the combined columns delivered a furious charge from different sides. The Chinese could not hold out for more than a few hours, but that was long enough to enable their left wing and centre to make a comparatively easy retreat. The right wing at last fell back, and under a furious fire from the Japanese, fled in all directions. The enemy left 139 dead on the field, and the casualties on the Japanese side were about 70 all told. By about noon on the 14th of December the would-be invaders of Fenghwan were scattered.

We may here give an account of another fight that occurred at Fanchiatai, between Tatsumi's troops and a Chinese detachment that cooperated with the invaders of Fenghwan. In the vicinity of Fanchiatai there is a valley, through which a river runs occupying the greater part of the valley. A section of the Japanese van held an elevation on the right, leaving the other side for the main body led by the Major-General. The enemy was in a widening turn of the valley. At 12.30 p.m. the main body of the Japanese arrived upon the scene and took its position on the left elevation. Tatsumi at once ordered a battalion to attack the Chinese right wing. The first line of defence was carried, but the dislodged troops offered stout resistance after falling back on their reserves, and a hot fight ensued. Tatsumi then caused another battalion to charge the centre of the enemy with fixed bayonets. It was a bold attempt, but it succeeded, the line of the defenders being broken into two. This was at about half-past 2 o'clock. The remnant of the Chinese tried to effect an orderly retreat by slow stages along the hills on both sides of the valley, but were attacked by Lieut.-Colonel Tomita who led the van, and pursued as far as Tungyuenpao, where they were utterly routed. The battle concluded at half-past 5 o'clock. Out of from 2,000 to 3,000 of the Chinese 150 were killed, and at least 300 wounded. The Japanese had 10 killed and about 50 wounded. About 100 stand of small arms, many flags and other prizes of war were taken by the Japanese, besides eleven prisoners. When General Tatsumi heard of General I's proposed attack upon Fenghwan at the head of several thousand troops, he ordered Major Mihara to lie in ambush at Taung-ling and await the retreating Chinese. As anticipated, the fugitives approached that place on the day after the fight near Fenghwan. They were received with a volley from the Japanese soldiers, whereupon they fled in all directions without attempting the least resistance. The actual loss sustained by them was not large, but the demoralizing effect of the sudden attack made by the Japanese seems to have been remarkable.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 10TH.

It is plain that our vernacular contemporaries are much perplexed about the movements of the Second Army. The *Hochi Shimbun* is very positive that the troops necessary for garrisoning Port Arthur, Talien, and Chinchow having been detached, the remainder of the Second Army has moved north, so that the capture of Kaiping may be expected very shortly. Our contemporary adds, that since, according to Lieut.-General Nodzu's report, there are only 4,000 Chinese in Kaiping, and since they are virtually isolated, their defeat and dispersal should not present much difficulty. The same journal published a telegram despatched from Hiroshima at 1.55 p.m. on the 8th instant, to the effect that an engagement of a minor character was expected that morning in the neighbourhood of Kaiping.

We read in the *Nippon* that General Sung and his forces have retreated to Tienchwangtai. It will be remembered that according to Lieut.-General Nodzu's latest report, Sung and Nieh were assembling their troops and raising new levies a few miles westward of Yingkow (modern Newchwang), and that their apparent intention was to march against Haicheng. It may also be remembered that Tienchwangtai was the place to which Sung was supposed to have retreated after the battle of Kangwasai, on December 18th. Tienchwangtai is about 18 miles distant from Yingkow on the coast road leading westward to China proper. Yet another report recently received was to the effect that Sung had made his way toward Laoyang. What to believe we can not tell. The balance of testimony goes to show that the Chinese Commander-in-chief in Manchuria is somewhere in the neighbourhood of Yingkow.

The *Nichi Nichi* publishes the [illegible] of Lieut.-

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General Nodzu's reply to the Emperor's Message of commendation after the battle of Kangwasai. It is unnecessary to translate it. These documents are always framed according to a set formula. The Sovereign attribute the successes of his troops to valour and loyalty; the officer in command ascribes them entirely to the virtues of the Sovereign.

The *Hochi* has an interesting paragraph about the fate of the Peiyang Squadron. It says that the Squadron can not possibly remain much longer in Weihaiwei. Some definite course must be adopted by Admiral Ting. But what course? He has four to choose from. The first is to come out boldly and fight. The second is to run away. The third to burn his ships. The fourth is to surrender. As to the first, nothing seems less probable. With at least 6 powerful ships and a fleet of torpedo boats under his command, the Admiral has devoted himself to hiding in Weihaiwei. When a flotilla of Japanese transports landed troops for the attack of Port Arthur, he made no attempt to protect his country's shores. When Japanese men-of-war assisted at the assault upon that place, he remained inactive. Can it be expected that he will come out and fight now? As for escaping by flight, Weihaiwei is blockaded by the Japanese Squadron. Even if Ting managed to steal out, his speed is such that he would be soon overtaken. With regard to the third course—that of burning his vessels and escaping by shore—it is feasible so long as Weihaiwei is not invested, but should the Japanese troops surround the place, that means of safety would be impossible. To surrender at once would be his simplest and safest plan, but it is in the last degree improbable that he will adopt any such resolution. Such are the conclusions of the *Hochi's* informant. But, for our own part, we can not think that Ting is in such serious straits.

The *Jiji Shimpo*, always well informed about Korean affairs, says that the leader of the Tonghaks and his lieutenants have been killed by the local officials and the people, and that Japanese officers, landing from the *Tsukuba Kan*, identified the heads. Our contemporary adds that the rebels, deprived of a leader, have dispersed.

According to information obtained, says the *Kokkai*, from a Government transport recently returned from Talien, an attack in force was to be made by the Navy on the 5th or 6th instant against the Peiyang Squadron in Weihaiwei. If that be true, some news of the affair should have been received ere now.

A telegram sent from Hiroshima at 1 p.m. on the 8th instant, and published by the *Jiji*, says that about 1,000 men of the First Army are suffering from frost-bites. These casualties are mainly due to want of care, and it is expected that the caution given to the troops will prevent a recurrence of such mishaps.

Friday, January 11th.

Lieut.-General Nodzu telegraphs from Sniyen, under date of the 8th instant, that the Chinese troops on the westward of Haicheng have retired to Kaokan and its neighbourhood, and that the outposts of the Laoyang forces have been advanced to Kausienpao, a place not marked upon our maps, but presumably some miles northward of Haicheng on the Haicheng-Laoyang road. These troops are said to have two guns. Another body of Chinese has appeared at Hoshanken, some 8 or 9 miles to the north-east of Haicheng. In connection with these latter troops, the General speaks of some being within 2,000 metres of Haicheng, as we read the telegram, but it must be confessed that this part of the message is rather unintelligible. Another detachment of Chinese, infantry and cavalry, is at Chipao. Their number is said to be small.

Briefly speaking, the meaning of the above is that General Sung's troops have retired southward, to a point covering Yingkow (modern Newchwang), and that the Chinese forces on the Laoyang road show a disposition to push toward [illegible]eng.

Meanwhile, other vernacular journals publish various reports, none of which seem trustworthy. The *Hochi* adheres to its theory that a portion of the Second Army has moved north from Chinchow against Kaiping. Our contemporary now goes so far as to say that the assault of the town was to take place on the 10th instant, and that it was garrisoned by 3,000 Chinese. The *Nippon* partially confirms the *Hochi*, but does not mention the source of its information. It alleges that on the 26th of December, one brigade of infantry with some squadrons of cavalry and batteries of artillery, passed through Kaiping in the direction of Newchwang, the force being intended to cooperate with another force in attack on a certain town. The *Yomiuri Shimbun*, on the contrary, publishes a telegram from Hiroshima which describes as probably untrue the report that a portion of the Second Army had marched against Kaiping. Yet the same telegram adds that a reconnoitering party of the First Regiment—which forms part of the Second Army—pushed to the neighbourhood of Kaiping, and retired after ascertaining that there were no Chinese troops there. It seems to us pretty evident that the vernacular journals of the capital are for the moment quite at sea as to the movements of the Second Army, and that, in default of accurate information, they are publishing any and every rumour that reaches them. We do not ourselves believe that the Second Army has sent any force in the direction of Kaiping, but it is necessary to explain that our belief is not founded on any official information. The safest course is to attach faith solely to official intelligence, like that published above from Lieut.-General Nodzu.

The *Nippon* caps all previous estimates by saying that there are 200,000 Chinese troops, more or less—a very great deal less, we imagine—in Mukden, and that if the place is taken, 100,000 fugitive soldiers will head for Pekin or Newchwang. Such estimates seem extravagant.

The *Jiji Shimpo* says that, according to information received by a certain firm, the Chinese are making most extensive preparations for defence at Woosung and other places south of it. They are engaging every German merchant possessing any military knowledge, in order to have their troops drilled, and are manufacturing arms and ammunition night and day. If all that be true, it does not look like an expectation of peace.

The *Nichi Nichi* publishes some notes of a conversation held with Chinese prisoners. The latter say that what they fear most in fighting with Japanese is, first, the latter's marksmanship; secondly, their charging; and thirdly, their shells. As a rule the Chinese soldier has no idea of taking aim. All that he thinks of is to load and fire. For the most part, he fires from his hip, and the consequence is that his bullet commences its flight at a height of from 4 to 9 feet above a man's head and fails to do any execution. Still, among the officers trained at the military colleges there are some not to be despised. If a Chinese soldier knows that his enemy has no reserves, he will make a brave enough rush, but the Chinese themselves seldom have reserves. They like fighting behind parapets best of all fighting, but if they lose one fort out of a number, they have little heart to defend the others. Each Chinese regiment consists of 500 men, to whom are attached 80 coolies for carrying baggage and ammunition. There is no regular transport corps nor any commissariat. On the march, the immediate place of destination is indicated, and the first soldiers arriving there levy forced requisitions for everything needed by the troops—rice, fowl, vegetables, and so forth. No provision of money to pay for such things is made. The day's march is generally 12 or 13 miles. At the time of the Anglo-French invasion reinforcements came to Pekin from Hansuh, 800 miles distant. As for the conduct of the men, the want of courage they display is chiefly attributable to bad leadership. Under good officers the men would behave differently. If the soldiers are cowardly, they are also cruel. They yield quickly, but they do not forget easily.

Dovetailed among the above fragmentary items of information is a statement that the Japanese troops fired 70 rounds of ammunition each at the taking of Port Arthur.

The *Kokkai* publishes the following letter from an officer of the Second Army, stationed at Tungchiatien, in Shinking:—

The cold here is intense. At night the mercury falls eighteen or nineteen degrees below zero. Some of the soldiers have lost noses or ears from frost-bite. We had made up our minds that we should have to spend the rest of the year here, when we received orders to move forward to Kaiping. We shall set out in a few days, probably. It is with no little joy that we move, for the march will bring us so much nearer our great objective, Pekin. Such and such a place is 15 or 16 Japanese *ri* from here, and from thence to Newchwang is not more than 20 *ri*. It can not be long before our three armies unite and take Pekin. The inhabitants of this locality are most grateful for our clement treatment of them. They constantly come and thank us, and ask to be made Japanese subjects. It appears that their ancestors bore arms against the Chinese Government and were banished to islands in the vicinity of the Liaotung peninsula. Ever since then the people have been disaffected, and were looking for an opportunity to revolt when our troops arrived upon the scene.

Hence their readiness to welcome us. I append a list of the prices ruling at Chinchow:—

Japanese *Saké* ..... 28 *yen* per barrel.
Chinese Brown Sugar.....2 50 *yen* per catty.
Pigs, per head ..... 10 *yen*.
Millet *Saké*, per *to* .....1.50 *yen*.
Shochiu, per *to*.....2.50 *yen*.

Saurday, Januray 12th.

Telegraphic intelligence from the Chief of Staff at Chinchow to the Head-quarters at Hiroshima, says that on the 10th of January at daylight, a Brigade of the Second Army, under the command of Major-General Nogi, attacked Kaiping at daylight. The enemy had only five regiments, or about 2,500 men in garrison. They had with them 14 guns, of which 2 were quick-firing, but they made no very resolute resistance, for at 9.30 a.m. the town was in the possession of the assailants. The Chinese retreated toward Haishansai, a town distant a few miles on the coast road leading toward Yingkow. General Nogi detached a column in pursuit.

The distance from Chinchow to Kaiping (or Kaichow as it seems to be more commonly called in China) is 115 miles. Hence Nogi's Brigade must have marched from Chinchow during the last week of December at latest. The report designates his Brigade as "Mixed," from which we conclude that it was composed partly of troops from the First (Kawaji's) Division, and partly of troops from the Twelfth, or Kumamoto, Brigade, under the command of Major-General Hasegawa. It has hitherto been supposed that the whole of the First Division was held in the neighbourhood of Talien, for the purpose of joining the Sendai Division, now at Hiroshima, so soon as the latter should start on its over-sea expedition. But apparently the Third Army will be composed as the Second was, namely, of a Division and a Brigade.

The operation has been successfully surrounded with secrecy, to which fact may be partly attributed the easy capture of a position strategically so important as Kaiping. The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* mentioned incidentally some days ago that troops had marched northward from Chinchow, but the announcement did not attract much attention. The palm for special information certainly belongs to the *Hochi*, which not only referred to the subject several times in explicit terms, but even informed its readers on the 9th instant that Kaiping would be attacked on the 10th, and that only some 3,000 Chinese were in garrison there.

The Third Army was to leave Hiroshima yesterday. We have not yet learned whether the transports actually sailed.

The Japanese ships are evidently keeping a sharp watch on the coasts of the Gulf of Pechili. The *Yomiuri* says that the *Naniwa Kan*, which arrived at Kure on the 7th instant, reports having been herself engaged four times on scouting duty, and that the *Akitsushima* and *Saikyo Maru* had been similarly employed.

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A telegram from Hiroshima dated the 9th instant, and published by the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, says that Lieut.-General Nozu, on changing the head-quarters from Antung to Suiyen found all the people pursuing their avocations in peace and contentment. They came out to meet and welcome the General as he passed, and expressed a strong desire to remain under Japanese rule.

The *Shogyo Shimpo* says that General Sung has his outposts at Kaokan and Rhtaoho. If that be so, he is evidently endeavouring to cover Newchwang.

If a telegram published by the *Kokkai* may be trusted, Major-General Tatsumi has left the easterly road to Laoyang, for he is said to have Set out from Suiyen on the 5th instant at the head of a battalion of troops to attack a force of some 2,000 of the enemy intrenched at Tienshui, where 25 guns are reported to be in position. The same journal says that 15,000 Chinese troops are collected in the neighbourhood of Newchwang, and that a regiment of the Second Army left Chinchow on the 3rd instant to attack them.

In the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* we find a telegram from Pekin to the effect that the head of the Mahommedans in China has arrived from the west to announce his sect's intention of avenging the death of General Tso Paokwei. The *Nichi Nichi* interprets to this mean that the Mahommedans are incensed against General Yeh, who, by deserting Tso at Phyông-yang, was the indirect cause of his death. Other papers, however, interpret the incident to mean that a religious war is to be waged against the Japanese.

A certain Mr. Munekata Kotaro, who is said to be very well versed in Chinese topography, is quoted by the *Yomiuri Shimbun* as giving some interesting information about important places. As to Mukden, he says that though as the capital of Shinking it is much valued by the Chinese, the walled part of the city is comparatively small, being not more than 2½ miles in circumference. Moreover, the vicinity offers no facilities for defence such as those that existed at Phyông-yang. Laoyang, on the contrary, is strongly protected by walls, but its topograhical features are favourable to attack. If the First Army captures Laoyang, the fate of Mukden will be sealed. Speaking of Chinchow, he says that its walls are very high and thick, and that it is only second to Mukden in importance among the towns of Manchuria. Moverover, the Chinese have taken no measures to defend it, their attention being chiefly concentrated on Laoyang. As for Weiheiwai, a powerful force is assembled there under Generals Ping, Tao, and Tzung. Its back-door, too, is very strongly fortified. Chefoo is not protected behind, but has a strong garrison, and steps were lately taken to protect Chiaochow Bay against the coming of an enemy.

IMPERIAL DIET.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 8TH.

HOUSE OF PEERS.

The House met at 10.35 a.m., the Order of the Day being :—

1. to 8.—Applications for leave of absence.
9.—First Reading of a Bill introduced by Mr. Ozaki Saburo, relating to the Pension Regulations and Grants to Families of Deceased officials.

The President announced that he had taken steps to convey to the Emperor at Hiroshima the House's Reply to His Majesty's Speech from the Throne, and that, on the 4th instant, the Emperor has graciously transmitted, through the Imperial Household Department, the following Message :—

We have received with approval the reverential Address of the House of Peers.

The Applications for leave having been passed,

Mr. Ozaki Saburo introduced the Bill relating to the Pension Regulations, and explained that it differed only in phraseology from a similar Bill introduced and discussed in the preceding session.

After a few questions, the Bill was entrusted to Special Committee nominated by the President.

The House rose at 11.25 a.m.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The House met at 1.15 p.m., the Order of the Day being :—

1.—Bill, introduced by Mr. Taguchi Ukichi, relating to the Control of Pawnbrokers.
2.—Representation relating to the Development of the Steam Ship Service.
3.—Bill, introduced by Mr. Den Teikichi, relating to the election of members of Local Assemblies.
4.—Bill, introduced by Mr. Nakajima Matagoro, relating to Ineffective Ballots.

The President announced the receipt of the Ordinary and Special Budgets for the 28th year of *Meiji*, and correlated Supplementary Budgets.

The President also announced that the necessary steps having been taken to convey to the Emperor the House's Reply to the Speech from the Throne, His Majesty had graciously forwarded the following message through the Imperial Household Department :—

We have received with approval the reverential Address of the House of Representatives.

The first Bill on the Order was entrusted to a Special Committee nominated by the President, no explanation being given by the introducer nor any questions asked.

Mr. Nishiyama Shicho, introducing the Representation relating to the Development of Steam Ship Service, explained that the House had already passed a similar Representation in a preceding session, but in view of the immense importance of increasing the maritime carrying facilities in a country situated as Japan was; in view also of the probable completion at an early date of the Siberian Railway and the Nicaragua Canal, and in view, finally, of the conditions likely to be created in the issue of the present war, it appeared advisable that the House should once more express its emphatic approval of the principles embodied in the Bill.

Mr. Nakano Buyei inquired whether the Representation was to be interpreted in the same sense as the former Representation with regard to abolishing the subsidy to the Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Mr. Nishiyama said that the times had changed. It was a question of financial calculation.

Mr. Kawashima Jun said that he too had submitted a similar Representation. He proposed that both documents be submitted to a Special Committee nominated by the President.

The House voted in that sense.

The President announced that the third Bill on the Order had been withdrawn by its introducer.

Mr. Nakajima Matagoro having briefly introduced the Bill relating to Ineffective Ballots;

Mr. Suyematsu Kencho, Government Delegate, explained that while the Government approved of the general principle of the Bill, some of the details seemed to require alteration.

The Bill was entrusted to a Special Committee nominated by the President.

The Minister President of State then addressed the House as follows :—

Gentlemen,—You are doubtless sensible of the fact, as intimated in His Majesty's Speech at the opening of the Diet, that the country is now involved in a serious war. I am further persuaded that you are fully conversant with the progress made by the war since it broke out in July of last year, and that, consequently, there is no occasion for me to make any statement here. With regard to foreign affairs, also, their general aspect is sufficiently apparent, and as for their details I am forbidden by my duty to the State from disclosing them, though an opportunity for laying them before you with the fullest accuracy will occur when the war is brought to an end. At this unprecedented period many affairs await national inception, but it is imperative to calculate their relative degrees of urgency, undertaking only those of prime importance and relegating the rest to a future time. Hence, in submitting the Budget, we have confined ourselves to ordinary expenditures, subjoining such things only as are unavoidable. Hereafter, there will be many projects calling for gradual consideration and consummation, but while the war continues it is out of the question to undertake them. On its termination, we shall have to avail ourselves largely of your counsels. Bills relating to such projects will then be laid before you. That the struggle in which the country is engaged has reached the successful stage now presented to us is attributable in the first place to the virtue of the Sovereign, and in the next to the loyalty and bravery of the Army and Navy. But it is also due to the fact that you, gentlemen, the people's representatives, fully appreciating the great responsibility devolving upon you at this crisis, have given such assistance as to relieve the troops in the field of all anxiety, and to display the absolute unanimity of the national mind. It shall be my endeavour, within the limits of my humble capacity, so to discharge the trust reposed in me by my Sovereign as to satisfy His Majesty's gracious behests and to fulfill the wishes of you, gentlemen. I feel it to be a source of infinite honour that in the discharge of my high office as chief Minister of the Crown I should be called upon to carry out the will of a nation so united. In consideration of the views that I have now laid before you, the Government will avoid submitting to you any Bills, financial or otherwise, except those of urgent importance, deferring the rest to a future occasion. We trust, gentlemen, that you too, endorsing our views, will discharge your deliberative functions with all possible expedition.

No questions were asked, and the House rose at 2.20 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 9TH.

HOUSE OF PEERS.

The House did not meet, the Special and Standing Committees alone assembling to examine Bills and Petitions.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The House met at 1.20 p.m., the Order of the Day being :—

1.—Bill for reforming the System of District Government.
2.—Bill for reforming the System of City and Prefecture Government.
3.—Bill for abolishing the Special System of Local Government in Tokyo, Kyoto, and Osaka.
4.—Supplementary Bill relating to City Government.
5.—Bill for reforming a part of the City Government Regulations.
6.—Bill for reforming the System of Division Government.

Mr. Toda Sakubei, introducing the first Bill, said that a similar measure had been before the House every session, but had failed to become law owing to delays in Committee, or the pressure of other business, or the dissolution of the House. He briefly recapitulated the reforms contemplated by the Bill, which was then entrusted, together with two other cognate projects, to a Special Committee nominated by the President.

A similar course was pursued with regard to the Second Bill.

Mr. Nakajima Matagoro introduced the Bill for abolishing the Special System of Local Government in the three cities of Tokyo, Kyoto, and Osaka. He refrained from entering into any explanation of the reasons of the proposed reform, as they had been frequently submitted to the House in previous sessions, and he was pursuaded that the people's anxiety for the measure was well appreciated by the members.

Mr. Matsuoka, Government Delegate, repeated, on behalf of the Government, the objection stated on each previous occasion in connection with this proposal. The Government held that in view of the special character of the population of the three cities, a special system of local administration was inevitable.

Mr. Kusakari Shimmei said that proposals for banding the Bill to a Special Committee were on the table, but he saw no occasion for such procedure. The objection advanced by the Government Delegate did not appear to possess any validity. There was no apparent reason why a city should be exceptionally administered simply because its size was exceptional. The citizens themselves were opposed to the present arrangement, and he invited the House to abolish it without further preliminaries.

On the motion of Mr. Tsunoda Shimpei, who had introduced a similar Bill, differing, however, as to the date of abolishing the Special System, the two Bills were entrusted to a Special Committee.

The remaining three Bills were entrusted to the same Special Committee without debate.

The House rose at 2.10 p.m.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 10TH.

HOUSE OF PEERS.

The House did not meet, the Special and Standing Committees alone assembling.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The House met at 1.10 p.m., the Order of Day being :—

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1.—Bill, introduced by Mr. Yamagata Chiyoo, for amending a portion of the Law of Election.
2.—Bill, introduced by Mr. Takahashi Yasuji, for amending Law No. 84 of the 23rd year of *Meiji*.
3.—Bill, introduced by Mr. Tokumasu Gentaro, for abolishing the Peace Preservation Regulations.
4.—Bill, introduced by Mr. Minoura Katsuto, embodying a project of Press Law.

Mr. Mochizuki Unai obtained permission to introduce, as a point of urgency, a Representation urging the Government to submit to the Diet in the present session estimates for the construction of the lines of railway included in the Railway Project passed in the 6th session. The Government, doubtless, had refrained from presenting these particular estimates in consideration of the fact that large war loans had to be floated, and that to issue railway bonds at such a time might produce financial embarrassment. But it must be remembered that the House had already voted the railway project, and that the Government was not entitled, on its own responsibility, to ignore that vote. If a choice of expediency and inexpediency had to be made between certain undertakings, the House could make such a choice as well as the Government. An exceedingly dangerous precedent would be established were the Executive allowed to determine whether action of the Legislature should be ignored or recognised. That would amount emphatically to an encroachment upon the privileges of the House. It was not within the competence of the House to frame an estimate. It could only vote upon estimates submitted to it. But when it had once passed a project requiring the compilation of an estimate, the Government was bound to prepare and submit that estimate, leaving the House to determine whether circumstances arising in the interval called for postponement of the project.

Mr. Tateishi Ki opposed the Representation. The Prime Minister had explained, in his speech on the 8th instant, that in view of the warlike crisis through which the country was now passing, it seemed advisable to eliminate from the field of immediate parliamentary debate all enterprises or undertakings not of an urgent character. The building of these railways could not possibly be regarded as an urgent work, and if the House agreed, as it certainly must, in the general policy enunciated by the Minister, there could be no question at all as to the uselessness of submitting a railway estimate.

Mr. Nakamura Kokusho asked for an explanation from the Government Delegate.

Mr. Suzuki, Government Delegate, said that the Government entirely shared the wish expressed in the Representation, and would have been glad to present the estimates in question without a day's delay. But they were aware that the country was passing through an unprecedented crisis, and that the time did not lend itself to railway construction. Under no other circumstances would the Government have refrained from compiling and presenting the estimates.

His Excellency Count Ito ascended the rostrum at this stage, and informed the House that he had been summoned to Hiroshima by the Emperor, and should be obliged to start the following day. He greatly regretted that he was unable to remain in Tokyo and hear the views of the House on various points, but the Sovereign's command must be obeyed. He had therefore instructed the various Ministers of State, and he trusted that, in his absence, the House would confer with them whenever necessary.

Mr. Inouye Kakugoro opposed the Representation. It amounted, in effect, to charging the Government with unconstitutional procedure, but the House would surely hesitate before endorsing such an accusation. Mr. Mochizuki seemed to have been unduly influenced by the wishes of the people through whose districts the proposed railways would pass. But they must wait. He did not mean to suggest that the country's finances were at all in embarrassed condition. There was a time for everything, however, and at present affairs of war must take precedence of everything else. Would Mr. Mochizuki advocate impairing the empire's belligerent capacity for the sake of building one of two railways? Their plain [illegible] to think that liable [illegible] of not more than 200 *yen*, or of the safety of the State, and afterwards of laying down iron roads to facilitate communication. The season for railway-building would come in good time.

Mr. Kagami Kahei supported the Representation. He way fully sensible of the weight of affairs pressing on the country in connection with the war, but it did not follow that everything not directly connected with the war must be neglected. Certainly it did not follow that the procedure prescribed by law was to be set aside, as would be the case if a resolution of the House were ignored by the Government on its own responsibility. With regard to the question of railways, he considered their construction of vital importance, whatever might be the circumstances of the time, and he thought that not a moment should be lost in completing the essential preliminaries. The same argument applied to water-works, concerning which he made some remarks.

Mr. Takahashi Yasuji moved that, in view of the importance of the question, the Representation be entrusted to a Special Committee, but the House rejected the motion.

Mr. Minami-no-Michichika supported the Representation, but the House showed some impatience and the closure was moved and carried.

The House rejected the Representation and passed to the Order of the Day.

Mr. Yamashita Chioo, introducing the Bill for amending the Law of Election, explained that the object of the Bill was simply to extend the franchise. The House had agreed to such a measure in previous session, and he thought it might now be taken for granted that all objections existing outside the House had disappeared. His reason for saying so was the spirit displayed by the people in connection with the present war. The humblest inhabitant of the remotest village had shown himself ready to serve his country with his body or his money, thus proving his competence to take an intelligent interest in public affairs. Even foreigners had expressed admiration of the people's conduct, and he thought it would scarcely be claiming too much to say that such people might safely be trusted with universal franchise. But the Bill now before them asked for no such sweeping change. It aimed at nothing more than reducing the franchise qualifications from a payment of taxes aggregating 15 *yen* annually to 5 *yen*, and from a minimum age of 25 years to 20. He called upon the House to pass the Bill unanimously nd without delay.

Mr. Suyematsu Kencho, Government Delegate, said that on behalf of the Government, he was compelled to oppose the Bill. The inference drawn by the introducer from the warlike spirit shown by the people seemed altogether unwarrantable. Patriotism and politics were too very different things. It did not at all follow that because a man was ready to fight, he was competent to have a voice in the management of public affairs. Further, the change proposed was fundamental. It affected the very basis of the constitutional system. The Government did not consider that the experience thus far gained of representative institutions justified such a radical alteration as the Bill embodied.

Mr. Yamada Taizo asked why the Government Delegate objected to lowering the tax-paying qualification to 5 *yen*.

Mr. Suyematsu replied that just as the proposer of the Bill, while inclined to advocate universal franchise, had declared it prudential to preserve a five-*yen* limit, so the Government considered it prudent to preserve the fifteen-*yen*. (This reply elicited much laughter and applause.)

On the motion of Mr. Otsu Junichiro, the Bill, together with two similar measures, was entrusted to a Special Committee.

Mr. Takahashi Yasuji, introducing the second Bill on the Order, explained that its object was to reduce the power conferred on the Executive by Law 84. That Law provided that any person violating a Government Notification should be liable to a fine of not more than 200 *yen*, or minor confinement for not more than one year. To confer such power of punishment on executive officials was distinctly a relic of autocratic times. The Bill proposed to reduce the maximum penalty to a fine of 50 *yen*, and to substitute detention for confinement.

Mr. Suyematsu Kencho, Government Delegate, regretted to be again obliged to assume an attitude of opposition. But it was necessary to remind the House of the great variety of matters included in the scope of Government Notifications. Such Notifications might have for the prime object the protection of the people themselves, whose liberties the House was invited to consider as threatened. He would ask them to consider two examples. One was the enactment of regulations relating to labour emigration; another the prevention of illicit exportation of females. Did they think it possible to control such practices by means of penalties so light as the Bill proposed? The House had better not allow itself to be carried away by romantic ideas. They were practical legislators.

Mr. Kusakari Shimmei supported the Bill but advanced no new argument.

The First Reading was passed without dissent, and the Second Reading was voted.

Mr. Tokumatsu Yentaro introduced the Bill for abolishing the Peace Preservation Regulations. He called the Regulations a disgrace to a constitutional country, and reminded the House that five years had passed since representative institutions were introduced in Japan, yet they were required to live under a law that belonged essentially to the days of autocratic government.

Mr. Noguchi Kei said that this Bill had been repeatedly submitted and repeatedly passed, but on every occasion the Government had formulated some objection. He thought it very little to the Government's credit that they should maintain such an attitude. The question had now become one of the burning topics of the day. Public opinion unequivocally called for the abolition of the Peace Preservation Regulations. (At this stage several members called out that it had been agreed not to attack the Government this session. Mr. Noguchi replied that he was merely exercising his tongue by opposing Mr. Suyematsu, an answer that elicited much laughter.) He trusted that the Government for its own sake would endorse the Bill.

Mr. Suyematsu Kencho said that some of the expressions applied by Mr. Noguchi to the Government were decidedly regrettable in the interests of the House's reputation. He asked the House to consider soberly whether the Government was less solicitous than themselves on behalf of the public good, or whether the Government was more disposed than they to preserve laws opposed to the spirit of liberty. The Regulations that they proposed to abolish were intended to be applied in times of emergency. They were never enforced unless occasion offered. It was within the recollection of the House that they had been enforced for the protection of the members themselves. The Government would rejoice to be able to revoke them, could it conscientiously regard such a step as safe in the interests of public peace and good order. (Cries of "the Government applies the Regulations recklessly," and counter-cries of "No, no.") The mere fact that secret societies existed threatening the peace of the people was enough to justify this special legislation. They had to remember, too, that in the sequel of the remarkable war now being waged, popular excitement might involve developments calling for just such measures as these Regulations provided. (Cries of "Enforce them in China.")

The closure was moved and carried, and the House passed the Bill, dispensing with the Second and Third Readings.

Mr. Minoura Katsuto, introducing the new Press Law, said that as it had already been six times before the House, no explanation of its provisions was needed. The one point of dispute about the project was the question of suspending [illegible] newspapers. It was true that the power of suspension still existed in the hands of the Executive in some European countries,

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but no such power was needed in the case of an orderly, quiet people like the Japanese.

Mr. Suyematsu Kencho, Government Delegate, said that the Government regretted much to be obliged to assume an attitude of opposition session after session. Last session the Government and the House had come to an understanding on this subject after much consultation, but the House had suddenly changed front, and the Bill had consequently failed to become law. He knew very well that the Japanese were an orderly, law abiding people, but unfortunately that excellent characteristic was not always apparent in the conduct of newspapers, which, for the sake of their circulation, or else in order to agitate some political question, too often displayed a marked disregard for public tranquillity. The Government shared the House's desire to hasten the era of complete freedom of the press, but could not yet agree to the total abrogation of the existing power of suspension. It would be glad, however, to meet the House's views as far as possible, after consultation.

Mr. Tsunoda Shimpei asked whether by suspending a newspaper for the publication of reprehensible matter, the effect of the publication could be obviated.

Mr. Suyematsu said that the question tended to involve a discussion. Certainly, what had once been written could not be effaced, but the tendency betrayed by a journal might be corrected.

Mr. Tanaka Shozo inquired whether Mr. Suyematsu, as Government Delegate, intended them to believe that he was speaking in sober earnest.

Mr. Suyematsu recommended Mr. Tanaka to address such questions to some one else.

Mr. Tanaka Shozo wanted to know whether the Government, while pretending to desire concord with the House, declined to recognise the progress made by the country since the fourth session. If the Government really desired to meet the House's views, why did it not introduce a Bill of its own? He then indulged in some personal abuse of Mr. Suyematsu Kencho.

The Bill was entrusted to a Special Committee, with instructions to report within 3 days.

The House rose at 3.30 p.m.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 11TH.

HOUSE OF PEERS.

The House did not meet, the Special and Standing Committees alone assembling.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The House met at 1.30 p.m., the Order of the Day being :—

1.—Bill for amending the Law of the Houses.
2.—Representation relating to the restoration of civil rights to political offenders.
3.—Bill for supplementing the Stamp Regulations.
4.—Bill for amending Proclamation No. 16, of the 13th year of Meiji, with reference to Local Taxation.

The President announced that the fourth Bill on the Order had been withdrawn by the presenter.

Mr. Takata Sanaye, introducing the first Bill, said that as it had frequently been before the House already, he should dispense with explanations until the Bill had been examined and reported upon by a Special Committee. But he desired to make one comment at this stage. The Government had always opposed the projected changes on the ground that they affected the Constitution, and that no alteration of the Constitution should be made without the utmost deliberation. It was not the Constitution, however, that the Bill aimed at modifying, but the Law of the Houses. The Constitution embodied general principles; the appended laws, namely, the Law of Election and the Law of the Houses, dealt with details, and according to his view, these details were put into the form of annexed laws precisely because experience might at any time dictate the advisability of modifying them without touching the Constitution itself. It could not be contended that experience was lacking. The House was now sitting in its eighth session. It had had ample opportunity to test the quality of the laws under which it sat. Further, some might argue that at a time of war these questions should not be raised. He deprecated such a view. There was no reason why the House should fold its hands and abandon its legislative functions because the country happened to be at war.

In answer to a question from Mr. Suyehiro Shigeyasu, Mr. Takata explained that though he too warmly approved the idea of abolishing the payment of members, he deemed it advisable to postpone that reform.

Several questions having been asked and answered, Mr. Kubo Kuhei asked for a brief statement from the Government Delegate, at the same time observing that the language used by the Delegate the preceding day had not been calculated to promote harmony between the House and the Government, and he trusted that more circumspection would be observed.

Mr. Suyematsu, Government Delegate, said that the possibility of promoting harmony depended upon circumstances. Some of the members themselves were fond of using tolerably punctuated language, and they could scarcely expect to find an invariably docile attitude on the part of the Delegates under such conditions. As to the Bill, the Government saw no reason for the changes it contemplated. Doubtless many of the proposed alterations would be satisfactory to the House, as tending to augment its competence. But it was not apparent that the present system worked badly. Quite the contrary, indeed. The Government thought it well that a need for change should be demonstrated before proceeding to alter a law.

Mr. Kommuro Shigehiro remarked that the Government Delegate was always in an attitude of opposition to the House. Further, Mr. Suyematsu showed great disrespect for the House when he accused some of its members of being fond of punctuated language. He thought that a different form of address should be employed.

Mr. Suyehiro Shigeyasu inferred from the Government Delegate's speech that the necessity spoken of was a necessity on the Government's side only, and that no idea existed of considering any necessity or desire on the part of the House. They did not want a brief explanation. They wanted a full statement of the Government's views on each point, instead of being put off with disingenuous generalities.

Mr. Suyematsu replied that Mr. Kubo had asked for a brief explanation, and now Mr. Suyehiro found fault with brevity. It was difficult to give universal satisfaction. In effect, the Government saw no occasion for the proposed changes, and he consequently failed to appreciate the need of discussing each item in detail.

The Bill was entrusted to a Special Committee nominated by the President.

Mr. Takahashi Yasuji, introducing the Representation coming second on the Order, observed that the House had already had an opportunity of considering it in previous sessions. Briefly speaking, its object was to restore their civil rights to political offenders who had already fully expiated their offences, and received pardon or completed their sentences, but were still under a painful stigma. He made an eloquent appeal to the House on behalf of these persons.

The House adopted the Representation.

Mr. Takahashi Kojuro introduced the Bill for amending the Stamp Regulations. According to the present system the value of the stamp affixed to a promissory note varied in proportion to the sum of money involved, and sometimes the amount spent on stamps almost equalled that appearing on the face of the document. The Bill proposed a uniform one-*sen* stamp in every case. Such a reform must greatly facilitate business transactions.

Several questions having been asked, Mr. Meguro Sadaji opposed the Bill as being based on a false principle. Taxes in the nature of stamps should be levied in proportion to the amounts involved in the transactions. The method contemplated by the Bill was nothing more than an evasion of just taxes.

The House refused to carry the Bill to a Second Reading, and rose at 2.35 p.m.

COUNT INOUYE AND THE KOREAN COURT.

The *Nichi Nichi's* Sôul correspondent gives a long and minute account of the strong remonstance lately made by Count Inouye to the King of Korea that brought about a favourable turn in the progress of Korean reform. The account given by the *Nichi Nichi's* correspondent is so precise in all its particulars that a Tokyo paper suspects it to have emanated from the Count himself. Be that as it may, the correspondent vouches for the authenticity of his information. It seems that the direct cause of the Count's anger with the King and his Ministers was a totally unnecessary change that had been made in several Vice-Ministers on the 28th of November. The new men chosen being all friends of the Ming faction, it was apparent that the Queen must have been at the bottom of the affair. The Count was highly displeased at this disregard of his advice, to the effect that changes in the appointment of high functionaries should not be made without due deliberation and, also at finding that what had happened was due to the Queen's contrivance. He at once wrote a letter to the Korean Premier rebuking him for flagrant breach of promise. The next day the Premier and Ministers of Foreign Affairs and the Treasury were invited to the Legation, and the Count expressed his opinion that the affairs of Korea were utterly hopeless, and that the reform programme submitted by him to the King should be returned. Both on that occasion and on the following day the Ministers tried to excuse the King's conduct and to appease the Count's anger. The latter would not listen to their apologetic explanations, but said that as he was going to visit the King he should speak directly with him on the subject. Upon being admitted to the King's presence, the Count assumed a most solemn mien, and told the King that the arbitrary change of Vice-Ministers thoroughly convinced him that he no longer enjoyed the King's confidence and that he therefore wished to withdraw the reform programme. He also said that though the King seemed, as far as outward appearances went, to desire to carry out the schemes of reform, he, the Count, was of opinion that his Majesty's determination would be frustrated by the many obstacles in the back-ground. The King made some excuses about the change of Vice-Ministers, and said that he would stop it, if desired, but added that, since he had already decided to carry out the reforms as set forth in the programme, the latter should not be withdrawn. Count Inouye replied that all decisions of the King could be of no avail so long as a strong power was by his side to move him, and that it was on that account, not merely because of a change of Vice-Ministers, that he considered Korean affairs in a hopeless state. The King perceived the meaning of the Count's insinuation and declared that in future the Queen should be prevented from interfering in State affairs, and that he and his Ministers would be careful to avail themselves of the Count's advice. Upon this the latter impressed upon the Sovereign the distinction between promise and performance, and pointed out how the promises made to Japan in 1882, then in 1884, and again on July 23rd, 1894, had never been fulfilled. He also showed that Japan was not the only country that had experienced great difficulties in connection with Korea. Even the Chinese ex-Resident, Yuen, powerful as he had been, was baulked in a similar way, and not only did the Court fail to adopt his frequent representations of an intimidating nature, but it had also secretly endeavoured to bring about Yuen's recall by bribing a certain powerful prince in Pekin. The Count repeated that he was convinced that all the promises and declarations of the King would fall through, and again asked to have the written programme of reform handed back to him so that he might show that he was no longer connected with the doings of the Korean Government. He further stated, after having again replied in the negative to the King's request that he should consent to interest himself

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Korean affairs, that the King had better conduct the administration of the country according to the advice of the Queen or the Tai Wŏn-kun with the help of the Mings or Tonghaks, in short, of any persons he chose. Of course in that case the Count would order the withdrawal of the Japanese troops sent by request of the Korean Government to suppress the Tonghaks. All friendly feeling toward Korea would be at an end, and should any Japanese subject be killed by the Tonghaks, or Japan's interests be in any way injured, he, the Count, would demand satisfaction even though he had to resort to extreme measures to obtain it. The King pleaded against the Count's utterances, saying that as Korea had only Japan to depend upon he hoped the Count would think again over his previous remarks. Count Inouye replied that Korea's decline had been brought about by herself, being the result of her disregard of Japan's advice.

The Count is eager to help Korea, but he is secretly hated in that country and is regarded with suspicion. Facts are therefore carefully hidden from him. But he can use his own eyes and is perfectly aware of the evils and abuses existing. Such avowals as he makes may strengthen the hatred felt for him and designs may be made upon his life. He is not afraid of any such thing, but declares that the day on which his life is put in danger will be the day of Korea's destruction. He had more conversation with the King and his Ministers, all of whom earnestly endeavoured to dissuade him from breaking off his connection with the reform of Korean affairs, but he was firm, and on leaving the presence said that, even if the written programme were not returned to him, he hoped it would not be used as a basis for the reform of the country. Subsequently the Premier and several Ministers of State called upon the Count repeatedly at the Legation and begged him to alter his determination. They even drew up an oath attesting the sincerity of their promises. At last the Count relaxed, and it was arranged that he should have private audience of the King on the 8th of December. On the Count's presenting himself at the Court, the King seemed exceedingly pleased and a most confidential conversation ensued. The King ordered all the Ministers with him to withdraw, though the Queen was allowed to remain in the room just behind her consort's throne. Count Inouye then said that as he was confident that the conversation would be kept secret, he should disclose his ideas with the greatest sincerity, and entreated Their Majesties to listen to his remarks. He then observed that in his opinion the anxieties besetting Their Majesties caused them to look with suspicion on everything. (Both the King and the Queen replied in the affirmative.) The grandson of the Tai Wŏn-kun, continued the Count, subsequent to the skirmish in Sŏul on the 23rd of July between the Japanese and Korean soldiers, repeatedly impressed upon ex-Minister Otori and Secretary Sugimura the advisability of discrowning the Queen. When dissent was expressed to this proposal, Li suddenly turned against the Japanese and caused his grandfather to send secret letters to the Chinese, besides instigating the Tonghaks to expel the Japanese and to further his own interests and those of his confederates. Li's design was not confined to the degradation of the Queen but also had as its object the removal of the Crown Prince. Such plots as well as the absurd rumour circulated on the occasion of Boku Yeiko's return to Korea must have filled the Royal Pair with great anxiety. (The Royal Pair answered "yes"). That no doubt led the King and Queen to seek the support of the Ming family. Though natural, observed the Count, that was not a wise plan, as the Mings are hated by the people on account of the oppression exercised by them when they held the reins of Government, and the Court could not hope to gain the respect of the country if combined with such a party. The Count advised, therefore, that the King and Queen should altogether discard any idea of strengthening their position by the help of [illegible], and pledged his honour that the position of Their Majesties and the Crown Prince should be secured beyond all danger. The King replied that he could not but regard Li's actions with great suspicion. After the skirmish of the 23rd of July he had been repeatedly told by Li that the Japanese intended to discrown the Queen and to absorb the country of Korea, and that the King should therefore be strictly on his guard against Japan. He also asked the King to send a letter secretly to the Chinese in Phyŏng-yang to ensure their favour. His Majesty and the Japanese Minister then consulted as to how Li should be disposed of, and it was decided to send him to Japan in the capacity of Korean Representative. The Queen then addressed the Count, saying that she and her family had been desirous from the first to bring Japan and Korea into intimate relations with each other and expressed her intention of refraining in future from intermeddling with State affairs. About two decades ago her father and other members of the family were blown up by the anti-Japanese party, but they had not met their death in vain, for the next year a treaty was concluded between the two countries and the object held in view by the Queen's family was at last realized. Her Majesty further remarked that the assurance of the Count to exert himself on Korea's behalf gave her the utmost satisfaction, and that, following his advice, she should refrain from interference with State matters and content herself with praying for the effective reform of the internal administratinn and the prosperity of the country. It was owing to her womanly weakness and apprehension for her own safety that she had considered that the protection of the allied families would be useful, but now that the security of the Court had been promised by Japan's Representative, such a course would be needless. Then followed some conversation about the agents of the Tonghaks at the Court, about Boku Yeiko, and other matters, after which the Count retired, both parties being satisfied with the meeting. Since then the King and Queen have become entirely different beings and such implicit trust is placed in Count Inouye both by them and their Ministers, that the Japanese Representative is now, observes the correspondent, a great man at the Court.

MR. KANEKO ON THE 4TH DOMESTIC EXHIBITION.

An opinion has been formulated by certain vernacular journals, and also by a section of the members of Parliament, that the opening of the 4th Domestic Exhibition should be postponed till the termination of the war, so that it may be conducted on a more extensive scale befitting the occasion. This view is combatted by Mr. Kaneko, Vice-Minister of Agriculture and Commerce, who, according to the *Yomiuri*, opposes the proposal on the following grounds. In the first place, postponement would create considerable excitement among intending exhibitors, to say nothing of the additional expense to which they would be subjected. Some of them would even be obliged to abandon the project altogether. It would further affect the credit of the Government in the eyes not only of the people but also of foreigners. The preparations of the Government are already duly made and great confusion would be brought about were the undertaking postponed. Further, in the matter of the buildings for the Exhibition, the contractors are held responsible for the period of one year, and that agreement would become invalid should the opening be put off. According to information obtained by Mr. Kurino, Japanese Representative in Washington, the Exhibition is much talked of in America, in consequence of the remarkable exploits of the Japanese in the present war with China, and every American newspaper of note is eager to obtain from the Japanese Legation facts relating to the Emperor Kwammu, about the anniversary of the removal of the capital to Kyoto, and about the Exhibition; in fact, quite a number of Americans are resolved to visit Japan when the Exhibition is opened, to observe at the same time the industry, manufactures, and also the military equipment of the new Power in the East. Nor is this curiosity confined to the people of the trans-Pacific Republic. Europeans also will be equally eager to avail themselves of the opportunity to come over to Japan. The zeal of these intending tourists would be considerably abated should the enterprise be postponed. To hold an exhibition at home while the army is marching upon the Chinese capital and winning victory after victory will serve to prove the inexhaustible resources of the country, and to ennoble it in the eyes of foreigners. In short, the Vice-Minister of Agriculture and Commerce declared to the representative of the *Yomiuri* that the Government is resolved to carry out the Exhibition scheme as first announced, and that intending exhibitors should be prepared to take part in it without paying any head to groundless rumours of postponement.

THE SODO SECT TROUBLE COMPROMISED.

We learn from the vernacular press that a compromise has been effected in connection with the trouble in the Sodo Sect, which had become notorious, not having been confined merely to the Sect itself, but even made a subject of deliberation in the Diet. The present Home Minister, Viscount Nomura, has concerned himself greatly about it since he assumed the portfolio of Home Affairs, and in order to have it settled in some satisfactory way, conducted a minute enquiry into the affair. After having thought over a definite plan he invited the ex-Chief Abbot of the Sect from the Noto centre and the Chief Abbot of the Echizen centre to the Home Office, and in the presence of the Vice-Minister of the Department and some others, exhorted the two dignitaries to settle the trouble. The priests expressed sincere regret for what had occurred, which they attributed to their own want of virtue and ability, and asked to be relieved of their offices. The Viscount praised greatly their disinterested resolve, but pressed them to continue to fill their present positions. He then advised them to dismiss several of their chief subordinate priests who were regarded as the principal originators of the trouble. Three supplementary articles relating to the internal organization of the Sect were next approved. The two Abbots then consulted as to special pardon to be extended to those who had been guilty of more or less disorderly conduct in connection with the difficulty. It was decided that about 30 head priests of local temples who had been dismissed on account of insubordination to the order of the Central Sectarian Office in Tokyo, be rehabilitated. Another knotty point to be settled was the provision that the Chief Abbots of the two Sodo centres should alternately become Head of the Sect. The mediation of a certain influential personage, presumably Viscount Miura, was invoked, and by his advice it was decided that as the Chief Abbot of the Noto centre had held the position for two years, namely, 1890 and 1891, the Chief Abbot of the Echizen Centre should be installed in the office for one whole year. It is thus evident that for about four years the Sect has been without a legitimate Head and a state of anarchy has therefore prevailed. The arrangement made by the Home Minister is simply a temporary measure, the Office being desirous to leave the management of religious matters as much as possible to those directly interested in them. Grave responsibility now rests with the Chief Abbot of the Echizen Centre who has been appointed Head of the Sect, for if he should fail in the difficult task of restoring order and quiet, who knows what confusion will ensue? The Home Office is therefore bound to pay attention to the future course of events and to tender all possible help.

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THE KOREAN GOVERNMENT'S FOREIGN LOAN.

As a result of the earnest endeavours of the Japanese Ambassador in Sōul, considerable reforms have been accomplished in the Court and also in the mechanism of the government. A grave difficulty has, however, to be surmounted before legislative reforms can be put into practice, namely, the replenishment of the Central Treasury, which is now absolutely empty. The salaries of the officials are all in arrears, while the Government Offices cannot proceed with their business for want of the necessary equipment. Yet it is out of the question to levy taxes, considering the state of anarchy to which the country has been reduced by the Tong-hak insurrections. Some other expedient must therefore be resorted to. Through the medium of the Japanese Representative, the Government has secured a promise from the First National Bank to advance a sum of 100,000 *yen*, but that is only sufficient to meet urgent needs, a far larger sum being requisite in order to put the reform schemes into operation. At the lowest estimate, a sum of 5 millions is necessary for the purpose, and the Korean Government, having no other alternative, has decided to float a Japanese loan, and an overture to that effect has been conveyed to the Japanese Government, the security being land taxes and the interest being about 10 per cent. The Treasury placed the matter before the three capitalists, Mitsui, Iwasaki, and Shibusawa, and asked their opinion upon it. They all declined to enter into the negotiation on the grounds that they had no spare funds, having invested a large sum in the War Loan, and that even if they had, they did not consider it prudent to lend money to Korea as she is still in a most unsettled state. Although the Treasury promised to stand security for the fulfilment of the obligation by the Korean Government, the negotiation was declined not only by the three capitalists above mentioned, but also by others who were consulted about the matter. Rumour says that Mr. Yamamoto, of the Nippon Ginko, started a few days ago for Kyoto for the purpose, it is believed, of meeting Mr. Kawata, the President of the Bank, who is now staying in the southern capital for the benefit of his health. It is therefore conjectured that the necessary money will be supplied either by the Bank or by the Treasury out of the War Fund.

Since writing the above we learn from the *Asahi* that the President has expressed his unwillingness to accomodate the Korean Government with the desired loan. The Treasury is thus placed in an awkward position, for to refuse the money to Korea would be to undo Japan's work in the Peninsular Kingdom. It is said that the Diet's opinion will be asked as to whether the amount may be spared out of the War Fund.

THE BUDGET FOR THE 28TH FISCAL YEAR OF MEIJI.

The Budget for the 28th fiscal year has been submitted to the House of Representatives. It does not differ much, writes a Tokyo paper, from the Budgets of the last few years. The total revenue is estimated at 90,300,700.453 *yen* and the expenditure at 89,757,415.73 *yen*, leaving a surplus of about half a million *yen*. Increase is more or less noticeable in almost every important item of revenue compared with last year, while though the total outlay shows a large increase, the contrary is the case in the estimated current expenditures of the Departments of State. It will be remembered that the estimated revenue of 1894 was about 88,040,000 *yen*, while the outlay was 80,140,000 odd *yen*. Thus in the revenue the increase is about two and a quarter million *yen* and in the expenditures, no less than 9,610,000 *yen*, approximately. In the item of taxes, the estimated increase is over 4,200,000 *yen*, and in receipts accruing from works conducted by the Government, above one million *yen*. Last year, the sum accruing from the accounts of the previous year amounted to over 3,800,000 *yen*, but that item is wanting in this year's Budget, so that the actual increase in revenue is 2½ millions. The increment in taxes is mainly due to the enforcement of Law No. XVII. (1893) relating to the imposition of a tax on the sale of alcohol. As stated above, the current expenditures of each Department proper have been more or less reduced. The increase in the outlay of over 9,600,000 *yen* has been brought about in connection with certain items coming under the category of other ordinary and extraordinary expenditures. Thus the items of national loan, pensions, &c., have risen from 22,358,617 *yen* to 26,282,476 *yen*, making an increase of 4 millions or so. Then there is an additional sum of 550,000 *yen* for several items of the War Department, and a similar amount in the Department of Communications, while in extraordinary items of the Navy we have an additional sum of more than 3 millions. The revenue for the Central Treasury is also increased by 1½ million *yen*. A sum of 20 millions has hitherto been set apart every year for the redemption of the principal and interest of the national loan. This item is put at 23,120,000 *yen*, in round numbers, in this year's Budget. Should the total War Loan of 130 millions be raised, and interest paid at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum, the interest alone would amount to 6,500,000 *yen*. As the whole loan has not yet been floated the sum set apart under this heading does not exceed half that amount. The *Kokumin* considers this sum far too small unless the Government deem it unnecessary to raise the whole Loan. The increase of about half a million *yen* in the expenditures for the War Department is on account of the rise in the price of provisions and fodder, the cost of remounts for the cavalry, and the despatch of gendarmes to Kure and Sasebo, while the additional 8 million *yen* or so for the Department of Communications is chiefly due to contemplated extensions of the telephone business and other means of communication. The increase of 3 millions in the extraordinary expenditures of the Navy is for the purpose of hastening the period of construction of the iron-clads by two years and for the carrying out of minor projects. The Foreign Department intends to establish Consulates at Tacoma and at Townsville in Australia.

JAPAN'S FOREIGN COMMERCE IN 1894.

The total foreign commerce of Japan, writes the *Shogyo*, rose to 230 million *yen* last year, exceeding the average by about 30 per cent. In no other year thus far had the total amount reached 200 million *yen*. The following is a comparative table of Japan's commerce for the last two years:—

	Imports. Yen.	Exports. Yen.	Total. Yen.
1894	113,246,084	117,482,951	230,728,035
1893	89,712,861	88,257,170	177,970,031

It will thus be seen that a considerable increase over the previous year took place both in exports and imports, 23 million *yen* in round numbers in the former and about 29 millions in the latter. This must be considered a very welcome state of affairs, when we remember that the country is engaged in a tremendous international struggle involving a cost of 150 million *yen*. As shown in the above table, the excess of imports above exports last year was about 4 million *yen*. The depreciation of silver has for some years facilitated exports though standing in the way of imports. The excess of the latter over the former last year is therefore a clear evidence of the development of the people's purchasing power. This excess must necessarily be followed by an exodus of specie, a result already brought about by the war. In looking over the Customs Returns, we find that, in 1894, the outflow of specie exceeded the inflow by 7,600,000 *yen* approximately. The specie reserves of the Nippon Ginko consequently diminished last year by about 3 million *yen* as compared with 1893.

THE "CITY OF RIO DE JANEIRO."

The agent of the Pacific Mail S.S. Co. has received the following telegram from Capt. J. T. Smith, of the steamer *City of Rio de Janeiro*:—"Ship struck unknown rock on Sunday, Jan. 6th, at 1.35 p.m., making hole in starboard bilge. Beached ship at 2.30 p m., patched hole, got off at 8 p.m. evening Jan. 8th; proceeding slowly for Nagasaki. Found patch weakening, put into Iwafune to strengthen it; expect to reach Nagasaki to-morrow (10th). Passengers and specie arrived at Nagasaki per *Yugao* last evening at 10 p.m."

It will be seen by the telegram we publish to-day, that the *Rio* has had a very narrow escape from total destruction, having run—most probably at full speed—upon a submerged and unknown rock which lies apparently in the track of vessels making Nagasaki via Van Diemen's Strait. It is doubtless due to the skill and prompt action of the *Rio's* commander that the vessel has been placed in a position of safety where she can be repaired sufficiently to enable her to reach Nagasaki, and it is satisfactory to learn that the passengers, mails, and specie have been taken to that port in safety. The Nippon Yusen Kaisha steamer *Harima Maru* happened to be in a port not far from the scene of the accident at the time of its occurrence, and if the *Rio* requires any assistance the captain of the *Harima* has been ordered to render it. We trust that Captain Smith was enabled to take bearings of his position at the time the *Rio* struck this unknown danger, for the sake of the lives and property that have to be carried over the same course.

The P.M. steamer *City of Rio de Janeiro*, will not leave Iwafune until Sunday. She will then go on to Nagasaki and dock for repairs.

The Nagasaki paper says that the telegraphic news which reached the local agent of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha as to the stranding of the P.M. steamer *City of Rio de Janeiro*, stated that the accident occurred off the coast of Nishi-Kaseda, about 13 *ri* west of Kagoshima, and south of Koshiki-jima. The Mitsu Bishi Co.'s tow-boat *Yugao* left late on Monday night, taking Mr. Mansbridge, the Co.'s diver, Mr. D. F. Robertson, Lloyds' Surveyor, and an official of the N. Y. K. Captain Wilson Walker also took passage.

AN OPEN LETTER FROM CHIEF-SURGEON ISHIGURO.

Nothing could be more considerate than the way in which the Medical Department treats those in the Army. The *Yomiuri* publishes an open letter over the signature of Chief-Surgeon Ishiguro addressed to families, members of which are now in the Army. The Japanese troops, we are told in this letter, now occupy half of the Shinking province, and the districts held by them extend to a length of about 225 miles, commencing with the vicinity of Lanyang in the north and terminating with Port Arthur in the south, and they are still marching upon the enemy. The cold becomes, of course, intenser the further north they go, but in general it does not differ greatly from the temperature of Sapporo in Hokkaido. At this juncture the parents and other near relations of those in the field are no doubt exceedingly desirous to know how the men are sheltered, fed, and tended when wounded or afflicted by disease. It is for the purpose of giving information on those points that this letter has been indited. As battles are still being fought, the shelter given to the troops depends, of course, upon circumstances, for while a portion may at times be obliged to camp in the open air, or protected from the snow and wind only by tents, others, as for instance those in Fenghwan and Takushan, are quartered in brick houses, or in barracks deserted by the enemy, as in Port Arthur. The soldiers' clothes consist of under-garments of cotton flannel, stockings, a great-coat of woollen cloth, a neckcloth, and a blanket—the ordinary uniform including gloves for the cavalry artillery corps—besides which they

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special articles of apparel for protection against the cold, namely a head-covering made of thick fur, a great-coat with a fur collar, a flannel shirt, knitted woollen drawers, lined woollen stockings, an under-garment made of paper and floss-silk, thick leather gloves, and an additional blanket. A large piece of fur also has now been given to each soldier. Even to the coolies who receive ten times the wages of the soldiers, and who therefore provide themselves with clothing, the following suit is given to each man: a quilted garment made of *kokura* cloth, a lined head-covering of a special thick kind of cotton cloth, a great-coat and trousers of the same material, a shirt and drawers of cotton flannel, socks of a particular make, and one blanket. Socks lined with flannel, straw foot-gear and heavy boots have also recently been sent for both soldiers and coolies. The daily ration of food is 6 *go* of cleaned rice and 40 *monme* of meat, besides a quantity of vegetables. This fare cannot, however, be always given, as for instance on a march, and at such times simple boiled rice and a few pieces of pickled plum (*ume-boshi*) or only a gruel made of rice and Indian corn are partaken of by the men. As a set-off to this, when booty is abundant, fowls, pork, or beef are plentifully dealt out. The clothing, food, and shelter of the troops differ thus necessarily according to circumstances. When the enemy is to be charged at close quarters, the soldiers strip themselves of all extra clothing so as to ensure freedom of motion and are then obliged to stand in the snow in their ordinary winter suits. On the other hand, soldiers who were the first to arrive at the enemy's quarters in Fenghwan, Chiulien, Port Arthur, and so forth, found fur garments and boots of great value which they now wear. We now come to the treatment of the wounded and diseased. It is highly satisfactory to find from the returns that lately reached Head-quarters how comparatively small is the number of wounded and killed on our side since the beginning of the campaign. It is also reassuring to learn than the ratio of mortality among the wounded who were brought under the care of surgeons was only 4 per cent. The number of deaths from sickness is rather large, but it is not to be wondered at when we remember how prevalent epidemics such as dysentery, typhus, and so forth were in Korea, and what hardships the Japanese suffered owing to change of climate and of diet. It is fortunate that owing to the resemblance more or less of food and customs among the allied races of Japan, China and Korea, our soldiers are less liable to suffer than Europeans or Americans would be under existing circumstances. The mortality among the sick was also small, only about 2.9 per cent. The total aggregate of military medical attendants in the Army is 1,350, of whom 380 are surgeons and chemists, and the rest male nurses. The Red Cross Society has 138 practitioners and nurses in the Army, besides a far greater number who attend the wounded and the sick at the various barrack hospitals in Japan. The medical attention in the field is thus as perfect as it can well be, but as the treatment given at home is necessarily better, I have enjoined the Medical Corps in the Army to send the wounded and sick back to Japan with all possible speed. When a patient has been sufficiently restored to health in Hiroshima to be moved, he is at once conveyed to a military hospital near his home, as he will there enjoy greater facilities for seeing his family and friends. The progress that has been made in medicine in general and military surgery in particular, in Japan is remarkable. In the Satsuma Civil War the mortality among the wounded was 170.5 per 1,000, whereas in the present campaign it has only been 27.2 per 1,000. A short account of the Hiroshima Barrack Hospital may be interesting. The Hospital is directly controlled by Dr. Sato Susumu, and under him there are 56 surgeons and dispensers and 501 nurses. Besides these there are 20 practitioners and dispensers and 152 lady nurses from the Red Cross Society. Among the latter we find Viscountesses Kabayama and other distinguished ladies indefatigably engaged in tending the wounded and sick, together with other nurses of humbler origin. No outsider can have an idea of the care that is taken of a patient seriously ill or wounded, be he an officer or a coolie. He is generally tended by two nurses, and the treatment he receives even surpasses that given to a patient of high rank at home. The public is gratefully cognisant of the assiduity of the Court in relieving the pain of the sick and wounded and providing comforts for them. The Emperor frequently sends messengers to the Hospital, with grants of money to the patients, and causes the military bands to visit them and play for their pleasure. The Empress-Dowager, the Empress, and the Crown Prince are equally solicitous, and the former have made bandages with their own hands to be given to the patients who, however, regard them as too precious for use and hang them on their bedsteads as mementoes of the Imperial benevolence. Almost daily the Hospital is visited by Princes of the Blood and their wives and other distinguished personages. The Chief Abbot of the Higashi Hongwan Temple, and other high priests, both Buddhist and Shinto, read prayers with any patient whose case is dangerous. The contributions sent to the Hospital from almost every part of the Empire are almost innumerable. Bandages are of course the article most needed, yet such is the supply incessantly sent by well-wishers that the Hospital has not had to buy a single one. Light literature contributed by patriotic people for the use of the patients already fills one ware-house. It will thus be seen that the lot of those who receive wounds or fall ill in the discharge of their duties is not hard.

The letter closes with kind injunctions to the families of those away at the seat of war to await the return of their heroes with their stories of glorious deeds achieved by themselves and their comrades.

LETTER FROM HIROSHIMA.

(From our own Correspondent.)

Hiroshima, January 4th.

The New Year's Holidays have passed away quietly and uneventfully. It would be more correct to say that the people of Hiroshima did not observe the holidays at all. Few house-fronts were decorated in the usual manner with *kadomatsu*, and no one was observed to go about making visits of congratulation. The fact is that the citizens agreed to dispense with all customary ceremonies and formalities of the New Year out of deference to the example of the Court, where all such observances were totally suppressed this year.

The Second Division (Sendai) is still staying here. During the day-time the streets are full of troops. Their conduct excites the admiration of the citizens. Throughout the forenoon the soldiers are regularly drilled in a spacious parade-ground, called the "eastern," in distinction from the one outside the castle. The afternoon hours are left at the disposal of the men, and they spend them lounging about the streets and making visits to each other. From six in the evening, no private is allowed to leave the house in which he is quartered. Such is the strictness of the discipline maintained among the troops that no complaint has ever been brought against them in their two months' stay here. Not only the troops but even the coolies, are kept under rigid control. The latter, like the former, are daily exercised to perform their work methodically and without confusion. Though much is attributable to the naturally docile and quiet disposition of the people from the north-eastern provinces, due credit must be given to the officers also of the Division.

How long it takes in Japan to convey a certain body of troops, say a Division, by rail, from one part of the empire to another, is a question of great importance and interest, but at the present stage of the war it is impossible to collect conclusive details for publication in newspaper columns. It may, however, be stated that, roughly speaking, a week suffices to transport a Division (a little more than 20,000 men) by rail over a distance of say 800 miles. This includes not only the men but the horses, the artillery, and all other warlike accessories. This rate of conveyance does not refer to cases in which the troops are to be sent with the greatest possible rapidity. Thus far all military operations on the Japanese side having been carried out according to a well concerted plan, there has been no necessity to employ special haste for the mobilization of troops by rail.

The port of Ujina now presents a lively appearance, there being at anchor over thirty large transports. The last time I went there, I saw several additional military store-houses in the course of construction. Among the articles exposed for sale in one of these stores, I noticed a number of bath tubs and an immense quantity of straw ropes and sandals (*waraji*). Several new shops have been opened, with large supplies of warm wearing apparel, mostly of foreign fashion. These stores are crowded from morning till evening by coolies, crews of the the transports, and camp followers of various classes.

A private letter from a well known military officer in the vicinity of Fenghwang states that the cold is exceedingly severe up there, nearly thirty to forty per cent. of the sickness being attributable to climatic influences. However, the general health of the troops is said to be extremely good, the coolies being the chief sufferers from severity of climate.

CIVIL REGULATIONS FOR PORT ARTHUR AND CHINCHOW.

The Commander-in-Chief of the Second Army has issued some civil regulations for the administration of Port Arthur, subordinate rules as to public grants of rice to the Chinese inhabitants, and also rules relating to commerce at Chinchow. The Administrative Regulations consist of 17 Articles, and are characterised by such liberality and firmness as the occasion requires. The civil affairs of every village coming under the jurisdiction of the Administrative Office of Port Arthur, are to be managed by salaried headman elected from the inhabitants of the hamlet. Soldiers and non-combatant Japanese are forbidden to use or enter the houses of the natives without the sanction of the Authorities. Chinese are also forbidden from entering or using houses not belonging to them without first obtaining permission. Sick or wounded persons are to be properly cared for, and information as to their complaints and place of abode is to be submitted to the Authorities. Any native or alien who commits an offence within the districts under the jurisdiction of the Port Arthur Administrative Office, shall be tried in accordance with the provisions of international law applicable to occupied regions in an enemy's territory. The Chinese are enjoined to give information to competent authorities of all those who secretly possess arms or harbour Chinese soldiers. They are at the same time to bring all complaints to the Administrative Offices when they suffer damage either at the hands of Japanese or from their own countrymen. Charitable grants of rice to indigent persons were to be made for a period of 30 days commencing the 26th ultimo. The daily allowance per adult is 4 *go*, which was to be doled out every day between 9 a.m. to mid-day to all who had previously obtained tickets entitling them to relief. These tickets could be obtained at the local office.

The Chinchow Commercial Regulations consist of 10 Articles, and are framed for the mutual benefit of Japanese and Chinese traders while the Japanese troops are occupying Chinchow. For a while, permission to trade will be granted to only a limited number of Japanese merchants, and transactions will be confined to Japanese and Chinese merchants who have secured these licenses. At first the market will be established only in Linshu, and not in Chinchow, in order to impress the Chinese with the inconvenience of carrying heavy silver coin; and, in that way, it is hoped that the natives will be gradually

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induced to use Japanese notes, which at present are not accepted as currency in Chinchow. For the purpose of conveying merchandise to Chinchow, two steamers in the Government service will undertake a regular service between Ujina and Talien. The standard of prices will be left to the merchants engaged in the trade, but, when it is deemed advisable, the Governor of the Chinchow Administration Office may restrict the prices put upon certain goods. The administration office will also act as arbitrator in any cases where disputes arise between Japanese and Chinese merchants. An authorized merchant will have to pay a tax of one per cent. on the whole amount of his transactions, toward the cost of local civil expenses. Licenses will be given only to members of the *Nis-sei Boyeki Shokai* (Japan-China Commercial Association) to sell miscellaneous articles in the markets opened in Chinchow.

THE METROPOLITAN THEATRES.

As a rule, the first month of the year is the busiest in the Japanese theatrical world. Lessees and managers can count upon larger audiences and greater receipts, an important fact, for, somehow or other, theatres in Japan are nearly always a losing venture, especially if they are of the first order and accustomed to house only star actors. Danjuro and his immediate little group of pupils charge no less than thirty thousand *yen* for their services in any one play, which generally runs for about a calendar month. It is for that reason that, great actor as he is, Danjuro is now seldom seen on the stage, very few managers being willing to run the risk of losing thousands of *yen*. And besides this, the management of most play-houses, especially those of the metropolis, is so complicated in its details that it is beyond the mental grasp of any but a theatrical habitué. There is the owner of the ground; then the owner of the building—neither of whom have any control in reality over what is or is not to be produced. Then comes the lessee of the good-will, or the man who really lets the theatre. After him comes the lessee of the theatre for one season or one month, and so forth until the number of people either directly or indirectly connected with the place, its lease, the possible profit or loss, etc., is legion. It really pays better to run a second or even third rate establishment, with a troupe composed of histrions of a lower order, than to take the finest play-house with a star company; and this despite the fact that, in the latter case, there will be full houses up to the very last day. We append a list of the better known theatres now open, or about to open, with a brief synopsis of the plays announced:—

1.—Meiji-za, one of the finest and most modern appointed theatres in Tokyo. Opened on the 3rd instant. The programme includes (1) a new version of the story of the Soga Brothers' Vendetta; (2) a new play by Kikugoro, one of the best known actors; (3) *Jigoku no kama-aki*, literally "Opening of the cauldrons of Inferno:" a melodrama of very forcible description, as might be expected from the title. The principal actors are Sadanji; Gonjuro, the hero of a very sad drama in actual life and one of the handsomest men on the Japanese stage; Shucho, who is unequalled in female parts; Kodanji, a notable "villain;" Shodaku; Yonezo; and one or two others.

2.—Haruki-za, also a theatre of modern type, with many improvements, especially in the mechanical parts of the stage. The bill comprises (1) the tragedy of Sano Genzaemon, a loyal knight of the days of Hojo Tokiyori. The hero is most excellently impersonated by Yaozo, one of Danjuro's best pupils. (2) *Inaka Genji*, a drama taken from the modified version of the well-known Genji Monogatari. (3) *Sano Jirozaemon*, a tragedy of the most sanguinary type. The hero was a man of rank but disfigured with small-pox. After having been deceived repeatedly by the frail denizens of the Yoshiwara he grew insane with rage, and finished by killing no less than one hundred persons before being overpowered. The story is historic. The chief actors here are Shikan, now well-advanced in years, but excellent as a woman; Fukusuke, recently married to a *geisha*, and not only very handsome but an adept actor, the son of Shikan; Yaozo, Komanosuke, and Matsunosuke. The theatre opened on the 2nd instant.

3.—Shintomi-za, formerly the largest and best theatre in Tokyo, but now antiquated. Will open on the 14th instant. Two plays only are billed, the first, *Awada-guchi*, being founded on the adventures of a famous sword bearing this name; while the second is a most pathetic tragedy of the old style: *Miura Wakare*. The plot is taken from a series of occurrences in the Kamakura war, when that city was the capital of the Empire. The leading character is a knight that has married the daughter of one of the enemy's chieftains, and the interest turns upon the conflict in the bosom of this wife between her love for her husband and her loyalty to the cause of her father's party. It is a great play for delineators of female character. The principal actors are Shikan, Fukusuke, and Eizaburo, who makes a charming young woman and excels as a *ballerina*; Ennosuke, another favourite in female parts; Kikugoro and his son Kikunosuke; Ichizo, Danjuro's pupil; and Kakitsu, an old favourite in pathetic male rôles.

(4).—Asakusa-za, a theatre of the second rate but none the less popular. First-class actors never make their appearance on this stage. Opened on the 2nd instant. The programme has (1) *Matsudaira-geki*, a revised version of one of the great tales of loyalty in which Japanese audiences so much delight; (2) *Miyagino Shinobu*, the story of two sisters who avenged the death of their father. The elder, Miyagino, became a prostitute to encompass the downfall of their enemy, while the younger, through countless adventures, carried the sword which was to drink their enemy's life blood; finally (3) *Nozaraki Yosuke*, a tale of the Otoko-date, something like Mitford's story of "Chobei of the Banzui-in."

(5).—Ichimura-za, a favourite gathering place for *soshi*-actors. Here Kawakami's troupe, now playing at the Minato-za, in Tokyo, will, from the 15th instant, present a new play written by Kawakami himself. It is to depict scenes from the war and glimpses of Japan nearly a score of years later on, the style being "The Forty-second year of *Meiji*," or "1909." Ichikawa Kumehachi, by far the greatest actress Japan has ever produced and exceedingly popular, although now more than sixty years of age, has joined hands with Kawakami, much to the disgust of old stage-goers. Kawakami Otojiro, they declare, is a young man of undeniable talent; but Kumehachi moves in an altogether higher sphere and is immeasurably his superior. She should not, the old-timers hold, have consented to join the troupe of a theatrical *parvenu*. Kumehachi is equally excellent in male and female rôles, and plays with a vigour and fidelity to nature unexcelled by any male actor, except perhaps Danjuro himself.

(6).—Masago-za, a third-rate place, but often well worth a visit. We note particularly the melodrama known as *Yagyu Sodo*, which deals with the adventures of a celebrated fencer and the vendetta which he carried out. This is a very instructive play, as it gives an excellent insight into a number of now long obsolete Japanese customs. Further, the romantic drama entitled *Shirokiya Okoma*, wherein the heroine, Okoma, in her search for certain heirlooms, marries the very man whom she ought to consider her bitterest foe. There is the usual number of murders and suicides, with all their realistic accessories.

7.—Ryuse-za, in Honjo District. This place is also of a low order, but deserves notice on account of a very novel play, being no less than a *mise-en-scène* of the recent Celebration of Victories at Uyeno Park. A love story is mixed up with the fête.

Several books of the second and third centuries have leaden leaves. One such, in the British Museum, has six leaden leaves, with hinges and

ENGLISH NEWS.

The Times, writing of Rubinstein, says:—

His eminence as a *virtuoso* was beyond all question, and as an interpreter of the highest music he was easily in the front rank of the greatest artists of the world. He has been called "Liszt's only rival," and not without justice; though a certain wildness of nature would at times appear to possess him to such an extent that some one piece or movement in his programme was entirely sacrificed, the enormous range of his tone gradation and the passion and poetry of his reading of works of widely different schools were quite unique. Often his rendering of the graver compositions was marked by force rather than earnestness; but his performance of old music such as Handel's suites was marvellous in its self-restraint and simplicity. Yet in the development of pianoforte technique his place is second to Liszt, although his own technical attainment was most wonderful.

Like many another *virtuoso*, he would fain have exchanged his renown as a performer for an equal amount of fame as a composer. He called Liszt "a performer-virtuoso, no doubt, but no composer," and the severe criticism is scarcely less applicable to himself, although his works embrace every form of music, from operas and oratorios to simple songs and piano pieces. He was greatly influenced by Mendelssohn in early life, and his music retained a strong Semitic flavour in its best and most individual parts. He was a thoroughly conservative musician, but his treatment of the classical forms rarely convinces us that these forms were of living force for him. Nor are his various attempts to modify or extend them very successful. His "Ocean" symphony, the best known of his orchestral works, gained little from two successive additions to its number of movements, and his concerted music, though containing some of the work that is most popular, is to a certain extent superficial and written with a view to effect. Some of his pianoforte pieces, whether in the form of studies or of "genre" pictures, have undeniable charm and spontaneity, and in many of his songs and duets a sincerity of expression is revealed for which we look in vain elsewhere. In particular the Persian series Op. 34, with its happy treatment of Oriental characteristics, deserves to rank with the very best of his compositions.

The gold medal of the Royal Statistical Society has been presented to Mr. R. Giffen, the celebrated statistician.

Lord Farrer, President of the Royal Statistical Society, in his inaugural address delivered on Nov. 20th in the Theatre of the Museum of Practical Geology, Jermyn-street, said:—

Take again, Malthus's celebrated theory of population. That theory was founded on statistical evidence which, we are informed, was as good and as accurate a representation of the then known existing facts as it was at the time possible to procure. The theory has still an element of truth in it, as we may see in the condition of some of our crowded cities, in Ireland, and, as some competent judges tell us, in India; and if other things had remained as they were when Malthus wrote, it is probable that his views would still have had a general or universal application. Even now we cannot say that it may not prove true in the future. But, so far as the greater part of the civilized world is concerned, not only has population not increased faster than food, but the reverse is the case, and the complaint now is that the supply of food, at any rate of wheat, is in excess of the demand. The mistake here lies not in founding a theory on a supposed tendency of human nature, but in an insufficient induction—in supposing that a generalization founded on the facts of one period would be good for all periods. The lesson to be learnt from it, so far as statistics are concerned, is that it is not safe to base a permanent conclusion on the facts of any one place or time collected once for all; but that observation of facts, to be permanently useful, must be continuous, and that the conclusions to be drawn from such observations must be open to question and revision as the facts alter. There is no finality in statistics any more than in any other branch of knowledge. The quantitative theory of money and prices furnishes another illustration. There is a notion still, I am sorry to say, prevalent in many quarters, that since coined money is the nominal medium of exchange, and is actually in some cases given in exchange, therefore prices of all articles depend on the quantity of coined money available for the purpose. This theory may have had some foundation in fact at a time, if ever there was such a time, when coined money was actually used and given in exchange

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on every sale and purchase. It has long ceased to be generally true, and has become absolutely false and mischievous at the present time, when the great bulk of sales and purchases are carried on without any coin at all, and when the trade of a country may be doubled without the need for an additional sovereign. The real weapon with which to defeat this fallacy is to be found in the statistics of banking, of credit operations, of gold reserves, and of the rate of discount.

A deputation representing the whole of the Trade Unions of Great Britain has waited upon Lord Rosebery, to urge the importance of paying members of Parliament, and defraying the fees of returning officers, out of the public treasury. The deputation explained that they did not advocate any allowance of such magnitude as a constitute an inducement. They seemed to be divided in opinion as to whether the annual sum should be fixed at £250 or £300. Lord Rosebery offered no objection whatever to the principle involved. Indeed, he admitted that he approved the idea in theory, and he added that all his colleagues in the House of Commons had already voted for the principle. His only queries had reference to time and money. It would be necessary to proceed by Bill, and he doubted whether a Bill relating to such a matter would ever reach its final stage in view of the immense amount of other business to be done. As for the financial point, a sum of £1,675,000 would be required annually to give each member £250. Lord Rosebery might well query the readiness of Parliament to find such a sum for such a purpose.

The match between Mr. Stoddart's eleven and the Victoria (Melbourne) team, played on November 19th, 20th, and 21st, produced great scoring. The visitors made a total of 774 in their two innings, and the home team compiled 559. For Stoddart's eleven, MacLaren compiled the colossal score of 228 in the first innings.

On November 19th the first-class battle-ship *Magnificent* was floated out at Chatham Dockyard.

Mr. H. H. Asquith, M.P., speaking at Birmingham, said this of the House of Lords:—

Are the Tories satisfied, the intelligent Tories, with this grotesque parody of a second Chamber? Is there one among them who does not regret, and bitterly regret, that the time between 1886 and 1892, when they had a docile majority in both Houses, was not taken advantage of to set the Upper House a little in order. Lord Salisbury reproaches us with tinkering at the Constitution, and says that it is a sterile question of political machinery. Will Lord Salisbury, will the Tory party, go to the country at the next general election in favour of the maintenance of the House of Lords as it is?—(Cries of "No.") No, not they.—(Laughter.) You can already see that. I am not sure that the first indications of it were not given not far from the place where I am standing to-night. You can already see that a new second Chamber is on the stocks.—(Laughter and cheers.) By an adroit manipulation of the processes of election and selection, by a judicious mixture of new blood with blue blood—(laughter)—they hope to produce something which will be a little more presentable to the electorate of Great Britain.—(A voice.—"Have Joey in there.") All this ancient structure, in support of which so much rhetorical ink is being spilt—this ancient structure, with its Norman porch and Plantagenet and Tudor buttresses, is going to pass into the hands of the speculative builder.—(Laughter and cheers.) It is to be patched and mended; new wings are to be thrown out, and new side doors put in.—(Laughter.) And then, when it has been provided—if I may use the technical language—with all the modern conveniences suited to the use of a democratic people, it is to be handed over to the English nation as a brand-new Senate, worthy to take place side by side with the 20—or was it 40?—second Chambers which Lord Rosebery enumerated in his speech at Glasgow the other day.—(Cheers.) Yes, and these are the people who accuse us of tinkering with the Constitution. Why, never since the art of tinkering was first practised has a more gigantic job of the kind been taken in hand.—(Laughter and cheers.) I will say nothing but this about these proposed changes in the composition of the House of Lords. If the House [illegible]rds is to maintain its present function[illegible] changes to which you and I can[illegible]—(Cheers.) We are not going to [illegible] see [illegible]h a fresh mandate of popular authority and more formidable and irresponsible power in this country.—(Cheers). Let me say one word as to the action of the House of Lords. How does it, in fact, act? Lord Salisbury says—I must again quote him—"that it is for the purpose of referring to the average and continuous judgment of the nation the excesses to which its representatives in particular circumstances may be inclined that a second Chamber exists;" and he goes on to say—"The terrible prerogative of destruction, which is irrevocable, is not to be exercised except with the full consciousness and consent of those who are the only authorities entitled to pronounce in the case—namely, the nation by which these islands are inhabited."—(Cheers.)

"It but rarely happens," says *The Times*, "that the greatness of the void left by the death of a man of ability is so promptly and clearly demonstrated as in the case of M. Magnard, the late editor of the *Figaro*. The grave had scarcely closed over his remains when the journal which he had laboured for years to redeem from its old traditions of irresponsible frivolity indulged in a freak that can hardly be paralleled even in its own checkered annals. It gravely assured its readers, on the alleged authority of the French Foreign Office, that several English sportsmen had started some days ago for Madagascar, in order to enjoy the sport of shooting Frenchmen, by way of relief from the monotony of tiger-hunts. Our Paris Correspondent observes that the contradiction issued from the Quai d'Orsay was perhaps, not superfluous, seeing that at least one other newspaper has been found to describe the outrageous invention as "not at all improbable."

Medical men in England are beginning to agitate in favour of the Government's undertaking to distribute anti-toxin, the new French remedy for and preventive of diphtheria. The ground taken is that the anti-toxin serum being a prophylactic, its distribution by the Authorities might stand upon the same ground as the distribution of vaccine lymph.

In "More Memories" of Dean Hole, just published, the following anecdote appears:—

A gentleman travelling on the underground rail in London was addressed by a very large lady, who sat near him as follows:—"The next station at which we arrive, Sir, will be Sloane-square, and I shall feel greatly obliged if you will kindly assist me to leave the carriage on our arrival. I have already been twice round London, having made unsuccessful efforts to leave the train. Being unfortunately very heavy and clumsy in my movements, I find it easier to descend from the doorway backwards, and I have twice been occupied in my awkward endeavour, when a porter, under the misapprehension that I was entering the compartment, has not only addressed me, "Now Miss, be quick, train's going," but has propelled me onwards.

Mr. Chaplin, M.P., speaking at the Alford Agricultural Labourers' Society on November 16th, said this about bimetallism:—

In regard to bimetallism, he had been very much surprised and pleased to find how widely the opinion was spreading among farmers and agriculturists that it was the question of currency which lay at the very root of all their troubles at the present time. It was foreign competition with which they must reckon. To what branch or of agriculture ought they to direct their efforts in the future? It was a matter of life and death to them to know what they had got to reckon with, and in what direction, if they were to survive at all, their efforts ought to turn. Yet the very fringe of this question had, in his opinion, not been touched by the Agricultural Commission. They had yet to hear what the Board of Agriculture was able to tell them bearing upon the question, for example, of foreign bounties on agricultural produce, and the land in this country that had gone and was going out of cultivation. To have attempted to close the inquiry before Christmas would have been to reduce that inquiry to nothing but a farce, and if he had been a party to it he would have justly deserved their condemnation.—(Cheers.) He thought he might say that the information of every witness before the Agricultural Commission, he believed absolutely without exception, had borne on the heavy and progressive fall of prices which had occurred in the price of agricultural produce now for many years, and to which at present there appeared absolutely no limit in sight. He was profoundly convinced that the cause which was mainly responsible for the unprecedented fall in the prices of their produce, especially in wheat, must be traced to the great monetary changes which occurred in America and upon the Continent of Europe some 20 years ago. The general result of those changes he believed to have been this—that they had brought about an enormous change in values, and chiefly in the value of money itself. He thought so for this reason. Before these changes, from time immemorial, the two metals, gold and silver jointly, had done the work of the standard money of the world; since those changes gold only had been called upon to do the work which formerly was done jointly by both. The demand and strain on gold in consequence had been enormously increased. This demand, without any corresponding increase in silver, had necessarily made the gold, as it would make everything else, dearer than it was before; but the fact of gold being dearer than it was before simply meant that *all* other things were cheaper, for everything they sold was priced by gold.

We take the following extract from a letter dated at Biltis, Armenia, Oct. 9th, 1894, and enclosed to the Earl of Kimberley by the Chairman of the Armenian Patriotic Association:—

No compassion was shown to age or sex, even by the regular soldiery, not even when their victims fell suppliant at their feet. Six to ten thousand met such a fate as even the darkest ages of darkened Africa have hardly witnessed, for there women and tender babes might have at least the chance of a life of slavery, while here womanhood and innocency were but a cruel mockery before the cruel lust had ended its debauch by stabbing to death with the bayonet, while tender babes were impaled with the same weapon on their dead mother's breasts, or perhaps seized by the hair to have the head lopped off by the sword. In one place three or four hundred women, after being forced to serve the vile purposes of a merciless soldiery, were hacked to pieces by sword and bayonet in a valley below. In another place some 200 weeping and wailing, begged for compassion, falling at the commander's feet, but the bloodthirsty wretch, after ordering their violation, directed the soldiers to despatch them in a similar way. In another place some 60 young brides and more attractive girls were crowded into a church and after violation were slaughtered, and human gore was seen flowing from the church door. In another place a large company under the lead of their priests, fell down before them begging compassion, averring that they had nothing to do with the culprits, but all to no purpose—all were killed. In another place proposition was made to several of the more attractive women to change their faith, in which case their lives might be spared. "Why should we deny Christ?" they say; "we are no more than these," pointing to the mangled forms of their husbands and brothers before them, "kill us too"—and they did. Great effort was made to save one, the beauty, but three or four quarrelled over her and she sank down like her sisters. But why prolong the sickening tale? There must be a God in Heaven who will do right in all these matters, or some of us would lose faith.

Here is the *Spectator's* idea, on November 24th—*i.e.* three days after the fall of Port Arthur—about the state of affairs in the Liautung peninsula:—

The Japanese are hammering away at Port Arthur, but they have not carried the place yet. According to the latest accounts, they are on the Kinchow side within two miles of the arsenal, and their fleet has been pounding away at the Chinese ironclads in the harbour; but they are not so near on the other side, and no defeat of the Chinese vessels is reported. The Chinese are evidently fighting as they have not yet fought, and it is not likely that the Mandarins can have stolen or sold all the munitions collected in the great storehouse. Negotiations will, of course, depend upon the fate of Port Arthur; but the Chinese have at last consulted Sir Robert Hart; he has advised a direct appeal to Tokyo, and his second in command of the Customs, Herr Detring, has gone there with full powers. The offer to be made is said to be the independence of Korea, £20,000,000, and the actual expenses incurred by Japan; but the Mikado's advisers will want more than that. They will seek some guarantee against a *revanche*.

The number of millionaires in England is not so great as one might believe. According to the report of the income-tax officials there are in England 71 persons without annual income of $250,000, two 1,000 draw $25,000 annually, and only about 10,000 have an income of $10,000.

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FOREIGN ADVISER TO THE CHINESE MISSION.

THE Honorable Mr. J. FOSTER, Secretary of State in the last United States Cabinet, has accepted the position of adviser to the Chinese Envoys appointed to proceed to Japan for the purpose of suing for peace. When the principal Envoy, Mr. CHANG, represented China in Washington, Mr. FOSTER, then a practising barrister, acted in a legal capacity for the Chinese Legation, and won the friendship and full confidence of its inmates. To that fact must doubtless be attributed his present appointment. It is natural that Mr. CHANG, retaining a lively recollection of the quality of Mr. FOSTER'S aid, should be anxious to have him at his side in a negotiation offering very great difficulties. We believe that Mr. FOSTER is already *en route* for the East, and that his arrival in Shanghai may be expected about the 28th of this month. It will be remembered that the Governor of Formosa, who companies Mr. CHANG in the capacity of Second Envoy, was in Shanghai at the end of December, and that Mr. CHANG was expected to leave Pekin in the beginning of January, travelling overland to Shanghai and there taking steamer for Kobe. It is to be presumed that the Envoys will proceed direct to Hiroshima, and from the above facts their arrival there may be expected about the 7th of February. Mr. FOSTER'S association with the embassy imparts to it an element of earnestness that it has hitherto lacked in public estimation. We need scarcely say that the assistance of a statesman and diplomatist so distinguished will be of immense value. That feature of the affair needs no elaboration. Indeed, there is just a possibility that a smaller man would have suited the occasion better. The personality of an ex-Secretary of State can not be concealed under a legal brief, and many Japanese will undoubtedly be disposed to view Mr. FOSTER'S connection with the mission as a fresh exercise of foreign interference. That view would be a regrettable mistake, we think. Whatever may have been Mr. FOSTER'S official position in the past, he is now simply a practising barrister, open to become the advocate of any client fortunate enough to secure his services. He is certainly shrewd enough to know, the Envoys themselves are certainly shrewd enough to know, that apart from Japan's desire to eliminate every foreign element from her negotiations with a neighbouring Oriental empire, the deprecatory attitude she has hitherto maintained toward offers of mediation worthy of the highest consideration, precludes her consent to the intrusion of any such element into a negotiation like that now pending. It will depend upon Mr. FOSTER and the Envoys to contrive that his association with the mission is deprived of all colour not purely advisory and subordinate. That precaution taken, nothing could be more hopeful than his assistance. But of course a dozen Mr. FOSTERS can accomplish nothing unless the Pekin Government be really in earnest, and with regard to that most essential point there are still many doubts. It may be taken for granted that Japan will not formulate her terms before being thoroughly satisfied that she is submitting them to men invested with full authority to accept or reject them. If Mr. CHANG is coming here merely to sound Japan's intentions, he will accomplish nothing. One thing to be noted is the leisurely character of his movements. If there is a genuine anxiety on China's part to terminate the war, she ought surely to employ the utmost expedition in despatching her embassy. Every day's delay may mean the loss of additional lives. Two weeks, possibly three, might be saved by making Chefoo the port of embarkation. But apparently Mr. CHANG is to travel all the way to Shanghai overland. It is not easily to reconcile such deliberation with any theory of great earnestness. However, until failure is assured, it is permissible to hope for success.

THE REVISED TREATY WITH THE UNITED STATES.

THE Revised Treaty between Japan and the United States, though framed upon the same general lines as the Treaty recently concluded with Great Britain, presents three essential points of difference. The first relates to the time of going into operation. We do not refer, of course, to the typographical error of the American journals in which the text of the Treaty has been published—the error of writing "1895" instead of "1899." The latter, not the former, is the date really fixed, as every intelligent reader must have perceived. What we refer to is the fact that whereas the date indicated by the British Treaty is conditional, that indicated by the American Treaty is definitive. To understand this difference it is necessary to recall the facts, first, that the operation of the British Treaty must be preceded by a year's notice of the Japanese Government's wish to have it put into force; and secondly, that the Japanese Government, in a Diplomatic Note accompanying the Treaty undertakes not to give that notice until the portions of the Empire's Codes now in abeyance shall have become operative. Hence the period indicated in the British Treaty is, in truth, nothing more than an inferior limit: at least five years must elapse before the Treaty goes into force, but if the Codes have not become fully operative within five years, then the operation of the Treaty must be deferred accordingly. The American negotiators, on the other hand, have dispensed altogether with the Diplomatic Note, and have unconditionally fixed, July 16th, 1899, as the date of the Treaty's operation. It is an evidence of confidence in Japan's purpose. Speaking practically, very little is involved. The steady and unfaltering progress made by this country since the Restoration affords the best possible guarantee that there will be no frivolous delay about a question of such vital importance as the final revision of the remaining portions of the Civil and Commercial Codes, and moreover, the conditional clause in the British Treaty must act as an additional spur. Thus the risk incurred by the United States in fixing a definite date is virtually *nil*, whereas the credit attaching to such a display of trustfulness will be considerable.

The second difference between the Treaties is in the matter of Tariff. The British Treaty provides that import duties shall be regulated by a Conventional Tariff to remain in force for at least 12 years after the date of the Treaty's taking effect. In other words, import duties are to be levied in accordance with a schedule mutually agreed upon by the High Contracting Parties. The American Treaty contains no such stipulation. It leaves the Japanese free to fix import duties by a General Statutory Tariff. Stated differently, the United States recognises Japan's Tariff Autonomy a month after the ratification of the Treaty; Great Britain recognises it not sooner than July 16th, 1911. Here again we have a difference important in appearance but of no serious consequence. In point of fact, the most-favour-ed-nation clause protects articles of American production or manufacture against the imposition of any duties higher than these fixed by the Conventional Tariff between Japan and Great Britain. America consequently incurs no risk by this act of generosity. We do not desire to depreciate in any degree the good will shown by her negotiators, but it is only fair to point out that citizens of the United States derive precisely the same benefits as British subjects from the conditions that the latter's Government deemed it advisable to insert.

The third difference between the Treaties is found in the last clause of the Second Article of the American document, where it is provided that "the stipulations contained in this and the preceding article do not in any way affect the laws, ordinances, and regulations with regard to trade, immigration of labourers, police and public security which are in force, or which may hereafter be enacted, in either of the two countries." The object of this proviso is plain. The United States reserve the sight of forbidding the immigration of Japanese labourers, just as she forbids the immigration of Chinese, Japan, of course, possessing a corresponding right with respect to American labourers. It was never supposed that the United States would give a conventional pledge to permit the unrestricted

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ingress of Japanese labourers. That is not her policy. She is open to much theoretical reproach on account of her general attitude toward Oriental labour, but it must be presumed that she knows what she wants and what she does not want a good deal better than other folks know it.

As for the drafting of the American Treaty, it seems to us better than that of the British. Perhaps some improvement in that respect might have been reasonably expected.

JAPAN IN KOREA.

HAD Korea been in a less corrupt and miserable condition, Japan's interference might not have been necessary and Japan's programme of reform would have been achievable without provoking the complications now apparent. But in truth, Korea was a species of Augean stable and the process of clearing it out involved at once herculean toil and wide-spread commotion. The MING family stood in the fore-front of the obstacles to be swept away. The QUEEN is the head of that family. She is plainly a lady of great talent and still greater ambition, and the influence exercised by her over her pliant Consort gradually brought about the occupation of all high offices of State by her own relatives and their friends. The members of the MING family may have excellent administrative ability and their monopoly of official posts might be the happiest thing possible for Korea under different circumstances. But there are two fatal objections to their tenure of power: one is that they are pledged to the restoration of Chinese supremacy; the other, that their faith in Chinese systems is founded on purely selfish motives. In those systems they find the widest scope for corruption and peculation, and to be corrupt and to peculate represent their interpretation of official opportunities. It was necessary to commence the scheme of reform by ousting the MINGS. With that object their immemorial enemy, the TAI WÖN-KUN, was raised to the chief place of power. But though the TAI WÖN-KUN was very willing to welcome reform as a stepping-stone to his own recovery of executive control, he did not care a pin's point about reform for reform's sake. What is more, he was just as deeply imbued as the MING family with Chinese proclivities, and being a man of heroic methods, he at once opened secret correspondence with the Chinese Generals in Phyöngyang, proposing to them a project of simultaneous attack by themselves and the Tonghaks upon the Japanese troops in Söul. The crafty old Prince failed to cover his tracks completely in this matter. Proofs of his treachery came into the hands of the Japanese Representative, who quietly pointed out to him that while free to attach himself as a private gentleman to whatever friends he pleased, he could not be permitted to hold the Regency in a Government pledged to reform when in reality he was working in the interests of conservatism. After that, voluntary retirement became a golden bridge for the old man, and his fall from power was softened by an intermediary stage in which we find him acting as Court Superintendent. The motive of his appointment to that position was evidently to impose a check upon the QUEEN'S ambitious schemes by bringing her under the direct surveillance of her habitual enemy. But even as Court Superintendent the TAI WÖN-KUN did not prove a success, and he is now enjoying the dignified ease of private life. After that followed a thorough change of Cabinet, the nine portfolios being given to three neutral conservatives, three moderate progressionists, and three declared progressionists. At the same time, each Department of State received the assistance of a Japanese Adviser. Having thus provided a sympathetic body of Administrators, Count INOUYE proceeded to formulate his programme of reform in explicit terms. On the 20th and 21st of December he submitted it to the KING, and obtained the Royal assent. A translation of the document having already appeared in these columns it need not be reproduced here. Briefly speaking, it consists of projects belonging to the general sphere of administrative, legal, and financial reform, and of particular changes dictated by the special conditions existing in Korea. The latter are the more interesting. A good idea of them may be gathered from the terms of the oath that the KING of Korea has just taken before the tombs of his ancestors. A telegram from Söul, dated 7.30 p.m. on the 7th instant recapitulates the 14 clauses of the oath as follows:—

1.—To abandon all national reliance upon China, and in all things to proceed upon the assumption of Korea's absolute independence.

2.—To enact a Law of the Royal House clearly establishing the order of succession and distinguishing between the direct line and its branches.

3.—Personal superintendence of national affairs by the Sovereign acting with the advice of the Cabinet Ministers; and further rigorous exclusion of the Queen, any of her relatives, or any Court lady from intermeddling in State affairs.

4.—Court affairs and State affairs to be clearly distinguished beyond all danger of confusion.

5.—The competence of the Cabinet and of the State Departments to be distinctly defined.

6.—Taxes to be levied in strict conformity with law and with the rates legally prescribed, no other impost of any kind being levied under any pretence whatever.

7.—The functions of collecting taxes and applying their proceeds to be discharged entirely by the Finance Department.

8.—Retrenchment of public expenditures to commence with the Court by way of furnishing a precedent and example to other Departments and offices.

9.—The outlays of the Court and of the Administration to be regularly estimated and the national finances duly systematized.

10.—The system of Local Government to be reorganized and the competence of Governors defined.

11.—Young men of ability to be sent abroad for study.

12.—Military conscription to be introduced and measures inaugurated for the proper training of officers.

13.—Civil and penal codes to be enacted for the security of life and property and to guarantee the people against arbitrary confinement or punishment.

14.—Class distinctions to be abolished, and ability only considered in the appointment or promotion of officials.

Several of the above conditions are aimed at special abuses, and the whole constitute a scheme of reform, the successful carrying out of which would mean the dawn of happiness and prosperity for the people of the Peninsula. But unfortunately the people of the Peninsula appear resolved that the new era shall be born in blood. The latest intelligence speaks of virtually the whole province of Chhollado as being in a state of revolt, the Tonghaks having persuaded or coerced no less than a million of the provincials to join their insurrection. If these Tonghaks were fighting for national freedom, they would deserve sympathy. But having submitted tamely for year after year to the yoke of China their sudden opposition to a power undertaking to relieve them of that yoke cannot be reconciled with any real love of liberty. They are in truth mere political tools. Last Spring, they raised the standard of revolt against the extortion and oppression of the MING family, who then monopolized the public offices. This winter, they are fighting in the interests of the self-same MINGS, and therefore against Japan's programme of reform, which aims at putting an end to all corruption and oppression. It would be extravagant to expect that Japan should achieve without friction or disturbance the immense task undertaken by her in Korea. But as she is working, not more in the cause of the peace of the East than in the interests of a nation's regeneration, it is to be hoped that no obstacles will deter or discourage her.

THE IRISH PROBLEM.

THAT crux of six centuries, the Irish problem, seems as far as ever from a solution, to judge from two articles on the subject that appear in the November number of the *Nineteenth Century*, one by Mr. REDMOND, entitled "What has become of Home Rule?" the other by Mr. EDWARD DICEY, "Justice to Ireland, a Rallying Cry."

Mr. REDMOND'S note is one of war. He is thoroughly dissatisfied with the attitude of the Liberal Party, recognizes the apathy of the English electorate, thinks absurd the talk of a campaign on the Home Rule issue against the House of Lords, and advocates dissolution of the alliance between the Nationalists and the Gladstonian party. The Liberals, he says, have failed to fulfill their pledges to the Irish people, and it is time to return to the obstructive policy by which Mr. PARNELL for years harassed the two great English parties. When the English electorate has learned its lesson,

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when it has fully recognized the fact that the Irish Nationalist party can and will block the way to English reform until England has granted justice to Ireland, both parties alike will be glad, says Mr. REDMOND, to solve the Irish problem by granting all that Irishmen can desire.

Mr. DICEY'S article opens by asking what it is that Irishmen mean by the demand for justice to Ireland. As a member of the Liberal Party he himself assented, he tells us, to one measure after another which, however much he disapproved of them on abstract grounds, he, in common with the majority of thoughtful Englishmen, was willing to accede to on the ground of justice to Ireland—more especially because each measure was to be the last, the one thing needed to make Ireland prosperous and contented. He now utterly declines to make any further concession on the strength of assurances that if he only yields to this last demand he will reap the reward of his previous sacrifices of principles and policy. The time has come to turn our attention to justice to England. The way in which he proposes to secure this is ingenious. The great evil of English politics at present is the existence in the House of an Irish faction sufficiently powerful to make one or other party truckle to secure its support. In the days of unreformed parliaments this evil was not felt—and here, in justice to Mr. DICEY and ourselves, we will quote his own words:—"The bulk of the Irish constituencies were under the direct control of the Protestants and English garrison in Ireland, and, whatever the defects of the Irish landlords may have been, they were, as a rule, loyal to the interests of the United Kingdom. *At the same time the representatives of the few independent Irish constituencies were in most instances amenable to private considerations, by which their support could be secured to the cause of law and order.* The evil I refer to only began to display its true existence when, having reformed our own Parliamentary representation, we consented, in deference to the justice to Ireland plea, to grant the same suffrage to the Irish as we possessed ourselves. Ever since the great Reform Bill we have had in Parliament a succession of Irish parties who, however much they may have differed in other respects, have been at one in constituting a disturbing and discordant element in British politics."

It would not have damaged Mr. DICEY'S case if, instead of employing the euphemism "amenable to private considerations" in the sentence that we have taken the liberty of italicising, he had said frankly that until comparatively recent years it was possible by the free use of direct or indirect bribery, to prevent the free ventilation of Irish grievances in the English House of Commons. But let us go on to consider the remedy he proposes.

The present Government, he says, feeling that it is losing its hold on the country, is about to jerrymander the electorate. It propose next session to introduce a bill to abolish plural voting, and to reduce the residential qualification for lodger voters to a period of three months. The Government believe, that "one man one vote," and a large increase in what may be called the migratory electorate, would improve the prospects of the Liberals in a considerable number of doubtful constituencies. Such a bill, if passed by the Commons, would place the Lords in a position of considerable embarrassment. On the one hand, to pass it might result in the return of a new Home Rule majority from the jerrymandered electorate; on the other, to reject it would give the Liberals a plausible cry against the Lords with which to appeal to the country—for "one man one vote," and, practically, manhood suffrage, are accepted principles of modern democracy. Now Mr. DICEY suggests that the proper course is for the Unionists, with a rallying cry of "Justice to England," to insist on an immediate further application of the principles of democracy, and to demand equal electorated districts. "If," says Mr. DICEY, "we are to govern by counting heads, irrespective of brains, let the heads, in the name of common sense, be counted in accordance with the rules of arithmetic." The results of such a reform would be striking. To mention a conspicuous anomaly of our representative system, London, with a considerably larger population than the whole sister kingdom; has 63 representatives, while Ireland has 103. The net result of the proposed change is thus summed up by Mr. DICEY: "Leaving odd fractions out of account, a simple sum of division will show that if the United Kingdom were divided into 670 equal electoral districts, each comprising as near as possible a population of a little over 57,000 souls, the Parliamentary representation of the different kingdoms would stand about as follows:—

England	486
Ireland	87
Scotland	71
Wales	26
	670

Thus Ireland would lose sixteen votes, and Scotland one, all of which under equal electoral districts would go to England, thus increasing the English representation by twenty-three. It may be said that this gain is not very large one, but from a Unionist point of view the gain would far exceed these not inconsiderable proportions. If seats were redistributed according to population, the great towns in England would gain very largely, at the expense of the small boroughs and of the agricultural counties; while in Ireland the manufacturing and progressive North would have a great augmentation, if not an actual preponderance, of representation in comparison with the agricultural and unprogressive South. In other words, as things are, give the complete command of electoral power to those parts of the United Kingdom which form the strongholds of the Unionist and Conservative party."

It would obviously be impossible for the Liberal party to refuse to sanction its own principles; and were such a measure carried, the vote would be comparatively insignificant, the "predominant partner" would once more have her own way, and Ireland would no longer block the path of English reform.

No doubt, if it all turned out as Mr. DICEY supposes, the *Irish Parliamentary difficulty* would be solved: but it would be quite another matter with regard to the *general Irish problem*—that would be further than ever from solution. Mr. DICEY vouchsafes us no hint of how the new Unionist Government would then proceed to deal with the problem of Irish disaffection. The kernel of the Irish difficulty is this, that the Irish Nationalists regard the English rule in Ireland, to quote Mr. REDMOND'S words, as "a monstrous foreign tyranny;" and those who are familiar with Irish history can feel no surprise that they do so regard it. And no measure of self-government that the English Government is ever likely to grant would satisfy the Irish canons of "justice to Ireland." Americans, whose sympathy with the Irish demands is well-known, often say: "But Ireland asks for nothing more than is conceded to every one of our States. Putting on one side the question whether the cases are at all parallel, and also the question whether England could ever be brought to assent to so large a measure of Home Rule as that possessed by the various States of the American Union, there can be little doubt that, even were this granted, there would still be a large section of Irishmen who would regard as a "monstrous foreign tyranny" the refusal by the Imperial Parliament of the right of imposing other customs duties than those that obtain in Great Britain, and the maintenance by the Imperial Army of an English, not Irish, standard of law and order. At any rate, it was the conviction, right or wrong, on the part of Mr. DICEY and others holding the same views, that Ireland would never be satisfied with any concessions short of entire separation, and it was this belief, that any lesser measure of Home Rule than this would merely accentuate Irish difficulty and disorder, that led to the Liberal Unionist secession. The ultimate resort of complete separation is one to which the "predominant partner" is never likely to consent; though complete separation might well be better than the policy of the past, alternate coercion and concession, which will probably also be the policy of the future. The Government of Ireland is an unhappy legacy left to us by the sins of our fathers, and we seem destined to hand it down with undiminished powers of vexation to our children's children.

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CORRESPONDENCE.

[Our readers must distinctly understand that we are in no sense responsible for the sentients or opinions of our correspondents, for the accuracy of their assertions, or for the deductions they may choose to draw therefrom.]

THE TREATMENT OF HIRED HORSES.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—May I trespass on your space to say a word in favour of the wretched ponies who at this bitter season of the year may be seen daily standing from 9 o'clock in the morning until late in the afternoon, without blanket or other covering, outside houses in the Settlement and on the Bluff. It is, I believe, a common practice for persons, who have hired a "basha" to instruct the job-master to send it every morning to their residence at or, even, before 9 o'clock. There it waits standing in the road until wanted. Perchance, the first service it renders is to take the "danna-san" to the office. Then it returns and takes the "okusama" out shopping. Then, having taken her home, it again returns to the Settlement to fetch the master of the house for tiffin. During 1 and 2 it enjoys a rest, and I hope, the contents of its nose-bag; but is again requisitioned to take Madame out for her afternoon calls, and lucky it is, if it finishes its work at 5 or 6 p.m., and does not have to take the whole family out to dinner or dance in the evening, and wait to bring them home until 11 or 12 at night. This, Sir, I *know* is no exaggerated picture of the ordinary day's work of the hired carriage pony, and I challenge denial. I even predict that it will be maintained that, after all, the labour is not very severe. Let each *man's* opinion be as it may, I appeal to the most ordinary feelings of humanity and ask that at least each wretched animal may be furnished with a blanket during the next few months and *that each master and mistress should see that it be used* while the pony waits in the road.

Surely, sir, this is not a great thing—blankets are not dear, and if people will take a very small modicum of trouble the condition of the poor animals will be very much improved.

I am, dear Sir, yours truly,

"HOUVHNHNM."

Yokohama, January 7th, 1895.

P.S.—It should be noted the above complaint is directed wholly against those who *hire* ponies. *Owners* are much too alive to the value of the animals to treat them as described. H.

PRESBYTERIANISM IN JAPAN.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—A letter signed "Satori Kato" having appeared in your issue of yesterday, we request the privilege of inserting an answer to the same from the pen of Dr. Wm. Imbrie, which also appeared in the New York *Tribune*, and a further answer which was recently sent to the *Tribune* from here over our signatures. We regret the necessity of thus troubling you, but the publication of Mr. Kato's letter allows us no alternative, as it has allowed none in America.

Yours truly,

(Signed) T. T. ALEXANDER,
H. M. LANDIS,
D. B. McCARTEE,
T. M. MacNAIR.
(per T. M. MacNair.)
Members of the Presbyterian Mission in Tokyo.

Tokyo, January 4th, 1895.

Being absent from Tokyo when the communication referred to above was sent, my name was therefore not included among the signatures; I heartily concur in requesting the publication as above. Sincerely yours,

JAMES M. McCAULEY.

I desire that my name be appended as approving the publication of the matter requested by the above.

GEO. P. PIERSON.

A REPLY TO THE STATEMENTS MADE BY SATORI KATO.

To the Editor of the *Tribune*.

Sir,—My attention has been called to a letter in the *Tribune* of November 6, signed Satori Kato, and entitled "Presbyterianism in Japan." Had the letter appeared in Japan, where the facts and the persons are known, no reply would have been needed; but appearing in this country, the case is diffe[rent]. If Mr. Kato's statements are allowed [to pass] without contradiction, injustice may be [done] to the Presbyterian and Reformed churches, and also to the Church of Christ in Japan. I therefore speak a word in behalf the absent.

Many of Mr. Kato's statements are so extravagant as almost to carry with them their own refutation. He says:—

"The majority of the Church not only sympathize with the higher criticism, but openly insist upon the fallibility of the Holy Bible. It even proposes to revise the hymn-book so as to have its hymnology conform to its theology. The committee appointed in the last Synod is composed of its liberal men." "The deposition from the ministry of the Revs. Naomi Tamura and H. Ishawara, the latter without a trial, is nothing more than a scheme to drive out the orthodox brethren." "The Confession of Faith has opened the door to socinianism." "The understanding of the Synod when the Confession was accepted was that various grades of anti-Trinitarians may be received into the Church." "Undoubtedly the proposition to adopt the Apostles' Creed was a pious scheme under cover of a different theology than what appears on the face." "The Church, except a small portion of the Church government, has entirely worn out the Presbyterian garment." "The Meiji Gakuin, an institute supported by the Dutch Reformed and the American Presbyterian missions, is a champion of the most radical theology in Japan." "There are a number of ministers who are eager to seek the restoration of sound doctrine. Yet unfortunately they are unpopular with the missionaries with a few exceptions."

All of these statements pass the bounds of truth; some of them are simply imaginary. Take as examples those regarding the hymn-book, and the deposition from the ministry of Messrs. Tamura and Ishiwara. I have inquired of a Japanese friend, quite as well informed regarding the movements in the Church as Mr. Kato, and the only purpose in the revision of the hymn-book that he knows of is the addition of new hymns and the literary improvement of old ones. The committee appointed to the work are Dr. Verbeck, Mr. MacNair, Mr. Togawa, and an elder whose name I do not recall. The reasons for the selection of this committee are clear. Dr. Verbeck and Mr. Togawa are chosen because of their literary skill; Mr. MacNair, for his knowledge of music. It is of interest to add that Dr. Verbeck is one of the missionaries whom Mr. Kato expressly excludes from the number of those who are prejudiced against ministers holding evangelical views. The deposition of Mr. Tamura from the ministry may fairly be regarded as too severe a penalty for the offence charged. This was the view expressed by them to the Synod; but Mr. Tamura's orthodoxy had nothing whatever to do with the matter. No action was taken by the missionaries in the case of Mr. Ishiwara. Not because the circumstances were not known, for some of the missionaries (such men as Drs. Verbeck and Thompson) were members of the presbytery that deposed him; but for other reasons Mr. Ishiwara was deposed, not because he was evangelical in his theology, but because he was guilty of adultery.

There are two statements in Mr. Kato's letter, of which he makes much, and which are extremely misleading.

It is true that in 1890 the church newspaper advocated a revision of the Confession of Faith. I presume Mr. Kato's quotation is correct: "We profoundly regret the effort to import foreign ideas, and any willingness to swallow them. The standards framed at Augsburg, Dort, and Westminster are not needed in Japan." But when Mr. Kato suggests that the position of the paper was that of rationalism, he suggests what is not true. What the paper stood for was a short, simple creed, to be accepted by ministers and people alike.

It is also true that in 1888-91 a wave of rationalism swept over Japan. Nor will it be denied that it occasioned great anxiety and wrought much harm. But it is not true that the Presbyterian Church was submerged. The only minister in the entire body who departed from the faith was Mr. Kato himself. He united with the Unitarians.

Mr. Kato comes before the Church as one of a little band who are seeking for "a restoration of the truth in Japan." These "faithful orthodox brethren are making a move to organize a pure Presbyterian Church." The first step in this advance is a criticism of the present Confession of Faith. This Confession Mr. Kato describes as "thoroughly antagonistic to the standards of the Presbyterian Church." Perhaps it would be sufficient to say in reply that this is the creed upon which two years ago the Church was cordially welcomed to membership in the Alliance of Reformed Churches holding the Presbyterian system. But Mr. Kato's criticism of the Creed is valuable as casting light upon his accuracy and trustworthiness in other matters. He says:—

"The Creed speaks of 'the Lord Jesus Christ, whom we exalt as God'; therefore there is no affirmative statement on the divinity of our Lord Jesus." What Mr. Kato quotes is only the beginning of a sentence. The entire sentence is as follows: "The Lord Jesus Christ, whom we worship as God, the only begotten Son of God, for us men and for our salvation was made man and suffered."

2. "There is nothing found respecting the divine personality of the Holy Ghost." The words of the Creed, which Mr. Kato himself quotes in part, are: "The Holy Ghost, Who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, 'reveals Jesus Christ to the soul," etc. Is there any clearer way in which to express the truth?

3. "The statement 'a perfect sacrifice for sin' does not represent that a vicarious atonement was made through the Lord's crucifixion." It is true that the words "vicarious atonement" do not appear; but it is likewise true that the Creed sets forth in simple language the evangelical truth of a propitiatory sacrifice as the ground of justification. The sentence reads: "He offered up a perfect sacrifice for sin; and all who are one with Him by faith are pardoned and accounted righteous."

4. "No definite reference is made to the corruption of human nature." The Creed says:—"The Holy Ghost, who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, reveals Jesus Christ to the soul; and without His grace, man being dead in sin, cannot enter the kingdom of God."

(4.) "The Confession does not recognize the divine authority of the Bible." On this point the statement of the Creed is:—"By Him (the Holy Ghost) the prophets and apostles and holy men of old were inspired, and He, speaking in the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments, is the supreme and infallible Judge in all things pertaining unto faith and living."

But to the intelligent reading of Mr. Kato's letter it is necessary that one be acquainted with a bit of history. As already stated, when the wave of rationalism swept over Japan, Mr. Kato became a Unitarian and entered the employment of the Unitarian Mission. In order to take this step he requested that his name be dropped from the roll of the presbytery of Tokyo. That request was granted with all courtesy. When, however, he decided to apply for readmission to the Church, he did not present his application to the presbytery of Tokyo, to which he had formerly belonged and within whose bounds he resided, but to another one situated at a distance. His admission by that presbytery was regarded by the presbytery of Tokyo not only as an act lacking in courtesy, but also as one imperilling the order and faith of the Church. It was thought that a minister abandoning the Church to embrace Unitarianism should appear before his old presbytery and satisfy it that he was at last really established in the faith. The presbytery of Tokyo therefore declined to recognize Mr. Kato as a minister until conference could be had with the presbytery which received him, or at least until the reception of official notice of his admission. This excited Mr. Kato's anger, and led to a virulent attack by him in the newspapers upon the president of the Meiji Gakuin. A second fact needs to be known by one reading Mr. Kato's letter. Last year it transpired that he was planning to come to this country with the intention of appealing for funds to carry on an independent work. The Presbyterian Mission thereupon drew up a paper setting forth its views regarding Mr. Kato and his purpose, and seeking to dissuade friends from furnishing him financial aid. This letter has since been published by the Board.

But in conclusion the question naturally arises, What is the theological position of the Presbyterian Church in Japan?

Early in the present year there were several matters which seemed to a number of the ministers and elders of the Church worthy of attention. One of these was the agitation of the question of a revision of the Confession of Faith to which Mr. Kato refers. Coupled with this was the repeated assertion on the part of Mr. Kato and one or two others that the ministry in general did not accept the Confession in sincerity. A meeting was therefore held which was attended by some fifty of the ministers and elders, among them most if not all of those to whom Mr. Kato refers in his letter. A resolution was adopted unanimously, affirming on the part of all their sincere acceptance of and loyalty to the Confession, as containing the essential truths of evangelical Christianity. That is the answer of the men themselves to Mr. Kato's assertion and insinuations.

To this it may be worth while to add the following:—It is what I wrote a year ago in a letter to a friend, and without any thought of Mr. Kato in mind. What I said then I repeat now:—"I do not know of any more accurate way to describe the theological position of the Church in Japan

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than to say that it resembles that of the Church in this country. There are in our General Assembly those who are classed as liberals; these are those also who are classed as conservatives; and between the two there is a third class who stand rather for toleration. That condition is found in Japan also. The chief difference between the two Churches is, I should say, that in Japan the number of those standing for toleration is relatively larger." WILLIAM IMBRIE.

Lawrenceville, N. J., Nov. 17, 1894.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "TRIBUNE."

SIR,—The admirable reply of Dr. Wm. Imbrie published in your issue of Nov. 22nd to a letter headed "Presbyterianism in Japan," and signed Satori Kato, which latter appeared on Nov. 6th, forstalls a similar communication which we had prepared and would otherwise have forwarded to you. Under ordinary circumstances further reference to the subject would be unnecessary. Dr. Imbrie has, however, been absent from Japan since early in 1893, of which fact Mr. Kato may make use, and therefore a word of confirmation directly from here may not be amiss.

As members of the Eastern Japan Mission of the Presbyterian Church (North) we heartily endorse what Dr. Imbrie has written, and would add that the brief, simple, comprehensive, and irenic creed adopted by the Church of Christ in Japan (with which body the various Presbyterian and Reformed missions are in co-operation) was substituted for the Westminister Confession, the Heidelberg Catechism, and the Canons of the Synod of Dort, not because these venerable standards were "too orthodox," but rather because they were to the young and growing church like the armour of Saul to the youthful David. No one claims that this creed is complete and final. It will no doubt be added to as occasion demands; but as it stands it is thoroughly evangelical and is no way "antagonistic" to these standards, and as the creed of the Japanese church it is peculiarly acceptable to Japanese Presbyterians. That the society of "faithful orthodox brethren" that had been formed, as Mr. Kato says, to enquire into the vexed question, failed in effecting any result, was due, 1st, to the fact that work and not discussion was believed to be the need of the hour—the latter would only have precipitated the church into conditions for which as a whole it is unprepared; 2nd, the society was a very small body, and 3rd, there were those who thrust themselves into the fore front of the movement who have not been distinguished hitherto in church affairs either for wisdom, orthodoxy, or especial piety. Under these circumstances, profitable discussion was not to be hoped for.

The *Weekly Evangelist* (Fukuin Shuho), denounced by Mr. Kato as being the chief agent in securing the present creed, has had no connection with the missions since last July. In many respects the paper had been an agent for good, and Mr. Kato would find it difficult to prove his assertion that it "repeatedly declared in favour of the fallibility of the Holy Scriptures and against soundcreeds" (as creeds) "of Christianity."

As to Theological "unsoundness" amongst the directors of the Meiji Gakuin, it is sufficient only to cite the promptness and unanimity with which the services of an otherwise valuable lecturer were dispensed with in the current year, because he was discovered to have Unitarian affiliations. The charge that its Theological Department is "fully steeped with semi-rationalism" has as little foundation. Not one of its professors holds or teaches semi-rationalistic views. The examinations for the fall term have just closed. In point of orthodoxy they would compare favourably with the examinations of any seminary of the Presbyterian Church in America. The tone of the school is seriously and earnestly evangelical.

Mr. Kato's statement that "Briggsism is spread broadcast in the pale of the church and has run wild," received a practical refutation recently, yet long enough ago for him to have been aware of the fact. A similar charge having been made from another and outside quarter, to test its truthfulness some of the Japanese brethern sent letters of inquiry to all the Ministers of the Church of Christ in Japan, with the result that while some denied holding such views the majority replied:—"We do not even know what the peculiar views of Dr. Briggs are."

Japan has had, however, its full share of rationalistic teachings and literature. All the so-called "liberal" schools have also their organs. These have been widely circulated, and the demand for freedom of religious thought has been vigorously made. It would be too much to affirm that never a doubt or question has arisen in the minds of any of our Japanese brethren; but it is to their credit that with but few exceptions they have held fast to all the essential features of our faith. From personal acquaintance with them we say unhesitatingly that their doctrinal views are evangelical and substantially orthodox, and that they are far more interested in questions of practical importance than in theological speculation. Mr. Kato's assertions that "the deposition from the ministry of Mr. Tamura and Mr. Ishiwara, the latter without a trial, is nothing more than a scheme to drive out the orthodox brethren, has no foundation in fact. Mr. Tamura was deposed for what his Japanese brethren believed to be unministerial conduct in writing for gain a book, flippant in style, partial in its statements, and thus calculated to bring immerited shame upon the whole Japanese nation. He had opportunity given him to correct certain sweeping statements in this book, "The Japanese Bride," but he refused to accept it. Mr. Ishiwara was deposed on charges of gross immorality. The presbytery sought in every way to clear him and shield him from unnecessary exposure, but the evidence obtained by an investigating committee was strongly against him, and as he repeatedly refused to appear before his co-presbyters to make explanation or for any other purpose, there was no recourse but to deal with the case in the light of evidence.

A word in regard to the theological position of the Presbyterian and Reformed Missions in Japan may be necessary. We desire it to be understood that with scarcely an exception they are pronouncedly conservative, and therefore any favouring of heterodoxy or of a "liberal party" as such is out of the question.

To those who are familiar with Mr. Kato's ecclesiastical history, his arraignment of the Presbyterianism of Japan in both doctrine and polity have singular, and despite its serious nature, a ludicrous setting. He not only enjoys the distinction of being the first and almost only Presbyterian minister who has yielded to "liberal" or heterodox influences, but while the Church was framing an evangelical creed he was advocating a creedless Unitarianism. He was the author of a book called "Christ," otherwise popularly known as the "Unitarian Bible," from which the supernatural was eliminated. Before he left the Church of Christ in Japan to became a propagandist of Unitarian tenets, while he was yet a trusted minister of an orthodox congregation, he used his opportunities to undermine the faith of many less capable than himself of judging of the relative merits of orthodoxy and heterodoxy. Matters of faith were then of so little importance to him that after a few months he sought to re-enter the Presbyterian ministry without any confession of renewed faith in its doctrines. Failing this in his former presbytery in Tokyo, he succeeded through a misunderstanding in obtaining entrance to a Presbytery in the south of Japan. He was thus the direct cause of about the only unpresbyterial act with which the church can be charged, and this irregularity led to an immediate change in the constitution to prevent its recurrence. In defiance of Presbyterian practice, he chose not to take up work within the bounds of his new Presbytery, but returned to Tokyo where, in the intervals of superintending himself alone, as "Superintendent of the Tokyo Mission" (otherwise one small street-side preaching place) he has given himself to disturbing the peace both ecclesiastical and civil. The injury that Mr. Kato has done to evangelical Christianity during the past few years demands an atonement of a lifetime of *humble* service. This he declines to give. He prefers instead to travel about the world (he has already made a circuit of the globe and is now on his second visit to the United States) soliciting support for his work of "reforming" those who remained steadfast while he wandered, and who are to-day sincerely and faithfully endeavouring to preach, and prepare others to preach, Christ to the thousands of their countrymen who are as yet ignorant of Him and His redeeming grace.

T. T. ALEXANDER,
H. M. LANDIS,
D. B. MCCARTEE,
T. M. MACNAIR,
Members of the Presbyterian Mission in Tokyo.

December 28th, 1894.

BIMETALLISM AND H.B.M.'s CONSUL AT SHANGHAI.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—As Mr. George Jamieson was so well known to many of your readers in Yokohama and Tokyo during his temporary residence in Japan as H.B.M.'s Acting Judge, I believe the following letter, which I take from *The Times* of the 20th November, will be read by them with much interest. To those who like myself, confidently look forward to the rehabilitation of silver at no very distant date, I would recommend a careful perusal of the most excellent paper Mr. Jamieson has recently published under the auspices of the Eastern Bimetallic League, entitled "Appreciation of Gold the cause of Industrial Depression in England." He demonstrates with undeniable force that "in the competitive manufacturing industries of the world the divergence of value between gold and silver will inevitably lead to a gradual transfer of the seat of all the great manufactures from gold-using to silver-using countries." There are some Japanese who advocate a gold standard for Japan. The adoption of such a course would be suicidal. Her prosperity depends in very great measure on the fact of her being silver using with a large field and capacity for the extension of manufacturing industries of varied description.

I am, Sir, your obedient Servant,
STABLE RATIO.

Tokyo, January 7th, 1895.

SIR H. MEYSEY-THOMPSON'S BIMETALLIC PRIZE.

TO THE EDITOR OF "THE TIMES."

SIR,—Last summer I offered a bimetallic prize of a silver cup and £25 in sovereigns for the essay which pointed out most clearly and plainly the great injury which has been caused to producers in this country by our present monometallic system, and that the divergence in value between gold and silver must inevitably lead to the transference of the seat of all the great manufacturing industries of the world from England to the silver-using countries of the East

I am happy to inform you I have received many excellent essays, not only from England but also from the Straits Settlements, Japan, China, and South Australia.

The prize has been adjudged to Mr. George Jamieson, Her Britannic Majesty's Consul, Shanghai, China

I remain, your obedient Servant,
H. M. MEYSEY-THOMPSON.

Kirkby Hall, York, Nov. 18.

THE JAPANESE NEW TESTAMENT TRANSLATION.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—"Epsilon," in replying to Mr. McCaleb's question regarding the propriety of the use of *tadashiki*, seems to me scarcely to have given the right answer. There is propriety for the use of *tadashiki*, or there is not, according to the meaning of the Greek *κρίσις*. We cannot translate merely words. Their respective meanings in different languages seldom are exactly the same. To translate *κρίσις* simply with *sabaki* in this passage leaving the rest unchanged, would certainly be a serious blunder. "*Sabaki*" means "judgment," "sentence;" *κρίσις* can mean this, also "right," "justice," "a just cause," ideas certainly never expressed by *sabaki*. In translating this, translators had to ask themselves: what is the meaning here of *κρίσις*? how can we best render it into Japanese? And they had good authority (*e.g.* Hachett, Gloag, Schaff) for taking the meaning to be not "judicial sentence" but "judgment due to him," "the rights of justice and humanity." I myself think that another interpretation is more correct, viz., "the punishment appointed him was taken away, i.e., was ended" (cpr. Thayer *in loco*), but then we will have to do away not only with *tadashiki* but also with *ubawaretari*, for *αἴρω* means here then "to cause to cease," a meaning certainly not expressed by *ubau*. We must translate not words, but ideas, and this is what the translators of the Japanese New Testament have done.

As to the word *Fo-hitsuji*, in 1 Tim. 3:11, the criticism of "Epsilon," that it is an unnecessary and misleading interpretation, is just, but here also the mere verbal translation of the R. V., "women," fails to give what is the meaning of the Greek. It was the best that could be done without adopting definitely one or the other of disputed interpretations, but as long as the ambiguity of the Greek word could not be maintained some translation more restricted to the sense of the whole passage, rather than one still wider and more indefinite than the Greek, would have been desirable. The translation of the R.V. can make the exhortations of v. 11 applicable to women in general; the meaning of the Greek text evidently does not favour this general application. Weitsaecher's translation—so admirable in many ways—maintains the proper balance: "Die Frauen ebenso." I doubt that the Japanese language can in this follow the German and the Greek. In view of the translation of *γυνή* as [redacted] in v. 12, perhaps the same translation in v. 11 would be the best that could be done, for the reference in v. 11 is most probably to wives of deacons. In any case a mere translation of the word, except where significations are identical, is

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not good translation, and the translators of the Japanese Testament, of whom I am not one, were within their proper rights in rendering the Greek by such Japanese words as they considered to convey most truly the meaning of the original.

Respectfully,
A.

January 8th, 1895.

BRITISH INCOME TAX.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—As a large proportion of your readers are doubtless interested in this subject, we trust you will consider the paragraph printed on the fly sheet of sufficient importance to publish in your columns.

Your obedient servants,

THE INCOME-TAX ADJUSTMENT AGENCY.

The Income-Tax Adjustment Agency,
52, Queen Victoria Street,
London, E.C., Nov. 9th, 1894.

BRITISH INCOME TAX.

Many persons permanently residing out of the United Kingdom being unaware of the fact that such residence entitles them to a remission of British Income Tax under certain circumstances, may we be allowed to state briefly what these circumstances are. Persons who have been resident out of the United Kingdom for a period of not less than twelve months, or one complete financial year (which commences April 6th), and whose total net incomes for either or each of the past three years ending April 5th, 1894, derived from property, investments, or other sources in the United Kingdom, did not amount to £130 per annum, were entitled to total exemption, consequently they can obtain repayment of the amount of tax paid in error or improperly deducted during that period, while those whose incomes amounted to £130, but were less than £400, are entitled to be repaid the tax on £120.

Under the Finance Act now in force, incomes not exceeding £160 are exempt, incomes not exceeding £400 are entitled to an abatement as to £160, and incomes not exceeding £500 as to £100. It is not necessary to declare income derived from any source outside, notwithstanding it is paid within the United Kingdom, except it be desired to claim repayment of any tax that may have been deducted therefrom. Of course, if the tax has been deducted, and the inclusion of such income would not disentitle the claimant to exemption, it is advisable to include it. It is not going too far to say that there are thousands of persons with incomes derived from investments paid "free of income tax," or where the tax has been deducted from the dividends, rents, or interest before being paid over to them, who are ignorant of or have lost sight of the fact that the amount of such tax deducted is recoverable in all cases where their incomes have been under the limit entitling them to exemption or abatement. It should not be forgotten that it is not too late to claim the return of the tax overpaid or improperly deducted in respect of the three years ended April 5th, 1894. Persons residing out of the United Kingdom must appoint an agent in the United Kingdom to make their claims and receive payment of the tax refunded on their behalf.

MESSRS. DEAKIN BROS., LIMITED.

An extraordinary meeting of shareholders of Messrs. Deakin Bros., Limited, was held in the Company's office on Wednesday afternoon to confirm a resolution passed at a recent meeting, viz:—"That the Company be wound up voluntarily under the provisions of the Companies Ordinance of Hongkong, and that a Liquidator be appointed." There were present, Messrs. J. Rickett (Chairman of the Board), A. J. Wilkie, E. Andreis, T. H. Box, J. McLean, Dr. Hall, Messrs. J. Eyton, C. K. M. Martin, W. J. S. Shand, and Dr. Gravatt.

Dr. GRAVATT, upon a quorum being present, asked leave to address a few remarks to the meeting upon some misapprehensions which had arisen as to the floating of the Company by the original board of directors. He was justified, he felt, in speaking upon these matters at what was doubtless the "death-scene" of the Company, and as he had been one of the original shareholders, they would pardon the seeming egotism which might attach to remarks upon his own action in the matter. He would speak about himself first. He had been told that he had been one of the principal promoters of the undertaking. That was an error: he was not a promoter, although he was one of the original board of directors. The promoters came to him and asked if he would consent to be become a provisional director, help draft a prospectus, and assist in some detail of work at the start of the company. They offered him altogether 50 shares. After a careful and thorough examination of the accounts of the old business, which had been prepared by a properly accredited accountant, who had investigated the books of the firm at the request of the promoters, he acce[illegible] the offer, and as great was his faith in [illegible] the enterprise that he [illegible] valuation of stock—that the stock was put down at very much more than it should have been valued at. Then as to the $80,000 for the goodwill, I don't think any charge can be made against the original board of directors in regard to that. They were not practical men, and had therefore to be guided by the advice tendered them by practical experts. I don't think that any one has ever accused any of the gentlemen the speaker has mentioned. If anything has been said, then it has come from an outsider, and not from any one in authority.

Dr. GRAVATT was very pleased to hear this, and obliged to the Chairman for the disclaimer. He did not connect the directors of the present board nor any one at the meeting with the putting forth of the accusations. Still they were "in the air" as it were, and he had heard them since his visit. He thought that that meeting would be a good opportunity to protest against them, and indeed he felt that it was only proper that a denial should be made. If there had been an error in judgment then he was willing to take his proper share in the blame of it. But he thought that there had been an error in judgment. A great deal of their misfortune could be ascribed to that wave of business depression which had passed over the world; while a good deal also might be put down to the incompatibility of carrying on such a business as theirs under the rules governing a limited liability company. A good deal, too, could be ascribed to bad management and mismanagement. It was unnecessary to go far in seeking about for a cause for their misfortune, but in all fairness an "error in judgment" could not be used as a reason for the venting of their disappointment at non-success upon the original promoters of the company.

The CHAIRMAN said he was very glad Dr. Gravatt had made the remarks he did. It appeared to him that there were two causes for their failure. One was the misfortune of having originally invested in stock intended to be sold but which was not sold according to expectation—the sales falling through under circumstances over which the company had no control. Also, their failure could, in the second place, be attributed to the defalcations of their secretary. He thought every one would agree that the Company had not come to its present straits through any mal-practices of the original or the present board of directors; whatever malpractices existed that were the work of the late secretary, who had absconded and left the company in its present dilemma. The meeting was called that afternoon to confirm the resolution carried at the last meeting, a resolution proposing the voluntary winding-up of the company and the appointment of a liquidator. This resolution needed confirmation that day. As he had said at the last meeting, he was not in favour of a dissolution of the company. They were now in a better position than they had ever been before. They were practically out of debt, and if it had not been for the defalcation of their late secretary there would have been a credit balance at the Bank. The books would not have shown a profit: they would have shown a loss, but it did not follow that there would have been a loss at the end of the year. He regretted that the company was going into liquidation. They had a much brighter prospect of retrieving their losses than had several which had safely pulled other concerns through worse positions and were now flourishing concerns, not only here, but elsewhere in the world.

Dr. GRAVATT said that he was ignorant as to what transpired at the last meeting. If there was any real hope that a brilliant outlook was before the company, then it might be well for them to endeavour to tide over the bad time, but he could not see it. Did the proposition before the meeting place any restrictions of time or means of disposing of the business upon the liquidator?

The CHAIRMAN—There is none at all. I propose that we now take the minutes of the last meeting. Shall I read them?

Dr. GRAVATT said that it was hardly necessary to read the minutes: he would propose that they be taken as read.

Mr. J. MCLEAN seconded—Carried.

Mr. SHAND then proposed the confirmation of the resolution winding-up the company voluntarily and appointing a liquidator.

Dr. GRAVATT—That leads up to my question—is the liquidator restricted in his action? Is he bound to accede to the wishes of the shareholders in the matter of the liquidation? Can we remove from these premises, for which we are paying, I believe, $175—(The Chairman: $200)—a month; and can we dispose of the stock by public auction, and is it in our province to say how the goods shall be sold and the business cleared up?

The CHAIRMAN—It was proposed at the last meeting that a liquidator be appointed with two shareholders to assist him with advice. With regard to moving from these premises, that must

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be done. We can not go on paying $200 a month for these premises. We must go to a cheaper place. We have heard of a place where our stock could be on view and properly seen, for $50 a month rent. The method of disposing of the business is not decided. It is very difficult how best to decide in the matter. Some of the shareholders favour the idea of selling the business at auction as a going concern. Others are in favour of it being sold by piecemeal, the stock by itself, the furniture by itself, and the lease separately. We have no lease, but we can arrange in the event of any one buying the business as a going concern, for him to continue on here. We gave up the annexe at the Grand Hotel, as you all remember, and to do so had to pay something over $4,000. Now the question before us is the appointment of a liquidator and two shareholders to assist him with advice.

Dr. GRAVATT—Is this in accordance with the provisions of the Hongkong Ordinance?

The CHAIRMAN—I believe it is. Our legal adviser was of that opinion.

Mr. WILKIN—I second Mr. Shand's resolution.

Dr. HALL—What force have the shareholders in the advice they tender the liquidator? Is he to be guided by them, or is he independent?

The CHAIRMAN—To a certain extent he will be independent, but he will act in accordance with their advice. I think we might leave that to him and them.

Mr. WILKIN—If they are dissatisfied can they annul his appointment?

The CHAIRMAN—No.

Dr. GRAVATT said that the appointment of their liquidator would have to be approved by the Court, so that they could not afterwards annul his appointment. He hoped that the liquidation would not drag its weary length along for a year or more.

The CHAIRMAN—It will be the liquidator's duty to wind-up as speedily as possible. I think we can trust him to do that. It might be possible to wind-up the Company in three or four months. At least that was the opinion of their present secretary—a very good opinion too—and he advised them that it might be better to put their goods it godown and wait till the spring before they sold, than to sell off at once, when nobody was here to buy. The board had canvassed among the curio merchants here for the disposal of their stock, but none seemed willing to embark in the venture. The stock was old.

Mr. BOX—We shall be put to the expense of having our liquidator's appointment legally confirmed, I suppose?

The CHAIRMAN thought that the fees would be very small.

Mr. BOX wished to know whether it might not be cheaper for the present board to realize their assets themselves than to appoint a liquidator to do it at a commission. If the goods were sold at auction there would then be two commissions to pay—the auctioneer's and the liquidator's. It seemed unnecessary to appoint a liquidator if they could realise their assets cheaper and more expeditiously.

Mr. EYTON believed that when the Turkish Bath Company went into liquidation the appointment of a liquidator did not necessitate any fees.

Mr. MARTIN—Was that a registered company?

Mr. EYTON—Yes.

Dr. GRAVATT said he had looked up the Ordinance and found that under a voluntary liquidation no confirmation from the Court was necessary.

The CHAIRMAN—The liquidator takes the place of the present board from the day of his appointment.

Mr. ANDRIES agreed with Mr. Box that it would be better to sell the goods by auction or otherwise, and appoint a liquidator afterwards, if it would be cheaper to do so.

The CHAIRMAN pointed out that it could not be cheaper, for if no liquidator was appointed, the Company must continue in its present premises and keep up its staff, etc. The present board had, he might remind them, received no remuneration whatever for their services.

Mr. BOX was aware of that fact, and felt very sorry that it was so. But he was one who had been hit very hard through the company's failure, and now thought they should go to work as economically as possible in winding-up.

The CHAIRMAN—Well, it will be cheaper to appoint a liquidator and two shareholders as his advisers, and get into cheaper quarters. It will be the best thing for us.

Dr. HALL understood that no amendments could be made to the proposition.

The CHAIRMAN then put the proposition to the meeting and it was carried.

The CHAIRMAN announced that there were two applications for the position of liquidator, one was from Mr. Ure, the other from their secretary, Mr. Fearon. Both offered the same terms, 5 per cent. on the gross receipts.

Mr. SHAND proposed that Mr. Fearon be appointed.

Mr. MCLEAN seconded.

Mr. WILKIN thought the language regarding the advisory committee of two was very vague.

The CHAIRMAN—The liquidator has one casting vote.

Mr. WILKIN—Yes, but does it imply that he will feel bound by the advice of the majority in any matters requiring a vote?

The CHAIRMAN—Yes, I presume so.

Mr. FEARON said he should feel so bound if appointed.

Dr. HALL—That answers my question. Mr. Fearon will act on the advice of the majority even though it be against him.

The CHAIRMAN—I think this would be a very good opportunity to-day, and quite within the province of the meeting, for any shareholder to offer his opinion as to the manner in which he thinks it best to accomplish the winding-up of the company. It would be a guide to the liquidator and his advisers if any shareholder would offer any suggestion.

Dr. GRAVATT—A couplet comes to my mind in this connection:—"If it were done, 'twere well it were well done quickly."

Mr. WILKIN—Very good.

Mr. BOX thought 5 per cent. on gross profits was too high a commission. Considering the circumstances of the company, it would be ample if 2½ per cent. were given. If the business and stock fetched $10,000, the commission would, at 5 per cent., amount to $500. This was a lot for very little work.

The CHAIRMAN said that the liquidation might run into several months, and then the remuneration would not be too much.

Mr. BOX was sorry to have to urge such a thing, but he really must do it out of consideration of the company's circumstances. He would formally propose that the commission be 2½ per cent.

No person rising to second, the amendment fell through, and the original proposition was carried.

Mr. BOX asked if it would be in order to bring up a discussion as to the disposal of the goodwill. It was not worth a red cent. in the open market, but it might fetch a considerable amount if offered to a certain person who might like to retain the trade name.

The CHAIRMAN said that the liquidator would certainly endeavour to sell the goodwill to the best advantage.

Mr. BOX—My advice is to hang on to it as long as possible, even after the other assets are sold.

The CHAIRMAN—You understand that the power of the board expires from now.

Mr. FEARON, in returning thanks for being appointed liquidator assured shareholders that he would endeavour to do his best for them. He hoped to carry out the liquidation with credit. The disposal of the goodwill had better be left to him and his advisory associates. He might be able to advise several ways of disposing of the stock and goodwill. He thought that they would sell better in the spring.

Mr. ANDRIES proposed that Mr. Rickett and Mr. Wilkin be appointed to advise the liquidator.

Both gentlemen declined. Other names were suggested, but eventually

Dr. HALL proposed that the selection of the two advisors be left to the Secretary, who would duly appoint them.

Mr. EYTON seconded.—Carried.

Dr. HALL then proposed a vote of thanks to the late board of directors.

Mr. BOX seconded.—Carried.

Mr. RICKETT having returned thanks, the meeting dispersed.

"DESCENDED FROM THE GODS."

"Descended from the Gods." . . . . .
. . . . . Aye, and these same gods
The scorching Sun, the blasting death-fraught Hurricane,
The *Strife* of warring Earth, and Sea, and Air!
"Descended from the Gods," . . . . . .
True; these pygmy of human mould do hide and hold
Somewhat of all the ungoverned madness of the Universe!
The mobile-features pass from change to change.
When leash is slipped that holds the beasts within,
What marvel! . . . Now upon this face is writ
The white, dread flash of Anger's murder;
Swift, blasting Hate's most cruel craft;
Envy's slow death-purpose; . . . . . .
And,—viler, lower still,—(the blood-beasts loosed),
Change the dull tissues till they show what mocks Despair,
And sinks man lower than the Grave!
Yet marvel we! The subtle lines of baseness melt and fade,
As if at touch of unseen, soothing hands.
See, now, the face of him "Descended from the Gods,"
Upon the brow the conscious Pride that knows itself of noble birth;
A lofty Peace; and Love, as of the Heavens brooding over weary Earth;
The Glory of a Light, like that which heralds birth
Of all the glad profusion of the soil;
A calmness, as of Stars that lure the soul to vaster heights;
Such Pity as gives Rain to still the thirsty flocks!
All this is writ upon the brow of him
Who is "Descended from the Gods."
And they who love Him, His touch may thereon see
. . . . . The God of gods, and men and mystery.

K. E.

HONGKONG NEWS.

It is reported, says the *Singapore Free Press*, that there are great troubles in Manila. Serious defalcations have been discovered in the Treasury, the sum of money missing being stated to be no less than $800,000. The president, the secretary, and the cashier to the Treasury have been placed under arrest. It is also reported that the Spanish officers of the *Mindanao*, having a considerable amount of money in hand deposited it with a foreign trader: he and the $90,000 are now missing.

The *Chinese Mail* (*Wah Tze Yat Po*) relates a very improbable story. It says that the Chinese arrested in Chinese Kowloon for secretly enlisting soldiers for the Japanese under the cloak of getting up emigrants, and another Chinaman arrested in the Heung Shan district for the same crime, were decapitated several days ago. A proclamation has been issued by the Yun Yu magistrate warning the people not to follow the example of these two criminals, else they will share the same fate.

H.M.S. *Gibraltar*, Capt. MacLeod, arrived in Hongkong on Sunday morning, Dec. 30th, from Portsmouth. She left Portsmouth on the 17th ult. and made the usual run, calling at Gibraltar, Malta, Port Said, Suez, and Aden. She left Colombo on the 25th inst., and with the exception of a little rough weather at the outset and again in the China Sea, the voyage has been what one of the officers termed placid and uneventful. The following is a list of the ship's officers:—Captain Angus McLeod, Commander Oliver A. Stokes, Lieut. William B. Fawckner, Lieut. Archibald P. Stoddart, Staff Paymr. Alfd. W. Askham, Staff Engineer William H. Matthews, Engineer Herbert B. T. Cox, Captain Fitzroy T. H. Scott, R.M.L.I., Chaplain Rev. Richd. S. Hartley, Gunner William Martin, Boatswain William Platt, Carpenter Benjamin J. Richards. There are 606 people all told on board, of whom 24 officers and 332 men are for the ships on the China station, the list of officers being:—Lieutenants—Henry J. W. Neville, Robert Sterling, Arthur R. Waistell, Saml. M. Agnew, H. A. Gillett; Sub-Lieuts.—Jno. Harvey, M. C. Allenby, Ed. H. Rymer; Staff Engineer Wm. H. Mitchell; Engineer Robt. B. Garde; Assistant Engineers—F. J. Roskruge, J. D. Wilson, Fredr. C. Haste, George H. Duiston; Staff Surgeon Wm. G. K. Barnes; Surgeons—Hubert Holyoake, Ed. T. Meagher, Arthur E. Kelsey, Reg. J. Fyffe; Assistant Paymasters H. O. Jones, Ed. H. Innes; Gunners—Hy. B. Howell, William Fiddick, and Boatswain John Cock. The *Gibraltar* is a first-class, twin-screw, steel cruiser, of 7,700 tons displacement. She was built in Glasgow in 1892 at a cost of £347,634. Her dimensions are, length 360 feet, breadth 60 feet, and draught 23.9 feet. Her engines, by Napier, are of 12,000 indicated horse-power, her speed being 19.7 knots. She has accommodation for 850 tons of coal, and with this she can steam a distance of 10,000 knots at 10 knots. Her armament consists of two 22-ton, ten 6-in Q. F., twelve 6-pdr. Q. F., five 3-pdr. Q. F., 7 machine guns, and four torpedo tubes.

The annual mobilization of the Hongkong Garrison is fixed to take place from the 15th to the 19th January. Major-General Barker has asked both branches of the Volunteer Corps to take part in the manœuvres, as they have done for the last two years. The Field Battery will man the 64-pounder guns in the South Shore Battery of Stonecutters' Island on the night of the 7th January and will have 7-pounder practice on the afternoon of Saturday, 9th January. The destination of the Maxim Gun Company has not been determined, but they are expected to turn out on the afternoon of the 17th and 19th prox. The Annual Challenge Cup competition with 64-prs. will take place at Stonecutter's on the 26th January (Chinese New Year).

The steamer *Monmouthshire* brought out to Hongkong several gun mountings (heavy and small), and the cruiser *Gibraltar* brought out from home a spare 6-in. quick firing gun for the Naval Ordnance Department. The *Gibraltar* was timed to leave early on Monday, Jan. 7th, for Chefoo, following the example of the *Crescent*, *Edgar*, and other recently-arrived cruisers by carrying naval stores from Hongkong to Chefoo for the use of Admiral Sir E. Fremantle's squadron. H.M.S. *Mercury* is expected to arrive at Hongkong from the north to make good defects preparatory to going to Singapore as senior officer's ship. The steamer *Moldavia*, which came out from home with a cargo of coal for the use of the fleet, sustained some damage whilst discharging alongside the various war-ships in the north. She will take down to Hongkong a large quantity of condemned stories, and will be repaired by the staff of the Naval Yard in Hongkong.

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PRESBYTERIANISM IN JAPAN.

We have been asked to reproduce the following letter from the *New York Tribune*:—

The men of the Christian churches in our country separate the colours of the banner (doctrine) as they please in their interests. They confuse one another and hold their own angle of position according to the separated opinions. Some, flying the sign of humanitarianism, refuse the Divine authority of our Lord Jesus Christ. And some insisting on the new theology, assault the Atonement. This is the statement by a most trustworthy native minister, the Rev. Shuho, Wada, in a native Christian weekly, dated July 5, 1894.

Disastrous digression from the orthodox faith is found in the Japanese churches, especially in the Presbyterian and Congregational. A native Congregational press had an article concerning the recent Synod of the Japanese Presbyterian Church as follows:—"The American Presbyterian Church with which the Japanese Presbyterian has a close relation has had for years continual controversy in theology. The struggle between conservatism and liberalism has reached its extremity, and there has been a crisis. In the United States conservatism still flourishes, and the majority in the General Assembly support this view. On the contrary, the influence of conservative theology in the Japanese Presbyterian Church is remarkably weak. It is not likely to regain its power."

The majority of the Church not only sympathize with the higher criticism, but openly insist upon the fallibility of the Holy Bible. It even proposes to revise the hymn-book, so as to have its hymnology conform to its theology. The committee appointed at the last Synod is composed of its liberal men. The deposition from the ministry of the Revs. Naomi Tamura and H. Ishihara, the latter without a trial, is nothing more than a scheme to drive out the orthodox brethren.

At all events, Briggsism is spread broadcast in the pale of the Church, and has run wild. Its confession of faith has decidedly opened the door to Anninianm, Socinianism, and other ideas which admit hurtful errors into Christian doctrine. The understanding of the Synod held in December, 1890, when the new confession was accepted, was that various grades of anti-Trinitarians and those who insist on the fallibility of the Holy Bible may be received into the Church. The reports of many missionaries are to be interpreted with a certain degree of caution. No doubt some of them endeavoured to advocate the revision of the confession in such a way as to put them in good standing with their mother churches at home. According to their own expression, it seems as if their sole duty is to avoid "all that might be calculated to give umbrage to our Japanese brethren here, or give rise to misgivings among our churches at home." Therefore, they seek to make everything quiet and calm. They were thus (unwittingly, we hope) seeking a union—a broad union—between heterodoxy and orthodoxy.

The scheme of the union of the Presbyterian and Congregational churches, about which there was much noise for some time, failed in 1889. The Japanese Presbyterian Church since then took up the subject of the revision of its confession in such a way as to become more liberal. The confession adopted in 1890 is the Apostles' Creed, with a brief preface, which runs only about 110 words in an English translation. Undoubtedly the proposition to adopt the Apostles' Creed was a pious scheme under cover of a different theology than what appears on its face. The Japanese Presbyterian Church hesitated to establish connection with the Alliance of the Reformed Churches because there was fear of an approval of the reformed creed, which was too orthodox to suit their tastes. Indeed, "in this change the Church has utterly revolutionized its original nature, and, except a small portion of the Church government, she has entirely worn out the Presbyterian garment. As far as the confession is concerned she apparently jumped out from Presbyterianism."

The state of affairs as mentioned above was brought into the Church in the following manner:

First—During 1888-91 iconoclastic waves inundated the whole primitive community of Protestants in Japan. Many native ministers travelled in the United States and Europe and brought back to Japan radical views in theology. One of them, a Congregationalist, stated:—"It must be asserted that the saying that the remission of sins and eternal salvation will be given through an obscure matter of so-called 'faith in Christ' has been expelled in the advanced religious thought of to-day. The creed has been made the sword to divide the Church of Christ, and the Bible a store of arms for theological disputants. The creed and the Bible have oppressed the European Protestant churches like a papal authority, who are eager to seek the restoration of sound doctrine. Yet they are unfortunately unpopular with the missionaries, with a few exceptions, like the Rev. G. F. Verbeck, D.D., the Rev. G. P. Pierson, and the Rev. Hugh Waddell. Most others practically throw their influence on the side of the so-called "leaders," who are heterodox. The missionaries undoubtedly do this through weakness, because they imagine that any accusation of heterodoxy is prejudicial to the cause of Christ. The determination by orthodox ministers to make a pure Presbyterian Church is not for the purpose of making a schism, but in the interests of truth and righteousness. We dare not remain passive while the standards of the Church and the Word of God are being broken down in a ruthless manner.

The Japanese people outside of the Church are not altogether willing to trust to their "own merits" for salvation, and they are always willing to be rational. The Protestant doctrine of justification by faith, salvation through grace, that is, in Jesus Christ, is always acceptable to them. The Gospel fits all creatures. They found their salvation in Jesus—the God man. As Dr. Ellinwood, a leading man in the missionary enterprise, says, "mere ethical knowledge cannot comfort the human soul." But the assertions of a creed like the one at present in the Japanese Presbyterian Church provoke scepticism most naturally. The worst of our obstacles are the western materialistic and secularistic views which are rapidly growing in these days in Japan.

Herewith I give a summary of the present condition of the Japanese Presbyterian Church: (1) The Church is not Presbyterian in its confession, and in the practice of its polity: (2) Heterodoxy is tolerated, but not orthodoxy: (3) The theological seminary, the Meiji Gakuin, is fully steeped with semi-rationalism: (4) the missionaries, with some exceptions, I am thankful to say, favour the liberal party. At any rate, they are inactive as far as the restoration of sound theology is concerned; (5) as a result, the Church is not growing.

I believe that the present confession is thoroughly antagonistic to the standards of the Presbyterian Church. I believe the present condition of the Church, if continued, will result in a fearful disaster to the Christian movement in Japan, and these terrible results would be a judgment upon the Church and upon these ministers who may think rightly but are afraid to act rightly. It reminds me of the Presbyterian Church of England, which once went into Unitarianism through the teachings of the clergy and the practical independence of the laity.

We depend upon God for a restoration of truth in Japan. But to whom shall we look as leaders in this sore time of need but to those who have the courage to stand up and face the fight and suffer the consequences? Our preservation as a Church depends upon our fidelity and loyalty to the commission which we have received to hold forth the light of Christ's truth. We must not allow ourselves to be cheated out of that truth. "The greatest glory of Christians is to transmit their faith to their children."

SATORI KATO,
Superintendent of the Tokyo Mission.
New York, October 5th, 1894.

CHESS.

(All Communications to be addressed to the Chess Editor.)

The Yokohama Chess Club meets at the Club Hotel, No. 5, Bund, on Monday and Thursday in each week from 5 to 11 p.m.

The Tokyo Chess Club meets at the Tokyo Hotel every Friday from 1 to 11 p.m.

Solution to Problem No. 157.

WHITE.	BLACK.
1—P to K 4	1—Anything
2—Mates accordingly.	

Correct solutions received from Omega, J.D., W.H.S., Shogi, Digamma, and Krug.

Solution to Problem No. 158.

WHITE.	BLACK.
1—Kt to K B 5	1—K × R
2—Kt to K B 6	2—K × Kt or moves
3—Q to K B sq. mate.	

Correct solutions received from W.H.S., Omega, E. J. King, J.D., Krug, and Shogi.

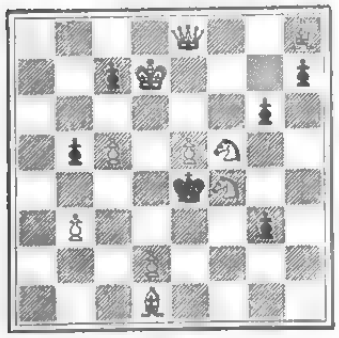
J.D. and W.H.S. are also credited with correct solution to Mr. Stubbs' puzzle No. 17.

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Problem No. 160.

By Maximilian Frigl.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in three moves.

The last American mail brings us the following news from New York:—"The score of the Albin-Showalter match now stands 8 to 4 in favour of Showalter, four games having been drawn. In the sixteenth game the Austrian once more adopted the French defense, while Showalter again tried his favourite way of attack, Queen to Knight's fourth. The game was beautifully played on both sides, and although Showalter forced the pace repeatedly, Albin always found a way out of the difficulty. After sixty-one moves a draw was agreed upon. Owing to Mrs. Showalter having been advised by her doctor not to engage in any chess play for the present the chess match with Mrs. Worrell stands adjourned.

Leipsic Tournament.

The game played between Suechting and Lipke, in which the former managed to obtain a draw by perpetual check and deprived Lipke of the first prize, is an interesting one and well worthy of careful study:—

Game No. 204.

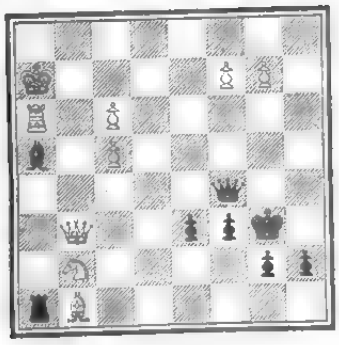
VIENNA GAME.

WHITE. Lipke.	BLACK. Suechting.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—Q Kt to B 3	2—B to B 4
3—P to B 4	3—P to Q 3
4—Kt to B 3	4—Kt to K B 3
5—P takes P	5—P takes P
6—Kt takes P	6—Castles
7—Kt to B 3	7—Kt to B 3
8—B to B 4	8—B to K Kt 5
9—P to Q 3	9—Kt to K R 4
10—Kt to Q R 4	10—B to Q 3
11—Castles	11—Kt to K 4
12—B to Kt 3	12—Kt takes Kt
13—P takes Kt	13—B takes P ch.
14—K takes ■	14—Q to ■ 5 ch.
15—K to Kt sq.	15—Q to Kt 6 ch.
16—K to R sq.	16—Drawn game.

End-Game No. 18.

Ending of a game played at Lyons between M. Harvey (White) and M. Guinet (Black). From *La Stratégie*.

WHITE.



BLACK.

Black to play and win.

BLACK.	WHITE.
(a) 1—Q to K B 7 ch.	1—Q to K Kt 2
2—B to K Kt 6 ch.	2—K to ■ sq.
3—Q to K 8 ch.	3—Q to Kt sq.
4—R takes R ch.	4—K to Kt 2
5—R to R 7 ch.	5—Q takes R
6—Q to K B 7 ch. and wins.	
(b) 1.....	1—K to R sq.
2—B to Kt 6, &c.	

Chess in Sydney.

A Smart Skirmish.

Game No. 205.

VIENNA GAME.

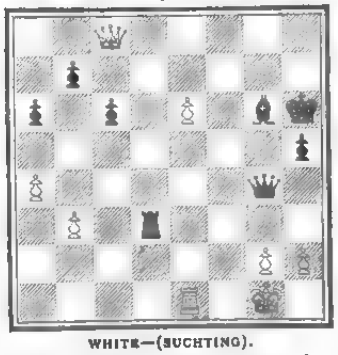
WHITE. Mr. X.	BLACK. Mr. Y.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—Kt to Q B 3	2—Kt to Q B 3
3—P to B 4	3—P takes P
4—Kt to K B 3 (a)	4—P to K Kt 4
5—B to B 4 (b)	5—B to Kt 2
6—P to Q 4	6—P to Q 3
7—P to K R 3	7—P to K R 3
8—Castles	8—Kt to B 3
9—Q to K 2	9—Castles
10—P to K 5	10—Kt to K R 4
11—P to K 6	11—P takes P
12—B takes P ch.	12—K to R sq. (best)
13—Kt to R 4 (c)	13—P takes Kt
14—Q takes Kt	14—B takes B
15—P to Q 5	15—R to B 4
16—Q to Kt 6 (d)	16—Kt to K 4 (e)

And White resigned.

(a) Or 4—P to Q 4—Steinitz Gambit.
(b) 5—P to K R 4 results in the Hampe—Allgaier.
(c) An ingenious but unsound sacrifice, as Black's next four moves demonstrate.
(d) Inferior to 16—Q to Q sq.
(e) Winning the Q rather prettily. White has nothing better than 17—Q takes B, to which Black replies with 17—R to ■ 3.

End-Game No. 19.

BLACK—(JANOWSKI).



WHITE—(SUCHTING).

Close to the adjournment Janowski, a piece to the good, thought to hurry on, and with this result:—

WHITE.	BLACK.
1.....	1—R to Q 7
2—Q to R 8 ch.	2—K to Kt 4
3—R to K 5 ch.	3—B to B 4
4—Q to Kt 7 ch.	4—K to R 5
5—Q to B 6 ch.	5—Q to Kt 4
6—Q takes Q ch.	6—R takes Q
7—P to K 7 and wins.	

Black overlooked that his Bishop would be pinned in this final position, and the oversight cost him the game. Interposing at R 2 would at least have drawn.

A Brilliant Skittle.

The following off-hand skirmish was played on May 22nd last between Messrs. Hall and Crane. Mr. Hall was in a sacrificial humour, and made the game entertaining and instructive.

STEINITZ GAMBIT.

WHITE. W. Crane.	BLACK. G. B. Hall.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—Kt to Q B 3	2—Kt to Q B 3
3—P to B 4	3—P takes P
4—P to Q 4	4—Q to R 5 ch.
5—K to K 2	5—P to Q 4
6—P takes P	6—B to Kt 5 ch.
7—Kt to B 3	7—Castles
8—P takes Kt	8—B to Q B 4
9—Kt to Q Kt 5 (a)	9—P takes P
10—P to B 3 (b)	10—P takes Kt
11—B takes P	11—Kt to B 3
12—B to Kt 3	12—Q to R 4 (c)
13—K to B 2	13—Kt to K 5 ch.
14—K to Kt sq.	14—R takes P! (d)
15—P takes R	15—R to Q sq.!
16—B to K 2	16—R takes P!! (e)
17—Q takes R (f)	17—B takes Kt (g)
18—P takes B	18—B takes Q ch.
19—K to Kt 2	19—Kt to Kt 4!
20—P to K R 4 (h)	20—Kt to K 3
21—K R to K sq.	21—Q to Kt 3
22—B takes Kt P (i)	22—Kt to B 5 ch.
23—K to R 2	23—Q to B 7 ch.
24—B to K 2	24—Kt takes B
25—K to R 3	25—Kt takes B
26—K takes Kt	26—B to B 7 ch.

White resigned.

(a) All book so far, White should now have played B takes P ch.
(b) Kt takes P ch. was the move.
(c) Mr. Hall thought Q to R 5 stronger; but we prefer R 4.
(d) A fine sacrifice.
(e) A succession of fireworks.
(f) If 17—Kt takes R—B takes B wins.
(g) Beautifully continued.
(h) To stop the mate and gain time.
(i) An error; 22—K to R 2 equalised the game.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[Reuter "Special" to "Japan Mail."]

London, January 6.

Captain Dreyfus has had his epaulettes stripped from his shoulders and his sword broken in the presence of 5,000 troops of the Paris Garrison.

Prince Hohenlohe has paid a visit to Prince Bismarck in compliance with the request of Emperor William, who follows shortly on a similar errand.

London, January 10.

M. Rousseaux goes to Tonquin [as Resident-General].

The Red Cross Society of Great Britain has voted the sum of £500 to the Red Cross Society of Japan.

London, January 10.

Dissensions among the Democrats will probably prevent the passing of the Currency Bill during the present session, and President Cleveland in that case threatens an extra session.

M. Lacour has been reëlected President of the Senate.

["Special" Telegram to "Japan Mail."]

Nagasaki, January 7, 7.20 p.m.

The Pacific Mail steamship *City of Rio de Janeiro* has run ashore on the coast of Satsuma. The accident happened shortly after passing Van Diemen's Straits, and it is reported here that her bottom is badly damaged, but no further particulars are to hand. The Mitsu Bishi Company's tug-boat *Yugao Maru* has left this to render assistance to the stranded vessel and obtain information as to her exact position.

Nagasaki, January 10, 11.40 a.m.

Information has reached this port that the *City of Rio de Janeiro* struck upon an unknown sunken rock on Sunday afternoon, and that Captain Smith beached his ship for the purpose of effecting a temporary stoppage of the leak. The damage was found to be forward of the foremast, where there was a hole 15 feet by 4 feet on the starboard side. Having patched up the hole, the *Rio* proceeded under easy steam, but it being subsequently discovered that water was again coming in, Captain Smith selected a safe and suitable spot and again beached the vessel for more effective repairs. A quantity of cargo in the fore-hold had to be jettisoned, but that in the other holds is intact, and other parts of the ship are tight and undamaged. The passengers, mails, and specie were transferred to the *Yugao Maru*, sent hence to the *Rio's* assistance, and have all been landed safely at this port. The *Rio* will be effectually repaired where she lies so as to be able to make this port in safety, and may be expected to arrive here in a few days.

Nagasaki, January 11, 4.20 p.m.

The weather is favourable, and the *City of Rio de Janeiro* is expected to arrive at this port on Sunday.

(From the "Siam Observer.")

London, December 20.

The barbette battleship *Magnificent* was launched to-day.

London, December 21.

The Times, in a leading article on British East Africa, urges the Government to build forthwith a railway connecting the coast with Uganda.

St. Petersburg, December 20.

The Russian Government has sanctioned an increase in the duty on cotton.

Sydney, December 21.

The first cricket match between Stoddart's Team and All Australia concluded yesterday.

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It resulted in a victory for Stoddart's team by ten runs. The match lasted six days.

(From Tonkin Papers.)

Paris, December 23.

The Press and public opinion unanimously approve the decision in the Dreyfus case, and regret is expressed that under the law of 1848 the prisoner could not be condemned to death.

December 24.

The Cabinet has introduced a Bill rendering any military man guilty of treason in time of peace liable to death.

December 25.

In the Chamber of Deputies, on the introduction of the law relating to treason, M. Jaurès abused the Ministers, and the Chamber expelled him.

A duel with pistols between M. Jaurès and M. Barthouin had no result.

December 27.

Parliament will probably adjourn this evening.

The situation in Italy shows no improvement. The opposition is agitating.

(From Japanese Papers.)

San Francisco, January 9.

The new Treaty between Japan and the United States has met with no opposition in the Senate, and will now be endorsed by the President at no distant date.

The public opinion of citizens of the United States is that the time has not yet arrived for the restoration of peace between Japan and China.

The U.S. Government has no connection with Mr. Foster's engagement as adviser to the Chinese Envoys.

Hiroshima, January 10.

A party of Japanese soldiers dispatched to attack Kaiping was expected to reach there yesterday; the assault was to have taken place to-day.

Nagasaki, January 9.

The *Chiyoda Kan* left here to-day for an unknown destination.

Hiroshima, January 9.

The Bureau of Command of the First Army was lately removed to Suiyen. Residents along the Antung-Suiyen road have returned to their houses, and are resuming their business operations. They have heartily welcomed the Japanese troops, and seem determined to have nothing more to do with the Chinese Government.

Shanghai, January 9.

A Pekin telegram, dated the 9th inst., states that a famous military leader of the Mahommedan auxiliaries in the western provinces has arrived there (Pekin), and has informed the Government that all the Mahommedans of those provinces have promised to aid in fighting against Japan.

Nagasaki, January 10.

The U.S. *Charleston* arrived here to-day from Chefoo.

Aomori, January 11.

The principal residents of this port propose to send a deputy to the capital to petition the Diet to open this port for trade between Russia and Japan.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Sunday, Jan. 13th.*
From America	per P. M. Co.	Tuesday, Jan. 22nd.†
From Hongkong	per O. & O. Co.	Thursday, Jan. 17th.‡
From Canada, &c.....	per C. P. R. Co.	Monday, Jan. 21st.§
From Europe, via Brindisi	per M. M. Co.	Sunday, Jan. 20th.‖
From Europe, via Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd	Wed'day, Jan. 23rd.
From Hongkong	per C. P. R. Co.	Thursday, Jan. 31st.
From America	per P. M. Co.	Sunday, Feb. 3rd.
From America	per O. & O. Co.	Tuesday, Feb. 12th.

* *Peiho* left Hongkong on January 4th. † *City of Peking* left San Francisco on January 3rd. ‡ *Oceanic* left Hongkong on January 9th. § *Empress of India* left Vancouver on January 7th. ‖ *Melbourne* (with French mail) left Hongkong on January 22th.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For Victoria, B.C., & Tacoma, Wash.....	per N. P. Co.	Sunday, Jan. 13th,
For America	per O. & O. Co.	Friday, Jan. 18th.
For Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Saturday, Jan. 19th.
For Hongkong	per C. P. R. Co.	Monday, Jan. 21st.
For Europe, via Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd	Friday, Jan. 25th.
For Europe, via Shanghai	per M. M. Co.	Saturday, Jan. 26th.
For America	per P. M. Co.	Saturday, Jan. 26th.
For Canada, &c.	per C. P. R. Co.	Friday, Feb. 1st.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Nestor, British steamer, 1,658, Asquith, 5th January,—Liverpool viâ ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Nagato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,160, G. W. Conner, 5th January,—Yokosuka 5th January, Light.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tetartos, German steamer, 1,578, Lawsen, 5th January,—Otaru, Coal.—Hokkaido Tanko Tetsudo Kaisha.

Glenshiel, British steamer, 2,240, R. D. Jones, 6th January,—Middlesboro' viâ ports, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Liddesdale, British steamer, 1,716, A. Clarke, 6th January,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Natal, French steamer, 4,038, Verron, 6th January,—Marseilles 25th November, Hongkong 28th December, Shanghai 1st January, Nagasaki 3rd, and Kobe 5th, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

Peru, American steamer, 2,540, D. E. Friele, 6th January,—Hongkong viâ ports, 29th December, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Tsukushi Maru, Japanese steamer, 636, J. Will, 6th January,—Yokosuka, General.—Mitsui Bussan Kaisha.

Boynton, British steamer, 1,630, Irving, 7th January,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Strathmore, British steamer, 1,836, Cunningham, 7th January,—Fushiki, Rice.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Fuyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 875, Eden, 8th January,—Moji, Coal.—Mitsu Bishi Sha.

Cassius, German steamer, 1,830, Unruh, 8th January,—Otaru, Coal.—Hokkaido Tanko Tetsudo Kaisha.

Else, German steamer, 747, Christiansen, 8th January,—Moji, Coal.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Victoria, Norwegian steamer, 582, Neilson, 9th January,—Kobe 7th January, General.—Nada Kogio Kabushiki Kaisha.

Cam, British steamer, 1,630, Mathias, 9th January,—Otaru viâ ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Gaelic, British steamer, 2,690, W. G. Pearne, 10th January,—San Francisco 24th December, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Lawang, German steamer, 1,578, von Binzer, 11th January,—Hamburg viâ ports, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

DEPARTURES.

Eskdale, British steamer, 1,575, Houston, 5th January,—Otaru, Light.—Hokkaido Tanko Tetsudo Kaisha.

Maple Branch, British steamer, 1,935, Hutchinson, 5th January,—Otaru viâ ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Pathan, British steamer, 1,763, Wright, 5th January,—New York viâ ports, General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Glucksburg, German steamer, 1,093, Thomsen, 6th January,—Kobe, Light.—Japanese.

Mount Lebanon, British steamer, 1,555, C. Hendry, 6th January,—West Coast, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tokai Maru, Japanese steamer, 634, McIvor, 6th January,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hokoku Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,560, Kawamuro, 7th January,—Kobe, Light.—Japanese.

Nagato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,160, G. W. Conner, 7th January,—Ujina, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Anger Head, British steamer, 1,826, Motyer, 7th January,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Daventry, British steamer, 1,876, Garnsworthy, 7th January,—Otaru, Ballast.—Hokkaido Tanko Tetsudo Kaisha.

Keemun, British steamer, 1,985, G. Gratton, 8th January,—London viâ ports, General.—W. M. Strachan & Co.

Auretta, British steamer, 1,729, Henderson, 8th January,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Gloucester City, British steamer, 1,686, Dwyer, 8th January,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Taiyick, German steamer, 903, Schuldt, 8th January,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Peru, American steamer, 2,540, D. E. Friele, 8th January,—San Francisco, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Victoria, Norwegian steamer, 582, Neilsen, 9th January,—Shinagawa, General.—Nada Kogio Kabushiki Kaisha.

Strathdon, British steamer, 1,720, Johnston, 9th January,—West Coast, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Nestor, British steamer, 1,658, Asquith, 10th January,—London viâ ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Cam, British steamer, 1,630, Mathias, 10th January,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tosa Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,200, J. B. MacMillan, 10th January,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Else, German steamer, 747, Christiansen, 10th January,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kara, British steamer, 1,507, T. Walker, 10th January,—Kobe, Sugar.—Butterfield & Swire.

Strathmore, British steamer, 1,836, Cunningam, 11th January,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Natal, French steamer, 4,038, Verron, 12th January,—Shanghai viâ ports, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per French steamer *Natal*, from Marseilles viâ ports:—Mr. and Mrs. Bayne, Mr. and Mrs. Dare, and Mr. Sarkies in cabin; Mr. de Souza in second class, and Mr. Delbongo in third class.

Per American steamer *Peru*, from Hongkong viâ ports:—Mr. Y. Kumamoto and Mr. P. J. Ackland in cabin. For San Francisco:—Captain W. G. Gould, Mrs. Gould, Mr. Harold Gould, and Mr. H. S. Ward in cabin.

Per British steamer *Gaelic*, from San Francisco:—Messrs. James Hesford, W. R. Matteson, T. D. McKay, Charles Crowther, Y. Yamaguchi, and L. S. G. Hunt in cabin. For Shanghai:—Miss J. M. Donohue, Miss Helen Galloway, Miss S. E. Kissack, Rev. and Mrs. H. Olive Cady, Miss Fanny Meyer, and Miss Jennie White in cabin. For Hongkong:—Dr. Edward W. Bonwill, Mr. Eugene T. Mehl, and Miss Alice Solberg in cabin.

DEPARTED.

Per British steamer *Ancona*, for Hongkong viâ ports:—Mr. J. N. Seymour, 2 children, and amah, Mr. V. Matthews, Mr. C. E. Campbell, Mr. Yamawaki Masakachi, Mr. H. Grimble, Mr. and Mrs. H. Hughes, Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Rust, Mr. Loumadier, Mr. Hansen, Mr. E. Buxton Forman, Mr. S. Hattori, Mr. S. Lauk, Mr. W. Axon, and Mr. G. Mumm in cabin, and 5 Chinese in steerage.

Per American steamer *Peru*, for San Francisco:—Mr. James Creelman, Captain and Mrs. W. H. Gould, Master Harold Gould, Mrs. Gray, Miss Imhof, Mr. James Rose, Mr. G. Matsuo, and Mr. J. Roberts in cabin.

Per French steamer *Natal*, for Marseilles viâ ports:—Mr. Chang Pan Man, Mrs. Melhuish, child, and amah, Messrs. H. G. Waggott, James Favre, Ah Fon, Philippe, C. Gravati, Captain Artemoff, Messrs. H. King, James R. Morse, O. Young Kwong, Chan Fat, l'Abbé E. Dionard de Lezey, and Harris in cabin, and one Japanese in steerage.

CARGOES.

Per British steamer *Ancona*, for Hongkong viâ ports:—Silk, 71 bales; Waste Silk, 20 bales.

Per American steamer *Peru*, for San Francisco:—

TEA.

	SAN FRANCISCO.	NEW YORK.	CHICAGO.	NON-TREAT.	OTHER CITIES.	TOTAL.
Yokohama ...	378	—	370	—	—	748
Hongkong	53	—	—	—	61	114
Total.....	431	—	370	—	61	862

SILK.

	SAN FRANCISCO.	NEW YORK.	HARTFORD.	TOTAL.
Shanghai	—	35	—	35
Hongkong	—	175	—	175
Yokohama	—	600	—	600
Total	—	810	—	810

Per French steamer *Natal*, for Shanghai viâ ports:—Raw Silk for Europe, 1,182 bales; Waste Silk for Europe, 157 bales. Treasure for Shanghai, $12,000.

REPORTS.

The British steamer *Gaelic*, Captain Pearne, reports—left San Francisco the 24th December

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at 4.04 p.m.; to the 30th had moderate north-east winds and fine weather; thence to the 10th January strong south-west and westerly winds and head sea; thence to port northerly winds and cloudy. Arrived at Yokohama the 10th January at 10.49 p.m. Passage, 16 days, 13 hours, 17 min.

VESSELS ON THE BERTH.

The following vessels are advertised as on the berth:—

For HAVRE, Hamburg, and Antwerp, viâ ports, on or about 12th January, the "MASCOTTE."—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

For TACOMA, Wash., viâ Victoria, B.C., January 13th, at Daylight, the "SIKH."—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

For FIJI, January 13th, at 10 a.m., the "AFGHAN."—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

For SAN FRANCISCO, January 18th, the "OCEANIC."—O. & O. S.S. Co.

For HONGKONG, viâ Hyogo and Nagasaki, January 19th, at 10 a.m., the "VERONA."—P. & O. S.N. Co.

For LONDON, Bremen, Hamburg, and Antwerp, viâ Suez Canal, January 19th, the "BRECONSHIRE."—Samuel Samuel & Co.

For HONGKONG viâ Kobe and Shanghai, January 21st, the "EMPRESS OF INDIA."—Frazar & Co.

For BOMBAY, viâ Kobe, Hongkong, Singapore, and Colombo, on or about 24th January, at Noon, the "ARROYO."—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

For HONGKONG viâ Kobe and Nagasaki, January 25th, the "NUERNBERG."—Norddeutscher Lloyds.

For SAN FRANCISCO, January 26th, the "CITY OF RIO DE JANEIRO."—P. M. S.S. Co.

For GENOA and Marseilles, Middle of January, the "MUSSA."—Samuel Samuel & Co.

For CANADA, United States, and Europe, viâ Vancouver, B.C., February 1st, the "EMPRESS OF CHINA."—Frazar & Co.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

Business generally has not been resumed after the New Year holidays, and the general tone is very dull and disappointing. In Grey Yarns and Grey Shirtings nothing has been done beyond a few small purchases as a kind of "first-foot" in the New Year. Fancies and Woollens have not even participated in this small trade, and the present outlook is gloomy.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE.	
Grey Shirtings—8¼ lb., 38½ yds. 39 inches	$2.25	to 2.90
Grey Shirtings—9lb, 38½ yds. 45 inches	2.50	to 3.25
T. Cloth—7¾, 24 yards, 32 inches	1.60	to 1.90
Indigo Shirtings—12 yards, 44 inches	1.70	to 2.35
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches	2.00	to 3.75
Cotton—Italians and Sattoens Black, 32 inches	PER YARD. 0.16	to 0.21
	PER PIECE.	
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	7.25	to 9.50
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches	0.85	to 1.00
Turkey Reds—2.0 to 2.4lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.60	to 1.70
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.80	to 2.00
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.25	to 2.55
Turkey Reds—4.8 to 5lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.75	to 3.05

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.	
Flannel	$0.30	to 0.50
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches best	0.32½	to 0.37½
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Medium	0 27½	to 0.30
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Common	0 20	to 0.25
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 25 yards, 31 inches	0.15	to 0 22½
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches	0.35	to 0.50
Cloths—Presidents, 54 @ 56 inches	0.60	to 0.65
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0.40	to 0 70
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 5lb, per lb	0.60	to 0.90

COTTON YARNS.

	PER PICUL.	
Nos. 16/24, Ordinary	—	
Nos. 16/24, Medium	$34.50	to 35.00
Nos. 16/24, Good to Best	35.50	to 36.00
Nos. 16/24, Reverse	—	
Nos. 28/32, Ordinary	—	
Nos. 28 32, Medium	36.00	to 36.50
Nos. 28/32, Good to Best	37.00	to 37.50
Nos. 38/42, Medium to Best	42.00	to 43.00
No. 32s, Two-fold	39 00	to 40.00
No. 42s, Two-fold	43.00	to 46.00
	PER BALE.	
No. 20s, Bombay	—	
No. 16s, Bombay	—	

METALS.

A little business has been done since the turn of the year: and the prospect of a good trade in the future, seems fairly bright.

	PER PICUL.	
Flat Bars, ¾ inch	$3.60	to 3.70
Flat Bars, ½ inch	3 70	to 3.80
Round and square up to ¾ inch	3.60	to 3.80
Iron Plates, assorted	3.70	to 3.85
Sheet Iron	4.90	to 5.10
Galvanized Iron sheets	9.00	to 9.25
Wire Nails, assorted	5.75	to 6.00
Tin Plates, per box	6.50	to 6.75
Pig Iron, No. 3	1.65	to 1.70

KEROSENE.

Quiet and firm. Nothing much done as yet. No fresh arrivals since the *Servia* a week ago. She brought about 65,000 cases Comet from New York.

Chester	$1.75	to 1.77½
Comet	1.72½	to 1.75
Devoe	—	
Russian Anchor	1.72½	to 1.75
Russian Moon	1.70	to 1.72½

SUGAR.

Brown—Arrivals exceed sales, but prices are unchanged; except for Manila sorts, which are slightly lower. Nothing done in Formosa kinds, either "spot" or "to arrive." White—Quiet and unchanged.

	PER PICUL.	
Brown Takao	$4.20	to 4.30
Brown Manila	4.80	to 4.90
Brown Daitong (New)	3.45	to 3.50
Brown Canton	3.70	to 4.25
White Java and Penang	6.60	to 6.70
White Refined	6.50	to 9.00

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

The large settlements noted in our last have been delivered and inspected. Prices are strong, especially for fine sizes, and the general stock is down to about 11,000 piculs, with no prospect of large arrivals, as many Filatures and Re-reeling factories are now closed for the winter. Available supplies to date are fully 49,000 piculs against 43,000 piculs at same date last season.

QUOTATIONS.—(NEW SILK.)

Hanks—No. 1	—	
Hanks—No. 1 (Shinshu)	—	
Hanks—No. 2 (Joshu)	—	
Hanks—No. 2½ (Shinshu)	—	
Hanks—No. 2½ (Joshu)	—	
Hanks—No. 2½ to 3	—	
Hanks—No. 3	—	
Hanks—No. 3½	—	
Filatures—Extra 10/12 deniers	—	
Filatures—Extra 13/15 deniers	Nom.	
Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers	$810 to	830
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den	810 to	830
Filatures—No. 1½, 10/14 deniers	730 to	780
Filatures—No. 1½, 13/16, 14/17 den	780 to	790
Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers	740 to	750
Filatures—No. 2, 13/18 deniers	740 to	750
Filatures—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	—	
Re-reels—Extra	—	
Re-reels—(Oshu) Best No. 1	—	
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 deniers	780 to	785
Re-reels—No. 1½, 13/16, 14/17 deniers	750 to	760
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	720 to	730
Re-reels—No. 2½, 14/18 deniers	—	
Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	—	
Kakedas—Extra	770 to	780
Kakedas—No. 1	750 to	760
Kakedas—No. 1½	730 to	740
Kakedas—No. 2	710 to	720
Kakedas—No. 2½	—	
Kakedas—No. 3	—	
Kakedas—No. 3½	—	
Kakedas—No. 4	—	
Oshu Sendai—No. 2½	—	
Hamatsuki—No. 1, 2	—	
Hamatsuki—No. 3, 4	—	
Sodai—No. 2½	—	

WASTE SILK.

Small business, values unchanged. Some purchases of Pierced Cocoons have nearly cleared the market of desirable grades; but there is about 17,000 piculs Noshi and Kibiso for shippers to work upon.

QUOTATIONS.—(NEW WASTE.)

Pierced Cocoons—Good to Best	$110 to	135
Noshi-ito—Filature, Best	130 to	135
Noshi-ito—Filature, Good	120 to	125
Noshi-ito—Filature, Medium	110 to	115
Noshi-ito—Oshu, Good to Best	120 to	130
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Best	—	
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Good	80 to	90
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Medium	—	
Noshi-ito—Bushu, Good to Best	100 to	115
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Best	—	
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Good	70 to	75
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Ordinary	60 to	65
Kibiso—Filature, Best selected	100 to	110
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds	90 to	95
Kibiso—Oshu, Good to Best	—	
Kibiso—Shinshu, Best	—	
Kibiso—Shinshu, Seconds	—	
Kibiso—Joshu, Good to Fair	30 to	27½
Kibiso—Joshu, Middling to Common	25 to	22½
Kibiso—Hachioji, Good to Fair	25 to	23
Kibiso—Hachioji, Medium to Low	22 to	20
Kibiso—Neri, Good to Common	12 to	8
Mayuta—Good to Best	150 to	200

TEA.

Small business for lack of stock. There is now practically nothing offering, and the few remnants look dear.

QUOTATIONS.	PER PICUL.	
Choicest	$36	to 40
Choice	32	to 34
Finest	28	to 30
Fine	26	to 27
Good Medium	22	to 24
Medium	19	to 20
Good Common	16	to 17
Common	12	to 14

EXCHANGE.

Despite a further drop in silver, rates remain steady at undernoted rates:—

Sterling—Bank T.T.	1/11⅞
— — Bills on demand	1/11⅞
— — 4 months' sight	1/11⅞
— Private 4 months' sight	2/0@1/11⅞
— — 6 months' sight	2/0⅛ @ 2/0
On Paris—Bank sight	2.45
On Lyons—Private 4 months' sight	2.52@1
On Hongkong—Bank sight	½% p.
— Private 10 days' sight.	Par.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	72
— Private 10 days' sight.	73
On India—Bank sight	186
— Private 30 days' sight	189
On America—Bank Bills on demand.	47⅛
— Private 30 days' sight	48⅛
— — 4 months' sight	49⅛ @ ⅛
On Germany—Bank sight	1.98
— Private 4 months' sight	2.05
Bar Silver (London)	27½

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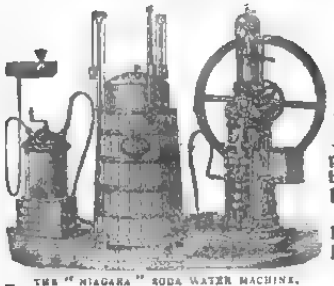
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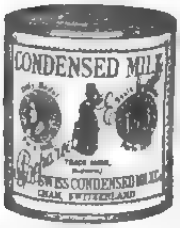
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The Japan Weekly Mail:

A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

No. 3.] REGISTERED AT THE G.P.O. AS A NEWSPAPER. YOKOHAMA, JANUARY 19TH, 1895. 明治二十八年一月十三日郵便物認可 VOL. XXII.

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

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YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, JAN. 19TH, 1895.

BIRTHS.

At 104, Bluff, January 15th, the wife H. BLUM of a Daughter.

At No. 162, Bluff, the wife of R. POLLAK, of a son.

DEATHS.

November 21, 1894, at "Oakfield," Willoughby, N. Sydney, N.S.W., of gastro-intestinal catarrh, OSCAR WILLIAM and JOHN WAGNER, twin sons of Oscar and Edith Isabel Balk, aged 1 month.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

THE estuary of the Taidong has been frozen since the 13th inst.

TOKYO is now within a day's telegraphic communication of Kaiping.

OVER 1,000 Hokkaido ponies have been requisitioned for service in China.

FIRE destroyed a large house in the Maganecho quarter of Yokohama on Sunday night.

H.I.M. THE EMPRESS paid a New Year's visit to H.I.M. the Empress Dowager on the 11th inst.

PUBLIC subscriptions received by the Naval Department reached *yen* 481,149 on the 14th inst.

IN December last the Osaka Mint struck coins to the following amount:—5-*yen* gold pices, *yen* 280,000; 1-*yen* silver pieces, *yen* 2,210,000; 20-*sen* silver pieces *yen* 416,301, and 10-*sen* silver pieces *yen* 224,276.

COUNT MATSUKATA, it is said, has consented to become President of a big petroleum company in Japan.

DURING the night of the 7th inst. the sum of *yen* 3,700 was stolen from the Miyagi Court of Appeal.

IT is stated that the Japanese War Loan Bonds are finding foreign buyers at the Yokohama Exchange.

THE First National Bank declares a dividend for the past half-year at the rate of 12 per cent. per annum.

JINRIKISHA communication has been opened between Söul and Ninsen. The fare is exceedingly high, ranging from *yen* 5 to *yen*.

THE Interport Football match between Kobe and Yokohama will be played on the Cricket Ground of the latter port on February 11.

THE 74th National Bank and the Savings Bank, Yokohama, have declared a dividend of 12 per cent. per annum for the past half-year.

A MAN OF-WAR, named the *Idsumi Kan*, has been added to the Japanese Navy. Her crew consists of two hundred and ninety-eight men.

THE section between Teramaye and Hase, a distance of about three miles, on the Hantan Railroad, was opened for traffic on the 15th inst.

A NEWSPAPER in the Korean and Japanese languages has been projected in Söul. Mr. Kuroda Takuma is taking a leading part in its promotion.

THE Okura-gumi proposes to construct a big dock at Moji at an estimated cost of *yen* 500,000. Surveyors have already been sent to lay out the proposed site.

THE hard frosts at the early part of the week rendered skating possible on the Skating Club's pond at Yokohama, but Friday's rain again dissolved the ice.

A MAN was detected in the act of setting fire to a house in Sumiyoshi-cho, Yokohama, on Monday evening. Being swift of foot he managed to get clear away.

WITH the exception of the debates on the Yokohama Harbour Works' appropriation, little or no friction has developed between the Diet and the Government.

THE N.Y.K. steamer *Higo Maru*, the pioneer vessel to open communication between ports in the conquered territory in China, was dispatched from Kobe on the 13th inst.

VISCOUNT INOUYE, ex-Minister of Education, though out of immediate danger, is not expected to be able to withstand the ravages of consumption for more than a twelvemonth.

THE total amount of matches exported from Kobe and Osaka during last year was 236,426 gross, and that of the previous year 235,866 gross, an increase of 560 gross this year.

COUNT ITO and the principal Ministers of State are in Hiroshima, leaving Marquis Saionji and Viscount Nomura, Count Kuroda, Mr. Watanabe, and Mr. Yoshikawa alone in Tokyo.

A FIREMAN who refused to obey the Captain of the *Amaranth's* lawful commands, and declined to do any more work on the steamer, has been punished with eight weeks' hard labour.

THE net profits of the 119th National Bank in Tez. half of last year. *Yen* 100,000.00 was added to the reserve, and *yen* 30,000.00 declared as a dividend, *yen* 93,470.51 being carried forward to the new account.

PETER GARRY, a fireman on board the steamer *Amaranth*, who scalded the ship's cook during a quarrel last December, has pleaded guilty and been sentenced to one year's hard labour by H.B.M.'s Judge.

THE Nanzen Temple, one of the largest and most beautiful in Kyoto, was destroyed by fire during the night of the 12th inst., through the carelessness of a watchman, named Kondo Ikujiro, who was burnt to death during the conflagration.

DON GEORGE CANO, Secretary of the Spanish Legation, Tokyo, has been appointed *Chargé d'Affaires* pending the arrival of the successor of H.E. Don Luis del Castillo y Trigueros, Spanish Minister to Japan, who was lately transferred to Peru.

RUMOURS from Shanghai in reference to the proposed Embassy of Peace are very plentiful. It is said that Chang does not desire to come to Japan; that the Cantonese have petitioned against the Embassy being sent; and that the *literati* consider the Embassy will never leave Shanghai.

REUTER telegraphs that the French Cabinet has resigned, owing to the defeat of the Government in a debate initiated by the Socialists in connection with the question of State guarantees for railways. M. Casimir-Perier conferred all day with the leaders, but a semi-official note appeared in the evening announcing that he had resigned, the Republican parties having failed to protect him in their attacks upon the present régime. Sig. Ressman, Italian Ambassador at Paris, had been suddenly recalled from his post. The cause of this movement is unstated. The town of Kassala has been freshly supplied with cannon, ammunition, and provisions. It is stated that Japan refuses to hear of any armistice. Col. Denby, U.S. Minister in Peking, has stated his belief that all attempts at parleying will be fruitless until Pekin has been occupied by the Japanese. Sir Henry F. Ponsonby, Private Secretary to H.M. the Queen, has had a paralytic stroke, and is in a critical condition. The Russian Budget for 1895 shows a deficit of seventy millions of roubles.

IN the Import trade a somewhat better feeling prevails. Yarns continue dull, but Shirtings have improved, both in "spot" and "forward" sales. There is some improvement in Fancy Cottons, and Turkey Reds are taken freely at an advance. The Woollen trade, however, is stagnant, with the exception of a few sales of Italians. The Metal business is generally quiet, the principal demand being for Iron Bars. Tin Plates have declined. There has been a moderate amount of Kerosene moved off, but the stock increases notwithstanding, and prices are rather in favour of sellers of American, holders of Russian being also hard to deal with. Arrivals have been *Murex* from Batoum and *Waverley* from New York. There have been fair sales of Sugar and the stock is reduced, but prices are unchanged and supplies are floating. The Silk trade has been extensive, and the stock has been reduced to 9,000 piculs. The business of the week has been done at full rates, and all kinds are now held for an advance. There has only been a small trade in Waste Silk. Nothing to report without quotable alteration. Exchange remains low, and rates are

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THE SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS DURING THE WEEK.

The vernacular press has much to say about the National Bank problem. The *Nichi Nichi*, writes strongly in favour of the Banks being continued as private institutions after the expiration of their term, and condemns the Bill introduced by Mr. Nakano Buyei and eleven others of the Diet. The object of the Bill is to extend the National Banks' Charters for twelve years, with a proviso that such Banks as desire to become private firms at any time during that extended term, may do so by taking proper steps. The *Nichi Nichi* writes in the following strain:—In the first place, the introducers of the Bill state with reason that violentchanges are to be greatly deprecated in economical circles. Fresh issues of bank notes are by no means allowable. The Bill itself does not advocate anything of the kind. For if, while the notes already issued have been in steady process of redemption since 1883, new issues were now thrown on the market, dangerous financial phenomena must inevitably ensue. But what would remain of a national bank to distinguish it from a private one, were it divested of its power of issuing notes? Mr. Nakano and his supporters may consider that the National Bank system lends stability to the credit of the Banks under it, supervised as they are by the Government. But facts prove in the plainest possible manner that the system has no such merit. Are there not many National Banks whose credit is anything but good as compared with not a few private banks? Thus there can be no doubt that to continue the National Banks as private concerns after the expiration of the term of their charters will entail no violent economical changes. In the second place, it is asserted that at the expiration of the National Banks' term, a considerable amount of bank notes will remain unredeemed. But apart from extending the charters, there are other ways of contriving the redemption of the notes. At the end of their term, the National Banks will find that the redemption of their notes has been accomplished through the exertions of the Central Bank and other agencies, without the slightest injury to their interests. Thirdly, it is declared that to abolish the National Banks at one *coup* and simultaneously to invest the Central Bank with special note-issuing power, is a policy too hasty and drastic to command approval. Such an objection would have force were there question of amending laws relating to the Bank of Japan or convertible notes. But on the present occasion it has no value. Fourthly and lastly, it is asserted to be an infringement of the freedom of mercantile transactions to adopt a sudden administrative measure with regard to financial affairs. But the measure against which this objection is raised was decided upon and publicly notified twelve years ago. Can that be called sudden? Thus surveyed, the Bill, concludes our contemporary, cannot be regarded as anything but the result of selfish complaints uttered by certain bankers and listened to by the framers and supporters of the Bill. The *Jiji Shimpo*, after writing much about the necessity of strengthening the spirit of independence among the Japanese mercantile classes, refers to the National Bank question and ridicules as servile and timid those that advocate extension of the charters within or without the House. The *Nippon* writes in the same train of thought as the *Jiji*, but uses more impassioned terms.

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The *Yomiuri* dwells in strong terms on the importance of Japanese merchants' starting business, at the earliest possible date, in the occupied districts in China. It urges the Government to permit not only the ships of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha but also those of other firms and persons, to sail to and from Manchurian ports, conveying merchants and merchandise. It explicity states that the losses entailed by the present war cannot be made good by any amount of pecuniary indemnity and territorial cession unless there is a contemporaneous development of commerce on a large scale. Not a few other Metropolitan journals express absolutely the same views as the *Yomiuri*. The *Kokumin* is especially outspoken. It says that to buy things from the Chinese is like casting money into a well. What, it asks, could be more regrettable than that the money earned with the blood of Japanese officers, soldiers, and coolies should go to swell the pockets of the Chinese? The Authorities ought therefore to permit Japanese merchants to hasten to the seat of war. For their part, they are more than ready to go.

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In the absence of any remarkable event during the week past, nothing of an elaborate nature appears in the vernacular journals, but short paragraphs not without vigour and eloquence are to be found. We proceed to refer to them briefly. The *Kokkai* laughs at the alleged alliance between Great Britain and Russia as nothing of deeper significance than England's menacing advice to Japan to keep her ambition within reasonable limits. As to the degree of closeness of the alliance, the Independent paper remarks that the publicity of the affair tells its own story. A really close union would never have been exposed to the light of the world. The *Choya*, the *Kokumin*, the *Niroku*, and several other Tokyo journals attach much importance to the capture of Kaiping, in that it has established communication between the First and the Second Armies. They are glad that henceforth the First Army will be able to have its central commissariat station in a much more convenient place than formerly. Comments upon the Chinese mission for peace are continued by several Metropolitan Journals, but we find nothing new or worth reproduction. Upon the whole the vernacular papers attach little importance to the mission, and, foreseeing for it no better success than attended Mr. Detring's coming, urge the forces abroad to hasten toward their final goal. The *Mainichi* writes of the promising greatness of Japan in language almost mysterious. Such writing may flatter the vanity of our contemporary's readers, but in Western eyes it is little short of ridiculous. "Our forces abroad," says the *Kokumin*, "are now fighting with General January, and have to face ere long a greater foe, General February, adversaries far more formidable than General Sung and Admiral Ting. These natural Generals have often defeated European armies. Therefore if, in the present war, the Japanese Army and Navy prove greater than their Occidental representatives, they will show themselves the greatest in the world, in one sense at least." Several papers clamorously assert the advisability of capturing Formosa. The *Kokumin* and some others hold the taking of that island to be even more important than the seizure of Pekin itself. The *Nichi Nichi* refers to the troubles now raging in the Tokyo Rice Exchange, and advises the Government and the Diet to take measures to put an end to the practice of purchasing and selling rice by sample, which, we are told, is the root of all the evils prevailing in rice exchanges. The *Jiyu* regards the present as a suitable occasion for denouncing the right of any foreign States to interfere with the restoration of peace between Japan and China. The *Niroku* writes of Mr. Foster to the effect that his coming with the Chinese mission is, on the one hand, beneficial to Japan, since his advice will help to bring the negotiations to a speedier conclusion than if they were left solely to the Chinese Envoys, who will most probably be ignorant of civilized etiquette and usages; while, on the other hand, it is disadvantageous to this country in that the Japanese High Commissioners may feel constrained, in the course of the negotiations, to listen to Mr. Foster's conciliatory language, so high is his personal standing as a statesman and jurisconsult, and so friendly are the relations between his country and this empire. The *Kokumin* pays a tribute of national gratitude to M. Boissonade. The Memorial he presented to the Government when the Treaty Revision question was at a critical stage years ago, is mentioned as alone sufficient to entitle him to the hearty thanks of the whole nation. This and other achievements in his capacity of adviser to the Cabinet and Professor of Law in several scholastic institutions, public as well as private, induce our contemporary to confer upon him the title of Japan's Benefactor.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

FISHERY IN KOREA.

MR. KABURAKI, an expert of the Department of Agriculture and Commerce, whose specialty is marine industry, paid a visit last fall to the eastern coast of Korea in response to an invitation from the Japanese merchants in Wonsan, and inspected the fishery along that coast. His observations confirmed the opinion prevalent among the Japanese that Korea is rich in fish. The littoral of the eastern coast swarms with fishes of various kinds. The natives do not, however, seem to know their value, and only catch what they need for their own kitchens. Sardines they take in large quantities, using them for fertalizing purposes. The tunny-fish (*maguro*), shark, and many other varieties are to be found in abundance along the coast visited by Mr. Kaburaki. The only difficulty is how to dispose of them. Mr. Kaburaki advised the Japanese merchants in Wonsan to organize a marine products company, as has been done by their colleagues in Fusan, and to export marine products in a cured state. Enterprising Japanese fishermen have already made use of the sea near that portion of Korea contiguous to Japan. The *awabi* along the coasts of Port Hamilton have already been exhausted by them. They even went as far as Vladivostock, but they are now practically excluded from that place owing to the increased cost of licenses. The fishermen have therefore been driven further and further to the remote portions of the Korean coast, and at present quite a number are engaged in their industry in the vicinity of Wonsan. The object of their fishing is, however, very limited: they only seek for sea-cucumbers, which are found abundantly in that part. They boil them on the shore and then sell them to the Marine Products Company in Fusan or direct to the Chinese in Vladivostock, for the latter specially relish this peculiar sea delicacy. It is said that the profit derived from the industry is consider able. A certain kind of shell-fish in demand by the Chinese is also caught and sold to them by the Japanese fishermen.

CORRESPONDENCE FROM VLADIVOSTOCK.

CORRESPONDENCE is published in the *Miyako Shimbun* purporting to come from a gentleman until lately in the easternmost Russian trading port. Under the startling caption of "Murdered Japanese," he makes the following remarkable statements:—"In October or thereabouts of last year, Uemura, a Yokohama photographer, Ogawa, his student apprentice, and a third Japanese named Kawai Matsunosuke, a native of Saitama Prefecture, travelled inland for about a league from Vladivostok, to a place called Ivanchik (?) All three were engaged in taking photographs of the various scenes of interest in the neighbourhood. Most unfortunately some Russian soldiers thereabouts took these inoffensive people for spies from Japan. Without putting any formal question or waiting for a reply they at once made a murderous attack upon them, killing Ogawa, and a Korean porter in their employ, on the spot. Kawai was also severely wounded and fell to the ground where he lay feigning death. Believing him to be really dead, the Russians withdrew. With great difficulty the wounded man thereafter made his way to the sea-coast and finally reached Nagasaki, where he is now in hospital. The facts as above set forth certainly demand strict inquiry and due punishment of the offenders. Seeing that nothing has so far been done in the matter, there is good reason to believe that the Japanese Consul at Vladivostock has not yet informed the Government of the sad occurrence."

* * *

The writer also gives a good comparison of the salient characteristics of the Japanese, Koreans, and Chinese residents of Vladivostok

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in particular and South-eastern Siberia in general. Those Japanese who are in receipt of comparatively large incomes, he remarks, spend their money freely in the land and are open handed. The Koreans and Chinese, for their part, are given to parsimony and hoarding. As a rule, the latter two nationals return to their native countries between the months of April and November of each year, carrying away with them the amount of their earnings. But nine out of every ten Japanese leave the country poorer than when they arrived. "I do not say," continues the correspondent, "that such conduct is worthy of admiration; yet it certainly has won for the Japanese the respect of the Russians, who are themselves proverbially spendthrifts. Moreover, our victories since the opening of the war with China have compelled the esteem of the Russian residents, so that our fame stands high. On the other hand, the Koreans and Chinese have sunk a grade lower, if that is possible. The Russians treat them like they would oxen or hoses, yet they—the Koreans and Chinese—are very thick-skinned and not susceptible to the shame of such treatment. Both are exceptionally cunning in all their dealings, and keep their habitations in such a state of disorder and filthiness as to arouse the detestation of civilized people."

A STRANGE RUMOUR ABOUT MR. HOSHI.

THE Domestic and Foreign News Agency is responsible for a curious rumour in the vernacular papers about Mr. Hoshi Toru. It is to this effect. The departure of Mr. Hoshi to Korea last fall as soon as Parliament was opened was not considered strange, as it was believed that his object was to inspect the state of affairs in the Peninsula. Deeper meaning is now attached to it. It is said that the absence of Count Inouye is very inconvenient to the Premier in many ways. As, however, it is necessary to have at Sōul a statesman of Count Inouye's calibre, much trouble has been experienced to solve the difficulty. At last it was decided that some suitable person should be appointed as Count Inouye's successor, so as to relieve him of his present duty. The choice fell on Mr. Hoshi Toru, ex-President of the House of Representatives, who was secretly informed of the matter. He replied that he could not give any definite answer until he had personally observed Korean affairs. Hence his hasty departure. He has now returned to Tokyo, and a certain personage with access to official information is of opinion that Mr. Hoshi will be gazetted one of these days. We give this news for what it is worth.

MEDICAL SCIENCE IN JAPAN.

THE Japanese, says the *Ohio Monthly Sanitary Record*, have recently illustrated how a disease, commonly thought to be infectious, may be eliminated through scientific investigation and the application of a proper remedy. Prior to to 1884, *beri-beri* was the scourge of the Japanese navy. During a period of six years, prior to 1884, there were 9,516 cases reported while for a second period of six years, from 1884 to 1889, inclusive, there were but 765 cases, of which 718 occurred in 1884, which was the year in which the remedy relating to a change in the character of the food furnished was applied. In 1887 there was not a single case reported in the entire navy of 9,000 men; and the *New York Medical Record*, aptly remarks that, "This is one of the greatest victories of science, and lends ground to the hope that *beri-beri* may before long become a rare, or even unknown disease in the Mikado's dominions."

THE SENDAI CONTINGENT IN HIROSHIMA.

AMONG the numerous troops now, or until a few days ago, temporarily in garrison at Hiroshima, there is a large contingent of First Class Reserves from Sendai, and concerning these soldiers that the correspondent of a Tokyo contemporary writes in terms of unstinted praise. They are said to be very steady in their behaviour, excellent at drill, and shirking no work, however wearisome. Most of them go for a swim every morning to the Motoyasu River, a little stream that flows about the city. The water is described as being of Arctic temperature, yet these men remain daily for five or ten minutes in the waves. It is an ancient Japanese custom, now happily almost obsolete, to expose the body to the extremes of cold in winter and heat in summer in order to excite the compassion of the gods and move them to hear the prayers of the devotee. Thinking this might be the explanation of the conduct of the Sendai troopers, the correspondent questioned them. Yes, they replied, it was partly for such reasons that they braved the bitter cold daily; they had, in fact, three reasons: first, they prayed to the gods to send them speedily to the seat of war; secondly, they prayed for victory over the enemies of Japan; and finally they wished to accustom their bodies to the frigid temperature in order that they might not succumb to the wintry frost and snow of Manchuria. Their greatest wish was to get off and come into hand-to-hand conflict with the enemy as speedily as possible.

VISCOUNT MUTSU ON THE CHINESE EMBASSY.

ACCORDING to the *Kokkai*, Viscount Mutsu is said to have expressed his opinion to a certain distinguished personage that the coming of the Chinese Embassy to sue for peace accompanied by Mr. Foster, ex-Secretary of State America, means business. The Japanese Government has already received news of it from a reliable quarter. His Excellency also remarked that the fact that Mr. Foster is to accompany the Embassy ought to be regarded with the greatest satisfaction, for, not only is he a great friend of Viscount Mutsu, but the presence of such a man will much facilitate the work of negotiation. If would be in tolerably vexatious to negotiate with irregular and sluggish Chinese, and yet to send back an embassy of the kind without hearing its terms of peace would not be in strict conformity with the usage of civilized nations. Hence the advantage of the presence of the ex-Secretary of the United States Cabinet. Of course it is out of the question that terms should be settled by the coming Embassy. It will only be a preliminary step to lay before Japan China's desires and to ascertain the conditions of peace. All things considered, the presence of Mr. Foster as China's adviser will be advantageous to Japan in many respects.

THE HEAD-WATER OF THE TAMAGAWA.

NOT only to the citizens of Tokyo, but also to the Imperial Court, the waters of the Tamagawa are, says the *Mainichi*, of the most vital importance, and any defect in the mode of preservation would cause inestimable mischief. It is therefore most unaccountable that the forests at the source of the river are owned entirely by private individuals, no step being taken to convert them into city property. That was not the case in pre-Restoration days. The most rigid control was exercised by the Government over the preservation of the head-waters, and the forests were then the property of the Kwan-yei Temple and under the strict *surveillance* of the Shogunate. That salutary system has, however, undergone a great change. Now that the Tama district has been incorporated into the Municipality, the effective control of the head-waters is much easier than it used to be, but strange to say, the importance of the matter seems to be entirely overlooked. A rumour was recently circulated to the effect that a certain member of the City Assembly, with a view to making a large profit out of the transaction, proposed to buy the forests from their present owners for the sum, of 100,000 *yen*. The latter, however, would not consent to sell unless for double the price offered. The forests are therefore still owned by the same men. Unless the city takes prompt measures to have the forests transferred to its possession it will be obliged to pay a large sum for them, as it must get them sooner or later.

THE SIBERIAN RAILWAY.

HERE is an item that will be read with special interest by the Japanese:—

Mr. Charles Jonas, Consul for the United States, the indomitable energy and nervous force

at St. Petersburg, sends to his government under date June 19th, the following notice which is published in the U.S. Consular Reports for August:—

"At the last meeting of the Siberian Railway committee the economic section of the Imperial Council, which took place on May 15th, the Minister of Finance submitted an important memorial in reference to the Great Siberian Railway.

"According to the imperial decree of December 22nd, 1892, the west and central Siberian sections of the line, as far as the city of Irkutsk, as well as the Ussuri section from Vladivostock to Grafskaya and the connecting line between the Ural and Siberian railways, were to be connected in the year 1900. Last fall, it became evident that the road can be built as far as Irkutsk by the year 1898—that is, two years before the time originally indicated—and that the Ussuri line can be finished in 1896. The construction of the line from Grafskaya to Khabarovka has already been approved.

"In view of these facts, it was resolved to accelerate the construction of the remaining portion of the Great Siberian Railway in the following manner:—First, the building of the Transbaikal line is to be pushed, so that it may be opened for traffic in the year 1898, at the time of the completion of the central Siberian section to Irkutsk and of the connecting link from Irkutsk to Listvenichnaya, on Lake Baikal; second, the whole line along the Amour River is to be finished before the end of the year 1901. The Minister of Communications has been granted the necessary credit, amounting to 1,215,000 roubles, to carry out the preliminary work of tracing the line Irkutsk around Lake Baikal, as well as in the Transbaikal region, and along the Amour River, and has also been authorized to forward, without delay, part of the material ordered for the other sections of the line.

"The above resolutions received the sanction of the Emperor on May 25th and the preliminary work in the Transbaikal region has already begun."

KOBE EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

THE Committee of the Kobe Episcopal Church, at the annual meeting held on Thursday said it was a source of satisfaction for them to report that "there is a balance in hand of $523.78 against a debit balance of $15.38 last year: this result is owing to an increase in the subscriptions to the Chaplain's Fund and to the proceeds of two entertainments given."

VISCOUNT INOUYE.

THE latest reports concerning the illness of Viscount Inouye, ex-Minister of Education, are anything but reassuring. It is true that he seems to be slowly rallying from an attack which, it was feared, would prove immediately fatal. But his disease—consumption—has reached an advanced stage where complete restoration to health can no longer be hoped for. The consulting physicians now announce that, with care, their distinguished patient may live six months longer, possibly even for a year. Viscount Inouye, at once one of the ablest and most hard-working of the younger generation of statesmen, has only one young daughter, so that the title will lapse upon his decease. It seems a sad but certain rule that many of Japan's most brilliant men and profoundest thinkers succumb sooner or later to that dread disease, phthisis. Whether it be owing to any constitutional predilection in this direction or not, at all events it is true that the malady early develops itself and rapidly runs its course, particularly in the case of men who have been ardent students and achieved fame while still young. We had recently to record the deaths of the Manager of the Specie Bank and the President of the Telephone Exchange, both men of exceptional ability, both scarcely having reached an age when most men attain the prime of their vigour and manhood, and both falling victims to the same malady, consumption. Some of the most distinguished parliamentarians at the moment are victims of the same complaint. Viscount Mutsu has long been a sufferer from this cause, and, three years ago, was practically given over by his physicians. Mr. Sakuma Teiichi, one of the most eminently practical philanthropists and advanced thinkers in the country, has lived for years with one lung only; his continued capability for work being solely attributable to

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necrology for the last decade shows that nearly all of Japan's great men who have passed away were consumptive. But the subject is a painful one. Only one could wish that Koch's lymph, as improved upon and administered by Dr. Kitasato, might prove effective in the advanced as well as in the earlier stages of what appears to be a national disease in Japan.

THE USES OF DYNAMITE.

"ENGRAVING by dynamite is the rather striking reference which has been made by one of the foreign journals to the imprinting of the lines of delicate leaves and grasses on metal surfaces by the explosive force of this material. A short time ago, so the story goes, a charge of dynamite was exploded by a board of army officers who had been delegated to test a new kind of fuse. In some way a small dried leaf had slipped in between the dynamite cartridge and the iron block on which the charge was fired, with the starting result of a perfect imprint of the leaf in the metal. The most delicate lines had been reproduced with surprising distinctness, and further trials gave equally striking results. Leaves and flowers were placed between two plates of boiler iron and a moderate charge of dynamite was then fired on the upper plate. The exact outlines, with even the veins in the petals of the flowers, it is stated, were reproduced in the metal. While the truth of the account cannot be vouched for here, the results are quite within the range of possibility, and it is not unlikely that more may be heard of them. The thing, of course, depends, in a great measure, upon the reaction effect of the explosion, and accordingly calls to mind one other service of unusual character to which dynamite has been put in the past, namely, the driving of piles. Several years ago, in the execution of municipal works at the city of Buda-Pesth, a number of piles, already driven, were required to support a greater load than had been originally contemplated, and it was consequently necessary to test them and drive those that yielded still deeper. To bring a pile-driving machine successively over each pile for so small an amount of work would necessarily have entailed considerable expense, and it was consequently determined to try the effect of dynamite. For this purpose the piles were cut square, and a wrought iron plate, about fifteen inches in diameter and four and one-half inches thick, was placed on the top of each. In the centre of this plate, and immediately over that of the pile, was placed a charge of the explosive in the form of a cake, six inches in diameter, about three-quarters of an inch thick and weighing a little over a pound. The dynamite was wrapped in parchment paper, covered with clay, and ignited, and the effect produced was found to be equal to that of about five blows from a 1,500-pound monkey falling from a height of about ten feet. The iron plates, it was said, resisted from twenty to twenty-four explosions."—*Cassell's Magazine.*

SECOND ARMY COOLIES IN HIROSHIMA.

SEVERAL of the vernacular papers report that the coolies now in Hiroshima and destined to be sent on service with Count Oyama's Army, are an altogether exceptionally good and well-behaved lot. There are at present somewhat over eight thousand of these men in the city, but there has not yet been even one complaint made of any ill conduct on their part. The reason of this exceptional report is that the coolies have voluntarily subjected themselves to military routine. They choose sentinels of their own, who keep watch at the door of their barracks, and no one is permitted to be out of bounds after six p.m. The whole eight thousand odd form a close corporation, none of them having been chosen through the agency of any middleman or employment bureau, but all having voluntarily applied to the Kencho authorities and thus undergone a strict examination before being chosen. Their wages average fifty *sen* a day, or fifteen *yen* a month. Since their engagement these men have lived so frugally that they have already been able to [illegible] several thousand *yen* to their relatives at home. They discountenance gambling and loose living of any kind. The sentries are armed with stones, somewhat after the fashion of the Japanese police of olden times, and they do not hesitate to use these weapons over the head of any riotous member. Far different is the report of the men who were sent to join the First Army. According to the *Choho*, though drawing comparatively large salaries, and having really no need to spend their money, not one of the coolies has sent even a *sen* back to Japan. They carouse and gamble when off duty; they may be brave, but they are as thoughtless as they are courageous, to say the least, and require a strong hand to keep them from indulging in excesses of all kinds.

A NEW SYSTEM OF TRANSLATION.

WE note in the *Eigaku*, a monthly magazine published by the Meiho-do firm in Tokyo and devoted solely to the study of the English tongue, which the editors have set out to teach from the alphabet upwards, the adoption of a new and interesting method of so-called "literal translation" (*Choku-yaku*). It consists of printing each word of the text with a Japanese translation attached, but the English words are printed in the syntactical order of the Japanese language. By comparing this with the real text, the student soon becomes familiar with the, to him, strange forms of speech, so that the method is infinitely preferable to that of numbering the text-words or placing the Japanese translations just below but adhering to the syntax of the text. We quote one paragraph as a specimen. The text, taken from Longmans' Second Reader, runs thus:—"In this way they go from one side to the other of a wood, without once coming to the ground. How do you think they cross a river? Some of them go to the top of a very high tree on one side of the river." It is, of course, from a chapter on monkeys and their migratory habits. Then follows the same text, with Japanese translation beside each word, but transposed so as to keep to the order of the Japanese tongue. To those of our readers unfamiliar with Japanese, the paragraph will give an idea of the quaint structure of the language:—"This way in, they once the ground to coming without, a wood of one side from the other to, go. How they a river cross, you think do? Them some of, the river of one side on, a very high tree of the top to, go." None but a maniac of the most dangerous type could or would write English after this fashion; yet it is in good Japanese order of the words for all that.

NOT HALF ENOUGH.

AN excellent story, albeit somewhat apocryphal, is narrated in the columns of a Tokyo contemporary concerning the fate of a would-be briber and his *posse comitatus*. The other day, Mr. Okubo, Chief of the Commissariat Bureau in the General Staff Head-quarters at Hiroshima, was approached by a well-known and wealthy merchant. The latter stated, with some show of diffidence, that he had hitherto held aloof from the crowd of those who besieged the Bureau for orders for their wares; he had now come forward not so much in his own interests as of those of a dozen friends or so, who would be greatly honoured if they might receive Government contracts; his friends, he continued, would procure everything of the best, at the lowest possible figure. Mr. Okubo listened patiently to this preamble, as it is nothing new to him to be approached in this insinuating manner; he noticed, however, as soon as his visitor had bowed himself out with every mark of devoted respect, that a little bundle of bank-notes, subsequently found to be worth three hundred *yen*, had been placed at his elbow. This attempt at corruption Mr. Okubo speedily made known to his subordinates, among whom there was a general feeling of indignation and a hearty laugh; whereupon a scheme was concocted to fairly vanquish the briber with his own weapons. Shortly afterwards a little crowd of some seventeen or eighteen merchants sent in their cards; they had come on the recommendation of Mr. So-and-so, and hoped the Chief would look at their samples and give them orders. Mr. Okubo received the speculative squad at the same time, and after a few words began: "Your introducer is too miserly. Here is the three hundred *yen* which was to be my share in this transaction. This is ridiculously small. I want two thousand *yen*, cash down, or you get no contracts. With this pitiful sum watch what I do," and away the seductive packet flew through the open window. Crestfallen and abashed the company of bribers arose and departed, followed by the derisive laughter of the clerks who had been looking on at the scene in huge enjoyment.

SOLDIERS IN HOSPITAL IN TOKYO.

WE are indebted to a correspondent for the following statistics, which give full particulars concerning the number of soldiers in the three metropolitan military hospitals, viz., those at Kasumigaseki, Aoyama, and Kojimachi. The table was compiled on the 10th instant:—

	Sent back from Korea and/or China.	Taken sick before leaving Japan.	Total.
Traumatic Wounds ...	130	—	130
External Diseases	32	323	355
Internal Disorders	115	308	423
Epidemic Diseases	53	43	95
Diseases of eye and ear	9	47	56
Syphilitic patients	41	161	202
Total	380	888	1,261

Under the heading of "external diseases" are included frost-bite; wounds received otherwise than in battle; sprains; dislocations, etc. "Internal diseases" comprise principally disorders of the lungs, stomach, bowels, and liver. As "epidemic diseases" are classed cholera, typhus, typhoid, dysentery, diphtheria, and one or two others. It is certainly a surprise to note that the patients brought back from the seat of war are less than half the number of those taken sick in this country. It speaks highly for the sanitary precautions observed in the army.

A GENEROUS DONATION.

EVEN papers holding views opposed to the *Kaishin-to* speak in glowing terms of the magnificent funeral Count Okuma gave to his venerable mother on the 6th instant. As we have already reported, more than eight thousand persons attended the ceremonies, people coming expressly for the purpose from the most distant parts of the Empire. The floral tributes are spoken of as having been in unparalleled profusion, more than four hundred stands of odorous flowers being presented. But more particularly do the vernacular journals praise Count Okuma's generosity in having distributed no less than twenty-four *koku* of rice among the poor of Waseda and Ushigome District on the day of the funeral; that being a fitting tribute to the gentle, tender memory of his mother.

CHINA AND JAPAN POSTAGE.

THE Director of Imperial Posts at this port has been informed by the Postmaster-General of Hongkong, that on and after the 1st January, 1895, the postage from British Post Offices in China to Japan are altered as below:—

Letters per ½ oz.	Single postal cards each.	Reply postal cards each.	Books, patterns, prices current per 2 oz.	Newspapers per 2 oz.	Registration.	Return receipt for Registered article.
Cents. 10	Cents. 4	Cents. 8	Cents. 2	Cents. 2	Cents. 10	Cents. 5

MORE PURCHASES OF STEAMERS.

PURCHASES of steamers by Japanese, says the *Chronicle*, still go on. The German steamer *Glücksburg* has been sold to the Chiuyetsu Kisen Kabushiki Kaisha through a foreign firm at Kobe and changed her flag on Friday, being known now as the *Hino Maru*. We understand that the *Metapedia* has also been sold in Yokohama to Mr. Hiromi.

THE HON. G. CURZON.

ACCORDING to recent Indian papers the Hon. George Curzon has left Cabul for India *viâ* the Kandahar frontier. Rumour adds that he carries in his pocket the Ameer's acceptance of the Queen-Empress's invitation to visit England.

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IMPERIAL DIET.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 12TH.

HOUSE OF PEERS.

The House met at 10.45 a.m., the Order of the Day being :—

1.—Bill relating to Vaccination.
2.—Representation relating to Reform of the Prefectural Administration in Okinawa Prefecture.

The President announced that the Minister President had attended at the House two days previously, and had desired to have his regrets conveyed to the members for his inability to remain in Tokyo and be present during their session. Owing to the pressure of warlike affairs, he had been summoned by the Emperor to proceed without delay to Head-quarters at Hiroshima. He had, however, left full instructions with the other Ministers of State, and he trusted that the House would freely confer with them whenever such a course was dictated in the discharge of its legislative duties.

Surgeon-General Takagi, introducing the Vaccination Bill, explained that the Vaccination Regulations now in force had been enacted nine years previously and were in many respects imperfect. It was scarcely possible to exaggerate the importance of a proper system of vaccination, and the need of good organization became at once apparent when they knew that over 9 million persons had to be vaccinated yearly. Presumably his hearers were all agreed as to the utility of vaccination, but they were not aware, perhaps, that the number of small-pox patients annually, taking the average from 1887 to 1893, was over 1,120,000. At the lowest estimate each of these persons was laid up for 30 days, and even if they put the expense of treatment at only 10 *sen* daily, a sum of nearly 3½ million *yen* per year was involved. Further, it had to be remembered that when a member of a family fell ill of small-pox, segregation was essential, and the business of the household was consequently dislocated. Taking that into account, as well as the loss of productive labour, it did not seem too much to put the annual amount lost to the country at over 7 million *yen*. Moreover, the death rate was 22.5 per cent., which meant that tens of thousands of valuable lives were sacrificed yearly. Hence the vast importance of the subject was plain. The Bill proposed that vaccination should be compulsory at four periods, namely, at the ages of one, seven, thirteen, and twenty. Those periods had been chosen, because the first coincided with the time when a birth was registered, the two next with school ages, and the last with the conscription age. Great convenience would thus be insured in carrying out the system, whereas at present great inconvenience and confusion prevailed. Finally, it was proposed that all vaccine lymph, should be given out officially, after most careful inspection, a matter of infinite moment.

Marquis Daigo thought that the punishment proposed for failure to procure vaccination was excessive, though he entirely approved of the distribution of lymph and the inspection of vaccinating stations at the public expense.

In answer to questions, Dr. Takagi said that, according to statistics, vaccination guaranteed a person against small-pox for a period of six years. Persons taking the disease within two or three years after vaccination, were generally adults over twenty years of age, and even in their case it was found that in the majority of instances the vaccination had not taken. The cost of distributing lymph gratis was estimated at 65,076 *yen* annually.

Mr. Shibawara Wa opposed the Bill on the ground that the Law in lieu of which it was proposed excelled it. The project of fixing periods for vaccination in accordance with school and conscription ages took no account of difference of avocation, and, moreover, the Prefects and Local Officials, who were to be deprived of competence for the purposes of vesting it in the Home Minister, had better opportunities and facilities for enforcing the regulations than the central Government could have.

The House took a recess at noon, and reassembled at 1.10 p.m.

Mr. Matsuoka, Government Delegate, opposed the Bill as unnecessary. He said that Dr. Takagi had given statistical and financial reasons for his proposal, but statistics were things that might become very misleading according to the manner of their interpretation. During the period of 10 years ending in 1893, the average number of persons vaccinated annually was something over 3 millions. In that interval, the year most prolific of small-pox had been 1883, when there were 73,000 cases, and 18,600 deaths, and the year least prolific had been 1890, when there were only 296 cases. Such figures suggested nothing very terrible. Many other diseases showed more serious records. Moreover, the present system, as improved in 1886, worked very well. It had not yet gone into operation in every hole and corner of the empire, but it was pretty generally in force, and the results produced were most satisfactory. From 1886 to 1891, the percentage of unvaccinated children had been 24, whereas in 1892 and 1893 it had been only 6. Evidently the system was accomplishing its purpose rapidly. With regard to official examinations, it should be noted that whereas only one examination yearly was made in England and two in Germany, there were three in Japan; the police regularly make house-to-house visits of inquiry under the authority of the Local Government. The expense, too, of carrying out the projected changes would be great—here the speaker gave figures—and the Government did not deem them either expedient or essential.

Viscount Tani opposed the Bill, chiefly on the ground of the fines contemplated. Compulsory vaccination enforced by the aid of fines was a remnant of unenlightened times, when men did not yet know the value of the precaution and all kinds of ignorant objections were raised against it. Those days were past. The Japanese people fully appreciated the benefits of vaccination, and Japanese parents loved their children too much to neglect such a means of preserving their health. Further, the figures given by the Government Delegate showed that vaccination was widely used, and that the number of those neglecting it was not only insignificant, but rapidly diminishing. Under such circumstances, he saw no occasion to enact a new law and incur large outlay.

Dr. Choyo Junsai supported the Bill. Vaccine lymph was obtained in the first place from the calf, and subsequently from a person vaccinated direct from the calf. But some years ago it had been found that the lymph taken from one person for use in another was capable of transmitting serious maladies, and, in consequence, the demand for calf lymph had increased so much that numerous private establishments for furnishing it sprang up here and there, with the result that competition gradually affected the quality of the lymph, and much that was very bad now found a market. It might be urged that a proper system of inspection would rectify that abuse. But really efficient inspection was exceedingly difficult in such a matter, the use of the microscope and other delicate processes being necessary. Hence, as the public health was deeply concerned, it seemed plainly better that all lymph should be officially prepared and supplied. The question of expense should not weigh with them for a moment in the face of these considerations.

Viscount Tani inquired whether a physician could not distinguish an unhealthy child sufficiently clearly to avoid taking lymph from it for use elsewhere.

Dr. Choyo replied that congenital disease was often very difficult to detect. He explained how it was possible to take precautions against employing diseased calves.

After some further questions, the Bill was entrusted to a Special Committee nominated by the President.

Viscount Soga, introducing the Representation relating to Okinawa Prefecture (the Loochoo Islands), said that these islands were a most important possession. Numbering more than 50, they had a population of over 46,000, and they produced not only rice, millet, and sweet potatoes, but also coal. Excellent harbours existed there, and many facilities offered for establishing military stations. The islands were nearer to China than to Japan, the most northerly being 275 miles from Kiushu, and the most southerly, only 60 miles from Formosa. Often it appeared that folks were doubtful about their ownership, and he had recently read in a foreign newspaper a recommendation that their good anchorages and coal supply, as well as the uncertainty as to their ownership, should be taken advantage of to annex them and establish a naval depot. The House knew what rivalry existed between certain great western Powers about the fate of Samoa, an island than which several of the Okinawa group were more important in every respect. Could there be any question as to the necessity of incorporating such a part of the empire so thoroughly as to remove all doubts about its title? Yet, in point of fact, the systems of old time still existed there. Taxes were paid in kind, and the people were put to forced labour. In order to defray the taxes, the women had to weave cloth with materials obtained from abroad, and the men had to till the ground, all working so assiduously that they commonly declared the year too short for the mere labour of satisfying the tax-collector. He had these facts from persons that had visited the islands recently, and come home vowing to devote their lives, if necessary, to procuring relief for the poor people. The Government showed itself very solicitous about the Ogasawara Islands (the Bonins), but neglected the Okinawa group altogether, behaving, for all the world, like a man who devoted all his attention to a scratch on one finger and took no measure to heal gangrene of his foot. The Orient was now plunged in war. Peace would doubtless dawn once more, but who could tell when the night of battle might not close over them again, or what form its shadows might take. He had heard it said that a Minister of Foreign Affairs should look at the map of the World every morning before going to his office, but he thought it behoved a Minister of Home Affairs to examine the map of his own country even more carefully. Not a day ought to be lost in attending to the condition of the people of Okinawa, and putting them into the path of prosperity and strength.

Viscount Nomura, Minister of State for Home Affairs, explained that the Government had by no means been unmindful of the necessity of introducing reforms in Okinawa Prefecture. Officials had been despatched thither last year, and thorough investigations had been made, in the sequel of which the Government intended to prepare a Bill for submission to the Diet. Owing, however, to the difficult nature of the question and the pressure of other business, the Bill was not yet ready. But he wished the House to understand that there was no idea of neglecting the question on the part of the Administration, and that the utmost despatch would be employed.

Viscount Soga expressed himself thoroughly satisfied with this explanation.

After some questions, the House passed the Representation, and rose at 3.15 p.m.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The House met at 1.15 p.m., the Order of the Day being :—

1.—Supplementary Budget for the 27th year of *Meiji*.
2.—Second Reading of the Bill for amending Law No. 8, of the 23rd year of *Meiji*.
3.—Bill for abolishing Notification No. 10 of the 15th year of *Meiji*.
4.—Bill for rescinding a portion of Law No. 28 of the 22nd year of *Meiji*.

Mr. Taketomi Tokitoshi, Chairman of the Budget Committee, reported in favour of the Supplementary Budget for the last fiscal year, as submitted by the Government.

Mr. Kawashima Jun, Chairman of the Section of the Budget Committee entrusted with the duty of reporting upon the part of the Supplementary Budget relating to the Finance Department, said that, although reporting in favour of the Budget as presented, he thought it necessary to draw the attention of the House to one item, namely, the sum of 200,000 *yen* entered as a reserve fund. This fund was devoted

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partly to defraying expenditures in connection with Chinese and Korean warlike affairs, and partly to the construction of Yokohama harbour. So far as concerned the war expenditures, nothing need be said; but the defraying of harbour construction outlay from such a source seemed plainly unconstitutional, and if the committee passed the item, it was solely in deference to the general desire of avoiding any collision with the Government at the present crisis.

Mr. Yumoto Yoshinori, on behalf of the Home Department Section of the Committee, also referred to the Yokohama Harbour Works, and said that the Committee had sought to obtain some definite information fixing the responsibility of the accident that had impeded the completion of the undertaking. But the Government Delegate had explained that as the failure of the cement blocks involved a scientific question exceedingly difficult to determine, a precise reason could not be assigned; and that, with regard to the financial aspect of the affair, a rigorous inquiry had failed to detect anything irregular. Finally, the Committee, appreciating the importance of completing the work, had passed the item.

Mr. Suyehiro Shigeyasu asked whether, in view of the alleged impossibility of determining the exact cause of the failure of the cement blocks, it was conceivable that the engineers could give the undertaking attributed to them, namely, that no such mishap should occur again. He also wished to know whether, although some persons connected with the affair had died, others similarly responsible did not remain.

Mr. Yumoto replied that the engineers, while declining to be perfectly explicit about the past, nevertheless gave their assurances about the future. As for the second point, the chief responsibility rested with the foreign engineer, whose supervision appeared to have been insufficient. But he was dead, and no one remained chargeable with the responsibility.

Mr. Suyehiro pressed his question. He did not understand the idea of putting the whole responsibility on a dead man. Surely, there must have been some others associated with him in the work of superintendence. Were not they alive?

Mr. Yumoto answered that the defects had been confined to a few blocks. Hence the difficulty of arriving at any general conclusion. With regard to the responsibility, it rested with the engineer-in-chief, and he was dead.

Mr. Suyehiro said that the engineer who had died was a foreigner. There must have been some Japanese associated with him in the work. Did the committee imagine it possible that he alone was really responsible?

Mr. Yumoto had given all the information in his possession. He referred Mr. Suyehiro to the Government Delegate.

Mr. Nakamura Kokusho said that this question of the failure of the concrete blocks had given rise to much discussion and caused wide comment on the part of the public. In consequence of the Government's failure to offer an explanation such as might serve as guarantee against repetitions of the disaster, the House, in a previous session, had refused to pass an appropriation for completing the Harbour Works. Now, however, they were asked to sanction the outlay as a continuing expenditure. Under the circumstances, he did not see how they could consent to take such a step without fuller elucidation.

Mr. Kudo Kokan presented a report on behalf of the minority in the Committee. He traversed, in the first place, the practice of presenting Supplementary Estimates for accounts of such magnitude as that now before the House. The principles of Budget compilation was that a tolerably close estimate should be formed of the revenue and expenditure for the incoming year so that the Diet might be in a position to exercise its due control over the items. If, however, supplementary Budgets of expenditures already incurred, aggregating 2 or 3 million *yen*, were to be presented session after session, not only was the Government's financial ability plainly defective, but also the House's right of supervision was seriously impaired. No reason was discernible why expenditures such as those included in the Supplementary Budget now before them, should not have been foreseen and duly provided for; or, if not foreseen, why the outlays should not have been deferred until the Diet's consent could be obtained. As to the Yokohama Harbour Works, they were a large undertaking. The nucleus of the sum required for their construction had been taken from the money magnanimously returned to this country by the United States, and already more than a million of dollars had been expended. Such an enterprise naturally attracted public attention and deserved careful supervision. A serious defect had occurred in the substructure of the breakwaters, and the Government failed to fix the responsibility. They were told that the engineer-in-chief, upon whom devolved the duty of superintendance, was dead, and that the responsibility had been buried with him. That was incredible. It was known as a matter of fact that highly paid Japanese engineers had been associated with the engineer-in-chief from first to last. Those assistant engineers could not possibly be acquitted of all responsibility, except on the assumption that they acted without any intelligent judgment, automatically obeying the orders of their foreign chief. Moreover, there were ugly questions with reference to the purchase of a dredger and of cement. A full statement had been made by Mr. Saito in a previous session, but no official notice had been taken of it. Had no irregularities really occurred? The Government had recently placed the Secretary of the Kanagawa Kencho on the Retired List. They were given to understand that his retirement had no connection with the alleged irregularities, but it was not easy to accept that denial literally. Again, even granting that the whole responsibility of inefficient superintendence rested on the deceased engineer-in-chief, what about the responsibility of those that employed him? The country was now on the eve of an era when many important public enterprises would doubtless be inaugurated. Could they trust the conduct and control of great works to a Government so unskilful in the choice of experts and so irresponsible as the present Cabinet?

Mr. Kusakari Shimmei asked whether the minority of the Committee proposed to leave the Yokohama Harbour Works unfinished for any number of years, until the Government was able to fix the responsibility of the blocks' failure.

Mr. Kudo replied that while insisting on a full and explicit explanation, the minority did not suggest that proper steps ought not to be taken for completing so important a work.

Mr. Tsuzuki, Government Delegate, said that this affair had provoked much controversy and they were now even confronted with a question as to the constitutionality of the Government's financial methods. He had to remind them, however, that when a Budget failed to come into existence, as had been the case last year, and when the Government was consequently obliged to carry out the Budget of the preceding year, it was inevitable either that important undertakings, even though partially completed, should be abandoned, or that the House should subsequently be invited to sanction, by means of supplementary budgets, the expenditures involved in their prosecution. So far as the Government could perceive, no other resource offered under the Constitution. Turning to the particular question of the Yokohama Harbour Works, they should remember, in the first place, that the failure under consideration was of comparatively trifling dimension. Not all the cement blocks had proved defective, nor even a large portion, but only a petty fraction, some 3 or 4 per cent. Nevertheless, the Government, fully appreciating the importance of fixing the responsibility and ascertaining the cause, the former in the interest of administrative efficiency, and the latter on account of the future of the great work, had appointed a committee of experts to investigate the matter. After long and patient inquiry and experiment, the Committee had arrived at the conclusion that either bad materials, or insufficient mixing, or a faulty method of carriage, or incomplete drying, or unskilful laying, had been responsible for the cracks. Doubtless the disaster was attributable to one or all of these causes, but which particular cause had been chiefly operative, it had been found impossible to determine. Under the circumstances it did not seem just to allege that the responsibility remained unfixed. It was fixed, in the opinion of the Government, and it rested with the superintending engineer. As to alleged irregularities connected with the purchase of a dredger and cement, all the allegations made were of the vaguest character. The Government, however, had entrusted the investigation of this question to the most painstaking and accurate auditors available, and these had failed to detect any evidence whatever of irregularity. It was impossible to go farther. The Administration could not prefer vague rumours to the exhaustive analysis of qualified financial experts. Finally, it was asked why they could not defer the prosecution of the Works for a few months so as to obtain the preliminary assent of the Diet. The answer was that a day's delay in continuing such works meant a day's deterioration. To be left uncompleted was fatal in the case of structures chiefly under water and exposed to influences which, though comparatively undestructive after the competion of the works, were most destructive during the uncompleted stage. The Government could not reconcile itself to such a waste of public funds.

In answer to further questions, the Delegate said that although the precise cause of the cracks in the blocks could not be ascertained, it was certain that some or all of the five causes he had mentioned, must be responsible, and by guarding against all five, any recurrence of the trouble could be confidently prevented.

Mr. Tanaka Shozo said that an excuse was made on the ground of the comparative smallness of the number of defective blocks. But a small percentage amounted to a great many when large numbers were concerned. Letting that pass, however, he desired to be informed whether there was any other instance of a great public work being entrusted solely to foreign expert inspection.

Mr. Tsuzuki said that he was not in a position to reply without consulting the records.

Mr. Tanaka Shozo called attention to the 19th article of the Constitution:—"Japanese subjects may, according to qualifications determined in laws or ordinances, be appointed to civil or military offices equally, and may fill any other public offices."—(Great laughter.) Mr. Tanaka angrily inquired what they were laughing at. The Constitution showed that although foreigners might be employed, they must not be entrusted with executive functions. Did the Government imagine that its responsibilities could be evaded by reposing such trust in a foreigner and then laying the blame on him after his death? What did the Government Delegate find to laugh at? There must have been some responsible Japanese official. Who was it? Why didn't they seize the thief, whoever it might be. A thief could be recognised by his cast of countenance.

Mr. Tsuzuki denied having laughed. As for entrusting the Harbour Works to a foreign expert, the Government considered that perfectly proper. If nothing was to be entrusted to foreigners, the empire could not order its men-of-war abroad. He should not notice the last speaker's violent language further than to express a hope that greater circumspection would be observed in future.

Mr. Tanaka Shozo at this stage became violently excited, and thumping his desk cried out: "Why don't you catch the thief?"

Mr. Shigeno Kenjiro asked for explicit information as to the possibility of preventing such mishaps in future.

Mr. Furuichi, Government Delegate, said that as a technical expert he was, perhaps, qualified to reply. The question centered upon two points, first, the quality of the materials employed, and secondly the method of mixing [illegible] As to the former point the House would

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understand that to determine the quality of the materials employed in blocks that had been made many months previously and had been lying under water, was a matter of no little difficulty. At any rate, so far as concerned the future stability of blocks, it was enough to know that sound materials used for such a purpose would certainly fulfil the object contemplated. As to the second point, the exact proportions in which the materials were originally mixed by the workmen was also difficult to determine now. The Committee had conducted experiments on a careful and extended scale, and had arrived at the definite conclusion that by using a slightly larger proportion of cement than that fixed by the formula hitherto followed, blocks of permanent durability could be obtained.

Mr. Moriya Konosuke asked whether Mr. Furuichi also entertained the opinion that the responsibility rested with the deceased foreign engineer.

Mr. Furuichi replied in the affirmative. There had been, it is true, several Japanese engineers associated with the work, but each had had his own special functions assigned, and had not gone beyond those functions. The general responsibility of direction rested with the engineer-in-chief, and this was a point of direction.

After some further questions, Mr. Suyehiro Shigeyasu said that this affair must be considered under two aspects. There was, first, the point that unless the Harbour Works were completed, a heavy loss of public funds would be incurred. Impelled by that argument the Committee, he understood, had passed the item, and he endorsed their action. But there was secondly the question of responsibility. The House could not be satisfied with the Government's explanations. It seemed to him that the action of the Government might be compared to that of a party of gamblers among whom a quarrel arises ending in the killing of one of their number, whereupon the rest declare that the dead man was the first to strike a blow. Doubtless the Government had not undertaken the Harbour Works with any expectation of making a failure, but the failure having been made, it would not do to lay the whole responsibility upon a deceased *employé*. He moved that a special committee be appointed to give the matter fuller consideration, and that in the meanwhile, the business of debating this Budget be suspended.

This proposal having found no seconder,

Mr. Kommuro Shigehiro, while admitting the advisability of clearing up the question of administrative and technical control, reminded the House that the work itself was of too much importance to be suspended for such a reason.

Mr. Horiuchi Kuro protested against such a view, and said that if the House admitted Mr. Kommuro's principle, the Legislature's supervision would become a farce.

The closure having been moved and carried, the House passed the sections of the Budget relating to the War Department and the Department of Finance.

The section relating to the Yokohama Harbour Works was put to an open ballot, when 123 voted in favour of the item and 118 against.

The rest of the Supplementary Budget was passed as submitted by the Government.

The Second Reading of the Bill for amending Law No. 84 was then taken (*i.e.* the Law relating to punishments for violations of Administrative Ordinances).

Mr. Konishi Jinnosuke proposed some trifling amendments at great length, but the House rejected them, and passed the original Bill. The Third Reading was also passed at once.

The Bill for abolishing Notification No. 70 of the 15th year of Meiji was then introduced by Mr. Nishimura Shintaro. The Notification in question interdicted the members of a Prefectural Assembly from holding meetings or communications with the members of another Prefectural Assembly with reference to any question coming before either body. It was contended that such a restriction was inconsistent with the theory of Constitutional Government, and that, moreover, it was often very inconvenient in practice, since matters arose connected with public works and so forth, that absolutely demanded consultation between the members of neighbouring Prefectural Assemblies.

Mr. Konishi Jinnosuke opposed the Bill, not on principle, but because subsequent Ordinances with respect to Public Meetings and Political Associations had practically rescinded the objectionable article of the Notification in question.

The Bill was passed through all its readings at once.

Mr. Kagami Kahei, introducing the last Bill on the Order, explained that the portion of Law No. 28 for the abolition of which the Bill was designed, enacted that, in the event of any person's uttering contemptuous or abusive language toward the Diet, no prosecution at law could be instituted until the Diet itself had taken previous action. Such a law had the effect of assigning to the Imperial Diet the legal status of a private individual, and it was therefore proposed that, in case an offence of the above character were committed, the public procurator or the police should immediately take steps to prosecute.

Mr. Kusakari Shimmei strongly opposed the Bill. The principle involved was of the utmost importance. What was proposed was to transfer the guardianship of the Diet's good name to officers of the law, instead of leaving it to the legislators themselves, who were presumably the best judges of what constituted an offence against their dignity.

Mr. Tsunoda Shimpei proposed that the Bill be entrusted to a Special Committee, but the House rejected the proposal and refused to carry the Bill to a second reading.

The House rose at 4.25 p.m.

MONDAY, JANUARY 14TH.

HOUSE OF PEERS.

The House met at 10.30 a.m., the Order of the Day being :—

1.—Application for leave.
2.—Bill for rescinding the Peace Preservation Regulations, sent up from the House of Representatives.
3.—Bill embodying a new Game Law.

The President announced that the Government desired urgency for the Supplementary Budget for the 27th year of *Meiji*, sent up from the Lower House, and the House agreed to change the Order of the Day accordingly.

Mr. Tajiri, Government Delegate, explained the principal items of the Supplemeutary Budget, and pointed out the necessity of passing it expeditiously.

Viscount Soga proposed that the Budget Committee be instructed to present its report the following day, and the House assented.

The Budget Committee asked leave to retire for the purpose of examining the Budget and preparing its report, but an objection was raised that the House ought to be as largely attended as possible in view of the important Bill standing second on the Order.

The President said that, according to rule, members ought not to be allowed to absent themselves while the House was in session, but the House could give permission if it pleased. He must remind them, however, that if they refused the Committee's application, it could not be expected that the Committee should prepare and present its report by the following day.

The House agreed to the withdrawal of the Committee.

The first item on the Order having been disposed of,

Mr. Ando Sokumei inquired whether they were to understand distinctly from the statements made by the Government Delegate in the Lower House that the Government did not consider itself able to preserve public peace and good order without the Peace Preservation Regulations.

Mr. Suyematsu Kencho, Government Delegate, replied in the affirmative. The existence of secret societies and the disorderly conduct of a section of the people seemed, in the Government's opinion, to call for some legislation over and above the ordinary Criminal Code.

Mr. Ando inquired the total number of policemen in the empire and the expense of maintaining them.

Mr. Suyematsu replied that he had not come supplied with statistics on that point, but if Mr. Ando desired, he should send for them to the Home Office.

Mr. Ando did not consider that necessary at once. He believed that there were from 30,000 to 40,000 policemen in the country, and he thought that if they did their duty zealously they ought to be able to control all secret societies and law-breakers. He wished to know whether the Government considered the Peace Preservation Regulations a piece of uncivilized legislation, as had been asserted in the Lower House.

Mr. Suyematsu replied that different men entertained different opinions. The Government, however, most certainly did not think that Japan should be considered uncivilized because the Peace Preservation Regulations were in force.

Mr. Ando, with considerable excitement, declared that he could not obtain answers to the real purport of his questions.

The Bill was entrusted to a Special Committee nominated by the President.

Mr. Murata Tamotsu, introducing the project of Game Law, reminded the House that it had already fully discussed and passed this measure in a previous session. He trusted, therefore, that no delay would occur in debating it now.

The House agreed to carry the Bill to its Second Reading at once, and passed it through its Second and Third Readings without debate.

The House rose at noon.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The House met at 1.10 p.m., the Order of the Day being :—

1.—Second Reading of Bill for abolishing the Special System of City Government in the case of Tokyo, Osaka, and Kyoto.
2.—Second Reading of Bill for supplementing the City Government system.
3.—Bill for amending the Regulations for the Control of Dealers in Second-hand Goods.
4.—Bill for amending the 60th Article of the Land Tax Regulations.
5.—Bill relating to the Control of State Property.
6.—Bill relating to the establishment of a Silk Conditioning House.
7.—Representation relating to Losses caused by Inundations.

Mr. Tsunoda Shimpei, on behalf of the Special Committee, reported in favour of the first and second Bills on the Order, and the House passed the Second Reading, dispensing with the Third.

Mr. Tsunoda Shimpei, introducing the Bill for amending the Regulations for the Control of Dealers in Second-hand Goods, reminded the House that the passage of the Bill in the sixth session had been prevented only by the dissolution of the House. The present regulations were undoubtedly obsolete, and the Government itself admitted the fact. He proposed that the Bill be entrusted to the Special Committee already charged with the duty of reporting upon the Bill for amending the Pawn Brokers Regulations.

The House agreed.

Mr. Kimura Seitaro, introducing the Bill standing fourth on the Order, explained that the present Land Tax Regulations granted 15 years' exemption from taxation in the case of land inundated by the sea only. The Bill proposed to add land inundated by river water, or rendered barren by drought, or devastated by earthquake.

The Bill was entrusted to a Special Committee.

Mr. Inouye Hikozayemon explained that the object of the Bill relating to the control of State Properties was to bring within the provisions of law, and therefore within the purview of the Diet, all purchases or sales of public property, instead of leaving them to be managed by Government Ordinance as was now the case.

The Bill was entrusted to a Special Committee.

Mr. Takahashi Yasuji, who had attempted to speak with reference to the Bill for amending the Land Tax Regulations, but had been prevented by the President on the ground that a motion for entrusting the Bill to a Special Committee was already before the House, asked that the Order of the Day be changed to enable him to introduce an urgency motion taking the sense of the House as to whether the President had competence to deprive a member of the right of speech.

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The House refused permission.

Mr. Hamana Shimpei introduced the Bill for establishing a Silk-conditioning Warehouse :—

Art. I.—A Silk-conditioning Warehouse shall be established in Yokohama.

Art. II.—All silk produced in Japan and treated as an article of commerce, whether foreign or Japanese merchants be concerned, may be conditioned at the above Warehouse: provided that no charge shall be levied for conditioning.

Art. III.—The Silk-conditioning Warehouse shall be under the control of the Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce, by whom regulations for its management shall be enacted.

This Law shall become operative from the 1st day of the tenth month of the 28th year of *Meiji* (October 1st, 1895).

Silk constituted one-fifth of the total exports of Japan. Its proper management was of essential importance. At present the determination of the price and quality of Japanese silk rested entirely with foreign merchants, the native dealers being concerned solely with satisfying their foreign customers' wishes. No confidence whatever was placed in Japanese merchants, nor could any silk put up and inspected by them find a purchaser unless it had first been taken into a foreign godown and inspected there. Japan was behind all civilized countries in this matter. A silk-conditioning warehouse had existed in Lyons since 1779; there were 14 of such institutions in France, 15 in Italy, and several in England, Germany, and other countries. If the silk business of Japan was ever to be placed on a satisfactory basis, a conditioning warehouse must be established in Yokohama, and in order to acquire public confidence, it must be under Government control. He need scarcely remind the House that satisfactory as were the victories won by Japanese arms in the field, the country could never hold a high place among states unless it developed its resources and acquired the real sinews of war, wealth. The outlay involved in establishing the proposed warehouse would be only 15,000 *yen*. Even in China a conditioning warehouse had been established in Canton, and was found of great benefit.

In answer to questions, Mr. Hamana explained that he did not suppose that one conditioning house would be sufficient, but a beginning must be made, and Yokohama was plainly the centre of the silk export trade at present. Kobe's case might require consideration in the second place.

Mr. Taguchi Ukichi opposed the Bill on the ground that Yokohama was not the proper place to establish such a house. In other countries the manufacturing centres were always chosen. He understood that the project embodied in the Bill found much favour at the Department of Agriculture and Commerce, but for his own part he could not see that competent persons to carry on the work were procurable in Yokohama.

Mr. Obata Iwajiro supported the Bill. Forty million *yen* of foreign capital flowed into Japan every year by the sale of silk, and undoubtedly the country suffered great loss in the weighing of the staple and in the expenses of inspecting, under the present system. A conditioning house was absolutely required, and Yokohama, being the centre of the export trade, was plainly the place to establish it.

Mr. Shigeno Kenjiro pointed out that a motion to apply the closure had been made before Mr. Taguchi ascended the rostrum, and the permission accorded to him to address the House had consequently been out of order.

The President explained that the closure had been moved before the Bill was under discussion, and before the process of questioning its introducer had been concluded.

The Bill was entrusted to a Special Committee nominated by the President.

Mr. Shuto Rikuzo, introducing the Representation with reference to Inundations, explained that the Prefectures of Akita, Yamagata, and Shimane had suffered even more than other Prefectures to which large state aid had been granted in former years, yet no steps had been taken to relieve them. The Representation urged the Government to prepare and submit a Budget at once.

Mr. Furuichi, Government Delegate, stated that before granting aid in such cases, where public works were principally concerned, the Government deemed it essential to make full preliminary investigations. On previous occasions a term of six months had been required for that purpose, and six months had not yet expired in the present instances. The investigations were nearly concluded, and the necessary estimates would soon be compiled.

Mr. Haseba Junko pressed for a distinct statement in the name of the Cabinet as to whether grants in aid would be made, but Mr. Furuichi declined to speak for the Cabinet, or to pledge even the Home Department to anything definite pending the conclusion of the investigations.

Mr. Haseba said that he did not wish to discuss with Mr. Furuichi. The Minister of Home Affairs was present, and he trusted that his Excellency would give some definite reply.

Viscount Nomura, Minister of State for Home Affairs, said that no definite declaration had been made by the Government of a resolve not to make grants in aid of the distressed districts because of the war. Unquestionably, in view of the heavy expenses devolving upon the State in connection with belligerent operations, and in view, also, of the fact that the issue of the war could not be foreseen, the policy of the Cabinet was to avoid all large issues from the Treasury on other accounts. But the Government could not see the people suffer unaided. It would certainly make every possible effort to do what was required by the circumstances. On the other hand, the circumstances must be duly investigated. Whatever the Diet might say, they might as well understand distinctly that the Cabinet would pledge itself to nothing in such a matter until full inquiry had established the facts of the case. Such inquiry was now in progress, and on its conlusion the necessary measures would be adopted. The Government was not indifferent to the people's cry of distress. Further, even though no appeal were made to it, it knew its duty and would do it. But no appeal, whether from the House or from the people, would be held sufficient to warrant final action until proper investigations had been made.

Mr. Koizuka Ryo complained that whereas, according to the statement of the Government Delegate, the investigations were already concluded in the case of Shimane Prefecture, no appropriation had been asked for. Apparently the Prefectures of Yamagata and Akita were to be the means of keeping Shimane in a state of unaided distress.

Mr. Fuji Kinsaku considered that the matter should be left entirely in the hands of the Government. He reminded the House that whereas, in a former year, certain Prefectures had asked for 15 million *yen*, they had been content with 8 millions in the sequel of official investigations.

The closure having been put and carried, the House voted the Representation and rose at 5 p.m.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 15TH.

HOUSE OF PEERS.

The House met at 1.30 p.m., the Order of the Day being :—

1.—Supplementary Budget and correlated Appropriations for the 27th year of *Meiji*.

Viscount Soga, on behalf of the Budget Committee, reported in favour of the Supplementary Budget, but stated with regard to the appropriation for the Yokohama Harbour Works, that although a loss of some 300,000 or 400,000 *yen* had been caused by a failure in the concrete blocks, the Committee had failed to obtain any satisfactory explanation from the Government Delegate. The time at their disposal had not been sufficient to enable them to push their inquiries thoroughly. It did not seem to the Committee that the passing of this Budget was a matter of so much urgency as the Government's request implied, and they desired to examine it more at leisure. The Delegate had recognised the advisability of establishing an

said that no one was responsible, and that accidents of a similar nature could be avoided in the future by careful organization.

Baron Date asked the Government Delegate to explain.

Mr. Furuichi briefly explained that it had been impossible to determine whether the defects in the blocks were due to bad materials or faulty mixing. But the responsibility rested with the inspecting engineer, Major-General Palmer, and as he was dead, nothing could be done.

Viscount Tani wanted to know who could be responsible in future. The past was now irrevocable, but in the case of such an important work they should know clearly on whom the responsibility would rest hereafter.

Mr. Furuichi replied that each engineer would be responsible for his own section, but although much pressed by Viscount Tani, he declined to say who would be responsible in chief.

Baron Date complained of the Delegate's vagueness, and asked the Minister of State for Home Affairs to give an explanation.

Viscount Nomura, Minister for Home Affairs, replied that the causes of the failure of the concrete blocks were of a purely technical character, and that it had not been found possible to discover them. The extra expense incurred was most regrettable, but nothing further could be added by way of explanation.

Baron Date was not at all content that the whole blame should be laid on a deceased foreign engineer. He wished to know whether the final function of inspection had not been performed by the Government, and if so, whether the ultimate responsibility did not rest with the Government.

The Minister of State replied that undoubtedly the Government had been ultimately responsible in the matter of inspection, but the Government of to-day was not the Government of that time. The thing was passed and they could only regret it.

In reply to Viscount Tani, Mr. Matsuoka, Vice-Minister of Home Affairs, said that the work had been entrusted to Major-General Palmer and the Government had not exercised any direct control.

Mr. Furuichi, replying to Mr. Miyamoto Koichi, said that it was impossible to examine every bag in thousands of bags of cement. A few were examined in each lot. Inspection of the cement remaining at the works had not shown any bad material.

Baron Date failed to understand how any guarantee could be given as to the stability of the blocks in future if the causes of their defects in the past was unknown.

Mr. Furuichi said that they had now found by experiment a lasting form of block.

After further discussion of a desultory character, the Supplementary Budget and correlated Appropriations were passed, the Government having explained that the allowance of 1,000 *yen* on account of travelling expenses abroad, made to Professor Tanaka, the inventor of a new kind of piano, would have been the usual amount (2,500 *yen*) had not the circumstances of the time dictated economy.

The House rose at 3.45 p.m.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The House met at 1.10 p.m. the Order of the Day being :—

1.—Bill for extending the charters of the National Banks.
2.—Bill relating to the Note Issues of the National Banks.
3.—Bill for supplementing Law No. 25 of the 23rd year of *Meiji*.
4.—Representation relating to Damage by Earthquake in Yamagata Prefecture.
5.—Bill relating to the Shares of Private Railways.
6.—Bill relating to Temple Lands.
7.—Bill relating to Temple Forests.
8.—Representation for increasing the Commercial Navigation School.

Mr. Taguchi, Government Delegate, reminded the House that the first Bill on the Order had been passed by a large majority in the preceding session. It would not be necessary, therefore, to offer any explanations until the Special Committee's report was presented. In answer to questions, he said that the Bank of Japan was satisfactorily discharging the business of a central bank, and that the Government

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industrial bank and had actually prepared a Bill in that sense, but owing to pressure of extraordinary affairs the project had been laid aside for the moment.

Mr. Kawashima Jun inquired whether the Government, having so emphatically committed itself to a declaration of the importance of this Bill, was prepared to dissolve the House in the event of the Bill's not passing.

Mr. Taguchi replied that it was not his place to answer such a question.

Mr. Shigeoka Kungoro, in view of the great importance of the Bill, and of the fact that the Banks were reported to have adopted most active measures involving large outlays to secure a majority of supporters in the Diet through the influence of the press, proposed that a Committee of 18 be nominated by the President, 9 from the party in favour of continuing the Banks as private institutions, and 9 from the advocates of extending their charters, and that explicit instructions be given to the Committee.

Mr. Mayekawa Makizo saw no occasion for such an exceptional course. Let the Committee of 18 be nominated by the President, and proceed to prepare its report in the usual manner.

Mr. Komuro Shigehiro failed to understand the idea of the Houses being divided into a party for continuing the Banks and a party for extending their charters. He did not believe that a single member of the House could be moved by the writings of such petty things as newspapers.

The House agreed, without division, to entrust the Bill to a Special Committee of 18 nominated by the President, and to entrust to the same Committee a Bill introduced by Mr. Komuro for extending the period of the Banks' charters.

The Bill relating to the Note Issues of the National Banks was entrusted to the same Committee without question or debate.

The Bill for Supplementing Law No. 25 was handed to the same Committee.

Mr. Suto Rikuzo, introducing the Representation relating to Earthquake Damage in Yamagata Prefecture, said that the measure was based on the same grounds as the Representation already passed with reference to grants in aid of inundated districts. He spoke at great length about the particulars of the sufferings inflicted by the earthquake, and declared that if the country could afford to treat its prisoners of war as luxuriously as the Chinese were treated, it could certainly afford to succour its own people.

Several members complained that no Government Delegates were present, although questions relating to this Representation called for reply. The President promised to make strong recommendations to the Government, and the House adopted the Representation without discussion.

Mr. Misaki Kamenosuke introduced the Bill relating to the shares of Private Railways. According to the present law, a private company could not commence work until at least one-fourth of its capital had been paid up. Doubtless such a precaution was useful to secure the public against bogus undertakings, but it had the effect of needlessly hampering enterprise. The amendment proposed was to reduce the compulsory amount to one-tenth of the capital.

Mr. Suzuki, Government Delegate, said that the Government offered no objection at the present stage; and the Bill was entrusted to a Special Committee nominated by the President.

Mr. Imai Isoichiro, introducing the Bill relating to Lands of Temples and Shrines, said that the object of the Bill was to restore to Temples and Shrines the lands of which they had been deprived at the time of the Restoration. The cultivation and planting of those lands through long centuries had been the work of pious parishioners, aided by grants from munificent patrons of religion. Such lands differed essentially in their character from the fiefs of the feudal nobles, and their confiscation by the Government, in lieu of a paltry allowance to the Temples and Shrines, was an act of flagrant injustice, quite inconsistent with the dictates of constitutional institutions. Its result had been to reduce the Temples and Shrines to a condition of indigence. They were unable to keep their buildings in repair, or to support establishments worthy of the place they held in the national sentiment, despite the subscriptions of charitable persons and occasional grants in aid from the Treasury. Yet these temples and shrines were among the most beautiful and interesting objects in Japan: they occupied a prominent place in her art treasures and had an intimate connection with her national history. There might be some apprehension lest, if the lands were restored to the Temples and Shrines, excessive felling of timber would take place. To guard against anything of that kind, a forestry law was appended to the Bill. In answer to questions, he explained that none of the lands in question had yet become private property; that their total extent was about 100,000 *cho* (250,000 acres); and that if private *rights*, acquired since the Restoration, were injured by the measure, the interests of the few must yield to those of the many.

Mr. Nakamura Yaroku opposed the Bill. Were it passed, equal justice would require the restoration of the Tokugawa and Tsugaru lands. A capital sum of about 30,000,000 was involved, and the country could not at present afford that. Already they were confronted by the pressing necessity of replanting lands that had been recklessly denuded of trees by the people, yet they were now invited to expose immense tracts of forest to a similar fate.

Mr. Hayakawa Ryosuke observed that Mr. Nakamura had supported the same Bill in a previous session. Be that as it might, however, they were invited to perform an act of justice, and the mere question of cost should not be considered deterrent.

The Bill was entrusted to a Special Committee nominated by the President, as was also the next Bill on the Order.

The Representation for increasing the Commercial Navigation School was then introduced by Mr. Komuro Shigehiro, who explained that the future of Japan must depend greatly on the development of her mercantile marine, and that her Commercial Navigation Schools in Tokyo, Osaka, and Hakodate were altogether inadequate to the needs of the time. The Representation therefore called upon the Government to present a Budget providing proper appropriations for the increase of those schools. The commercial marine had actual need of over 700 men to officer it, but only 139 graduates of the Schools were available, and if such were the state of affairs at present, how much more accentuated would it be when the conclusion of the war opened a new era of enterprise. He need only remind them that the Nippon Yusen Kaisha had over 200 foreigners in its employ. That fact alone should show the pressing necessity of the measure he proposed. A trifle of 40,000 or 50,000 *yen* would suffice.

After a few questions, the Representation was entrusted to the Special Committee already charged with the duty of reporting upon the Representation relating to the development of Navigation.

The House rose at 4.10 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 16TH.

HOUSE OF PEERS.

The House met at 10.50 a.m., the Order of the Day being:—

1.—Bill, sent up from the Lower House, for amending Law No. 84 of the 23rd year of *Meiji*.
2.—Bill, sent up from the Lower House, for rescinding Notification No. 20 of the 15th year of *Meiji*.

Mr. Watari Masamoto complained that the first Bill on the Order had come up unaccompanied by any statement of reasons.

The President said there was no help. He could not apply to the Lower House for the statement of reasons usually accompanying a Bill. Mr. Watari could consult the stenographic records of the Lower House.

Baron Date supported Mr. Watari, and urged the President to apply to the Lower House.

Mr. Murata Tamotsu asked whether the Government approved of the Bill.

The Government Delegate, Mr. Suyematsu Kuzuo, replied in the negative. The Government considered that Administrative Ordinances could not be efficiently enforced without penalties of the nature provided in Law No. 84, and that the mitigated penalties proposed by the Bill would be quite insufficient.

The Bill was entrusted to a special Committee nominated by the President.

The Second Bill on the Order, abolishing the veto upon communication between concerted members of different Prefectural Assemblies being introduced,

Mr. Suyematsu, Government Delegate, said that the Government did not approve of the Bill, but gave no reasons.

Mr. Mitsukuri Rinsho observed that since the rescinding of Article 13 of the Public Meeting Regulations, the Law in question had ceased to have any effect.

After some desultory discussion, the Bill was entrusted to a Special Committee nominated by the President.

The House rose at 11.45 a.m.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The House met at 1.10 p.m., the Order of the Day being:—

1.—Petition relating to Financial and Administrative Reforms in the island of Miyako, Okinawa Prefecture.
2.—Petition relating to Reduction of Fares on Government Railways.
3.—Bill embodying a Project of Law for the Registration of Buildings and Ships.
4.—Representation for the Abolition of the Law of Premonition.
5.—Bill for amending the Banking Regulations, contained in Law No. 72 of the 23rd year of *Meiji*.
6.—Bill for amending the Savings' Bank Regulations, contained in Law No. 73 of the 23rd year of *Meiji*.

Mr. Fuji Kinsaku presented a Question relating to the continuation of the Sanyo Railway from Hiroshima to Shimonoseki. Permission for the construction of the line had been given in a previous session, and its vital importance, both commercially and strategically, was now universally recognised. He wished to know why no steps had been taken toward its construction.

Mr. Ota Shinichi presented a Question with regard to the enforcement of the District Local Government System. The system had been promulgated in the 5th month of the 25th year, and put into operation from the 4th month of the following year in Aichi and eleven other Prefectures, but there the process had stopped. His Question was presented for the purpose of learning the reasons of the interruption.

Mr. Hamano Shimpei, on behalf of the Petitions Committee, explained that the Petition standing first on the Order was recommended by the Committee for adoption by the House, because the state of affairs in Okinawa Prefecture stood in urgent need of reform. The administration of the islands lagged far behind the general progress of the empire. In the island of Miyako there were 35,000 inhabitants of a very humble order, cultivating 11,632 *cho* (29,080 acres), and paying taxes that aggregated over 74,000 *yen*, an altogether excessive amount. Moreover, the number of officials employed in the island was 344.

The Government Delegate explained that a Bill on the subject was in process of preparation.

The House adopted the Petition unanimously.

Mr. Hamano, explaining the Second Petition, said that the sending of goods by Government Railways was hampered by many restrictions fatal to commercial convenience, and moreover, the rates of freight were higher than those on private lines.

Mr. Tanaka Torio opposed the Petition. The principal restriction complained of was that goods of different kinds were not allowed to be packed in the same waggon, an obviously necessary regulation. As to the comparison made between freights on State Railways and freights on private lines, it appeared that wherever the latter were cheaper, competition with maritime transport was the cause.

The House rejected the Petition.

Mr. Nishimura Shintaro, introducing the Bill for amending the Registration Law, said that the registration districts designated by the present law were too extensive; that the law was defective, and that it was not properly enforced.

The Bill, which was of great length, was entrusted to a Special Committee, after the Government Delegate had pointed out that it

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amend the Registration Law at present was virtually a superfluous task, since it must be again altered when the new Civil Code went into operation.

Mr. Hirata Shin briefly introduced the Representation for abolishing the Law of Premonition. He said that the House, having voted for abolishing the Peace Preservation Regulations, was logically compelled to adopt the same course in the case of this objectionable and unconstitutional law.

Mr. Tsuzaki, Government Delegate, declared that, in the present state of society in Japan, the Government regarded the law in question as essential to the preservation of good order.

The House passed the Representation.

Mr. Kozaka Zennosuke explained that the proposed amendment of the Banking Regulations had already received the House's approval in a previous session, but had failed to become law owing to its not coming up for discussion in the House of Peers. The contemplated amendment was to abolish the clause forbidding a bank to lend more than one-tenth of its paid-up capital to a firm or an individual. Such a restriction was opposed to the interests of trade. The Bill further proposed to change the banking hours fixed by the Regulations, in the sense that the banks should be open from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., instead of from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The Bill was voted at once, the Second and Third Readings being dispensed with.

Mr. Kozaka Zennosuke, introducing the Bill for amending the Savings' Bank Regulations, said that the present law required a Savings' Bank to keep, as security for the payment of its deposits, a sum equal to one-half of its paid-up capital, in the form of interest-bearing public bonds. No bank could carry on business under such a regulation. Its consequence had been to reduce the number of Savings' Banks in the empire from 300 to 20. The amendment proposed was that a bank must keep in reserve a sum equal to at least one-fourth of its deposits, in the form of interest-bearing public bonds, whether of the Central or a Local Government; and that when such sum amounted to one-half of the bank's capital, it might take the form of commercial notes or trustworthy company's shares. Other facilities, also, were proposed.

Mr. Tajiri, Government Delegate, said that the Government was not altogether opposed to the projected changes.

The Bill was entrusted to a Special Committee nominated by the President.

The House rose at 3.35 p.m.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 17TH.

HOUSE OF PEERS.

The House met at 10.45 a.m., the Order of the Day being :—

1.—Bill sent up from the Lower House for abolishing the Special System of City Government in Tokyo, Osaka, and Kyoto.
2.—Bill sent up from the Lower House, for supplementing the City Government System.

Visconnt Soga asked the Government's opinion with regard to the first Bill, and Mr. Matsuoka, Government Delegate, replied that the Government emphatically opposed it. As promised in a previous session, the Government contemplated introducing a project of law to amend the present system of city government, but the necessary investigations were not completed, and the occasion was not opportune, as explained by the Minister-President in his speech at the opening of the Diet. The Bill would be introduced next session.

The two Bills were entrusted to a Special Committee of 9 nominated by the Vice-President, the President being absent.

The House rose at 11.30 a.m.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The House met at 1.10 p.m., the Order of the Day being :—

1.—Bill sent down from the Upper House, embodying project of Game Law.
2.—Second Reading of the Press Regulations Bill.
3.—Bill for rescinding Law No. 7 of the 23rd year of *Meiji*.
4.—Bill for rescinding Notification No. 2 of the 18th year of *Meiji*.
5.—Bill for amending a portion of the Codes of Civil Procedure.
6.—Representation relating to the Restoration of Pensions and amendment of their amounts.
7.—Bill for amending the Regulations relating to Sureties.

Mr. Tsunematsu Yukei presented a Question [illegible] relating to the Administration of Forest Lands.

The first Bill, together with a Bill on the same subject introduced by Mr. Tsunoda Shimpei, were handed to a Special Committee appointed by the President.

Mr. Koizuka Ryo, on behalf of the Special Committee, reported that the Committee approved of amending the Press Regulations in the sense of abolishing the power of suspensions by administrative order, as well as the provision requiring the proprietor of a journal to deposit security with the Government.

Mr. Komuro Shigehiro complained that while the Government talked of harmonious cöoperation with the Diet, their acts, especially in opposing this Bill, belied their words. He noted, also, that the Government Delegate, in speaking of newspaper proprietors, described them as "Shimbun-ya," thus placing them on the same level with fishmongers and confectioners. The House of Peers, too, in opposing this Bill, showed that it took no heed of the nation's wishes.

The House voted for the Second Reading and proceeded with it at once, passing all the clauses as amended by the Committee.

Mr. Kusakari Shimmei, introducing the next Bill, said that, under the existing law, a defendant desiring to appeal from the judgment of an inferior tribunal in a case of crime, had to lodge a sum of 20 *yen* with the Court. Thus poor people were practically excluded from the privilege of appeal, and condemned to be content with the verdict of a lower Court, however unjust. The Bill proposed to abolish that provision.

Mr. Kanaoka Matazayemon pointed out that there was a special regulation empowering the Public Prosecutor to exact or dispense with the security in question according to his own judgment. Hence the abolition of Law 7 would practically leave the matter as it was, unless they rescinded the special regulation also.

Mr. Kusakari recognised the difficulty, but explained that the special regulation referred to was virtually inoperative.

Mr. Yoshimura Yukichi moved that as the next two Bills were correlated measures, all three should be entrusted to the same Committee, and the House agreed, after some remarks from the Government Delegate, explaining that the change proposed by the fifth bill would involve considerable confusion.

Mr. Komuro Shigehiro explained that the Representation standing 6th on the Order had several times been before the House already. Briefly speaking, its object was to correct many injustices committed when commuting and otherwise dealing with hereditary incomes in the early days of the *Meiji* era, and after the Satsuma Insurrection.

The Representation was entrusted to a Special Committee, as was also the 7th Bill, after some discussion.

The House rose at 3.50 p.m.

WAR NEWS.

MONDAY, JANUARY 14TH.

The capture of Kaiping by Major-General Nogi's Mixed Brigade is the journalistic topic of the moment. The leading newspapers of Tokyo evidently recognise the importance of the event from a strategical point of view. The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* is notably explicit. It points out that with the Second Army, or rather a Brigade of it, at Kaiping, and the left wing of the First Army at Haicheng, General Sung is effectually separated from the rest of the Chinese forces in Manchuria, and must now retreat toward Chinchow and Shanhaikwan. We do not, for our own part, accept that view as conclusive, Sung may still make his way *vid* Newchwang (the old town) past Haicheng, striking the Laoyang road a few miles north of the latter town. At present, however, he does not seem to contemplate any such movement. On the contrary, his apparent purpose is to cover Yingkow, for he has established outposts at Kaokan, on the road leading north from Yingkow to Haicheng, and at Pulantien, on the road leading east to Kaiping. In short, he is facing both Katsura and Nogi, seemingly resolved to defy the advance of either against Yingkow, and to guard the coastwise road to China proper. From Yingkow to the important town of Chinchow is only a little more than 100 miles. Once Sung's forces are swept out of the path, there will be nothing, except commissariat difficulties to prevent the Japanese troops from pushing on to Chinchow, provided that they can hold Haiching and Newchwang (the old city), so as to guard their coastwise communications against attack from the troops massed in the neighbourhood of Mukden. It seems uncertain whether the Japanese will advance immediately against Yingkow. The foreign settlement there presents a complication that they are apparently unwilling to unravel. We interpret their present intention to be manœuvring of such a character as shall compel the Chinese forces to evacuate Yingkow and withdraw from its neighbourhood. The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* notes the criticism pronounced by some onlookers, ourselves among the rest, that the northward movement of the Second Army from the Liaotung peninsula was delayed longer that seems consistent with a well matured scheme of strategy. Our contemporary reminds its readers that Nogi's Brigade had to set out in mid-winter, and that the preparations for such an advance must have been very extensive. That is quite true. These winter campaigns are terrible things. Seldom, very seldom, are they attempted. Critics sitting comfortably at home with the map spread out before them, may wonder at this or condemn that, but in the end all must concur in admiring the organization and courage that the Japanese troops are displaying.

Since writing the above, further intelligence of Sung's movements has been telegraphed from Chinchow, under date 7.50 a.m. on the 12th instant. It embodies a report from the Staff to the effect that the enemy moved from Yingkow in the direction of Kaiping on the 8th instant, presumably under command of Sung, and, on the night of the 10th, halted at Lanchichang, a town about midway between Yingkow and Kaiping. It was supposed that these forces would continue their advance on the 11th, but they showed no sign of doing so. Reconnaisances were being conducted to ascertain their movements.

With regard to the details of Major-General Nogi's march against Kaiping, we find some official and some unofficial accounts. His movements up to the time of the attack are reported by the *Jiji Shimpo* and the *Yomiuri Shimbun*. According to the former, he marched out of Chinchow on the 1st instant; according to the latter, on the 31st ultimo. Collecting the troops stationed at Pitszwo and Pulantien (Port Adams), he pushed on rapidly, reaching Hiungyochang (90 miles from Chinchow) on the 8th instant, and halting there for the night. On the 9th, he covered a distance of 15 miles, and bivouaced within 8 miles of Kaiping. These 8 miles he travelled the following morning, and got within striking distance of Kaiping. He found the enemy established on the opposite bank of the Kaiping river, which runs on the south of the town, their line of defence extending some 1,300 metres. The Chinese forces consisted of 11 regiments (nominally 5,500 men) and 200 artillery with 4 guns. The attack commenced at dawn, and by 9.30 a.m. the Chinese were in full retreat, pursued by the Japanese cavalry. The enemy were under the command of Generals Nieh and Chang, and the Japanese got within 50 metres of the cart in which the former was riding at the time of the retreat, killing his horse and wounding him in the body, but failing to take him prisoner. The pursuing cavalry reported that a large force of the enemy, apparently about 10,000 strong, were posted on the high road to Yingkow, and that the fugitives from Kaiping joined them. It is conjectured that these troops were under the command of Su Pang-tao, who was known to be in the neighbourhood, at the head of 18 regiments. They appear to have retreated with the fugitives from Kaiping. Major-General Nogi posted his advance guard

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in Haishanssi, a town 5 miles beyond Kaiping in the direction of Yingkow. He reports that about 200 of the enemy were killed and 150 taken prisoners, but the number of their wounded is not ascertained. At noon on the 10th a force of the First Army under Major Aoki entered Kaiping, thus effecting a junction with the Second Army. Nogi's troops fired 575 rounds of grape and shrapnel, and rifle ammunition enough to fill a small Japanese *kori* (we quote the official report) in the attack on Kaiping, from which details it may be inferred that the battle was in part an artillery duel, and that, while the fighting lasted, it must have been pretty severe. Five hundred and seventy rounds of shrapnel is a very large expenditure, but it has been proved that nothing does so much execution among the Chinese as the Japanese shrapnel. The *Kokkai* estimates that a small *kori* full of rifle ammunition represents 120 rounds per man, but that, of course, depends on the number of the troops engaged. The Japanese loss was about 50 killed and wounded. General Nieh, who is said to have commanded the Chinese, is doubtless Nieh Ch'chang, of Phyongyang notoriety, and General Chang, his associated commander, is Chang Kwangtsien, who suffered defeat at Port Arthur. We note that there seem to be doubts as to the presence of either of these Generals, as well as of Sung himself, in the part of Shinking now forming the battle-field. Thus, a telegram despatched from Hiroshima on the 12th instant and published by the *Kokkai*, alleges that Nieh is still at Motienling and that Sung has made his way to Laoyang. It is plain, however, that Nieh, at all events, was at Kaiping on the 10th instant.

The *Hochi* says that a powerful army of Chinese troops is assembled at Chefoo and Weihaiwei under several Generals. Twenty thousand are said to be at Chefoo, commanded by Sun and Li, and eleven thousand at Weihaiwei under Wu Ta-chang, to whom must be added the original garrison of 6,500, making nearly 40,000 in all. Sun has posted a force of 3,500 cavalry on the north and south of Chefoo, armed with Winchesters, and has distributed bodies of from 250 to 500 strong at intervals of two or three miles along the coast. These men are supposed to be continually on the watch to give notice of the coming of the Japanese.

According to the *Choya*, Liu Kwan-yi has at length accepted the post of commander-in-chief at Shanhaikwan, for which place he set out from Tientsin, with about 200 officers and 15,000 soldiers on the 3rd instant. Shanhaikwan having been hitherto under the control of the Viceroy Li, it is presumed that the latter's forces will be withdrawn when Liu arrives.

In the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* we read that although a very large force is assembled at Shanhaikwan, desertions are continually taking place. The majority of the troops are raw levies. Twenty or thirty desert daily from each regiment, their object being to escape to another district, and enlist again, for the sake of the bounty.

The *Yoshino*, reconnoitering Weihaiwei on the 1st instant, says the *Nichi Nichi*, observed two torpedo-boats steam out to the entrance of the harbour, but they did not attempt any attack. The Chinese ships are still there, but they have moved farther into the harbour, and are painted an ash colour.

The *Hochi* says that the Chinese garrisoning forts along the sea-shore are observed to fire vigorously upon an enemy at a long distance, but their cannonade grows less as the enemy approaches. That is due partly to their want of steadiness, but chiefly to the fact that they can not depress their guns sufficiently to bring an object within effective range at close quarters. A fast ship can consequently steam into the zone of safety very soon. Our contemporary adds that the defect is not confined to Chinese forts.

It would appear that the Head-quarters at Hiroshima are now in direct telegraphic communication with the First and Second Armies. The *Yomiuri* says that the through line was opened on the 30th of December at 2.37 p.m. Apparently the *Yomiuri* is correct as to the fact of such communication's existence, for the War Office in Tokyo received on the 13th instant, a telegram despatched from Hiroshima at 12.40 p.m. the same day, giving the substance of a message sent from the Staff at Chinchow at 7.50 a.m. on the 12th instant. Moreover, the Chinchow telegram contained news from Kaiping up to the 11th. Thus Tokyo seems to be brought within 48 hours of the scene of military operations in the south of Shinking. The *Yomiuri* adds that by the 31st ultimo a postal system between the two Armies had been fully organized. That is a most satisfactory state of affairs.

Commander Kurooka, of the *Tsukuba Kan*, telegraphs from Fusan that the Tong-hak insurrection in the Junten district has been suppressed. Insurgents have proved the genuineness of their surrender by decapitating their chief Kim Jinhai, as well as his lieutenant, Liu Katok, and by shooting another leader, Bok Kosai, with about 40 of his followers. Yet another leader, Kim Ka, and four subordinates are under arrest. Commander Kurooka, together with the Korean authorities, inspected the heads or corpses of all the persons killed and saw the prisoners. He reports that a division seems to have happened among the Tong-haks. A rumour got abroad that some of them, combining with Japanese marines at Sasuiei, were about to attack Junten, and this terrified the rest into submission. The rebels who had surrendered came out, with a Korean band of music, to welcome Commander Kurooka and his men, and to invite them into the castle. In view of the changed aspect of affairs in the Junten district, the *Tsukuba Kan* has returned to Fusan.

Tuesday, January 15th.

Major-General Nogi telegraphs from Kaiping on the 12th instant, to say that his scouts report the presence of the enemy, to the number of about 10,000 in Rhtasho, that, according to intelligence received from the Third Division in Haicheng, the Chinese troops are massed in considerable numbers at Laoyomiao. To make the position plain, we may add that Rhtasho and Laoyomiao are towns on the East of Yingkow (modern Newchwang), the former at a distance of 8 miles, the latter at a distance of 10. They are on different roads, but the lateral interval between them being only 6 miles, troops stationed at the places are virtually in communication. Evidently Sung contemplates a strong resistance on the east of Yingkow, his object being to defend the mouth of the Liao river, which constitutes the waterway to Mukden, as well as the chief waterway of the province of Shinking. It is probable that the Japanese are not very anxious to capture Yingkow itself, as the presence of a foreign settlement there would introduce a troublesome complication into the programme of occupation. But since Sung has chosen the environs of the town as a battle-field, Katsura and Nogi have no alternative. They will doubtless make a concerted attack against Sung's position. Haicheng is about 33 miles from Yingkow; Kaiping is 24. The two Japanese Generals are in telegraphic communication *via* Takushan and Chinchow, a military line of wires has been carried from Takushan to Haicheng *via* Suiyen, and the original Chinese line, from Port Arthur *vid* Chinchow and Fuchow along the west coast of the Liaotung peninsula, is in use. According to intelligence published by the *Yomiuri Shimbun*, General Sung seems disposed to make another attempt to recapture Haicheng, but it is difficult to see how he can do so with Major-General Nogi's Brigade threatening his base at Yingkow.

The prisoners taken at Kaiping state that in addition to the troops already reported as present in Kaiping at the time of its attack, there were three of the Chunchien and Hingtsz regiments. That would bring the enemy's nominal strength to 7,000.

The *Yomiuri* says that the remnants of I's forces, which were threatening the right flank of the First Army's Right Wing have been compelled to retire owing to the cold, and are now out of the field altogether.

Unquestionably General I is the best of the Chinese captains hitherto opposed to the Japanese. The latter speak of him in high terms and say that his manner of handling his troops and planning his attacks bespeaks much military skill. His cavalry, too, are said to be particularly good. The *Nippon* writes that I was educated in Germany.

News has been received from Shanghai that a battle was fought near Newchwang (Yingkow) on the 13th instant. That a battle of considerable magnitude and importance is to be expected there there can be no doubt, but inasmuch as Tokyo is now within a day's telegraphic communication with Kaiping, it is most improbable that had a battle taken place on the 13th, intelligence would not yet have reached us.

Wednesday, January 16th

There is an absolute dearth of intelligence from the front this morning. The *Nichi Nichi* published a telegram from Shanghai, dated the 14th at 2 p.m., to the effect that H.E. Chang has arrived there with a retinue of 50 persons, and that much opposition to his mission is being fomented in Canton. The southern Chinese are said to be opposed to the notion of such a humiliating procedure as submitting to the haughty and aggressive Japanese.

The Peiyang Squadron, always an object of the keenest interest to the Japanese, is said to be unquestionably in Weihaiwei, which port is protected at the entrance by torpedoes and booms. It is alleged, however, that the ships constantly have their fires lit, and that they are observed exchanging frequent signals with the forts, as though some project were on foot. This intelligence is conveyed in a telegram from Moji. The message adds that no possibility of escape now exists for the ships.

The *Nippon*, speaking of the latest addition to the Japanese Navy, namely, the *Izumi Kan*, notes that her complement consists of a Captain, a Commander, and 298 officers and men. The *Chiyoda* has 306 men, and the *Kongo* and *Hiyei* 285 each, so that the class of the *Izumi* may easily be inferred.

The *Kokkai* undertakes to analyse the cause of the Chinese troops' inability to cope with the Japanese, but our contemporary's reasons resolve themselves simply into bad organization and worse tactics.

The designation of the King of Korea has been settled, says a Sōul telegram, dated the 14th and published by the *Jiji*. He is to be called *Taikun Yu Heika*.

Thursday, January 17th.

The *Shogyo Shimpo* publishes an important item of news, namely, that the Japanese troops are attacking Yingkow, and that its Chinese defenders have begun to retreat in the direction of Chinchow. The intelligence comes from Shanghai, and is dated 15th instant at 10 a.m. Consequently, the attack referred to must have taken place on the 14th, and had such been the case, the fact should have been already known in Japan by a direct telegram from Kaiping. We are disposed, therefore, to doubt the news.

With the exception of the above item, there is nothing of importance relating to the war. Various statements are published as to the defences of Weihaiwei. The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* says that 3,000 troops from Hunan have been added to the defenders, and the *Kokumin* puts the number of troops assembled to protect the place on the land side at 14,000, under the command of Tantai King and General Sun.

The *Kokumin* publishes a telegram from Hiroshima, saying that seven Chinese transports and five men-of-war have been lying for a long time in Shanghai.

According to a telegram from Shimonoseki published by the *Kokkai*, five Chinese transports, carrying troops and munitions of war, were ascending the Hwanho on the 29th of last month, when they encountered a violent gale. One of the transports was sunk, two were driven on the rocks, and the other two escaped with injuries more or less serious. Three hundred soldiers were drowned, and a quantity of stores were lost.

The *Yomiuri Shimbun* says that the Chinese

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Envoys are expected to arrive at Shimonoseki on the 24th instant. If that be so, they will just be in time to meet Mr. Foster on his coming from America.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 18TH.

Lieut.-General Nodzu, telegraphing from Suiyen under date of the 15th instant at 11 p.m., says that, according to intelligence received from Major Aoki, of the staff in Kaiping, there appear to be undoubtedly 44 regiments of Chinese troops assembled in the neighbourhood of Yingkow; namely, 18 regiments under Su Pangtao, 5 under one of the Changs, 18 under the other Chang, and 3 under Ku. That means a total of about 20,000 men.

"On the 12th of December," writes the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun's* war correspondent, "intelligence having been received that the enemy at Yingshukow had retired upon Tomucheng, the plan of the Division's advance was altered, and at dawn it marched direct by the high road against Tomucheng. The advance guard moved by the high road, the main body following, and the 19th Regiment, under Colonel Awa, was directed to shape its march so as to threaten the enemy's line of retreat. This last body encountered, *en route*, a force of the enemy on the east of Potsaoaokow, and defeated them, capturing two guns. At the same time, the Division itself advancing direct, entered Tomucheng, and the Chinese retreated before it. Meanwhile, Major-General Oseko, in command of the right wing, had come in contact, on the previous day, with the portion of the enemy's troops under General Ma, at Hwalunglao, and having defeated them, had marched on towards Tomucheng, reaching it almost simultaneously with the centre advancing by the high road. Thus Tomucheng was assaulted from three directions, by Oseko on the east, by the centre of the Division on the south, and by Colonel Awa on the south-west. At 10 a.m. the place was entirely in Japanese possession, the enemy having burned his head-quarters and fled. The Chinese forces aggregated from 9,000 to 10,000; namely, about 2,000 at Yingshukow, 3,000 in Oseko's front, and from 4,000 to 5,000 on the high road. A small force having been left to hold Tomucheng, the three portions of the Division were united, and a column having been despatched in pursuit of the enemy, the general forward movement was resumed toward Haicheng. In the afternoon, the advance guard came up with the enemy's rear, and after some fighting, captured Yingchangtsz. The Division halted for the night in Yangchiatien, the Commander-in-chief preferring to let the enemy re-assemble in the neighbourhood of Haicheng, so as to strike another crushing blow. The marching during that day had been terribly hampered by snow, frost, and mud, especially in the case of Colonel Awa's regiment whose route lay through the mountains. But the troops made nothing of these obstacles. The advance guard was on the march almost continually for 10 hours from daylight, yet the men showed no signs of fatigue."

The *Hochi Shimbun* has an interesting note about the number of ships acquired by Japan since the war broke out. Our contemporary puts them at 32, with a total tonnage of 81,554 tons, being an average of 2,548 tons. The names and tonnage (burden) are as follow:—

Name.	Tonnage.	Name.	Tonnage.
Otaru Maru	2,374	*Toyo Maru*	2,089
Kokure Maru	2,389	*Taiyo Maru*	1,267
Fusan Maru	2,362	*Yamaguchi Maru*	3,033
Sakun Maru	2,818	*Yamato Maru*	3,067
Himeji Maru	3,008	*Oyo Maru*	1,892
Ujina Maru	2,375	*Tatayama Maru*	2,162
Shibata Maru	2,690	*Kagoshima Maru*	4,139
Fukuoka Maru	2,538	*Konoura Maru*	2,265
Matsuyama Maru	2,958	*Koko Maru*	542
Toyohashi Maru	2,878	*Kiushiu Maru*	3,555
Izumi Maru	3,224	*Ryojyun Maru*	4,670
Soya Maru	1,725	*Tosa Maru*	5,402
Iburi Maru	2,520	*Moji Maru*	2,040
Shinshu Maru	2,838	*Ninsen Maru*	2,189
Sanyu Maru	588	*Gensan Maru*	2,198
Edo Maru	1,670	*Tamashima Maru*	2,035

The *Kokkai* says that the Chinese Government is in treaty for the purchase of the *Nictheroy* and *Odoria* (?) from the Brazilian Government. These ships were built, we read, at New York for the purposes of the insurrection in Brazil, and being no longer required, were offered for sale by the President. The officers of the *Nictheroy* were asked what they would take for three months service against the Japanese at Weihaiwei, and they replied, $3,000 for the voyage out and $5,000 for the fighting. It is said that the decision of the Chinese Government to buy or not, depends upon whether the officers and crews can be induced to go out with the ships. The *Nictheroy* is a wooden corvette of 1,800 tons, built in 1862, and having a speed of 8 knots. Her armament is twelve 70-pdr Whitworths. What such a ship could accomplish if she did come out, we do not perceive. The other vessel we can not identify.

A telegram from Fusan says that the work of quelling the Tonghaks proceeds apace. Captain Miyake's troops, guarding Ukuton and Taifun sent detachments which joined forces with the surveying engineers, and the whole, marching against the Tonghaks at Chyunchyon, Chhonsan and Poun, broke them completely, killing over 300.

The *Mainichi* publishes a telegram from Hiroshima saying that H.E. Chang, during his stay in Shanghai, inspected the Woosung forts and witnessed target practice there. The shooting was miserable, not a single hit being made.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 19TH.

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun's* war correspondent continues his detailed narrative of the operations ending in the capture of Haicheng on the 23th of December. He gives nothing beyond a mere outline of movements of troops, interspersed with names of places. Our readers would find no interest whatever in the account, and we therefore refrain from translating it.

The latest intelligence from Kaiping is conveyed in two telegrams addressed to the War Office from Colonel Inouye, Head of the Staff with the Second Army. Our readers doubtless remember that after the capture of Kaiping by Nogi's Brigade, the Chinese General Sung posted his forces on the two roads leading toward Kaiping from Yingkow, the position (Rhtaohotsz) occupied on the coast road being some 8 miles from Yingkow, and that (Laoyomiao) occupied on the more northerly road being 10 miles from the same place. The first of the two telegrams referred to above was despatched from Kaiping at 7.45 p.m. on the 16th inst. It says that the Chinese troops at Laoyomiao had retreated to Tangchiapaotsz, and those in Kaokan (a place on the north of Yingkow at the junction of three roads) had also retired westward, but that the force ■ Rhtaoho remained as before. The telegram adds that, according to intelligence obtained from people of the locality, the Chinese troops massed in the immediate neighbourhood of Yingkow numbered about 7,000, a still larger force being posted to the westward of Yingkow, between that place and Tienchwangtai. The second telegram, also despatched from Kaiping and dated the 17th instant ■ 4.40 p.m., says that, on the morning of the 16th, the forces at Rhtaohotsz also retired, and adds that, according to information obtained in the vicinity, they numbered only a thousand infantry and a hundred troopers with three guns—evidently a mere outpost. The direction taken by these troops in falling back was Yingkow. The Tangchiapaotsz force also retired, on the 15th, to Kanchiahiofang, a hamlet 5½ miles east of Yingkow. Thus the two positions, Rhtaohotsz and Tangchiapaotsz were completely abandoned. Translated into simple language, the meaning of all these movements is that Sung is drawing in his outposts and concentrating his troops so that the van holds Yingkow and its immediate neighbourhood, and the main body is posted on the coast road beyond that city in the direction of Tienchwangtai. The last named town, being on the western bank of the Liao river, probably offers excellent facilities for defence. It looks as though the Japanese were manœuvering so as to force Sung to evacuate Yingkow without fighting and make his final stand westward of that city. We trust they may succeed, so that Yingkow (Newchwang) will be saved from the perils attendant upon the retreat of a Chinese army after a battle.

The *Nippon* gives the most accurate estimate yet published of the Chinese troops assembled at Shanhaikwan. It puts their total number at about 30,000, under the command-in-chief of Wu Ta-cheng and Siang Ng. The composition is as follows:—

	Regiments.
Tsin troops under Lin Shuynen	7
Wuwei troops under Wei Kwangtao	10
Kangwu artillery under Tsang Kwangchun	1
Kangwu infantry under Tsang Kwangchun	2
Chantsz infantry under Yu Huan	3
Hutsz infantry under Meu Tsiang	7
Tietsz infantry under Tiung Tieshang	10
Chungsin infantry under Tan Wanhwan	5
Kaitsz artillery under Wu Yuenkai	4
Liu Kwangtsai's infantry	3
Wang Liusan's infantry	1
Total	53

The *Nippon* says the Commander-in-chief at Weihaiwei is Tai Tsung-chien, and that the original garrison consisted of 8 regiments of Suikung troops, now constantly receiving large reinforcements. Four regiments of Sungwei troops are at Chefoo.

LETTER FROM CHINCHOW.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT).

Chinchow, December, 1894.

I inhabit at Chinchow the Hotel of the Invalids, for that is the name with which my comrades have christened my dwelling and the name that it will carry down to posterity. In this hut, the four walls of which can hardly stand upright, when the wind whistles in and the rain makes its reservoirs, I have narrowly escaped death. Even while writing these lines I have not yet recovered from the dreadful shock that has inspired terror into my soul and inflicted suffering on my poor body. You may believe me when I say that for the future I shall have nothing more to do with Chinese *kangs!*

You can have no idea of the installation. We are living in the houses of the fugitive Chinese. It has been found necessary to shelter an army in a place that is a mere burrow, and to lodge two thousand men in veritable dens. The Head-quarters Staff have set their wits to work to find as good accommodation for everybody as possible, and, frankly speaking, they have made wonderful use of a most unpromising place. I have as companions two excellent confrères and a distinguished Japanese, Mr. Sameshima, brother of the old Japanese Minister in Paris, whom the Government has had the delicate kindness to attach to us. We were allotted the house of a carpenter, who was certainly wrong in not carrying away the dust of his dwelling on the soles of his shoes. The house consists of two little rooms, which I could cover easily in three strides. Two of us live in each of these cells. A table and two stools constitute all the furniture. On a sort of platform raised about four feet from the ground our mats are spread and our coverings piled. I call your attention specially to this square of bricks to which I have given the inappropriate name of platform. It is in itself the chief thing in the room, being at the same the bed and fire-place underneath. The interior closely resembles a baker's oven: through an opening firebrands and great pieces of wood are thrust into the kiln. Quietly settled on the top you feel a gentle heat penetrating all your body. To roast you and serve you up hot all that has to be done is to make up the fire a little. In a short time you would be done to a turn. The evening of our arrival, tired out by a long march and frozen by the cold, we experienced inexpressible pleasure in stretching out our icy bodies upon the warm bricks. A catastrophe was imminent. Ignorant of the local customs, our Japanese servants, instead of feeding the fire with wood, simply stuffed the *kang* with pit-coal. It meant quick asphyxiation. Originated in the middle of the night I and my

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companions fell like heaps from our platform and lay inanimate on the floor of our room. One of us fortunately had strength enough to drag himself out-of-doors and call for help. Some people immediately appeared upon the scene just in time to bring our four corpses back to life. It is an ill wind that blows nobody any good. Since our accident the troops have been forbidden to make use of these "*fours à corps*." China will do more harm with her coal than with her cannon.

A crenelated wall surrounds Chinchow on all sides, and at the four corners of the town heavy fortress gates defend the entrance. The Japanese sentinels in their straw sentry-boxes keep good guard. In order to enter one must show *patte blanche*. All the thresholds crossed, you find yourself in the middle of the conquered population. Very ugly, very dirty, very repugnant is this crowd of Chinese covered with sordid rags. By their side the coolies draped in their blankets have the look of great gentlemen, and the soldiers that pass wrapped in their long grey overcoats seem like rich proprietors. On the arrival of the troops the town was, so to say, deserted. The inhabitants had fled. Then, little by little, finding that those who had stayed behind had not been molested, the Chinese responded to the request of the authorities and again took possession of their homes. They are returning; there are already more than 1,500 of them spread over the town and supplying the army with fowls and vegetables. The street presents a curious spectacle in the morning. On the right and left, drawn up in front of the houses, the inhabitants stand with ducks or fowls between their legs waiting quietly and resignedly for their clients. By their side urchins, hardly bigger than the high shoes they wear, sell cakes and other sweetmeats in boxes that they carry hung to their necks. All these dirty people do a very good business, for the supply is not greater than the demand. Soldiers in their idle moments have insatiable appetites. Every corporal with any self-respect expects to have in China a fowl in his pot, and even a coolie, unless he wishes himself to be considered a blackguard, must pay regular attention to his provisions. It is a a perfect menagerie. What is really comic is to observe what efforts all these people have to resort to in order to make themselves understood. The least purchase necessitates about an hour's parley. It is not uncommon to see the impatient client simply place the object of contest under his arm and decamp. That is what the cooks call here in their euphemistic language "marchander."

It must not be concluded, however, that the conduct of the Japanese soldier on a campaign is unrestrained. I have just spoken of the coolies, and the coolies are by no means soldiers. The soldiers themselves, according to those who have followed and watched them from the commencement of hostilities, are admirably disciplined. In these silent streets, deserted after 6 o'clock in the evening, it is difficult to figure to ourselves that we are in a conquered country in the middle of a victorious army. Not a sound escapes from these little hovels hermetically closed where the Japanese soldiers live in groups of five, ten, or fifteen. No sounds of mirth are heard in the daytime, no songs at night. These men are decidedly silent in their victory. They amuse themselves and triumph in their own way, without noise, without *éclat*, without many words, like good children of a united family who, even in their games, know that fixed upon them is the inflexible eye of the father, their master.

Marshal Oyama does not lose sight of his army for an instant. The first to share its fatigues and privations, he always takes his place at its rejoicings. These are at the present time of great number and variety. The day after a forced march, an assault, or a battle, lengthened repose succeeding continual alarms does no good to an army on a campaign. The ardour which on the one day sustained the body and forced "the old carcass" to march though worn out, will be extinguished if inaction and idleness are allowed to follow it, and the sacrifices will become harder, the privations more painful. The soldier must therefore be occupied and his morals kept up. The officers, with this end in view, have spared no trouble in providing distractions for the men, and, as I have personally taken a large part in their amusements, I embrace this opportunity of adding to my felicitations as a writer, my thanks as a spectator. The military *fêtes* have a very picturesque character. Comedy, pantomime, and wrestling are the fundamentary ideas. You can hardly believe what hidden talents slumber in the cartridge-boxes of these warriors. They will act before you in the open air without preparation, without rehearsal, without manager, and without prompter, farces and vaudevilles with an art, and at some moments even with an emotion, which is not often surpassed by footlight professionals.

It goes without saying that the Chinaman is always the *tête de turc* of the soldier actors. He is an ingredient in all their sauces, and his unhappy tail is an indispensable accessory to these nomadic troupes. The Chinaman in a Japanese scene takes the place of our Guignol, the fabulous commissary. He is beaten unmercifully from the beginning to the end, and the onlookers are never weary of laughing and applauding. I admired greatly in these representations the marvellous imitative capacity with which the Japanese are gifted. The actors entrusted with the parts of the Celestials seem to change themselves entirely into the personages they represent, and the illusion is thoroughly complete. At their inimitable play of features everybody is compelled to laugh, beginning with the real Chinese gentlemen of the locality who, perched on neighbouring walls, seem to follow the different acts with the liveliest interest.

But the programme of our amusements is very varied. After the comedy we have a circus, and after the circus a bout of wrestling. In the middle of the large piece of ground where we are assembled a ring is formed the inside of which is covered with fine sand. The spectators seated or standing round excite the amateurs called out to try their strength. I must own that the sight of these contests seemed to me like a dream. In a temperature of 15° (Cent.) below zero, in the open air unprotected from gusts of north wind that cut one's face like blows from a sabre, I saw these men quietly take off all their clothes and set themselves to their favourite exercise perfectly naked, while we, wrapped in our furs and seated round braziers placed at distances of ten metres apart, find difficulty in keeping from freezing. Our wrestlers, however, perspire and do not seem at all knocked up. As soon as one man has fallen, vanquished, to the icy ground, another combatant bounds from the crowd of spectators with lightning rapidity, stamps his foot on the ground several times, rubs his muscles, and then provokes his adversary to the onset with gesture, look, and voice. A few minutes afterwards you see them rolling about like two masses till the conqueror is ready to claim another victim, while his unfortunate adversary goes back piteously to his place amid the jests of the crowd.

Great feasts usually end these rejoicings. The banquet to which we were invited the other day by Marshal Oyama deserves special mention in the annals of gastronomy. On immense tables arranged in a row were placed, in artistically varied positions, quarters of beef and whole pigs and sheep, reminding one of the feasts supposed to have been partaken of by ogres. The wine consisted of champagne and warm *saké*. The toasts were model sentiments in all languages. Then, at a sign from one of the officers, a military band struck up one after another the national airs of the Europeans present at the feast. I, for my part, greatly appreciated this gracious act of our hosts.

Night arrives and we must think of retiring. I return arm-in arm with a general officer who was for a long time in Europe. We cross the great street of Chinchow. The Chinese on their doorsteps, their hands hidden in the long sleeves of their blouses, watch us pass. They give no words to their astonishment; they look. Speechless as

and that is all. Children play, run about, and quarrel at their side, careless of their new masters. These brats swarm. Many of the urchins that surround us seem bright and intelligent. If it were not for the villainous rags they wear they would not be at all bad looking. At the sight of this ragged childhood a thought that has struck me a hundred times before again crosses my mind—where are the mothers of all this little world? Since my arrival at Chinchow—ten days ago—I have not seen a single woman, not one. My officer explains to me what I have already heard others say. The women took to flight on the approach of the conquerors. "Don't ask me in what direction," adds my companion. "As soon as we were signalled the mothers took little ones in their arms and fled straight ahead without stopping. They are most likely hidden in the few villages scattered about at the foot of those mountains away in the distance. . . . Those were the prudent women. The others, surprised by our arrival, killed themselves and made their children share their fate. I myself saw four of those unfortunates throw their little ones into the well that you see in front of you and follow afterwards themselves. I saw it in this very place on the day of our entry into the town." . . .

"Four women in a well! What must Truth have said to herself, General?"

"Truth, my dear Sir, must certainly have thought that times had changed greatly if women decided to come to her."

FERNAND GANESCO,
Special Correspondent of the *Figaro*.

PRINCE ARISUGAWA'S ILLNESS.

We learn with much regret that the malady (typhoid fever) from which His Imperial Highness Prince Arisugawa has been suffering for some time, now presents a dangerous aspect, and grave fears are entertained.

ARREST OF FRAME.

On Thursday afternoon, shortly before 2 o'clock, James Frame, the saloon-keeper, was arrested at his own house by the Japanese Police on a warrant issued by a Judge of the Yokohama Local Court. He offered no resistance and went quietly to the Settlement police-station. After the charge of assault and wounding had been read to him, Frame was removed to Tobe. He will undergo preliminary examination to-day, the enquiry being *in camera*.

THE CHINESE ENVOY.

The Chinese Envoy reached Shanghai on the 13th instant. It was supposed that he would have to travel overland from Tientsin to Shanghai, but he managed to take steamer at Shanhaikwan, and the journey was thus materially shortened. It is not yet known, so far as we can gather, whether his Excellency will come at once to Japan, or whether he will await in Shanghai the arrival of Mr. Foster. The latter is understood to have left Vancouver on the 7th instant, in which case he should reach Yokohama on the 21st. If Mr. Chang awaits Mr. Foster's arrival in Shanghai, the embassy can not reach Hiroshima before about 10th of February. But the probability is that Chang will come on at once and meet Mr. Foster in Japan. Mr. Inouye Katsunosuke has been appointed to meet the Envoy's ship at Shimunoseki, whence she will proceed direct to Ujina.

When Mr. Toole was in Australia he was preceded in his tour by Sir Charles Hallé. At one town in Victoria the Mayor proposed the health of the great musician at a banquet, and pronounced his name as Hall. This he continued to do until he was corrected. A few weeks afterwards Toole came along that way, and the Mayor was resolved on not again laying himself open to correction. So Mr. Toole found himself pleasantly referred to throughout the mayoral speeches as "Mr. Tooley."

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MR. OKOSHI ON THE PROSPECTS OF JAPAN'S EASTERN COMMERCE AFTER THE WAR.

The following is the gist of a speech delivered by Mr. Okoshi, the late Japanese Consul-General at Shanghai and now Superintendent of the Yokohama Customs House, at the winter general meeting of the Japanese Economic Society held in Tokyo. Mr. Okoshi first dwelt on the commerce between Japan and Korea. He remarked that there are at present three open ports in Korea, Fusan, Chemulpo, and Wonsan, at all of which places foreign commerce is far from active. Chemulpo is at the head of the three, its total commerce amounting to about 5 million *yen* a year. The opening of Treaty Ports in Korea being chiefly due to the instrumentality of Japan, our merchants ought to enjoy the greatest influence in the Korean market; but that was only the case for about a decade, after which time the shrewder Chinese gradually got the upper hand and in the end the relative positions of the two were completely reversed. Till 1887 the Japanese sold goods to Korea to the amount of about 1,300,000 *yen* a year against 700,000 *yen* sold by the Chinese. In 1894, however, the Chinese managed to sell more than 1,580,000 *yen* worth while the Japanese only sold to the value of 800,000 *yen*. Mr. Okoshi attributes this commercial defeat sustained by the Japanese to two causes, namely, want of combination on the part of Japanese merchants, and the roundabout way in which goods are shipped to Korea. The cooperative power of the Chinese is very marked. They render mutual help by accomodating each other with cheap money, a thing that the Japanese merchants have never attempted in Korea. Then, while the Chinese ship their goods, mostly shirtings, direct from Shanghai to Korea, the Japanese go to the trouble and expense of having cotton cloths brought first to Nagasaki and re-shipped thence to Korea. At present the Korean market is virtually monopolized by the Japanese, their commercial antagonists having returned to China. It must not, however, be supposed that we shall be allowed to enjoy this position for long unopposed by the Chinese. The latter are sure to return sooner or later to their field of commerce where they will strive to regain their influence. It is therefore of urgent necessity that measures be devised to ensure the further enjoyment of the advantages now held by Japan in Korea. The lecturer made seven suggestions as follow :—

1st, Inaugurating the system of advances on goods and an endeavour to make cheap money accessible.

2nd, The firm establishment of cordial relations between Japanese merchants.

3rd, The improvement of roads in Korea, especially of the one leading from Sōul to Chemulpo.

4th, Discrimination between direct import and retail transactions. Of about 600 Chinese merchants engaged in Korean commerce only 10 are direct importers, the rest being retail dealers, whereas every Japanese merchant, however small his transactions, imports directly from home. This state of affairs must be changed.

5th, The extension of commerce into the interior of Korea.

6th, The direct importation of goods from Shanghai.

7th, The increase of facilities for shipment and cheapening of freight.

Mr. Okoshi considers that by attending to the above points great improvement may be effected in Japan's Korean trade, though he does not think that the total amount of commerce between the two countries could be made to exceed 7 or 8 million *yen* a year, because of the comparative poverty of the Koreans. The Japanese should strive to have Korea's resources opened up and utilized. Speaking of the future of Japan's trade with China, Mr. Okoshi had three propositions to make, namely, 1st, that the relations of Japanese merchants engaged in Chinese commerce be made more cordial, so as to provide against competition between them; 2nd, to make more extensive use of the coast of Yangtszkiang for purposes of commerce; and 3rd, to own factories and immovable property in China.

DISHONESTY IN ARMY CONTRACTS.

The *Mainichi's* Hiroshima correspondent writes in strong terms about dishonesty in Army contracts. He alleges that it is now an open secret that Army accountants and contractors are leagued together and that they are guilty of the most flagrant breaches of discipline and probity. The way in which the accountants defend the contractors when any strange action of the latter is brought to light, is most peculiar. Rumours were rife some time ago to the effect that casks of soy were found half empty when opened in the Japanese camps in China, that bales of rice were in a similar condition, and that canned meat received by a certain part of the Army was for the greater part rotten. When the accountants were asked about the matter, they said that neither they nor the contractors who supplied the articles were responsible for what had happened, but that its was most likely attributable to faulty transportion and packing. They tried to explain that a fluid like soy or a substance like rice it very apt to leak or drop out if the vessel that holds it is at all out of order, while the knocking of one can of meat against another might produce interstices that admit the air. The *Mainichi's* correspondent wants to know how Japanese soldiers fighting abroad can get their provisions from home if contractors and accountants do not hold themselves responsible for the safe transportation of those provisions. A war offers dishonest merchants and officers good opportunities for practising their knavery as, owing to the limited space of time in which things have to be procured, the Government cannot call for tenders according to the general usage, and is consequently practically at the mercy of a small number of contractors. These latter monopolize all orders and exact fabulous prices. Some time ago, says the correspondent, the Okura Gumi and Muraoka, one of the contractors, having failed to send in certain goods to the Hiroshima Barrack Hospital by the appointed period, and having, moreover, attempted to palm off goods of inferior quality, an honest accountant was greatly incensed and told them that they would hereafter be excluded from supplying articles for the Hospital. The next day a letter was received by the Chief of the Hospital over the signature of Kuramura—a name formed by joining one character each of the names Okura and Muraoka—charging the said accountant with partiality and advising the Chief to dismiss him. The letter concluded with a statement to the effect that as the undersigned had for a long time rendered great services to the War Department, he deemed it reasonable to enjoy a little profit on the present occasion by way of compensation. The correspondent gives us an illustration of the manner in which dishonest accountants bar their doors against upright merchants and how they endeavour to protect those with whom they are leagued. When a certain building was to be constructed in Hiroshima, a number of dishonest contractors sent in tenders, but their terms were so exhorbitant as to astonish outsiders. One gentleman in particular was much surprised, and suggested to an Okayama architect to try competition On estimating the cost of the affair, this architect found that he could undertake the work at less than half of the price offered by the lowest tender. On applying to the Superintending Office for leave to bid, he was given leave to do so provided that he procured a certificate from the Governor of Okayama. The latter arrived in the due time in the form of a telegraphic message. The architect then presented himself at the Office with the telegram and tender, when he was unceremoniously told that the certificate was simply a private telegram and therefore inefficacious. In the meanwhile, the prescribed period for bidding expired and the contract was given to one of the "gangs." The vernacular press informs us that certain members of the House of Representatives have made careful enquiries into the matter of army contracts, and that they intend laying the result before the House in the present session.

KOREAN NEWS.

We take the following items from the latest letters of the *Nichi Nichi's* Sōul correspondent. Li Shunyo, the new Korean Minister to Japan, grandson of the Tai Wōn-kun, is only 24 or 25 years of age. He has the repute of being one of the most talented young men of his country. Both his father—the Minister of the Royal Household—and his grandfather are averse to his being sent away from Sōul, and have tried in various ways to have his new appointment annulled, but to no purpose. The Japanese Minister and, persuaded by him, the King and Queen, are bent on sending him to Japan for the young man's sake as well as for Korea's. As he intends to marry before leaving, the date of his departure is not yet settled.

Of all the members of the Korean Ministry Gio Inchu, the Minister of Finance, is said to be the most energetic and resolute. The other Ministers generally comply obediently with Count Inouye's proposals, but that is not the case with Gio. He frequently enunciates his own views and defends them in a most obstinate way. The monthly salary of the Premier is 300 *yen*, while his colleagues receive only 200 *yen*. Of this sum they are obliged to give half to the Government Police fund, so that what remains is not sufficient to cover even their smaller expenses. A Minister like Boku Yeiko, who has no private means to depend upon, is therefore in a very bad condition. The King has been pleased to bestow upon him the residence of one of the Ming faction. There are at present a few foreign employés, such as Mr. Greathouse and General Legendre, whose monthly salary is from seven to eight hundred *yen*. Although they are not required at present, the Korean Government would be much embarrassed if they were dismissed, as the arrears of their salary, extending over half a year, would have then to be paid at once.

The statement reproduced from the vernacular press a short time ago to the effect that the reform introduced in the Royal Household of Korea was so drastic as to leave no attendant near the person of the Queen, is corroborated by the *Nichi Nichi's* correspondent. Some days ago, when the Japanese Ambassador presented himself at the Court, the conversation turned on the subject of reform in the Royal Household. The King said that, resolved that the Court should set the example in the reform of the country, he had caused all the eunuchs employed in the inner chambers of the Court to be dismissed. He had since then, however, experienced great inconvenience, having no one left to perform even humble services for him. He was even obliged to light his own fire and to send for medicine himself when he wanted to take it. It was comical, observed the King good-humouredly, to combine in one person the duties of sovereign and menial. While he, the ruler of Korea, was subjected to such inconvenience, the Tai Wōn-kun was attended by numerous servants. This, he thought, was not quite fair. The Ambassador was surprised to hear the King speak in that way. He explained that when he had mentioned the matter of eunuchs to the Ministers of State he had not intended that they should be dismissed in that number, but that they should be forbidden to intermeddle in State affairs as they had previously done. He advised the King, therefore, to recall as many eunuchs as were necessary to perform his behests, taking care to select only those who were likely to keep Court matters secret. To those dismissed, a certain allowance should be given according to their merits. The King expressed great satisfaction at these remarks, saying that as he had been told by his Ministers that Count Inouye insisted on having all the eunuchs turned away, he had done so. He would now recall 10 eunuchs for service in the inner chambers, and another 10 for the outer chambers. He was greatly relieved at being able to have them back, as he had been much troubled by the thought that before the coming ceremony of his State visit to the tombs of his ancestors he should be

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obliged to dress and perform other functions himself. Henceforward, he observed laughing, he should be relieved from his duties as servant and be once more restored to his special post of King. With regard to the ceremony of taking oath before the tombs of his ancestors, the King asked the Count whether he ought not to be accompanied by the Queen. The Japanese Minister highly approved of that plan. In the course of further conversation the King observed that he hoped that the Count would give his advice freely on all matters with which he was not satisfied, and further that he thought it would be well to have the Count's seal affixed to all drafts of importance submitted to him by the Ministers, so as to show that he had been consulted. The Count was sincerely gratified by the first remark, and said that he should speak with the Ministers about the second suggestion. Count Inouye told the Royal Pair that as he was extremely solicitous for the Heir-Apparent, who is constitutionally weak, he would like to take the earliest opportunity of sending for celebrated medical authorities such as Drs. Hashimoto and Baelz to examine him, for as the Prince is to become the Commander of the Body Guard he should be robust in health. The King and Queen were much gratified at the Count's kind attention, and hoped he would do as he proposed. The relations between the Count and the King and Queen are at present most friendly.

SAD ACCIDENT ON THE YALU RIVER.

The vernacular papers give a minute account of the sad fate of a soldier of the Engineering Corps on the Yalu River. On the 29th of November the temporary bridge built by the Japanese Army over the Yalu was considerably damaged by floating masses of ice striking against it. Two companies of the Engineering Corps undertook the work of repair, which was completed in a few days. So abundant was the ice floating down the river, however, that the bridge was again injured and made useless. In the short space of about 10 days the bridge was repaired three times. The passage of steamers to the mouth of the Yalu being interrupted owing to the ice, the bridge was the only means of communication between Korea and Manchuria. On the 10th of December the repairs were completed for the third time, but as the bridge could not be expected to hold out long against the collision of the ice-blocks, the soldiers guarding it awaited eagerly the freezing of the river when the bridge could be dispensed with. Just then a report reached them to the effect that the river was frozen over at a point about 3,000 metres higher up. On the 11th of December Ensign Makino was despatched with 13 soldiers of the company to ascertain the truth. They found that the river was indeed covered with ice, but could not tell whether the latter was thick enough to bear the weight of a heavy body. As stones that were thrown bounded away without breaking the ice, one of the soldiers volunteered to attempt a trial passage. By way of precaution against accident he drew with him a small canoe. He proceeded without difficulty till about 3,000 metres from his starting-point when the ice gave way under him and he fell into the water together with his canoe. He tried to enter the boat but could not succeed, owing to its being very narrow and rounded at the bottom. Nor could he raise himself out of the water, as the ice around him was thin and gave way when pressure was brought to bear on it. The Ensign called to him to keep his body out of the water as much as possible, and to await rescue. Poles and ropes were thrown but to no purpose, and the ensign then told his men to bring a boat that lay a little lower down the river and to run for the surgeon, and repeatedly shouted encouragement to the unfortunate soldier. The latter, however, could not hold out. The intense coldness of the water in which his body was immersed was too much for him; his hands growing powerless, lost their hold and before the boat could be brought he sank under the ice. When the boat arrived the comrades of the soldier, getting into it, broke the ice near the spot where he had disappeared and at last succeeded in finding his body, apparently already lifeless. Though every means possible were tried by them and a surgeon, who arrived about a quarter of an hour later, to resuscitate the body, it was all to no purpose. Life was found to be extinct.

THE QUESTION OF THE NATIONAL BANKS.

The Bill relating to the charters of the National Banks, now under the consideration of a Committee of the Lower House of the Diet, has given rise to a singular crop of rumours. The *Nippon*, the *Nichi Nichi* and other vernacular contemporaries openly declare that stories are rife as to the wholesale corruption of members of the Diet by the Peers' Bank. The Peers' Bank is the leading spirit in the movement for obtaining a renewal of the National Banks' charters, and its vice-manager, Mr. Miwa, is accused of being the agent for the placing of the bribes. He is credited with hinting that many inconvenient secrets of the Peers would be revealed should the affairs of the Bank have to be wound-up, in the event of the Government's refusing to renew its charter. His fears are shared by other members of the banking circle interested in the continuance of the National Banks, and steps were at once taken to win over the members of both Houses of the Diet to their scheme. For this purpose, money was expended lavishly. After the present session opened, an entertainment was organized at the Maple Club to which prominent peers and M.P.'s were invited by the scheming bankers. Over the wine cups the guests were told of the many advantages that would accrue were the National Banks allowed to continue work under the conditions of their present charters, while the evils that would befal the country were the Banks to be reorganized, were painted in vivid colours. But it was not only in this indirect manner that pressure was brought to bear upon the country's legislators. Cheques were sent in a crafty fashion to many men in influential positions in the two Houses; and it is said that this form of corruption cost its supporters upwards of 100,000 *yen*. It is therefore hardly surprising, remarks the native press, that the Diet, hitherto neglectful of banking and its attendant financial machinery, should suddenly evince great interest in all that pertains to institutions of that nature. And the members' interest has borne practical fruit in the introduction of Bill for the renewal of the charters of the National Banks. The bill is in charge of Mr. Nakano Buyei and others. This action on their part has taken the Government by surprise, for the authorities had no intention of submitting a Bill dealing with the Banks' charters during this session. The Progressionists will, it is said, support the Renewal Bill to a man, while the Radicals, who last year gave their votes unanimously in favour of the Government Bill, will vote this time just as seemeth best to each individual. The National Unionists and Constitutional Reformists have also wavered, so that the Renewal Bill will, in all probability, find 150 supporters in the Lower House. In less than a year, then, the attitude of the majority of the House of Representatives has undergone a complete change. To outsiders such conduct is inexplicable, and even the business world finds the situation interesting. Bankers of the *Kwan-to* Union, who have not come to a definite conclusion upon the matter, says the *Nichi Nichi*, will hold a conference shortly in order to free themselves from the scandal that has been circulated against certain of their number: and the Tokyo Chamber of Commerce, in conjunction with the Commercial and Industrial Association of the capital, may take a similiar step. The Bank of Japan, by the way, against which the Board of the Peers' Bank are really agitating, does not appear at all concerned at the sudden change in the aspect of affairs. Its Board of Directors are credited with holding the opinion that as the Treasury is committed to the Re-organization Scheme, there is no need for anxiety that the National Banks' charters will be renewed, even though both Houses of the Diet passed the Renewal Bill, it would never become law. Count Itagaki, although he has left his followers free to vote how they wish upon the matter, is favourably inclined towards the renewal scheme, holding that to confine note-issuing powers to the Central Bank is not consistent with the principles of broad minded and liberal finance. The *Nichi Nichi* twits Count Itagaki upon this point, and satirically asks why he does not go a step further and advocate the bestowal of note-issuing powers on private banks.

The *Nippon*, writing editorially upon the subject, says that some private members of the Lower House are so indignant at the scandal, that although in favour of continuing the charters of the National Banks, they have resolved to withdraw their support from the Bill. One of these members has also declared his intention of laying the whole matter before the public, should the Renewal Bill be debated, as he has obtained incontestible proofs of the corruption used to secure the votes of members.

NOISY MEETING OF TOKYO RICE BROKERS.

Fuller particulars of the general meeting of the Tokyo Rice Exchange, which broke up in such disorder, have been published. The cause of the trouble was a conflict of opinion between a section of the brokers calling themselves the Reform Party and another section supposed to be dominated by the officers of the Exchange. The Reform Party wished to introduce some changes in the system of working the Exchange, which the officers very strongly opposed. Debate upon these matters was mutually deferred until the general meeting, when 80 shareholders representing 1,497 shares, were present. The Reformers had strengthened their party by nominally transferring to several *soshi* certain of their shares in the Exchange, as only shareholders were allowed to enter the general meeting. In the absence of the President, Mr. Yonekura, the Chair was taken by one of the managers. Having called the meeting to order, he asked the clerk to read the report and accounts for the preceding year. Immediately upon this, some members of the Reform Party began to shout at the Chairman, but the latter paid no attention, and the clerk proceeded with his reading of the report. Then some of the *soshi* present got up from their seats, and advancing, towards the Chair, demanded to be heard. At the same time, and probably by a previously concerted plan, one of the malcontents sprang at the clerk and tore the report from his hands. The clerk seized his assailant and a struggle ensued, in the course of which the report and other papers were passed from hand to hand by the *soshi* until lost sight of. The Chairman then ordered a recess, and after an hour's adjournment the meeting was resumed. The clerk began again to read the report, from a duplicate copy, and another attempt was made to snatch it from him: this time unsuccessfully. Uproar and confusion prevailed generally and the police were called in to restore order. The *soshi* still refused to allow the meeting to proceed, and it was suggested that both parties should elect a committee to arrange preliminary business. This was agreed to, and three deputies were chosen from each party. A conference then took place, but as the day was declining and the discussion grew more and more argumentative, the Chairman suggested an adjournment till the morning of the 20th instant. The *Shogyo Shimpo* fears that no compromise will be arrived at by the conferring committees, and that another scene of riot and confusion will take place.

The Reform Party, it is said, have resolved to resign from the Exchange, should their plans miscarry, and then petition for the establishment of a new organization on their own lines.

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EARTHQUAKE.

Tokyo was visited, at a few minutes to 11 p.m. on the 18th inst., by an earthquake of great severity. Records from seismological observatories have not reached us at this moment of writing, but we are disposed to think that the shock was even more severe than that of June last.

The earthquake last night was attended in Yokohama with fatal results to one man. While a Japanese pawn-broker (58) and his son (32) were escaping from their shop at No. 97, in Honmura Road, they were caught by some falling bricks and tiles. The old man received some severe injuries to his head from which he succumbed during the night. The son, had his left arm broken and is now in hospital. At No. 119 the whole side of a godown gave out, but fortunately without injuring any one. At No. 128 a stone wall collapsed, while at No. 163 the gable end of a large godown fell into the street. The office of M. Eymard, on the same lot, is so badly shaken that the house is almost uninhabitable. No. 146, in China-town, has its brick walls so twisted that it will have to be pulled down. The Chinese Consulate also suffered severely, while a portion of the stone wall of Messrs. Vivanti Bros.' premises collapsed. In Ishikawa, Honmura, and other portions of the native town, more or less damage was sustained, tiles and plaster, etc., being detached, but nothing of a serious character has been reported.

On the Bluff the mischief done was comparatively slight, but the top of a brick chimney at the Italian Consulate fell and the *débris* was scattered in the road. One of the walls at the General Hospital at No. 82 was cracked.

In the Native Town the damage was much smaller. An old dwelling house at Ota-machi was destroyed, and some damage was caused in an earthen-ware shop at Yoshida-machi. No further reports had been received at any of the Police Offices when we went to press.

MR. MAYEDA MASANA ON THE AGRICULTURE, INDUSTRY, AND TRADE OF JAPAN.

We give an epitome of Mr. Mayeda's lecture on the above topic delivered at the last meeting of the Economic Society of Japan. Mr. Mayeda spoke first of agriculture, and observed that even in rice, the chief staple of Japan, the country has sustained defeat. In 1890 the nation paid out as much as 10 million *yen* for foreign rice. Formerly Japan sold her cotton abroad, but now her people purchase foreign cotton to the amount of half a *yen* per head. They also pay out about a quarter of a *yen* a head for sugar every year. The people of this country are increasing at the rate of half a million per year, and it is therefore evident that Japan will be over-populated a century hence. In China rice can be grown all the year round, but here only in a small portion of Tosa can two crops be produced per annum. In the West a farmer receives an average income of over 420 *yen* a year, but in Japan we find that the average in Nagasaki is only 11 *yen*, in Kagoshima 6.70 *yen*, and about 7 *yen* in Hiuga. The condition of stock-breeding in Japan is deplorable. In the early part of the *Meiji* era there were about 270,000 head of cattle and horses in the country, but the number has now dwindled down to about 120,000 head. The quality of rice has deteriorated since the Reformation, that is, since the payment of land taxes in rice has been superseded by payment in cash. Farmers are also very careless in the cultivation of this staple, about half a million *koku* being annually destroyed by worms. Industry fares no better, perhaps even worse than agriculture. Take the lacquer industry, for instance, which used to be unrivalled throughout the world. Now owing to carelessness on the part of the Japanese in preparing lacquer, this national industry, formerly unique, has been gradually taken up by the shrewd Germans who have transplanted lacquer trees and now produce lacquer wares. It is the same story in the case of porcelain—retrogression and gradual decline. In a certain district of Mino 3,000 potters used formerly to realize one million *yen* a year, but now the income has fallen to less than one-third of that amount, though the number of manufacturers has been doubled. The Hizen procelains used to bring in about 700,000 *yen* a year, which has now dwindled to only 130,000 *yen*. About 40 years ago a hundred catties of tea fetched $20; 10 years later the price rose to $42, then it fell to $30, next to $20, and in 1894 rose again to $22. The development of the tea industry in China, India, and Ceylon has been remarkable. Thirty years ago the total amount produced in those three countries was very small, but about fifteen years ago it rose to about 400,000 *yen* worth, while in 1893 the total aggregate was over 13,500,000 *yen*. Mr. Mayeda's view of Japan's commerce is equally gloomy. Despite the fact that communication with other countries is now easier than that between different provinces of Japan in pre-Restoration days, only a very small number of merchants go abroad for the purpose of undertaking commercial transactions. Yokohama and Kobe are their only foreign markets, and even there they do not sell their goods direct to foreigners but negotiate by means of a go-between. There is, too, an entire want of union among the Japanese merchants trading in the Treaty ports. They are, on the contrary, constantly on the watch to cut each other out. The amount they spend in bribing employés of foreign merchants must amount to over 3 million *yen*, and what do they get in *return*—nothing but contempt and ridicule. It is indeed a piteous state of affairs.

CHINESE NEWS.

The Emperor of China's normal occupation at present seems to be the issuing of invitations to his unsuccessful Generals to come to Pekin and receive the rewards due to them. We have not yet heard that so much as a single General has obeyed the Sovereign's gracious but ominous summons. The most comprehensive of these invitations hitherto sent out from the Throne appears to be the following Decree, dated December 18th, 1894, and translated by the *Pekin and Tientsin Times*:—

According to the report of Sung Ching, who has been ordered to state the different cases of the several generals, &c., who had been disapproved of, The degraded Brigade-General of Ning-hsia-chên in the province of Kansu, Wei Ju-wei, usually treated his soldiers without mercy. This time when they went to Korea to fight the enemy, he could not direct them properly. His soldiers troubled the inhabitants as they passed, so that the inhabitants hated and mistrusted us, which is indeed an offence in every respect and so the undertaking was destroyed. He has already been decreed to be deprived of his titles and sent to Peking. We have commanded Li Hung-chang and Yu Lu twice to find out where the said degraded officer has arrived at and to send him immediately to the Board of Punishments to be dealt with and not to delay.

The degraded Provincial Commander-in chief of Chihli Yeh Chin-tsan retreated from Kingchou to Ping-yang but did not fight with the enemy. All the reports of his victories in different places are false. Arriving at Ping-yang, he could not manage the matter properly but again retreated. At that time he had eight regiments of foot and horse at An-chou with which he could have defended the place, but he did not, but crossed the Yalu river. He cannot direct and manage the matter and failed to do his duty.

The Admiral of the Navy Ting Ju-chang, having been deprived of his titles but kept in office, has directed the navy for many years. Since the Japanese [Wu jen] began hostilities we have ordered him twice to put his navy to sea to fight the enemy. The degraded officer was afraid, and delayed and neglected in all respects. He is the only person that is responsible for the safety of Port Arthur yet he could not send soldiers to save it. He is indeed timid and useless. He should be greatly blamed. We command that Yen Chih-tsan and Ting Ju-chang shall be sent to the Board of Punishments to treat them according to the degree of their crimes. Respect this.

According to the report of Yu Lu who stated the circumstance under which the soldiers retreated from Hsin Yen, when the degraded Military Deputy—Lieutenant Governor Feng Sheng-ah General-in-Chief Nieh Kuei-lin again retreated at Hsiu-chêng, we have deprived them of their titles and sent them to the Board of Punishments to treat them, stating that from the 19th to 21st of the 10th moon, the Japanese attacked the city of Hsin Yen chou twice, Feng Sheng-ah and Nieh Kuei-lin should have defended it, but they retreated to Lung Feng-ku and left the city attacked. This is indeed hateful. Let the Board of Punishments consider this according to law, together with their former crimes. He further states that the second Captain Chou Ting Chai and Lieut.-Colonels Chin Tê-feng and Chang Chan-kuei should be deprived of their titles and kept to regain Our esteem. The rest shall be dealt with according to the decision of the Board concerned. Respect this.

Owing to the loss of Port Arthur, we have commanded Li Hung-chang to find out whether the Director of the Port, Taotai Kung Chao-yu has secretly run away. According to Li Hung-chang's report, he requests Us to deprive Kung Chao-yu of his titles but keep him in office. He shall be deprived of his titles and not allowed to be kept in office. The degraded officer managed the works and also directed military and naval affairs. When the Japanese attacked the place, he could not have saved it together with his soldiers and therefore the Port was lost and he concealed himself at Chefoo. It is not enough to deprive him of his titles only, he shall be sent to the Board of Punishments to be dealt with. As to General-in-chief Wei Ju-cheng and Huang Su-lin, Brigade General of Lo Yuen-chou in the province of Yun Nan chiang Kuei Ti, Brigade-General Chung Jun-to, whose duties are to direct the soldiers to reside at and defend Port Arthur, it is not known where they have gone. We now command Li Hung-chang to find out and report. Chou Hung-yeh has been deprived of his titles and is to be sent to the Board of Punishments to be judged. The said degraded officer shall be found out wherever he is and be immediately sent to the Board concerned. Respect this.

Will the *invités* "respect" it? We do not think so.

Here is a paragraph from the *China Gazette*, suggesting that, after all, the reported "Jehad" may become a reality, though on a very small scale:—

A telegram has been received from the leader of the Mahommedans offering to lead an army of 8,000 infantry and 2,500 cavalry against the Japanese. A large part of this force has already arrived at Tsinghai, where they are waiting for arms and ammunition, which it is understood, are to be supplied by the Chinese Government. As soon as the necessary stores arrive the force now assembled at Tsinghai will move on to Fengtien without delay.

"Lieut.-General Ting Shuan-san, of Kweichow," says a correspondant of the *China Gazette*, "arrived at Yangchow on the 3rd of the present moon at the head of a large army of *Miau-ping* braves. He is on his way North to oppose the Japanese. During their march to Yangchow it is reported that the Miaotse treated the country people with the greatest civility, and did not give rise to a single complaint by their conduct."

"Contrary to what Reuter telegraphs from London," says the *Pekin and Tientsin Gazette*, "we are informed that the Tsung-li Yamên object, as we stated last week, to have foreign soldiers quartered at the Legations in Peking, but they have given a guard of about a hundred Chinese picked soldiers to each Legation. We do not know whether the foreign ministers generally have desired to have European troops at their disposal in the capital; but it would seem that if they have any fear of their persons and property it would be wiser for them to move to Tientsin with their archives and belongings, rather than take for their defence a body of foreign soldiers whose presence in Peking might exasperate the populace and could not possibly be large enough for efficient protection in case of need."

China seems to be still sending troops to Mukden. We read in the *China Gazette* that "General Chang Tsz-yuen, with his cavalry, left Tunlan a hilly district of Wuhu for Mukden on the 6th inst., in obedience to an Imperial decree from the Throne."

The largest kitchen in the world is that in a great Parisian store, the Bon Marché, which has 4,000 employés.

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THE WAR.

THE capture of Kaiping on January 10th by a Brigade of the Second Army enables us to form a pretty clear idea of the military situation in Manchuria. Considering the events of the past six weeks, it seems reasonable to suppose that a brief interval of uncertainty occurred in the Japanese councils after the fall of Port Arthur—uncertainty whether to continue actively aggressive operations in the field, or to suspend them until climatic conditions should be more favourable. In view of its importance both as a loss to the Chinese and a gain to the Japanese, the capture of Port Arthur marked an epoch in the war, and might have been taken as a temporary halting stage. But, on the other hand, it was certain that inaction would be utterly misconstrued by the Chinese, and might even have the effect of undoing much that had already been accomplished. Hence the continuance of active hostilities was resolved upon, and by way of inaugurating the programme, Lieutenant-General KATSURA moved westward from Suiyen on December 9th. It has already been explained in these columns that the Chinese forces in Manchuria are working in three armies. One, under General I, threatened the right flank of the Japanese position northward of Chiulien, and finally attempted to recapture Fenghwan. Completely broken and demoralized in that attempt, I's men retreated among the mountains, and thenceforth ceased to be a vital factor of the situation. The second Chinese army has its head-quarters at Laoyang, whence it covers the roads leading to Mukden on the east *viâ* the Motien Pass, and on the south *viâ* Haicheng. The third Chinese army, under SUNG, aggregating about 30,000 men, had its head-quarters in Kaiping until a recent date. But when KATSURA, moving with the Left Wing of the First Japanese Army from Suiyen, took Kaicheng on December 13th, SUNG saw himself separated from the troops northward of that place, and saw also that so long as KATSURA held Haicheng, the Chinese forces centred at Laoyang would be unable to emerge from the mountains for the defence of southern Shinking. Realizing the gravity of these facts, SUNG made a bold attempt to dislodge KATSURA from Haicheng and re-establish communication with the Laoyang army. But his enterprise ended in a signal defeat at Kangwasai (December 18th). He fell back first to Kaokan, where he still covered the roads to Newchwang (modern), and ultimately to Tienchwangtai, about 18 miles westward of Newchwang. There he seems to have been joined by the greater part of the troops from Kaiping, who included many of the fugitives from Port Arthur, Chinchow, and Fuchow.

The situation then was this: SUNG'S forces operating as an independent army with its head-quarters at a point on the coast 50 miles from Haicheng; KATSURA at Haicheng, separating SUNG from the Laoyang troops and holding the latter sealed in the mountains.

On the other hand, it is plain that, under such circumstances, KATSURA could not continue to act on the offensive. To move north would have been to turn his back upon SUNG. To move south, would have been to expose his rear to the Laoyang army. But in point of fact there never can have been any intention that he should continue an offensive campaign unaided. Another element was wanting to complete the strategy of the situation, namely, cöoperation on the part of the Second Army in the Liaotung peninsula. We do not understand why such cöoperation was delayed, but delayed it certainly was, for not until some days after the battle of Kangwasai did the Mixed Brigade under Major-General NOGI move out of Chinchow. The capture of Kaiping by that Brigade now frees KATSURA'S left flank of all menace, while, at the same time, the tenure of Haicheng by KATSURA enables NOGI to move freely against SUNG'S forces.

It seems worth while to allude here to a singular report, apparently emanating from General SUNG, published by the Shanghai journals and reproduced elsewhere in our columns. We read there that, on December 22nd, SUNG'S army, aggregating nearly 23,000, and including 5,000 cavalry as well as an artillery park of 36 Krupp guns, was massed at Tienchwangtai (or Chiangwangtai), when the Japanese Second Army, numbering 30,000 men attacked it, and after a severe fight defeated it. SUNG retreated westward, but finding himself unpursued, countermarched, and entered Newchwang, where he was joined by 13,000 troops under CHANG and HSÜ. Now we know from Lieut.-General NODZU'S official report that on December 18th SUNG, with some 10,000 men, fought at Kangwasai; that he was defeated with heavy loss; that he retired to Tienchwangtai, and that KATSURA, having left a battalion to occupy Kangwasai, marched the rest of his troops back to Haicheng. In order, then to reconcile the two stories, we have to suppose that KATSURA'S forces marched 50 miles between the 18th and the 22nd, that they multiplied in the interval from ten or twelve thousand to thirty thousand, and that they left their line of communications altogether unprotected. SUNG'S report is obviously untrue, and so clumsily constructed that no intelligent person could credit it for an instant. The other stories contained in the same paragraph are equally silly. General I, so far from severing the First Army's line of communications, has been practically eliminated from the field—for the present at all events—and the troops of the First Army, so far from being starved out or frozen to death among the mountains, are in excellent health. There has been some fever among the Second Army's forces stationed at Chinchow and Talien. It is not due to the cold, however, but to insanitary conditions which have now been rectified, we are informed.

IT is not altogether surprising that mistaken ideas should prevail among the general public as to the movements of the Japanese troops in the field and the progress of the war. But we can not think that any foreign newspaper editor, writing in Japan, is entitled to publish article after article not merely betraying ignorance and total lack of discrimination, but also calculated to seriously mislead the public and to convey to the Chinese the impression that the Japanese army in Manchuria is in grave straits, and that the struggle with China has already nearly exhausted Japan's energies and resources. In point of fact, the Japanese forces, since they crossed the frontier into Manchuria, have been victorious in every skirmish and every engagement, with two most trivial exceptions—one at the Motien Pass; the other on the road from Fenghwan to Aiyangpien. The former of these affairs has been magnified into a great Chinese victory. It was, in truth, a reconnaissance on the smallest scale. Japanese scouts, examining the pass, found it occupied by a body of Chinese, and fell back with a loss of one man killed and two wounded. That, forsooth, *is* claimed as a great victory! The second affair was one of outposts, and it is by no means plain that the small force of Japanese engaged had any object whatever in holding their ground. On the contrary, the Japanese General's choice of position to meet I'S attempt against Fenghwan, involved the retreat of his outposts on the northerly road to Aiyangpien. Such incidents would not be counted at all in any intelligent record of belligerent successes or failures. The Japanese have won uniformly in Manchuria, and their position is perfectly intelligible. They are holding Fenghwan and the road thence to Tsaohokow, 40 miles farther north, and practically at the foot of the Motien Pass. But they are making no advance in that direction. Their only object in forcing Motien would be to reach Laoyang, and Laoyang is much easier to reach *viâ* the more westerly road—*i.e.* the Newchwang-Haicheng route. A portion of the right wing being left to hold the position at Chiulien, Fenghwan, and Tsaohokow, the left wing has marched westward, making Takushan its base, and moving *viâ* Suiyen and Tomucheng to Haicheng. This wing has engaged in active operations ever since the 8th of December, and has been uniformly victorious. Meanwhile, Lieut.-General NODZU, the Commander-in-Chief of the First Army, has transferred the general head-quarters to Suiyen, and a part of the right wing has apparently been

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moved to the same place, so as guard the line of communications, and release for service in the front the troops hitherto engaged in that duty. On the other hand, a Brigade of the Second Army, moving up from Chinchow, has captured the important town of Kaiping, the result being that the Chinese line of defence is cut in two at Haicheng, and that General SUNG, with some 20,000 troops, is isolated at Yingkow, where he will presently be the object of a concerted attack from Kaiping and Haicheng. So far, then, from the position in Manchuria being serious for the Japanese, it is an eminently satisfactory position. They are winning everywhere, and the victory that they are now on the eve of scoring over SUNG'S Army will place them in possession of the whole of Southern Shinking from the Liao river to Fenghwan, as well as giving them the command of the great waterway of Manchuria. The Army is in excellent health, and though the snow prevents a northward movement through the mountains, it does not seriously impede operations in the littoral regions. So soon as Yingkow and the mouth of the Liao are in Japanese hands, it will be difficult, if not impossible, for the Chinese troops massed northward of Liaoyang to hold their ground. Their source of supplies will be stopped, and their line of retreat to China proper, *viâ* the northern highway, can easily be obstructed by a Japanese advance along the coast. At no time since the commencement of the war has the Chinese position in Manchuria been so desperate as it is at present. Expert knowledge is not needed to perceive this. Any one following the story of the campaign with a map before him, can satisfy himself that the Japanese plan is not only excellently conceived, but is also being consummated with steady success.

In addition to misconceptions and misrepresentations about the First Army, we find some singular inferences drawn from the fact that the Sendai Division has proceeded to Talien, instead of being carried direct over-sea to the neighbourhood of its final objective. The conclusions deduced are that the Division is intended to re-inforce the Second Army; that the original purpose of its assembly at Hiroshima has had to be abandoned, and that the situation in Manchuria must be very serious to demand such a large addition to the Japanese forces. These conclusions are due to ignorance of the elementary principles of military expeditions. Before the capture of Port Arthur, the Japanese base of operations was at the mouth of the Tadong river. There the transports carrying the Second Army assembled after leaving Hiroshima, and thence they steamed across to the Liaotung peninsula. Few people, we presume, were silly enough to imagine that because the estuary of a Korean river was the rendezvous of the Army, Korea must be the field of its operations. Similarly Talien is now the base. If the Sendai Division has gone thither in the first instance there is not the slightest reason to conclude that Manchuria will be its campaigning ground. Talien is merely the place where the expedition upon which the Division proceeds will be organized and its forces brought up to their full complement. So far from being absorbed into the Manchurian troops, the Sendai Division will receive a portion of the latter for the purposes of its ultimate operations.

Wild estimates are also published as to the numerical strength of the Japanese forces already in the field, but space fails us to explain the facts here.

THE YOKOHAMA HARBOUR WORKS.

THE House of Representatives engaged in a lively and protracted debate on Saturday with reference to the Yokohama Harbour Works. In the sixth session of the Diet the Government included in the Budget an appropriation for completing the Works, which had been suspended for a time pending investigation of the causes underlying a failure in the durability of some of the concrete blocks. The House of Representatives having been dissolved before the Budget came into existence, it resulted that the Budget of the preceding year had to be again carried out, which meant that no money was available for the Harbour Works. On the other hand, to leave the breakwaters unfinished involved their rapid deterioration. The difficulty was solved by including the necessary funds in the category of continuing expenditures, and putting them in a Supplementary Budget to which the House's *ex-post-facto* assent was sought this session. Very little question was raised by the House as to the propriety of the financial course adopted by the Government, but a most resolute attempt was made to prevent the passing of the item until the responsibility for the failure of the blocks could be fixed; until certain vague charges of irregularities in connection with the purchase of a dredger and of cement could be confirmed or disproved, and until some assurance could be obtained that the blocks used hereafter would not develop the defects shown by their predecessors. As to the irregularities alleged to have taken place in buying materials, we may dismiss them at once. The accusations preferred with reference to the dredger are known to be utterly baseless, and if any official lined his pocket by conniving at the supply of bad cement, no evidence appears to be forthcoming either that bad cement was furnished, and that it was wittingly received. It will be observed by our readers, if they take the trouble to peruse the debate, that the experts representing the Government carefully excluded the contingency of defective cement from their category of causes responsible for the failure of the blocks—a most important fact in view of the rumour circulated two years ago when the cracks in the blocks were first discovered. Many persons then confidently alleged that the fault lay with the cement, and that Japanese cement could not be trusted, but it would seem that no just grounds existed for such a conclusion. Mr. FURUICHI, Chief Engineer of the Home Department, let it be explicitly understood by the House that the failure of the blocks must be attributed to deficiency in the amount of cement used, not to its defective character. He said that blocks made of the same materials but containing a larger proportion of cement had showed no sign of weakness. He said also that the responsibility rested with the foreign superintending engineer, who, having died two years ago, can not be heard in his own defence. It is very regrettable, we think, that such an accusation should have been officially preferred. Nor can we appreciate its justice. If all, or nearly all, the blocks had failed in durability, there might be fair grounds for assuming that the superintending engineer's formula for mixing the ingredients was faulty. But when 96 blocks out of every hundred showed themselves thoroughly satisfactory and only 4 failed, it is surely unwarrantable to conclude that the general method of manufacture was bad. And if that conclusion is not warranted, how can the engineer-in-chief be alone held responsible? No human being is omniscient or ubiquitous. If, in the conduct of a great work, a few parts of the structure exhibit defects though the general results are good, is it not most probable that the fault lies with subordinates, as workmen or overseers, who through carelessness depart occasionally from their instructions or fail to detect such departure? The superintending engineer is of necessity obliged to trust largely to his assistants, and where the assistants are not of his own choosing, to lay the whole responsibility of every detail on his shoulders, seems to us very extravagant.

THE MOSLEM "JEHAD."

REPORTS have of late been frequently circulated that the Chinese Moslems, doubtless at the instigation of the Central Government, are about to proclaim a Jehad, or Holy War, against Japan; and this announcement has been magnified into the belief that many thousands of frenzied fanatics will, before long, confront the Japanese troops: fanatics to whom death is preferable to life, for to fall in a Holy War means instant translation to the highest Paradise, with the concomitant blessings of innumerable houris and every sensual pleasure that the worldly minded prophet could imagine. But divested of all rumance and looked

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at in a serious light, there is, we fancy, absolutely nothing to be apprehended from the Moslemism of China. In the first place, there is the question of numbers. According to investigations made about a decade ago, there were, at that time, not more than half-a-dozen *bonâ fide* Mohammedan communities in China proper. Most of these had, moreover, not only lost or forgotten some of the vitally important tenets of their creed—such as the unity of the DEITY and the direct inspiration of the Koran—but were so contaminated with Taoist ideas that, with the possible exceptions of observing Friday as the Sabbath and wearing turbans, there was really very little difference between them and Chinese of wholly dissimilar views and practices. Take the little Moslem community in Canton for an example. They have, it is true, a mosque, wear white turbans, and are perhaps the strictest adherents of Mohammedanism to be found in China. Yet their "moolah," or priest, was, at the time we speak of, quite unable to read any but a few texts that he had painfully committed to memory; and the ordinary practices and observances of the handful of true believers were such as would have shocked any orthodox Moslem. It is supremely absurd to speak of arousing any Jehad among sectarians of this description. The Canton community, being close to Hongkong, where there is an orthodox mosque and many hundreds of Moslems to the manner born, might be expected to be much more thorough-going and zealous than are the Moslems in remote provinces. But even there the utmost laxity prevails, and almost nothing is known of the Prophet's teachings.

So much for the Moslems of China proper. Of course there are vast numbers of true believers on the outskirts of the Empire: on that debatable ground claimed by China and acknowledging her suzerainty. But how these people could be got to fight for China, no matter what the pretext might be, is quite incomprehensible. Their allegiance to the Empire as such is of so lax a description, so frail a tenure, that no man knowing the facts in the case could for a moment suppose that they would take up arms in defence of their suzerain: rather against than for, if anything. The accounts published by recent travellers more than bear out the truth of these statements.

If, then, there is to be a Jehad—which we very greatly doubt—the active partakers will perforce be confined to the few thousand Moslems scattered throughout six or seven cities in the southern and central provinces. Granting that sufficient incentive could be found to bring these men into the field, the actual number of combatants would be so small as not to deserve any notice whatever. Their religious views are neither sufficiently orthodox nor sincere to inspire them with the blind zeal that makes a "Ghazi rush" dreaded in India. It would require more than the usual amount of coercion to bring these men to the fore, and, once there, it may well be questioned whether they would prove of the slightest actual value. The Japanese Generals have frequently, since the outbreak of the war, sighed for foemen worthy of their steel; "fanatic Chinese Moslems" has a promising sound, and such men, if they really existed, would unquestionably prove far from being despicable opponents. But there is no hope—or no danger—of such combatants ever crossing swords with the armies of Japan.

THE STUDY OF JAPANESE.

THE most interesting mode of studying Japanese is to watch the identities of its words and grammatical forms with those of kindred languages. If it be true that both the words and the forms are of continental origin, as Mr. ASTON believes and as I believe, a great error is committed by those who study Japanese as an insular and isolated growth. They are under the influence of an erroneous philosophy of language during the whole course of their studies. They are quite as mistaken as the botanist who should fail in his examination of the plants of Japan to compare them with the plants of the adjoining continent. Ignorance of the resemblances and identities existing between the flora of the Japanese islands and that of Asia and Europe prevent him from making real scientific progress. The best help in education is found in the discovery of facts and laws contrasted and identical in different areas belonging to the field of knowledge.

Take the word "tongue" for example. *Shita* is the Japanese word. The English tongue is a verb in Chinese, that is to say, *chang*, to taste, old sound, *dung*. *Shita* is the Chinese *shet*, tongue, which is read by the Japanese *zetsu* or *set*. The pupil ought to be told by his instructor that *shita*, the old Japanese word, is really identical with *set*, which he finds in quite another part of his dictionary. The old word *shet* has become *shê* in modern Chinese, and *shita* in the original Japanese language. Here a law comes to view to which the attention of the learner should be drawn. There is a natural tendency for sonant letters to become surds, and this is a law of remarkably wide extent. The cause of this law is in the economy of energy. The meaning is understood without that addition of voice which makes the sole difference between sonant and surd. In Mongol, a language closely akin to Japanese, *dologoho* is to lick, and in this the root is *dol*. The Turkish for tongue is *dil*. In Tibetan, tongue is *lche*, and the *l* is dropped in pronouncing the word; originally it would be *det*. The superimposed *l* in Tibetan writing indicates a primitive *d*, and *ch* in all the eastern Asiatic languages is changed from *t*. What then does our word for tongue become farther west? In Arabic, *lisan* tongue, is the Hebrew *lashon*. In the Indo-European system it is our word *taste*. The Latin *gustus*, *gustare* to taste, as in *de gustibus non est disputandum*, is the Mongolian *heleon*, tongue, *helene* to speak. The letter *h* in Mongol comes from *g* and *k*. Our word *lick* is in Tibetan a noun meaning tongue, *jag*. Thus our three English words lick, taste, and tongue are in Japanese *tsugeru* speak, *shita* tongue, and *nameru* to taste. The roots are identical, the special sense varies. To speak and to taste are acts of the tongue. The amount of difference between the sense attached to these three roots is a measure of the distance in space and time passed by our ancestors and those of the Japanese since, somewhere not far from the Caspian Sea, many years ago, they parted to go their several ways.

Now I will briefly mention one of the conjugating syllables, the negative *nai* not, as in *wakaranai*, do not understand. It is *dzu* in *kikadzu*, not hearing. It is *de*, *ne*, *na*, *nu* in other parts of the negative conjugation. In Mongolian verbs it is *de*, as in *sonosde*, not yet heard. This is a convincing proof of the identity of the Mongol and Japanese verb. In Turkish any part of a substantive verb is made negative by prefixing *diyil*, or *deyl*. This is the Japanese and Mongol negative. The Turks have another negative, *ma*, used as in *yasmamak*, not to write. This is the Chinese *wu* from *mot*, "do not," in Mongol *bu*. But *m* changes to *n*, and *m* is more visible to the eye in conversation than *n* and is therefore primeval. Now it is plain that the negative was always required in human speech from the first. There never was a time when the command, thou shalt not kill, was not likely to be needed as a command or in deprecation. It is Japanese, *Koros na*, Latin *non occides*, Hebrew *tirtsak*, Chinese *mut shat*, Mongol *buala*, Turkish *katl ma*, Tibetan *ma sod*, English deprecative, do not kill; imperative, thou shalt not kill. Let the student carefully notice here that the negative in *m* or *b* is Chinese, Tibetan, Mongol, and Turkish, and that the frontiers of these four nations are conterminous. Is not this suggestive? Then notice that the negative in *n* or *d* or *l* is Japanese, Mongol, Turkish, Semitic, and Indo-European. The Semitic race must have gone from a higher latitude to the Arabian plateau and the valleys of the Tigris and Euphrates. The method I recommend to young students of Japanese leads to the ultimate identification both of the negative syllables in these examples, and of the verb to kill. Some languages have both forms. The Hebrew has *ratsak*, kill, and *katal*, kill. It agrees both with China and with Japan in its words having the sense, kill. Such a fact indicates that there was a primitive vocabulary from which all these languages drew their words. If then we are willing to be guided by facts and not too timid to follow the light of truth, we must see here

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that we are justified in claiming that the Japanese *Koroshi*, the English kill, the Latin *caedo*, the Hebrew *katal*, are one word, as also that the Chinese, Hebrew, and Tibetan for kill (*shat*, *chod*, *vats*) are one word.

The study of Japanese is invested with a new interest when its unity with the common speech of Europe and Asia has been proved. I hope that young Japanese who read English may see this paper of mine. There is one man, KITASATO, who has done splendid work in the department of bacteriology. If the Japanese student will make researches in Mongol, and Tibetan, Hebrew and Greek, Latin and Welsh, he may secure a share with KITASATO in the applause of those who know what true science is. There is a mode of study required which shall embrace the whole period of the existence of the Japanese nation. Mr. SATOW limited himself to the time subsequent to the introduction of the Chinese language. Mr. CHAMBERLAIN has done the same with the exception of his work on the Aino. We are much indebted to Mr. BATCHELOR for the Aino legends which he has translated. Mr. ASTON knew that the vocabularies and grammar of Japan and of Tartary are identical, and this afforded him a stimulus to study Korean, which he did to good purpose.

To have a correct theory is of great importance. Nothing can be more dull and dispiriting than the isolation theory. If the teacher in his instructions maintains that Japan's legends, its vocabulary, its religion, and its grammar are all insular and isolated, he simply accepts native theory. But if the teacher shows how similar words, ideas, religion, and legends, are found among the nations of the continent, a flood of light is poured on the subject. There are two keys to the comprehension of old Japan. The one is at Tsushima, and the other at the head of the Gulf of Tartary, where Saghalien nearly meets the Russian province of the Amoor. The Japanese negative in verbs points to this northern key. Native Japanese scholars ought to prosecute these studies on the lines here pointed out. They will find an immense advantage in using the Old and New Testaments. With CRUDEN'S Concordance, all the words required for comparison can be easily found. I know a Chinese in London who greatly admires the Old Testament because its history is written on the same principles exactly as Chinese history. Any intelligent Japanese reader of the Old Testament will feel the same to be true of Japanese history. Japanese history is like Hebrew history. A love of Bible reading will be stimulated by philological inquiry into the resemblances between Japanese and the languages I have mentioned.

JOSEPH EDKINS.

Shanghai, December 1894.

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE JAPANESE NEW TESTAMENT TRANSLATION.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—The question raised by the Rev. J. M. McCaleb with regard to Acts. VIII. 33, and 1 Timothy III. 11, was simply this:—What authority is there for the words *tadashiki* and *joshitsufi*? My reply to this question was that "there seems to be no really decisive authority for the present translation." The statement of "A." in his letter of January 8th that we must translate not mere words but ideas, is a truism, of course, and has no special bearing on the question of authority raised by the Rev. McCaleb, for we must in common charity suppose that the translators of the Bible, whether they are recognized as authorities or not, have been aware of their duty in this respect everywhere and at all times. That in "A.'s" own opinion the interpretations of Hachett, Gloag, and Schaff are not sufficiently well established to justify the present translation, is evident from the fact that he himself holds another rendering to be more correct, viz., "the punishment appointed him was taken away," that is he does away not only with *tadashiki* but also with *ubawaretari*, and (by implication) with *sabaki* as well, a tolerably radical change of the present translation, yet well worthy of a careful consideration by some future committee on revision. If "A." thought that there was really decisive authority for the present translation, he would surely not himself prefer another and certainly very different rendering of the verse in question. As to the passage in Timothy, there is no difference of opinion between "A." and myself.

I may add, though this has nothing to do with the question raised by the Rev. McCaleb to which I have strictly confined myself, that I agree with "A.'s" substitution of "punishment" for "righteous judgment," for reasons to be found chiefly in the original Hebrew, of which the passage in the Acts is itself a mere translation. This is, however, a matter of little public interest and can be satisfactorily dealt with only by a future committee on revision.

Respectfully, EPSILON.

Tokyo, January 14th.

LETTER FROM CHICAGO.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Chicago, December 20th.

Rev. W. E. Griffis, D.D., delivered a lecture on the 12th inst., before the Brooklyn Institute of Arts and Sciences on "William Bradley, the Governor of Plymouth," which was the second of a series of addresses on "The Founders of New England." Dr. Griffis is now engaged in editing Townshend Harris's journals for publication. His book on "The Religions of Japan" will be issued on February 1st by Charles Scribner's Sons.

Prof. Geo. T. Ladd is to have an article on "The Mental Characteristics of the Japanese" in the January *Scribner's Magazine*.

The latest toy for sale on the street here is a *jinrikisha* with a slight motive power. The front window of Foreman's shoe store is adorned with a Chinese pagoda made of cork and with Japanese dolls and *jinrikisha*; and every pair of shoes in the window bears a business card with "Foreman's Shoe Store" in English and "Foreman, Kutsuya" in *kana*.

A report comes from Pittsburg, that the Japanese Government has placed a contract with the Carbon Steel Company, of that city, for light armour for torpedo boats; and that Millard Hunsicker, "Chairman Frick's assistant," is now on his way to Tokyo from St. Petersburg.

The news of the Port Arthur massacres has been read here with deep regret and shame, and has led some rash editors to affirm that Japan has "lapsed into barbarism again." But unprejudiced thinkers, while sorry for this one stain, accept the manly explanation of the Japanese Government, as may be seen hereafter—

Rev. French B Ellingwood, the Secretary of the Presbyterian Board of Foreign Missions, who has frequently visited China and Japan, said he regards the Japanese Minister's utterances as most manly, and calculated to go a long way toward wiping out such bad impressions as the individual atrocities of the soldiers may have created. "We would have had no such manly confession," said he "from the government of Turkey had like atrocities occurred there."

Rev. Dr. Charles L. Thompson, of the Madison Avenue Presbyterian Church from which the latest missionaries to China were sent, said:—"It is much more important to the civilized world to know how the Japanese Government looks at the atrocities charged as committed by Japanese soldiers than to know in detail what those atrocities were. The Asiatic spirit of barbarous warfare may have suddenly broken out among the Japanese soldiery upon great provocation, without any blame whatever upon the Government or the officers of the army, and the dispatch from the foreign Minister is regarded as frank, manly, and reassuring to all friends of civilization.

It certainly seems less reasonable to censure the whole nation for one lapse under great provocation than to praise the soldiery that such a lapse did not come sooner or oftener. It is interesting to note that this one outrage, flagrant as it was, did not seriously affect the judgment of the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations, which yesterday voted *unanimously* to recommend that the new treaty between the United States and Japan be confirmed.

It is a great mistake to say that the Chinese can not assimilate American ideas; note the following items:—

Philadelphia, Dec. 19.—A unique acquisition to the annals of labour troubles will be the strike which a local undertaker now has on hand. Recently he secured a contract for the removal of a number of bodies from an old downtown cemetery. Of the corpses there buried thirteen were Chinamen and, according to an agreement made at the time of interment, these were to be sent to China if ever exhumed. Lee Toy, mayor of Chinatown, furnished several Chinamen who agreed to dig up the bodies, strip the bones and boil and bleach them for shipment for $100. They began work on Monday morning, but at noon struck for $100 more. Their demand was granted and they returned to work. To-night the pink parasol, which in the flowery kingdom is the symbol of social distinction, was again put over the charnel house and they demanded $100 more. The undertaker vows that he will put alien labourers at the job in the morning, while Mayor Toy is making strenuous efforts to raise the cash, declaring that it is a profanation for any but a Chinaman to handle Chinese bones.

It is reported that Seattle and Tacoma have been conferring with the object of diverting their way the U.S. mail for Japan and China.

The correspondence between the Navy Department and Admiral Walker with reference to his mission to Hawaii has been laid before the Senate. His instructions were in the line of strict neutrality and protection to the American flag. His report particularly emphasizes "the attitude and ambition of Major Wodehouse," the British Minister in Hawaii, and calls him "a pronounced and partisan royalist."

The Nicaragua Canal is under discussion in the Senate, where the other day Senator Turpie, of Indiana, vigorously opposed it as a "gorgeous bubble."

War has not yet broken out between Mexico and Guatemala, and may be averted by negotiations.

"The revolutionary junta" in Brazil have no confidence in the peace propositions of President Moraes, and have decided the push the war. In the South they have met with some successes. Admiral Mello is expected to leave Buenos Ayres after January 1st to take command of the Revolutionary forces. Ex-Pres. Peixoto has a severe attack of locomotive ataxia.

Sir John Thompson, Prime Minister of Canada, died suddenly on the 12th inst., and has been succeeded in office by Hon. MacKenzie Bowell, Minister of Trade and Commerce.

Newfoundland also has been excited by a change of ministry as well as over the failure of several banks. It is, however, now believed that the financial panic will not continue.

The Sultan has withdrawn his invitation to the United States to participate in the investigation of the Armenian outrages; but has consented that the Consuls of Britain, Russia, and France sit with the Commission. There is some talk that Secretary Gresham may insist that U.S. Consul Jewett also be permitted to carry on an independent investigation.

Ex-Gov. Tillman has been elected U.S. Senator from South Carolina.

The Presidential appointments of Hon. J. C. Clements, of Georgia, to be an Inter-State Commerce Commissioner, and of Charles D. Clark, of Tennessee, to be U.S. District Judge (in place of Porter, nominated but not confirmed), have been confirmed by the Senate.

A bill to authorize railroad pooling has passed the House of Representatives by a vote of 166 to 110. This bill has been endorsed by boards of trade and State railway commissions, and will, it is thought, pass the Senate. It is aimed against rebates and other forms of rate cutting.

The House of Representatives has also passed an "urgent deficiency" bill, which includes an appropriation for the expenses of collecting the income tax. Cockran, of New York, tried to strike out that feature, but was defeated by a vote of 49 to 169.

The House Committee on Banking and Currency has decided to report favorably Secretary Carlisle's plan for financial and monetary reform. As two Democrats voted with the Republicans in opposition, the vote was close,—9 to 8. The House

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will not, however, consider the measure until after the holidays. The opposition to the Carlisle plan is very strong, and seems to be growing, especially with reference to the banking system; and yet it is generally admitted that there is need of some kind of reform.

The gold reserve continues to sink fast; yesterday afternoon it had dropped a little below $91,000,000.

The Yankton Indian reservation in South Dakota will probably be opened for settlement next spring. It contains over 200,000 acres, of which about 75,000 acres have been reserved to the Indians.

The Lexow Committee in New York City is continuing its investigations of municipal corruption, and has elicited damaging testimony against Richard Croker, the ex Chieftain of Tammany. The Civil Federation and other organizations in this city are preparing for a similar investigation, which will undoubtedly reveal the fact that Chicago is not yet a model city.

The annual convention of the National Civil Service Reform League has recently been held in this city. The address of the President, Carl Schur, complimented President Cleveland's second administration, "its shortcomings notwithstanding," as having "materially advanced the reform cause." The civil service is being gradually extended.

The American Bell Telephone Company has lost an important case through the decision of Judge Carpenter in the U.S. Circuit Court in Boston, that the Besliner patent is void. This patent, the exclusive use of which was claimed by the Bell Telephone Company, "covers the use of the carbon or microphone contact used in the long distance transmission of speech." An appeal will be taken to the U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals and perhaps to the U.S. Supreme Court. If this decision is maintained, telephones will be very much cheaper.

Frank Lenz, the Pittsburg bicyclist who started out to girdle the globe on his wheel, was last heard from at Tabreez, Persia, on April 28, and has, it is feared, fallen a victim to Turkish brigands.

Frank C. Ives, "the young Napoleon of billiards," having recently defeated "the Wizard," Jacob Schaefer, in a six nights' match in this city, is now the champion.

Another death in a prize fight (at New Orleans) has thoroughly aroused public opinion against the pugilistic science.

The American Federation of Labour has recently held its annual meeting in Denver. President Gompers was defeated for re-election, and John McBride, President of the United Mine Workers, was chosen to succeed him. The headquarters were removed from New York to Indianapolis. A long series of resolutions was adopted.

Judge Woods has at last rendered a decision in the case of Debs *et al* for contempt of court in disregarding legal injunctions in the strike of last summer, and finds all the defendants guilty except one (James McKeen). Debs is condemned to six months, and his subordinates to three months, in jail. At first there was talk of an appeal to the U.S. Supreme Court; but it was finally decided to go to jail and pose again as "martyrs." The document giving the decision is a very long and able one, and goes into details in all points. It is the general opinion that the accused "got off lightly;" that, if they were guilty, and deserved any punishment at all, they ought to have had a much longer term than a few months in jail.

Labour Commissioner Wright's bill for a national board of conciliation and arbitration in the case of strikes has been introduced into the House of Representatives.

President Harper and Secretary Goodspeed, of the University of Chicago, have made a trip to New York City to confer with John D. Rockfeller; hence the gossips predict a handsome Christmas gift this year for the University.

Mrs. Chika Sakurai, of Tokyo, is in this city, and is trying to raise money for the education of Japanese girls.

There is a young Japanese lady in Hahnemann Medical College of this city.

A Chinese agent is said to be in Washington, negotiating with the Brazilian Minister for the purchase of the *Nictheroy* and the *Andrada*. If the *Nictheroy* is sold, the Zalinski dynamite gun will go with it, and "the vessel will be commanded and manned by Americans."

Ex Governor and ex-Senator Alcorn, of Mississippi, died this morning.

The eyes of birds that fly by night are generally about double the size of those of day birds.

Iceland, in the North Atlantic, the Isle of Man, and Pitcairn Island, in the South Pacific, have full woman suffrage.

ST. GEORGE AND ST. ANDREW.

We'll up an' we'll gie them a ba', a ba'
Wi' a hundred aubscribers an' a', an a'.
—*Old Song.*

One day last week St. George came doun tae
walk about the street,
And there he met St. Andrew in his bonnie
hielan' dress,
Wi' sporran, dirk, an' *sgian-dubh*, an' the brogues
upon his feet,
Gangin' back an' fore along the shore, as if he
owned the place.

"Hoo's a' wi' you?" says Geordie, "I'm weel
enough," says Sandy,
"But it's mony a day, I'm thinkin', since ever
I was meetin' ye.
"Will we hae a drap thegither, sir? The Club
is varra handy,
"An' I'm sure ye'll no refuse me, sir, the plee-
sure, sir, o' treatin' ye."

They took a drap o' whisky cauld, and syne a
drap o' toddy,
An' Sandy speired the reason o' his comin' tae
Japan:
"It 's they women saints," says Geordie, "they
winna leave a body,
"An' ye ken they're no for marryin' there, an'
I'm no *yon* sort o' man."

"But noo ye're here, my cannie man, I count on
your assistance:
"Leddies here is fond o' novelty, as nae doot
ye will hae heard;
"Noo, a walkin' competeetion—man, ye'd meet
wi' sma' resistance
"If ye'd use they bonnie wings o' yours just
like a muckle bird!"

"Gae awa wi' ye," says Geordie, "Ye ken that's
idle talkin';
"They deils o' judges wadna let me use the
wings at a';
"An' I'm no like Maister H——k, that 's sae
powerfu' fond o' walkin'—
"But I'll tell ye what I'm gaun tae do, I'm
gaun tae gi'e a ba'."

"Hoo daur ye then," St. Andrew cried, "encroach
on my monopolies?
"Hoo daur ye speak o' gi'in' a ba'? Hoo daur
ye mak sae free?
"There's just *ae* ba' in ilka year for fowks in this
metropolis—
"Ae ba', I mean, that's worth the name—and
that ane's gi'en by ME!"

"Ye donnart gowk!" St. George replied, "I
care na half a dollar,
"For a' your bletherin' windy words! Ye
needna say nae mair!"
Then Sandy took the hint an' gripped a hand o'
Geordie's collar
An' skelped him weel about the lugs, an' touzled
a' his hair.

An' Geordie wasna backward too wi' pummellin'
an' maulin';
Sae they banged awa wi' might an' main till
their strength began tae fail.
But the manager he ca'd the p'lice tae come an'
stop the brawlin';
An' sae, that pair o' fractious saints, they slept
that nicht in gaol.

Next day the judge gaed into court an' sat him
doun the bench on,
Wi' wig an' goun an' spectacles, an' mony
dryasdust tomes.
Then maister L——r up an' says, says he, "I'd
like tae mention
"My client's youth an' ignorance o' Yokohama
customs."

An' blate M——l was bauld tae say his Honour
recollected—
But the lad himsel forgot the rest afore he'd
weel begun;
Except "My client—fam'ly man—an' varra weel
respected,
"An' 'a' his freens can testify he doesna bear
the sun."

His Honour keeked into a book an' there he
found the law;
An' says he, "The case is plain enough an'
governed by authority.
"If Geordie here in ilka year had gi'en a bonnie
ba'
"Auld Sandy 'd no hae daured tae claim sic
proud superiority.

"An', Sandy man, ye'se just as bad. It's ill tae
bear, ye ken,
"Comparin' Geordie tae a bird, an' him a
patron saint.
"Sae ilka ane will need tae pay a fine o' thirty
yen,
"An' I'll quod ye baith, as sure as eggs, the
varra next complaint."

D.

LETTER FROM WASHINGTON.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Washington, D.C., December 4th.

Washington is unique among American cities, as it depends for its importance neither on manufactures, natural position, trade, nor railroads. It is a purely artificial product, as much so as Versailles was under French Absolutism. Its quarter of a million of breathers are here because of that magic word "government." Before the end of the last century Congress decreed that a Capital should be grown in the forests on the banks of the Potomac, and under the direction of our first President, the engineers blazed out avenues and marked out streets among the trees. For three quarters of a century afterwards, the place was famous for mud half a leg deep, roots, stumps, stones, material, and "magnificent distances." A witty French diplomatist exiled here, wrote home that there were needed only some houses, some pavements, some shops, and some few thousand people to make this a town. But twenty years ago a "promoter" or "developer," bluntly called rascal, by hook or crook got the civic helm in his hands. With the local treasury open to him, he tunnelled, bored, and ditched, spaded, carted, and leveled until roadways began to evolve from the primeval conditions. On the outer streets he laid cobble stones, while the busier quarters he macadamized, but on the chief paths he introduced a new substance, asphalte from the West Indies. Pugnacious trees that could hold their own against the thick layers of brick, rubble, cement, and bitumen, were planted in rows down both curbs. Underneath tortuous sewers wound along to discharge away down the river. There were loud cries of greedy bargains, "sells," corruption, bribery, venality, thievery generally, but the work went unconcernedly on till the sylvan village sprouted into the cosmopolitan centre. From first to last this social home has been built to order according to the original plan of checkerboard streets, with the Capitol as the hub of radiating avenues, running diagonally across the rectangles, while additional independent short cuts have been drawn across this system of spokes. The naming of the streets has pretty rigidly followed the design of the founder, streets from North to South being numbered, those from East to West being lettered, and avenues being called after the States. Owing to this simplicity a stranger can count off blocks on his fingers, and tell distances and directions as easily as an old resident. This strict adherence to a logical method relieves the memory of the tiresome burden put on it by such snarls and entanglements of street systems as those in any other large capital in the world, perhaps. Order in the arteries of traffic has been followed by beauty of feature. Nowhere else, in America at least, can there be found such taste in architecture, such richness of ornamentation, and such comfort of living. When they look on this municipal child, rigorously "brought up by hand" to suit, Americans are pardonable in their boast that "we have the prettiest, best laid out, and finest city on earth." But there is one fault, a failure to appreciate the effect of an artistic whole in the location of the public buildings. The White House, Treasury, and State Departments are all huddled together, so that each, a model in itself, is cramped and dwarfed by the other two. The Interior and Post Office Departments, each a creation of cold white marble after the classic Greek conception, areiouly a few yards apart. The vast stone pile on the Acropolis remained undisturbed in its hermit like grandeur up to a few years ago, and then some Vandal devoted to economy of the national wealth or of the Congressional leg muscles, got the magnificent national library right at the outer edge of the Capitol grounds, and the attention is distracted from either of these monuments of the builder's art by the propinquity of the other. Especially as you come up the Potomac do you regret that the historic halls of eloquence have not been left in solitary dignity. But delicacy of art is not apt to be evolved from rural politicians and ward bosses even by this great and glorious country.

In another respect Washington furnishes a strange anomaly in a self governing people. With our brag of Republican superiority over the "effete monarchies," it is a keen joke on us that the masses here in the very core of the greatest democratic state in existence have no more voice in the ruling of themselves than the serfs of Russia had in the councils at St. Petersburg. Owing to the large irresponsible negro vote in the District, the Republican party in Congress—the party that abolished slavery and put the ballot in the hands of the ignorant blacks—decided more than fifteen years ago to disfranchise the entire community and govern the city

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by a commission of three members appointed by the President and Senate. It is a still sharper commentary on our braggart strutts of popular sovereignty to say that this is the best municipal administration of a large city in the United States. There are no "jobs," no "deals," no cries of "fraud," no "scandals," no rings, no bosses. There are no elections with their accompaniments of clubs, brass bands, discordant yells, and sputtering torch lights. The streets are well illuminated and clean swept. The police are civil and watchful, and do not treacherously dip down into the cess pool of corruption and danger that sweep into every large aggregate of human beings. Neither is there any collusion between the judges, and leaders of the criminal classes—a political partnership that has been charged and practically proven in New York city. Of course conditions are peculiar in Washington. A large temporary population of four-year-office-holders, and rising tide of office seekers and a steady stream of sightseers, and an irruption of the "brother in black" into his new found Mecca swelled the place with an irresponsible element. It was wise to take power from the hands of this thoughtless throng, and while the form of control may be perilously like autocratic management, yet we are a very decently composed municipality.

Washington stands apart also in having a roughly marked "society." It is official in tone and structure. No other city has a recognised head for the lighter functions of intercourse. The President stands at the top, with cabinet heads, senators, Supreme Court justices, congressmen, higher grades of army and navy, on the levels below all the different classes are fighting for precedence. The rank of none has ever been authoritatively settled, and these disputed points of etiquette have been provocative of much heart burning. It is a matter of history how long the wives of the senators and Supreme Court justices waged a petty warfare with each other as to which should call on the other first.

The special political and official influences give great leisure for culture. The place fairly swarms with social and debating clubs, reading circles, charity organizations, sociological classes in economies and civics, scientific associations, historical societies, and numerous others. The members are largely gathered from the officials, retired congressmen and politicians, and that ever thickening layer of wealthy people, slowly forming here from all parts of the land for rational amusement. The Government clerks number thousands, and ex-congressmen are ever increasing here. The poor toilers in the departments deserve all the more credit if they can turn their time to study. They endure a harrowing experience at least at the end of every Presidential term, as the axe hangs over them. If they could be sure of a permanent tenure of their posts, the attractiveness of Washington life could be greatly enhanced. President Cleveland is said to be cogitating a vast reform in our civil service, no less a step than the extension of the system to all offices under the general government, except a few at the top. Gradually this good work has gone on for the last ten years, and the domain of spoilsmen has been narrowed more and more. But if this revolution in the old method of appointment to office could be effected, Washington would be more than ever a unique city, unique in developement, in government, and in social life.

An old sensation is being mildly revived now in the courts here. A Captain Howgate is up on the charge of having once robbed the government of some hundred and odd thousand dollars. He was arrested, confined a few days, and then he earnestly begged to be taken to his home for a bath. The kind-hearted jailers drove with him to his residence and sat in the parlour while the prisoner went to the bath room. He was thirteen long years steaming and enjoying himself, or at least that time elapsed before the officers of the law again laid their hands on him in New York two or three months ago. He had been in the book trade there for years, walking the streets as boldly as any business man, and had even revisited Washington several times. It seems now he will be acquitted, and many people will be glad as he made hosts of friends by his genial manner and delightful entertainments. It is also felt by some that if he did abstract from his master, the offence was not so heinous because the government was so lax as to lay great temptation before him. He had charge of some military telegraph lines in the far west, and by a strange oversight he was not required to turn over to the treasury the receipts of private messages. The income came into his hands and he was to disburse it in the maintenance of the lines without any supervision being exercised over him. It is safe to say that under such a loose plan, most of us would filch a little.

One of the leading *connoisseurs* of Art is this country, died the other day, W. T. Walters, of Baltimore. He was very wealthy and worth some five or ten million dollars. But it was not shekels, but his rare taste that made him so well known. He had one of the finest art museums in this country, filled with some of the masterpieces of painting, choicest carvings, rarest vases, and curios from Japan, China, and the East generally. His rooms were in the most aristocratic part of Baltimore, and the public were admitted on certain months in the year by ticket, the proceeds going the charity. It was hoped that he would bequeath the collection to the city or to some public foundation, but it has passed with his other possessions to his two children, only about ten thousand dollars being given to charity. He made his pile on whiskey, being a wholesale dealer in that line for a number of years. Temperance fanatics are somewhat stumped when they think of his art museum.

The usual cry against football has been heard this fall, only it has been heard louder and harsher than before. Prize fighters piously claim that their sport is far less dangerous. In fact the per centage of serious and fatal accidents is considerably lower in fistic encounters than in foot ball. The great contest between Yale and Harvard called forth a broad ride of references to the old Roman gladiatorial shows. One of the most temperate of American papers calculated that in that game of the "goose egg," the wounded and disabled were far greater in proportion to the contestants than the bloodiest battlefield of modern times could show. And this after all the boasted reforms of the rules since last season. Here in Washington on Thanksgiving day, a game came off between a college team and a private Athletic Club. The latter had heavier men, and several of them piled on the smallest of their enemies and broke his back. The poor fellow has been paralyzed from his chest downwards, but meets his slow death bravely and cheerfully. The colleges seem afraid to tackle the evil, as their roll calls might be affected. The parents of ambitious boys are dazzled by the prospect of glory, and so the innocents are lured to slaughter by wild enthusiasm and careless applause.

JAPAN AND KOREA.

The following appears in *The Times* of November 26th:—

Tokyo, October 10th.

Korea is now entirely cleared of Chinese soldiers. The ease with which they have been driven out establishes the justice of Japan's contention that, while claiming the peninsula as a dependency, China was never competent to protect it. Had a Western Power—Russia, for example—been in Japan's place at this juncture, is it reasonably presumable that the Chinese would have made a stouter stand than they have done, or that the difficulty of driving them across the Yalu river would have proved more formidable? By the light of established facts, Japan's attitude becomes easier of public interpretation. During the past 25 years she has closely observed her big neighbour's curious relations with the petty States on its frontiers. She has seen that China, while utilizing those States as buffers to soften the shock of foreign impact, had neither the will nor power to preserve them from being crushed in the performance of the *rôle*. Tonkin, Annam, Burma, Siam—one after another the buffers dropped off, until Korea alone remained.

The statesmen in Pekin ought to have gathered some wisdom from these experiences. They ought to have perceived that, although in mediæval times the majesty of the Middle Kingdom might impart some element of substantiality to its anomalous pretensions, no such shadowy imposture could check the march of Western agression in the 19th century. But they did not read history with practical eyes. In Korea's case also they continued to play the farce of calling the peninsula a dependency of China, and at the same time asserting its independence towards all other nations. By-and-by they supplemented that policy by a fresh complication. The encouraged Korea to conclude treaties of amity and commerce with foreign States, hoping that the little kingdom might find security in the conflict of interests thus created. But again they ignored the lessons of their own experience. For they forgot that, when an Eastern country embraces Western intercourse, it must either become progressive or face the certainty of serious complications. China herself, remaining conservative, has had to encounter many troubles, and has not emerged from them without heavy loss. In the south and in the north considerable portions of her territory have been lopped away; the payment of indemnities has been a chronic necessity to her, and her suzerain titles have one by one been torn up. If her integrity survives, it is because her bulk endows her with comparative insensibility to minor disaster. Korea, too small to endure shocks, was nevertheless inevitably exposed to them when China with one hand introduced her to foreign nations and with the other held her fixed in the groove of unprogressive stagnation.

It has been claimed on China's behalf that she conferred upon Korea the only substantial element of progress it possesses, an efficient Customs administration. A strange claim surely, seeing that the Customs service in China is entirely controlled, managed, and organized by foreigners; that China's only merit in connection with it is the negative one of suffering it to exist to her own great convenience and profit, and that its extension to Korea was at once a necessity dictated by the opening of the latter's foreign trade, and a mutual advantage, since it secured a substantial revenue to the Government of the little kingdom and riveted China's hold on the latter. Could it, however, have been reasonably expected that China would encourage liberal tendencies in a border State while she resolutely abstained from putting her own hand to the plough of progress at home? She was not guilty of any such inconsistency. Her influence in Korea continued to be steadily thrown into the scale of conservatism. Moreover, it was exercised in a manner practical and resolute beyond all Chinese precedent. A Resident was placed in Sŏul, and a system of steady but covert interference in Korea's domestic and foreign affairs was inaugurated. The conservative statesmen of the peninsula soon learned that they could count on China's diplomatic alliance to suppress all liberal impulses, and upon her armed assistance to quell any aggressive elements of progress. Twice within a space of five years Chinese troops were employed to crush revolts that threatened the conservatives' tenure of power. Under the shadow of this interference the administrators of the peninsula lost all sense of national responsibility and gave unrestrained play to selfish ambition. The aristocracy had always been a congeries of rival factions perpetually intriguing for the acquisition of political power. It now grouped itself into two principal parties—the party of progress and the party of conservatism. The former looked for foreign sympathy, but, receiving no substantial aid, sank into insignificance. The latter, directly and indirectly supported by China, monopolized the governing power. Things went from bad to worse. Judicial and Executive functions alike came to be discharged by bribery only. Family interests over-rode those of the State. The imposition of taxes had no limit other than the greed of local officials. The welfare of the people and the development of the country's resources received no attention. Personal responsibility was unknown among officals, family influence over-shadowing all abuses and regulating all preferment.

Meanwhile, Japan looked on. Her interest in the future of the peninsula was not less vital than China's. If, from China's point of view, Korea commands the maritime route to Pekin and communicates directly with Manchuria, the cradle of the Tartar dynasty, from Japan's it looks across a narrow streak of sea to Tsushima and Kyushu, and its possession would bring a foreign Power almost within cannon's range of the island empire. It was, therefore, a source of the keenest uneasiness to Japan to see Korea's spirit of independence gradually crushed by the interference of a Power itself wholly incompetent to protect the emasculated kingdom; to see the development of the country's resources checked by the maladministration and corruption of its officials; to see struggles of rival factions and insurrections of suffering provinces furnish constant opportunities for foreign aggression; to see, in short, the peninsular kingdom steadily drift into a condition of administrative incompetence and national debility such as at any moment might afford a valid plea for alien interference. Moreover, this generally disquieting aspect of affairs was accentuated by specific complications. Japan's modern relations with Korea had their origin in a treaty explicitly acknowledging the peninsula's independence and placing that kingdom on a footing of equality with Japan. Yet in all her dealings with Korea, in all complications that arose out of her preponderating share in the peninsula's foreign trade, in all questions connected with her numerous settlers there, Japan found herself negotiating in effect with a dependency of China and with officials who took their orders from the Chinese representative. At every turn she was rendered acutely sensible of China's arbitrary and unfriendly interference. Her efforts to

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tions officially imposed upon trade were hampered by the action of the Chinese Resident; an ultimatum addressed by her to the Korean Government in the sequel of long and patient negotiations elicited from the Viceroy Li Hung-chang a haughty threat of Chinese armed intervention; finally, so hostile and uncivilized did the spirit of Chinese interference become that, when a plot concerted on Japanese territory by emissaries of the conservatives in Sōul resulted in the inveigling of a Korean refugee from Tokyo to Shanghai and in his cold-blooded murder at the latter place, China, instead of punishing the assassin, conveyed him, together with the body of his victim, in a war-ship of her own to Korea, the murderer to be publicly honoured, the corpse to be savagely mutilated.

To appreciate the mood gradually provoked in Japan by all this, it must be remembered that her policy for many years had been one of conciliation and forbearance. In 1882 and 1884 China employed armed force to suppress disturbances fomented in Korea by the corruption and conservatism of the Government. On both occasions the partisans of the victors, regarding Japan as the head and front of progressive tendencies, attacked and destroyed the Japanese Legation in Sōul, compelling the Minister and his suite to effect a painful and humiliating retreat. These outrages did not provoke Japan to any display of resentment. She was content with the most moderate reparation. But in the subsequent negotiations she acquired conventional rights that touched the very core of China's alleged suzerainty. For in 1882 her title to maintain troops in Korea for the protection of her Legation was admitted, and in 1885 she concluded with China a treaty by which each Power pledged itself not to send troops to the peninsula without notifying the other, the two empires being thus placed on an equal military footing as regards Korea. Hence whatever obstructions and rebuffs Japan encountered in Korea through Chinese influence were accentuated by the remembrance of her own long-suffering, and by the consciousness that, as a matter of technical right, she ought to be guaranteed against such treatment. It should also be remembered that during the past 30 years China has looked upon Japan as a contemptible deserter from the canons of the Orient, and has regarded her progressive efforts with disdainful aversion, while Japan has chafed to furnish some striking evidence of the wisdom of her preference for Occidental civilization.

In the breast of each nation there had thus been smouldering a sentiment of jealousy and umbrage that could not fail to be translated sooner or later into hostile action. Thus, when, once more, in June of the present year, the peninsula was disturbed by an insurrection that overtaxed the strength of the statesmen whose corruption and tyranny had caused it, and when China was once more invited by the dominant faction in Korea to crush the insurgents by armed force, Japan understood that the old farce, or rather tragedy, was again about to be acted. Again China, while disavowing all interference in Korea's internal affairs, was to settle the little kingdom's domestic quarrels with the sword; again the nation's spirit of independence was to be stifled by a display of alien force; again the yoke of a greedy and corrupt oligarchy was to be fixed on the people's necks; again all hope of Korea's developing self-defensive competence must be abandoned. Then Japan resolved to interfere. It has been alleged against her that it had long been her intention to interfere, that her engineers had completed minute topographical surveys of the peninsula, and that she had actually constructed pontoon bridges to fit the rivers her troops might have to cross. Undoubtedly Japan was prepared in a military sense. Not to have been prepared would have argued the blindest fatuity. For 20 years the Korean problem had been staring her in the face. For 20 years foreign publicists had added their voices to the prophecies of her own statesmen that in Korea the battle between Chinese conservatism and Japanese liberalism must be fought. Japan looked ahead. She did not deliberately choose war, but she saw clearly that it might be thrust on her, and in that sense she certainly was prepared.

It has further been charged against her that the precipitancy of her action precluded an amicable settlement; that she ought to have exhausted all the resources of friendly diplomacy to procure China's co-operation before sending any troops to Korea. Such an argument would be valid were a different Power concerned. But surely no one acquainted with China's methods will imagine for a moment that by any every-day process of diplomatic representation she could have been induced to inaugurate a programme of reform in Korea. Had Japan, following the ordinary avenues of negotiation, approached the Tsung-li-Yamen with such a proposition, she would simply have involved herself in an interminable labyrinth of evasion and obstruction. At the end of five or ten years she would have been still fruitlessly negotiating. The Japanese have at least as clear a perception of Chinese procedure as any Western nation has. Being themselves thoroughly in earnest about the Korean problem, being fully persuaded that to defer its solution indefinitely would be to lose their control of its complications, they determined to assume at once a position such as would place them beyond the reach of diplomatic obstacles and enable them to pursue their programme of reform, even in the event of China's refusal to cōoperate. That was the motive of their very practical and resolute attitude from the outset. They simply guaranteed themselves against being the victims of vexations and abortive shilly-shallying. That their estimate of China's mood was correct the subsequent negotiations proved, for she could not be pushed beyond an expression of willingness to tender to Korea counsels which the latter should be free to reject or adopt at will—a graceful farce, in truth! That their estimate of China's incapacity to defend Korea was correct the recent campaign has proved, for her troops have been chased ignominiously from every part of the peninsula. And that their determination to reform the administration of the little kingdom is genuine they are now proving, by sending thither Count Inouye, one of the ablest and most experienced statesmen the empire possesses.

This *résumé* of Japan's attitude towards China and Korea deserves public attention at the present juncture, for the President of the Japanese Cabinet, Count Ito, has just laid before the Diet copies of the correspondence that passed between the Governments in Pekin and Tokyo immediately before the outbreak of the war. The despatches show that Japan emphatically stated her conviction of the danger involved in suffering "the deplorable condition of affairs" in Korea to remain unremedied; declared that, "for the purpose of enabling Korea to accomplish the desired reforms, nothing could be better than the co-operation of the Governments of Japan and China, which have in common a vital interest in Korea," and frankly proposed the despatch of a joint commission of investigation. China might have averted war at any moment by agreeing to that reasonable and practical proposal. But she wrapped herself up in a haughty assumption of suzerain majesty, treated Japan's suggestion with supercilious indifference, and plunged the two empires into a sanguinary conflict. The fact is that Japan was in deadly earnest. She meant to gain her point at any cost. But China merely vapoured. She did not anticipate any result other than a supply of material to fill fresh pigeon-holes in her big bureau of unsettled questions.

THE BLACK-FLAG CHIEFTAIN.

The following, which we take from the *North China Daily News*, is well worth perusal:—

We translate the following letter written by General Liu Yung-fu, ex-Black Flag chief of Annam, Brigadier-General of the Nanan Circuit of Kuangtung, and now Assistant Imperial High Commissioner of Defence for Formosa, sent recently to the Tsung-li Yamên in answer to two decrees sent successively to him ordering him to hasten up north with all his troops to assist those now fighting against the Japanese in Manchuria. The substance of the letter was to the following effect:—Ten years ago the writer was invited by the Emperor to enter China to receive the Imperial bounty in acknowledgement of his services during the war with France. Out of the many thousands of his veterans he was only allowed to take with him 1,100 picked men. Since then what with orders from the high provincial authorities of Kuang-tung who were trying to economise and cut down expenses, and despite his prayers and earnest entreaties, companies of this fine regiment of veteran Black Flags have been ruthlessly dismissed and left to shift for themselves in the usual way, until he has only about three hundred of them now left. When the present war began, he was ordered by Edict to go to the defence of Formosa and being practically without men he was compelled to do the next best thing and enlisted 1,000 Swatow "braves" whom he formed into two battalions. But what were these men? Nothing but a mob of lazy do-nothings, raised on the spur of the moment and utterly useless as a means of defence against the enemy. Furthermore, the Japanese have been preparing for this war for years, and that they should be able to commence war upon us in such an unexpected manner is a proof of their preparedness and ability to bring thoroughly trained men into the field. Hence to pit a mob of undisciplined and inexperienced men against a well-trained, well-provisioned, and well-accoutred enemy, the results may be prognosticated and not the most brilliant strategy of our most famous Generals would be able to save our armies from defeat. Experience in the war with France should teach us this.

Since coming to Formosa, the writer has been doing his utmost to put the country placed under his care (Southern Formosa) in a state of defence; but owing to the innumerable coves and inlets which indent the shores of the island, affording shelter and anchoring ground for an enemy's fleet, he thinks that unless the forces of the north and south of Formosa be placed within easy communication of each other, it will be impossible for him with the small force under him to make any show of defence against a landing in force of the enemy. To obviate this disadvantage, the writer bethought himself of the 3,000 odd veterans and dozen or more old and trusty lieutenants whom he had left behind him in Tongking. With this in view, he repeatedly tried to persuade first the Viceroy at Foochow, then the Canton Viceroy, and finally the Governor of the island to allow him to call to his standard his Black Flag veterans, with whose assistance he could effectively defend south Formosa, and, if need be, go to the assistance of the troops in the north of the island. Notwithstanding his most earnest prayers for permission to do so, and the extreme importance of the crisis, the writer was invariably met with this stereotyped and unconcerned answer, from all three dignitaries that "We will consult about the matter later on." Hence up to the present moment nothing has been done with reference to this important question, although he tried to bring the chief of the military secretariat (Provincial Treasurer) to his views. Thus often has the writer wept bitter tears to find himself baulked at every step; for what with lack of funds and lack of provisions, he can do nothing even to raise a small force at his own expense. In a word, although the writer has the *name* of being at the head of an army it is nothing but an empty title, for he does not possess the authority requisite for the General of an Army, with the result that his men are in a bad condition and utterly unprepared for their duties. In the midst of this very unsatisfactory state of affairs, the writer has twice received the Imperial call ■ go up north, being flatteringly told that the troops there were greatly in need of his assistance. But what can he do? It is not that he dare disobey the Imperial commands by dilatory conduct; but really because he has no proper soldiers, upon whom he can in any wise depend. Such being the case, how could he venture to fight a trained enemy in this reckless manner? Of course there are the regulation excuses such as the plea of inability and the request therefore, that the petitioner be dismissed from the service, etc., but the mind and ambition of the writer do not run in this groove, for having been a recipient of the Imperial bounty he vowed on the day when first he retraced his steps into China from Tongking that his only wish was to serve his country in its time of need, even if ten thousand deaths awaited him. Nor is he willing in his present state to risk the good name of his country in the face of an enemy of whose resources he is ignorant, and the courage and discipline of whose troops he has never tried. If he were to be guilty of such recklessness, he would indeed fail in the confidence that has been reposed in him by his sovereign. Yet the urgency of the Imperial commands cannot be disregarded by the writer, and he therefore, as a last resort ventures to state his case plainly to the high Ministers of State in the Tsung-li Yamên and prays that they memorialise on his behalf to the Throne craving permission to allow him on the one hand to return to Canton to enlist a few battalions of his old troops for service in the north, and on the other to first despatch, as an advanced guard, the 1,000 men raised at Swatow to Shanghai and thence overland to Tientsin. Eighty thousand taels are all that will be needed for the whole thing, which he prays that the Provincial and Salt Monopoly treasuries of Kuangtung may be ordered to pay him. Having got together his men as quickly as possible the writer will send them on in detachments, as soon as levied, to Manchuria, under their old officers, where they might get speedily accustomed to the tactics and fighting qualities of the foe, and obtain, as well, a knowledge of the nature of the country in which they are to manœuvre. All these are necessary for final success, and only well drilled and veteran officers and soldiers can perform such duties satisfactorily. But there are yet other difficulties in the way of recruiting his old troops. The principal is the pro-

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spect of encountering the cold weather in the north without any additional inducement to entice the recruits to give up their life either as soldiers, hawkers, or agriculturists in the south and endure the rigours of winter in Manchuria. To get over this the writer, after mature thought, suggests that the men be paid on the same scale as the Army of the Siang increased by one-half. This step he thinks will act as an incentive and induce the old Black Flags to embrace their new life joyfully, enhanced by the prospect of trying conclusions with the much vaunted enemy. Again, the writer confesses utter ignorance of any of the high dignitaries in the north. The success of his brigade will naturally depend upon the efficiency and promptness of supply of the Commissariat, Ordnance, and Pay Departments. If any hitch should occur from having no patrons and friends in the north, and disaster follow in his footsteps, the writer of course cares *nothing* what will become of *himself* personally, but what about the result of the campaign? The writer therefore asks to be allowed to use the telegraph in his reports so that no time may be lost,—despatch and procrastination often decide success or *failure*—and that, finally, he may be allowed to place his brigade—to be named the "Fu Brigade"—under the immediate orders of Li Hung-chang, in order that the management of commissariat, etc., may be under a single chief. In the future the writer proposes to memorialise the Throne through the Viceroy Li only, so that there may be no hindrance to the straightforward despatch of his military reports during the progress of the campaign. In conclusion, the writer now awaits the Imperial Rescript at Taipehfu, the capital of Formosa, and prays most earnestly that his pleadings may be favourably received.

MR. P. EDULJEE'S ANNUAL BOMBAY YARN REPORT.

The following is Mr. Eduljee's yarn report for last year:—

Hongkong, January 1st.

In the last report it was pointed out that the mill industry of India had received a crippling blow through the closure of the Bombay and Calcutta mints towards the end of June, 1893, and that the trade in Indian yarn with China and Japan suffered a considerable shrinkage as compared with that of 1892.

A period of eighteen months has now elapsed since the closing of the mints and the trade has had time to turn round and adjust itself to the new conditions, but not until after having suffered some serious disasters.

For purposes of comparison a table of imports and exports and sales in Hongkong for the last nineteen years shows that the total imports to China and Japan increased from 337,560 bales in 1893 to 387,381 bales in 1894, or nearly 15 per cent., receipts in Hongkong alone showing an improvement of 24,325 bales over that of the previous year, or nearly 12 per cent., and direct shipments to Shanghai and Japan an increase of 25,496 bales, or nearly 21 per cent.

Consumption, however, has not kept pace with the general improvement in supplies, but this may be attributed solely to local causes, such as the prevalence of the black plague in Hongkong during last summer, the China-Japan war since the latter half of the year, and the growing competition of the local manufacture in Japan, which from all accounts is steadily superseding the demand for imported yarn in that country. Sales in Hongkong show a small falling off of 2,484 bales, or 1½ per cent., whereas a deficiency of 12,848 bales is noticeable in the consumption at Shanghai, or nearly 10½ per cent., and of 9,957 bales in that of Japan, or nearly 64 per cent.

The meagre amount of 10,000 bales odd being carried forward on a steady market in the beginning of the year caused considerable uneasiness to dealers, as almost immediately on the resumption of business stocks were found insufficient for requirements and importers were enabled to establish an advance of $1 to $2½ per bale. This position was steadily maintained during the whole of January and the first half of February, but towards the close of the latter month a sudden rise of eight points in rupee exchange weakened holders, and in their impatience to quit stock the advance was mostly lost. March opened with a smart decline of Rs. 10 in exchange in consequence of an impost of 5 per cent. import duty on silver by the Indian Government, and stocks were practically withdrawn from the market. Dealers then improved on their previous offers and with a simultaneous brisk demand for Shanghai an extensive business was transacted, over 20,000 bales changing hands at an advance of $3 to $5 on rates ruling in January, exchange being quoted Rs. 170½ to 171.

Towards the beginning of April exchange commenced to improve and by the end of the month had risen 13 points. Importers now became anxious sellers, but the partial failure of the rice crop in some of the consuming districts and the condition of our large neighbouring markets as well as of Shanghai greatly checked business, and with comparatively smaller off-takes stocks commenced to increase, prices having meanwhile receded fully $3 to $4 per bale. May opened with no better prospect, as rupees steadily continued to advance and by the end of the month had risen another 13 points, standing at 198½, the highest point of the year. Native buyers now became very cautious and bought only for immediate wants, and a perfect panic amongst holders to realize in a rising exchange set in. Under the circumstances heavy concessions in prices were again made here and there, but little or no benefit was derived, and sales continued as restricted as ever, unsold stocks reaching 23,000 bales. With the commencement of June the usual summer demand made its appearance simultaneously with a drop of five points in exchange, and dealers being tired of waiting now commenced to operate more boldly and a considerable and extensive business followed. Sales continued with unabated vigour until towards the close of the month, when the prevalence of the black plague frightened away most of the native buyers and traders and the market now subsided for a time, with an estimated unsold stock of about 25,000 bales.

The sudden collapse in the local native demand at the end of June was, however, somewhat counterbalanced in July by a considerable and well sustained foreign enquiry for Shanghai, which continued well throughout the whole of the month, and what with considerable off-takes and unprecedentedly heavy shipments northward, unsold stocks in the hands of foreign importers were reduced in spite of heavy arrivals to about 10,000 bales. In the beginning of August, thanks to the vigorous action of the authorities in grappling with the epidemic, the influx of native merchants and bankers set in and another extensive business followed and was intensified by reports of a continued advance in Bombay. The outbreak of war between China and Japan at this juncture, once more interfered with trade, and business greatly slackened toward the end of the month, prices remaining with little alterations as those of last month. After the first excitement of the war had subsided, the distance of Hongkong from the base of operations instilled a sense of security amongst native traders and buyers, and so far as our local trade was concerned business continued steady and unchanged. This position was, however, promptly assailed, as towards the beginning of September heavy floods in the interior curtailed for a time all business operations, and shortly after a report was received that rates in Bombay were weaker, with spinners pressing for offers, and the rest of September was passed in a dull, dragging state.

October did not open with any better prospect, and the dullness increased with the growth of the month, until at the close the market became well nigh inanimate, with an estimated unsold stock on hand of about 30,000 bales.

With the close of October prices appeared to have touched their lowest point, as during the early days of November another brisk and active demand for Pakhoi and Tonkin was experienced and considerable sales of favourite spinnings were effected at improved prices. It was at this juncture that the absence of the northern buyers from our market was keenly felt, and, in addition to this, we were inundated with reshipments from Shanghai, where the war scare, owing to the continued advance of the Japanese forces into the country, had almost put a stop to the trade of the port.

Rice harvesting commenced about the second week in November and was continued well into the middle of December, and during this period and up to the close sales were conducted on a very limited scale, and only the merest shadow of a trade has been done, the market closing extremely depressed, with about 25,000 bales of unsold stock to be carried forward.

Prices ruled steady in the beginning of January and gradually continued to harden with the end of April, when they stood at the highest point of the year, best No. 6s being quoted at $68, No. 8s $71, No. 10s $77, No. 12s $77, No. 16s $87½, and No. 20s $95. Since then rates commenced to recede, and after some slight fluctuations values at the close of the year show a depreciation of $6 to $7 in No. 6s and 8s, of $3 to $4 in No. 10s and 12s, of $14 to $15 in No. 16s, and of $12 to $13 in No. 20s. Exchange stood at Rs. 179½ at the close and nominal.—*Local Press.*

beginning of the year, and now closes at about Rs. 187.

In the spring and summer importations were attended with some profit and more than covering prices were obtained for the first five or six months of the year. After that receipts proved too general and overdone, and demand seldom gave importers much opportunity of regulating selling rates with costs, for the dealers, taught by previous bitter experience, confined their small and dragging purchases to actual requirements under country orders, and no amount of concession on the part of holders to effect sales would have induced free buying.

The most noteworthy feature of the market has been the prompt and steady clearance of goods from first hands during the past twelve months, importers finding little or no difficulty in delivery of their contracts. Extreme caution was observable in the dealings of native buyers, and the year passed off without any serious mishap, except the failure of a petty trader in July with liabilities amounting to nearly $10,000.

The products of no new mill has been introduced into our markets during the last twelve months; the mania for building mills, so far as the island of Bombay is concerned, has subsided, most of the leading spinnings having added weaving machinery to their concern for the manufacture of cloth for local consumption in anticipation of a gradually vanishing demand from China and Japan.

The spinning and weaving industry of India, particularly the latter, gives promise of a flourishing trade this year, as in addition to the abundant outturn of the Indian cotton the yield of the new American crop has beaten all previous records, being roughly estimated at 11,000,000 bales as against 8,500,000, the largest outturn previously known, and New Orleans can at present be laid down in Bombay at somewhere about the rates ruling in that market for the best Indian staple. Extensive orders have been sent to America by most of the leading mill-owners, and it is an analagous case of sending coals to Newcastle. The turn of trade may also lead to considerable manufacture of finer yarn than No. 20s in India, and it is not unreasonable to expect that the China markets will be more liberally supplied later on with the higher counts of Bombay spinnings than has hitherto been the case.

In this connection it may not be out of place to mention the impost of 5 per cent. excise duty on Indian cotton yarn and piece goods at the end of the year by the Indian Government to counterbalance the import duty levied at the same rate on English cotton yarn and piece goods. This will hardly interfere with exports of these articles from India to China and Japan, as the same are protected by the provision of rebate on shipments to foreign countries.

The number of cotton spinning and weaving mills working and in course of erection in India at the close of June, 1894, was 142, as against 141 in 1893, running an aggregate of 31,154 looms and 3,694,736 spindles, consuming 1,222,501 bales of cotton (392 lbs. to a bale), and giving employment to 130,460 persons daily. The total amount of capital paid up is Rs. 103,222,683, of which Bombay alone has embarked a capital of Rs. 53,020,514 on its sixty-seven mills. One mill is in course of erection in the island of Bombay, one projected, and two in course of erection the Bombay presidency, one in Bengal, and one in the central provinces.

Sales in Shanghai show a falling off 12,848 bales as compared with 1893. The prevailing hostilities with Japan during the latter four months of the year and the vicinity of the port to the base of operations have greatly interfered with the progress of the trade, whilst the advance of the Japanese forces into the interior has closed the northern ports before the advent of winter. Nothing of importance has been heard of the operations of the four mills which were in course of erection last year, the war and its progress entirely engrossing the attention of the natives.

Sales in Japan show a serious diminution, and it would now appear that the markets of that country have been almost lost to the India trade. With the exception of one or two spinnings for special requirements, the demand for imported yarn has been entirely superseded by local spinnings, and with the cessation of hostilities with China the chances of the Indian yarn ever regaining its lost position in Japan are very remote. The mill industry of the country is growing apace. There being at present no less than 60 mills, comprising about 50,000 spindles.

The war of freights on the Bombay and China route is at present in abeyance, the temporary withdrawal of the Japanese steamers from the line, in consequence of the prevailing hostilities with China, rendering the existing competition too in-

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HONGKONG NEWS.

The P. & O. steamer *Sutlej*, which arrived at Hongkong on January 1st, touched a mud bank near the Tanjong Pagar Wharf, Singapore, as she was leaving for China on the 26th ult. The tide was falling, and the *Sutlej* remained fast for four hours. Shortly before eight o'clock that evening, the steamer floated off uninjured. In the interests of safety, however, it was deemed better to detain the *Sutlej* till the morning for examination. Accordingly, at daylight, divers went down and examined the ship's bottom and, their report being satisfactory, the *Sutlej* departed for China. A pilot named Marchant was in charge at the time.

A horrible murder was lately committed, we gather from the *North Borneo Herald*, near the Segama River, in which the victims were seven Chinese fishermen, who had been doing a good trade in fishing and drying the fish for export to China. It appears that some time about the beginning of September a fishing junk containing nine Chinamen arrived off the Segama from Sandakan and were visited by six outrigged boats, in each of which were three or four natives, who asked for some tobacco. Half a pound was given to them, but they demanded more, and on being told that they would get no more, they jumped on board and murdered seven of the Chinese, two others escaping although wounded, by getting below among the dried fish. The pirates set fire to the junk and left her, after taking away any little valuables they could find, and after destroying the sails, masts, and cordage. The junk drifted for four days, when they sighted another junk the crew of which helped them and brought them to Sandakan.

His Honour the acting Puisne Judge of the Hongkong Supreme Court has given a finding in favour of the defendant in the case of Moutrie v. McCabe. The claim was for $497.95, which the plaintiff urged was due from defendant to the old firm of Moutrie, Robinson, & Co., since dissolved, which was made up from various items of travelling expenses incurred in Kobe and Yokohama by Mr. McCabe, while defendant was in the firm's employ, and which plaintiff claimed were excessive and should be repaid by defendant. The Judge held that the expenses were not excessive. The plaintiff's attorneys have appealed to a Higher Court.

The *Bangkok Times* of the 27th ultimo has the following reference to the Crown Prince of Siam, whose death we reported yesterday:—H.R.H. the Crown Prince has been suffering from a serious cold during the past few days. On Wednesday evening his condition gave rise to some anxiety, and Drs. Hays, Tien Hee, Nightingale, and Upton were jointly in attendance. On Thursday evening a more favourable bulletin was sent to His Majesty the King, but the royal patient is still somewhat unwell. The Queen is constantly with him.

Mr. G. P. Owen, who has the reputation at Singapore of being a keen and successful *shikari*, bagged an elephant on the Castlewood Estate, seven miles out from Johore Bahru, on the 24th ult. This is, on the report of the Sultan, the first elephant taken in Johore.

The Italian cruiser *Cristoforo Colombo*, with the Duke of Abruzzi on board, was expected to sail on the 28th ult. from Bombay for Colombo, *en route* for Singapore and Hongkong. Her stay at Colombo and Singapore will be short, and, according to letters received by the last mail, she was expected at Singapore on the 11th inst.

A commencement has been made with the much-needed extension of the Tytam Water-works. It is proposed to raise the height of the dam 12 ft. 6 in., and to build a masonry wall, 10 feet high, across the present bye-wash. These works will give an increased storage capacity of about 100 million gallons, or, roughly, a month's supply at the present rate of consumption.

CHESS.

(All Communications to be addressed to the Chess Editor.)

The Yokohama Chess Club meets at the Club Hotel, No. 5, Bund, on Monday and Thursday in each week from 5 to 11 p.m.

The Tokyo Chess Club meets at the Tokyo Hotel every Friday from 1 to 11 p.m.

Solution to Problem No. 159.

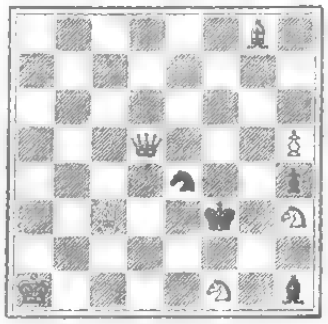
WHITE.	BLACK.
1—B to Q 6	1—Any
2—Mates accordingly.	

Correct solutions received from W.H.S., Omega, E. J. King, J.D., Digamma, E.D., Shoji, and King.

Problem No. 161.

By W. F.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in three moves.

Albin-Showalter Match.

There would seem to be some "hard pounding" in this contest. The last American mail brought the following intelligence:—The nineteenth game of the chess match between Albin and Showalter, was drawn after sixty-one moves. Albin opened the game with Ruy Lopez. Albin secured the twentieth game after sixty moves. Game was opened by Showalter. Albin excelled by wonderful play in the end game. The score of the match is now 8 to 6 in favour of Showalter, six games having been drawn.

Chess at Pontresina.

The following game was recently played at Pontresina between Mr. Gwinner and Mr. Carroll Smith, of the Philadelphia Chess Club.

Game No. 207.

BISHOP'S GAMBIT.

WHITE. H. G. Gwinner.	BLACK. C. Smith.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—P to K B 4	2—P takes P
3—B to B 4	3—P to K Kt 4 (a)
4—Kt to Q B 3 (b)	4—Kt to K B 3
5—P to Q 4	5—P to Q 4 (c)
6—P takes P (d)	6—B to Q 3
7—Kt to B 3	7—B to Kt 5
8—Castles	8—Castles
9—Q to Q 3	9—B takes Kt
10—Q takes B	10—R to K sq.
11—B to Q 2	11—Q Kt to Q 2
12—Q R to K sq.	12—Kt to B sq.
13—Kt to K 4	13—Kt takes Kt
14—R takes Kt	14—Q to B 3 (e)
15—K R to K sq.	15—R takes ■
16—Q takes R	16—R to Q sq. (f)
17—B to Q 3	17—Kt to Kt 3
18—P to B 4	18—K to B sq. (g)
19—P to B 5	19—B to K 2
20—P to Q Kt 4	20—Q to Kt 2
21—P to Kt 5	21—B to B 3
22—B to ■ 3	22—P to K R 4
23—P to Q R 4	23—P to Kt 3 (h)
24—P to Q 6 (i)	24—B P takes P
25—P takes Q P	25—K to Kt sq. (j)
26—Q to Q 5	26—Kt to B sq. (k)
27—B to B 5	27—Kt to K 3 (l)
28—P to Q 7	28—K to R sq.
29—K to R sq. (m)	29—P to R 5
30—R takes Kt	30—P takes R
31—Q takes P (n)	31—Q to K 2
32—P to Q 5 (o)	Resigns.

(a) This is the defence of the King's Knight's Gambit, but inadequate in the Bishop's Gambit. 3..... Q to R 5 ch., followed, by P to Q 4, or *vice versa*, is the continuation.

(b) 4—P to K R 4 gives White an immediate advantage.

(c) 6—P to K 5 being threatened, he would have done better with 5..... P to Q 3.

(d) Better still 6—B takes P, keeping a good centre, or 6—Kt takes P. Black could then not capture the K P because of 7—Q to K 2. The text move gives Black a good chance of defending himself.

(e) Black's moves since note (d) have been the best at his disposal. Here, however, an alternative variation presents itself with 14..... P to K B 4; 15—R takes R, Q takes R; 16—R to K ■., Q to B 2, &c. It is, however, more than probable that Mr. Gwinner would have replied 15—R to K 6, giving up the exchange for a strong attack. The question now remains whether Black could have taken the rook. We believe he could, viz., 15..... Kt takes R; 16—P takes Kt, B to K 2, &c.

(f) We prefer here 16 ..... Q to Kt 3, with a view (if White does not exchange queens) of a counter-attack with P to Kt 5, &c.

(g) 18..... B to B sq. might be considered. The king is better placed at Kt sq.

(h) 23..... P to Kt 5 would have still threatened P to B 6, and would have had to be attended to by White.

(i) The initiation of a pretty final attack.

(j) This bears out note (g).

(k) He cannot play 26..... Q to B sq., because of 27—B takes Kt.

(l) In anticipation of 28—P to Q 7 and R to K 8.

(m) A subtle move in connection with the preceding one.

(n) Now the object of 29—K to R sq. is clear. Had the king been on Kt sq., Black could have now replied 31..... B takes P ch.

(o) Very pretty. If 32..... Q takes Q, then 33—P takes Q, and P to Q 7 cannot be stopped.

Lasker.

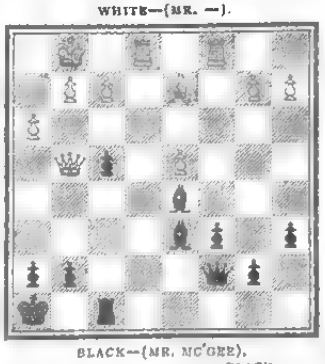
Lasker has written to a friend that he is much improved in health, but that he will remain at the St. Thomas Home, Lambeth, London, for some time. He has given up all ideas of playing another match with Steinitz, but will visit the United States again in case there should be an international tournament.

T. H. McGee.

We are glad to learn from a Toronto letter that the former Secretary of the Tokyo Chess Club (Mr. McGee) has not given up Chess; but is holding his own against the Canadian players. The following end-game records one of his exploits against a strong Toronto man:—

End-Game No. 20.

WHITE—(MR. —).



BLACK—(MR. MC'GEE).

WHITE.	BLACK.
	1—P to B ■
1—P to Kt 3	2—B × K Kt P
2—R to K 3	3—B ■ K B P ch.
3—K × ■	4—Q to R 7 ch.
4—K to ■ sq.	5—Q × B
5—Q R to K sq.	6—P to B 7
6—R to Q sq.	7—B to B 5 ch.
7—Resigns.	

Game No. 208.

Played by correspondence between Mr. F. J. Hingley, of Nottingham, and Mr. G. Thorp, Hull.

SCOTCH GAME.

WHITE. F. J. Hingley.	BLACK. G. Thorp.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—Kt to K B 3	2—Kt to Q B 3
3—P to Q 4	3—P takes P
4—Kt takes P	4—Q to R 5 (a)
5—B to K 2 (b)	5—B to B 4
6—P to Q B 3	6—Kt to B 3 (c)
7—Castles	7—Kt takes P
8—B to K 3	8—Kt takes Kt
9—B takes Kt	9—B to Q 3 (d)
10—P to K Kt 3	10—Q to R 3
11—B to Q 3	11—Kt to Kt 4
12—B to K 3	12—Q to B 3
13—Kt to Q 2	13—B to K 2
14—R to K sq.	14—P to Q 3
15—Q to R 5	15—Kt to K 3
16—Kt to K 4	16—Q to K 4
17—Kt to Kt 5	17—P to K Kt 3 (e)
18—Q to R 6	18—P to Q B 4 (f)
19—B to Kt 5 ch.	19—B to Q 2
20—Kt takes Kt	20—P takes Kt
21—B to Q 4 (g)	21—Q to R 4
22—Q to Kt 7	22—Castles
23—B takes B ch.	23—K takes B
24—B to B 6	24—K R to ■ sq.
25—R to K 4	25—P to Q 4
26—R to K R 4	26—Q to B 6
27—R takes P	Resigns.

NOTES.

(a) Mr. Steinitz used to consider this the best defence, but it is seldom played now.

(b) Blackburne, in his match with Steinitz, retreated the K Kt to B 3. Either this, or Kt to Kt 5, or Kt to Q B 3 is preferable to the move in the text.

(c) If 6..... B takes Kt; 7—P takes B, Q takes K P, White secures a good game by 8—P to Q 5.

(d) An ill-judged move. 9..... B to K 2 would be better, than if 10—B takes Kt P, R to K Kt sq. Black cannot play 9..... Castles on account of 10—B to B 3, &c.

(e) 17..... B takes Kt; 18—B takes B, Q to Q B 4 seems to yield a more defensible game.

(f) Quite useless, but it is difficult to see what he ought to do. If 18 ..... B takes Kt; 19—B takes B, Q to Q B 4; 20—Q to Kt 3, &c.; and if 18 ..... Q to Kt 3; 19—Kt takes Kt, Q takes Q; 20—Kt takes P ch., K to Q sq; 21—B takes Q.

(g) White's course is now clear, but the ending is interesting and instructive.

New York versus London.

The Manhattan Chess Club has issued a challenge to the British Chess Club for a team match, to be conducted on five boards at one sitting, the moves to be cabled by the Commercial Cable Company. This challenge has excited interest throughout England. Inquiries have reached the British Chess Club from all parts of Great Britain asking for details concerning the proposed

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contest, and the challenge will undoubtedly be accepted.

The rules and regulations, as proposed by the Manhattan Club, provide that only the active members of the two clubs, elected prior to July 1st, 1894, shall be eligible as contestants. It is the desire of many of the members of the British Chess Club to match the chess-players of England against the chess-players of the United States. The conditions, as cabled by the Associated Press, are acceptable to President Munes, who is busy discussing details with members of the club. By the time the written challenge from the Manhattan Chess Club arrives they will be ready with an answer.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[REUTER "SPECIAL" TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

London, January 14.

The French Cabinet has resigned, owing to the defeat of the Government in a debate initiated by the Socialists in connection with the question of State guarantees for railways.

London, January 15.

M. Casimir-Perier conferred all day with the leaders, but a semi-official note appeared in the evening which announces that he had resigned, the Republican parties having failed to protect him in their attacks upon the present régime.

["SPECIAL" TELEGRAM TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

Nagasaki, January 14, 4.45 p.m.

According to report, the *City of Rio de Janeiro* should have arrived here to day before this, but information has just been received that she is only delayed by rough weather.

January 14, 7.53 p.m.

The *City of Rio* has arrived here, and is safely anchored in this harbour.

Nagasaki, January 18.

The American schooner *Soonku* arrived at *Chemulpo on the 10th instant*, having on board twenty men rescued from the wreck of the steamer *Kosuge Maru*.

(FROM TONKIN PAPERS.)

Paris, December 17.

The ex-King of Naples, Francis II., is dead.

(FROM THE "SIAM OBSERVER.")

London, December 22.

The appointment to Lima of Captain Jones, late Minister at Bangkok, is now gazetted.

Colonel Shervinton, commanding the Hovas' army, and other British officers have landed in Madagascar. The French are patrolling the country round Tamatave.

(FROM MANILA PAPER.)

Madrid, December 28.

Mr. Cleveland, President of the United States, is about to impose special duties on imports from Spain and the Spanish colonies. It is probable that the new law will come into force on the 1st January. The reason is the difficulties thrown in the way of the importation of American flour into Cuba.

(FROM THE "N. C. DAILY NEWS.")

London, January 10.

A detachment of troops has surprised a considerable body of Waziris who yielded with but small resistance, losing three thousand head of cattle.

The growing destitution in Newfoundland is causing riots, and sailors are patrolling the streets of St. John's.

President Cleveland, in a message to Congress, recommends permitting Hawaii to lease to Great Britain a small island to be used as a station for the Canada-Australia cable.

(FROM JAPANESE PAPERS.)

Hiroshima, Jan. 17.

Mr. O'Shea, editor of the *China Gazette*, and war correspondent of the *New York Herald*, has arrived here.

The *Aikoku Maru* arrived here yesterday with three 37 c.m. guns and 1,000 cases of ammunition from Port Arthur.

A Shanghai telegram states that the Peking Government has enlisted 5,000 recruits at Tientsin for the protection of Changtz. They will be under the command of a Prince of the Imperial family. General Woo is staying at Shanhaikwan, and has command of 16,000 Kirin and Manchurian soldiers. More than half are in possession of repeating rifles. The road between Weihaiwei and Chefoo is strongly defended. New forts have been constructed both at the front and in the rear of Weihaiwei, where Seh and Ki's soldiers are encamped.

Shanghai, January 18.

The Chinese Envoys of Peace will not leave here this month.

A report from Newchwang states that some fifty thousand Chinese soldiers are stationed in the neighbourhood of that town, but are preparing to retreat and are concealing their repeating rifles.

Hiroshima, January 18.

The Chief Staff Officer of the Second Army telegraphed to Head-quarters on the 16th inst. to the effect that he had received a report from a staff officer at Kaiping, stating that a Chinese native has informed them that seven thousand men are at Yingkow, and that *more* soldiers have been stationed in the neighbourhood of Tienchwangtai.

Another telegram, dated the 17th instant, received by Head-quarters from the same source, states that the enemy withdrew from Rhtaiho *on the 16th instant*. Some natives say that the enemy's force consisted of 1,000 infantry and 100 cavalry, with 3 large guns. The retreat was along the Yingkow road. The Chinese soldiers encamped at Tangkwahotsz fled to Hamkwagakho on the 15th, and there are now no Chinese soldiers at Rhtaiho or Tangkwahotsz.

If the Chinese Envoys arrive in Japan in time, Mr. Foster will first be met at Kobe by the Japanese officials, and it is said among officials at the Head-quarters that the conferences with the Envoys will take place at Hiroshima.

Chinchow, January 17.

A military telegraph line was opened for public use from to-day.

Major-General Ibaraki, Chief of the Administrative Office at Chinchow, and Mr. Mitsuhashi, ex-Secretary of Kanagawa, arrived here to-day.

Shanghai, January 17.

Rumour says that the Japanese troops have arrived at a port situated at the southern part of Shantung.

Hiroshima, January 19.

No official report has yet been received as to the alleged damage to a Japanese war-vessel at Weihaiwei, and it is supposed that the statement is groundless.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From America	per P. M. Co.	Tuesday, Jan. 22nd.*
From Canada, &c.....	per C. P. R. Co.	Monday, Jan. 21st.†
From Europe, via Hongkong	per M. M. Co.	Tuesday, Jan. 22nd.‡
From America	per P. M. Co.	Sunday, Feb. 3rd.‡
From Europe, via Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd	Wed'day, Jan. 23rd.
From Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Sunday, Jan. 27th.
From Hongkong	per C. P. R. Co.	Thursday, Jan. 31st.
From America	per O. & O. Co.	Tuesday, Feb. 12th.

* *City of Peking* left San Francisco on January 3rd. † *Empress of India* left Vancouver on January 9th. ‡ *Melbourne* (with French mail) left Nagasaki on January 18th. § *China* left San Francisco via Honolulu on January 19th. The English mail is on board the steamer *Erato*.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Sunday, Jan. 20th.
For Hongkong	per C. P. R. Co.	Monday, Jan. 21st.
For Europe, via Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd	Friday, Jan. 25th.
For Europe, via Shanghai	per M. M. Co.	Saturday, Jan. 26th.
For America	per P. M. Co.	Saturday, Jan. 26th.
For Canada, &c.	per C. P. R. Co.	Friday, Feb. 1st.
For Victoria, B.C., & Tacoma, Wash.....	per N. P. Co.	Saturday, Feb. 2nd.
For America	per O. & O. Co.	Wed'day, Feb. 6th.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Sikh, British steamer, 2,735, J. Rowley, 12th January,—Hongkong via ports, 3rd January, Mails and General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Amaranth, British steamer, 1,735, Cliff, 12th January,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Murex, British tank-steamer, 2,460, S. J. G. Parsons, 13th January,—Batoum, Oil.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Verona, British steamer, 1,878, C. H. S. Tocque, 13th January,—Hongkong 4th, Nagasaki 9th, and Kobe 12th January, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Strathesk, British steamer, 1,454, Foulds, 14th January,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Telamon, British steamer, 1,555, Jackson, 14th January,—Liverpool via ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Hongay, British steamer, 860, Kynoch, 14th January,—Karatz, Coal.—Karatz Coal Mining Co.

Strathdon, British steamer, 1,720, Johnston, 14th January,—West Coast, Rice.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Waverley, British steamer, 1,685, Calvert, 15th January,—New York via ports, Oil and General.—Frazar & Co.

Anger Head, British steamer, 1,826, Motyer, 15th January,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Fuyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 875, Eden, 16th January,—Moji, Coal.—Mitsu Bishi Sha.

Monmouthshire, British steamer, 1,872, Evans, 16th January,—London via ports, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Tosa Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,200, J. B. MacMillan, 16th January,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Oceanic, British steamer, 3,808, W. M. Smith, 16th January,—Hongkong via ports, 9th January, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Else, German steamer, 747, Christiansen, 17th January,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Vedra, British steamer, 1,764, R. H. Prout, 17th January,—West Coast, Rice.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Breconshire, British steamer, 1,648, Simcock, 18th January,—London via ports, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Ashdown, British steamer, 1,893, Jas. Cowie, 18th January,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Seirio Maru, Japanese steamer, 483, 18th January,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

DEPARTURES.

Gaelic, British steamer, 2,690, W. G. Pearne, 12th January,—Hongkong via Nagasaki, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Glenshiel, British steamer, 2,240, R. D. Jones, 12th January,—New York via ports, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Sikh, British steamer, 2,735, J. Rowley, 13th January,—Tacoma, Wash., via Victoria, B.C., Mails and General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co

Afghan, British steamer, 1,439, R. Barton, 13th January, — Fiji, General. — Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Benlarig, British steamer, 1,452, E. Le Boutiller, 13th January,—Hongkong via ports, General.—Comes & Co.

Boynton, British steamer, 1,630, Irving, 14th January,—Otaru, Light.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Cam, British steamer, 1,630, Mathias, 14th January,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Liddesdale, British steamer, 1,716, A. Clarke, 14th January,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Amaranth, British steamer, 1,753, Cliff, 15th January,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Lawang, German steamer, 1,578, Formes, 16th January,—Hamburg via ports, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Cassius, German steamer, 1,830, Unruh, 16th January,—Otaru, Ballast.—Hokkaido Tanko Tetsudo Kaisha.

Strathdon, British steamer, 1,720, Johnston, 16th January,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Mascotte, British steamer, 2,017, Ross, 17th January,—Havre via ports, General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Anger Head, British steamer, 1,826, Motyer, 17th January,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Fuyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 875, Eden, 17th January,—Moji, Ballast.—Mitsu Bishi Sha.

Strathesk, British steamer, 1,454, Foulds, 17th January, — Otaru, Light. — Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Murex, British tank-steamer, 2,460, S. J. G. Parsons, 18th January,—Genoa via ports, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Oceanic, British steamer, 3,808, W. M. Smith, 18th January,—San Francisco, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Benedict, British steamer, 1,805, Hansey, 19th

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January,—Kobe, General,—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Else, German steamer, 747, Christiansen, 19th January,—Ogimohama and Hachinohe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per British steamer *Sikh*, from Hongkong viâ ports:—Mrs. Clark and 3 children, and Master Dithlefsen in cabin. In transit for the United States and Canada:—33 Chinese in steerage.

Per British steamer *Verona*, from Hongkong viâ ports:—Mr. A. Hastings, Mr. Jerome Dyer, Mr. F. Camperio, Mrs. Dodds, child, and governess, Mr. Harper, Mr. Vosberg, Mr. and Mrs. Hooper and native servant, Hon. W. C. Brown and native servant, Miss M. Jeffrey, Mr. A. Heath, Mr. Murray, Mr. Apear, and Mr. J. Dodds in cabin, and one Chinese in steerage.

Per British steamer *Oceanic*, from Hongkong viâ ports:—Messrs. L. L. Holden, Wm. B. Jones, E. Cruikshank, R. F. Lambe, Poy Lum, W. J. Waggott, A. L. Bennett, Jno. Peterson, and H. B. Connell in cabin. For San Francisco:—Commander Ashe, R.N., and Mrs. Laughlin and child in cabin.

DEPARTED.

Per British steamer *Gaelic*, for Hongkong viâ Nagasaki:—Messrs. B. C. Howard, F. Lowenadler, M. Hansen, R. P. Duncan, and Ralph Paget in cabin.

Per British steamer *Oceanic*, for San Francisco:—Commander Ashe, H.E. Don Luis del Castillo y Trigueros, Minister to Peru, and 2 servants, Lieut. F. Camperio, R.I.N., Mr. A. H. Heath, Mr. A. L. Bennett, Mrs. Rhodus and infant, Mr. L. L. Holden, Mr. W. B. Jones, Mrs. Laughlin and child, Mr. F. Toplitz, Mr. H. G. Vosberg, and Mr. G. Z. Akawo in cabin.

CARGOES.

Per British steamer *Sikh*, for Tacoma, Wash., viâ Victoria, B.C.:—

TEA.

	PACIFIC COAST.	NEW YORK.	CHICAGO.	CANADA.	OTHER CITIES.	TOTAL.
Hyogo	—	—	450	808	1,077	2,335
Yokohama	—	—	589	—	—	589
Hongkong	63	—	20	—	—	83
Amoy	—	3,174	—	—	—	3,174
Total	63	3,174	1,059	808	1,077	6,181

SILK.

	NEW YORK.	OTHER CITIES.	TOTAL.
Hongkong	120	—	120
Yokohama	346	—	346
Total	466	—	466

RATES.

Tea ..... 1½ cent. per lb. gross.
Silk ..... ⅝ cents per lb. gross.
Measurement ..... Gold $16 per ton.

Per British steamer *Oceanic*, for San Francisco:—

TEA.

	SAN FRANCISCO.	NEW YORK.	CHICAGO.	MONTREAL.	OTHER CITIES.	TOTAL.
Shanghai	—	—	260	—	—	260
Yokohama	1,210	—	—	—	—	1,210
Hongkong	63	—	—	—	—	63
Total	1,273	—	260	—	—	1,533

SILK.

	SAN FRANCISCO.	NEW YORK.	HARTFORD.	TOTAL.
Shanghai	5	260	—	265
Hongkong	—	270	—	270
Yokohama	—	645	—	645
Total	5	1,175	—	1,180

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

Better feeling generally, although Grey Yarns remain dull. Shirtings improving; with sales both "spot" and "forward." T.-Reds selling freely at an advance; with small doings in other Fancy Cottons. Woollens remain dead, and there is nothing doing beyond a few small sales of cheap Italians.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirtings—8½ lb., 38½ yds. 39 inches	$2.25 to 2.90
Grey Shirtings—9lb., 38½ yds. 45 inches	2.50 to 3.25
T. Cloth—7lb., 24 yards, 32 inches	1.60 to 1.90
Indigo Shirtings—12 yards, 44 inches	1.70 to 2.35
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches	2.00 to 3.75
Cotton—Italians and Satteens Black, 32 inches	PER YARD. 0.16 to 0.21
	PER PIECE.
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	7.25 to 9.50
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-5 inches	0.85 to 1.00
Turkey Reds—2.0 to 2.4lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.65 to 1.75
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3.2lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	2.30 to 2.60
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.30 to 2.60
Turkey Reds—4.8 to 5lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.80 to 3.10

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.
Flannel	$0.30 to 0.50
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches best	0.32½ to 0.37½
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Medium	0.27½ to 0.30
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Common	0.20 to 0.25
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yards, 32 inches	0.15 to 0.22½
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches	0.35 to 0.50
Cloths—Presidents, 54 @ 56 inches	0.60 to 0.65
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0.40 to 0.70
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 5lb. per lb.	0.60 to 0.70

COTTON YARNS.

	PER PICUL.
Nos. 16/24, Ordinary	—
Nos. 16/24, Medium	$34.50 to 35.00
Nos. 16/24, Good to Best	35.50 to 36.00
Nos. 16/24, Reverse	—
Nos. 28/32, Ordinary	—
Nos. 28/32, Medium	36.00 to 36.50
Nos. 28/32, Good to Best	37.00 to 37.50
Nos. 38/42, Medium to Best	42.00 to 43.00
No. 32s, Two-fold	39.00 to 40.00
No. 42s, Two-fold	43.00 to 46.00
	PER BALE.
No. 20s, Bombay	—
No. 16s, Bombay	—

METALS.

Some demand for Iron, Bars especially being booked for early arrival. Other things quiet, including Wire Nails, and Tin Plates have again declined in price.

	PER PICUL.
Flat Bars, ½ inch	$3.60 to 3.70
Flat Bars, ¾ inch	3.70 to 3.80
Round and square up to ¾ inch	3.80 to 3.80
Iron Plates, assorted	3.70 to 3.85
Sheet Iron	4.90 to 5.10
Galvanized Iron sheets	9.00 to 9.25
Wire Nails, assorted	5.75 to 6.00
Tin Plates, per box	6.25 to 6.50
Pig Iron, No. 3	1.70 to 1.72½

KEROSENE.

Moderate business in American Oil and prices all round tend in favour of sellers. Stock is increased again, being now about 600,000 cases (say 500,000 American and 100,000 Russian). This increase is caused by the arrival of steamer *Murex* from Batoum, and steamer *Waverley* from New York. Not much done in Russian Oil, but holders are strong at quotations.

Chester	$1.80 to 1.82½
Comet	1.77½ to 1.80
Devne'	—
Russian Anchor	1.77½ to 1.80
Russian Moon	1.75 to 1.77½

SUGAR.

Brown—Sales about 9,000 piculs; and, with trifling arrivals, stock is reduced. Prices unchanged, fresh supplies expected shortly. White—Quiet market with no change in quotations.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Takao	$4.20 to 4.30
Brown Manila	4.80 to 4.90
Brown Daitong (New)	3.45 to 3.50
Brown Canton	3.70 to 4.25
White Java and Penang	6.60 to 6.70
White Refined	6.50 to 9.00

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Another extensive movement this week, principally for Europe, and all prices are advanced. Stock is down to 9,000 piculs, and holders begin to think there is no end to their good luck. Quotations are more or less nominal, for sellers are trying to push a further advance.

QUOTATIONS.—(NEW SILK.)

Hanks—No. 1	—
Hanks—No. 2 (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 2 (Joshu)	—
Hanks—No. 2½ (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 2½ (Joshu)	—
Hanks—No. 2½ to 3	—
Hanks—No. 3	—
Hanks—No. 3½	—
Filatures—Extra 10/12 deniers	$900 to 920
Filatures—Extra 13/15 deniers	Nom.
Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers	860 to 880
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den	830 to 840
Filatures—No. 1½, 10/14 deniers	830 to 840
Filatures—No. 1½, 13/16, 14/17 den	800 to 810
Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers	780 to 810
Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	770 to 780
Filatures—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	—
Re-reels—Extra	—
Re-reels—(Oshu) Best No. 1	810 to 840
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 deniers	780 to 790
Re-reels—No. 1½, 13/16, 14/17 deniers	740 to 760
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	720 to 730
Re-reels—No. 2½, 14/18 deniers	700 to 710
Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	—
Kakedas—Extra	800 to 810
Kakedas—No. 1	780 to 790
Kakedas—No. 1½	740 to 750
Kakedas—No. 2	—
Kakedas—No. 2½	—
Kakedas—No. 3	—
Kakedas—No. 3½	—
Kakedas—No. 4	—
Oshu Sendai—No. 2½	—
Hamatsuki—No. 1, 2	—
Hamatsuki—No. 3, 4	—
Sodai—No. 2½	—

WASTE SILK.

Small dragging trade. Dealers want more money in sympathy with the Raw Silk market, but holders cannot pay an advance and the business languishes accordingly. Pierced Cocoons finished.

QUOTATIONS.—(NEW WASTE.)

Pierced Cocoons—Good to Best	—
Noshi-ito—Filature, Best	$130 to 135
Noshi-ito—Filature, Good	120 to 125
Noshi-ito—Filature, Medium	110 to 115
Noshi-ito—Oshu, Good to Best	120 to 130
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Best	—
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Good	80 to 90
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Medium	—
Noshi-ito—Bushu, Good to Best	100 to 115
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Best	—
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Good	70 to 75
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Ordinary	60 to 65
Kibiso—Filature, Best selected	100 to 110
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds	90 to 95
Kibiso—Oshu, Good to Best	—
Kibiso—Shinshu, Best	—
Kibiso—Shinshu, Seconds	—
Kibiso—Joshu, Good to Fair	30 to 27½
Kibiso—Joshu, Middlings to Common	25 to 22½
Kibiso—Hachoji, Good to Fair	25 to 23
Kibiso—Hachoji, Medium to Low	22 to 20
Kibiso—Neri, Good to Common	12 to 8
Mawata—Good to Best	150 to 200

TEA.

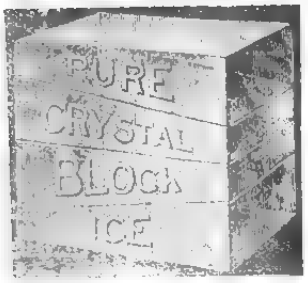
Nothing doing. Quotations withdrawn. For the few parcels remaining holders ask fancy prices.

EXCHANGE.

There is no tendency to rise in rates of exchange.

Sterling—Bank T.T.	1/11½
— — Bills on demand	1/11½
— — 4 months' sight	1/11½
— Private 4 months' sight	1/11½
— — 6 months' sight	2/0
On Paris—Bank sight	2.44
On Lyons—Private 4 months' sight	2.51
On Hongkong—Bank sight	1⅛% p.
— Private 10 days' sight	Par.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	72
— Private 10 days' sight	73
On India—Bank sight	185½
— Private 30 days' sight	188
On America—Bank Bills on demand	47
— Private 30 days' sight	48½
— — 4 months' sight	49½
On Germany—Bank sight	1.97
— Private 4 months' sight	2.04
Bar Silver (London)	27 7/16

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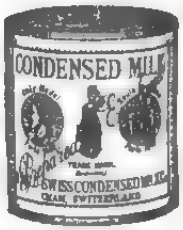
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The Japan Weekly Mail.

A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

No. 4.] REGISTERED AT THE G.P.O. AS A NEWSPAPER. YOKOHAMA, JANUARY 26TH, 1895. 明治二十五年五月三十日 Vol. XXII.

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

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YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, JAN. 26TH, 1895.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

BIRTH.

On January 19th, at 16, Hirakawa-cho, Go-chome, Tokyo, the wife of YRENO DUER of a daughter.

DEATH.

On the 3rd December, in London, E. J. GEOGHEGAN, formerly of Yokohama, aged 59 years.

PRINCE ARISUGAWA TARUHITO has passed away.

THE Peers have rejected the Bill annulling the Peace Regulations.

THE Third National Bank declares a dividend of 11 per cent. per annum.

THE cost of reconstructing Osaka harbour is estimated at ten million *yen*.

THE total number of Chinese residents in Yokohama at present is 2,325, living in 239 houses.

THE *City of Rio de Janeiro*, recently ashore on the Coast of Satsuma, has gone to Hongkong to be repaired.

THERE are now 116,698 Japanese and Chinese works in the Tokyo Library, in addition to 30,434 foreign works.

THE House of Representatives have passed the Budget with only a reduction of *yen* 100,000 from the Government's estimates.

A BALL under Masonic auspices will be given in the Public Hall, Yokohama, on Friday evening, February 22nd.

SEVEN hundred and thirty-nine houses were destroyed by fire in Tokyo last year, of which 335 were in the rural divisions.

A FATAL snow-slide took place at Kanzaki-mura, Sekitan-gun, Hokkaido, the other day by which six persons were killed.

A SHAMAN named Putenas has been committed for trial in H.B.M. Court for stabbing an officer on the steamship *Waverley* with a knife.

THE 3rd Japanese Expeditionary Corps landed safely at Yungchang, on the Shantung promontory, on the 20th, 21st, and 22nd.

SOME 992 Hokkaido ponies to be sent to the Fourth Army Division in Osaka are expected to reach Kobe on the 1st and 2nd prox.

MESSRS. LANGFELDT and Company have declared a dividend of 25 per cent., for the past half year, and distributed $2,000 among their employés as a bonus.

SASAKI SHOTARO, a resident at Shiba, Tokyo, was sentenced by the Tokyo Local Court on the 18th inst. to ten years' hard labour for having forged some paper currency.

AT the annual general meeting of the Nippon Race Club, Messrs. Till, Thomas, Mitchell, Philip, and Knaff were elected on the Committee. The Club has a balance in hand of $3,482.42.

THE net profits of the Tokyo Godown Co. during the past half-year amounted to *yen* 19,208, of which *yen* 6,000 was declared as a dividend at the rate of 12 per cent. per annum.

THE Grand Stand at Uyeno, Tokyo, falling in the route of a new road chosen by the Tokyo City Improvement Committee, the buildings will be offered for sale by public auction on the 1st prox.

SOME influential Peers who are in favour of removing the Nobles' School for Boys to Kamakura from its present site in Tokyo, for hygenic reasons, propose consulting with other nobles upon the question.

THE net profits of the Tokyo Rice Exchange during the past half-year were *yen* 36,143.715, of which *yen* 21,000.000 was distributed among shareholders as a dividened at the rate of 42 cent. per annum.

MASUDA HIME, aged 31, of Omokata-mura, Minami-tama District, Tokyo, was sentenced in the Yokohema Chiho Saibasho on the 21st inst. to fifteen years hard labour on a charge of incendiarism.

MR. FOSTER, the foreign adviser to the Chinese Envoy of Peace, arrived from Vancouver on Monday. He passed straight through to Kobe, where he is awaiting the arrival of the Envoy Chang.

A HOUSE on the Bluff, Yokohama, two sheds at Nakamura, four houses in Japanese town, six houses in Honmura Road, and a kitchen at No. 166, Foreign Settlement, were destroyed by fire during the week.

THE business of the Yokohama Fish Oil Co. during the second half of last year was very unfavourable, owing partly to the rise in freights caused through the lack of steamers and partly to the poor supply of materials from Hokkaido. No dividend will be paid this half year.

DURING a severe storm on the 11th inst. a fishing boat was upset off Kawasaki-mura, Nishi-kubiki-gun, Niigata Prefecture, and a man was drowned. Another vessel was capsized at the same place the following day, but the crew were reacued.

AN official report concerning the damage done in Yokohama by the big earthquake on the night of the 18th inst. is as follows:—Native Town: 2 women injured; 1 brick house, 8 godowns, 20 houses, and 3 fences damaged; Foreign Settlement: one man killed, one man injured, 36 brick houses, 11 godowns, 9 houses, 9 fences, and 4 chimnies damaged. No damage was done in the rural divisions of Kanagawa Prefecture.

THE *City of Peking*, while on her way to Yokohama on the 20th instant, overhauled a Japanese fishing boat, about 250 miles from Yokohama. The storm which drove the boat out had abated when the vessels met, but the crew of the Japanese boat, numbering 8 in all, were suffering through want of provisions. Captain Ward offered to bring them to Yokohama, but the Japanese declined. Sufficient provisions were then given to the fishermen to enable them to reach their native place in Boshu.

REUTER telegraphs:—M. Felix Faure has been elected President of the French Republic, in the place of M. Casimir-Perier resigned. The Socialists are fiercely protesting against the result, but Paris is tranquil. A manifesto has been issued by the Duke of Orleans which states that the Republic is merely provisional, and when the country calls upon him he is ready to fulfill his task. The newspapers state that the United States Minister at Tokyo, acting under instructions from Mr. Gresham, the Secretary of State at Washington, has officially notified the Japanese Government that Mr. Foster's assistance to the Chinese envoys is entirely a matter of private arrangement with which the United States Government has no connection. The Bourgeois members in the French House of Representatives have made repeated attempts to form a Coalition Cabinet. The Italian Chamber has been closed and a dissolution is believed to be imminent. Fred Barrett, the jockey, is dead. Lord Randolph Churchill has succumbed to his malady.

THE Import trade continues in about the same condition as last reported, and if there is not a great deal doing at the moment, the outlook is said to be good. Exchange no doubt is a great a great drawback to transactions, holders being compelled to maintain values under present circumstances. Textiles in common with other commodities suffer through the condition of silver, and dealings in these are light. Inquiries are made for various descriptions of Iron, but actual transactions in Metals generally are small. There has not been much done in Kerosene, though the clearance of old contracts goes on well. There are buyers of Sugars, but holders decline the offers made, though it is said that short supplies in the interior will force transactions presently. The recent large deals in Silk have been followed by a period of quiet, and the settlements of the week have been small. Good parcels, however, are firmly held. Nothing to report in Waste Silk, though holders would like to move off some of the heavy lots on offer. Exchange (Sep.) are still very low. The hardening of silver early in the week kept rates firm, but since then a decline has set in, and rates close weak.

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THE SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS DURING THE WEEK.

The death of H.I.H. Marshal Prince Arisugawa Taruhito is referred to by the Metropolitan journals, without a single exception, in terms of the most profound grief. His life is reviewed and his death-bed described with all the accuracy possible under the circumstances. Several newspapers give a picture of the Prince in full military uniform. There is no mistaking the genuine character of the nation's mourning.

* * *

During the week, two of our Tokyo contemporaries have made themselves conspicuous, one by piling reason upon reason to establish the advisability of depriving the Government of the power of suspending newspapers and magazines; the other by adducing argument after argument in support of its own views with respect to the National Banks' problem. Needless to say the former is the *Nippon*, which, some time ago, used to be suspended so often and for such long periods that everybody familiar with Japanese journalism associates that paper with a conspicuous exercise of the power now impugned. The latter is the *Choya Shimbun*, which writes with equal vehemence and insistence in favour of extending the Banks' charters. Readers with scanty knowledge of Japanese politics and journalism will easily trace the *Choya's* connection if they glance at the proceedings of the Lower House in the present session and the utterances of the National Unionist Members upon the Bank question. The details of our contemporary's argument being probably of great interest to some of our readers, will be reproduced in a subsequent issue elsewhere.

* * *

The vernacular dailies, except the *Nippon* and the *Choyd*, have each devoted one or more leading articles to the Chinese Peace Embassy and the Hon. J. W. Foster. The *Jiyu* heads one of its leaders "Mr. Foster, Adviser to the Chinese Peace Mission," and, after giving a sketch of the former American Secretary's life by way of showing him to the Japanese public in quite a different light from Mr. Detring, proceeds to write as follows:—"Were the Chinese peace mission, now alleged to be *en route* for the Court of Japan, entirely of Chinese nationality, one might not unreasonably connect it with some sinister design on the part of the Pekin Government. But the fact that so exalted and learned a personage as Mr. Foster accompanies it, suffices to satisfy any enlightened and impartial observer as to the sincerity of China's desire to sue for peace. The distinguished American knows both Japan and China and their people from previous personal observation, and it cannot be conceived that he is in any manner imposed upon by the Chinese Authorities about the present situation. China, as a defeated State, having no right to propose any peace conditions, her Envoy must either accept or reject the terms placed before him by the Japanese High Commisioners. Mr. Foster is believed to have said in Yokohama that he intended to sail home to America by about the 1st of March. We do not know whether the negotiations will be concluded before that date. But in case Chang, the Chinese Ambassador dallies with the decision that Japan and the crisis demand, the American statesman will thoroughly acquit himself of his mission and preserve his honour unimparied by returning home in conformity with his professed intention." The *Niroku* advises politicians of the *soshi* type not to trouble the Authorities, at this important juncture, by presenting, either in the shape of memorials or demonstrations, peace conditions at once impractical and commensurate with nothing but their own irresponsible ambition. The same journal writes in another article that a rumour to the effect that the Government intends to appoint Count Ito, Viscount Mutsu, and Lieutenant-General Kawakami as Commissioners to meet the Chinese mission, is trustworthy. The ripe experience and ample erudition of the Premier, the excellent sagacity and quick wit of the Foreign Minister, and the broad views and stout heart of the Vice-Chief of the General Staff, will worthily represent their country. Our contemporary entertains no doubt of these personages' ability to carry on the negotiations so as to promote the best interests of Japan. From the point of view of the standing of the Chinese Envoys, the Tokyo paper says it would be sufficient did Japan appoint men like Messrs. Ito Miyoji, Hara Kei, and Kodama Gentaro to meet them as negotiators. Alluding to the rumour that H.I.H. Prince Kung has been appointed to the Court of Japan as China's Plenipotentiary Envoy, the *Kokumin* declares that China has at last shown herself serious in her desire for peace. She plays a mere farce, roughly asserts the independent paper, when she sends such men as Chang, essentially a second-rate or third-rate statesman, on so important a mission. Taking it for granted that Mr. Foster's great aim will be to ensure a lasting peace in the East, the *Yomiuri* advises him to make an extended tour of inspection both in Japan and China, before he undertakes the duty of advising the Chinese mission. The Progressionist organ assures him that he will have ample leisure for the tour it recommends, to such length does it expect that the dallying of the Envoys in Shanghai will be carried. The same joined repeats, in more impassioned words than ever, its already often declared opinion that no peace terms should be concluded until the gates of Pekin are in the hands of the Japanese forces.

* * *

Now that Japan has risen, writes the *Jiji*, to the place of a Power valuable as an ally and formidable as a foe, she may be invited by some European Power or Powers to enter into a secret alliance in connection with the politics of the Far East. But it would not be in her best interests to form any such alliance. Her wisest policy for the present is not to make any State her secret enemy or special friend, but to dexterously take advantage of the balance of power to promote her own interests. Both on the Continent of Asia and in the South-sea islands, there are valuable hidden treasures in abundance waiting to be exploited by Japanese enterprise. In the search for these gems, there is something to be feared from foreign intervention, which, however, may not be very difficult to avert by diplomatic means. Great days for Japanese diplomatists are indeed close at hand. The influence of the Irish Home-Rule partisans, who, though numbering only 70 or 80, in the the British House of Commons, wield to the advantage, the balance between the numerous Liberals and Conservatives, is a mirror in which Japanese statesmen ought to see clearly reflected the possibility of reaping for their country good fruits by remaining outside the European hierarchy of ambitious States.

* * *

The *Jiji* again publishes a strong protest against a foreign loan, which, we are told is now talked about with renewed favour among some Japanese financiers of respectable standing. The *Nichi Nichi* adopts a somewhat peculiar tone; it protests again the Lower House's altered attitude toward the Government. It also takes the Cabinet Ministers to task for their obvious readiness to avoid, even at the expense of their dignity, any serious collision with the Diet during the present session.

* * *

The *Shogyo Shimpo* has a leader entitled "The Past and the Future of the Japanese Money Market," the gist of which is as follows:—In 1895, the rise of new industries increased the demand for capital and led to a consequent rise of interest, from January onward. In June the rate of interest showed an increase of 3 *sen* per cent. as compared with the previous year. Here follows a table showing the rates of interest charged by the Tokyo Union Banks from January to June inclusive in 1893 and 1894:—

		max.	min.	aver.
January	1894	9.36%	7.77%	8.47%
	1893	9.09	7.74	8.22
February	1894	9.42	7.92	8.56
	1893	8.35	7.40	7.92
March	1894	9.34	7.95	8.68
	1893	8.52	6.74	7.39
April	1894	9.50	8.22	8.74
	1893	8.18	6.68	7.35
May	1894	9.51	8.14	8.75
	1893	7.49	6.20	6.80
June	1894	9.76	8.43	9.18
	1893	6.97	5.65	6.20

Advancing by such strides the rise of interest, even supposing that the war had not occurred, might have produced a panic on a small scale, had it not been for wise preventative measures taken by the Nippon Ginko. The following are the rates demanded by the Bank of Japan:—

		Rates of Interest. Max. per cent.	Rates of Interest. Min. per cent.	Rates of Discount. Max. sen.	Rates of Discount. Min. sen.
Jan.	1894	6.48	6.12	1.90	1.70
	1893	5.94	5.94	1.60	1.60
Feb.	1894	6.84	6.48	1.90	1.80
	1893	5.94	5.94	1.60	1.60
Mar.	1894	6.84	6.84	1.90	1.90
	1893	5.94	5.94	1.60	1.40
April	1894	6.84	6.84	1.90	1.90
	1893	5.40	5.46	1.40	1.40
May	1894	6.84	6.84	1.90	1.90
	1893	5.40	4.68	1.40	1.30
June	1894	7.20	6.84	2.00	1.90
	1893	5.40	4.68	1.40	1.30

The commencement of hostilities with China in July and consequent apprehensions and changes in the financial sphere, notably the raising of Government Loans, changed the rates demanded by the Union Banks during the latter half of last year, as shown in the following table:—

		Max.	Min.	Aver.
January	1894	10.32%	8.90%	9.71%
	1893	7.25	5.79	6.40
February	1894	10.76	9.23	10.03
	1893	7.42	5.67	6.40
March	1894	10.51	9.34	10.03
	1893	7.36	6.53	6.92
April	1894	10.62	9.18	9.87
	1893	8.49	6.55	7.22
May	1894	10.47	9.29	9.93
	1893	8.10	6.86	7.42
June	1894	10.82	9.20	9.91
	1893	9.99	7.63	8.86

Comparing these rates with those before the war, the difference is only 0.75 %. The Nippon Ginko raised its rate of interest from 7.20 % to 7.92 %, and its rate of discount from 2 *sen* to 2.1 *sen* in the latter part of July, and has not since changed them. Much credit is due to the Bank for behaving thus in time of war. The *Shogyo Shimpo* then proceeds to compare the amount of money in the Japanese market at the end of 1893 with that at the close of last year. The figures for the months of November and December respectively are 163,240,022 and 174,191,910 *yen* (1894), and 157,298,233 and 162,308,542 *yen* (1893). Our contemporary has not yet finished its elaborate article.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

SOME HUMOURS OF THE EARTHQUAKE.

DESPITE the fact that the great earthquake of Friday evening last carried with it loss and sorrow to not a few homes and hearts, it was not without its humourous aspects. Doubtless a great many residents were nervously unstrung by the severity of the shocks and, for the time being, irresponsible agents. Some people, men and women, act on such occasions in a manner that can but cause a laugh on sober reflection. In Sambancho, Tokyo, one woman ran absolutely naked out of a bath-house and in this condition raced for some distance through the dark and ice-cold streets. Another gentleman, living in the heart of the metropolis in a two-storied brick building, was aroused from his first sleep by the earthquake. The next thing that he knew he was astride the high brick wall that surrounds his premises, in nothing but his thin night-dress. In his sober senses he would never have dreamed of climbing

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the wall, but the suddenness of the awakening and his mental perturbation had lent him unusual agility. A student narrates that a comrade in an adjoining bedroom, despairing of being able to find a safe refuge, piled all the bed-clothes, *futon*, quilts and all the rest, on his head, and while in this metamorphosis began to recite aloud, albeit in necessarily muffled tones, the Buddhist invocative prayer, *Namu horeng-kyo!* A number of people residing in the vicinity of the Yasukuni Shrine, rushed wildly into the little park, in more or less scanty attire, while some of the more energetic made frantic efforts to climb into the trees. One foreigner in an adjoining street carefully blew out his lamp as the shock grew severer, thus leaving himself in total darkness. The shaking continuing, he proceeded to walk towards the entrance-hall, stumbling over and entangling himself in a chair. Opening the front door he went out into the garden, making a mental note the while of a strange difficulty that he experienced in walking and attributing this fact to the many phenomena attendant upon earthquakes in general. When lights were brought, the gentleman found that one of his legs was caught between the rungs of the back of a chair, which he had unconsciously and in this manner dragged along with him into the garden. His action may with justice be considered phenomenal.

THE PHYSIQUE OF THE KOREANS.

THE Koreans are a splendid people so far as outward appearance goes, so much so that lately the Japanese have been unfavourably contrasted with them. That, however, according to the *Jiji's* Sōul correspondent, is a mistake. He says that with the view of organizing a trained corps one of the surgeons in the Japanese garrison in Sōul made a careful examination of the bodies of several hundred Koreans. The first thing that struck him was their uncleanliness, as the Koreans are not fond of washing. He then noticed the defective development of the chest and upper part of the body. When dressed, they wear wadded clothes round their chests, thus making their outward appearance splendid, but when stripped the deformity is at once discovered. The chest development is far below that of the ordinary Japanese, and the same may be said of the shoulders. The muscles of their arms are also remarkably weak. The lower parts of the body are better formed, though their legs are not quite straight, in which respect they resemble the Japanese. This physical defect in the people of this country is generally attributed to their habit of squatting on the ground, but as the Koreans do not squat the popular verdict is apparently incorrect. It is doubtful whether Koreans stripped of their stuffed stockings and head-gear are really taller as a nation than the Japanese. The teeth of the men examined were excellent, not one being decayed. They were also much freer from a certain class of diseases than Japanese soldiers.

ARREST OF NOTABLE BURGLARS.

TOWARDS the last days of December, the police of Saitama managed to arrest the whole seven members of a company of most daring robbers and murderers that had for many months embittered the existence of a large number of Saitama residents. The story of the misdeeds of these criminals is long and given in detail in the columns of the vernacular press: we note only the most interesting points. In February of last year two clerks, honest, hard-working men, employed by a very wealthy merchant in the prefecture in question, unfortunately accepted an invitation to dine with five men who had the reputation of being loose characters and confirmed gamblers. During the course of the meal their hosts revealed their true characters, and said that they really lived by robbery and burglary. The two clerks were, on pain of death, forced to become members of the band, and that night were made to take part in a burglarious raid. This seems to have completely changed their natures, for from that time forward they were the most daring of the lot. Owing to their exceptional skill and the effectual manner in which they managed to conceal their stolen goods, the robbers eluded all pursuit, until finally in November one of the band was arrested and convicted of having murdered an old man. He was pressed to betray his comrades, but positively refused to do that, knowing that the death-penalty awaited him in any case. At last the theft of some articles of clothing was traced home to the two youngest members, who were still ostensibly serving as clerks in the home of their employer. Upon being intimidated, these men made a clean breast of the whole matter, which led to the arrest of the entire band on the 29th ultimo. Subsequent investigations showed that at least six murders had been committed by the desperadoes; one hundred and twenty-eight houses broken into and robbed of eight hundred and fifty articles of various kinds, excluding clothing and money. Of valuable clothing alone three hundred pieces are known to have been stolen by them. In the house of the leader was found a great quantity of booty, including forty-nine swords, hidden between the ceiling and roof-tree, and thirty other lethal weapons, mostly swords and dirks, buried in different places in the adjoining garden. The depredations of the band had covered a district over six hundred miles square, and in this territory there was hardly a village that had not been plundered by them. The public is certainly to be congratulated on the arrest of such desperate and daring criminals.

FORCED MARCHES.

WE learn from the vernacular press that the Cavalry of the Imperial Body-guard has accomplished in a satisfactory manner an extraordinary forced march, which was undertaken in order to train the horses and men to great endurance and to test their strength. They covered in 22 hours a distance of 70 miles, both horses and men being in full fighting trim. Great apprehension was entertained as to the capacity of the horses to endure such a strain, especially as they were of different breeds and many of them, having been recently requisitioned, were not well trained. The Commander of the Corps therefore provided the officers and men with money for use in case of accident, but told them, at the same time, that if the disablement of any horse was attributable to the negligence of the rider, the latter would be regarded in the same light ■ if he had been taken prisoner by the enemy. Early on the morning of the 14th ult. the battalion, consisting of 159 troopers, set out for Yukinoshita, which is near Kamakura and is about 14 *ri* or 35 miles from the Barracks. In 22 hours from the time of starting they were back again at their quarters. Not one of the horses was disabled on the road. When the 159 horses were examined next day only 8 were found to be slightly injured, all of which were cured in a few days. The First Regiment of the Infantry of the Guards has also been indulging in similar exercise. It started from the Takebashi Barracks on the 13th instant, reaching Kawagoye—about 25 miles distant, if we remember rightly—on the same day; on the 14th it went to Hachioji, and on the third day covered in 7 hours the distance of about 38 miles back to Tokyo. Though the soldiers were much tired by this unusual exertion and arrived home with blistered feet, not a word of complaint was heard, all arriving at the Barracks in high spirits. Orders have not yet been received from Head-quarters for the Guards to proceed to the seat of war, and the officers and men are consequently burning with impatience. It is evident that when they are sent over to China the fame won by the Body-guard during the Satsuma Civil War will be fully justified. The Satsuma rebels were far better fighters than are the Chinese and yet the Guards struck terror into their hearts.

THE "MAINICHI" AND BISHOP WILLIAMS.

IN the latter part of the Tokugawa Regency, says the *Mainichi*, when an anti-foreign spirit prevailed in the country, all foreigners who came to Japan were actuated by the spirit of self-sac- [illegible] Drs. Hepburn, Brown, and Verbeck [illegible] Bishop Williams [illegible] of the all such men, and the benefit conferred by them on this country cannot be over-estimated. Bishop Williams is also one of the pioneers. He came here thirty-seven years ago and has spent more than half of his life in Tsukiji educating Japanese youths, superintending the work of both foreign and native pastors, and devoting himself with indefatigable zeal to good and beneficial deeds. All this is done, however, in such an unobtrusive way that few of the general public and not even all of those in the Christian circle are cognisant of his good works. The year before last he went home for the first time since his arrival here, and returned to the seat of his labours last year. He is a man of wide erudition, but his greatest pleasure seems to be to mix with boys and share their amusements. The Sanichi Kyokai in Tsukiji, the most beautiful church in Tokyo, and Sanichi School, that stands opposite, also a fine building, were both built at the Bishop's expense. He lives in two rooms in the dormitory of the School which are entirely without decoration. When the Bishop intended to re-visit America the year before last he did not tell anyone of his departure, not wishing to trouble his friends, and his return to Japan was made in the same quiet way. According to the present Treaty an American is only allowed to travel in the interior of Japan for purposes of scientific investigation or for recruiting his health. It is said that although many foreign missionaries go into the interior ostensibly on one or the other of the above pretexts, but really for the purpose of missionary work, the Bishop never goes except when his health requires it.

ARREST OF A SNEAK THIEF.

A YOUNG man named Yoshikawa Kanenojo, 23 years of age, was arrested at 3 a.m. on Friday by Detective Nakajima in the Yoshiwara. Complaints had been received by the police of thefts of overcoats and *haori* from the ante-rooms of foreign firms while Japanese merchants or their employés were engaged in transacting business. Descriptions of the stolen articles having been supplied, the police visited a number of pawnshops where some of the missing articles were found. Yoshikawa, as usual with criminals of his class, was very lavish with his money, and this attracting attention, he was watched; the fine clothes he wore also attracted attention. Unfortunately for him, on Friday night he wore a coat with a sample of cloth of which the police had been supplied, and he was arrested early in the morning. The thief is said to have gone to various foreign offices, and, being taken for a *kanto*, was unquestioned. He invariably left the ante-rooms with more or less plunder.

AN AMAKUNI BLADE.

THE earliest known specimens of Japanese swords are those classed under the name of Amakuni. According to a metropolitan contemporary, they date from at least two thousand years ago, and for that reason the number that still exist and are unquestionably genuine can be counted on one's fingers. An excellently preserved specimen was recently brought to light, says the *Miyako Shimbun*. In Tenjin-cho, Hongo district, Tokyo, their lives a vermicelli-dealer (*soba-ya*), named Osada. His ancestors had for centuries plied the trade of sword-sharpeners, in which he also was reared. After the fall of the Shogunate and the consequent disuse of the national weapon, Osada started in his present business, in which he has done well. Among the few heirlooms left him is one authentic Amakuni, in a state of perfect preservation. The weapon is about one foot eleven inches in length (English measure) and still bears tokens of exceptional skill on the part of the forger, who, if we are to credit all accounts, must have flourished about the time of Julius Caesar's first expedition against the British Isles. Deeming this a far too precious relic to keep in his own possession, Osada recently dedicated it to the shrine of Tenjin, in the same urban district, in whose *hozo*, or treasure-room, it is now kept. Tenjin is the popular name for

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noblest and most pathetic figures of Japanese history. Tenjin, or Temmangu, ■■ he is now variously called, is worshipped as the god of literature. One other Amakuni is preserved at the Tenjin-shrine at Kameido.

COUNT OKUMA INTERVIEWED.

A REPRESENTATIVE of the *Kokumin* called the other day on the "Oracle of Waseda," and interviewed him as to his opinion about the war. The Count spoke first about the fighting capacity of the Japanese soldiers, observing that he considered them far above the level of Western combatants. He was especially pleased to find how well the Japanese stood a winter campaign. Dr. Baelz, who had accompanied the Prussian soldiers in the capacity of surgeon when they went to France in 1871, told him that though the temperature of France is far milder than that of Manchuria, the German soldiers suffered so much from the cold when the winter set in as to disqualify about a third for fighting. The eminent physician is said to have expressed to the Count his great astonishment at the power of endurance of the Japanese soldiers, only a very small number being reported as having suffered in any degree from frost-bite. The Count then went on to observe how the present war has suddenly raised Japan's status in the eyes of European Powers. Both by the prestige and the credit enjoyed by it, Japan has truly come to be regarded as the greatest Power in the Orient, and it has become necessary for her to enlarge her scope of action proportionately. In the executive, in finance, and in diplomacy, subsequently to the war, extended measures must be devised by the cordial cöoperation of Government and people. Diplomacy requires prime attention. A Chinese Embassy suing for peace is now about to come, and the nation must remember that with the arrival of that Embassy the period for diplomacy will set in and the country be subjected to a second ordeal. It cannot, of course, be ascertained with what proposals the Embassy will come, but it is just as likely as not that its object is to find out what terms Japan intends to exact from China, and then, by displaying them to the world, to appeal to the interference of other Powers. To snatch opportunities for the benefit of one's own country; to discern subtly the intentions of another, and always to anticipate and circumvent the other's projects—that is diplomacy. Fortunately, those entrusted with the present affair are all able men, and everything can be confidently left to their management. All that is needed at this juncture is departure from the routine hitherto followed and that a bold and comprehensive policy be pursued. It is an inevitable consequence of human weakness that power and glory are invariably attended by envy, and it is most likely that Japan will share the common fate sooner or later. She should, however, follow unflinchingly the dictates of justice even at the risk of rupture with other Powers. Success on the present occasion will require far greater strength than the country has put forth during the war. Japan must show the world that she has grit enough to undertake the task triumphantly.

MILITARY PHOTOGRAPHY.

THE Japanese Army is bent on thoroughly perfecting all military arrangements in connection with the war. It has even sent a photographic party to the seat of operations. Photography now plays an important part in military affairs. Military maps are, for instance, prepared with the aid of this art. The Japanese War Department has not been slow in introducing this new work into its field of action, and the Engineering Corps has not failed, whenever any important balloon experiment was in preparation, to cause experts to ascend and practise the art of military photography. When they Second Army was sent to the Liaotung peninsula, a Photographic Company was organized and attached to it, Captain Satoya being the Chief with two experts under him. This Company has always moved with the Army since it landed, taking photographs in the midst of a fight or entering far into the enemy's line and photographing its positions and so forth, thus greatly facilitating the reconnaissances of the Japanese Army. More than 100 pictures of battles and other scenes have been turned out by the Company and forwarded to Head-quarters and the Central Staff Office. The *Hochi*, from which we take the above particulars, says that this is the first instance in which photography has been so systematically and efficaciously employed in warlike operations, and thinks that Japan is justified in being proud of the development she has attained in this particular branch of military equipment.

CUSTOMS RETURNS.

THE following is a summary of the Customs Returns for December showing the foreign trade of the empire for the month :—

	1893: SILVER YEN.	1894. SILVER YEN.
Exports	10,078,401,130	11,778,622 850
Imports	9,688,372 900	9.579.006.280
Total exports and imports		21,357,629 130
Excess of exports		2,199,616.570

CUSTOMS DUTIES.

Exports	197 721.605
Imports	283.337.306
Miscellaneous	15,524.757
Total	496.583 668

TOTAL VALUE OF EXPORTS TO AND IMPORTS FROM VARIOUS FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

	Exports. Silver Yen.	Imports. Silver Yen.	Total. Silver Yen
China	305,049,290	1,659,238.600	1,964,287.920
Hongkong	3,282,447.010	602.935.740	3,886,382.480
British India	280,841.460	557,551.470	844,392.930
Korea	465,781.100	238,272.220	703,952.320
Philipine Islands	40,053.690	165,736.760	165,810 450
Russian Asia	70,957.090	49,012.890	119.969.960
Annam & other French India	2,695.200	216,551.850	219,666.980
Siam	1,885.400	3,209 380	5,094.760
Great Britain	981,269. 60	4,020,247 990	5,010,506.750
France	2,143,710.400	286,795.180	2,430,521 580
Germany	241,324 570	626,448 750	867.773 320
Italy	542,291.060	15,664.380	5 7,955 360
Holland	104,131.860	5,122 560	109,354.420
Switzerland	40,587,000	55.308 540	95.895.540
Belgium	5,204.180	80,218.080	85,432 260
Austria	68,535 800	2,570.620	31,105.820
Spain	22,250.000	7,724.160	29,874.160
Russia	22,400.350	582.450	23,996.800
Turkey	3,900.700	284.200	4,190.900
Sweden & Norway	—	2,134.990	2,134.990
Portugal	—	441.420	441 420
United States of America	4,762,580.620	965,038.650	5,729,661.260
Canada & other British America	100,562.000	1,732.350	102,293.350
Australia	137,035.860	25,781 850	162,817 600
Hawaii	44.300 370	39 500	44,401.770
Other Countries	45,3-7.360	22,679.760	67,987.120
Total	12,643,315.840	9,579.006.280	22,222,322.120

TOTAL VALUE OF EXPORTS AND IMPORTS FROM AND TO EACH PORT.

Yokohama	7,833,138.520	4,174,075.740	12,007,204.253
Kobe	2,878,383.160	4,709,476.850	7,587,790.010
Osaka	21,307 000	82,876 570	103,183.570
Nagasaki	350,797.190	321,079.340	671,876.660
Hakodate	60,217 030	15.000	60,232.030
Shimonoseki	305.943.710	82,699.630	448,643 360
Moji	90,752.500	—	90,752.500
Hakata	188 790	—	188 790
Karatsu	20,374 000	—	20,374 000
Kuchinotsu	160,780.000	—	160,780 0.0
Idzugahara	2.853 050	7,792.950	10 0,8.000
Shishimi	2,762.180	106 750	2,868 930
Sasuna	886 580	881.450	1,768.030
Muroran	14,875 000	—	14,875.000
Otaru	25,044.000	—	25,044.000
Specie and Bullion { Exports			2,833,144 340
Specie and Bullion { Imports			709,660.970
Total			3.542,805 310
Excess of exports			2,123,483 370

VALUE OF EXPORTS AND IMPORTS BY JAPANESE MERCHANTS AND GOVERNMENT.

By Japanese Merchants	{ Exports	2,638,081.810
	{ Imports	3.574.872 940
Imported by Government		13.334-930

TOTAL VALUE OF COMMODITIES EXPORTED FROM AND IMPORTED INTO JAPAN EACH MONTH DURING CURRENT YEAR.

	Exports. Silver Yen.	Imports. Silver Yen.	Total. Silver Yen.
January	7.556,762.290	8,851,157.860	16,407,920.050
February	6,513,746.710	7,825,470.000	14.339,216.800
March	10,304,410.550	9,461,647.560	19,77-,058.110
April	7 736,308.080	9,005,818,730	17,632,196.210
May	9.804,050.140	10,321,789.830	19.927,845.970
June	8,798,573.400	10,476,480.500	19, 75,050.900
July	8,355,023.480	9,881,221.000	18,2 8,278 .80
August	11,131,786.090	10,782,848 260	21,914,634.350
September	9.842.869.790	10,015,021.930	19,8-8,12 .700
October	11,008,870.270	10,546,113 980	21,555.203.150
November	11.035,109.760	10,026,188 960	21.052,688 720
December	12,178,600.850	9.579.006.280	21,357,629 130
Total	123,746,086.250	127,421,955.460	250,708,041.620

FISHERMEN'S TROUBLE.

THE Inland Sea has once more been the scene of difficulty between fishermen of two neighbouring prefectures. The trouble involves the fishermen of Tokushima and Hyogo Prefectures, and is in connection with the jurisdiction of a fishing ground called Nakase, some distance from the Strait of Naruto. It seems that in pre-Restoration days the ground belonged to the lord of Tokushima, but when the local system was inaugurated it was incorporated into the jurisdiction of Hyogo Prefecture. On the morning of the 15th instant, quotes a metropolitan paper from the Tokushima *Nichi Nichi*, fishermen of Satoura in Tokushima Prefecture set out for the ground in 13 boats under the convoy of four other boats carrying 12 constables. When they reached the spot they found 4 or 5 boats of Fukura fisherman, who are from Hyogo Prefecture. A dispute at once arose between the rivals. The watch stationed by the Fukura fishermen on the nearest promontory, espying what was the matter, at once signalled the alarm according to a previous arrangement. Upon this, about 100 fishing boats, carrying some 300 fishermen and 30 constables, immediately put out and, approaching the Tokushima men, besieged them on all sides. They then seized the fishing implements and attempted to carry the Tokushima fisherman by force to Fukura. A convoy of the Tokushima men managed, however, to cut through the line and gave the alarm to the Itano Police Office. Four boats were instantly manned and about 30 policemen rowed quickly to where the Tokushima men were being held prisoners. After a long discussion, the latter were released, but the policemen were obliged to accompany the Hyogo fishermen as far as Awaji. The Chief of the Itano Police Office proceeded thence by steamer, but how the matter ended is not yet known.

MASONIC BALL.

IT has been decided among the Masonic fraternity of Tokyo and Yokohama to give a Ball at the Public Hall on the evening of the 22nd of February. The R.W. the D.G.M. of Japan, Bro. W. H. Stone, is President of the Committee, with Wor. Bros. C. D. Moss, and R. N. St. John, Vice-Presidents. The Committee is composed as follows :—Bros. R. Home Cook, E. Flint Kilby, Stuart Eldridge, H. I. Chope, H. J. Sharp (Treasurer), A. T. Watson, W. K. Burton, H. W. Lea, G. Hodges, E. P. Pallister, G. Booth, W. Tucker, W. S. Stone, and A. B. Brown (Hon. Secretary). By a happy coincidence the date fixed for the Ball happens to be the anniversary of the birth of George Washington, the first President of the United States of America, and a distinguished member of the fraternity, who, initiated on November 4th, 1752, became the first W.M. of the Alexandra Lodge, No. 22.

REJUVENATION.

IN the courtyard attached to the great castle of Kumamato says a provincial contemporary, there has for centuries past been an enormous *icho* tree, the circumference of which is nearly eighteen feet. It is believed to be the largest specimen of the kind in the Empire and is credited with an age of not less than seven centuries. At all events this great and beautiful tree flourished exceedingly until the date of the Satsuma War, when, for some unknown reason, it was cut down to within six feet of the roots, the giant stump alone remaining. Marvellous to relate, after considerably more than a dozen years of apparent lifelessness, the stump began in November of last year to show signs of rejuvenation, and now it is covered with myriads of buds that give promise of certain and luxuriant growth this spring.

SHOWENBERG.

PIETER JOHANNES SCHOWENBERG, the Dutch seaman accused of murdering a *jinrikisha*-coolie on Honmoku beach in September of 1892, who was first arrested by the Japanese authorities, then taken over by the Netherlands Consulate and lodged in the British gaol pending receipt of his registration papers, is now an inmate of the United States Consular gaol. It appears that the man was sent to Hospital some weeks ago, and upon attaining convalescence, took short strolls about the place. Hearing of this, the Japanese authorities had him re-arrested, and on the request of the Dutch authorities he was received in the U.S. gaol.

THE LOSS OF THE "BELLONA."

THE *Kobe Chronicle* learns that the Marine Court at Hamburg has decided that the loss of

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the steamer *Bellona* on the Paracels was due to a temporary change in the sea currents as a result of the typhoon through which the *Bellona* ran, and that the Captain is free from all blame. The Second Officer, who was on the bridge at the time, is, however, reprimanded, as the Court is of opinion that with a better look-out the catastrophe might have been averted. The many friends of Captain Jaeger in Kobe will be glad to hear, adds the *Chronicle*, that he is held free from blame in the matter.

WIND AND TEMPERATURE IN THE GULF OF PECHILI.

It is a well-known fact, writes the *Kokumin*, that during the winter the prevailing wind in the Gulf of Pechili comes from the north. According to the statement made by a sailor who cruised in the Gulf in the middle of last December, and who lately returned home, for four days out of a week passed in the vicinity of Talien, a north wind blew with a force of 4 or upwards, and considerable difficulty was experienced in the handling of boats. The wind in the Gulf must be even stronger, though not of sufficient force to prevent the voyage of a transport. The wind started generally from the north-east, then veered round to the north-west and ultimately to the north. While the informant was on board the ship, the thermometer fell at one time as low as 10° (F.) below freezing point. Though the temperature of the air was so cold, that of the sea generally kept at about 35°. It is quite likely therefore that the sea in the vicinity of Talien is not frozen. According to the information of a Chinese who lived in Port Arthur for several years, during the three winter months, that is to say, December, January, and February, a north wind of above 4 in intensity generally blows for 20 to 30 days consecutively. This statement is corroborated by the Japanese men-of-war in Port Arthur, for they seem to have thus far experienced a north wind for about four days out of every week spent there. The strength of this wind is said to be more intense in the vicinity of Shanhaikwan. So strong is it, that launching of boats is entirely out of the question. When this wind blows, the water along the coast becomes shallower. In Talien the difference between the full and ebb tides is about 11 ft., but when the north wind blows it is generally reduced to about 7 feet. Before the wind sets in the atmospheric temperature rises for two days as high as 40° and the sea shows great disturbance.

EFFECTS OF THE EARTHQUAKE IN TOKYO.

The Legations in Tokyo seem to have suffered a good deal in the recent earthquake. The British Legation, which had only just been rendered habitable after the bad shaking it received last June, was again considerably demoralized on the 18th instant. The ceilings of several of the bed-rooms will have to be replastered, and other parts of the house will require a good deal of repair. The building now occupied as a temporary Legation by the German Representative, was also so much injured in the upper storey that His Excellency Baron Gutschmid has to move elsewhere pending the work of restoration. We believe that he comes to Yokohama. Perhaps the worst damage was inflicted on the Russian Legation—cumulative damage—for in this case the shock seems to have followed the lines of its predecessor in June. We understand that H.E. Mr. Hitrovo has taken a house in Yokohama, and will reside there while the Legation is in the hands of the workmen. The Italian Legation seems to have escaped with comparatively little damage, but it suffered sufficient last June to be entitled to some exemption on this occasion. Most fortunate of all, we believe, were the French and Belgian Legations, but these, being wooden buildings, are naturally less disfigured by evidences of shocks and twists than are solider constructions.

AN IMPERIAL GIFT.

In connection with the announcement from Pekin that the Chinese Emperor has foregone the usual festivities and celebrations not only of the rapidly approaching New Year but also those that were to have taken place on the birthday of the Empress Dowager, who will be sixty years old in the course of a few weeks, we read in a metropolitan contemporary that the Emperor of Japan had ordered for this occasion a marvellous robe of gold brocade, which was to have been sent as an Imperial Gift to the Empress-Dowager, with an autograph letter of congratulation. The robe is the work of the most famous Kyoto art-weavers, and has taken a number of months to complete, the fabric being of the rarest and most ornate description and heavy with gold. "For the present," remarks our contemporary naïvely, this gift cannot reach its destination; but it may very possibly be of use after the war is over."

THE FOURTH DOMESTIC EXHIBITION.

All opposition to the Fourth Domestic Exhibition, or rather to its actual opening in April, now appears to have given way. Come what will, the Kyoto townspeople have announced their aversion to the idea of a postponement of the date of opening, thereby undoubtedly rendering it impossible for a number of would be exhibitors to take part, as the belief in the almost certainty of a postponement at least until June or July, has been very wide-spread. It is said that the Kyoto municipal authorities have themselves been in favour of a later date, but all objections have been overruled by the ardent zeal of the local merchants, who foresee in the Exhibition a sudden turn of the commercial tide in favour of their city. It may indeed prove as they fondly prognosticate; yet one cannot help regretting that, as matters stand, the Exhibition will be less national than local.

CALENDARS.

Messrs. C. D. Splivalo & Co.'s calendar for 1895 is worthy of the lovely scenery amid which the Yosemite Flour Mills grind out their growing contribution to Japan's bread-stuffs. It is a charming chromo-lithograph, making a picture much better suited for the walls of a lady's boudoir than for those of a dingy newspaper office. More sumptuous and distinctly more useful, if less attractive, is the calendar issued by the Scottish Union and National Insurance Company, through their Yokohama Agents, Messrs. Fraser, Farley, and Company. It takes the form of a diary, beautifully printed on fine paper, offering just space enough to tempt useful entries and deter superfluities, and bound in a style at once sumptuous and artistic. This a fashion of advertisement that all can appreciate.

VIEWS OF FUJI.

"Fugaku Shinkyo," or Views of Fuji, is the title of a little album containing no less than 32 sketches of the summit of the peerless mountain, in all weathers and at all seasons. The exquisite symmetry and graceful shape of Fuji-yama evoke a kind of reverential love in Japanese bosoms. Never, we believe, has any natural object received such tender worship or played such a large part in the art of a nation. Mr. Haruna Shigeharu, the painter of these 32 pictures, must have made the mountain a perpetual study. It is worthy of such attention, and the public will be grateful for this result of his labour of love.

MR. FOSTER.

The Hon. J. W. Foster made but a short stay in Yokohama, leaving by the *Empress of India* for Kobe on the afternoon of the day of his arrival. He breakfasted at the U.S. Consulate with Consul-General McIvor, a personal friend, afterwards proceeding to the Grand Hotel. In company with H.E. Mr. Dun, Mr. Foster went up to Tokyo by the 11.25 train and had an interview at the Foreign Office with Mr. Hayashi, Vice-Minister of that Department. He returned to Yokohama by the 3.15 p.m. train, and was taken aboard the Empress by a Kencho launch.

PROF. MICHEL REVON.

A telegram received in Tokyo on Friday announces that Prof. Michel Revon of the Imperial University has been made Chevalier of the Legion of Honour. This distinction, which is rarely conferred on professors of French universities, and then only on men of well-known merit, goes to show that professors of the Imperial University here are not only equal but are frequently considered even superior to their colleagues in European institutions.

THE LATE PRINCE ARISUGAWA.

To-day's *Official Gazette* says that the funeral of the late Prince Arisugawa Taruhito will take place on the 29th inst. The cortége leaves the residence of the deceased at Kasumigaseki, Kojimachi, at 9 a.m., and the interment takes place on Toyoshimaoka. The following have been appointed to take charge of the obsequies:—Viscount Sugi Magoshichiro, Chief, and Messrs. Sannomiya Yoshitane, Tautsumi Masayoshi, Toda Komon, Yamanouchi Katsuaki, Konishi Arinori, and Taguchi Kanzo.

INCIPIENT FIRE.

The premises No. 166, until recently used as a Chinese Club, had a narrow escape from being burned on Wednesday afternoon. Some sparks from a *hetsui* in the kitchen communicated with several boxes of charcoal and wood stored near by, and these were burning fiercely when the fire was discovered. A few buckets of water were sufficient to put out the fire, although the ceiling was considerably scorched.

STEAMER WRECKED.

The steamer *Crown of England* has been wrecked on an island just north of Santa Cruz Island, off the coast of Southern California. The vessel left San Diego in a dense fog in ballast to load at Nanaimo. The crew were all saved. A very strong current sets in towards these islands; that and the dense fog prevailing at the time were undoubtedly the cause of the stranding. She is a total loss.

THE HUNGARIAN CABINET.

Saturday's *Official Gazette* prints a telegram dispatched by the Japanese Acting *Chargé d'Affaires* at Vienna, and received by the Foreign Department on the 18th inst., stating that the Hungarian Cabinet has been released from its position by the Emperor. A new Cabinet has been formed.

THE FRENCH CABINET.

The *Official Gazette* has another telegram received from the Japanese Representative in France. The message states that the President resigned on the 15th inst., and requested the French Cabinet, which had sent in its resignation, to remain in office until his successor could be appointed.

CARGO IN TANK STEAMERS.

A full cargo of rice, says a London paper, has just been taken from Siam to Bremerhaven in the British tank-steamer *Elax*. This is the second cargo of rice brought to the Weser by a petroleum tanker. The rice is stated to be not in the slightest degree tainted, the tanks having been well cleansed and lime-washed.

PURCHASE OF VESSELS.

It is reported that the German steamer *Brema* will be purchased shortly by Mr. Oya, and renamed the *Takenoura Maru*. The *Kobe Chronicle*, also understands that the little schooner *Abon*, of 30 tons, which has been lying there for some weeks, has been purchased by Japanese.

NEW "SHIRE" STEAMER.

The Sunderland Shipbuilding Company, Limited, Sunderland, launched on Nov. 27th the steel steamer *Merionethshire*; 343 ft. 41 ft. by 28¾ ft; about 4,600 tons deadweight, for the "Shire" line of steamers.

THE CHINESE ENVOY.

There appears to be no sign yet of H.E. Chang's departure from Shanghai. Such leisurely procedure on the part of a peace envoy augurs ill for the success of his mission.

THE NEW SECRETARY OF THE BRITISH LEGATION.

The new Secretary of Her Britannic Majesty's Legation, Mr. Lowther, and his sister, Miss Lowther, are expected to arrive by the P. & O. steamer *Ancona*, due here to-day.

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IMPERIAL DIET.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 18TH.

HOUSE OF PEERS.

The House met at 10.40 a.m., the Order of the Day being :—

1.—Application for leave.
2.—Second Reading of Bill for amending the Pension and Gratuity Regulations.
3.—Bill relating to Fisheries.

Prince Nijo Motohiro, Chairman of the Special Committee, reported in favour of the Bill for amending the Pension and Gratuity Regulations, and said that the Committee recommended one change only, namely, that the time of the amendments' going into operation should be April 1st instead of July 1st, so as to suit the financial year.

The House voted for the Second Reading and proceeded with it at once, passing the Bill with the Committee's amendment.

The Third Reading was passed at once.

Mr. Murata Tamotsu, introducing the Fisheries Bill, reminded the House that the measure had been passed in a previous session but had failed to become law owing to the dissolution of the House of Representatives. There were three reasons in favour of the Bill. One was the necessity of exercising some control over fishing operations, so as to ensure the supply of fish against exhaustion. Already *bêche-de-mer* and *awabi* were becoming scarce owing to indiscriminate capture. Secondly, it was essential to provide against the disputes now so common among fishermen; disputes that too often involved recourse to physical violence. Thirdly, Japan, although essentially a country of marine products, was perhaps the only civilized state in the world where no fishery laws existed.

After various questions, the Bill was entrusted to a Special Committee nominated by the President, the Government Delegate having explained that the Government approved the general principles embodied in the Bill, but might have something to say about details when the Special Committee's report was presented.

The House rose at 11.50 a.m.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The House met at 1.15 p.m., the Order of the Day being :—

1.—Representation for the Establishment of an Iron Foundry.
2.—Bill for granting State aid to Local Agricultural Experimental Stations.
3.—Bill relating to the Special Financial Control of Forest-land Capital.
4.—Bill relating to Open Ports.
5.—Bill for amending the Medical Diploma Regulations.

Mr. Kurihara Ryoichi, introducing the first Bill, said that every one, he presumed, was agreed as to the necessity of having an iron foundry in the country. The Government had already presented a Bill in that sense, but being unable to furnish accurate statistics as to the quantity of iron procurable in Japan and its quality, had failed to obtain the Diet's consent. Since then, a committee of investigation had been at work, and its report showed that there was an ample supply of iron available, while as to its quality, experiments conducted at the Osaka Arsenal gave most excellent results. The only point in which deficiency presented itself was that of fuel: Japanese coke was inferior to foreign. Making full allowance for that factor, however, it appeared that iron could be smelted and worked in Japan at two-thirds of the cost of imported iron. The question of experts to carry on the work might present some difficulty, but surely such an obstacle was not insuperable. No question could be entertained about the advantage of making the country self-supplying in this respect. Taking the item of railways, he was informed that one-third of the cost of construction was absorbed in the rails alone. That signified that of the 100 million *yen*, roughly speaking, hitherto spent by Japan on her railways, 33 millions had gone to foreign countries. They were only on the threshold of the work of railway building, and immense quantities of rails would be needed in the future. It further appeared that even now the War Office used 361,000 *yen* worth of imported iron yearly, and the Naval Department, 881,400 *yen* worth. All that might be supplied at home if foundries existed. As to the matter of private enterprise against official control, he did not undertake to pronounce any decided opinion.

Mr. Kaneko Kentaro, Government Delegate, said that the Government entirely agreed as to the necessity of having an iron foundry, and had been conducting experiments with a view to determining the possibility of such an undertaking. As to the question of raw material, researches made by experts showed that ample supplies were available at various places along the Pacific coast of Japan, in Kiushu, Moji, Akaishi, Kamaishi, and so forth. From ores obtained at these places various kinds of iron had been successfully manufactured, but the experiments in that direction, though sufficient to furnish general results, could not yet be called exhaustive. The great difficulty was to obtain a supply of fire-proof bricks. Many attempts had been made, but up to the present a good article had not been obtained. The best was that made at Mitsuishi, but it still left something to be desired. Coke, too, as the introducer of the Representation had told them, was a difficulty. But by mixing three kinds of coal, those of Tokushima, Amakusa, and Nagasaki, a tolerably satisfactory coke could be obtained. Specimens of the various kinds of iron manufactured from Japanese ores had been laid out in the members' retiring rooms for inspection.

Mr. Hamada Giichiro said that the explanations offered by the Government Delegate and the introducers of the measures were amply instructive. He moved that the Representation be at once entrusted to a Special Committee.

The House agreed.

Mr. Tada Sakubei, introducing the next Bill, dwelt on the vital importance of improving agricultural methods, and pointed out that, although farmers throughout the country were agreed as to the necessity of reform, they lacked education and ability to conceive and elaborate improvements without expert aid. At present there was only one experimental station, namely, that at Nishigahara. Similar institutions ought to be established in every Prefecture. They would cost only 3,000 *yen* each, and it would suffice if the State bore one-half of the outlay. Very simply experiments made in rice culture had resulted in an extra yield of 3 *to* per *tan* of land, which meant 800,000 *yen* annually if the same improvements were universally introduced.

Mr. Fujita, Government Delegate, said that the Government would have introduced a similar measure had not the expenditures involved in the conduct of the war rendered it impossible to find funds. Consent to the Bill could not be given during the present year.

The Bill was entrusted to a Special Committee.

Mr. Nakamura Yaroku briefly introduced the next Bill, being assured that the House was with him in considering that the present system of forest-land finance demanded reform. The Government estimated the area of the forest land in over five hundred thousand places at 740,000 *cho* (1,850,000 acres), valued at 17 million *yen*, but he believed that the area aggregated 2,000,000 *cho*, and that the value was 50 millions.

The Bill was entrusted to a Special Committee.

Mr. Taguchi Ukichi introduced the next Bill for opening to foreign and Japanese owned vessels the ports of Tokyo in Musashi, Shimizu in Suragaoka, Yokkaichi in Ise, Shimonoseki in Nagato, Moji in Buzen, and Otaru in Shiribeshi, the date of opening to be fixed by Imperial Ordinance. The chief hope of increasing the wealth of the country lay in developing its foreign commerce. It was true that the places indicated in the Bill were already ports of export; but that meant very little. He proposed that they should be thrown open to the entry of all vessels, and that the loading and unloading of goods be permitted there. The present open ports had all been selected with a view to trade carried on by foreigners, and foreign settlements consequently existed there. But the ports now indicated would be opened simply in the interests of the empire's foreign trade and would have no foreign settlements. Doubtless the present small volume of the trade was in part due to the people's want of enterprise. But it was also due in part to want of facilities for moving goods. That the country should derive a revenue of only five millions annually from the customs was absurd, when they remembered the revenues accruing from the same source in England, France, Germany, America, and so forth. In answer to questions, he said that although a foreign settlement already existed in Tokyo, the place was not an open port, but only an open market. As to the Bill's not including any port on the Sea of Japan, that would be a matter for subsequent consideration.

Mr. Obata Iwajiro asked whether the prosperity of Yokohama would not be seriously impaired by making Tokyo an open port.

Mr. Taguchi replied that it had always been a subject of perplexity to him why Yokohama had been chosen as an open port in preference to Tokyo. As a matter of fact, seven-tenths of the goods coming to Yokohama were destined for Tokyo. They had to be transferred to lighters in Yokohama, and towed thence to Tokyo, a process obviously not conducive to tradal convenience. He believed it to be greatly in the interests of commerce that Tokyo should be thrown open.

Mr. Megata, Government Delegate, while thoroughly endorsing the principle of developing the country's foreign commerce, reminded the House that simultaneously with the opening of new ports new duties would devolve upon the State. There would be the questions of establishing custom houses, of building jetties, of adopting precautions against epidemics, or regulating the traffic, and of re-adopting the programme of military defences. All these things required consideration and legislation, and the Government's attention was already directed to the subject. But whatever might be possible or desirable in the future, it certainly was not possible to carry out the proposed measure at once, and for that reason the Government's consent must be withheld.

Mr. Taguchi pointed out that the Bill fixed no time, and that the necessary preparations might be made at leisure.

The Bill was entrusted to a Special Committee, more than one member urging the Committee to fully examine into the expediency of adding some ports on the Sea of Japan.

Mr. Toda Yugen briefly explained that the object of the next Bill was to amend the Medical Diploma Regulations, in the sense of extending due recognition to the long practised medical systems of China and Japan.

Mr. Wakizaka Gyozo said that when this Bill was before the House in a previous session, the Government had intimated its inability to conduct examinations in the old medical systems of the East.

Mr. Tsuzuki, Government Delegate, failed to understand what was implied by "the systems of the East." There was no east and west in science. If Japan adopted the scientific methods of the Occident, they became Japanese after adoption. The Government recognised only one science of medicine, properly so called. A hen might be kept in a neighbouring village, but, after all, it could only lay one kind of egg.

The Bill was entrusted to a Special Committee.

The House rose at 3.50 p.m.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 19TH.

HOUSE OF PEERS.

The House did not meet, the Special and Standing Committees alone assembling.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The House met at 1.10 p.m., the Order of the Day being :—

1.—Bill providing for the Parliamentary Representation of Hokkaido.
2.—Bill for amending Notification No. 16 of the 13th year of *Meiji*, with reference to Local Tax Regulations.
3.—Bill for supplementing the Trade and Miscellaneous Tax Regulations of Notification No. 70, 13th year of *Meiji*.
4.—Bill for rescinding Imperial Ordinance No. 6 of the 20th year of *Meiji*.
5.—Representation relating to the Management of Public Forests.
6.—Bill for amending the Supplementary Sections of the Penal Code promulgated by Law No. of the 23rd year of *Meiji*.

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Mr. Yoshimoto Yeikichi said that as the first four measures on the Order related to the same subject, Hokkaido, they might be considered together, but the President ruled to proceed in regular sequence.

Mr. Kashima Hidemaro, introducing the Bill for establishing a Local Assembly in Hokkaido, said that the population of the northern island now amounted to over 940,000 souls; that the industries of the various districts were making rapid progress, and that the need of a local parliament was keenly felt. A Bill in the same sense had been presented to the Diet every session, but had failed to become law. The only objection urged by the Government was that the great distances of the divisions of Hokkaido from any central point, as well as the extent and sparse population of the districts themselves, constituted serious obstacles to the institution of a local assembly. But such objections had lost much of their validity since they were originally advanced, and were rapidly ceasing to be worthy of consideration. Meanwhile, the large population of Hokkaido suffered much inconvenience through the want of a local assembly, and it must be noted that if Hokkaido were too extensive to permit the introduction of parliamentary management, then it was also too extensive to be controlled by one Governor and central administrative task. The large and multifarious duties devolving on the Governor could not be discharged to the entire satisfaction of the inhabitants, who naturally clamoured for some share in the the direction of their own affairs.

Mr. Banto Kanguro said that fifty million *yen* had already been devoted to the development of Hokkaido, to starting industries, to providing educational facilities, and to inaugurating a sanitary system. Yet the island still needed a great deal. At the lowest calculation a yearly outlay of a million *yen* was required, whereas the sum available from taxes was only 370,000. Despite these disquieting financial conditions, the expense of establishing and maintaining a local assembly was now suggested as a proper addition to the burdens of the people. He wished to know whence the necessary funds were to be procured. In the second place, the franchise and representative qualification provided by the Bill referred to land ownership only. But great numbers of the inhabitants of Hokkaido, the fishing population for example, held no land. Were these people to be excluded from the contemplated privilege. In the third place, he noted that Chishima was not included in the circuit embraced by the Bill. Why was that?

Mr. Kashima replied that he did not share Mr. Banto's uneasiness on the score of finance. It was true that some assistance from the Imperial Treasury would be required, but a small appropriation would suffice, and he had no doubt that the people of Hokkaido would gladly make up the difference for the sake of having a local assembly. With regard to the fact that no provision was made for the representation of the part of the population engaged in the industry of marine products, he admitted that an apparent injustice existed, but in truth such folks were so far removed from any central position that to require them to take part in elections and in the sittings of an assembly would be very irksome to them. Further, by adopting a land-ownership qualification, the great majority of the islanders would be included. Finally, the exclusion of Chishima (the Kuriles) was inevitable at present.

Mr. Banto apologised for troubling the introducer of the Bill, but asked for information as to the limits of districts in Hokkaido. They were already very uncertain, and it seemed to him that in view of the rapid development of the island, further and frequent changes must be apprehended.

Mr. Kashima did not attach any importance to that objection. He warned the House against regarding Hokkaido as an unopened and undeveloped place. In point of fact it had passed the juvenile stage and was in a very virile condition.

Mr. Tsuzuki, Government Delegate, in answer to questions, said that the Government, while fully sharing the desire of extending to the people of Hokkaido the privilege of local government in its fullest sense, apprehended that very great obstacles stood in the way at present. In view of the undeveloped and rapidly changing conditions of the large districts involved, it was almost impossible to fix a properly qualification that would be just and comprehensive. Further, the imperfect character of means of communication, the sparse population, the great distances, and many other difficulties stood in the way. The Government was even now engaged in investigations undertaken with a view of determining how far the system of local autonomy might be applied to Hakkaido. It was a matter demanding serious reflection.

Mr. Hiyakuman Umeji observed that the Government had told them the same thing in a previous session. Then, too, they had been informed that investigations were in progress. He wished to know when the investigations were likely to be concluded.

The Government Delegate was unable to indicate any definite date. That was obviously impossible.

After some further questions, the Bill was entrusted to a Special Committee, and the next three Bills also were handed to the same committee without debate.

Mr. Saito Ryosuke briefly introduced the Representation relating to reform of the system of managing public forests. He said that all were agreed, presumably, as to the necessity of such reform, and that the principles embodied in the Representation had already obtained the endorsement of the House in previous sessions. Shortly speaking, the object of the Representation was to transfer from public to private ownership all forests the possession of which by individuals would promote agricultural convenience and prosperity, or remove obstacles now encountered by farmers.

The Representation was entrusted to the Special Committee already charged with the duty of reporting upon the Bill with reference the Management of Forest Lands' Finance.

Mr. Seki Shinnosuke, introducing the last Bill, explained that its purpose was to reduce the expenditure connected with criminal processes. The present law provided that a witness in a criminal case should receive 50 *sen* for each time of attending in court, 10 *sen* per *ri* travelling allowance, and 50 *sen* per day sustenance. The Bill proposed to make the allowance for attendance 50 *sen per diem*, and that for sustenance 25 *sen*. The effect of the change would be to reduce the present expenditure on account of witnesses from 85,110 *yen* annually to 42,550 *yen*.

Mr. Kioura, Government Delegate, said that the Government agreed with the general principles of the Bill, but would recommend some changes in details if the measure were entrusted to a Special Committee.

The Bill was handed to a Special Committee.

The House rose at 3.34 p.m.

MONDAY, JANUARY 21ST.

HOUSE OF PEERS.

The House met at 10.35 p.m., the Order of the Day being :—

1.—Bill for amending the Banking Regulations, sent up from the Lower House.
2.—Bill embodying a Project of Press Law; sent up from the Lower House.

Mr. Tajiri, Government Delegate, in answer to Viscount Tani, said that the Government did not offer any special opposition to the first Bill.

The Bill was entrusted to a Special Committee.

Mr. Suyematsu, Government Delegate, referring to the Second Bill, said that its chief provisions were the abolition of the power of suspension and of the payment of security money by newspaper proprietors. The Government did not think that, at the present stage of journalistic development, these provisions could be altogether dispensed with. Some modification of the present law was, doubtless, possible, but not such a drastic change as that contemplated by the Bill now before them.

In answer to questions, Mr. Suyematsu further explained that the chief use of the power of suspension was to check a newspaper when it seemed to have pledged itself to a course of criticism likely to disturb public peace. Further, there could be no question that the existence of such a law served as a wholesome check upon reckless writing. The number of suspensions in 1893 had been 80. Last year the penalty had been applied more frequently owing to the fact that a greater variety of exciting topics had presented themselves. Suspensions in the interests of public morality had been very few.

The Bill was entrusted to a Special Committee nominated by the President, the House having voted against a Committee chosen by the Sections. The Committee was instructed to present its report within a week.

The House rose at 11.50 a.m.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The House met at 1.15 p.m., the Order of the Day being :—

1.—Representation relating to Materials for History.
2.—Representation relating to the Increase of Agricultural Districts.
3.—Bill relating to the Prevention of Contagious Diseases
4.—Bill for amending the Private Railway Regulations.
5.—Bill for amending the Railway Construction Law.
6.—Bill for amending the Railway Construction Law.

Mr. Suyehiro Shigeyasu presented four Questions relating to the manner of obtaining supplies for the Army and Navy at the seat of war, and the means adopted for their transport. He described at considerable length the sufferings and bravery of the troops, the labours of the Emperor, the loyalty and generosity of the people, and the sacrifices made by the country, and dwelt on the disgrace of allowing dishonest contractors to take advantage of such an occasion to enrich themselves. The thing had become a subject of common talk, and anxious as they all must be to avoid troubling the Government at such a time, they could not forget that the duty of the House was to superintend the proceedings of the Administration. He trusted that the Government would not treat his Questions in the usual cavalier fashion, but would answer them in full, so as to set the nation's mind at rest.

Mr. Banto Kangoro asked permission to introduce an urgency motion with reference to the report that certain members of the House had received bribes in connection with the Bill for continuing the National Banks as private institutions. He spoke at length on the disgrace of leaving such a charge unanswered, and moved that a Committee be appointed to investigate it.

The House agreed to grant urgency.

In answer to questions, Mr. Banto said that the newspapers most conspicuous in preferring the accusation were the *Mesamashi* and the *Yeiri Nippo*. As to the manner of conducting the investigation, that must be left to the Committee.

Several members insisted that the proposal amounted to nothing more than inquiring into a rumour started by some petty journals.

Mr. Tanaka Shozo contended that the House should not so far forget its dignity as to waste time over such a discussion. The newspapers referred to were altogether petty sheets. To appoint a committee on the strength of mere rumours ventilated by such insignificant journals would be a distinct disgrace to the House.

Mr. Hoshi Toru asked whether it would be in order to entrust a Committee with the duty of investigating a question not embodied in a definite form.

The President pointed out that he was merely following a precedent established by Mr. Hoshi himself when in the chair.

Much desultory discussion ensued, the House gradually growing excited.

Mr. Kusakari Shimmei, while strongly approving Mr. Banto's motive, could not approve his proposal, since it amounted simply to asking the House to take a grave step on the strength solely of shadowy allegations made by petty journals. For his own part, he had read the statements alluded to, and found them to be of the vaguest character, no title of evidence being produced in support of them. The House would be merely making itself a butt for public

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ridicule did it pay serious attention to such accusations. It would be like bringing a suit where there was no defendant.

After some further discussion, the closure was put and carried.

The House rejected the motion.

Mr. Suyehiro Shigeyasu briefly introduced the first Representation, reminding the House that it had been fully discussed in a previous session. They might suppose that this time of war was ill suited to the adoption of taking measures to collect materials for history, but, on the contrary, it was precisely at such a time that such a step was most needed. All experience showed that history written after the events it described could not be trusted. Everyday that passed without collecting materials meant an additional risk of error, and they ought to be specially influenced by that consideration at a moment when the country was passing through a great crisis of its history.

Mr. Kokure Budayu pointed out that, if the plan proposed in the Representation were adopted, the outlay involved would be 280,000 *yen* in 7 years, whereas the same work, if left in the hands of the Government, might be accomplished much more cheaply.

Mr. Suyehiro said that the Government had already spent 60,000 with very trivial results. Besides, the Government was chiefly engaged compiling a pre-Restoration history, whereas he projected a history of the *Meiji* Era.

Mr. Komura Shigehiro supported the Representation, speaking at some length, his chief argument being that the history thus far compiled by the Government had not been of a satisfactory character, and that the proper persons to undertake such a work were specialists chosen from the public at large.

The Representation was entrusted to a Special Committee.

Mr. Hirajima Matsuo, introducing the second Representation, said that the country was now divided into 7 districts, and consequently there were only 7 experimental stations for agriculture, a number much too small. He proposed that the districts be increased to 11. The cost would be only from eight to nine thousand *yen* per station.

The Resolution was entrusted to the Special Committee already charged with the duty of reporting on the Bill relating to agricultural experimental stations.

Mr. Tsunematsu Riukei, introducing the next Bill, pointed to the fact that the number of persons attacked by dysentery last year had been over 154,000, and the deaths 37,000. In the whole country the Prefectures of Ibaraki and Tochigi alone had escaped. There might be several causes for such a calamity, but certainly one was the fact that insufficient funds were appropriated for purposes of sanitation. The Bill proposed to remedy that by providing that the Treasury, acting under the authority of the Minister of State for Home Affairs, should be authorized to grant a part or the whole of the expenses required by a Prefecture for purposes of sanitation, on the representation of the Governor.

After a brief discussion, the Bill was entrusted to a Special Committee.

Mr. Kagami Kahei briefly introduced the next Bill providing that extensions of construction period granted to projectors of private railways already sanctioned, should not exceed one half of the period originally fixed. He said that the lines sanctioned were needed by the public, and private companies should not be allowed to consult their own convenience as to the time of building them.

The Bill was entrusted to a Special Committee, to which were also handed the next two Bills, the object of the first being to separate the Iwakoshi and the Hokuyetsu lines, and that of the second, to extend the Awamori-Tsuruga line to Maizuru.

The House rose at 4 p.m.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 22ND.

HOUSE OF PEERS.

The House did not meet.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The House met at 1.15 p.m. the Order of the Day being :—

1.—Bill for amending the Chamber of Commerce Regulations.
2.—Bill for amending the Official Pensions and Gratuities Regulations; sent down from the Upper House.
3.—Bill relating to Joint Stock Private Railway Companies; Second Reading.
4.—Bill for rescinding Law No. 7 of the 23rd year of *Meiji*; Second Reading.
5.—Bill for rescinding Notification No. 2 of the 18th year of *Meiji*; Second Reading.
6.—Bill for amending a portion of the Code of Civil Procedure; Second Reading.
7.—Bill for the Conservation of Forests.
8.—Bill for the Special Disposal of unnecessary State-owned Forest Lands.

Mr. Wakamiya, Government Delegate, briefly explained that the object of the first Bill was to extend the membership of Chambers of Commerce, to facilitate the election of Presidents, and to increase the number of such institutions should occasion arise. There were already 36 Chambers of Commerce in the Empire, and the amendments proposed by the Bill had received their endorsement.

The Bill was entrusted to a Special Committee.

The second Bill was similarly treated without question or discussion.

Mr. Tateishi Ki, on behalf of the Special Committee, reported in favour of the Bill relating to Joint Stock Private Railway Companies, with some slight amendments, and explained that the Government approved the Bill in its present form. The principal purpose of the Bill was to enable a company to commence operations so soon as one-tenth of its capital had been paid up, instead of waiting until one-fourth had been paid up, as was the law generally applicable to joint stock companies.

After a brief discussion the House voted to carry the Bill to a Second Reading and to proceed with the Reading at once.

The Bill was passed as amended by the Committee.

Mr. Kusakari Shimmei, on behalf of the Special Committee, reported in favour of the next Bill, namely, that for amending the Law that required a deposit of 20 *yen* by way of preliminary to an appeal from a lower to a higher tribunal in cases of major crime. The proposed amendment was to dispense altogether with a deposit in cases of major crime, and to require a deposit of 10 *yen* in cases of minor crime. The Government Delegate had opposed the Bill on the ground that it would lead to a great increase of litigation as well as of prison expenditures, but the Committee failed to appreciate such an objection.

Mr. Kioura, Government Delegate, had not intended to speak, but it was necessary to correct some statistical errors committed by Mr. Kusakari. (The Delegate then gave figures showing that the last speaker's information as to criminal cases and their results was inaccurate.)

The House voted for the Second Reading and dispensed with the Third.

The next Bill, being correlated, was similarly passed, as was also the Bill for amending a portion of the Criminal Code in the same sense.

Mr. Nakamura Yaroku was not present to introduce the next Bill relating to the Conservation of Forests. Briefly speaking, the object was to provide that no cutting of timber, except for purposes of strengthening, should be allowed in any forests exercising an influence upon inundations, storms, land-slides, rain-fall, and so forth. The introducer of the Bill not being present, the President asked one of its supporters to take his place, but the member thus called upon explained that Mr. Nakamura would arrive in a moment. Meanwhile, it was moved that the Bill be entrusted to the Special Committee already charged with the duty of reporting upon another Bill relating to Forests, and the House agreed.

Mr. Tada Sakubei, introducing the last Bill, said that not a few forests now in State ownership had no national character whatever, and would be much better treated were they transferred to the District or Division in which they stood.

The Bill was entrusted to the same Committee as that charged with the duty of reporting upon the last.

The House rose at 3.05 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 23RD.

HOUSE OF PEERS.

The House met at 10 a.m. the Order of the Day being :—

1.—Bill for abolishing the Peace Preservation Regulations; sent up from the Lower House.
2.—Bill for rescinding Notification No. 70 of the 15th year of *Meiji*; sent up from the Lower House.

Baron Makimura, on behalf of the Special Committee, reported that the Committee, by a majority, had decided to recommend the rejection of the Bill abolishing the Peace Preservation Regulations. The reasons assigned for the Bill were very brief, namely, that the Regulations had been enacted prior to the promulgation of the Constitution; that they were incongruous with representative institutions, and that no need for them existed. But the majority of the Committee considered that the Regulations were still necessary.

Mr. Sekida Katsu expressed surprise that the Special Committee should have formulated such a conclusion. Had the Committee been all present at the voting, and had there been much discussion?

Baron Makimura replied that all had been present, and that the discussion had not been warm. Four had voted against the Bill and three for it.

Viscount Nomura, Minister of State for Home Affairs, addressed the House, dwelling on the necessity of preserving the Regulations in the Statute Book. The Regulations were not in any sense a fetter on the liberty of respectable and law-abiding folk. They were intended solely to restrain persons who might be betrayed into excesses in their advocacy of any cause, political or otherwise. Unfortunately such persons existed. There was no concealing the fact. The Government judged that in the interests of public peace and in order to enable quiet people to pursue their avocations in security and exercise their public rights without illegal obstruction, positive measures must be adopted to check lawless or excitable agitators. On the strength of that conviction, he asked the House to reject the Bill.

Mr. Ando Sokumei strongly supported the Bill. Nothing could be more unconstitutional or less consistent with the liberty of the subject than that the Authorities should be invested with power to expel a man from the capital without legal process of any kind. To affirm that such a power was exercised in the interests of public peace was a palpable error. On the contrary, procedure so inconsistent with the spirit of representative institutions was calculated to provoke breaches of the peace. In point of fact, these objectionable Regulations were a weapon devised by those in power to facilitate their own unconstitutional administration. The Regulations provided that persons deemed likely to disturb the peace might be banished to a distance of 3 *ri* from the Imperial residence. That was merely a subterfuge; a cowardly scheme on the part of Ministers to hide themselves under the shadow of the Throne, and shift to the Sovereign's shoulders responsibilities that ought to be borne by themselves. There never was, never could be, any question of treasonable designs against the Throne. The Government might banish men like himself from Tokyo, might even send him to prison at Tsukudajima, but he would nevertheless remain a loyal subject, loving his country and opposed only to measures that disgraced it. The House would be running directly counter to the wish of the nation if it rejected the Bill.

Viscount Tani spoke at some length in favour of the Bill. He admitted that the Regulations may have been necessary at the time they were enacted, but asserted that the manner of their enactment had been hasty and ill-considered. He held that the time was passed for such a law, and that it could not stand side by side with the Constitution. Were there any need hereafter for such Regulations, they could be re-enacted with the consent of the Diet.

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Viscount Nomura pointed out the unpractical character of Viscount Tani's suggestion that Regulations, eminently calculated to meet a sudden emergency, could be effectively enacted by the slow process of parliamentary legislation.

Mr. Suyematsu Kencho reminded the House that the punitive processes of the Regulations could not be enforced except in the case of persons refusing to obey the orders issued by the Executive. It was further to be noted that if a necessity for such Regulations admittedly existed seven years ago, no one could possibly declare with confidence that a similar necessity might not arise now. As to the alleged disgrace of the Regulations, they should remember that cognate laws were in existence in certain European countries, and had been enacted in Italy as lately as 1894.

After some desultory discussion and questioning of the Government Delegate, an Open Ballot was taken, when 107 voted against the Bill, and 57 in favour of it.

Prince Konoye, on behalf of the Special Committee, reported in favour of the Second Bill, as sent up from the Lower House.

Mr. Tsuzuki, Government Delegate, spoke against the Bill. He admitted that it had never been necessary to actually enforce the provisions of the Notification in question, but that was probably because they existed. At all events, there were already evidences of combinations among the members of neighbouring local assemblies such as might greatly embarrass the Administration.

Viscount Sakai contradicted the Government Delegate, and cited an instance from his own personal experience of the law having been applied to disperse a meeting of members of neighbouring Prefectural Assemblies.

Mr. Mitsukuri Rinsho spoke in favour of the Bill.

The House voted for the Second Reading, and passed the Bill at once, rising at 2.15 p.m.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The House met at 1.15 p.m., the Order of the Day being :—

The Budget for the 28th Fiscal Year of *Meiji*.

After a short report from the Chairman of the Petitions Committee,

Mr. Taketomi Tokitoshi, on behalf of the Budget Committee, reported that, after 33 sittings of the Sections of the Committee and 3 general meetings, it had been decided ■ recommend the passing of the Budget as presented by the Government, with reductions aggregating only a little over 598,000 *yen*. Moreover, these reductions included a sum of half a million *yen* in the appropriation for the Second Reserve. Consequently, the actual expenditures had been cut down by only some 98,000 *yen*. Probably some members might be dissatisfied with that result, but the Committee considered that, in view of the circumstances of the time, no other course was open. In answer to questions, he said that no promise had been given by the Government or sought by the Committee with reference to next year's Budget.

Mr. Ozaki Yukio spoke in support of the Committee's Report. It was the House's plain duty to render every possible assistance to the Government in the conduct of the great enterprise now devolving on the nation. On the other hand, the Government, in consideration of the attitude thus necessarily assumed by the House, was morally bound to make every possible reduction in the administrative expenditures. It appeared that the Government had done so, and the House, although one of its prime functions was to take care that the utmost economy was practised in spending the public funds, could not, on this occasion, withhold its consent. Did there appear in the Budget any expenditures of an unconstitutional or illegal nature the House could not choose but excise them. Fortunately, however, there were no such items, and the House was therefore in a position to avoid hampering the Administration at a crisis when official energies were all needed in another direction. Should it eventuate that any improper steps were taken in carrying out this Budget, the House would have it in its power to adopt corrective measures hereafter.

Mr. Takenouchi Seishi opposed the Report. He failed to see why reductions applied to the ordinary expenditures should embarrass the Government in the conduct of a war, funds for which were provided by special measures. If the House passed the Budget in its present form, they would be stultifying themselves. He therefore moved that the Budget be re-entrusted to the Committee.

The House rejected the motion.

Mr. Inouye Kakugoro was astonished and delighted to find the representative of the *Kaishin-to* support the Budget. In point of fact no one had changed his financial views, but all were agreed that the time called for absolute harmony between the Legislature and the Executive.

Mr. Kawashima Jun supported the Budget as amended. He thought that great improvements had been effected in the management of the public finances since the Diet first sat. But he did not pretend to be by any means satisfied yet. Nevertheless, they were engaged in a war that seemed still far from its conclusion, and it was their duty to subserve all minor questions to the great need of the hour. He should, therefore, vote for the Budget, promising himself to urge large reforms on a future occasion.

The House then proceeded to vote upon the various Sections of the Budget.

The Sections of Foreign Affairs, Home Affairs, Finance, Army, and Navy were passed without discussion.

On coming to the Department of Justice,

Mr. Shigeoka Kungoro moved that the reduction proposed in the 9th part by the Committee be rejected and the Government's estimate restored.

The House agreed, and passed the whole section as presented by the Government.

The Sections of Education and Agriculture and Commerce were passed ■ amended by the Committee, but the Government appropriation was restored in part 6 of the Communications Section.

The Extraordinary Expenditures Budget was similarly passed, the only discussion that took place having reference to the Tanko Railway, the Government's subsidy, the price of coal, and other matters.

All the other correlated Budgets were passed without discussion.

The House rose at 4.50 p.m.

REVENUE.

Class A.—Ordinary Revenue.

1.—Taxes	70,902,311.563
1. Land Tax	38,353,927.940
2. Income Tax	1,287,535.647
3. Tax on Saké	17,386,918.879
4. Tax on Alcohol	4,110.580
5. Tax on Yeast	31,610.000
6. Tax on Tobacco	2,904 423.286
7. Tax on Deed-, Certificates, &c.	821,884.290
8. Tax on Soy	1,288 645.962
9. Tax on Confectionery	568,850.519
10. Export Duty on Liquors of Okinawa	15,009.020
11. Tax on Exchanges	378 893 976
12. Tax on National ■anks	220,730 160
13. Tax on Drugs	677,140 877
14. Tax on Ships and Boats	264.544 971
15. Tax on Carriages & Waggons	771,400 000
16. Tax on Mining Business	178,581.889
17. Tax on Hokkaido Marine Products	304,615.307
18. Tax on the Sale of Horses and Cattle	72,142,000
19. Customs Duties	5.372,641.260
2.—Licences and Fees	2,540,381.499
3.—Receipts from Government Industries and Properties	12,290,207,381
1. Receipts from the "Official Gazette"	183,885.710
2. Miscellaneous Receipts from Customs Houses	126,989 188
3. Receipts from Government Industries	1.336 014
4. Receipts from Forests	10,005 959.490
5. Receipts from Posts and Telegraphs	7.718,353 534
6. Sale of Medicinal Opium	10,007,800
7. Receipts from Work of Convicts	195,670.714
8. Sales of Government Properties	217.278.770
9. Sales of Scales and Measures	1.093.948
10. Profit of the Mint	195,184.632
11. Profit of the Senju Woollen Factory	1,645.242
12. Profit of Railways	2,518.116.049
13. Profit of the Printing Bureau	110,176.124
14. Profit of the Factory Manufacturing Telegraphic and Lighthouse Articles	1,583.166
4.—Miscellaneous Receipts	686 093.840
1. Penalties and Confiscations	250,072.252
2. Indemnities	52 300 861
3. Miscellaneous Receipts	261.597.534
4. Payment in connexion with Aids to the Survivors of Government Officers	99,172.972
5. Payment in connexion with Pensions to School Directors and Licensed Teachers, and Aids to their Survivors	10,534.480
6. Receipts from Okinawa Ken	11,770.160
7. Receipts from Ogasawara-jima	645.725
8. Interest on money deposited	1,214,902.000
Total	87,633,926.283

Extraordinary Revenue.

1.—Sales of Government Properties	613.524.559
1. Sales of Mines	253.928.000
2. Sales of Lands	42.777.966
3. Sales of Buildings	57.869.330
4. Sales of Articles	213 455.894
5. Sales of Live Stock	16,717.469
6. Sales of Articles belonging to Poronai Colliery and of Poronai—Ikushumbetsu Railway	28,779 900
2.—Miscellaneous Receipts	223,400.134
1. Receipts from Ships or Boats built or repaired on trust by the Navy	83.335.971
2. Money refunded	90,064.163
3. Miscellaneous Receipts	50,000.000
3.—Amount transferred from the Central Famine Relief Fund	185,300.000
4.—Aids to the Fund for building men-of-war	1,644.558.477
1. Imperial Grant	300,000.000
2. Donations	1,344 558.477
Total	2,666,783.170
Grand total of Revenue	90,300,709.454

EXPENDITURE.

Ordinary Expenditure.

1. Crown	3,000,000.000

Department of Foreign Affairs.

1.—The Department proper	99.149.939
1. Salaries and Allowances	62,715.000
2. Office Expenses	8,140.643
3. Repairs	3,600.000
4. Expenses connected with Casualties	10.000
5. Indemnities and Expenses of Law suits	10.000
6. Travelling Expenses	1,268.000
7. Miscellaneous Salaries and Expenses	7,004.990
8. Telegrams	4.701.306
9. Reception Expenses	2,500.000
10. Salaries and Allowances for Foreign Employés	7,200.000
2.—Legations and Consulates	705.381.452
1. Salaries and Allowances	450,549 087
2. Office Expenses	47,324 020
3. Repairs	9,998.887
4. Law Court and Prison Expenses	1,124.753
5. Management of Settlements in Korea	25,368.289
6. Indemnities and Expenses of Law suits	10.000
7. Salaries and Allowances for Foreign Employés already engaged	7.591.100
8. Rents of Houses and Land already leased	20,610.118
9. Travelling Expenses	42,896.220
10. Miscellaneous Salaries and Expenses	15,746.666
11. Telegrams	4.813 053
12. Reception Expenses	10,527.740
13. Relief Fund for Japanese Abroad	67.267
14. Cemeteries	200 000
15. Students Abroad	3.251 000
16. Secret Service Fund	30,000.000
17. Salaries and Allowances for Foreign Employés	0.221 ■■■

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18. Rents of Houses and Land...	25,331,872
Total	804,531,391

Department of Home Affairs.

1.—The Shrine of Ise	27,113,000
2.—Expenses for Shrines	179,696,500
1. Expenses for Shrines	177,906,500
2. Expenses for regular Fêtes of State Shrines.....	1,790 000
3.—The Department proper	255,078 497
1. Salaries and Allowances.....	129,952 000
2. Office Expenses	22,049 136
3. Repairs	3,613 400
4. Expenses connected with Casualties	1.000
5. Indemnities and Expenses of Law-suits	8.000
6. Travelling Expenses.....	24,283.250
7. Miscellaneous Salaries and Expenses	36,230 342
8. Expenses for examining Medical Practitioners and Dispensers	10,440.669
9. Opium Expenses	8,000.000
10. Preservation of Old Shrines.	20,000.000
11. Salaries and allowances for Foreign Employés	500.000
4.—Sanitary Laboratory	24.893.169
1. Salaries and Allowances.....	15.403 000
2. Office Expenses	4.780 365
3. Repairs	637.662
4. Expenses connected with Casualties	1.000
5 Indemnities and Expenses for Law-suits	2.000
6. Travelling Expenses.....	306.000
7. Miscellaneous Salaries and Expenses	3,342.142
8. Expenses for manufacturing Stamps	421.000
5.— Office for Superintending Public Works	89,133 300
1. Salaries and allowances ...	49.143.000
2. Office Expenses.....	3,930.000
3. Repairs	687.000
4. Expenses connected with Casualties	1.000
5. Indemnities and Law suits ...	191,000
6. Salaries and Allowances for Foreign Employés already engaged	6,000.000
7. Travelling Expenses.....	21,880.000
8. Miscellaneous Salaries and Expenses	6,186 300
9. Surveying Expenses	1,115.000
6.—Penitentiaries	411,374.864
1. Salaries and Allowances	21,412 000
2. Office Expenses.....	7,172.543
3. Repairs	8.583.176
4. Expenses connected with Casualties	1 000
5. Prisoners' Expenses	241,255.772
6. Prisoners' Expenses in Fu and Ken.....	28,015.400
7. Indemnities and Law suits ...	2.000
8. Travelling Expenses.....	9,648.965
9. Miscellaneous Salaries and Expenses	95,234.008
7.—Metropolitan Police Board ...	254.482.921
1. Salaries and Allowances	165.179 000
2. Office Expenses.....	15,138.815
3. Repairs	3,097 000
4. Rewards	23.000
5. Superintendence of Foreigners in Tokyo.....	3,463 992
6. Expenses connected with Casualties	4.000
7. Indemnities and Law-suits ...	201 000
8. Travelling Expenses.....	4,891.000
9. Miscellaneous Salaries and Expenses	49,485.114
11. Secret Service Fund.	13,000.000
8.—Police Expenses of the Seven Islands of Izu	3,369.059
1. Expenses connected with Casualties	1.000
2. Office Expenses.....	51 000
3. Repairs	21.000
4. Travelling Expenses.....	1,365 730
5. Miscellaneous Salaries and Expenses.....	1,930.326
9.—Hokkaido Administration Board	988,071 721
1. Salaries and Allowances	170,143 000
2. Office Expenses.....	58,260.333
3. Repairs	11,874.159
4. Rewards	440 711
5. Repairs of Foreign Settlement	121.000
6. Expenses connected with Casualties	94.656
7. Conscription Expenses..	843.635
8. Imperial Grant and Relief Fund	1,256.060
9. Wrecked Ships' Expenses ...	588.760
10. Expenses for Arrears	19.327
11. Expenses relating to the Transportation, &c., of Criminal Defendants and Criminals ...	12,041.610
12. Prisoners' Expenses	36,538.912
13. Indemnities and Law-suits...	585.496
14. Travelling Expenses.....	53,019 500
15. Miscellaneous Salaries and Expenses.....	184.638.912
16. Management of Sailors	162 408
17. New Enterprises Expenses ...	220.763 441
18. Prison Expenses	29,837.681
19. Public Works	115,155 280
20. Sanitary Expenses.....	10,410.921
21. Educational Expenses	34,619.607
22. Aids to Aborigines	5,017 968
23. Industrial Expenses	7,504 359
24. Subsidies.....	27,159.987
25. Hakodate Quarantine and Preservation of Hospital for Infectious Diseases	600.000
26. Secret Service Fund.....	6,344.000
10.—Hokkaido Penitentiaries	522,801.626
1. Salaries and Allowances	32,549.000
2. Office Expenses.....	12,299.133
3. Repairs	2,074.125
4. Expenses connected with Casualties	4.000
5. Prisoners' Expenses	301,942.977
6. Indemnities and Law-suits...	2.000
7. Travelling Expenses.....	13,653.140
8. Miscellaneous Salaries and Expenses	160,277 252
11.—Fu and Ken	4,637.161.757
1. Salaries and Allowances.....	2,290 929.000
2. Office Expenses.....	186.880 265
3. Rewards	13,724 760
4. Management and Repairs of Foreign Settlements.....	129,895.129
5. Preservation of Yokohama Public Garden	950.000
6. Repairs of Yokohama Explosive Warehouses	2,045.000
7. Expenses for Nagasaki Foreign Cemetary	311.005
8. Expenses connected with Casualties	586 000
9. Conscription Expenses.....	138,161.581
10. Imperial Grant and Relief Fund	146,579 000
11. Expenses for Wrecked Ships	1,120.499
12. Indemnities and Law-suits ...	9,525.000
13. Salaries and Allowances for Foreign Employés' already engaged	5,760.000
14. Joint Police Expenses	955.015 000
15. Travelling Expenses.....	450,492.000
16. Miscellaneous Salaries and Expenses	192,479.540
17. Quarantine Office, &c.	3,804.650
18. Public Works.....	31,651.328
19. Secret Service Fund.....	77,250.000
12.—Local Expenses of the Bonin Islands	9.208 550
1. Expenses connected with Casualties	1.000
2. Repairs	585.000
3. Police Expenses.....	2,645.150
4. Prison Expenses	262 400
5. Prisoners' Expenses	130.000
6. Wrecked Ships' Expenses ...	217.000
7. Public Works.....	1,271.000
8. Education Expenses	692.000
9. Industrial Expenses	3,295 000
10 Reserved Rice Fund.....	300.000
13.—Local Expenses of Okinawa Ken.....	161,363.005
1. Expenses connected with Casualties	1 000
2. Repairs	1,108 000
3. Police Expenses.....	37,239 780
4. Prison Expenses	11,132.515
5. Prisoners' Expenses	11,125.254
6. Wrecked Ships' Expenses ...	1.000
7. Public Works.....	6,176.380
8. Sanitary and Hospital Expenses	12,561.850
9. Education Expenses.....	22,530.600
10. Industrial Expenses	4,557.500
11. Office Expenses.....	12,342 930
12. Expenses of Office at Shuri...	8,043.800
13. Salaries for Native Officials..	33.459 396
14. Relief Fund	9.000
15. Expenses for Notifications, etc.	1,551.000
14.—Local Office Expenses of Tsushima	8,060.221
1. Expenses connected with Casualties	26 000
2. Office Expenses.....	615 066
3. Travelling Expenses.....	803.465
4 Miscellaneous Salaries and Expenses	6,615.690
15.—Local Police Expenses of Oshima	7,034.757
1. Expenses connected with Casualties	1.000
2. Office Expenses.....	364.329
3. Travelling Expenses.....	744.150
4. Miscellaneous Salaries and Expenses	5,925 278
Total	7,578,792.947

Department of Finance.

1.—The Department proper	246,790.910
1. Salaries and Allowances	151 983.000
2. Office Expenses.....	21,018 681
3. Repairs	3,610.953
4. Publication of Rates of Exchange for Customs Tariff ...	595.000
5. Expenses connected with Casualties	2.000
6. Expenses for preparing Government Bonds and Notes...	2,040.116
7. Indemnities and Law-suits ...	1,460.000
8. Travelling Expenses.....	13,247.000
9. Miscellaneous Salaries and Expenses	43,857.340
10. Expenses for preparing Notes intimating the Collection of Taxes, &c.	8,976.820
2.—National Debts	24,344,575.438
1. Redemption of Loans	6,040,083.673
2. Interest on Loans	16,016,683.026
3. Interest on Deposits.....	1,214,902.000
4. Charges incidental to the Redemption of Loans with Interest	72,906.739
5. Redemption of Subsidiary Notes	1,000,000,000
3.—Pension and Rewards.....	1,937.901.461
1. Annual Pensions connected with Decorations	126.731.000
2. Civil Service Pensions	668.954.993
3. Military Service Pensions ...	962,994 865
4. School masters' Pensions.....	19,106.681
5. Pensions for Okinawa Ken...	148,447.256
6. Prescribed Pensions to Foreigners	7,850.000
7. Pensions to Foreigners.....	3.816.667
4.—The Cabinet.....	182,434.275
1. Salaries and Allowances	92.575.000
2. Office Expenses.....	9,421 000
3. Repairs	2,299 700
4. Rewards	18,266.000
5. Expenses connected with Casualties	17.000
6. Salaries and Allowances for Foreign Employés already engaged	3,000.000
7. Travelling Expenses.....	889.600
8. Miscellaneous Salaries and Expenses	15,967.975
9. Secret Service Fund.....	40,000 000
5.—The Privy Council	103,804.230
1. Salaries and Allowances	95.234.000
2. Office Expenses.....	2,720 000
3. Repairs	1,116 900
4. Travelling Expenses	592 800
5. Miscellaneous Salaries and Expenses	4,140.530
6.—The House of Peers.....	237 868.000
1. Allowances for Members.....	180,471.000
2. Salaries and Allowances.....	18 640 000
3. Office Expenses	15,032 000
4. Repairs	741.000
5. Travelling Expenses	150.000
6. Miscellaneous Salaries and Expenses	22,734.003
7.—The House of Representatives.	318,812 000
1. Allowances for Members	259 400.000
2. Salaries and Allowances.....	18,315.000
3. Office Expenses	14,548 000
4. Repairs	741 000
5. Travelling Expenses	150.000
6. Miscellaneous Salaries and Expenses	25,158.000
8.—The Board of Audit.....	125,940.000
1. Salaries and Allowances.....	110,729.000
2. Office Expenses	3,376.000
3 Repairs	775 000
4. Travelling Expenses.....	3,500 000
5. Miscellaneous Salaries and Expenses	7,560 000
9.—Administrative Court...	39 847 670
1. Salaries and Allowances.....	34,988 000
2. Office Expenses	1,566.000
3. Repairs	445 000
4. Travelling Expenses.....	371.000
5. Miscellaneous Salaries and Expenses	2,477.670
10.—*Official Gazette* Bureau	186,218 080
1. Salaries and Allowances.....	12,062.000
2. Official Expenses	2,955 000
3. Repairs	266 400
4. Travelling Expenses.....	136.800
5. Miscellaneous Salaries and Expenses.....	6,466.880
6. Printing Expenses.....	164.331.000
11.—Customs Houses.....	196,738 000
1. Salaries and Allowances...	94,607,000

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2. Office Expenses	17,944,000
3. Repairs	17,075.000
4. Purchase of Goods dutiable ad valorem	210.000
5. Expenses connected with Casualties	8 000
6. Indemnities and Law-suits...	332 000
7. Travelling Expenses	4,451.000
8. Miscellaneous Salaries and Expenses	61,929.000
9. Rewards for Informants against Smuggling	182.000
12.—Expenses of Collecting Domestic Taxes	1,651,713.054
1. Salaries and Allowances	760,609.000
2. Office Expenses	120,433.982
3. Repairs	889 000
4. Income Tax Investigations	34,276.910
5. Moneys handed to Shi, Cho, and Son	164,767.254
6. Expenses in connection with Arrears of Taxes, Payments, and Violations of Regulations	18,519.000
7. Expenses of Stamps and Licenses	116,661.842
8. Indemnities and Law-suits	10,990
9. Travelling Expenses	231,705.740
10. Miscellaneous Salaries and Expenses	190,001.001
11. Management of dutiable Goods in Okinawa	13,838.335
13.—Civil Service Examination Expenses	4,750.104
1. Official Expenses	964.764
2. Repairs	50,000
3. Miscellaneous Salaries and Expenses	3.735.340
14.—Cost of dealing with Currency	404,279,000
1. Expenses of exchanging defaced Notes and Coins	1,807.000
2. Money paid to the Nippon Ginko	400,000.000
3. Miscellaneous Expenses in dealing with Notes and Coins	2,472.000
15.—Fund for Miscellaneous Repayments and for Supplying Deficits	166,950.000
1. Miscellaneous Repayments	159.447.000
2. Deficits made good	7.503.000
16.—Reserve Fund of the Treasury	2,500,000 000
1. The First Reserve	1,000,000.000
2. The Second Reserve	1,500 000 000
Total	32,648,122.222

Department of War.

1.—The Department proper	172,600.967
1. Salaries and Allowances	116,443.800
2. Office Expenses	19.579 954
3. Repairs	1,011.854
4. Travelling Expenses	12,893.020
5. Miscellaneous Salaries and Expenses	11,214.239
6. Miscellaneous Allowances	10,512.000
7. Clothing	526,100
8. Horse Expenses	420.000
2.—Military Expenses	12,271,774 280
1. Salaries and Allowances	3.992,083.346
2. Miscellaneous Allowances	490.606.610
3. Students abroad	57,105 082
4. Provisions	2,210,480 795
5. Clothing	1,668,327.080
6. Arms and Ammunition	1,062,714.561
7. Horses	812,838.877
8. Reviews and Exercises	527,180.503
9. Medical Attendance	104,694.404
10. Office Expenses	222,252 635
11. Barrack Necessaries	280.324.716
12. Repairs	191,875.277
13. Expenses connected with Casualties	1,499.244
14. Allowances to Retired Soldiers	70.000
15. Prisoners' Expenses	25,108 796
16. Indemnities and Law-suits	170.000
17. Travelling Expenses	201,028.455
18. Miscellaneous Salaries and Expenses	266,648.428
19. Military Maps	26,206.471
20. Expenses in Connexion with Imperial Processions	1,215.000
21. Secret Service Fund	32,000.000
22. Salaries and Allowances for Foreign Employés	7.344.000
3.—Gendarmerie	303.527 923
1. Salaries and Allowances	173,466 720
2. Miscellaneous Allowance	23.091.600
3. Clothing	27,771.505
4. Arms and Ammunition	5.384 345
5. Horses	10,022.341
6. Office Expenses	15.445.568
7. Repairs	2,673 380
8. Expenses connected with Casualties	46.000
9. Prisoners' Expenses	993 800
10. Indemnities and Law suits	6.000
11. Travelling Expenses	9,296.955
12. Miscellaneous Salaries and Expenses	26,095 731
13. Secret Service Fund	9.240 000
4.—Colonial Troops	496.268.267
1. Salaries and Allowances	101,753 308
2. Miscellaneous Allowances	9.692 534
3. Provisions	222.685.800
4. Clothing	30.827.663
5. Arms and Ammunition	15,163.839
6. Horses	6.090 420
7. Reviews and Exercises	14.501.890
8. Medical Attendance	6,966.042
9. Office Expenses	6,927.492
10. Barrack Necessaries	7.889 896
11. Repairs	2,800.000
12. Expenses connected with Casualties	50,000
13. Prisoners' Expenses	955.736
14. Indemnities and Law-suits	10.000
15. Travelling Expenses	12,952.980
16. Miscellaneous Salaries and Expenses	13,090.250
17. Emigration Expenses	44,010.642
5.—Donations to the Yasukuni Shrine	7,550.000
Total	13,251,721.459

Department of the Navy.

1.—The Department proper	96,466.713
1. Salaries and Allowances	68,974.800
2. Office Expenses	10,625.573
3. Repairs	720.000
4. Expenses in connection with Casualties	10.000
5. Indemnities and Law-suits	20.000
6. Travelling Expenses	2,439.490
7. Miscellaneous Salaries and Expenses	13,676.850
2.—Naval Expenses	5,523,095.214
1. Salaries and Allowances	2,153.111 310
2. Miscellaneous Allowances	27,016 740
3. Students Abroad	33,825.229
4. Salaries and Allowances for Foreign Employés already engaged	2,400.000
5. Provisions	592,005 309
6. Clothing	216,666.879
7. Arms and Ammunition	773,844 247
8. Ship Building and Repairs	548,158.160
9. Reviews and Exercises	30,000.000
10. Medical Expenses	16,860.369
11. Office Expenses	139,859.343
12. Expenses connected with Naval Stations	54.593.340
13. Necessaries for Men of-war	460.230.947
14. Repairs	43,851.024
15. Expenses connected with Casualties	224.000
16. Aids to Survivors	85.730 871
17. Prisoners' Expenses	69,980.842
18. Indemnities and Law-suits	114.250
19. Rents of Houses and Land	325 835
20. Travelling Expenses	114,154.657
21. Miscellaneous Salaries and Expenses	134.222.882
22. Hydrographical Expenses	53.890 595
23. Secret Service Fund	10,000.000
24. Salaries and Allowances for Foreign Employés already engaged	4,200.000
25 Watch-tower Expenses	17,810.690
Total	5,619,561.927

Department of Justice.

1.—The Department proper	94,689.269
1. Salaries and Allowances	55.378.278
2. Office Expenses	9,908.563
3. Repairs	1,300.000
4. Expenses connected with Casualties	7.000
5. Indemnities and Law-suits	55.000
6. Salaries and Allowances for Foreigners in Service	14,520.000
7. Travelling Expenses	2,500.000
8. Miscellaneous Salaries and Expenses	9,558.028
9. Judges, Procurators, and Barristers' Examinations	1,462.400
2.—Courts of Law	3,321,965.419
1. Salaries and Allowances	2,195.296.365
2. Office Expenses	326.317.549
3. Repairs	42,225.373
4. Expenses connected with Casualties	26.750
5. Expenses connected with giving Judgements	144.185 783
6. Registration of Papers and Notification Expenses	41,445.896
7. Registration Office Expenses in District and Village Offices	43,470.000
8. Indemnities and Law-suits	846.999
9. Travelling Expenses	73.313 350
10. Miscellaneous Salaries and Expenses	489.554.569
11. Secret Service Fund	4,440 000
Total	3,416,654.688

Department of Education.

1.—The Department proper	120,855.767
1. Salaries and Allowances	61,769 166
2. Office Expenses	6,730 948
3. Repairs	2,400.000
4. Expenses connected with Casualties	2,340
5. Indemnities and Law suits	7,000
6. Travelling Expenses	4,309 140
7. Miscellaneous Salaries and Expenses	12,051.190
8. The Gakushi Kai-in Annuities	1,500 000
9. Students' Expenses	33,190.331
10. International Surveying Association Expenses	695.652
2.—Earthquake Investigation Society	15,548.345
1. Salaries and Allowances	762.000
2. Repairs	82,770 780
3. Office Expenses	784.880
4. Expenses connected with Casulties	1.000
5. Indemnities and Law-suits	2.000
6. Travelling Expenses	2,000.000
7. Miscellaneous Salaries and Expenses	3.727.685
3.—Central Observatory	16,926.059
1. Salaries and Allowances	7.055.000
2. Office Expenses	5.777.509
3. Repairs	276,500
4. Expenses connected with Casualties	1.000
5. Indemnities and Law-suits	2.000
6. Travelling Expenses	510.150
7. Miscellaneous Salaries and Expenses	3.303 900
4.—Schools and Libraries	815,144.139
1. Imperial University	405.910 041
2. Higher Normal School	44,833.992
3. Higher Normal School for Women	24,247.078
4. Higher Commercial School	25,677 686
5. First Higher School	72,522.319
6. Second Higher School	36,236.137
7. Third Higher School	55 113.756
8. Fourth Higher School	35.653.077
9. Fifth Higher School	39.581.741
10. Sapporo Agricultural School	19.421 399
11. Tokyo Technical School	27.831.376
12. Tokyo Fine Arts School	19,245 830
13. Tokyo Deaf and Dumb School	974 217
14. Tokyo Library	7.895.490
5.—Salaries for Directors of Local Normal Schools	35.970.000
6.—Aids to Technical Education	150,000.000
1. Aids to Technical Education.	135,000.000
2. Expenses for Training Technical Teachers	15,000.000
Total	1,154.444 310

Department of Agriculture and Commerce.

1.—The Department proper	232.106.250
1. Salaries and Allowances	148.577 000
2. Office Expenses	23.739.375
3. Repairs	2,176 000
4. Expenses for International Weights and Measures	2,079.010
5. Expenses connected with Casualties	55.000
6. Indemnities and Law suits	120.000
7. Travelling Expenses	14,651.720
8. Miscellaneous Salaries and Expenses	18,198.745
9. Expenses connected with Standard Weights and Measures	6,781.800
10. Silk and Tea Experiment Expenses	3,318.000
11. Geological Survey and Map Making	12,409 600
2.—Forestry Office	558.342 569
1. Salaries and Allowances	251,392.000
2. Office Expenses	48,130.513
3. Repairs	2,845.000
4. Expenses connected with Casualties	100.000
5. Indemnities and Law-suits	1,600.000
6. Travelling Expenses	72,923.700
7. Miscellaneous Salaries and Expenses	8,699.450
8. Forests and Management of Forest Products	172.581.896
3.—Offices for Superintending Mining	56,960 600
1. Salaries and Allowances	31,380,000
2. Office Expenses	9,267.000
3. Repairs	600.000

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4. Expenses connected with Casualties	10.000
5. Indemnities and Law-suits...	100 000
6. Travelling Expenses	9,678.000
7. Miscellaneous Salaries and Expenses	5,935 600
4.—Agricultural Experimental Farm	36,178 828
1. Salaries and Allowances	16,380.000
2. Office Expenses	603 410
3. Repairs	500.000
4. Expenses connected with Casualties	10.000
5. Indemnities and Law suits...	5 000
6. Travelling Expenses	2,948 610
7. Miscellaneous Salaries and Expenses	1,861.250
8. Experimental Expenses	13,870.558
5.—Marine Products' Investigation Office	33.920.000
1. Salaries and Allowances	4.980 000
2. Office Expenses	457 900
3. Repairs	100.000
4. Expenses connected with Casualties	5.000
5. Indemnities and Law-suits ...	5.000
6. Travelling Expenses	2,685.000
7. Miscellaneous Salaries and Expenses	13,627.100
8. Marine Products' Investigation Expenses	3,140 000
9. Fishing Grounds' Investigation	8,920.000
Total	917,508.247

Department of Communications.

1.—The Department proper	191,924.831
1. Salaries and Allowances	117,222.278
2. Office Expenses	15,968.794
3. Repairs	3,662.800
4. Expenses connected with Casualties	52.000
5. Indemnities and Law-suits ...	10.000
6. Salaries for Foreigners already in Service	4.560.000
7. Travelling Expenses	18,806.351
8. Miscellaneous Salaries and Expenses	31,642.608
2.—Communication Expenses	5,950,666 715
1. Salaries and Allowances	992.846 778
2. Office Expenses	110,106.054
3. Repairs	15,628.480
4. International Post and Telegraph Union Expenses	2,438.323
5. Expenses connected with Casualties	598.697
6. Communication Business Expenses	3,995,668 462
7. Indemnities and Law-suits ...	262.401
8. Money to be refunded	571.439 010
9. Travelling Expenses	100,318.800
10. Miscellaneous Salaries and Expenses	141,359 710
3.—Expenses for Nautical Signals...	149 554.134
1. Salaries and Allowances	149.554.134
2. Office Expenses	1,949 500
3. Repairs	630.000
4. Expenses connected with Casualties	465.700
5. Nautical Signal Expenses ...	57.496 754
6. Indemnities and Law-suits ...	5.000
7. Travelling Expenses	4,910.500
8. Miscellaneous Salaries and Expenses	20,930 513
4.—Mariners' Expenses	30,268 763
1. Salaries and Allowances	21,896 944
2. Office Expenses	1,992.400
3. Repairs	385 200
4. Expenses connected with Casualties	10.000
5. Indemnities and Law suits...	3 000
6. Travelling Expenses	303 675
7. Miscellaneous Salaries and Expenses	2,944 469
5.—School of Navigation	32.008 975
1. Salaries and Allowances	10,244 000
2. Office Expenses	4,464.660
3. Repairs	531.280
4. Expenses connected with Casualties	6 000
5. Indemnities and Law-suits...	3.000
6. Travelling Expenses	580.000
7. Miscellaneous Salaries and Expenses	3,583.967
8. Students' Expenses	12,596.068
6.—Tokyo Post and Telegraph School	18.571.449
1. Salaries and Allowances	8,028.000
2. Official Expenses	4,072 051
3. Repairs	500.000
4. Expenses connected with Casualties	5.000
5. Indemnities and Law-suits ...	3.000
6. [illegible]ses	158.380
7. Miscellaneous Salaries and Expenses	3,344.918
8. Students' Expenses	2,460.100
Total	6,372,994 867
Grand Total	74,764,332.058

Extraordinary Expenditures.

Department of Foreign Affairs.

1.—Construction and Repairs	36,229.006
1. Construction of Japanese Consulate Söul	31,946.413
2. Repairs	4,282.593

Department of Home Affairs.

1.—Subsidies	282,083.148
1. Aids to Navigation to Sakijima	5,000.000
2. Aids to Mombetsu Sugar Refinery	2,722.148
3. Aids to Hokkaido Colliery and Railway Company	244,461.000
4. Aids to Navigation to Okinawa Island	700.000
5. Aids to Infectious Diseases Laboratory	15,000,000
6. Aids to Navigation to Hokkaido	2,000.000
7. Aids to Navigation to Ogasawara-jima	6,200.000
8. Aids to Navigation to Oshima Islands	6,000 000
2.—Public Works Subsidies	219,702.837
1. Aids to Tokyo Water Works	150,000.000
2. Aids to Osaka Water Works	50,000.000
3. Aids to Dredging Expenses of Osaka Harbour	13,634.000
4. Aids to the Construction of Road between Kumamoto and Fukuoka Prefectures	6,068.837
3.—Public Works Expenses	844,056.372
1. Salaries and Allowances	44,618 000
2. Office Expenses	6,038.864
3. Expenses connected with Casualties	119.000
4. Travelling Expenses	29,640.480
5. Miscellaneous Salaries and Expenses	22,799.780
6. Construction and Repairs	821.500
7. Investigation Expenses	32,275 552
8. Tonegawa Control Works Expenses	140,000.000
9. Kitakamigawa Control Works Expenses	40,000.000
10. Mogamigawa Control Works Expenses	20,000.000
11. Shinanogawa Control Works Expenses	173,000.000
12. Kisogawa Control Works Expenses	285,663.196
13. Ogawa Control Works Expenses	400.000
14. Abukumagawa Control Works Expenses	400.000
15. Aganogawa Control Works Expenses	400.000
16. Yoshinogawa Control Works Expenses	400.000
17. Shogawa Control Works Expenses	400.000
18. Yodogawa Re-construction Works	30,000,000
19. Fujikawa Re-construction Works	6,880.000
20. Tenryugawa Re-construction Works	10,200.000
4.—Fu and Ken	13.619.112
5.—Yokohama Harbour Re-construction Works	144.122.957
1. Salaries and Allowances	13.548 000
2. Office Expenses	1,237.327
3. Expenses connected with Casualties	247.600
4. Indemnities and Law-suits ...	268 000
5. Travelling Expenses	1,089.360
6. Miscellaneous Salaries and Expenses	26.886.343
7. Repairs	1,040 000
8. Reconstruction Works Expenses	99,869.027
6.—Construction Expenses of Offices and Houses of the Diet	25.265.644
1. Salaries and Allowances	12,309.000
2. Office Expenses	794.150
3. Expenses connected with Casualties	40.000
4. Indemnities and Law-suits...	2.000
5. Salaries for Foreigners	4,800,000
6. Miscellaneous Salaries and Expenses	7.070.494
7. Repairs	250.000
7.—Construction and Repairs	61,907.349
1. Kasumigaseki Penitentiary Brick Wall Construction Expenses	8,270.466
2. New Construction	44,648.782
3. Repairs	8,988.092
8.—Hokkaido Works Expenses	328,644.575
1. Roads, Bridges, Drainages, and Embankment Expenses	174,053 697
2. Horonuit-Umaoi Drainage Expenses	67,553.727
3. Barato-Zenibako Drainage Expenses	37,838.000
4. Sapporo-Barato Canal and Drainage Expenses	33.977.371
5. Harbour Investigation and Experiment Expenses	15,221.780
9.—Hokkaido Exhibits Expenses to Fourth Domestic Exhibition.	2,500.000
Total	1,921,901.985

Department of Finance.

1.—Central Famine Relief Fund Subsidy	185.300 000
2.—Subsidies	672,846 410
1. Nippon Railway Company...	586.033 910
2. Kyushu Railway Company...	85.000.000
3. Sanyo Railway Company ...	1,812 500
3.—Public Bonds, manufacturing and issuing Expenses	300,473.975
1. Railway Bonds, manufacturing and issuing Expenses	6,784.507
2. War Loan Bonds, manufacturing and issuing Expenses	293.689.468
4.—Codes Investigation Committee	39 040.000
1. Office Expenses	1,620 000
2. Repairs	120.000
3. Miscellaneous Salaries and Expenses	37.300.000
5.—Construction and Repairs	104.478.674
1. Yokohama Customs Warehouses Construction	63,985.660
2. Yokohama Customs Transportion Way Construction	25.020.421
3. New Construction	15.472 593
6.—Akita Han Supplementary Allowances	160.951
Total	1,302,300.010

Department of War.

1.—Construction of Forts	1,090,438.853
1. Tokyo Bay Forts	303.000.000
2. Shimonoseki Forts	100,000.000
3. Ki-Tan Sea Forts	100,000 000
4. Arms and Ammunition	587,438.853
2.—Construction of Repeating Rifles	326,088.000
3.—Construction and Repairs	400,437.627
1. Ke-Tan Straits Barracks Construction	19,100.000
2. Tokyo Bay Barracks Construction	5,662.500
3. Steel Refinery Construction Expenses	21,169.000
4. Colonial Troops Barracks, &c., Construction	122,323 890
5. New Construction	232,182.237
4.—Surveying Expenses	183,910 209
1. Salaries and Allowances	16,896.000
2. Miscellaneous Allowances ...	2,559 000
3. Surveying Expenses	161,466.691
4. Office Expenses	914.268
5. Miscellaneous Salaries and Expenses	2.074.250
Total	2,000,874.686

Department of the Navy.

1.—Construction of Men-of-war	7,116,360.227
1. Building commenced in 1891	164.308.000
2. Building of Iron-clads commenced in 1893	6,579,001 502
3. Building of a cruiser and a Despatch Vessel commenced in 1893	373.050 725
2.—Public Works	595.769.500
1. Construction of Kure Admiralty	200,000.000
2. Construction of Sasebo Admiralty	295.769 500
3. Construction of Arsenal	100.000.000
3.—Construction and Repairs	91,018.272
1. New Construction	90,058 272
2. Repairs	960.000
4.—Repairs of Vessels entrusted	34,177.000
5.—Gun-powder experimental Expenses	38,584.365
6.—A Dredger construction Expenses	191,577.600
7.—Expenses for despatching mechanics abroad	17,822.200
Total	8,085,309.164

Department in Charge of Communication.

1.—Construction and Repairs	63,455 000
Department of Education.	
1.—Construction and Repairs	

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1. Construction of Rooms for Chemical Technology and Mineralology of the Imperial University	47,656.000
2. New Construction	9,540.000
3. Accommodation Expenses for Imperial University, Lecture Rooms and Hospitals	10,533.424
2.—Construction of machines of Tokyo Technical School	1,500.000
3.—Compilation of Historical Materials at Imperial University	12,900.000
Total	82,129.424

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COMMERCE.

1.—Forests and Fields Investigation Expenses	39,151.500
1. Office Expenses	6,712.800
2. Travelling Expenses	19,996.300
3. Miscellaneous Salaries and Expenses	12,442.400
2.—Fourth Domestic Exhibition Expenses	97,477.172
1. Miscellaneous Allowances	19,000.000
2. Travelling Expenses	31,729.572
3. Office Expenses	42,747.600
4. Construction and Repairs	4,000.000
3.—Iron Foundry Investigation Expenses	39,945.000
1. Office Expenses	25,795.000
2. Travelling Expenses	2,500.000
3. Miscellaneous Salaries and Expenses	11,650.000
4.—Horses Investigation Expenses	12,631.090
1. Office Expenses	730.100
2. Travelling Expenses	4,346.240
3. Miscellaneous Salaries and Expenses	7,554.750
Total	189,204.762

DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATIONS.

1.—Subsidies	939,750.000
1. Nippon Yusen Kaisha	880,000.000
2. Osaka Shosen Kaisha	50,000 000
3. Kobe-Nawa Navigation	9,750.000
2.—Construction and Repairs	367,571.872
1. New Construction	365,261.942
2. Repairs	2,309.930
3.—Extraordinary Foreign Travelling Expenses	4,357.760
Total	1,311,679.632
Grand Total	14,993,083.672

THURSDAY, JANUARY 24TH.

HOUSE OF PEERS.

The House did not meet.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The House met at 1.20 p.m., the Order of the Day being :—

1.—Second Reading of the Bill relating to the Control of Pawnbrokers.
2.—Second Reading of the Bill for amending the Sureties Regulations.
3.—Bill for taxing the Bank of Japan.
4.—Bill for amending the Bank of Japan Regulations.
5.—Bill relating to the Election of Members of Prefectural Assemblies and of the House of Representatives.
6.—Bill for amending the Brewery Tax Regulations.
7.—Bill for amending the Post-al Regulations.

Mr. Komuro Shigehiro presented a Question relating to the Sodo Sect disturbance, which he asserted was entirely due to improper interference on the part of the Home Department.

Mr. Yumoto Yoshinori asked permission to change the Order for the purpose of introducing a Representation on the subject of the Control of Rivers.

The House gave permission.

Mr. Yumoto confined himself to handing in the Representation without offering any explanation. The Representation simply called attention to the fact that in the 4th and 6th sessions the House of Representatives had submitted Representations on the same subject without result, and that, despite the existence of a state of war, some measure should be adopted at once, if the public finances permitted.

Mr. Kusakari Shimmei opposed the Representation on the ground that all the available funds of the State were required for the conduct of the war, and that if any surplus remained it must be applied, in the first place, to relieve the distress caused in the Prefectures of Akita and Yamagata by earthquakes.

Mr. Kawashima Jun declared that nothing was of such importance as the proper control of the rivers responsible for inundations that devastated the country, causing losses many times greater than the sum needed to avert such calamities. Already in the various localities money had been spent for the purpose, but unless the work were thoroughly done, these outlays were simply waste, being wholly ineffective. He too had presented a Representation urging that the necessary funds should be obtained either by means of a public loan, or by appropriations from the Treasury, and he moved that the two Representations be handed to a Special Committee.

The House refused to hand the Representation to a Committee, and passed it at once.

Mr. Higashiwo Heitaro, on behalf of the Special Committee, reported in favour of the Bill relating to the Control of Pawnbrokers, with certain amendments, and said that the Government Delegate had expressed approval of it.

Mr. Kusakari Shimmei put several questions, a process that evoked a vehement protest from Mr. Tanaka Shozo, who declared that the House was not a school, and that Mr. Kusakari had better inform himself before he came there.

Mr. Hashimoto Shogo also addressed some questions to the Government Delegate, but while the latter was replying cries of "Closure," "closure," were raised.

The House voted to carry the Bill to a Second Reading.

Mr. Komuro Shigeshiro, on behalf of the Special Committee, reported against the Bill for amending the Sureties Regulations, on the ground that it conflicted with the Code of Civil Procedure.

After a brief discussion the closure was applied and the House voted against the Second Reading of the Bill.

Mr. Ishida Kwannosuke, introducing the Bill for taxing the Bank of Japan, said that no just reason could be adduced for exempting such an institution from the imposts levied upon all industries and commercial enterprises. The Bank enjoyed many privileges, conspicuously that of issuing notes, and was able to pay its shareholders a dividend of 15 per cent. annually. It ought to be taxed like all other money-earning concerns. Objections were raised on the grounds that it was an instrument of public finance, and that to tax it would be merely to take money out of one pocket of the Treasury and pay it into another. But the former objection applied in an almost equal degree to all banking institutions, whether national or private; and the latter had no force seeing that the stock of the Bank of Japan was on the market like the stock of all other banks or companies.

After a few questions, a vote was about to be taken as to entrusting the Bill to a Special Committee, when the President announced the receipt of the following Imperial Message :—

His Imperial Highness, Prince Taruhito, took an active part in the great work of the Restoration, and performed deeds so meritorious that they find no parallel in ancient or modern times. Recently, from the time that the war broke out with China, His Imperial Highness, remaining always by the Sovereign's side, spared no pains to tender counsels that proved of high value, and helped materially to raise the country's prestige. The end was almost in sight when death removed him, to the infinite loss and grief of the nation. (At this point the President faltered in his reading and many of the members were in tears.)

In consideration of the above, the President suggested that the House should instruct him to convey its reverential condolences to the Throne; that its sitting for the day should be suspended, and that it should also refrain from sitting on the day of the funeral.

The House agreed, and rose at 3.15 p.m.

Little Jack prays every night for all the different members of his family. His father had been away at one time for a short journey, and that night Jack was praying for him as usual. "Bless papa and take care of him," he was beginning as usual, when suddenly he raised his head and listened. "Never mind about it now, God," ended the little fellow; "I hear him down the hall!"

WAR NEWS.

MONDAY, JANUARY 21ST.

On the 17th instant the Chinese forces having their head-quarters at Laoyang repeated the attempt made by General Sung from the south just a month previously. Sung tried to recover Haicheng by attacking it from the direction of Yingkow. He had 10,000 men under his command. The result was his signal defeat at Kangwasai on the 18th of December. The Laoyang forces, also numbering 10,000 or upwards, made a similar essay from the north, and sustained a similar defeat. They appear to have begun to move southward from Laoyang on the 13th instant, and approaching Haicheng by three roads, one direct from Laoyang on the north, one from Pulaitien, on the north-west, and one from Newchwang (the old town) on the west, they delivered their assault on the 17th instant. It appears to have been a most spiritless affair. Deploying, so that their line of attack extended over about 5 miles, they pushed their right wing forward to within some 1,500 metres of the Japanese outports and opened fire with field artillery. The Japanese, meanwhile, had moved out of Haicheng, and taken strong defensive positions, where they awaited the enemy's onset, making no attempt to return his fire. At about 1 p.m., however, it having become evident that the Chinese did not intend to come to closer quarters, the Japanese artillery was brought into action, and after a cannonade of two hours, the Chinese began to withdraw. Thereupon the Japanese assumed the offensive, and pushing forward their guns, opened fire at shorter range, with the result that, in a short time, the Chinese were in full retreat, the main body taking the Laoyang and Pulaitien roads, but a portion falling back toward Newchwang. The Japanese casualties were 1 killed and 40 wounded; the Chinese, from 200 to 300 killed and wounded. The Chinese in their retreat abandoned 5 field pieces and 2 old-fashioned *fusils de rampart*. As yet we have no other details of the affair. It seems to have been a very half-hearted effort on the part of the Chinese, but fighting at this season demands the exercise of qualities such as the Chinese have not hitherto shown.

The *Hochi Shimbun* publishes information, on what authority we do not know, to the effect that Sung, having abandoned all hope either of defending Yingkow or of effecting a junction with the forces massed about Laoyang, has retired to Tienchwangtai. On the other hand, the *Yomiuri* alleges that Sung has received large re-inforcements from Shanhaikwan, and that he entertains a dream of recovering Haicheng, Kaiping, and Port Arthur.

A telegram from Shanghai published by the *Jiji Shimpo*, says that the Japanese fleet has been bombarding Tangchow harbour since the 18th instant, and that the sound of the cannonnade was heard distinctly at Chefoo on the 19th. Tangchow is one of the most important coast towns of Shantung. It lies westward of Chefoo at a distance of 40 miles as the crow flies. This Shanghai story is difficult to credit.

The *Hochi Shimbun* publishes a Shanghai telegram forwarded from Hiroshima, to the effect that discontent has again broken out among the troops at Weihaiwei owing to non-receipt of their pay; that they have mutinied, killed several of their officers, and that numbers of them are deserting.

The *Nichi Nichi* publishes an exact statement of the casualties in Major-General Nogi's Brigade at the taking of Kaiping. They were much heavier than the first intelligence led us to suppose :—

KILLED.

Lieutenant	1	
Rank and File	45	
		46

WOUNDED.

Major	1	
Captains	3	
Lieutenants	2	
Ensigns	2	
Rank and File	255	
		263

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The *Jiji Shimpo* says that there are no Chinese troops at Yingcheng, or to the south of it, and that the people pay no attention to the coming of foreigners. In Tangchow, however, there are over 10,000 troops. Yingcheng is a fortified city on the most easterly promontory of Shantung. It is only 25 miles from Weihaiwei.

The *Nippon* publishes a mysterious telegram from Sasebo saying that the marines at Port Arthur all embark in two ships on the 16th or 17th instant, and set out for some anonymous place.

The fighting with the Tong-haks continues. Major Asukai, telegraphing to the Chief of the Commissariat, says that, on the 12th instant, a detachment of Japanese soldiers sent to Poun, attacked the rebels at 10 p.m., and renewed the attack the following morning at 7 a.m., routing the Tong-haks completely after two hours' fighting. On the Japanese side an ensign was slightly wounded. The Tong-haks lost several hundred men, a number of draught oxen, and a quantity of arms. Another telegram from Major Minami, the head of the troops sent to quell the insurrection, reports that the work is being carried on vigorously, and that the inhabitants are aiding the troops.

The Empress has subscribed a considerable sum from her private purse to pay for artificial hands and feet for soldiers that have lost limbs through wounds in battle or through frost-bites.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 22ND.

There appears to be very little doubt that the third Japanese expeditionary force landed at Yungchang on the 20th instant. Shanghai telegrams, announcing the fact, speak of the troops as numbering 25,000, and being conveyed in 50 transports, but this estimate of numerical strength is probably an exaggeration. We cannot ourselves affirm with certainty, however, whether the expeditionary force consists of a Division and a Brigade (half of a Division), or of a Division and the Head-quarter Staff of the Second Army only. The landing is said to have been effected with very little difficulty, the slight resistance offered by some earthworks being easily overcome by three Japanese men-of-war. This failure of the Chinese to organize any resolute opposition at the very time when opposition could be most effective, becomes the more remarkable when we remember that Yungchang is only 27 miles from Weihaiwei, and that the possibility of a landing there must have been apparent to the most perfunctory of commanding officers. It was commonly reported that China intended to concentrate all her strength for the defence of Weihaiwei, Shanhaikwan, and Pekin, and that having massed a powerful force in the neighbourhood of the first named place, and taken thorough measures to distribute her troops along the coast at all likely places, no possibility of an unopposed landing need be apprehended. It is conceivable that the ruse adopted by the Japanese completely deceived the defenders of Weihaiwei. For on the 18th instant, a small Japanese Squadron, reported to have consisted of three men-of-war, appeared off Tungchow and commenced a furious cannonade against the forts there. Tungchow is an important town on the coast of Shantung, 40 miles to the west of Chefoo. The evident object of sending a squadron there was to divert attention from the real expedition, which was about to land 90 miles farther east at Yungchang. If telegrams from Shanghai may be trusted, the ruse was conducted in a most thorough manner, for, the day after bombardment, a force is said to have landed from the ships and attacked the Tungchow forts. Our readers may remember that among the items of war news published by us some days ago, one was to the effect that a force of marines had embarked in certain ships at Port Arthur for a certain purpose. Probably it was by these marines that a landing was effected at Tungchow, though we confess that such an operation seems like carrying the deception beyond necessary limits. However, the final result, the debarkation of the expeditionary force, an operation that must have been contemplated with some anxiety by the Japanese military authorities, has been successfully accomplished. There is talk of the attack upon Weihaiwei taking place on the 25th instant, but the landing of a considerable body of troops and their stores in mid-winter on an exposed coast—Yungchang Bay is at Shantung Promotory—is a business the duration of which can not be predicted with any accuracy. Yungchang is only 27 miles from Weihaiwei, but between the two places there lies a range of hills reaching an altitude of 1,860 feet, and the Chinese may possibly find a position there easy of defence. Thus far, however, the Japanese may congratulate themselves on their success. To have landed without loss is no small matter, but to have landed almost under the walls of a town where good quarters can be found for the men is not less important at this time of year. We may add that Marshal Oyama is in command of this expedition, with Lieut.-General Yamaji for second. The Peiyang Squadron seems to be still lying inactive in Weihaiwei. It might as well be at New Zealand for all the aid it renders in defending the shores of Pechili. But its presence at the point of attack invests this chapter of the war with special interest. Unless Admiral Ting succeeds in effecting his escape, the assault upon Weihaiwei may signify the loss to China not merely of her last fortified harbour in the north, but also of her only powerful ships. The events of the next week should be fateful.

The importance of the above intelligence dwarfs everything else, and in truth there is no other news worth mentioning. The *Yomiuri Shimbun* says that the Chinese troops reported to be at Rhtaoho and Kaokan were in reality reinforcements sent by General Sung to assist the garrison in Kaiping, but that, having failed to reach the latter town in time, they proceeded no farther. We do not understand, however, why re-inforcement sent from either Yingkow or Tienchwangtai should march round by Kaokan.

We read in the *Nippon* a telegram from Hiroshima to the effect that China is resolved to devote her whole strength to the defence of Shanhaikwen, Weihaiwei, and Woosung; that Wu Tacheng is at Shanhaikwan, and that several Germans are waiting for a steamer to take them thence to Weihaiwei. They will probably find some difficulty in reaching their destination.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 23RD.

The *Jiji Shimpo* refers to the news recently telegraphed from Shanghai to the effect that a Japanese man-of-war had been struck by a shell from the batteries at Weihaiwei and badly injured. According to our contemporary, an official report of the occurrence has reached the Authorities. The ship in question was engaged reconnoitering Weihaiwei and had approached within 2,000 metres when the Chinese opened fire. Not a shell hit the vessel, but one passed close over her, and it is supposed that the Chinese mistook that for a hit. The name of the ship is not given—for some reason that we fail to understand—but it is declared that she sustained no damage whatever. It is a little difficult to appreciate the extreme reticence of the Japanese in such matters. Even if one of the ships of the squadron did receive a shell on her deck, and did suffer some injury, we do not perceive why there should be any hesitation about acknowledging the fact. But when, in denying it, not even the name of the vessel is allowed to be known, public credence is severely taxed.

News of the landing of the Japanese forces at Yungchang bay does not appear to have been officially received yet by the Japanese Authorities. The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, however, writes as though it credited the intelligence. It says that the bay is protected from the north wind, and that it offers much greater facilities for landing than did the place (Hwayuenkow) chosen for the debarkation of the expedition against Port Arthur. Ships can lie at a distance of 800 metres from the shore. Probably the batteries said to have been silenced by Japanese men-of-war were among those erected at various places along the coast when it became known that Weihaiwei was to be attacked. A line of telegraph to Tientsin *vid* Weihaiwai was erected from Yungchang last September, but has doubtless been cut by the Japanese troops.

The *Chuo Shimpo* says that there are 13 foreign men-of-war at Chefoo, and that a fourteenth, carrying the French Admiral, proceeded in the direction of Weihaiwei on the 19th.

The same paper says that the cold in northern Korea is something quite exceptional this winter. Since the 26th of December the whole country has been covered deeply with snow frozen so hard that man and beast travel easily over its surface. The thermometer averages 14° or 15° below zero, and cases of injury and even death from frost-bite are not infrequent. At Fenghwan it is still colder. All the surrounding country is a sheet of ice, and without special foot-gear there is danger in walking. Horses when they fall cannot rise, and lie until they are frozen to death. Nevertheless, the spirit of the troops is said to be excellent, and all, the coolies not excepted, are longing to advance against Pekin.

According to a report received at the Naval Department, the First Flying Squadron bombarded the Tungchow forts on the 19th instant (not the 18th, as previously stated) for a considerable time, and then drew off. None of the ships were touched. The report does not mention any landing of forces, from which we infer that that part of the affair was a Chinese canard.

A telegram from Shanghai, received yesterday afternoon, says that the Chinese Envoy and his suite were then endeavouring to make arrangements for crossing to Japan by the *Empress of China*, leaving Shanghai on Saturday 26th. They wished to have the steamer stop at Shimonoseki, where a Japanese vessel would be ready to take them off.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 24TH.

We are still without any official information of the landing of the Japanese troops on the Shantung promontory. The *Kokumin*, however, publishes a somewhat oracular telegram from Hiroshima dated 10.30 a.m. on the 22nd instant. It runs thus:—"A certain Division yesterday morning overcame without casualty the great initial dangers. Great engagements on sea and on shore may be expected within a week." For the rest, the vernacular press contains various paragraphs about Yungcheng Bay and Tungchow, but nothing is added to the details already published in these columns.

Of course the subject of paramount interest at present after the capture of Weihaiwei itself is the fate of the Peiyang Squadron supposed to be still lying there. The *Jiji Shimpo*, on the strength of a telegram from Hiroshima, says that Taotai Kung sent a message to the Squadron ordering it to effect its escape as speedily as possible, but that the order could not be complied with inasmuch as the measures taken to preclude the ingress of Japanese ships were equally effectual in preventing the exit of Chinese and the removal of these obstacles could not be accomplished within the time available. That is a singular story. If true, it caps all the examples of ineptitude hitherto recorded in this war. Obstacles placed at the mouth of a harbour to avert the invasion of hostile vessels are always disposed by people of ordinary intelligence in such a manner as not to interfere with the exit and entry of ships acquainted with the plan of defence. It is inconceivable that the Chinese should have strewn torpedoes and booms at the mouth of Wei-hai-wei so indiscriminately as to imprison themselves. However, a few days more must settle the question. Meanwhile, the *Kokumin* gives an accurate list of the ships supposed to the lying in the harbour. We need not reproduce the names. It will be sufficient to say that there are 5 of the Peiyang Squadron; one of the Southern Squadron; 8 Coast Defence ships, with 2 tenders and 6 torpedo boats.

The *Nichi Nichi* says that between July and December the *Takachiho Maru* steamed a

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distance of 9,787 miles. Moreover, she covered that mileage in 58 days.

The *Kokkai* publishes a rumour that a body of Manchurians, numbering about 3,000, have raised the standard of revolt in Wanyuen and threatened to attack Mukden, the garrison of which place is consequently placed in the predicament of having an enemy upon either side. Considering the outrages said to be committed by the Chinese soldiers, we should never be surprised to hear that in the sequel of their defeat by the Japanese the inhabitants of Manchuria had risen against them *en masse*.

Friday, January 25th.

Official intelligence of the landing of the third expeditionary force on the Shantung promontory was received yesterday morning. The delay seems to have been caused by an interruption of the telegraph to the north of Phyôngyang, and the consequent necessity of communicating *vid* Ujina instead of from Port Arthur. The *Satsuma Maru* carried the news to Ujina. She reported having left Talien Bay at 1 p.m. on the 19th in company with other transports, and reaching Yungchang at daybreak on the 20th. The *Yayeyama Kan* and other vessels-of-war had preceded the transports for the purpose of clearing away any resistance, and finding earthworks with four guns mounted and some 300 artillerymen, had silenced the former and dispersed the latter. Marines were then landed, and without incurring any loss they took possession of the 4 guns and transferred them to the *Yayeyama*. There consequently remained nothing to obstruct the debarkation of the troops. It was commenced at once, and at 3.40 p.m., when the *Satsuma Maru* left for Ujina, nearly the whole of the first batch of troops had landed, and an advance toward the town of Yungchang had commenced. The second flotilla of transports arrived on the 21st, and the troops carried by them landed with equal celerity, the weather being most favourable. In the Shantung lighthouse was found two Englishmen and a German charged with the duty of tending the light. They were placed on the same pay and allowances as before, and directed to continue in the discharge of their functions. The *Satsuma Maru* arrived at Ujina on the afternoon of the 23rd, carrying the above intelligence, which was subsequently confirmed by a telegram from Port Arthur, sent thither by Count Oyama himself.

We erred in saying that Lieut.-General Yamaji had gone to Shantung as second-in-command of the expeditionary force. The second-in-command is Lieut.-General Sakuma of the Sendai Division.

The *Nichi Nichi* says that a portion of the Southern Squadron (Chinese) left its anchorage on the 20th, and steamed toward the island of Chusan.

Saturday, January 26th.

Naturally the news from Shantung is still limited to details of the landing. It appears that the first detachment of the expeditionary force, embarking in 19 transports and convoyed by the *Yayeyama* and other ships-of-war, steamed out of Talien Bay at 1 p.m. on the 19th instant. The distance to Yungcheng Bay, the place of debarkation, was 115 miles, and before daylight on the 20th, the flotilla was off the Shantung Promontory. Before the transports entered the Bay, the men-of-war went in, and lowering some boats, despatched a party to effect a landing. The probability of Yungcheng Bay being chosen had evidently occurred to the Chinese, for they had constructed near the shore a sand battery mounting 4 guns. On the approach of the Japanese boats, fire was opened from this battery, which was manned by about 400 men. The boats rowed back a little way, and the ships at once began to fire shrapnel at the battery. A few well directed rounds settled the business. The Chinese, throwing away their rifles, discarding their uniforms and abandoning the cannon, took to their heels, leaving 4 of their number dead. After 6 a.m. all resistance was at an end, and the landing of the troops commenced. Only one house on the shore was destroyed by the shells, though the Japanese vessels considered it necessary to continue desultory firing until about 9 a.m. in order to deter any advance of Chinese troops from the direction of Yungcheng. The water in the Bay was found to be very deep and the transports had no difficulty in taking up excellent berths. Moreover, when the boats containing the troops rowed shoreward, they were able to get so close that the planks carried by them—planks 9ft. long by 2ft. broad—proved sufficient to allow of the troops' landing without a man wetting his feet. Numbers of Chinese boats were drawn up on the shore, but the facilities for landing were so good that none of these had to be used, the boats and launches of the fleet proving amply sufficient. In a very short time the Engineers succeeded in constructing a landing stage with lighters, and the landing of horses and guns took place without difficulty, so that, at an early hour in the afternoon, the advance guard was able to start for the town of Yungcheng, 7½ miles distant, which place it occupied the same night without encountering any resistance. The artillery, however, were obliged to bivouac for the night on the sea-shore, whence they set out on the 21st at daylight. That same morning (21st), the second batch of 20 transports arrived, and began to land the troops they carried, the whole of the combatants getting ashore without accident in the afternoon. Our latest intelligence from Yungcheng is dated at 5 p.m. on the 22nd. It is an official message dispatched by the Staff, and as it says nothing about any third batch of transports, we presume that all the expeditionary forces were carried in the two flotillas of 39 transports mentioned above, though some of our vernacular contemporaries seem to think that the transports arrived in three detachments, namely, 19 on the 20th, 12 on the 21st, and 8 on the 22nd. Another message sent by the chief of the Commissariat Staff from Lungshui island at 10 p.m. the same night (22nd), says that about 1,000 of the enemy were posted at Puliu-tsun, a small town some 6 miles distant from Yungcheng in a south-westerly direction, but that the Japanese scouts had driven them out, and pushed on to Tienye-cheng. It does not appear that the Chinese have attempted to mass any troops in the vicinity of Yungcheng, for another telegram says that Shihchia-ho and Shakochwang (hamlets on the coast road from Yungcheng to Weihaiwei) are unprotected. Most of the troops in the district are reported to be volunteers recently raised. The military staff report that no difficulty whatever was experienced in getting the field guns to Yungcheng, and that from thence to Tienye-cheng there is a road that can be made fit to pass the guns over by a little repairs upon which the Engineers are already engaged.

It would seem that a naval fight of some sort took place at Weihaiwei on the 21st instant. Lieut.-Colonel Tojo, reporting from Yungcheng on the evening of the 22nd, says that the sound of big guns was heard in the direction of Weihaiwei from noon on the 21st, and that, during the night of that day, the electric search light was reflected on the sky and more firing was heard. It looks as if the Peiyang squadron had made an attempt to escape and been intercepted.

The population of Yungcheng and its vicinity are reported to be apparently quite peaceful, but their demeanour is not thoroughly trusted.

The *Jiji* says that General Tsang has set out with 2,000 men for the purpose of disputing the advance of the Japanese from Yungcheng, but from what place he has marched, we are not told.

The telegraph has evidently been interrupted, as we surmised yesterday, for we were not placed until yesterday in receipt of a message from Lieut.-General Nodzu, dated 10.20 p.m. on the 18th inst. The General says that in the attack on Haicheng on the 17th inst., the enemy's left wing numbered about 8,000 under the command of General Chang; and his right wing, about 6,000 under the command of General I. Only 21 dead bodies were found upon the field, but the people of the vicinity allege that more than a hundred were killed or wounded in the action. The Chinese, after halting for the night at a distance of some miles, retreated on the following morning in a northerly direction.

It would seem that their defeat on the 17th did not deter the Chinese from further attempts to recover Haicheng, for according to a telegram from the Chief Medical Officer of the Third Division, sent from Haicheng at 7.20 p.m. on the 22nd, another force of about 10,000 men, advanced against Haicheng from the north-west, by the Laoyang road, and commenced an attack. By 2 p.m. they were driven back, leaving over 100 dead upon the field. The Japanese casualties were 28 wounded and none killed.

In the neighbourhood of Kaiping, also, the Chinese are disposed to assume the offensive in a half-hearted kind of way. The Chief of the First Division's staff, telegraphing at 8.30 p.m. on the 24th, says that at 2 p.m. on that day about 10,000 of the enemy advanced from the direction of Takwei-shan, apparently to attack Kaiping, but after a brief cannonade, they retreate in two columns at 4.50 p.m. in a north-westerly and northerly direction.

KOREAN NEWS.

The King having been cured of his eye trouble, writes the Sôul correspondent of the *Jiji*, he conducted on the 7th instant the ceremony of visiting the tombs of his Imperial Ancestors and announcing the inauguration of the reform of Korea. The ceremony was extended over two days: the visit to the tombs being undertaken on the first day and that to the State Shrine on the second. Although the procession was only about one-fourth as grand as was usual on occasions of the kind, it seemed to the Japanese unusually pompous and not as dignified as it ought to have been, resembling somewhat the procession of a Kanda Shrine fête in Tokyo. Flags, cymbals, drums, and lanterns were carried in profusion by footmen in strange livery. The King was borne aloft in a sedan chair by a number of these men. The Queen did not take part in the ceremony on either day, but the Crown Prince was present on the second day. Behind the King came the various Ministers of State and other high dignitaries in *kago* or on horseback. A number of troops both preceded and followed the procession. They carried rifles with fixed bayonets that were entirely rusted, and marched in a most irregular way. The citizens carried on their various occupations as though entirely ignorant of what was in progress, and only here and there could the national flag be seen in the streets along which the procession passed. In front of the Mausolea fire was kindled in many places and a wick lamp was lit before each of the tombs of the Imperial Ancestors. The King then read the Announcement before the tomb of the Founder, after which all the high dignitaries bowed, one after another, before the tombs. The procession left the Palace Gate at 11 a.m. and by 3 p.m. the ceremony was over. Both the Crown Prince and the Tai Wôn-kun took part in the formal visit of the King to the State Shrine. The particulars of the second day's procession and so forth were similar to those we have just described.

The *Nichi Nichi's* Sôul correspondent writes of Mr. Hoshi, who, he says, arrived there unpectedly on the 6th and was to leave on the 11th. Unlike other Japanese visitors in a high position, he neither called on the Korean statesmen nor visited the Court. He saw Count Inouye frequently and Mr. Saito once. There is no doubt that after the termination of the present session of the Diet, he will again be seen in Sôul.

In an article in the November *Gleaner* the Rev. W. Salter Price pointed out that this year, 1894, was the Jubilee year of the C.M.S. Missions in East Africa and China. It was in 1844 that Smith and McClatchie began work at Shanghai. A lady, observing this remark of Mr. Price's, sends a letter, stating:—"I will give £5, if another 50 or 100 will do the same before the end of the year, to celebrate the Jubilee of the East Equatorial Africa or China Mission."

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THE UNITED STATES REVISED TREATY WITH JAPAN.

Commenting recently upon the Revised Treaty between the United States and Japan, we said that the action of the former in dispensing with the safeguards of a conventional tariff and agreeing to submit her imports forthwith to whatever dues Japan might choose to impose statutorily, did not signify much in practice, since the most-favoured-nation clause secured to the United States all benefits accruing from the conventional reservations made by other Powers. Our conclusion was not strictly just, inasmuch as it failed to note the important fact that America's principal staples of export to Japan will not be protected by the statutory conventions of other Powers. Her kerosene and flour belong to the category of special articles, to which the statutory tariff now in process of elaboration by British and Japanese commissioners will not extend. It would be more correct to say, therefore, that America has relied frankly on Japanese good will. She has, in truth, recognised Japan's tariff autonomy and submitted to it. There is little, if any, reason to apprehend that Japan will ever be disposed to subject flour or kerosene to heavy import duties, but, on the other hand, if she ever does develop such a disposition, nothing in her revised treaty with America need stand in the way. We must, therefore, give to the United States full credit for exceptional liberality.

THE BUDGET COMMITTEE.

Some difficulties appear to have arisen about the Budget, writes a vernacular paper. It seems that most of the items have been approved with the result that the total reductions do not exceed 300,000 *yen*. The members identified with the *Kaishin-to* and a certain allied Club are dissatisfied at the retrenchment being so small. They contend that it is out of all comparison with that effected by the Opposition in previous sessions, and that the public will therefore interpret it in the sense that the Opposition entirely approves of the Budget as framed by the Government. Rather than invite such comment, it would be better, say those members, for the Opposition to refrain from making any reduction at all, on condition that next year's budget be radically retrenched. This suggestion was laid by a member of the Club before the conclave of members of Parliament marshalled under the auspices of the Strict Foreign Policy Party, and was at once supported by the members identified with the Progressionist party. The adherents of the Constitutional Reform Party opposed the suggestion, on the ground that to cancel the amendments made with such trouble by the Committee with the concurrence of the Government simply on the ground that the amount retrenched is very small, would be an action involving waste of time, and therefore not taken in the interests of the people whom the members of the Lower House represent. In conformity therefore, with the original policy of the party, continued the Constitutional Reformists, they should demand, at the last reading of the Budget, both from the Government delegates and from their colleagues of other parties, an engagement that greater retrenchments will be effected hereafter. That advice being inefficacious, they could then set before the House the reasons why they were obliged to rest satisfied with such small reductions. Thus the *Kaishin-to*, *Kokumin Kyokai* and the Club will give their support to the Government Bill when the question is discussed before the House, while the Constitutional Reformists will vote for the Committee's Report. As the Strict Foreign Policy Party is divided in that way about the Budget, the matter will be determined according to the attitude taken by the Radicals. They will vote for the Committee's Bill, which will therefore most likely pass the House.

THE EARTHQUAKE OF THE 18TH INSTANT.

The Central Observatory reports on the earthquake of the night of the 18th instant as follows:—Duration 4' 4"; direction S.S.E. to N.N.W., maximum horizontal motion, 41 m.m. in 9"; maximum vertical motion, 11 m.m. in 7"; character, severe.

The following damages are reported in the different districts of Tokyo:—

Nihonbashi Quarter.—A bath-house in Hakozaki-cho, apparently of durable construction, was partially destroyed, and one woman severely injured in her leg while attempting to escape from it. The eaves of several godowns of the Yusen Kaisha fell, but fortunately no one was hurt. A store-house in Horidome and a clock tower in the same street collapsed. Minor damages to houses and other buildings were innumerable and crockery shops, lamp shops, and wine merchant's shops were considerable damaged, but only to the extent of 20 per cent. as compared with the results of the earthquake of last June.

Kyobashi.—The Ginza thoroughfare escaped without injury. In this ward only one house suffered partially, other damages to buildings being insignificant.

Kanda.—This district appears to have suffered most. A young woman was killed while rushing out of her house in Omote Jimbocho, by the fall of the brick wall of the next house. A man was also caught in the débris and sprained his hip-bone and leg. A man and his wife and child, living in Higashi Matsushita-cho, were severely wounded, as was also the servant of a tailor in Konya-cho. The returns thus far reported to the Police Office as to injury to life and buildings are as follow:—Killed 1; wounded, 6; ware-houses severely damaged, 15; ware-houses slightly damaged, 67; dwelling-houses severely damaged, 7; dwelling-houses slightly damaged, 31; chimneys injured, 4; brick houses damaged, 3, etc.

Shiba.—An elderly woman in Rogetsu-cho was severely injured by the débris of a ware-house falling through her dwelling. The stone wall at the rear of the Karasumori shrine collapsed entirely, and the stone approach to the Shrine was also damaged. Four buildings in Mita Shikoku-cho were considerably injured.

Akasaka.—The eaves of a building in Tamachi Ichome fell, wounding three persons, but not fatally. Sixty-five warehouses and 79 dwelling-houses were more or less destroyed in this quarter; six chimneys were damaged and eight brick walls thrown down.

Kojimachi.—The Houses of Parliament and Government Offices sustained no special injuries. In the Barrack of the Second Regiment of the Body-guard in Takebashi about 12 soldiers were injured by jumping from the top of the stair-cases in their eagerness to get out of the building, which had been considerably damaged by the June earthquake.

Azabu.—About 16 dwelling-houses, ware-houses, and brick walls were more or less damaged, and two persons were wounded.

Honjyo.—Four chimneys collapsed causing considerable damage to buildings standing close by. The water in the artesian wells of this district temporarily fell by as much as 6 feet. In the next ward—Fukagawa—two chimneys fell and one shed.

Asakusa.—A woman in Abegawa-cho and a little boy in Yoshino-cho were more or less wounded. The wall of the Higashi Hongwanji collapsed, causing great terror to the Chinese captives in the temple, who raised piteous cries though they sustained no injuries. The Asakusa tower was not damaged, but three chimneys fell in other parts of the district. Four gas-lamp stands on the Azuma bridge were thrown down. Fifteen houses and twenty-five ware-houses were more or less destroyed, and one brick wall collapsed. Yotsuya, Ushigome, Shitaya, and Koishikawa seem to have been comparatively free from injury both to persons and buildings.

In Senzu 4 persons were wounded and 14 chimneys and several buildings more or less damaged.

According to official news, Mito appears to have suffered greatly from the earthquake. A bath-house was destroyed and one person killed while seven others were wounded.

Telegraphic reports sent from the localities to the Central Observatory are as follow:—

Yokosuka	10°48'24"	p.m. Strong—Clocks stopped and articles thrown down.
Utsunomiya	10°48'54"	p.m. Strong—Ditto.
Choshi	10°47'	p.m. Strong—Ditto.
Kofu	10°49'	p.m. Strong—Ditto.
Yamagata	10°48'	p.m. Strong.
Fukushima	10°48' 7"	p.m. Strong.
Aomori	10°51'30"	p.m. Strong.
Miyako	10°50'30"	p.m. Weak.
Ishinomaki	10°49'10"	p.m. Weak.
Kushiro	10°51'10"	p.m. Feeble.
Nagoya	10°49'55"	p.m. Strong.
Osaka	10°49'	p.m. Strong—Clocks stopped and articles thrown down.
Hikone	10°49'40"	p.m. Weak.
Gifu	10°49'58"	p.m. Weak—Thundering noise heard underground.
Kyoto	10°49'35"	p.m. Weak.
Sakai	10°50' 7"	p.m. Weak.
Hamamatsu	10°50'	p.m. Feeble.
Fushiki	10°49'40"	p.m. Feeble.
Niigata	10°49' 5"	p.m. Feeble—Clocks stopped and articles thrown down.
Nagano	10°48'20"	p.m. Strong.
Numazu	10°49'	p.m. Strong.
Tokushima	10°50'29"	p.m. Feeble.

Among the houses in the Yokohama Settlement most severely damaged by the earthquake we may mention, in addition to the list given in Saturday's issue, are Messrs. North and Rae's premises. Here the substantial columns adorning the principal façade have been twisted completely out of position; several of the blocks of stone composing them now stand at various angles and different distances apart. The adjoining house occupied by Madame Launay also suffered severely, the plate-glass windows having been forced several inches outward. At Messrs. Brett & Company's some large blocks of stone fell out into the street. Messrs. Cabeldu's also injured somewhat extensively. Damage is also reported by Messrs. Kelly & Walsh, where some plate-glass has been cracked in the windows.

THE NATIONAL BANKS PROBLEM

The *Choya*, generally believed to be an organ of the National Unionists, is behaving in a most reckless manner in connection with the National Banks problem. It devotes two columns to the ventilation of highly personal remarks about the Party favouring the continuance of the Banks as private concerns. Among other things, it alleges that the advocates of Government Bill, are trying to intimidate the weak-minded among the followers of the rival party by saying that the Government will dissolve the House should the Renewal of Charters Bill be passed. It also maintains that they circulate absurd rumours about the bribery of those who uphold the Renewal Bill, the rate paid being 200 *yen* per head, and even goes so far as to say that Messrs. Kono Hironaka, Ishihara Hanyemon, Goto Goroji, and two others who at first signed the Renewall Bill, were subsequently inveigled by the Nippon Ginko schemers; that as Mr. Misaki Kamenosuke, a prominent member of the Radical Party and at the same time the Nippon Ginko's lawyer, has attempted, in several questionable ways, to win over the men of his party to support the Bank's cause, a reaction has been evoked among them, and that that is the reason why the Radicals have this year decided to oppose the Government Bill. It has a similar strange tale about the secession of Mr. Kono Hironaka, and follows it with another of a yet wilder character to the effect that the members of the Tokyo Commercial and Industrial Society, who support the Government Bill, decided, at their last meeting, to raise a sum of 50,000 *yen* for the purpose of furthering the passage of the Bill. We do not suppose that the *Choya's* remarks will in any way affect the cause of the Renewal Party, but what such an influential paper as the *Jiji* writes about the affair deserves attention. The *Jiji* does not doubt that the affair is favourable turn

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for the Renewal Party is owing to some mysterious cause, especially as many men of unquestionable probity affirm that the total sum disbursed by a certain Bank for the Renewal agitation reaches 160,000 *yen*. It is now a problem of public morality whether the Renewal Bill be carried through the House or not. Radicals that are not members of the Diet have raised an agitation against the Renewal Bill, but that has evoked a counter-movement on the part of its supporters. The adherents of the Tokyo Commercial and Industrial Society have, as mentioned above, decided to fight against the passage of the Bill, while out of the six commissioners elected by the Tokyo Chamber of Commerce to investigate the affair, four have declared themselves against it. The *Jiji* says that at first the Renewal Bill counted 167 supporters, but six of them have withdrawn. The Government Delegate has, it is said, requested the Committee nominated by the President of the House of Representatives to inquire into the Bill, to postpone the deliberation upon it until the Budget Committee shall have completed their discussion on the Budget, as he deems it of too grave importance to be dealt with in a haphazard way. The attitude taken by the *Nippon* about the affair is suggestive. That paper has hitherto been, and still is, an earnest advocate of a firm foreign policy, and is therefore very friendly to the Strict Enforcement League got up by the coalition of the Progressionists, National Unionists, and Constitutional Reformists. Mr. Kawashima Jun is one of the most prominent members of the last party, and his utterances in the House have always been reported in the columns of the *Nippon* in a very favourable manner. Now, however, it has suddenly turned against him and writes of him and his doings most mercilessly. The way in which it reported his speeches when the Renewal Bill was first discussed in the House would have amply justified Mr. Kawashima in suing the paper for libel, had he been so disposed.

THE DEDICATION OF ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH, TOKYO.

The Dedication of St. Andrew's Church, Tokyo, took place on Sunday, the 20th instant. The Church had been so much injured by the earthquake of June 20th that complete re-construction became necessary. Contributions were immediately set on foot, and a liberal response from the Tokyo residents and others enabled the work to be undertaken with such celerity that the edifice was ready for opening within seven months, a matter of sincere congratulation. It was a curious coincidence that the very day chosen for the dedication service was the anniversary of that on which the Venerable Archdeacon Shaw, with whose ministrations the church will always be associated, sailed from Yokohama on leave of absence.

The new church is a wooden building without buttresses or other external embellishments and gives much larger accommodation, seating from 150 to 200 worshippers. The exterior is decidedly plain and unpretentious, though not unpleasing in its proportions, whilst its clapboarded walls give it the appearance of a temporary structure, which, we believe, is what its projectors always intended it to be. Internally, the architect, though hampered by certain salvage from the old church, such as stained glass and furniture which had to be readapted, has succeeded in obtaining pleasing proportions and admirable accoustic properties; whilst the judicious use of unobtrusive tints combined with stencilled lines and diapers of colour upon the walls and arches has produced a decorative harmony and unity which leaves little to be desired. Those who took part in Sunday morning's inaugurative service must have been struck by the excellent taste displayed in sacred broideries and floral adornments attributable to the handiwork of the Tokyo ladies.

There were present at the Dedication the Right Rev. Bishop Bickersteth, the Rev. L. B. Cholmondeley (chaplain to the Bishop), the clergy of St. Andrew's Mission, as well as the Right Rev. Bishop McKim and the Rev. Arthur Lloyd, of the American Episcopal Mission, and the Rev. W. T. Austen, of the Seamen's Mission, Yokohama. The Introit (Psalm XXIV.) was sung in procession up the church. Bishop Bickersteth, standing within the Sanctuary, read the Dedicatory Prayers from the American Prayer Book, the English Prayer Book not having any special service for such an occasion. A hymn was then sung, followed by Matins. The service, choral throughout, was intoned by the Rev. H. Moore, the Proper Psalms being LXXXIV., CXXII. and CXXXII. Mrs. Squire presided at the organ. The lessons, both special (Genesis XXVIII. and St. John II.), were read by the Rev. L. T. Ryde and the Rev. Arthur Lloyd, respectively. After Matins the Holy Communion was celebrated, the Rev. L. B. Cholmondeley being the celebrant, assisted by the Rev. H. E. Webb, the Right Rev. Bishop McKim reading the Gospel. The sermon was preached by the Right Rev. Bishop Bickersteth, who took for his text Heb. XII. 27:—"The removing of those things that are shaken, that those things which can not be shaken may remain." The offertory, amounting to $80.10, was devoted to the building and furnishing fund. It should be noted that the dorsal and side curtains for the Altar, the gift of the ladies of the congregation, were made by the Japanese members of the Church Needlework School, under the Superintendence of St. Hilda's Mission. Other special gifts were the two seats for the use of H.B.M. Legation, presented by His Excellency the Hon. P. Le Poer Trench; the brass Altar Cross, by Mrs. Bickersteth, and the Prayer Desk for the Bishop's seat, by Bishop Bickersteth. The Service was well attended. It was gratifying to see, among those present, several members of the American congregation from Tsukiji, and also many friends from Yokohama, testifying to the goodwill and sympathy of the community in general.

We learn that the accounts of the building expenses have not yet been fully made up, but it appears that almost the whole of the required amount is forthcoming. The reseating, however, is only half completed, the seats of the old building being used, and that detail as well as the interior decoration and furnishing have had to be postponed until further funds become available.

THE BURNING OF THE NANJEN TEMPLE.

By the burning of the Nanjen Temple on the evening of 12th instant, Kyoto lost one of its most beautiful and famous shrines. It appears that an old servant of the temple, employed as a watchman, had been warned by the Abbot of the dangerous character of a lamp that he used in the principal apartment, and had promised to obtain a more secure vessel with a less inflammable illuminant. Within a few hours of the last warning, a priest living on the Temple premises noticed volumes of smoke issuing from the main building. It was about 9 o'clock in the evening, and the massive doors had long been bolted for the night. The priest tried to force an entrance, but all to no purpose, as the doors were secured from within, the old watchman always passing the night inside the building. Others had by this time come up, but they also failed to force open the doors. Then the alarm bell was rung from the temple belfry to summon the firemen. Some time had thus been wasted and the flames began to make their way through the roof, and from thence spread in all directions. Seeing the extent of the damage already done, the firemen hastily pulled down the wooden corridor connecting the burning building with other apartments of the temple. A plentiful supply of water was obtained from the artificial canal running through the grounds and the fire was got under control, the building in which it originated being left to its fate. At 2 o'clock the following morning, the fire was almost out and a search was instituted. The whole of the famous art objects and antique treasures in the main building of the temple were destroyed, and the old watchman also could not been found. It is feared that he perished in the flames, for he was of advanced years and infirm. The building destroyed was erected by Toyotomi Hideyoshi, and the timbers used in its construction were mostly brought from China. Upon the ceiling was emblazoned an enormous dragon, the work of Sansetsu. The walls were of equal splendour and finish.

CHINA NEWS.

"Wu Tacheng," says the *China Gazette*, "the Governor of Hunan, has been appointed to the command of 30,000 troops, who are to be entrusted with the defence of Shanhaikwan. The force is to be divided into nine brigades. Governor Wu though a civilian, possesses great military capacity, and is endowed with qualities which enable him to preserve perfect order amongst his troops."

Liu Kun-yih has arrived at Tientsin, or was there on Dec. 22nd, but it is extremely difficult to make out what offices he has actually agreed to accept. Apparently, the Throne would have appointed him Viceroy of Chili, Imperial High Commissioner of Trade for the Northern Ports, and Commander-in-chief of all the forces employed by land or by sea to resist the Japanese. But Liu is said to have declined everything except the Commandership-in-chief. Liu's reputation as chief of the Black Flags during the Franco-Chinese war has, we think, been greatly exaggerated. He managed to embarrass the French, and once or twice he surprised small parties of them, but he never made anything like a successful stand. Against the Japanese we look for a similar record.

Troops appear to be arriving in Tientsin perpetually. The latest detachment was no less than 18 batteries of field-guns sent from Hankow by the Viceroy Chang Chih-tung. The Tientsin correspondent of the *China Gazette* ridicules the difficulty encountered by the Chinese in moving these guns, but after all the transport of artillery is one of the most embarrassing problems that any General has to solve.

The Newchwang correspondent of the *China Gazette*, writing under date December 18th, says that the Japanese had then taken Haicheng and Newchwang (the old town) and that they were expected to move either to Mukden or Shanhaikwan. He adds the interesting intelligence that General Sung and his troops had gone to Shanhaikwan, but we know that on the very day when this letter was despatched Sung with 10,000 men was fighting at Kangwasai within 12 miles of Haicheng.

Truly, China has an ostrich-like faculty of self-deception so large as to compel admiration. Chinchow in the Liaotung peninsula has been in Japanese possession since the beginning of November, yet the Chinese Government goes through the farce of appointing officer after officer to be commandant of the place. Six weeks ago a certain Manchu was named Brigadier-General of the town, but [redacted] its re-capture from the Japanese would have been an essential preliminary to entering upon office, and as the Manchu had no forces available for that enterprise, he set himself to discover ailments in his own body incapacitating him for the honour, and the Emperor at last became so exasperated at this sequence of maladies that he degraded the invalid and handed him over to the Board of Punishments for treatment. Another luckless wight, named To Sheng-a—the terminal of whose name seems appropriate to his fate—has now been appointed to the same post and will probably find his way also to the Board of Punishments.

"General von Hanneken," says a Chinese journal quoted by the *North China Daily News*, "and sixty-four foreign officers are occupied in constantly drilling a picked body of 6,000 officers and

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ablest of the officers so instructed will be given important posts in the other corps, but the nucleus will be constituted into the body-guard of the Viceroy Li, commanded by General von Hanneken himself."

If that be true, von Hanneken's military position in China has dwindled to something very small. Instead of directing the empire's forces, instead of being authorized to memorialize the Throne directly, instead of being invested with dignities and trusts so conspicuous as to inspire editorials about the awakening of China and the Imperial Court's signal recognition of Occidental merit, he is acting as a species of drill-sergeant, or, at best, as the captain of a body of men intended to protect the Viceroy Li himself. *Sic itur ad astra.*

The *Shanghai Mercury* has been publishing in recent issues a carefully compiled history of the war, up to date, which, though useful as recording the sequence of events, is disfigured by many errors long since exploded. For example, we are told that the *Saikyo Maru* was so seriously damaged in the battle of Haimang as "to have been considered incapable of repair," and that the result of the battle was to "cripple both sides for some weeks." Surely the writer in the *Mercury* must know by this time that the *Saikyo's* injuries were quite trivial, and that the Japanese Squadron, so far from being crippled, did not even put into port to refit, two ships only being in need of repairs. Referring to Phyŏngyang, the same authority says:—" The Japanese unfortunately did not content themselves with a plain statement of facts, but gave most exaggerated stories of their prowess. According to official reports the loss of the Chinese was placed at 6,600, and the army was reported to have surrendered. Neither of these statements was true. The loss was great, but came down eventually to much under a thousand." Evidently the writer is labouring under some strange misconception. Considering that the Chinese prisoners alone numbered about 600, it is plainly erroneous to say that their loss came down to under a thousand. The Japanese official reports, so far from containing "exaggerated stories of their prowess," were couched in the baldest and least varnished terms. The killed were estimated at 2,000; the wounded were believed to be about double of that number, and nothing at all was said of the army's having surrendered. The Japanese loss did not reach a thousand in killed and wounded, but that the Chinese loss was correctly stated in Japanese official reports, there has never been any evidence to disprove. Another assertion made is that the Japanese troops landed in Korea "probably amounted to about 50,000 men." Truly, it is wonderful to find writers talking of an over-sea expedition of 50,000 men as though it were a kind of Sunday picnic. Japan should be complimented by the extraordinary estimate formed of her military capacity. It is extremely doubtful whether there were 25,000 Japanese troops in Korea when Phyŏngyang was taken, and certainly not more than 15,000 marched against that place.

The Viceroy Chang has been instructed to send 20 battalions, or about 10,000 men, belonging to the Siang army to Chihli. China must have a very large force in the field by this time. Here, for example, is a statement of the troops and material of war contributed by one part of the Empire only, as translated by the *N.-C. Daily News* from a Chinese source:—

Since August, according to military statistics and ordnance reports compiled at Nanking and Wuchang, there have been sent from the Liang-kiang and Hukuang provincial administrations to the Peiyang, a total of 77,500 men; 109,200 stand of modern breech-loaders and magazine rifles; sixty-nine field pieces of the Armstrong type; and forty-six mortars and howitzers. These do not include 2,300 kegs of powder; 267,000 catties of lead, and 11,000 muzzle-loading muskets also sent up to the North from the Nanyang.

Folks in Tientsin continue to be perplexed about the military operations in Shinking. Their latest story is that General Sung with 20,000 men was practically surrounded by the Japanese near Haicheng and suffered a total defeat. The fabricators of such stories must have nearly as wild notions of the Japanese army's numerical strength as are published by some of the foreign local newspapers in Yokohama.

The Tientsin correspondent of the *N.-C. Daily News* has seen a portion of Liu Kun-yi's 10,000 braves, now doubtless counted among Chihli's chief defenders. Among 30 or 40 men forming a detachment the correspondent saw three different varieties of arms, the prevailing type being cap-and-hammer muzzle-loaders.

Three hundred wounded Chinese soldiers from Talien and Port Arthur arrived in Tientsin in the closing days of December. The majority of them had suffered from cold, rather than from bullets or bayonets. Only the very serious cases, we read, were retained in hospital. To the other sufferers one tael each was handed *for* travelling expenses. That sum being obviously insufficient for the purpose, nothing remains for the wretched soldiers but to live by pillage as they make their way homewards. It is terrible to think of the sufferings that have to be endured by China's troops in the field. The commissariat arrangements are virtually *nil*, and those on account of the sick and wounded, even less. The wounded men above referred to had to travel more than 200 miles to Shanhaikwan in order to reach the railroad. Badly wounded men could not of course attempt anything of the kind. Nothing remained for them, we presume, but to lie down and be frozen to death. No wonder that troops confronted by such a prospect refuse to fight. The best and bravest soldiers in the world would be utterly demoralized by such incapacity and inhumanity on the part of their commanders. A telegram recently sent to London from Manchuria spoke of frozen corpses lying in heaps. Very likely.

Sung, we read in the columns of the *N.-C. Daily News*, is spoken of as a coward by the Chinese, who, on the other hand, extol the bravery of the Japanese, their discipline and marksmanship. We do not think that Sung is a coward. On the contrary, we think that when strategists come to write the history of this war they will record among its most creditable exploits Sung's attempt to recover Haicheng.

The following note from Shensi correspondence is eloquently suggestive:—

The sudden and imperative summons to arms that was recently issued to every military centre has shown how utterly undisciplined are the ordinary troops. There is little *esprit de corps* and as for the *dulce et decorum est pro patria mori* sentiment it does not exist. The General here, when ordered to muster his men and march, committed suicide. His lieutenant was beheaded for hesitation and hundreds of the rank and file have been beheaded for attempting to scuttle. Thus utter despair or death by decapitation—these are the fate of the "braves." I have seen several battalions start for the North but in the "rag-tag and bob-tail" fashion. Mobocracy seems the only principle of mobilisation. They enjoyed one decided advantage, no baggage, not even a wallet.

It is stated by the Tientsin correspondent of a Shanghai contemporary that even in official and nominally well-informed circles there are many persons that do not yet know or admit the fall of Port Arthur. Pekin is said to be in a similar condition of happy ignorance, but we do not perceive how that can be the case seeing that one of the Emperor's principal occupations at present is to issue urgent invitations to the fugitive Generals of Port Arthur and other places to come to Pekin and get properly punished.

It will be remembered that a telegram reached Japan a few days ago indicating the existence of a strong feeling of indignation among the Cantonese on account of the peace mission of His Excellency Chang Ying-huan. People in Japan were probably perplexed to know what Canton had to do with the matter, but it now appears that Chang belongs to that city and that his fellow-citizens naturally feel themselves entitled to discuss any important function entrusted to him. Accordingly, the Cantonese in Shanghai posted placards of which the following translation is given by the *N.-C. Daily News*:—

Being a well-known fact, it is unnecessary to dwell at length upon the great anger we all feel at the audacity of Japan in first invading our tributary state and now in attacking our frontiers. Hence, when the war began, we, the people of Kuangtung, organised the *Chungyi T'ang*, or Patriotic Association, for the purpose of collecting subscriptions and organizing our sons into volunteer bands to assist our Government in the war against the enemy. The signal only was waited for to see thousands of the sons of Kuangtung spring joyfully to the rescue of the sovereign. What was all this for then? We answer, in order to wipe away the disgrace of our country. Our fellow-provincial, Captain Lin Kuo-siang, after fighting against superior odds at the mouth of the Yashan river, although left to his fate, succeeded in escaping from almost certain death. Captain Tang, at the battle near the Yalou river, sought death rather than dishonour, and is reported to have sunk three of the enemy's ships before losing his own. The examples shown by such heroic devotion to country proved that they were indeed true sons of Kuangtung. Furthermore, we are all aware that our countrymen are now assembled in the North, in fighting battalions as innumerable as the clouds in heaven, ready to battle for our country and eager for the fray, while on the other hand there is opposed to them an enemy exhausted by the climate and dispirited on account of want of funds and men to prosecute the war. Indeed, the maxims of war should teach us the importance of playing a waiting game under such circumstances, and then at the right moment we will spring upon a dispirited enemy and sweep him man and ship from the tributary state and national territory. What official or commoner would not feel his heart gladdened at such a sight? But, to our disgust, certain of our fellow provincials who are a disgrace to their manhood and have failed lamentably in the confidence of their country, in order to save their own hides and hoardings, think not of joining us in a universal spirit of resistance to the last, but are anxious to bow their heads in the dust and grovel before the audacious *Wofên* in order to ask for a disgraceful peace—conduct which will bury the five lofty peaks of our province in shame, which all the waters of our Pearl River can never cleanse, and which will scatter like chaff before the wind the patriotism of Kuangtung, famous for centuries! Who, ask we, amongst our numerous fellow-provincials, here, abroad and at home does not gnash his teeth with rage when informed of the intended disgrace to be heaped upon the name of China by our own fellow-provincials? Yet it is so; and now we learn that these disgraces to our nationality are coming to Shanghai *en route* for Japan on their ill-omened errand. We, therefore, now call upon every true patriot and son of Kuangtung to assemble at the rattle of the drum and by force of arms even, if necessary, to expel these persons should they dare to darken the thresholds of either the Canton or the Swatow guilds, and endeavour if we can to prevent them from casting this indelible stain of disgrace and shame upon the loyalty of our beautiful province. Should they, however, aware of the estimation we sons of Kuangtung hold them in, try therefore to hide their diminished heads and filthy plight from us within the shelter of some other place of abode, woe be to the son of Yüeh (patronymic of Kuangtung province) who should try to contravene the unanimous will of the people and endeavour to curry favour with these people by associating with them. They should rather be avoided by us as the pestilence, and no recognition or welcome should be extended to these disgracers of the name of Kuangtung, men who, on any other errand but the present, from the fact of being fellow-provincials and possessing the high rank they do, would rightly be received by us. But they go to bring disgrace upon us, and may the Gods above be our witness that this is the will and determination of the people! A unanimous proclamation by the scholars and people of Kuangtung."

These placards were subsequently torn down, but their appearance indicates the existence of a feeling in the face of which it will be scarcely possible for the Chinese Government to offer through its Envoys terms acceptable to Japan.

The much-talked-of Mahommedan Jehad against the Japanese becomes more and more puzzling. We are now told that there have arrived at Kalgan, after a long and arduous journey across Mongolia, some 20,000 troops recently levied in the north of Kansu at the foot of the Great Wall. Among these new levies there are said to be a number of veterans who fought under the late Tso T'sung-tang against the Chinese Mahommedans of the

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"Great North-west." The suppression of the Mahommedan rebellion occupied 15 years and its incidents must be fresh in the recollection of every living follower of the Prophet. Tso was killed at Phyŏngyang, yet rumour says that a Jehad is to be undertaken by the Mahommedans to avenge his death. It would seem more natural that the Mahommedans should join the banners of his opponents. The arrival of these troops at Kalgan incidentally suggests an idea of the enormous extent of the Chinese Empire. We read that they have been joined by a Turki contingent of 4,000 cavalry led by Khoja Bek, a descendant of the Caliphs. Khoja, it appears, was sent last August to Hami by Prince Yusef to collect these troopers. We seem, as we peruse these names, to be reading again the Arabian Nights or the Light of Asia. Then there is a contingent of Chinese Mussulmen "conspicuous by their black skins and rough, uncouth manners." These men claim to be descendants of Bokhara emigrants who came to China in the 9th Century. If the war continues long enough the Japanese will garner some interesting experiences of men and manners. What we should like to see is a "march past" of the Chinese Army.

The War Loan of 5 million taels is being gradually raised in Canton. A little over half the amount has already been subscribed. The forced contribution, however, is less successful. Only half a million has been collected thus far.

It is to be hoped that the following excellent decree issued by the Emperor of China will be strictly obeyed, but we have our doubts:—

Strict discipline is the principal axiom of every military organisation. Now that Chihli is covered with numerous armies, it is necessary that we make known our earnest wishes to the various Generals commanding our forces, either facing the enemy or on their way from the interior to join the Northern armies, that they keep a strict watch and discipline over their troops. They are not to allow their men to pillage or raid the inhabitants on the march, nor are they to permit their men to trust to numbers and arms to evade the payment of articles purchased from the markets. We earnestly enjoin upon our Generals not to be guilty of the least laxity in keeping their troops under strict control and command; that if any of their men be found guilty of pillaging the inhabitants or otherwise maltreating them, the guilty ones are to be decapitated on the spot before the whole army. If any commander of battallion be found guilty of encouraging his men to acts of violence, etc., thereby breaking our law, his immediate superior is to report at once to the Throne in order that the guilty one may be immediately and severely punished. Let this decree be published as widely as possible.

His Majesty has further ordered that 15,000 fur coats be at once sent to General Sung's army in Manchuria.

Concerning the Peace Mission, the *North China Daily News* says:—

H.E. Chang Ying-huan, the Envoy appointed to proceed to Japan to arrange terms for peace, arrived at Shanghai on Sunday night (13th January) by the *Kungyi*. The steamer, after leaving Chefoo, was ordered to proceed to Taku where signals would be made conveying instructions as to the point of embarkation of the Envoy. When the *Kungyi* arrived off Taku the signals indicated that the Envoy was there and would go off to the *Kungyi* in a tugboat. This was accomplished and the steamer left for Shanghai direct on Friday afternoon, arriving here on Sunday evening. Among his Excellency's suite are the expectant Taotais Liang Ch'eng (a returned student from the United States) and Wu T'ing-fang (Ng Choy) one of the Directors of the North China Railway, and several Peking Board Secretaries. The majority of the mission, including, we hear, His Excellency, are now quartered in the T'ungwên Chromo-Lithographic Printing Company's compound on North Seward Road, Hongkew. The all-pervading influence of the Li party is evident in the *personnel* of the mission by the presence of the Taotai Wu T'ing-fang, whose legal training as a Hongkong barrister-at-law has qualified him to be also the legal adviser to the Viceroy Li Hung-chang and stamps the origin of the mission in question.

The news of the loss of Kaiping seems to have reached Pekin very promptly for we read in a Shanghai contemporary of the 15th inst. that [illegible] had already been issued acknowledging receipt of Sung Ching's report of the capture, and censuring the responsible Generals. We learn, incidentally, that the Japanese erred in speaking of Nieh as present at Kaiping. The commanders on the Chinese side were Chang Kaoyuan, Brigadier-General of Tungchow, and Hsü Pangtao, Brigadier-General of Chenting.

The Tientsin correspondent of the *N.-C. Daily News* gives the following interesting information about the *personnel* of the Peace Mission:—

Chang Ying-huan, one of the Imperial Commissioners appointed to negotiate the conditions of peace, is expected here to-day (January 10th) and will if possible embark at Taku to-morrow. Taotai Wu T'ing-fang (Ng Choy), joins him here as foreign secretary. As your readers probably know Wu is a barrister of the English Bar, a good linguist, and fairly conversant with Europeans and foreign methods: Chang himself although he does not speak English or Japanese, has very considerable experience in diplomatic procedure and etiquette, and is probably as good a selection as could be made for a thankless task from the ranks of Chinese officialdom. Both in the Legation at Washington and in the Tsung-li Yamên he made a reputation for suavity and intelligence. Wu has probably been added to the commission as the confidential agent of Li Hung-chang who has been his steady patron for many years. He is an open-minded and clear visioned man and, barring the fact that he has little power of taking the initiative and lacks grit, will make a fairly good secretary. He at least knows the real state of contrast between Japanese and Chinese arms, and is under no delusions as to the actual facts of the military and political situation, and this is something.

Of the other Commissioner, Saan Yulien, little is known up here, and that little not much in his favour for the business now on hand. He also has considerable experience of foreigners, having been in Russia at the negotiation of the famous treaty which allowed the cession of Kashgaria during the "seventies." At Shanghai your readers must have learned something about him. A recent issue of the *Peking and Tientsin Times* made a strong protest against his appointment on the ground that at the beginning of the present hostilities, he, acting as Governor of Formosa, offered a price on Japanese heads. This, if true, seems to many people here a final bar to the success of the mission, and it is very difficult to understand how the Chinese Government can have appointed a man of such antecedents for so delicate a negotiation; some of our local Chinaphobes see in it another example of the insincerity of the Chinese appeal for peace, but the probable explanation lies in the utter indifference with which they regard a proclamation offering blood-money for heads. They deem such a thing the merest bagatelle, in no way reflecting either on a man's personal character or on the national reputation. If the commission meets with a rebuff on this account they will probably deem it one more proof of the impracticable and testy nature of the Japanese. It is not known up here that the Commissioners have full powers; and were it not a fact that General Foster had been asked to join them as a sort of *amicus curiæ* there would be less confidence in the sincerity or reality of the mission. The *Kungyi* (late *Hasan*) arrives to-day, and should Taku prove impassible from drift ice she will go up to Shanhaikuan and embark the Commissioner there. This has been done more than once in the last ten years, but in the best of winters it is a risky business.

General Su, Provincial Commander-in-chief of Kuangsi, is to lead a division of 7,800 troops to Pekin. "They are all armed with modern breech-loaders and have without exception seen fighting in Tongking during the last war with France. In fact more than a third are said to be old Black Flags who joined General Su's command, when the Government refused their old chief, Liu Yung-fu, permission to bring more than one regiment of eleven hundred men into China at the close of the war. As for the artillery belonging to the division, it consists of forty-eight Krupp field guns, thirteen Krupp mountain guns mounted on mules, and eight machine guns.

Man has never seen inside of some of the Egyptian pyramids since they were first built, so far as known.

The capital letter "Q" will be found but [illegible] in the Old Testament and three times in the New.

KOREA'S FOREIGN LOAN.

The *Keisai* writes as follows on the above topic:—According to rumour, the Korean Government has decided to float a loan of 5 million *yen* in Japan, and the Nippon Ginko has decided to extend its help, thus practically ensuring the successful raising of the loan, which will bear interest of from 8 to 10 per cent. The *Keisai* proceeds to suggest how the Korean Government might procure at home the sum necessary for the prosecution of its reforms. It wonders, in the first place, why the Korean Government does not follow the policy adopted by Japan when placed in a similar difficulty at the outset of the Reformation. The latter issued inconvertible notes and in that way met the exigencies of the time. Such a course would, perhaps, be more favourable to Korea than it was to Japan, for while the issue of inconvertible notes in this country resulted in an exodus of specie, no such thing would happen in Korea as she has only copper coins which are taken above their face value. Korea is a poor country, still her population is over 10 millions and the issue of 10 million inconvertible notes would not produce any bad effect. A sum of 5 million *yen* ought therefore to be raised without difficulty. The *Keisai's* second suggestion is to empower the Nippon Ginko to issue notes. For that purpose the Bank should establish a branch office in Sŏul where, on the security of the foreign bonds of the Korean Government, which should be transferred to the Bank, the latter should issue notes and thus accommodate the Government. This second method should, however, only be made use of if it be found that the credit of the Korean Government is too low to justify its issuing notes independently. The third and last plan is to be had recourse to in case both the first and second are found infeasible. It is to found a bank in Sŏul by joint efforts of the Koreans and Japanese, and to invest it with note issuing power. These notes would be for the use of the Korean Government which in exchange give bonds. This should, however, only be done if the founding of a bank entirely by strangers is objected to. Many Japanese are desirous of investing their money securely in Korea and in the enemy's territory occupied by Japan. The cŏoperation of Koreans in such a matter would be attended with great benefit to them as they would then be initiated in important banking business.

H.I.H. PRINCE ARISUGAWA.

In the death of Prince Arisugawa Japan has lost a pillar of State. The Prince was a son of Prince Arisugawa Yoshihito and an adopted son of the Emperor Ninko, the grandfather of the present Emperor. He was born on the 18th of October of the 1st year of *Kayei* (1834). From his youth he took keenly to heart the decline of the Court, and kept the restoration of its ancient prestige constantly in view. For the purpose of compassing that great object, he held secret communications with many of the feudal lords of pronounced loyalty. When the Court committed itself to the principle of expelling foreigners, the Prince was one of its supporters. He was frequently consulted on the subject by the late Emperor, and repeatedly visited the Shrines in the capacity of Imperial Messenger to invoke their aid for the furtherance of the cause. When the present Emperor ascended the throne, the Prince was entrusted with missions of great importance. He was Commander-in-Chief of the Imperial Army that marched upon Yedo just before the inauguration of the Restoration *régime*. The Prince received the key of the citadel of Yedo, and established an Occupation Office in order to bring the Kwanto Districts into submission. In the 2nd year of *Meiji* (1869), a hereditary pension of 1,200 *koku* of rice was bestowed upon him in recognition of the great services rendered by him to the cause of the Restoration, and the following year he was appointed Chief Minister of the Department of W[illegible]. Though [illegible]

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the most decided resolution, and the Head of each *han* appointed Governor of the locality, the change was far from complete, as feudalism had taken deep root throughout the country. In a *han* of large dimensions the internal condition was therefore much the same as it had been before. At that juncture a forgery trouble arose in the Fukuoka *han*, in which the principal officers of the district were implicated. The Prince was ordered to proceed thither and settle the difficulty. He remained there for about a year in the capacity of Governor, and succeeded in restoring order and tranquillity. When the Senate was created, he was at first appointed one of the Senators, and about a year later, in May, 1876, he was promoted to the post of President of the Senate. The Prince was trusted with the task of quelling the Satsuma Civil War that broke out the following year. During the Rebellion, congratulatory messages were frequently sent by the Emperor in recognition of the success attained by the Imperial Army under the command of the Prince. When order was restored in the south, and the Prince returned to the capital, he received the additional dignity of Field-Marshal while still retaining his post as President of the Senate. He was at the same time decorated with the Grand Order and the Grand Cross of the Chrysanthemum. In 1878 the Prince was appointed First Minister of State. In June, 1882, he was ordered to proceed to Europe as Representative of the Emperor at the coronation ceremony of the late Czar. His connection with the Ministry ceased with the abolition of the positions of First and Second Ministers. Thereafter he devoted himself almost exclusively to military affairs. He was for some time Commander of the Body-Guard, then Inspector-General of the Army, and at the time of his death he held the office of Chief of the Central Staff. Previous to his decease, he was decorated with the Grand Collar of the Chrysanthemum Order, and presented with the 2nd Class Medal of the Golden Kite. The trouble that ended fatally was typhoid fever which set in on the evening of the 11th of December, and despite the earnest efforts of many able doctors to combat the disease, he gradually sank. In the latter part of December, the patient was carefully conveyed to his villa in Suma. The trouble extended to his heart and brain, and he eventually succumbed to paralysis of the former. His Imperial Highness was the eldest of four children, two Princes and two Princesses. The elder of his sisters was the late Countess Ii, whose demise took place about a week ago, and the younger sister is Princess Fushimi. The Prince had no children, and therefore adopted his younger brother, Prince Arisugawa Takehito, some time ago as his successor. The Emperor has announced his intention of not holding Court for three days, beginning on the 24th inst. and of mourning for two more days. It has further been given out that the Prince will be granted a State funeral. The temporary ceremony will be performed on the 29th inst., but the real one will not take place till after the war is over and the Emperor has returned from Hiroshima.

"THE SUN."

A new magazine has just made its appearance in Tokyo under the editorship of Mr. Tsuboya. It is characteristic of Japan's association with the West that nearly all ventures of this kind have now an English portion, and it is unfortunately also characteristic of the Japanese student's inexperience that he generally essays to compose these English portions without the aid of an Englishman. In "The Sun," out of 212 pages of reading matter, only 13 are in English, and as the articles in this section have passed under the pen of Professor Kanda, of the Imperial University, their English is remarkably good. We quote the opening article in full for its own sake, as well as for the sake of its style :—

When Posterity turns over the pages of our nation's history will find the closing years of the 19th century filled with events of intense interest and far-reaching influence. The seed of progress planted in soil rich with the culture of centuries has shot up into a vigorous plant with the rapidity of the prophet's gourd, and while our neighbours have slept, lo! from among its pendent branches is hanging the ripened fruit of the Constitution. When we see with what hopeless stubbornness our peninsular neighbour persists in turning aside from the helping hand that would lift him out of the mire and set him on sound ground we are tempted to reflect, with a touch of self-complacency, on the comparative readiness with which our people on first awaking from its Rip van Winkle slumber accepted from the outer world every friendly suggestion for its amelioration. We are, indeed, passing through a pregnant epoch, for who knows what wonderful, perhaps even unexpected, course Providence has marked out for us even in the few remaining years of this century; nay, what turn of events the next breeze from the bleak northwest will bring to our expectant ears. We are not given to foolish fears and misgivings, such as a traveller in an unknown country might be subjected to or as a Chinese commander would be on the eve of a battle with Japanese forces,—the one from his ignorance of the locality, the other from the knowledge of his sure destiny. But we cannot help feeling that, however sanguine one might be, he could not be utterly blind to the fact that the eminence attained at present, however dazzling to many, casts a shadow of deep significance in future. We are told that astronomers can, by the aid of a powerful telescope, detect the great canals on the planet Mars, millions of miles away. Would that some astrologer could furnish us a horoscope to catch a single glimpse of the path of Destiny on the planet Earth!

We have just passed through a most eventful year of this eventful era. Casting a retrospective glance beyond the all engrossing subject of the War, we see the agitation of the question of strict enforcement of the treaties causing small ripples on the political sea. More of a weapon of the Opposition than a reflection of national sentiment, it caused a mere surface ruffle, losing itself in the mighty ground-swell in which the mass of this people moves in profound unison toward power and light. These momentary hitches in the wheel of progress are but signs of life, unavoidable to a national career and, we might say, as necessary to its healthy growth as the living waves are to keep the mighty ocean from stagnation. We are not surprised to meet with these apparent retrogressions. Even if they were less superficial they would not give cause for any serious solicitude. A nation in its path of progress must advance like a traveller climbing a steep mountain side. It would be unreasonable to expect the latter to direct his course straight from the foot to the top. He must turn now to the right now to the left, and only by this tedious plodding journey may he gain the summit, whence he may survey and wonder by what tortuous path he has attained his goal.

Other memorable events in the past year were the celebration of Their Majesties' Silver Wedding, on the 9th of March, which in the outside world will be remembered by every philatelist when his eyes fall upon the Jubilee stamps, and which the Emperor commemorated by graciously ordering grants to be made to the Kuge nobles; the assassination, in Shanghai, on March 29th of the Korean exile Kim, at the instigation of the Ming family, the then dominant faction in Korean politics. Subsequently, when the body-guard of the Japanese Minister scattered the Korean soldiers, who, instigated by the same hostile faction, had fired upon them, the ever prolific artists of those inimitable *ukhikies* represented the skirmish before the King's palace, over which the ghost of Kim stands gazing with a terrible expression of revenge and grim satisfaction. Then the insurrection of the Tong-haks against oppresive administration, the discomfiture of the Korean government, which offered China an excuse to send troops to Korea in violation of the Tientsin Treaty, thus plunging Japan into the greatest of her foreign wars. But before dwelling on this fruitful topic we must not forget to mention that other catastrophe which gave us a shaking literally from our very feet,—the destructive earthquake of the 22nd of June; nor should we omit in the same category the outbreak of the Plague in Canton and Hongkong, which at one time threatened to make us hear the second recital of De Foe's horrible narratives; the self-sacrificing mission of Drs. Kitazato and Aoyama, our joy at the receipt of the telegram that "the origin of the plague had been discovered," our sorrow on hearing that Dr. Aoyama and one of his assistants had fallen victims to the dire monster. O! what anxious weeks they were as report followed report announcing the precarious state in which those brave souls lay. Thanks to the untiring attention of Dr. Lowson, of the Hongkong Civil Hospital, those brave sons of Japan were snatched from the very jaws of death and restored to us.

If the past year was marked with hostility with a foreign power it was, on the other hand, made memorable with tokens of increasing amity with others,—with Great Britain in the conclusion of the revision of her treaty with us, and with Hawaii, whose people are declared by an Imperial ordinance to receive henceforth in Japan the same treatment as Japanese subjects, with the exception of the privilege of holding real estate.

These items, we believe, complete the list of the most notable occurrences in our country's record of the year 1894. In the latter half of the year events may perhaps seem somewhat distorted from real proportions by the overwhelming nearness of the great subject of the Japanese-China War. An ordinary-sized man, looks like a dwarf on the thumb of Daibutsu. In conclusion it is scarcely an exaggeration to say that the whole nation, united as one man, thinks, talks, and dreams of the war, and nothing but the war.

As in the life of an individual, there are times in the life of a nation when the accumulated culture of the past, all the potential energy of the present, have to be put to the severest test. Such in the career of an individual is the time when he emerges from scholastic associations to assume the duties of manhood. Japan has had schooling in modern civilization for the past quarter of a century. Her time has come to pass the terrible ordeal, and whether she will hereafter be numbered among the Great Powers of the world or the East depends on how she will acquit herself in the critical eyes of the whole civilized world.

For a resumé of the leading events since the opening of the war we refer the reader to the following pages.

The other articles are equally well written, so far as syntax is concerned. As for the Japanese part of the magazine, it abounds in excellent matter of all kinds, and is admirably illustrated with collotypes by Mr. Ogawa. The frontispiece is a collection of likenesses of the members of the Cabinet—excellent likenesses, too, though in one or two cases their Excellencies may fairly complain that the photographer has unfairly added to their years—and this is followed by likenesses of the Presidents and Vice-Presidents of the Houses of the Diet. Altogether the new magazine is a most creditable addition to the literature of the day. The table of the first number's contents is as follows :—

CONTIBUTED ARTICLES.

A Great Revolution in the World of Letters. By Kunitake Kume, Late Professor at the College of Literature, Imperial University.
The Influence of the War upon Education. By Kiyoomi Chikami, *Bungakushi*.
The Influence of the War upon Education. By Tetsujiro Inouye, *Bungaku hakushi*.
The Influence of the War upon Literature. By Yuzo Tsubouchi, *Bungakushi*.
Advantages and Disadvantages of Chinese Ideographs. By Yujiro Miyake, *Bungakushi*.
On the Study of the Archaic Japanese Language. By Mannen Uyeda, *Bungakushi*.
On the Study of Changes of Social Phenomena from Anthropological Points of View. By Shogoro Tsuboi, *Rigakushi*.
The Economic Warfare. By Tatsukuro Inoue, *Hogakushi*.
Agricultural Education. By Jikei Yokoi, *Nogakushi*.
Our Future Policy towards China. By Yukio Ozaki, M.P.
The Responsibility of the Japanese Empire. By Ushiro Nakanishi.

BIOGRAPHY AND HISTORY.

Noted Navigators before the Christian Era. By Shiken Morita.
The Battle of Waterloo. By Zawata Togawa.
Okubo Sagami-no-kami Sadachika. By Ochi Fukuchi.

GEOGRAPHY.

A Late Tour to Kyoto. By *Shimero Shujin*.
An Exploration of the Source of the River Tone. By Senkichiro Watanabe.

POLITICS.

Opinions of Distinguished Men on the Probable Result of the Japan-China War.
Platform of the Different Political Parties.
Progress of the Treaty Revision.

LAW.

Farewell to Dr. Boissonade.

LITERATURE.

Literary men of the Meiji Era.

FICTION.

"Torikaji :" To the larboard.
"Jugun-Nimpu :" Coolies attached to the Army Corps.

FINE ARTS.

The Invasion of Mongols (from Old Paintings).

ECONOMICS.

The Economic Condition of Japan in 1894.—The Second War Loan.—The Climate of Japan and the Distribution of Agricultural Products—The Resolutions passed by the Recent Great Agricultural Meeting.—The Wheat Crops of Japan in 1893—The Modern Development of Art in Japan.

MISCELLANNOUS.

Anecdotes of Ancient Japanese Heroes.—"No" Dance—Wrestling.—Flower-arranging.—"Chanoyu" Ceremony.—Ancient and Modern Theatres—Ancient Chinese plays of the Gen Period.

LIST OF ILULSTRATIONS.

The Present Cabinet.—President and Vice-President of the House of Peers.—President and Vice-President of the House of Representatives.—"A Happy New Year" after the Victories—A View of San Francisco—Noted Sights of Kyoto—The Invasion of the Mongols—The Blind Boatman—New Year's Holidays.

MISCELLANOUS LIST OF ILLUSTRATION.

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DEATH OF PRINCE ARISUGAWA.

ON Thursday the official announcement was made of the death of His Imperial Highness Prince ARISUGAWA. The cause of this most lamentable event was typhoid fever. The Prince being in his sixtieth year, his seizure by such a malady inspired much anxiety from the first, but his robust constitution seemed to have carried him happily through the worst stages of the disease when a relapse occurred, and he expired on the 15th instant at Hiroshima. The delay that took place in making the sad fact publicly known was due, we believe, to the circumstance that, according to the etiquette of the Imperial Household, a certain routine has to be observed within a certain time with respect to obsequies and mourners, and the absence of the Court from the capital, as well as of his Imperial Highness' successor, Prince ARISUGAWA TAKEHITO, placed difficulties in the way of immediate compliance with the prescribed forms. The body lay in vermilion at Hiroshima until the 22nd instant. and was then carried by train to Tokyo, where it arrived late on the night of the 23rd, and was received at the Shimbashi station by an immense concourse of notables.

His Imperial Highness was born on the 23rd of March, 1835. He was a descendant of Prince YOSHIHITO, seventh son of the Emperor GO-YOZEI (1587-1612), and as uncle of the reigning SOVEREIGN, his House would supply the next Heir to the Throne failing direct male issue. In 1873 he married the third daughter of the feudal chief of Shibata in Echigo, and having no child, he is succeeded by his younger brother, Prince TAKEHITO, Heir Presumptive to the Throne. The Prince had not reached his thirtieth year when the events preliminary to the Restoration culminated, and he played a prominent part among the leaders of the great movement for the overthrow of the TOKUGAWA and the centralization of the Government. Ten years later he filled the important post of Commander-in-Chief of the forces sent against the Satsuma insurgents, and it has always been believed that his presence with the Imperial Army contributed materially to its ultimate success. Subsequently he was appointed Chief of the Military Staff, and it was in the active discharge of the onerous duties connected with that post at such a time as the present, that he contracted his fatal malady. That the deceased Price was beloved and revered by the whole nation is beyond him to men's hearts were in no sense of a striking character. At the head of the list must be placed an innate love of virtue, that led him steadily along the path of an absolutely blameless life. He had the faculty of doing right by instinct, not by rule. Quiet and self-effacing, he never courted fame, caring only to do his duty, and like all men worthy of the highest trust, he never erred in placing his confidences or shrunk from the necessity of seeking and accepting good advice. Such Princes are rare. We do not employ the superficial words of a conventional epitaph when we say that his loss to the country is heavy.

It has been announced that all Court functions will be suspended for three days, and that there will be general mourning for five. The obsequies are to be public: the Diet will to-day be asked to vote the necessary funds.

The deceased Prince had the Military rank of Field-Marshal, and had been honoured by the EMPEROR with the Grand Order of the Chrysanthemum.

THE NUMBER OF JAPANESE TROOPS IN THE FIELD.

MOST singular estimates have been published by local foreign newspapers with regard to the numerical strength of the Japanese forces in the field. In every case there is a palpable tendency to exaggerate, but whether it is due to mere thoughtlessness or to a desire to minimise Japan's successes by magnifying the armies that have achieved them, we need not pause to consider. In the early days of the war, when all the military preparations of this country were wrapped in a cloud of obscurity, editors possessing no previous knowledge of the army's organization, nor having any access to sources of intelligence, could scarcely be blamed if they perpetrated blunders. But so much is now known that we can not but be profoundly surprised to find a statement, advanced with all assurance, to the effect that, before the Sendai Division left Hiroshima a few days ago for the seat of war, the Japanese troops in the field must already have numbered fully a hundred and thirty thousand. Nothing can excuse such a wild assertion. It could have been avoided by a most trifling exercise of care; by reference, for example, to statistics universally accessible. The Japanese standing forces consist of the Imperial Guard and six Divisions. We may omit the Imperial Guard from the present calculation, as it constitutes a special branch. On a peace footing, the establishment of the six Divisions, considering combatants only, represents fifty-six thousand, in round numbers. Infantry of precisely uniform strength; they vary within narrow limits, but that point need not concern us. Now, we know exactly how many Divisions had been sent to the field before the embarkation of the Sendai troops—three and a half Divisions in all, namely, the Third and Fifth, forming the First Army; and the First, together with one half of the Sixth, forming the Second Army. Had these Divisions been of their peace strength only, the total force could not have exceeded thirty-two thousand. But the figures that we have to deal with are those relating to the forces on a war footing, and here, though we can fix a superior limit, it is not possible to speak with perfect accuracy. The Divisions are brought up to their war footing by means of the Reserves, which aggregate—we still exclude the Imperial Guard—eighty-five thousand. Let us explain here what the Reserves are. In Japan the military system of conscription fixes the periods of service at 3 years with the Colours, 4 with the First Reserves, and 5 with the Second Reserves. In other words, a man having served 3 years with the Colours, is borne on the roll of the Reserves for the ensuing 9 years, and, while a Reservist, he is called out for drill during a period of 60 days annually. The Reserves consequently represent a force needing only a little exercise to be fit at any moment for active service. There is also a territorial Army composed of men who, having completed their total term of 12 years with the Colours and in the Reserves, remain liable during the next 8 years to be called out in the event of war or emergency, but in times of peace are not called out at all. The Territorial Army numbers a hundred thousand men, between 32 and 40 years of age, who can be utilized at once for purposes of home defence. This Territorial Army, however, has nothing to do with our present calculations. What we have to deal with is the fifty-six thousand men with the Colours of the six Divisions, and their Reserves of eighty-five thousand. Were the two combined to place the Divisions on a war footing, we should have a total of a hundred and forty-one thousand men, and it would then follow that the three Divisions and a half in Manchuria aggregate 82,250 of all ranks. But of course such a rough method of calculation would be erroneous. The whole of the Reserves are not drafted into the Divisions for foreign service: a considerable portion must be left at the Divisional Head Quarters in Japan. How, then, is the distribution made? Here we confess that it is not possible for outsiders to speak with absolute accuracy, the drafts taken from the Reserves being an obviously elastic factor. We can, however, make a trustworthy approximation. A Division is composed of 2 Brigades of

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Thus the Infantry of a Division consists of 24 Battalions, and the nominal strength of each Battalion on a war footing being 800 of all ranks, we have a total of 19,200 Infantry. Of Artillery there are 15 Batteries of 6 guns each, the establishment of each battery being 80 men. Thus the Artillery represents 1,200. Finally, there are 2 Battalions of Cavalry, or about a thousand sabres. Hence, the aggregate combative strength of the Division on a war footing is 21,200. We repeat that these figures do not pretend to absolute accuracy, but they may be taken as representing superior limits. It is certain that the two Divisions forming the First Army were on a peace footing only when originally sent to Korea, but they have probably been increased gradually, until they now muster something like 40,000. But the Second Army has not been brought up to that standard. Its Division and a half do not exceed 22,000. Thus, the final result of the calculation is that, before the Sendai Division embarked, the Japanese forces in Manchuria did not exceed 62,000, a figure less than one half of that confidently asserted by a local English newspaper some days ago.

A word may be said here about the fighting strength of such Divisions. Civilian readers are apt to infer that when fifty or sixty thousand men are spoken of as composing an army, the General in command may be considered to have a force of that magnitude available for any belligerent operation. But, in point of fact, out of every 3 Battalions in a Japanese *corps d'armée*, 2 only are placed in the line of battle. The third remains in reserve to fill up the vacancies occurring in the other two. Calculating on that basis and assuming that two-thirds of the cavalry and artillery go into the fighting line, it results that a Division's combative strength is 14,200, approximately. That will explain to our readers how it happened that, although NODZU was supposed to have two Divisions under his command, he could not launch more than about 14,000 men against the fortifications at Phyöng-yang. His Divisions, not having been brought up to their war footing, did not aggregate more than 20,000 of all ranks, and fully one-third were not available for the fighting line.

Now that the Sendai Division has crossed to the Liaotung peninsula, Japan may be said to have 80,000 troops, approximately, fighting her battles in a foreign country over-sea. It is a mighty effort. Modern history offers no parallel. European countries with their huge military organizations and their spendid systems of railways, can march hundreds of thousands of soldiers across their frontiers into the territories of neighbouring States. But which, even of those colossal Powers, would willingly undertake the task of sending eighty thousand men to fight beyond

THE OPERATIONS IN MANCHURIA

THE latest intelligence from the seat of war possesses great military importance. We have endeavoured to keep our readers in touch with the operations of the contending forces in Manchuria, and another brief explanation at this stage will probably be useful. The high-road from Shanhaikwan to Mukden, after travelling in a north-easterly direction along the western coast of the Gulf of Pechili, assumes, generally speaking, a curved form, the highest point of the curve touching the forty-second parallel of north latitude 35 miles before entering Mukden. The place at which the road begins to curve is Shisanshan. There, also, it bifurcates, the northern, or main, branch proceeding, as we have said, toward Mukden, the eastern leading along the northern coast of the Liaotung Gulf, to Kaiping *vid* Yingkow (modern Newchwang), and thence to Suiyen and Chiulien. In other words, Chiulien and Shisanshan lie at the eastern and western extremities, respectively, of the chord of an arc at the highest point of which is Mukden, while the road from Mukden *vid* Laoyang to Haicheng and Kaiping bisects the arc and meets the chord at right angles. At first the Japanese forces, after crossing the Yalu river, advanced into Manchuria along the eastern periphery of the arc, but so soon as they struck westward toward Haicheng, they placed themselves on the chord. The Chinese troops, on the other hand, were distributed chiefly along the sector from Mukden to Laoyang. Haicheng, and Kaiping, thirty to forty thousand being to the north of Haicheng, and twenty to twenty-five thousand to the south of that place. Hence, when the Japanese obtained possession of Haicheng they cut the Chinese line of defence in two. Moreover, at Haicheng they were within 75 miles of Shisanshan, whereas the Chinese at Mukden were 135 miles from the same place. In other words, the Japanese, by advancing 75 miles farther west along the chord of the arc, could easily intercept the China-ward retreat of all the Mukden and Laoyang forces. That has been the strategy of the Japanese Generals throughout the war. They have always succeeded in taking a position such that, while having direct access to the enemy's front, they also threatened his line of retreat. Previously, however, the manœuvre had been carried out on a small scale in connection with the attack of some particular fortress or entrenchment, but in Shinking the plan was extended so as to embrace the whole field of immediate action. It is true that to obtain the position at Haicheng, the Japanese accepted large strategical risks. Lieut.-General KATSURA'S march from Suiyen to that place exposed him to a concerted attack from north and south that might have proved very troublesome. But Field-Marshal YAMAGATA, to whom the programme is understood to be due, based his calculations on the qualities hitherto shown by the enemy. With Chinese for adversaries he doubtless felt safe in dispensing with precautions essential in the face of a more enterprising foe. The Chinese, however, though they failed to prevent the cutting of their line, evidently understood the significance of the operation after it had been consummated. For, two days after KATSURA'S capture of Hai-cheng, General SUNG moved up from Kaiping, with 10,000 men, to try and recover the place, and intelligence has now been received that, on the 17th instant, a similar attempt was made by the Chinese forces on the north. Such details of the fight as have reached Tokyo are given elsewhere in our columns. As usual the Chinese were defeated, and as usual their fighting proved incomprehensibly innocuous to their enemies. At least ten thousand men moved against a position from three directions, struggled to recover it from a little after daylight until nightfall, and ultimately retired, having inflicted on their foes a loss of only one man killed and forty wounded. It is the most farcical fighting on record. What on earth the Chinese do with their arms of precision, how they point them and how they discharge them, we can form no conception. Apparently, in the battle on the 17th, they never ventured nearer to the Japanese outposts than from fifteen to sixteen hundred metres. Rifle fire at such a range is virtually useless. Even artillery fire cannot effect much. If the Chinese expected to recover Haicheng by standing off from it and discharging futile bullets in its direction, they must have a childish conception of warfare. At all events, they were beaten back, and considering the very perfunctory character of their attempt, there is little reason to expect that it will be renewed. The importance of the affair is that it radically affects the position of the Chinese in Shinking. The troops assembled to the north of Haicheng, with Laoyang for head-quarters and the defence of Mukden for final object, have now to consider the possibility of getting back to China. Their base of supply has hitherto been Newchwang (Yingkow), which must soon fall into Japanese hands. There will remain then for them only one line of retreat and means of communication with China, namely, the high-road from Mukden to Pekin *vid* Shanhaikwan. But we have seen that the Japanese, by moving 75 miles along the coast, can emerge upon that road at Shisanshan, whereas the Chinese must march 135 miles to reach the same place. Of course SUNG'S army, variously estimated at from fifteen to fifty thousand, has to be dealt with before Newchwang falls into Japanese possession. But nearly all the men now under SUNG'S banner are beaten soldiers. They have encountered the

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Japanese either at Tomucheng, or at Kangwasai, or at Haicheng, or at Kaiping, or at Chinchow, or at Port Arthur, and already there is talk of their melting away without awaiting another conflict. In short, from whatever point we view it, the position of the Chinese armies in Shinking is very critical. If the Japanese take Yingkow, and advance thence along the coast until they strike the Mukden-Shanhaikwan road at Shisanshan, we do not see what remains for the Laoyang-Mukden army except to disperse and get out of the field as speedily and secretly as possible. Inclement weather may slightly alter the complexion of affairs, but apart from that contingency the Chinese are in what may be called a very tight place.

THE DIET AND THE BUDGET.

ON Wednesday an unprecedented scene was witnessed in the House of Representatives. The Budget for the incoming fiscal year was passed almost as presented by the Government, the amendments made in the actual expenditures aggregating less than 100,000 *yen*. That result had been anticipated by the general public, it being understood that the leaders of the various political parties had agreed to abstain from every semblance of opposition to the Cabinet, in order to present to the world the spectacle of a nation absolutely united in the face of a foreign foe. Yet it cannot be concealed that the Government itself did not feel entirely confident of a peaceful result, and indeed when we recall the almost fanatic fractiousness displayed by the politicians of the Opposition in preceding sessions, it becomes difficult to credit the exceedingly placable mood shown by the House yesterday. That Mr. OZAKI YUKIO, who never previously, so far as we can remember, had ascended the rostrum except for the purpose of hurling invectives at the heads of the Cabinet Ministers, should stand there uttering the most gentle and conciliatory phrases on such an occasion as the discussion of a Budget presented by those very Ministers, was a spectacle not to be reckoned among any reasonable contingencies. Yet that is what happened on the 23rd instant. Mr. OZAKI not only supported the Budget, but actually went so far as to express pleasure in being able to do so. The leaders of all the other parties followed in succession, piping the same peaceful strains. One member only ventured to advance the obvious proposition that the mere fact of the country's being engaged in a foreign war ought not to preclude parliamentary scrutiny of the ordinary administrative expenditures. But nobody paid any attention to him. Incomparably stronger than the strife of parties or the ambitions of hungry politicians is the conviction that, at a time like the present, all patriotic Japanese must stand shoulder to shoulder at the shrine of a great national duty. The House has added not a little to its reputation by this attitude. It has shown that the country occupied the first place in its thoughts, and that is a conviction by which many critics did not believe its counsels to be swayed.

CHINA AND THE TREATIES.

ERRORS die hard, and we doubt if their vitality is anywhere more remarkable than in Yokohama. Time and again local newspapers have declared that China constituted a serious stumbling-block in the path of Treaty Revision. They have based this allegation on the hypothesis that were the country thrown open to Western peoples, it must also be thrown open to the Chinese; that Japan could not safely face the consequent risk of an inundation of Chinese semi-pauper immigrants, and that China's Treaty must therefore be made the subject of special arrangement, an exception to which China's consent would have to be purchased dearly. Almost as often as that ignorant blunder has appeared in print explicit contradictions of it have also appeared. Yet the error, like a Jack-in-the-box on imperishable springs, thrusts its head up again perpetually. We encounter it in all its old dimensions in a local contemporary's columns no later than two days ago. It is a point that touches the history of this war, and we may therefore be pardoned for referring to it again. The plain fact—a fact ascertainable by reference to any book containing copies of the Treaties—is that, except in the matter of tariff, China has nothing whatever to do with Treaty Revision. Her Treaty with Japan contains no most-favoured-nation clause entitling her to participate in any privileges granted to other Powers. She stands entirely apart, and was not represented at any of the Treaty Revision conferences that took place in Tokyo in the days of combined negotiation. Hence, though Japan were to freely admit all Europe and all America to the interior of her Empire, she would not be under any obligation to admit a single Chinese. We do not see that any plainer statement of the fact is possible, but at the same time experience forbids us to expect that any statement of facts, however plain, will kill this hydra-headed error. As to the tariff, it might and probably would have proved a difficulty. Revising her Treaties with Western Powers and leaving her Treaty with China unrevised, Japan would be in the position of differentiating in favour of Chinese merchants, since imposts passing through their hands would be smaller than those levied under the revised tariff upon goods imported by American or European merchants. That difficulty, obviously of minor dimensions, could not have proved insurmountable. At all events, it represents the sum total of the obstacles that China could have placed in the way of Revision, and it has now ceased to exist since the war has put an end to all treaties or Conventions between the two Empires. Nothing, however, could show greater ignorance than to allege that one of the issues involved in this war was the erection of an adequate safeguard against the influx of Chinese. Japan always had the solution of that problem in her own hands.

IMPERIAL ORDINANCE.

We hereby give Our sanction to the present Ordinance relating to the Coast Defence Regulations and order the same to be promulgated.

(His Imperial Majesty's Sign Manual).

(Great Seal).

Dated the 15th of January of the 28th year *Meiji* (1895).

(Countersigned)

Count SAIGO TSUKUMICHI,
Minister of State of the Navy and of War.

IMPERIAL ORDINANCE No. VIII.
COAST DEFENCE REGULATIONS.

GENERAL PROVISIONS.

ART. I.—The present Regulations shall determine the duties relating to operations to be undertaken by the Army and Navy in cooperation.

ART. II.—Though operations connected with the capital and posts of defence permanently established along the coast shall be undertaken by the Army and Navy combined, duties which, according to their nature, should be specially entrusted to either the Army or Navy, shall be divided thus:—

A.—Those to be undertaken by the Army.
1. Matters relating to the watch on land.
2. Matters relating to works of defence on land.
3. Matters relating to forts.
4. Matters relating to communication between one post of defence and another.

B.—Those to be undertaken by the Navy.
1. Matters relating to the watch at sea.
2. Matters relating to the laying of submarine obstacles, such as torpedoes.
3. Matters relating to communication at sea.

ART. III.—The defences of the capital and of posts permanently established along the coast shall be divided into four classes.

1.—THE DEFENCES OF TOKYO.

The Commandant of the Tokyo Defences shall plan and conduct all matters relating to the defence of the capital by issuing directions to the Commanders of important military posts and of Military Divisions and to the Commander of the Yokosuka Admiralty. The organization of the Tokyo Defences Superintending Office and the duties to be undertaken by it at ordinary times shall be specially determined.

Of the staff officers attached to the Commandant several shall be made to undertake at the same time the staff business of the Navy, to provide against mistakes in devising plans and giving directions.

In view of the isolated defence of the station, the Commander of the Yokosuka Admiralty, by issuing orders to the garrison of the Yokosuka fort and to the sections of the Navy placed under his control, shall plan and direct all matters relating to the defence of the station. A staff officer under the Commander of a naval or an important military post shall change places in time of peace to provide against mistakes in devising plans.

2.—THE DEFENCES OF KURE AND SASEBO.

For the Defences of Kure and Sasebo the Commander of the Admiralty shall plan and direct all matters relating to the defence of the Naval Stations by issuing orders to the Commanders of important military posts and to the various sections of the Navy placed under his control.

A staff officer of the Army shall be appointed under the Commander of the Admiralty to provide against mistakes in devising plans.

3.—THE DEFENCES OF KI-TAN, NARUTO, GEI-SO AND SHIMONOSEKI STRAITS.

For the defence of the above, Commanders of important military posts shall plan and conduct all matters relating

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Commanders of Marine Defences and to the various garrisons.

Staff officers of the Navy shall at the same time undertake staff business under the Commanders of important military posts to provide against mistakes in devising plans.

4.—THE DEFENCES OF TSUSHIMA.

The senior of the Commanders of the Insular Troops and of posts of strategic importance shall at the same time discharge the duties of Commander of the Tsushima Defences, and plan and conduct all matters relating thereto by issuing orders to the troops under his control and to other commanders.

Art. IV.—Although in matters connected with active operations the naval stations, garrisons, and squadrons are to be placed under the direction of the Commandant of the Tokyo Defences, Commanders of naval stations, of important military posts, or of the Tsushima Defences, shall in matters connected with *personnel*, accounts, sanitation, and the supply of arms, ammunition, and other material whether naval or military, be subjected to arrangements determined by the respective offices.

APPENDIX.

Art. V.—The period of enforcing the present Regulations shall be determined by notification of the Ministers of State of War and of the Navy.

IMPERIAL ORDINANCE.

We hereby give Our sanction to the present Ordinance relating to the Tokyo Defences Superintending Office and order the same to be promulgated.

(His Imperial Majesty's Sign Manual).
(Great Seal).

Dated the 15th of January of the 28th year of *Meiji* (1895).

(Countersigned)
Count SAIGO TSUKUMICHI,
Minister of State for War.

IMPERIAL ORDINANCE No. IX.

TOKYO DEFENCES SUPERINTENDING OFFICE.

Art. I.—The Tokyo Defence Superintending Office shall be located in Tokyo.

Art. II.—The post of Commandant of the Tokyo Defences shall be filled either by a Field Marshal or a Lieut.-General who shall undertake the defence of Tokyo under the direct control of the Emperor.

Art. III.—The Commandant of the Tokyo Defences shall superintend all matters relating to the protection of the capital, and shall cause the Commander of the Division to carry them into effect.

Art. IV.—In matters relating to military policy and to *personnel*, the Commandant of the Tokyo Defences is to be subjected to the control of the Minister of State for War, and in matters relating to plans of defence, to that of the Chief of the Central Staff.

Art. V.—The Chief of the Staff shall regulate the business of the Office, and the staff officers and *aide-de-camps* shall, subject to his supervision, discharge the respective duties assigned to them, for which they shall be held responsible.

APPENDIX.

Art. VI.—The period of enforcing the present Regulations shall be determined by notification from the Minister of State for War.

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE STRANDING OF THE "CITY OF RIO DE JANEIRO."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—I recently noticed in one of the local papers that the sunken Rock on which the steamer *City of Rio de Janeiro* struck is supposed to be not only well known to local shipmasters, but also marked on the latest British Admiralty charts.

Should such be a fact, then I may venture to predict that the above vessel struck on the sunken Rock marked She-wan-she on the British Admiralty Chart No. 358, corrected to July, 1892. This Rock is in lat. 31° 20′ 30″ N., long. 130° 8′ 15″ E., and bears from Mesaki N.W. by N. distant 7 miles, and from Noma-no-hana S. by E. ½ E. distant 4¼ miles. It lies about one mile outside of a line joining these two points, and 2½ miles from the nearest point of the Main Island of Kiushu. A vessel having cleared Mesaki at a distance of one mile and steering so as to clear Noma-no-hana at the same distance, would run straight for the rock.

In the Sailing Directions published by Captain Mahlmann, this rock is alluded to in the answer to Question 398, page 127, which may be here quoted to some advantage:—

Question 398.—Being off Satano-misaki, distance 3 miles, during day time, and intending to pass eastward or inside of the Koshiki Islands, how would you steer if bound to Nagasaki?

Answer.—My first course would be N.W. ½ W., the same as if I was going to pass southward of the Koshiki Islands, *but*, instead of only running 30 miles as far as Mesaki, I should run until 35 miles had been made, or, in other words, I should steer N.W. ½ W. until I had run 5 miles past Mesaki and brought Noma no hana, a point situated 11 miles N.N.W. ½ W. from Mesaki, on a N. ½ E. bearing, *so as to clear the She-wan she, a sunken rock which lies N.W. by N. 7 miles from Mesaki*. Noma-no-hana bearing N. ½ E. distant 8½ miles, I should steer N. ½ W. straight for the two small Islets called Kuokami (72), then distant 37½ miles. This course would clear Noma-no-hana point 1½ miles, &c., &c.

As the sunken rock She-wan-she is not marked on the older charts, shipmasters are advised to take note.

I am, Sir, yours very respectfully,
O. SEWA.

Yokohama, January 21st, 1895.

DERIVATOLOGY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Mr. Joseph Edkins, and the readers of his very interesting article in the *Japan Mail* of the 15th inst., may like to be reminded of a couple of examples of the above mentioned branch of philology, similar in many respects to those which he gives.

First, there is our English word *bread*, which is, no doubt, derived from the Greek *artos*. Cut off the last two letters, which are merely inflexional, and of no value, and we get *art*. Transposition, which every philologist has a right to employ, gives us *rat*. Euphony suggests the addition of the letter *b*, which gives *brat*. To avoid confusion between this word and another in common use, the pronunciation *bret* was adopted. As *t* and *d* are practically identical, we get *bred*, which was the old form in use before we had learned how to spell.

The second instance is the derivation of the word *cucumber* from the name of its original cultivator, the late respected JEREMIAH KING, Esq. *Jeremiah King = Jerry King = Jer. King, = gherkin = * * * = cucumber*. The intermediate steps will be obvious to any philologist who remembers the natural tendency for sonant letters to become surds—and *vice versâ*.

Hoping the above instances may be of service to Mr. Edkins and his readers,

I remain, &c.,
W. SILVER HALL.

Tokyo, 19th Jan., 1894.

THE WOMAN QUESTION.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—One who reads current literature is led to believe that one of the greatest problems before the world to-day is that subtle but rather broad term known as the woman question. In ancient times woman was in all lands more or less what the etymological meaning of "oku-sama" is—dweller in the back rooms. She was considered a beautiful plaything, a most inspiring subject for love ditties, and her physical—not mental—charms were even the causes of some of the world's greatest battles and national revolutions. Notwithstanding all these records of the past, it has been left for man of the nineteenth century to discover woman, as some one has facetiously remarked. And now that he has discovered her, he finds that she is a white elephant on his hands. And in order to know exactly what she is, whether she is made up of the same number and quality of the sixty-four elements of matter as man is, she has been carried into the laboratory and analyzed even to the brain, hoping thereby to discover sex in mind. But one of the most important discoveries made by these chemical investigations is that she is composed of bones and sinews, flesh and blood, all of which needs fresh air and exercise such as one gets on the tennis court, on bicycles, or on mountain heights, and that she thrives better on these than she does in the *oku*, the *harem*, and the *senana*.

But while man was making these discoveries, woman herself took up the question and has pushed it with an enthusiasm characteristic of her intense nature. She has about come to the conclusion that sex should not be a barrier to any undertaking. Whatever head, heart, or hand can do. She claims that the age has passed when woman is a mere ivy clinging to the oak for support. She is already attempting to do almost everything that man does, from the simple process of casting a ballot to the perilous undertaking of the discovery of the North Pole. And because there is a good deal of slow conservatism in man's nature that causes him to antagonize some of these radical innovations by woman, she flies into a passion and declares that man is a tyrant that must be dethroned, and "that if nature had not implanted a troublesome amount of affection in woman's composition, she could, by her greater force of will and character, drive man into a corner of the universe, just as the inferior races of the past have been driven before the superior ones—only more so, the disparity being greater."

It is just at this point that some phases of the so-called woman question would be ridiculous if they were not serious. The inimitable Sam Jones, when asked what he thought should be the limit of woman's sphere of action, replied that he was willing for her to occupy every place that man does, except one, that is to be the father of a family; here he must draw the line. And perhaps there was never a more forcible illustration of the figure of irony than a convention composed of old maids and mothers who have left their offspring to the nurture and admonition of ignorant servants, passing resolutions about how to make good citizens, and demanding the ballot in order to reform society. The only hope of the world is that such anarchy in home-life is not universal. When she has accomplished everything else that satisfies her mind the woman's rights' woman will then, no doubt, set herself to the odd task of getting rid of that "troublesome amount of affection in woman's composition," which is, under the present condition of things, a serious barrier to the goal of her ambition. But even if that were accomplished, there is another and a more radical problem to be solved—the propagation of the human race. Until science discovers some other method, future generations must still look to her for their existence, even after man has been driven "into a corner of the universe." It would seem to a layman that the holding, by one class, of such a complete monopoly as the production and care of the whole human race, ought to compensate the most radical believers in woman's rights for some other privileges they are still contending for. Any way, we are constrained to believe that the same old methods will be continued until some process of innoculation or vaccination has been discovered which will relieve woman of this troublesome affection that now burdens and retards her in her aspirations. Until that is done, man will continue to honour if not worship her, help if not serve her, defend if not fight battles over her, love if not indite sentimental verses to her.

Yours, &c.,
WILL PATTILLO.

January, 22nd, 1895.

THE JAPANESE NEW TESTAMENT TRANSLATION.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—"Epsilon's" answer to the critical questions raised by Mr. McCaleb would have been amply sufficient had it not been for the subsequent contribution signed "A." The fact that an important principle seems involved must be the apology for this further trespass on your space.

The phrase *tadashiki sabaki* appears in the Japanese rendering of 2 Thes. I. 5, but there we find an equivalent for "righteous" in the original, whereas all seem to concede there is none whatever in Acts VIII. 33. This of itself would seem sufficient to little the question; but mark further that no such rendering appears in any translation accessible to your correspondent, the Japanese alone excepted. "Accessible" here includes the Latin of Stier and Theile's great Polyglot, the German of Luther, the commoner French and English versions, and the Chinese translation reprinted in Tokyo in 1884.

It is important to remember that the passage in Acts is a quotation from the Septuagint rendering of Isaiah LIII. 8. And that the true old Testament text is very obscure appears from the widely different translations of our Authorized and Revised versions; the former being:—"He was taken from prison and from judgment," while the Revised reads:—"By oppression and judgment he was taken away." The word righteous does not appear either in the O. T. original or in the translations; indeed, the Revised rendering would point to anything but a righteous judgment. The Japanese of the passage in Isaiah reads, in accordance with the R.V., *sabaki ni yorite*. Now, if any explanatory adjective at all is to be added to the quotation in the Acts, the translators would have been consistent with their O. T. rendering in using the adjective employed. The only one that would appear from a rendering cited by Mr. McCaleb; namely, "In

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his humiliation his condemnation was extorted"; and from that of Thayer, quoted by "A." himself, who prefers the word *punishment* to "righteous judgment." Thus it is clear that the passage may employ "judgment" as denoting just the opposite of righteous judgment.

But it would also be permissible to make the "judgment" of the original refer to the great prerogative of Christ as judge or lord of the world. In this sense the same Greek noun *krisis* is often used, as, for example, in Jno. v. 22, 27. Then the words, "In his humiliation his judgment was taken away," would seem in harmony with that theory of *kenosis* supported by Phil. ii. 7, 8, denoting that during the period of His humiliation Christ yielded up much of His divine power. On the other hand, other commentators, followed by Dr. Learned's vernacular work, support the Japanese version. But they are commentaries; and it is supposed to be a translation.

Yoshitsuji (1 Tim. iii. 11) is equally unwarranted by textual authorities. Some commentators, from Chrysostom down to De Wette, say that the meaning is probably "deaconesses," but then such high authority as Conybeare and Howson repudiate that rendering, giving their reasons (*Life and Ep. of Paul.* Vol. ii. p. 453, note 1). None of the translations mentioned above venture to give it. In this case, as in the other just dealt with, there are three possible interpretations of the text, but there is only one text. Yet the translators, by an actual alteration of the text, have made it appear that one of these interpretations alone is possible. They have more than translated, they have commented. What is more, their commentation appears as a translation.

"A.'s" assertion that not words, but ideas, must be translated, is a remarkable addition to the rules of textual criticism. Is it not the sole aim of modern criticism to determine, as far as may be, simply the pure text? And in cases of authentic text with an ambiguous meaning, would not A.'s canon mean the translation not, necessarily, of the idea, but of one's own ideas? It is nothing more nor less than interpolation.

To assert that reasonably equivalent words cannot be found in Japanese would seem to demand good proof. But even if such proof be forthcoming (which is doubtful), then A.'s statement that a translation more restricted in its sense than the original is preferable to one still wider, seems to me the exact reverse of the truth. Surely it is better to widen the field of individual judgment than to narrow it.

It is very easy to find fault, and to seem pedantic when doing it. But there is a principle here that we cannot afford to lose sight of: namely:—*In Bible translation a pure text should be the one aim, and not comment.* The translators of the present version, faithful and humble though they were, seem in numerous instances, of which examples are cited above, to have deviated from that principle. The purpose of this letter is not to blame them, but to oppose the application of A.'s position to the Revised Japanese Version we shall some day have.

J. A. B. SCHERER.

Saga, January 17th, 1895.

WASHINGTON PRINCIPLES?

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Would you have the kindness to tender my best thanks to your correspondent from Washington for his admirable sincerity in saying (see *Japan Mail* Jan. 18th, 1895):

It is safe to say that under such a loose plan, most of us would filch a little.

"Little"—by the way—in that particular case meaning "some hundred and odd thousand dollars."

The undersigned, in honourable companionship of your correspondent from Washington, proudly maintains the beautiful sentiment, that honesty—a very good thing in itself as far as it goes—*may* become, and does *become*, troublesome in many cases, especially where dishonesty pays better. In such cases it would be improper, nay even little short of disgraceful, to remain honest, especially where there is some "loose plan"—no supervision exercised—in a word, where "*everything* depends on a man's *honesty only*. In such cases it would be *more* than shameful not to pocket on one's own account first.

Fully agreeing as I do with your respected correspondent's principles, I beg, at the same time, to suggest, that, if the same corresponding gentleman would be contented to speak in future for himself only without generalizing more than necessary, many of your readers would understand his style of writing better than they do now.

Yours, &c., ONE "OF US."

Tokyo, January 20th, 1895.

LANGFELDT AND COMPANY, LIMITED.

The semi-annual general meeting of shareholders in Messrs. Langfeldt and Company, Limited, was held in Kiel's Building, Main Street, on Monday afternoon. There were present Messrs. O. Kiel, Chairman of Directors, H. Klingen, F. Retz, A. Egli, H. Grauert, J. F. Lowder, J. Strauss, W. Berger, and J. Feicke, Secretary.

The CHAIRMAN called the meeting to order, as he considered that the rules of their Articles of Association—that five persons representing 10 per cent. must be present to form a meeting—were satisfied. They were gathered at the eighth semi-annual general meeting of the Company, and as the accounts and report had been circulated amongst them for over a week past, and had doubtless been earnestly and carefully examined, he would propose that they be taken as read.

Mr. KLINGEN seconded.—Carried.

The CHAIRMAN—We now come to a consideration of the accounts. This has been a most extraordinary half-year. You all know the old adage, that it is an ill wind that blows nobody any good, and therefore it has come to pass that the lamentable war now proceeding between Japan and China, has enabled us to make the profits which the Directors now propose to distribute amongst you. The gross profits have been something near $34,000. From this sum the Directors propose to write off $5,537.42 for furniture, etc. This includes plant, fixtures—fixtures in store and boat house, ship chandlery, butchery, etc.—and furniture which we hold at the disposal of our manager, and which formerly appeared in our books at $7,537.42. This we have reduced to $2,000. Then the Directors have also written off $209.38 for bad debts. They are not really bad debts, but are debts that have been forgotten by people, people who have left, etc. After deducting various other amounts for working expenses, fees, etc., we arrive at a net profit of $28,372.57, out of which we propose to pay you a dividend of 25 per cent. and to give $2,000 as a bonus to our employés. This bonus has been well earned by them. Our business has been a business of day and night, night and day. Our employés have been at work at 5 o'clock in the morning, and half-past two next morning has see them still there at work; yet at five o'clock they were back at work again. Gentlemen, if our employés had not worked like this we should have been obliged to engage extra hands, and their wages would have absorbed, doubtless, an amount almost equal to that which we suggest should now be given as remuneration to our men for their extra work. Then again, had we engaged extra men we should now have been in this position:—we should either have had to keep them on, which would have been unpleasant for us, or we should have had to discharge them, which would have been unpleasant for them—for we have no present need of extra work. We hold over to the next account a balance of $1,372.57. The accounts are now before you for your disposal—either you will accept them or else reject them. I have nothing more to say about them now, but I have a few remarks to make later on.

REPORT.

The Statement of Assets and Liabilities, and the Profit and Loss Account for the half-year ended the 31st December, 1894, accompany this Report.

The Net Profit for the half year, including balance brought forward from the 30th June, 1894, and after providing for General Expenses, Directors' and Auditor's fees, Depreciation and Losses amount to $28,372.57 which it is proposed to apply as follows:—

In payment of a Dividend of 25 per cent. for the half-year	$25,000.00
In payment of a Bonus to the employés of the Company	$ 2,000.00
Balance to ■ carried to new account	$ 1,372.57
	$28,372.57

Messrs. Meyerdirks and Retz retire from the Board, but offer themselves for re-election.

The Directors have much pleasure in recommending the re-election of Mr. Thos. S. Baker as Auditor.

O. KIEL,
J. F. LOWDER, } Directors.

Yokohama, January 14th, 1895.

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES ON DECEMBER 31ST, 1894.

ASSETS.

Stock of Merchandise, Ship Chandlery, and Coal	$35,473.44
Plant, Fixtures, and Furniture	2,000.00
Cash in hand	2,804.84
Fire Insurance Policies	937.33
Sundry Debtors	27,286.43
Hongkong and Shanghai Bank Corporation	24,303.14
	$92,805.18

LIABILITIES.

Capital, 2,000 Shares at $200	$200,000.00
Sundry local Creditors	20,033.02
Bills Payable to Bank	32,899.40
	$263,832.61
Balance, Profit	28,372.57
	$292,205.18

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT, DECEMBER 31ST, 1894.

DR.

To General Expenses		$ 7,771.78
To Rent		2,661.00
To Fire Insurance		847.39
To Plant, Fixtures, etc., written off		5,537.42
To Directors' Fees		550.00
To Auditor's Fees		250.00
To Bad Debtors written off		209.38
To Balance available for division	$28,372.57	
to be dealt with as follows:—		
Dividend at the rate of 25% for half-year	$25,000.00	
Bonus to Employés	2,000.00	
Rest carried forward to new account	1,372.57	28,372.57
		$44,799.74

CR.

July 1st—By Balance forward from June 30th, 1894	$ 620.66
December 31st—By Gross Profit on trade	44,136.43
By Share transfer fees	9.00
By Interest	43.65
	$44,799.74
January 1st, 1895—By Balance	$ 1,372.57

E. & O. E.

Yokohama, December 31st 1894.

O. KIEL,
J. F. LOWDER, } Directors.

J. FEICKE, Secretary.

I have examined the foregoing accounts and compared them with the vouchers of the Company, and certify them to be correct.

Yokohama, January 9th, 1895.

THOS. S. BAKER, Auditor.

Mr. GRAUERT moved, and Mr. LANGFELDT seconded the adoption of the accounts.—Carried.

The CHAIRMAN—I have now two points to bring before you. The first is this. We have had a very good half-year, and as far as I know about the working of the business, we may look forward to a decent and reasonable half-year to come, and many of them, I hope in the future. I know that history is said to repeat itself, but I warn you not to expect such a dividend as this every year. Fair, hard work will continue to be done by all in your employ, and you may reasonably expect a fair and good return for your money, but I add again that you must not expect such a return as has been made this year. The second point is somewhat peculiar. This half-year, as I have already remarked, has been most extraordinary. Two years ago you reduced the pay of your Directors from $500 to $200, giving as your motive that the business done with our capital was not quite sufficient to justify the larger sum. Now your business this year has been quadrupled, and I ask you to make a vote to your Directors in consideration of the extra work done by them, and would propose, as your Chairman, that you double their remuneration this half-year, as a mark of your good sense and good nature towards them.

Mr. KLINGEN moved that the Directors' fees be not doubled, but tripled.

Mr. STRAUSS seconded.

The CHAIRMAN—It is very kind of you to do this, but I think that my suggestion that the Director's fees be doubled for this year, will be quite sufficient. Next year they would be at the ordinary rate, but this year, as a mark of your recognizance of the good work they have done, you double their fees. That would be quite sufficient, and I am sure that they will continue to work in your interests as faithfully in the future as they have done in the past.

Mr. LANGFELDT said he thought the Chairman's suggestion, that the Director's fees be doubled, should be carried.

Mr. KLINGEN then withdrew his proposition.

Mr. LANGFELDT proposed that the Directors' fees for the year be doubled—that is increased to $400.

Mr. GRAUERT seconded.—Carried.

The CHAIRMAN in thanking the meeting on behalf of the Directors, said the vote had been well earned.

The CHAIRMAN announced that the retiring Directors, Messrs. Retz and Meyerdirks offered themselves for re-election.

Both gentlemen were re-elected by acclamation.

The CHAIRMAN proposed the re-election of Mr. Thos. S. Baker, of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, as auditor.

Mr. LANGFELDT seconded.—Carried.

Mr. LANGFELDT said he should like to make a few remarks upon their report. The public upon reading that a 25 per cent. dividend had just been made, might run away with the idea that they charged exhorbitant rates. From his knowledge of the business he might tell them that the profits made were extremely moderate. It was owing to the extraordinary amount of their sales that they had made so much that year. The gross profits on the average had not been more than 10 per cent., which was very little for a business of this kind. He made these remarks so that their business should not be misjudged.

The CHAIRMAN thought that their business would not be misjudged by the public. They had made money because the business had come in

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their way. If the business had not come to them, they would not have made the profit.

Mr. RETZ said there was something in what Mr. Langfeldt had remarked. He had himself been approached by persons outside upon the reason for declaring so big a dividend, and he had explained that it was solely due to the larger amount of business which they had done. They did not charge exorbitant rates, in fact they were less than other people in some respects; but they had had to supply the men-of-war who had been called out East through the outbreak of war in Korea.

The CHAIRMAN thought that his remarks in introducing the accounts would safeguard the business from any misconception. He only hoped that they might have many such years.—(Hear, hear.) The dividend warrants were ready at the meeting.

Mr. LANGFELDT proposed a vote of thanks to the Directors for their services.

Mr. GRAUERT seconded.—Carried.

The CHAIRMAN having replied, the meeting separated.

NIPPON RACE CLUB.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

The annual general meeting of the Nippon Race Club was held on Tuesday afternoon in a room kindly lent by the Club Hotel directorate. There were present the Hon. P. le Poer Trench (in the Chair), Dr. Wheeler, Messrs. N. P. Kingdon, W. W. Till, A. C. Read, E. O. Kenyon, W. R. H. Carew, S. Isaacs, H. Blum, U. Durand, V. Blad, B. Hyde Pearson, H. S. Thompson, E. Knuff, H. R. Campbell, A. Fleisch, K. Kingdon, W. B. Walter, T. Thomas, G. Philip, J. Dodds, A. J. Easton, A. S. Mottu, R. D. Robinson, J. W. Lee, P. de C. Morrias, G. F. Watts, M. Wilson, Chev. de Waepenaert, A. Bianchi, and J. F. Pinn, Secretary.

The CHAIRMAN said—Gentlemen,—Before proceeding to the business of this meeting, I wish to express the pleasure it gave me shortly after my return to this country, and on the departure of Mr. de Bunsen for Siam, to be offered once more the presidency of the Nippon Race Club, and how proud I am to occupy this chair to-day. It is most gratifying to me, as an old and warm supporter of the Club, to find it in such a flourishing state. I feel sure I am right in saying that the present prosperity of the Club is in a large measure due to the warm and valuable support of the ladies. During the several years I had the honour of being President of this Club, the ladies always graced the race meetings by their presence; they do so still; but they do more; they now not only take a keen great interest in the races but also in the ponies, and many of them are regular in their attendance at the training. As long as the ladies thus identify themselves with racing and set such a good example to the young men, we need have no fear for the future of the Club. Turning to the accounts, I think the members are to be congratulated on the very successful year's working of the Club, as notwithstanding extra expenses and larger prizes, the accounts show a larger balance at the end of 1894 than at the close of 1893. The total receipts and expenditure amounts to $20,114 in 1894 against $17,910 in 1893. Members' subscriptions were $2,420 against $2,140. Entries were $4,880 against $4,733. The gate money in the autumn showed a slight falling off owing to the absence of the Emperor. Presentation cups were also less, none being given by the Emperor or Japanese. On the other side, the Club had expended $800 in repairs to the Grand Stand, which is now guaranteed for 5 years, and had also spent $7,645 in prizes as against $5,337 in 1893; and the balance in hand is now $3,482 as against $3,290 a year ago, an increase $192. This, however, was not the actual saving on the year's working. The accounts include on credit side $130 and $80 received from dependencies outstanding from 1893; deduct from this $119 paid for printing during 1893, and you have the exact figures for 1894, say a net saving of $91. Before leaving the accounts I may mention that the $130 just referred to was received by the Hon. Treasurer on account of the debt due to them by their late collector. The original debt was $940; since received $130; still owing $710. I hope more may be recovered, but as it is doubtful the debt still owing cannot be regarded as a good asset. With respect to racing matters; we procured two lots of ponies from China but they hardly turned out as anticipated; but two lots of Japan ponies were considered fairly good for the money. In my opinion, however, comparing the ordinary Japan pony of to day with those of ten years ago there is not only no improvement, but a very marked deterioration, and this I attribute to the short sighted policy of the Japanese Government. It will be within the recollection of some of the gentlemen present here to-day, that many years ago when occupying this chair I pointed out that if the Japanese Government desired to improve the breed of Japan ponies, one way was to grant an annual subsidy to this Club to be spent on prizes for races for Japan ponies. That by offering prizes of $500 and $1,000, racing men would be willing to give large prices for Japan ponies, and farmers would find it in their interest to breed really good ponies. The annual subsidy required was not large, about $10,000, and I venture to say that had my advice been followed the Japan pony you would to day see on our race-course would be vastly superior to the ten we last got down from the Hokkaido, that the small sum given by the Government would have brought four times that amount of foreign money into the pockets of the breeders of Japan ponies, that we should be able to give you better racing, and that one of the objects of the Nippon Race Club, viz., the improvement of the breed of Japan ponies, would to a certain extent have been carried out. The young Half-breds mentioned at the last meeting had not turned out satisfactory, but through the kindness of Viscount Fujinami they had now secured a lot of Half-bred mares which gave every promise of giving good sport. The new system which the Committee had organized of putting the new ponies up to auction had been a financial success as regards the Shanghai ponies, and it seemed satisfactory to members; at least they had an opportunity of backing their own opinion of a horse instead of having one given them by lot. With a view of encouraging sport, the Committee had also introduced open races for Half breds which had been successful, and they would be glad to see these events more patronized and more of these animals on the course. I may perhaps mention that in compliance with a numerously signed requisition from owners, the Committee had changed the distance of the Ladies' Purse race from half-a-mile to three-quarters. With reference to Members' Races, the Committee had found it impossible to increase them in consequence of the lack of enthusiasm shown by the younger members during the training. Members might remember that at the last annual meeting the Committee had been authorized to lease the ground formerly occupied by Mr. Winstanley's dairy as a paddock and for stables, but they had not been able to get sufficient support to justify them in carrying out the plan. It is greatly to be regretted that political circumstances prevented the Emperor from honouring either of our meetings with his presence. His Majesty is very fond of races, and on his return to Tokyo I have no doubt His Majesty will again do us the honour of patronizing our meetings.—(Hear, hear.) The Ball given by the members was, despite the inconvenience of a postponement, a decided success. I think a Race Ball should become a permanent institution and that one should be given after each of our race meetings.—(Hear, hear.) Viscount de Labry is away at the war and will be unable to serve on the Committee, and Mr. Mitsuhashi, to whom we are indebted for many services rendered to the Club, has also left for China. One of the first duties of the incoming Committee will, I understand, be to re-roof the stabling. I must apologise for taking up so much of your time with my favourite hobby, but as you know I like to ride, and therefore I like a good hack. It was consequently a great disappointment to me when I returned to Japan to find that my advice had not been followed, and that a good hack among the Japan ponies could not be found. If my advice had been followed I think that by this time it would have been possible to have found for $500 a good hack which would have given one a pleasure to ride. As a hack the China pony may have its very good points, but as a racer it is not to be compared with the Japan pony.—(Loud applause.)

Mr. KINGDON—It is with very great willingness that I rise to call especial attention to the great pleasure which we of the Nippon Race Club feel in having Mr. Trench back among us again.—(Hear, hear.) Many of our younger members may not be aware of the fact that it is to Mr. Trench that we are indebted for the Grand Stand as it is at present, but such is the case. I move that the accounts now presented and explained to us by our Chairman be taken and accepted without question.—(Hear, hear.) I shall, later on, have some remarks to make in reference to the stalls at the race-course. Our Chairman has referred to the presence of ladies at our morning training, and the remarks which I shall have to make will have reference to the stabling of their ponies as well as the stabling of their husbands' ponies on such occasions. At our last meeting there was some disappointment expressed at the difficulty experienced in obtaining stalls. As the Club has just a large surplus, I think it would be to the Club's interest to provide accommodation for the ladies' ponies. I think that we ought to take the first opportunity to increase the number of stalls, not only for the benefit of ladies who are members of the Club, but also in the interests of non-racing members who ride up to the course during the training. There should be more stalls built for the accommodation of such members' hacks. But in the meantime, I propose the adoption of the accounts.

Mr. EASTON seconded.—Carried.

THE NIPPON RACE CLUB IN ACCOUNT CURRENT WITH THE HONORARY TREASURER FOR 1894.

Dr.

To Rent of Course	$ 750.00		
Extra Ground Rent	30.00	$	780.00
Momban's Wages and Sundries ...			424.79
Repairs to Stables			34.64
Repairs to Grand Stand			800.00
Band during Race Meetings			130.00
Paid for Sundry Expenses in connection with the Race Meetings as per Vouchers			892.79
Advertising, Printing and Stationery ...			581.65
Paid for 20 Tientsin Ponies	2,368.78		
Paid for 12 Shanghai Ponies	1,842.00		
Paid for 20 Hokkaido Ponies	805.00		
Paid for 10 Half-bred mares	1,830.00		
Paid Half Profit on above Shanghai Ponies divided amongst subscribers...	431.40		5,877.38
Paid Spring Meeting Prizes	3,275.00		
Paid Autumn Meeting Prizes	4,370.00		7,645.00
Paid Half Forfeits Spring Meeting ...	80.00		
Paid Half Forfeits Autumn Meeting ...	169.00		280.00
Paid Secretary's Salary			900.00
Paid Mr. Kondo for translating Race Programmes, &c....			60.00
Paid Bill Collector			50.00
Paid for Fire Insurance			43.33
Balance in hands of Honorary Treasurer			3,482.42
			$20,114.30

Cr.

By Balance from 31st December, 1893		$	3,290.43
Members' subscriptions			2,420.00
Amount received from Chun Lee Kun first instalment towards his debt to the Club			130.00
Entries, Spring Meeting	2,055.00		
Entries, Autumn Meeting	2,925.00		4,880.00
Received for 20 Tientsin Ponies ...	2,367.38		
do. 12 Shanghai Ponies ...	2,760.00		
do. 20 Hokkaido Ponies ...	750.00		
do. 10 Half-bred Ponies ...	2,130.00		8,007.38
do. Jockeys' Licenses			250.00
do. Rent of Stalls, Spring Meeting ...			340.00
do. Rent of refreshment room, Spring Meeting			30.00
do. Gate money and books sold, Spring Meeting			830.00
do. Pari-mutuel, Spring Meeting ...			213.50
do. Rent of Stalls, Autumn Meeting ...			361.00
do. Refreshment room do. ...			30.00
do. Gate money and books sold, Autumn Meeting			808.50
do. Pari-mutuel, Autumn Meeting ...			241.55
do. Hokkaido pony belonging to the Club			80.00
do. Donations towards Half-bred prize, Spring Meeting			250.00
do. Interest on Bank balance to 30th June			36.03
do. Half loss on Hokkaido ponies collected from subscribers... ...			26.50
do. Fine for wearing wrong colours ...			5.00
do. Interest on Bank balance to 31st December, 1894			55.00
			$20,224.50

E. & O. E.

Yokohama, January 19th, 1895.

GEORGE PHILIP, Hon. Treasurer.

I have examined the Subscriptions and Vouchers with the Books, and find the same to be correct.

T. F. CRUICKSHANK.

Mr. KINGDON—There is one other point in my proposal which I should like to bring to the attention of the Committee. There was a proposition brought before the Club that we should take in the land lately occupied by Winstanley's dairy, and upon it stalls were proposed to be built. I think, however, that the Committee found that there was not sufficient support accorded the scheme, and it fell through. This was owing, I think, to the connection, or supposed connection, of some outside individual. For myself I was opposed to it. And for this reason. This Club being an amateur Club, I consider that it should have as little connection as possible with non-amateurs. It was proposed, I believe, that certain members' ponies should be placed in charge of a man named Morton, who should train them for the racing. I think that the more individual members look after the training of their own ponies the better it will be for the Club.—(Hear, hear.) The majority of the members of the Nippon Race Club do so look after and train their own ponies, and therefore these members would have been handicapped by the professional being engaged to look after the training of other members' ponies. The taking in of that ground was therefore abandoned. Now I think that there is plenty of room in the paddock and enclosure whereon to build the additional stalls which are now required. During the last meeting, as I have said, some disagreeableness arose through the inconvenience experienced by

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some of our visitors. There ought to be, I contend, sufficient accommodation provided to meet these requirements, and I therefore propose that a certain number of stalls be added to those at present in the paddock. The expense would not be more than two or three hundred dollars at the most.

The SECRETARY announced that during the discussion of Mr. Kingdon's proposal the ballot for the Executive Committee would be taken. The old Committee were:—Messrs. Till, Thomas, Mitchell, Philip, Knaff, and Vicomte de Labiy; the latter had resigned owing to his leaving for China.

Mr. HYDE PEARSON seconded Mr. Kingdon's proposition that the stalls should be increased.

Mr. DODDS said that he would propose an amendment. He would propose that the proposition be not of a definite character, but rather it should take the form of a suggestion to the incoming Committee. This would be much better, and he moved as an amended proposition that the question should go to the Committee as a suggestion instead of in the form of a hard and fast resolution.

Mr. KINGDON said that the reason for bringing the matter before the general meeting as a resolution was simply on account of the bad feeling which existed at the last race meeting.—(Hear, hear.) This bad feeling had arisen through people who had applied for stalls not being able to get them. In fact, they were rudely informed that they could not have them; and upon this they withdrew their ponies from the races. It was therefore more proper to bring the subject up as a formal proposition than to let it go out as a mere suggestion. There would still be left sufficient space for the ladies to use as a promenade between the races. It was in the interest of the racing men of the Club, as well as of the ladies and non-racing members, that he raised the question.

Mr. THOMAS (Clerk of the Course)—Mr. Chairman, the gist of Mr. Kingdon's proposal is a vote of censure on the Clerk of the Course. He alleges that I made rude remarks—(Mr. Kingdon—No, no)—and I wish to say that I did no such thing. As Clerk of the Course now for some years, I have made it a rule that the stalls at the course shall be at the disposal of the first applicant. The stalls in question ran from 16 to 26, I think, and I will, with your permission, explain the matter. At the previous meeting these stalls were taken by Messrs. Sharp, Catto, Campbell, and Company. At the last meeting, Mr. Catto having left Yokohama, I asked Mr. Campbell whether he wished to have the stalls again. He replied that he thought he did not want any stalls. I then asked Mr. Sharp a similiar question, and he said that possibly he would require one or two, and if it was convenient he would like them in the same place as before. This was out of the question, for by giving him stalls in the middle of these numbers, an arrangement would be made that might interfere with a large stable. Mr. Pearson eventually took seven of the stalls and Mr. Durand the other three. After they had been allotted, complaints came to me in an underhand way, and I heard that they originated with a person who had not even applied for these particular stalls. It seems that some people whose ponies were under the care of Messrs. Cobb & Co., some livery stable keepers of this place——

Mr. J. W. LEE rose to a point of order. He did not see how these things could be discussed there.

The CHAIRMAN said the Clerk of the Course was explaining some question which had arisen in the course of the discussion.

Mr. THOMAS—I was accused just now of employing rude remarks towards some people who had applied for stalls, and I was explaining that I had not acted rudely, and the question as to the allotting of stalls has arisen. The persons who seem to have made complaints as to the way in which the stalls were allotted were connected in some way with Messrs. Cobb & Co. I beg leave to state that at the last meeting all the stalls were not taken up, there were five still to let. I don't think that it would be economy on the part of the Club to build more stalls until the Committee knows definitely that they can be filled. I have made enquiry of the man who owns the ground adjoining the place where the carriages stand, but he demands a high price for his land—$120 for 500 *tsubo*. I may add that at the last meeting posts were put down for the convenience of tethering the ponies of ladies visiting the course. If ladies require stalls for their ponies, the stalls can be set apart for them at the regular price—$5 per stall, but while these posts are there the ponies belonging to visitors can be very conveniently tethered to them. Hitherto the arrangements in regard to the allotment of stalls has worked smoothly; the disagreement spoken of seems to have been the work of a small clique. Generally speaking, there was quite sufficient stabling for the purposes of the Club.

Mr. KINGDON—I withdraw willingly any imputation I may seem to have made against the Committee or any member of the late Committee. I only referred in my remarks to the bad feeling which certainly did exist at the last meeting. Mr. Thomas in his remarks inferred that the members I have spoken of do not wish to pay $5 for the use of the stalls. I beg to say that they are all willing to pay for them.—(Mr. Thomas—I beg your pardon, I did not make the inference.) I hold that it is necessary and incumbent on the Committee to do all that it can to conduce to the convenience of members, whether they be ladies, or racing or non-racing members. I propose that the stalls should be increased in number.

Mr. THOMAS—In view of the number of applications for stalls, it was decided at a Committee meeting that the first consideration should be extended to owners of race-ponies, and therefore race-ponies have invariably, since I have been Clerk of the Course, had the first consideration extended to them in the distribution of stalls. The posts that have been put up in the paddock have proved of great convenience to those ladies and members who ride up to the morning training, and so far as I can see there is no occasion for an increase in the stabling.

Mr. R. D. ROBISON seconded Mr. Dodds' amendment. It was far better to put the matter before the incoming Committee as a suggestion than to dictate to them what should be done.

The CHAIRMAN then put the amended proposal to the vote, when 19 voted for and 8 against the amendment. The original proposition was therefore lost.

Mr. KINGDON said he was glad he had been able to bring the matter before the meeting: it would give the Committee something to think about. He had now another point to bring up for the meeting's consideration. It also had reference to the stalls. He thought that when the notice was issued and put in the Coffee-room that training had commenced, two days only should be allowed in which previous occupants of stalls could intimate to the Clerk of the Course their desire to occupy their old stalls for the purposes of the coming meeting. This arrangement would save a lot of trouble.

Mr. ROBISON thought two days were hardly sufficient. A member might be up country when the notice was issued.

Mr. KINGDON—You could always have some one here to apply for you.

Mr. ROBISON—But I should not like to trouble you so often.—(Loud laughter.)

Mr. THOMAS—A notice is always posted in the Coffee-room announcing when stalls will be allotted, and a date is fixed; after that date the stalls are allotted.

Mr. KINGDON said his object in raising the discussion was merely to induce the Committee to be more careful in future.—(Laughter.) They should draw up a diagram of the stalls and upon it should be placed the applicants' names. This they should suspend in the Coffee-room.

Mr. THOMAS—There is generally a plan of the stables hung up when the training starts.

Mr. EASTON—I think that this is a matter we can leave to the Clerk of the Course. He should, I think, put a notice regarding the stalls, in the papers.—(Hear, hear.)

The CHAIRMAN thought that Mr. Kingdon's suggestions were all made for the benefit of the incoming committee.

Mr. KINGDON—That is all I desire.—(Laughter).

The CHAIRMAN—Well, I think we can rest assured that the Committee's great and only desire is to promote the general good of the Club.

Mr. EASTON—I think the Coffee-room notices should appear in the papers.

Mr. J. W. LEE—I was under the impression that the Clerk of the Course was paid for his services.—(Laughter.) I don't think that he should be asked to do all this work for nothing. In justice to him I move that he be paid.—(Renewed laughter.) I certainly think he deserves remuneration for all the work he has done.

Mr. R. D. ROBISON moved a vote of thanks to the outgoing Committee and more especially to the Clerk of the Course.—(Hear, hear.) He had done a good deal of work for them, and his work deserved recognition.—(Applause). The affairs of the Club had never been better managed.

The proposition was carried *nem. con.*

Mr. KINGDON—I think the Clerk of the Course should allow us sometimes to train on the inside of the course.

Mr. ROBISON—I also would suggest that that be a recommendation to the Committee. I think the Clerk of the Course should be a little more liberal to us in this respect, and let us have the inside grass occasionally. Until a member has had a chance to take his pony over the inside course he cannot know what it can do. No harm could possibly be done if two, three, or even four ponies were allowed to train over the inside course now and again. It is within the discretion of the Clerk of the Course to allow us this liberty. It would be a benefit which we should appreciate.

Mr. KNAPP seconded Mr. Robison's suggestion. He thought that the Clerk of the Course should allow them the inside track occasionally.

After some further desultory conversation on the point,

The CHAIRMAN announced that the following gentlemen had been elected on the committee:—Messrs. Till, Thomas, Knaff, Philip, Mitchell, and Easton.—(Applause.)

Mr. THOMAS wished to withdraw from the position. There were many younger and abler men among the members who could fulfil the duties more to the satisfaction of everybody than he could possibly hope to do.

The CHAIRMAN said he should regret that upon the occasion of his return to his old position as Chairman of their meetings, Mr. Thomas, whose interest in the sport was so keen and well-known, should feel obliged to retire from among them. He, himself, should personally regret it. He was sure that all present would regret Mr. Thomas' retirement as deeply as he did.—(Hear, hear.)

Mr. KINGDON—My remarks were not prompted by any personal animosity whatever, and I will withdraw them if Mr. Thomas feels aggrieved. I merely referred to the fact that at our last meeting a certain amount of bad feeling existed, but in drawing attention to what I was given to understand was its cause, I assure you, there was no personal feeling in the matter at all. It would be unfortunate for the Club if Mr. Thomas did not reconsider his decision. As the Chairman had remarked, they would all regret Mr. Thomas' retirement.

Mr. EASTON said he was obliged to decline the honour of serving on the Committee.

The CHAIRMAN, upon Mr. Easton declaring that his decision was final, said that they would take the next name on the list, that of Mr. Isaacs.—(Loud applause.)

Mr. ISAACS declined. He had requested the meeting not to nominate him for the committee.

The CHAIRMAN—Then we must leave it to the Committee to fill up the vacancies.

Mr. KINGDON said he would withdraw all his remarks in order that Mr. Thomas might be induced to serve.

Mr. KNAPP hoped Mr. Thomas would serve. He was a most useful member of Committee—(Hear, hear.)

The CHAIRMAN remarked that Mr. Thomas was a pillar of the Club, and in these earthquake times they could not afford to allow a substantial support to be removed.

Mr. THOMAS said he was quite willing to serve as a member of the Committee, but the position of Clerk of the Course he would not take. The duties of the position were most invidious—(The Chairman—Most onerous)—and the person who tried to carry them out got for his pains nothing but blackguarding. Thanks were not expected.—(Mr. Robison—But we have just given them to you.) He had tried to carry out the duties of Clerk of the Course to the benefit of the Club, but he found it impossible to please everybody. He thought the time had come for some one else to attempt the duties and then they would see what they were like. As a member of the Committee he accepted re-election, but as Clerk of the Course he declined.

Mr. ROBISON suggested that some few loads of sea-sand would greatly improve the approach to the course.

Mr. KINGDON then proposed a vote of thanks to the Chair, which was carried with acclamation.

The CHAIRMAN is acknowledging the compliment, hoped that he would be able to promote the interests of the Club even more fully in the future than he had done in the past.

The meeting then terminated.

LETTER FROM CHICAGO.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Chicago, December 31st.

The January *Arena* contains an article by Helen H. Gardener on "Our Little Neighbour in the East"; the January *Harper's* contains a finely illustrated article on "Fuji-san" by Alfred Parsons; the January *Demorest's* contains an illustrated article about "The Empress of Japan," by Frank G. Carpenter; and the January *Scribner's* contains a thoughtful analysis of "The

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Mental Characteristics of the Japanese," by Prof. Geo. T. Ladd.

Mr. F. W. Gookin, cashier of the North-western National Bank of this city, is an ardent student of Japanese art, and has a large and fine collection of Japanese art objects.

H. K. Tetsuka and Co., who have a store in the Palmer House building in this city, have recently been advertising their business by having a real *jinrikisha*, containing a lay figure of a Japanese lady, drawn through the streets.

It has not yet been made public whether the U.S. Senate has ratified the new treaty with Japan. The Blair resolution, calling for information with regard to mediation by the United States between Japan and China, has not yet been reported for fear that it might complicate the proper consideration of the treaty.

In this connection, Walter Wellman, the Washington correspondent of the Chicago *Herald*, tells an interesting story :—

Some day or other a most interesting story of diplomacy will be given to the world. It will relate the efforts made by our ministers to Japan and China to bring those warring governments together in negotiations for peace, efforts which have at last been crowned with success. The story will describe the intense hatred which each of the belligerents bears the others, the implacable spirit of revenge, the fierce desire to cut each other's throat. It will dwell upon the deceitfulness of the Chinese authorities, their practice of ways that are dark and tricks that are vain in an effort to overreach their adversaries, and the vanity, suspiciousness and vindictiveness of the Japanese. Minister Denby, at Pekin, has had much the more difficult task, though Minister Dun, at Hiroshima, has had his hands full. Both have gone through a siege of cross-firing and backing and filling and jockeying almost unparalleled in the annals of diplomacy, as frequent reports made to our state department, and which some time will see the light of day, amply show. But at last they have led their refractory horses to the brook. If the beasts don't drink each other's health and stop their fighting it will not be Uncle Sam's fault.

Hon. John W. Foster, ex-Secretary of State, will arrive at Yokohama on the *Empress of India* (carrying this letter). He goes in a purely private capacity as an adviser of the Chinese peace plenipotentiaries. He now holds the position of counsellor of the Chinese Legation in the United States. While *en route* from Washington to Vancouver, he issued the following telegram to the Associated Press :—

Harrisburg, Pa., December 29th.—Please announce that I have no connection with alleged Chinese silver loan negotiations reported in certain newspapers to-day.

The Hawaiian Legation in Washington denies that there is any alarm felt by their government over Royalist plots, and says that the new Republic is safe.

The reports from the Brazilian Republic are conflicting. On the 25th inst. we were informed that the Moraes administration started in auspiciously with peace secured; two days later we read that Rio de Janeiro is "in a state of panic," with the whole country "on the brink of rebellion again"; the next day a dispatch states that "the government has ordered a million dollars' worth of war materials from the Armstrongs"; and since then there has been nothing exciting.

The Sultan has positively declined to allow U.S. Consul Jewett (who is a missionary's son) to make an independent inquiry into the Armenian troubles.

It is now reported that France also will bar out American meats; and that Austria will join the ranks of retaliators because of the sugar duty.

The reduction of the tariff on woollen goods, and the free admission of wool, have begun to show a most beneficial result in reducing the price of clothing, whether ready-made of tailor made. And the Minesota Democrats, undismayed by the outcome of the recent election, have come out with a radical address in favour of absolute free trade and direct taxation.

Congressman Springer has introduced into the House of Representatives a substitute for the Carlisle Bill. The new bill allow the national banking system to run along without requiring the present banks to reorganize under the new system; and it does away with the attempt to make banks responsible for the notes of all other banks. Secretary Carlisle is said to have approved the substitute.

It is now a certainty that Hon. John M. Thurston (Rep.) will be elected U. S. Senator from Nebraska to succeed Manderson (Rep.)

The Populist Conference in St. Louis spent two days in talking and submitting resolutions, and finally issued a long "address to the people."

James G. Fair, one of the "Bonanza Kings," died in San Francisco on the 28th inst., and left a fortune of about $40,000,000. He served one term as a U.S. Senator (Democrat) from Nevada. On the 30th inst. at Lincoln, Neb., died John E. Fitzgerald, ex-President of the Irish National League and a prominent Fenian.

Eugene V. Debs and the other officers of the Railway Union obtained from Judge Woods a stay of execution in their sentences till January 8th, 1895; so that they were enabled to spend the holidays with their friends.

The policemen of Chicago are now subjected to an examination in writing, reading, spelling, arithmetic and practical questions relating to their duties.

At the winter convocation of the University of Chicago on January 2nd, President Seth Low, of Columbia College, will deliever an address on "The University and Its Relation to Questions of the Times." Among those who are to receive the degree of A.B. is Kichi Tanaka.

On Dec. 25th Rev. Dr. Edward McGlynn, who had been reinstated by Mons. Satolli, officiated at solemn high mass in the Church of the Holy Cross in New York City.

An interesting New Year's event in this city will be the reunion of the World's Congresses of the Columbian Exposition. The following are the important features of this programme :—

"The Ministry of Culture, Literature and Art," Rev. Dr. A. W. Gunsaulus, president Armour Institute.

"Higher Education and Government." Dr. Henry Wade Rogers, president North-western University.

"The Public Schools and Good Government," Mrs. J. M. Flower, trustee University of Illinois.

"Higher Education and International Peace." Dr. William R. Harper, president University of Chicago.

"The Religious Congresses of 1893, crowned by the World's Parliament of Religions," Rev. Dr. Frank M. Bristol, Rabbi Emil G. Hirsch, Rev. Lewis P. Mercer and Rev. Jenkin Lloyd Jones, members of the general committee of organization.

"The Brotherhood of Science and Faith." Dr. Andrew Morrissey, president Notre Dame University; Dr. R. N. Foster, chairman general committee on science and philosophy.

"The Religious Future." Rev. Dr. N. D. Hills, successor of Professor Swing as pastor of the Central Church.

"Relation of the Church to Industrial and Social Progress." Dr. Graham Taylor, professor of sociology in Chicago Theological Seminary.

"Greeting from the Orient," Professor S. Choyo, late of the University of Tokyo; interpreted by C. O. Boring, chairman committee of arrangements.

"Messages from Absent Friends," read by Dr. Paul Carus, secretary general committee on world's congress extension.

Christmas Day was mild, but was followed by a big blizzard during the 27th and 28th. This storm seems to have been very extensive; was most severe in the North-west; and visited also the sunny south, where it seriously damaged oranges and other fruits, even in Florida.

A bloody race war near Quitman, Georgia, grew out of the murder of a white man by a party of negroes. Seven negroes were shot in revenge, and more slaughter would certainly have ensued if State troops had not been quickly sent to the scene of trouble.

The Delavar House at Albany, N.Y., was destroyed by fire last evening, and three or four persons were fatally injured. Inasmuch as it was filled with politicians, it is a wonder that there was not a fearful loss of life.

Reports continue to come of terrible destitution in western Nebraska. Thousands are without fuel; are "subsisting on food insufficient for beasts of burden;" and are almost without clothing. There will undoubtedly be numerous opportunities for charity this winter in all parts of the country. In this city a thorough organization has already been effected. The boxes for the big "Charity ball" of June 10th has been sold for $10,000. Inasmuch as it is expected that $13,000 more will be realized from the sale of tickets, and that the expenses will not exceeds $3,000, it is probable that there will $20,000 to distribute among certain charitable institutions.

R. G. Dun and Co.'s *Weekly Review of Trade* and *Bradstreets'* agree that the holiday trade was smaller than usual and was generally confined to needful articles. There will, of course, be dullness after the holidays; but the general outlook for business is good.

"A Wish Fulfilled," is the enigmatic title of an article by Lafcadio Hearn on the war in the Orient in the January *Atlantic Monthly*.

THE "RIO DE JANEIRO."

The *Nagasaki Express* has gathered the following particulars of the accident which befel the Pacific Mail Co.'s steamer *City of Rio de Janeiro*, off the coast of the province of Satsuma, on the afternoon of Sunday, 6th inst., shortly after passing through Van Dieman's Straits, whilst on her passage from San Francisco to Hongkong, *vid* Nagasaki. The *Rio* was taking the usual course adopted by the company's steamers on this voyage, generally termed the outside passage, which necessitates passing through Van Dieman's Straits, at the southern end of Kiushiu. Everything appears to have gone well until shortly after passing through the Straits, on Sunday, the 6th, when at about 1.35 p.m., she struck a sunken rock, about two miles from shore. The engines were stopped, and every preparation made in an orderly manner for any emergency that might arise. In the meantime, an examination of the ship proved that serious damage had been sustained under water on the starboard side, forward of the foremast, and that water was rushing in to such an extent as to necessitate immediate beaching to prevent the ship sinking. She was at once headed for the shore, and in a short space of time was landed safely on a sandy beach, just below Nomamisaki, from whence a messenger was sent overland to Kagoshima, the nearest telegraph station, with a message to the local agent, requesting immediate assistance. The message did not arrive until Monday noon, when every possible haste was made to despatch the Mitsu Bishi Co.'s tow-boat *Yugao*. By midnight diving gear, pumps, and other things considered necessary under the circumstances, with a number of workmen and overseers, were all on board, and at full speed she started on her errand to assist the disabled ship, which was in a dangerously exposed position, in the event of bad weather. About 7.30 the next morning (Tuesday) the *Yugao* fell in with a boat from the *Rio*, bound to Nagasaki in search of assistance, as no reply had been received to the telegraphic message sent on Sunday. Proceeding on the journey, the *Yugao* arrived at at her destination at about 10 a.m., and was received with welcome. Work was at once commenced, and with alacrity worthy of the highest praise, the hole, which was found to be about 15ft. by 4ft., was temporarily patched up, a 12-in. centrifugal pump got to work, and the ship pumped out and afloat, all in the short space of the about seven hours, the credit for which is due to the united efforts of the Mitsu Bishi Co.'s staff and the engineers and officers of the *Rio*. In the meantime, of course, considerable cargo had been jettisoned from the forward hold; the cargo in the other part of the ship being undamaged so far as we can learn. At 9 p.m. (Tuesday) it was decided to go in search of a safer place, in which to effect repairs to enable the ship to proceed to Nagasaki without any risk; and after steaming slowly for about 12 hours, a sheltered sandy harbour was found at Iwafune, where she was beached and the work of patching up the hole in her side continued. Shortly after arriving at Iwafune, the *Yugao* took on board the passengers, mails, and specie, and brought them on to Nagasaki, the latter being in charge of the purser, Mr. Freeman. Mr. D. F. Robertson was in attendance on the ship as Lloyds' Surveyor, whilst Captain Wilson Walker went down to render any nautical advice and assistance that his knowledge of the local coast might enable him to do. The *Rio* arrived at Nagasaki about 8 p.m. on Monday, and next day discharging of cargo was commenced, preparatory to her going into dock. As the damage is below the waterline, it is impossible to estimate how long the repairs will occupy, until she has been surveyed.

CHESS.

(All Communications to be addressed to the Chess Editor.)

The Yokohama Chess Club meets at the Club Hotel, No. 5, Bund, on Monday and Thursday in each week from 5 to 11 p.m.

The Tokyo Chess Club meets at the Tokyo Hotel every Friday from 1 to 11 p.m.

SOLUTION TO PROBLEM NO. 160.

WHITE.	BLACK.
1—Q to K 7	1—P × Kt
2—P to Q B 6	2—K × Kt
3—Q to K R 4, mate	
	if 2—K to Q 5
3—Q to Q Kt 4, mate	
	1—K × Kt (B 5)
2—Q to R 4 ch.	2—K × Kt
3—Q to K Kt 4, mate	
	1—K × Kt (B 4)
2—B to K B 3	2—K × Kt
3—Q to B 6, mate	
	1—P to K Kt 7
2—Kt to Kt 3 ch.	2—K to Q 5
3—P to K 6 (dis. mate)	
	if 2—K × Kt
3—Q to B 4, mate.	

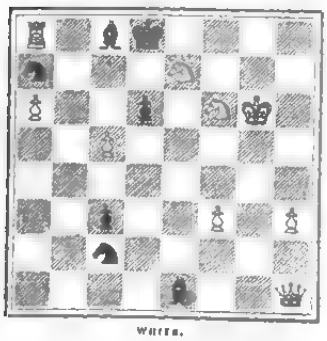
Correct solutions received from Omega, W.H.S., Shogi, E. J. King, and J.D.

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Problem No. 162.

By W. B. Mason, Tokyo.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in three moves.

Game No. 209.

Played February 19th, 1894, in the Vaughan Medal Competition, at the Newcastle Chess Club:

"HAMPPE ALLGAIER GAMBIT."

WHITE. G. C. Heywood.	BLACK. J. W. Robson.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—Kt to Q B 3	2—Kt to Q B 3
3—P to B 4	3—P takes P
4—Kt to B 3	4—P to K Kt 4
5—P to K R 4	5—P to Kt 5
6—Kt to K Kt 5	6—P to K R 3
7—Kt takes K B P	7—K takes Kt (a)
8—P to Q 4 (b)	8—P to Q 3
9—B to Q B 4 ch.	9—K to Kt 2
10—B takes P	10—B to K 2
11—Castles	11—Kt to B 3
12—Q to Q 2	12—B to Q 2 (c)
13—P to K 5	13—P takes P
14—P takes P	14—Kt to K ■ 4 (d)
15—B takes P ch.!	15—R takes B (e)
16—R to B 7 ch.	16—K to Kt 3
17—Q to Q 3 ch. (f)	17—B to B 4
18—Q takes B, mate.	

(a) The only difference between the Allgaier Gambit proper and the Hamppe Allgaier at this stage is that the Queen's Knights on each side are in the field—a distinction slightly in favour of the attacking player.

(b) First introduced by Mr. Thorold, and stronger than the older move 8—B to B 4 ch.

(c) Up to this point all is "book," and this is given as best in Freeborough's "Chess Openings." After White's next move the game is dismissed as being in Black's favour; but White retains a dangerous attack which is very difficult to meet in actual play.

(d) The natural move, but Kt to Kt sq. would have avoided the catastrophe which follows.

(e) Obviously there is nothing better.

(f) A problem-like wind up. Two of Black's pieces are utilised to force the mate.

Game No. 210.

Played some time ago at the Manchester Chess Club between Mr. N. T. Miniati and another member.

"SALVIO GAMBIT."

WHITE.	BLACK. N. T. Miniati.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—P to K B 4	2—P takes P
3—Kt to K B 3	3—P to K Kt 4
4—B to B 4	4—P to Kt 5
5—Kt to K 5 (a)	5—Q to R 5 ch.
6—K to B sq.	6—Kt to Q B 3 (b)
7—Kt takes B P (c)	7—B to B 4
8—Q to K sq.	8—P to Kt 6
9—P to K R 3 (d)	9—P to Q 4
10—B takes P (e)	10—P to B 6
11—Kt takes R (f)	11—B takes P
12—R takes B	12—Q takes R (g)
13—P takes Q	13—P to Kt 7 mate.

(a) This constitutes the Salvio Gambit. White may also leave the Kt to be taken and play 5—Castles, 5—P to Q 4, or 5—Kt ■ B 3 the [Muzio Gambit], thus obtaining a powerful attack for the piece sacrificed.

(b) Salvio's move was Kt to K B 3. Kt to K R 3 and P to B 6 are also recognised alternatives.

(c) 7—B takes P ch. is, perhaps, a little better; but this also works out to Black's advantage. If 7—Q takes P, Q takes Q; 8—Kt takes Q, P to Q 4; 9—P takes P, Kt to Q 5 with the better game.

(d) 9—P to B 3 is the correct move here.

(e) If 10—P takes P dis. ch., Q Kt to K 2; 11—Kt takes B, P to B 6, with a winning attack.

(f) 11—P takes P would be successfully met by either Kt to Q 5 or B takes P ch.

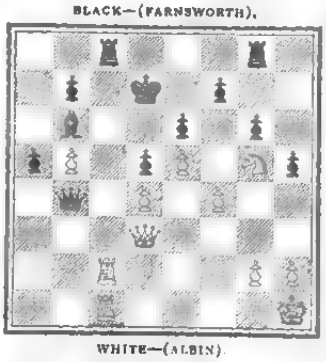
(g) A truly artistic finish.

End-Game No. 21.

AN ENDING IN NEW YORK.

Mr. Farnsworth, who played at Buffalo in the recent contest, is one of many new men who have lately come forward. The following is the finish of his game with Albin:

BLACK—(FARNSWORTH).



WHITE—(ALBIN).

White to play at move 30.

Continued.

30—R takes R	30—R takes R
31—R to Q sq.	31—K to K 2
32—P to K R 4	32—R to B 5
33—Kt to B 3	33—Q takes P

And White resigns a hopeless struggle.

Leipzig.

Herr Janowski was probably the greatest chess enthusiast at Leipzig; Dr. Tarrasch was the most unapproachable during the hours of play. Courteous and genial to a degree at social gatherings, during the progress of his games no one must interrupt him, and nothing but the most unusual disturbance can distract his attention from the position before him. The game, though always calmly surveyed, with no confusion or slovenly movement, evidently absorbs his whole intellectual powers; the style is perfection all round, and although you may feel doubtful about the wisdom of some of his moves, regarding them only cursorily, a little further insight will disclose how much has been foreseen, provided for, and avoided. Dr. Tarrasch is always ready to explain this as soon as the game is over, and the usual inquest is being held. It is said that Morphy's style was equally impressive. Every spectator feels that Dr. Tarrasch is an artist.

Game No. 211.

Played recently by correspondence. Companion game to the one published last week.

RUY LOPEZ.

WHITE. G. Thorp. (Hull).	BLACK. F. J. Hingley. (Nottingham).
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—Kt to K B 3	2—Kt to Q B 3
3—B to Kt 5	3—B to B 4 (a)
4—P to B 3 (b)	4—K Kt to K 2
5—Castles	5—Castles
6—P to Q 4 (c)	6—P takes P
7—P takes P	7—B to Kt 3
8—P to Q 5	8—Kt to Kt sq.
9—P to Q 6	9—P takes P
10—B to R B 4	10—P to Q 4
11—P takes P	11—P to Q 3
12—Kt to B 3	12—Kt to Kt 3
13—Kt to K 2 (d)	13—B to Kt 5
14—K to R sq.	14—B takes Kt
15—P takes B	15—Q to B 3
16—Q to Q 2	16—Kt to R 5
17—Kt to Kt sq.	17—B to Q 5 (e)
18—B to Kt 5	18—Kt takes P
19—B takes Q	19—Kt takes Q
20—B takes B	20—Kt takes R
21—R takes Kt	21—P to Q R 3
22—B to Q 3	22—Kt to Q 2
23—Kt to B 3	23—P to B 3
24—R to K Kt sq.	24—Q R to Q sq.
25—B to K B 5	25—K R to K sq.
26—B to K 6 ch.	26—K to R sq.
27—Kt to R 4	27—Kt to ■ sq.
28—Kt to B 5	28—R takes B (f)
29—P takes R	29—Kt takes P
30—P to K R 4	30—Kt takes B
31—Kt takes Kt	31—R to K sq.
32—R to Q sq.	32—P to K Kt 4
33—P takes P	33—P takes P
34—R to Q 2	34—P to K R 4
35—K to Kt 2	35—K to R 2
36—Kt to B 3	36—P to Kt 5
37—Kt to R 4	37—R to K 3
38—Kt to B 5	38—P to Q 4
39—R takes P	39—K to Kt 3
40—Kt to R 4 ch.	40—K to R 3
41—R to Q 6	41—Resigns.

Notes.

(a) A weak move in this opening. Steinitz plays 3..... P to Q 3; other authorities prefer Kt to B 3; and a few of them still adhere to 3..... P to Q R 3.

(b) He might play 4—Kt takes P, Kt takes Kt; 5—P to Q 4; or 4—Kt takes P, B takes P ch.; 5—K takes B.

(c) White would gain a distinct advantage by 6—Kt takes P, &c. [illegible] 7—P to Q 4, B to Q 3; 8—P to B 4.

(d) It would be safer to retreat the B to Kt 3.

(e) A miscalculation. Black would obtain a fair game by 17..... Kt to Kt 3.

(f) There is nothing to be done. If 28..... Kt takes B; 29—B takes Kt, R takes P; 30—Kt takes Kt P, K R moves; 31—B takes P, and wins.

Paris versus St. Petersburgh.

Paris has been victorious in one of the correspondence games; the other had got into a drawish position when the last mail left home.

Game No. 212.

FRENCH DEFENCE.

WHITE. H. W. Trenchard.	BLACK. Dr. Smith.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 3
2—P to Q 4	2—P to Q 4
3—Kt to Q B 3	3—Kt to K B 3
4—B to K Kt 5	4—B to K 2
5—B takes Kt	5—P takes B (a)
6—P takes P	6—P takes P
7—Q to R 5	7—B to K 3
8—B to Q 3	8—Q to Q 2
9—P to K R 3 (b)	9—Kt to B 3
10—K Kt to K 2	10—Castles Q R
11—P to B 4 (c)	11—Kt to Kt 5
12—Castles Q R	12—Kt takes B ch.
13—R takes Kt	13—P to K B 4
14—Q to B 3	14—K R to Kt sq.
15—Q to B 2	15—R to Kt 3
16—Kt to Q sq.	16—Q to R 5 (d)
17—K to Kt sq.	17—B to Kt 5
18—Kt to K 3	18—P to B 4
19—P to B 3	19—P to B 5
20—R to Q 2	20—B to B sq.
21—P to K Kt 4 (e)	21—Q to Q 2
22—P to Kt 5 (f)	22—P to Kt 4
23—P to K R 4	23—P to Kt 5
24—P to R 5	24—R to Kt sq.
25—P takes P	25—B takes P
26—Kt to B 3	26—Q to Kt 2
27—R to Q B sq.	27—K to Q 2
28—K to R sq.	28—P to K 4
29—R to K 2	29—R to Q R sq.
30—Q to Kt 2	30—B takes Kt
31—R takes B	31—Q to B 2 (g)
32—Kt takes Q P	32—Resigns.

Analysis.

(a) An experiment tried by Burn, and, in a somewhat similar position recommended by Steinitz. On principle it cannot be endorsed. Black, as the defending side, breaks up his King's Pawns in the expectation of getting up a counter attack, should White castle on the King's side. White, however, castles on the other side, as in this game, and Black remains with his weak Pawns, which should fall in the ending.

(b) An unnecessary precaution. 9—K Kt to K 2, B to Kt 5; 10—Q to R 6 is good enough.

(c) 11—P to R 3 would have prevented the exchange of the Bishop, so that White should not remain with two Knights against two Bishops.

(d) Black could succeed with his counter attack if he himself were otherwise secure. At present he has insufficient forces for an assault, and, as the sequel shows, he has soon to retreat.

(e) Mr. Trenchard has spotted the weak point in Black's strategical disposition of his forces, and commences a well-planned attack.

(f) He could even play P to K R 4 at once.

(g) To avoid 32—R, or Kt takes Q B P; but he leaves one other important pawn en prise. If 32..... Q R to Kt sq. then White could, perhaps, sacrifice the Knight in taking the Q P and so win. The game furnishes a good illustration of Black's inferior 5th move. He got a weak double pawn, and lost the game through it.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[Reuter "Special" to "Japan Mail."]

London, January 18.

M. Felix Faure has been elected President of the French Republic, in the place of M. Casimir-Perier resigned. The Socialists are fiercely protesting against the result, but Paris is tranquil. A manifesto has been issued by the Duke of Orleans which states that the Republic is merely provisional, and when the country calls upon him he is ready to fulfill his task.

London, January 22.

The Bourgeois members in the House of Representatives [France] have made repeated attempts to form a Coalition Cabinet.

The Italian Chamber has been closed and a dissolution is believed to be imminent.

Fred Barrett, the jockey, is dead.

London, January 24.

Lord Randolph Churchill is dead.

Bourgeois has failed to form a Coalition Cabinet.

Churchill, the Right Hon. Lord Randolph Henry Spencer, M.P., second son of the sixth Duke of Marlborough by his marriage with Lady Frances Anne Emily, eldest daughter of the third Marquis of Londonderry, was born Feb. 13, 1849, and educated at Merton College Oxford. He represented Woodstock from Feb., 1874, until April, 1880, and again from that time [when he was returned with a diminished majority] until Nov. 1885. He then stood for Birmingham but was defeated, and was then returned for South Paddington. From 1874 to 1880 he was almost silent in the House; but from 1880 onwards he made himself conspicuous in the House of Com-

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mons and on public platforms by the violence of his speeches against the Liberal party, and he was the chief member of that small section of the House known as the "Fourth Party." On the accession of Lord Salisbury's Government to office in 1885, Lord Randolph Churchill filled the post of Secretary of State for India; and his promotion to that high place was a proof of the importance that he had assumed in the ranks of the Conservative party. In the country, indeed, he was already regarded as almost if not quite the Tory leader; and it was commonly said that the mantle of Lord Beaconsfield had fallen upon the young, able, irrepressible, unscrupulous, but acute and hardworking chief of the Tory Democracy. Lord Randolph's short tenure of the India Office was marked by the annexation of Upper Burmah. Departmental work, however, did not prevent his taking a great part in the struggle which, at the general election of Nov. 1885, again returned the Liberals to power. He resigned office with Lord Salisbury only to return after six months, not as Secretary for India, but as Chancellor of the Exchequer and Leader of House of Commons. This post he suddenly resigned at Christmas, and since then his political influence has been steadily on the wane. Lord Randolph married, in 1874, Miss Jennie Jerome, of New York, who has since become a prominent member of the Primrose League.—*Men of the Time.*]

["SPECIAL" TELEGRAM TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

London, January 21.

The newspapers state that the United States Minister at Tokyo, acting under instructions from Mr. Gresham, the Secretary of State at Washington, has officially notified the Japanese Government that Mr. Foster's assistance to the Chinese envoys is entirely a matter of private arrangement with which the United States Government has no connection.

Nagasaki, January 21.

The *City of Rio de Janeiro* has been undocked after temporary repairs, owing to the Mitsu Bishi Company being unable to guarantee the occupation of the dock in consequence of their agreement with the Government. The *Rio* will probably proceed to Hongkong on Wednesday to effect her permanent repairs.

(FROM THE "N.-C. DAILY NEWS.")

London, January 11.

Mr. Edmund Robertson, M.P., Civil Lord of the Admiralty, speaking at Dundee, stated that no Liberal Government would hesitate to incur any expense to maintain the naval supremacy of Great Britain.

London, January 12.

The parleying between France and Great Britain on African questions is to be concluded next week, and it is expected that it will result in important advantages to British trade.

The French have bombarded a Hova fort in the neighbourhood of Tamatave. The Hovas retired, having suffered a heavy loss.

A French cruiser has started from the scene of the present operations to occupy Majunga, a town on the northwest coast of Madagascar.

London, January 14.

The French have captured a Hova cruiser and have arrested and expelled five British subjects for crossing the lines at Tamatave. The French troops are said to be suffering from fever.

Major Wissmann has started for the Cameroons.

The King of Ashantee is defiant with regard to the declared suggestion of the Governor of the Gold Coast that another expedition is considered probable.

London, January 15.

The Chinese arriving from Manchuria bring ghastly reports of affairs in those parts. Many of the population are said to have perished and groups of frozen corpses are to be seen. The exhausted state of the country is hindering the movements of the troops on both sides.

A bomb-explosion has taken place in one of the fashionable quarters of Paris, when much damage was done but nobody was hurt.

London, January 16.

The Times correspondent in Paris says that an almost revolutionary temper animates the Radicals and Socialists.

The Newmarket Bench of Magistrates have granted the "Anti-Gambling League" a summons against the Stewards of the Jockey Club.

London, Jan. 17.

The French Press unanimously blames M. Casimir-Périer in the severest terms, accusing him of deserting his Party.

An exultant manifesto by the Socialists states that his base flight from office heralds the downfall of capitalism.

A letter from M. Casimir-Périer was read in the Chambers, when great excitement was displayed, cries being raised of "*Vive le Roi!*"

The election of a successor to M. Casimir-Périer, as President of the French Republic, appears to lie between M. Waldeck-Rousseau and M. Brisson, the latter having been Premier in 1885.

The Italians have surprised and defeated the Abyssinians at Coatit, with heavy loss to the latter.

Mr. W. E. Maxwell, Colonial Secretary of the Straits Settlements, has been appointed Governor of the Gold Coast.

London, January 18.

The state of affairs in Paris is quiet, mainly on account of the Duke of Orleans having gone to Dover, where he will await the course of events.

M. Casimir-Périer's letter has been generally condemned as a feeble production.

(FROM JAPANESE PAPERS.)

Hiroshima, Jan. 25.

H.I.M. the Empress, who lately announced her intention of giving artificial arms and feet to Japanese soldiers who have lost such limbs during the war, is now said to have intimated to the Minister of War her intention of bestowing similiar gifts on the Chinese prisoners brought to Japan.

Mr. Inouye, Secretary of the Foreign Department, who was to proceed to Shimonoseki to receive the Chinese Envoy, will now leave for Kobe in a few days to meet the Envoy there.

Kobe, January 25.

Mr. Foster has abandoned his visit to Kyoto, and Mr. Henderson, his secretary, set out today to visit Kyoto and Nara alone. Mr. Foster sent a lengthy cipher telegram to Shanghai this morning.

Shanghai, January 25.

The Chinese Envoy and party will come to Japan by the *Empress of China*, and proceed to Kobe. The suite comprises over fifty persons.

China's Envoy will arrive in Kobe on the 30th inst. He will have an interview with Mr. Foster there, and then proceed to Hiroshima.

Kobe, Jan. 25.

Mr. Foster intends to proceed to Hiroshima in a day or two before meeting the Chinese Envoy in order, it is said, to be previously informed of the intention of the Japanese Government in regard to the question of peace.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From America	per P. M. Co.	Sunday, Feb. 3rd.*
From Europe, viâ Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd	Friday, Jan. 23th.†
From Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Sunday, Jan. 27th.‡
From Europe, viâ Hongkong	per M. M. Co.	Thursday, Jan. 31st.§
From Hongkong	per C. P. R. Co.	Thursday, Jan. 31st.‖
From America	per O. & O. Co.	Tuesday, Feb. 12th.¶
From Canada, &c.....	per C. P. R. Co.	Monday, Feb. 18th.

* *China* left San Francisco via Honolulu on January 19th. † *Nürnberg* left Hongkong on January 20th. ‡ *Ancona* left Nagasaki on January 23rd. § *Ernest Simon* (with French mail) left Hongkong on January 21st. ‖ *Empress of China* left Hongkong on January 23rd. ¶ *Belgic* left San Francisco on January 24th.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For Europe, viâ Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd	Sunday, Jan. 27th.
For Canada, &c.	per C. P. R. Co.	Friday, Feb. 1st.
For Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Saturday, Feb. 2nd
For Victoria, B.C., & Tacoma, Wash.....	per N. P. Co.	Saturday, Feb. 2nd.
For America	per O. & O. Co.	Wed'day, Feb. 6th.
For Europe, viâ Shanghai	per M. M. Co.	Saturday, Feb. 9th.
For America	per P. M. Co.	Saturday, Feb. 16th.
For Hongkong	per C. P. R. Co.	Monday, Feb. 18th.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Arroyo, British steamer, 1,970, R. Samuels, 20th January,—Bombay viâ ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Empress of India, British steamer, 3,003, O. P. Marshall, 21st January,—Vancouver, B.C., 7th January, Mails and General.—Frazar & Co.

Cam, British steamer, 1,630, Mathias, 21st January,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

City of Peking, American steamer, 3,128, Wm. Ward, 21st January,—San Francisco 3rd January, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Aberdour, British steamer, 1,643, Turner, 21st January,—Moji, Light.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Assam, British steamer, 1,611, Leigh, 21st January,—Hongkong viâ ports, General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Admiral Kornilow (18), Russian cruiser, Captain Eichamoff, 21st January,—Nagasaki.

Melbourne, French steamer, 3,400, Bourdon, 22nd January,—Marseilles 9th December, Hongkong 12th January, Shanghai 16th, Nagasaki 18th, and Kobe 21st, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

Amaranth, British steamer, 1,753, Cliff, 22nd January,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Maple Branch, British steamer, 1,935, Hutchinson, 22nd January,—Otaru viâ ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Anger Head, British steamer, 1,826, Motyer, 23rd January,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Orestes, British steamer, 2,879, Pulford, 23rd January,—Liverpool viâ ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Strathdon, British steamer, 1,720, Johnston, 23rd January,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Vorwaerts, German steamer, 756, Bruhn, 23rd January,—Kobe, General.—Japanese.

Breconshire, British steamer, 1,648, Sincock, 24th January,—Yokosuka 24th January, Light.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Fuyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 875, Eden, 24th January,—Moji, Coal.—Mitsu Bishi Sha.

Oopack, British steamer, 1,930, 24th January,—Liverpool viâ ports, General.—W. M. Strachan & Co.

Boynton, British steamer, 1,630, Irving, 24th January,—Otaru, Coal.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Erato, German steamer, Ostermann, 25th January,—Hamburg viâ ports, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Cassius, German steamer, 1,830, Unruh, 25th January,—Otaru, Coal.—Hokkaido Tanko Tetsudo Kaisha.

Else, German steamer, 747, Christiansen, 25th January,—Oginohama and Hachinohe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Protos, German steamer, 1,150, Johanson, 25th January,—Moji, Coal.—Japanese.

DEPARTURES.

Hongay, British steamer, 860, Kynoch, 19th January,—Karatz, Light.—Karatz Coal Mining Co'

Oberon, British steamer, 1,768, Grate, 19th January,—Kobe, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Taiyick, German steamer, 903, Schuldt, 19th January,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Verona, British steamer, 1,878, C. H. S. Tocque, 20th January,—Hongkong viâ Kobe and Nagasaki, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Ashdown, British steamer, 1,893, Jas. Cowie, 21st January,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

City of Peking, American steamer, 3,128, Wm. Ward, 22nd January,—Hongkong viâ Nagasaki, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Empress of India, British steamer, 3,003, O. P. Marshall, 21st January,—Hongkong viâ ports, Mails and General.—Frazar & Co.

Tsiamon, British steamer, 1,555, Purdy, 21st January,—London viâ ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Tosa Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,200, J. B. MacMillan, 21st January,—Otaru, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Breconshire, British steamer, 1,648, Sincock, 22nd January,—Yokosuka, Light.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Cam, British steamer, 1,630, Mathias, 23rd January,—Otaru viâ Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Arroyo, British steamer, 1,970, R. Samuel, 24th January,—Bombay viâ ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Irene, German steamer, 1,630, R. Schuder, 24th January,—Hongkong, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Breconshire, British steamer, 1,648, Sincock, 24th January,—London viâ ports, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Maple Branch, British steamer, 1,935, Hutchinson, 25th January,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Amaranth, British steamer, 1,735, Cliff, 26th January,—Otaru viâ ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Anger Head, British steamer, 1,826, Motyer, 26th January,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Melbourne, French steamer, 3,400, Bourdon, 26th January,—Shanghai viâ ports, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

Monmouthshire, British steamer, 1,872, M. A. Evans, 26th January,—New York viâ ports, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

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PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per British steamer *Empress of India*, from Vancouver, B.C.:—Hon. J. W. Foster, Miss Ellen C. Dresser, Mr. John B. Henderson, Jun., Mr. F. Koop, Mr. and Mrs. A. S. Murdock, and Mr. Narahara in cabin.

Per French steamer *Melbourne*, from Marseilles viâ ports:—Mr. A. E. Reimhart, Mr. Reynolds, Mr. Tenaille, Mrs. Kah and 2 children, Mr. Shuziel, Mr. Loi Sai Sung, and Mr. Lee Ge Tai in cabin, and 6 Chinese and child in steerage.

Per American steamer *City of Peking*, from San Francisco:—Mr. Lee Edwards and Miss Katharine Osborne in cabin, and Messrs. H. A. Parry and T. Kuzawa in European steerage. For Hongkong:—Miss E. M. Reynolds and Miss F. Hawkins in cabin, and Mr. Chas. R. Walsh in European steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per British steamer *Verona*, for Hongkong viâ ports:—General J. C. Smith, Hon. D. Brown and servant, Mr. A. Apcar, Mr. C. P. Low, Mr. R. H. Wetherell, Miss Smith, Mr. and Mrs. G. Glass Hooper, Mr. Wai Chuen and servant, Mrs. Wai Chuen and infant, and Mr. C. Brinaer in cabin, and one Chinese in steerage.

Per British steamer *Empress of India*, for Hongkong via ports:—Mrs. D. C. Green, Mr. H. King, Mr. R. L. Thomson, Miss Ford, Mr. Rupert, Hon. J. W. Foster, Mr. J. R. Henderson, Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Tuska, Mr. West, Mr. S. Komor, and Mr. Windmill in cabin; Miss Oneki Tai and Mr. Russell in second class, and Mr. Shimidzu and Mr. Oi in steerage.

Per American steamer *City of Peking*, for Hongkong viâ Nagasaki:—Miss J. M. Donahue, Rev. and Mrs. H. Olin Cady, Miss Helen Galloway, Miss Fannie Meyers, Miss S. E. Kinsack, Mr. E. V. Thorn, and Mr. J. Carlson and native servant in cabin.

Per French steamer *Melbourne*, for Shanghai viâ ports:—Mr. F. S. Noble, Mrs. Landry and child, Mrs. Romusse, Mr. Yayama, Mr. W. Hoffman, Mr. H. Philippet, Mr. L. Sagehomma, Mr. G. Wilson, Miss Clayton, Mr. T. Raba, Mr. Said Hashim, Mr. A. Larkins, Miss Honda Taro, and Mr. J. Lozente in cabin.

CARGOES.

Per British steamer *Verona*, for Hongkong viâ ports:—Silk, 588 bales; Waste Silk, 293 bales.

Per French steamer *Melbourne*, for Shanghai viâ ports:—Raw Silk for Europe, 1,152 bales; Waste Silk for Europe, 123 bales.

REPORTS.

The American steamer *City of Peking*, Captain Wm. Ward, reports:—Left San Francisco the 3rd January at 4.06 p.m. in strong S.E. gale; crossed meridian on the 12th; good weather until the 17th and 18th, when encountered heavy gale. Arrived at Yokohama the 21st January. Time, 17 days. January 20th at 3 p.m. spoke Japanese fishing junk in distress 250 miles from land made for them, came alongside, and gave them provisions and water.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

The outlook in general is not bad, but there is not much doing at the moment. The "Chinese New Year" interferes with business in the country districts where the old calendar is still observed. Holders will do their best to maintain values, as the further drop in Exchange will increase the lay-down cost of all imported goods from Europe and America.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	per piece.
Grey Shirtings—8¼ lb, 38½ yds. 39 inches	$2.25 to 2.90
Grey Shirtings—9lb, 38½ yds. 45 inches	2.50 to 3.25
T. Cloth—7lb, 24 yards, 32 inches	1.60 to 1.90
Indigo Shirtings—12 yards, 44 inches	1.70 to 2.35
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches	2.00 to 3.75
	per yard.
Cotton—Italians and Sateens Black, 32 inches	0.16 to 0.21
	per piece.
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	7.25 to 9.50
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 12 3 inches	0.85 to 1.00
Turkey Reds—2.0 to 2.4lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.65 to 1.75
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.85 to 2.05
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.30 to 2.60
Turkey Reds—4.8 to 5lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.80 to 3.10

WOOLLENS.

	per yard.
Flannel	$0.30 to 0.50
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches best	0.32½ to 0.37½
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Medium	0.27½ to 0.30
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Common	0.20 to 0.25
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yards, 32 inches	0.25 to 0.32½
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches	0.45 to 0.50
Cloths—Presidents, 54 @ 56 inches	0.60 to 0.65
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0.40 to 0.70
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 5lb. per lb	0.60 to 0.70

COTTON YARNS.

	per picul.
Nos. 16/24, Ordinary	—
Nos. 16/24, Medium	$34.50 to 35.00
Nos. 16/24, Good to Best	35.50 to 36.00
Nos. 16/24, Reverse	—
Nos. 28/32, Ordinary	—
Nos. 28/32, Medium	36.00 to 36.50
Nos. 28/32, Good to Best	37.00 to 37.50
Nos. 38/42, Medium to Best	42.00 to 43.00
No. 32s, Two-fold	39.00 to 40.00
No. 42s, Two-fold	43.00 to 46.00
	per bale.
No. 20s, Bombay	—
No. 16s, Bombay	—

METALS.

The prospect for trade in Iron is fair; and holders are firm in view of low exchange. Sundries quiet.

	per picul.
Flat Bars, ¼ inch	$3.60 to 3.70
Flat Bars, ½ inch	3.70 to 3.80
Round and square up to ¾ inch	3.60 to 3.80
Iron Plates, assorted	3.70 to 3.85
Sheet Iron	4.90 to 5.10
Galvanized Iron sheets	9.00 to 9.25
Wire Nails, assorted	5.75 to 6.00
Tin Plates, per box	6.25 to 6.50
Pig Iron, No. 1	1.70 to 1.72½

KEROSENE.

Not much business to report. Dealers do not like having to pay up in price; and, while clearing their old contracts fairly well, refrain from new bargains at present.

Chester	$1.80 to 1.82½
Comet	1.77½ to 1.80
Devoe	—
Russian Anchor	1.77½ to 1.80
Russian Moon	1.75 to 1.77½

SUGAR.

Brown—Some enquiry, and we shall probably have sales to report next week. White—No change, market quiet but holders fairly firm.

	per picul.
Brown Takao	$4.20 to 4.30
Brown Manila	4.80 to 4.90
Brown Daitong (New)	3.45 to 3.50
Brown Canton	3.70 to 4.25
White Java and Penang	6.60 to 6.70
White Refined	6.30 to 9.00

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

After the large business earlier in the month, the market exhibits a quieter tone and settlements are now comparatively small. Prices, however, are well maintained for choice lots, and holders are satisfied with the present and prospective positions. The English mail (20th) took a large cargo for Europe; the French and German mail steamers are expected to follow suit.

QUOTATIONS.—(NEW SILK.)

Hanks—No. 1	—
Hanks—No. 1 (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 2 (Joshu)	—
Hanks—No. 2½ (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 2½ (Joshu)	—
Hanks—No. 2½ to 3	—
Hanks—No. 3	—
Hanks—No. 3½	—
Filatures—Extra 10/12 deniers	$900 to 920
Filatures—Extra 13/15 deniers	Nom.
Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers	860 to 880
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den	830 to 840
Filatures—No. 1½ 10/14 deniers	830 to 840
Filatures—No. 1½ 13/16, 14/17 den	800 to 820
Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers	780 to 810
Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	770 to 780
Filatures—No. 3, 15/20 deniers	—
Re-reels—Extra	—
Re-reels—(Oshu) Best No. 1	—
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 deniers	810 to 820
Re-reels—No. 1½, 13/16, 13/17 deniers	780 to 790
Re-reels—No. 2, 13/18 deniers	740 to 760
Re-reels—No. 2½, 13 18 deniers	720 to 730
Re-reels—No. 3, 12/20 deniers	700 to 710
Kakedas—Extra	—
Kakedas—No. 1	800 to 810
Kakedas—No. 1½	780 to 790
Kakedas—No. 2	740 to 750
Kakedas—No. 2½	—
Kakedas—No. 3	—
Kakedas—No. 3½	—
Kakedas—No. 4	—
Oshu Sendai—No. 2½	—
Hamatsuki—No. 1, 2	—
Hamatsuki—No. 3, 4	—
Sodai—No. 2½	—

WASTE SILK.

Nothing new or startling in this market. Dealers have been expecting better prices, but would probably be glad to move at something like old figures.

QUOTATIONS.—(NEW WASTE.)

Pierced Cocoons—Good to Best	—
Noshi-ito—Filature, Best	$130 to 135
Noshi-ito—Filature, Good	120 to 125
Noshi-ito—Filature, Medium	110 to 115
Noshi-ito—Oshu, Good to Best	120 to 130
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Best	—
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Good	80 to 90
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Medium	—
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Good to Best	100 to 115
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Best	—
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Good	70 to 75
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Ordinary	60 to 65
Kibiso—Filature, Best selected	100 to 110
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds	90 to 95
Kibiso—Oshu, Good to Best	—
Kibiso—Shinshu, Best	—
Kibiso—Shinshu, Seconds	—
Kibiso—Joshu, Good to Fair	30 to 27½
Kibiso—Joshu, Middlings to Common	25 to 22½
Kibiso—Hachoji, Good to Fair	25 to 23
Kibiso—Hachoji, Medium to Low	22 to 20
Kibiso—Nari, Good to Common	12 to 8
Mawata—Good to Best	150 to 200

TEA.

No change. Season comatose and well nigh moribund.

EXCHANGE.

Early in the week higher silver kept rates firm but without visible improvement, but the last few days have again shown a decline.

Sterling—Bank T.T.	1/11⅞
— — Bills on demand	1/11⅞
— — 4 months' sight	1/11⅞
— Private 4 months' sight	1/11⅞
— — 6 months' sight	2/0
On Paris—Bank sight	2.44
On Lyons—Private 4 months' sight	2.51
On Hongkong—Bank sight	1⅛% p.
— Private 10 days' sight	Par.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	72
— Private 10 days' sight	73
On India—Bank sight	186
— Private 30 days' sight	189
On America—Bank Bills on demand	47
— Private 30 days' sight	48⅛
— — 4 months' sight	49⅛
On Germany—Bank sight	1.97
— Private 4 months' sight	2.04
Bar Silver (London)	27 1/16

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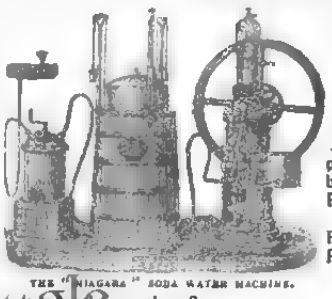
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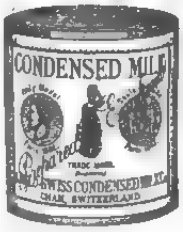
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The Japan Weekly Mail:

A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

No. 5.] REGISTERED AT THE G.P.O. AS A NEWSPAPER. YOKOHAMA, FEBRUARY 2ND, 1895. 明治二十八年二月三日郵便物認可 Vol. XXII.

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, FEB. 2ND, 1895.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

H.I.H. PRINCE KOMATSU has been appointed Chief of the General Staff.

ONE of the oldest foreign residents of Japan, Capt. J. U. Smith, of Nagasaki, is dead.

THE Yokohama Engine and Iron Works has declared an interim dividend of 3 per cent. for the last half-year.

THE funeral of the late Prince Arisugawa Taruhito took place in Tokyo with much solemnity on Tuesday.

THE Houses of the Diet adjourned for the day on Tuesday, as a mark of respect for the late Prince Arisugawa.

THE Japan Cement Co. has made a net profit of *yen* 13,071 during the past half-year. It declares a dividend of 8 per cent.

THE Meiji Life Assurance Company of Tokyo has declared a dividend of 10 per cent., after adding 210,176 *yen* to the reserve.

H.E. CHANG, the Chinese Envoy, arrived at Kobe on Wednesday. He proceeded to Hiroshima the same day, accompanied by Mr. Foster and *suite*.

THE Grand Hotel, Limited, has declared a dividend of 3 per cent. for the half-year, and carried forward a balance of $2,318.14.

THE smallest of the two proposed Yokohama Docks will, it is said, accomodate the largest vessels of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

MESSRS. AMENOMORI KIKUTARO and Suzuka Benzaburo have been elected President and Vice-President of the Kyoto City Assembly.

FIFTY-FIVE houses, a school, and several sheds were reduced to ashes by a fire which broke out at Haneda, Ibara-gun, Tokyo, on the 29th ult.

THE Tokyo Woollen Cloth Manufacturing Co. distributed *yen* 14,175 as a dividend for the past half-year at the rate of 9 per cent. per annum.

A FOREIGN sailing vessel, with over two hundred Chinamen on board, was wrecked on the coast of Nodame, Chikaku-gun, Kagoshima Prefecture, on the 6th inst.

THE net profits of the Mitsui Bank during the second half of last year amounted to *yen* 389,349.324. A dividend has been declared at the rate of 8 per cent. per annum.

THE magnificent new steamer of the M.M. Company, the *Ernest Simons*, has been visited by a good many folk since her arrival in Yokohama harbour on Wednesday.

THE funeral of the late Major Sakibara took place in Tokyo on the 27th ult. The bier was escorted by a battalion of infantry. Over six thousand persons attended the ceremony.

THE great war rejoicings at Uyeno Park cost *yen* 12,466.854. The Committee have a balance in hand of over 1,800 *yen*, which they intend to spend upon another rejoicing.

THE value of policies issued by the Imperial Life Insurance Co., reached *yen* 10,375,300,000 at the end of the last year, and the amount of premia paid by insurers *yen* 386,676,612.

THE members of the Yokohama Choral Society are busy practising Hillier's "Song of Victory," and Stanford's "Revenge," for their next Concert, which takes place on Shrove Tuesday.

DON FRANCISCO DEL SOLIVERES, Secretary of the Spanish Legation in Tokyo, has been appointed Minister Resident in Colombia, and his position in Tokyo has been given to Don Carcere y Salamanca.

A SEAMAN named Puckuas pleaded guilty on Tuesday to stabbing an officer on the steamship *Waverley*, while on the high seas, and was sentenced by H.B.M. Judge to nine months' hard labour.

THE Yokohama Amateur Rowing Club has re-elected Mr. J. Rickett as Captain, Mr. F. J. Hall as Secretary, and appointed Mr. E. T. Nicholas, Treasurer, for the ensuing year. The Club has a balance in hand of $1,161.56.

THE war news of the week relates principally to the landing of the third expeditionary force at Yengchang, and the rumoured taking of Weihaiwei; while the Chinese in Manchuria are said to be displaying renewed energy.

THE Tokyo-Gas works have declared a dividend of 14 per cent. for the half-year. The company during the period used 3,397 tons of coal; 33,015,510 cubic feet of gas was made, an increase of 6,762,843 cubic feet as compared with the correspondnig period of the previous year.

REUTER telegraphs:—Lord Rosebery, speaking at Cardiff, has stated that a campaign against the House of Lords is inevitable. An agitation has been started with the object of inducing the Indian Government to legislate with regard to the accommodation of Lascar crews. This has been inspired by the Labour Unionists, whose object is the ousting of Asiatic in favour of European seamen. Ex-Captain Dreyfus, on arriving at La Rochelle on the way to his internment on the island of Ré, was attacked and beaten by sticks by a furious crowd whom his guards were powerless to resist, and he was taken on board the steamer with great difficulty. M. Lobonoff has been appointed Russian Ambassador to Berlin. A rising at Hawaii on the 6th ult. with a view of restoring Queen Liliuokalani has been quelled after two days desultory fighting, in the course of which only slight losses were sustained. Mr. Stephen H. Gatty, Puisne Judge at Singapore, has been appointed Chief Justice at Gibraltar. The Textile Factory Workers' Society have voted a sum of five hundred pounds to the Bimetallic League. This is the first instance of a labour body having subscribed to a public movement. In consequence of a strike and riots in Brooklyn, seven thousand troops have been called out to preserve order, and several conflicts have taken place between the military and the mob. The Greek Ministry has resigned. The President of the Argentine Republic has resigned. A letter written in a resolute tone by Izmirlian, the Armenian Patriarch, informs the Sublime Porte that he intends to send an independent enquirer to Sassun. M. Nicholas Delyannis, son of a former Greek Premier, has formed a Cabinet outside Parliament, during the conduct of the General Election. The betting summons against the Albert Club has been dismissed, but an appeal has been granted. M. Ribot has formed a Cabinet. The Socialists intend to attack M. Ribot in the Chamber forthwith. The Chamber, however, has passed, by a large majority, a vote of confidence in the Government. *The Times* states that it expects great success for the British Dollar in the Far East. The Emperor of Russia, in receiving delegates from all parts of the empire, has declared that he will firmly uphold the autocracy.

THERE is not much to be said about the Import trade, and the slackness in demand which exists at the present time is mainly to be traced to exchange, buyers holding off on account of prevailing rates, which are decidedly against them. Thus Yarns are lifeless, and very little has been done in Shirtings. The call for Fancy Cottons has been small, and Woollens are hardly looked at. The Metal trade is by no means brisk, Bar and Pig Iron being the principal lines taken at late rates, Wire Nails having slightly improved in value. Kerosene is strongly held, and buyers hesitate, especially to dabble in Russia, which has the pull for the time being of American Oil. The Sugar trade has been confined to very small dimensions, and values may be said to be lower for all kinds, with an ample supply. The Raw Silk market is quiet, with not sufficient business to make quotations, but owners, nevertheless, of good parcels seem inclined to hold on to them. At length a movement has been made in Waste Silk, and a heavy business has resulted, the stock having been reduced to 16,000 piculs. For desirable fibre holders are strong, but the present stock includes some very rough parcels. There is nothing to be said about Tea. Exchange remains steady.

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UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

THE SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS DURING THE WEEK.

The arrival of the Chinese Peace Mission is naturally the topic of the hour. All our metropolitan contemporaries have something to say about it. A brief *résumé* will suffice to convey their sentiments to our readers. Prudence evidently directs their pens. It may almost be said of the Japanese press that many of its representatives are always in extremes. Sometimes they are so circumspect ■ to suggest that their editors have attained the three score years and ten, when, according to the Japanese proverb, no virtue remains to a man save caution. At other times, their recklessness reminds one of schoolboys. "We may take it for granted," writes the *Nichi Nichi*, "that the Chinese Envoys for Peace are vested with full powers such as those with which Mr. Okubo and Mr. Ito (now Count Ito) were furnished when the former was dispatched to Pekin and the latter to Tientsin some years ago. We believe that we are fully justified in making this statement, since we learn on good authority that the mission was despatched after letters had been exchanged, through the medium of the United States Ministers at Pekin and Tokyo, between the two Governments concerned. What, then, will these Plenipotentiary Envoys propose, and what do our High Commissioners mean to demand from them? Mr. Go, a Secretary in the suite of the Mission, said, in an interview our representative had with him, that the terms of peace may be inferred from the weakness of China, which has been made so apparent in the course of the war. That view, taken by one of the most talented young statesmen of China, as Mr. Go is, may not be shared by the Envoys. But the facts of the war warrant the supposition that the Envoys will meet our Commissioners in a not less conciliatory spirit than their secretary showed to the *Nichi Nichi*'s representative. Under the circumstances, our Commissioners have to lay before the mission such terms as are satisfactory to Japan and acceptable to China. They should, however, bear in mind that they must not propose any terms until they have fully satisfied themselves as to the absence of any desire on the part of the Envoys to terminate the war by an appeal to a Western Power or Powers for mediation, or until the Chinese messengers have sworn to accept whatever reasonable conditions Japan, as the victor, may impose. The nation is to be congratulated if peace can be procured in such a fashion. The Diet will prove itself ignorant of the situation, and, what is of more significance, disrespectful to the Sovereign's Prerogatives as to the declaration of war and the conclusion of peace, should it adopt any inconsiderate measure, such as rumour alleges that it contemplates, in the sense of urging the Government to push on the war, and declaring that the object of the contest is still far from being achieved." The *Yomiuri's* remarks run as follow:—"The present war is not fought for its own sake, or for any partial accomplishment of its object. Any premature termination would be contrary to the interests of the State. To sue for peace is China's business. We need not greatly concern ourselves about it. The Mission just arrived, ill-satisfied as we are with its *personnel*, should be politely welcomed by the Government, as the Envoys are quite different from Detring in many respects. Our High Commissioners, who will be appointed within a few days, should be ever fully responsive to the will of their Sovereign and to the wishes of the nation at large. They should not for a moment forget that diplomacy, by a slight blunder, may undo all that the expeditionary forces have hitherto accomplished.' The *Jiyu* considers it important, before the negotiations are opened, to make China consent to the occupation of Taku and Shanhaikwan by the Japanese troops, and to the withdrawal of her forces to places over 70 miles away from the Japanese positions. The papers representing the six united political parties attach little importance to the Chinese Embassy, and urge the Japanese forces abroad, in terms [illegible] to hasten to seize the gates of Pekin. The *Kokkai* counts it an insult on China's part to send such men as Chang and Shao on so important a mission. Our contemporary is of opinion that the Chinese as yet have been only half chastised. It entirely shares the view of the *Kaishin-to* organs, and other advocates of a strong foreign policy, as to the advisability of the conquering armies hastening toward their final goal. The *Nippon* is apprehensive about the advent of what it calls "troublesome foreign intervention," and, for the purpose of averting anything of the kind, advocates active movements on the part of the Japanese forces in China.

* * *

Speaking of the forces that landed at Yungcheng on the 20th ultimo, the *Nichi Nichi* says it has heard that Li Hung-chang made haste to despatch the Embassy in order to save Weihaiwei and the Northern squadron from destruction. It therefore urges that the expeditionary forces should make all possible haste to capture Weihaiwei and destroy the Peiyang Squadron in conjunction with the Japanese Fleet, arguing that the distruction of the Chinese ships would exercise a material influence on the nature of the treaty to which China may be forced to consent.

* * *

"Japan," writes the *Mainichi*, has been acknowledged by world as a great Power in war. She ought to aim at being recognised, after the war, as a country great in the arts of peace. For that purpose she must enrich herself, and to become rich, she must fight a stout commercial battle and win it. The field of that battle should not be confined to the Orient. The world itself must be the arena. The conclusion of the present war should be so contrived by the Authorities as to strengthen the country's capacity for fighting the mercantile battles that lie before it."

* * *

Alluding to the National Bank affair, as discussed in the Lower House, the *Niroku* writes as follows:—"Theory and practice are hard to reconcile. Men that always advocated liberty and independence in their past careers, have now declined to have the national banks turned into private concerns; that is to say, to have them delivered from Government interference. Men that have always inveighed against the evils of clan supremacy, have now listened to the selfish complaints of the officers of the 15th National Bank."

* * *

The *Jiyu* regrets that the House of Peers has rejected the Bill for amending the Newspaper Regulations. Were the members of the Upper House mere creatures of the clan government, without any ambition more exalted than to remain such, it would not be surprising that they should reject a popular Bill. But it is to be extremely regretted that the Upper House, while doubtless anxious to promote the national interests in its legislative capacity, should have again placed itself in antagonism to the wishes of the people

EDITORIAL NOTES.

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND THE BANKS' PROBLEM.

The following is the gist of the speech delivered by the Minister of Finance at the meeting of the Committee for the National Banks' Bill. Two schemes are now on the *tapis*, one being the continuation of National Banks in the capacity of private concerns, and the other the renewal of the charters of the Banks enabling them to carry on their business as hitherto. The point to be decided is which of the two measures is likely to benefit the economic world at large. As is generally known, the initiation of a company or bank a decade or two ago required the special protection of the Government, not only because no capitalist would consent to invest money in any enterprise of the kind unless it were under Government supervision, but also because, unless that were the case, a concern [illegible] to enjoy the confidence of the general public. It was at such a time that most of the National Banks now in existence were started. Since then, however, that state of affairs has undergone such a radical change that there are now about 700 private banks that have been established without receiving any protection from the Government. These outnumber the National Banks from six to seven times, there being only 130 of the latter. All those private concerns carry on an active business without relying in the least upon the Government. It is therefore somewhat inconsistent to hold that Bank Regulations enacted at a time when circumstances were entirely different, should be prolonged for a number of years and the charters of National Banks renewed. It is as if we were to insist on the use of lamps and lanterns when the sun was high in the heavens. The Government deems it unnecessary to renew the charters. As already remarked by a member of the Committee, various contradictory rumours have been circulated about this question. A certain vernacular paper represents the Finance Minister as having said that the Government does not particularly care about having the Re-organization scheme carried through. That, however, is a gross mistake. Twice was the Bill approved by the Emperor and twice introduced to the Diet by the Government. The Finance Minister feels constrained, under the circumstances, to persist more strongly than ever in the scheme. It is absurd to suppose that he, who was himself one of its introducers, is vacillating in his opinion on the subject.

THE STRENGTH OF THE JAPANESE NAVY.

Now that the *Iwami Kan* has been added to the Navy, the total number of Japanese warships is 31. In addition to these, writes the *Nippon*, there are 26 torpedo cruisers. Additions to the Navy to be effected this year are as follow:—A 2nd class cruiser now in process of construction in Yokosuka is to be launched within the 28th fiscal year, as are also the two torpedo cruisers in course of building in the same place. Though not directly connected with the increase of naval strength, the construction of a dockyard in Sasebo, to be finished this year, may be mentioned in this connection. Other warships in process of building are a 3rd class cruiser at Yokosuka; and a 1st class despatch vessel in Kure. The two ironclads of over 10,000 tons each, which are being built by the Armstrong Company for Japan, will most likely be added to the Navy in three years. ■ the Government has asked the Diet's consent to shorten the period of completion by two years. The Diet will doubtless agree to this.

THE HORRORS OF WAR.

War, says the *Daily Telegraph* of Dec. 4, in referring to the war in China, even as conducted by civilised nations, is more than sufficiently horrible, by reason of the appalling sacrifices of human life and all kinds of property which it entails upon those engaged in its prosecution. That the extremest terrors of war have been to some extent mitigated is mainly due to the Red Cross Society and other associations of merciful and self-sacrificing women and men, and to the salutary influence upon public feeling of compulsory education, the humanising effects of which upon Western nations are undeniable. Many years have elapsed, and many battles have been fiercely fought, since any atrocity has come to light so shocking as the wholesale mutilations of the dead lately ascribed to both parties to this pitiless war. Some excuse, perhaps, may be advanced for the sudden outburst of cruel fury that seems to have maddened the Japanese soldery, usually so amenable to discipline, after they had taken possession of the works and town of Port Arthur; for nothing is so eminently calculated to exasperate troops, already incensed by the heat of conflict, as the sight of fallen comrades wilfully and malignantly mangled by dastardly foemen. Such horrors as this irresistibly suggest reprisals to angry men, and we may not forget that but little quarter was accorded to the rebel Sepoys by British soldiers who had looked upon the ghastly results of the [illegible] of English men, women, and chil-

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dren carried out at Cawnpore and other Indian stations. There is nothing, however, that has as yet transpired to palliate the atrocities committed by the Chinese, who have proved themselves to be utter savages as well as cowards. They appear, regarded by the light of recent events, to be absolutely devoid of patriotism, of any sense of military honour, and even of the elementary brute courage which is instinctive in the vast majority of human beings, whether civilised or barbaric. They cannot fight to any purpose, although armed with effective modern weapons, ensconced behind stone walls, or occupying virtually impregnable positions; but in the panic of defeat and the confusion of precipitate flight they can be relied upon, seemingly, to torture the living and mutilate the dead. In all probability, these wretches are stoically indifferent to the detestation and loathing with which their paltry cowardice and wanton cruelty are regarded by all civilised peoples, who, however sincerely they may condemn and deplore the ferocious acts of retaliation to which the infuriated Japanese soldiery are said to have committed themselves, can hardly be expected to regret the circumstance that some measure of retribution has been dealt out, and with no sparing hand, to the miscreant garrison of Port Arthur.

RELIGIOUS JAPANESE SOLDIERS.

It appears, according to the vernacular press, that quite a number of the Kumamoto soldiers are most religious in their notions and discipline. Especially so are the officers and privates of the 6th Company of the 23rd Regiment. In 1890 the officers of that Company began to attend the services of Hotta Doryu, officiating priest in a certain temple of Kumamoto, and to study the doctrines of the Zen Sect. When tolerably well initiated in the cult, the officers commenced to impart their religious knowledge to the soldiers under them. The priest admired their zeal and offered, with the aid of another priest, to deliver sermons to the soldiers every Sunday. The religious fervour of the Company spread through the regiment and the number of soldiers that attended the Sunday meetings became so numerous that the Temple was invariably filled to overflowing. The place of meeting was therefore removed to a more commodious building. The officers and soldiers of the 6th company organized a society the aim of which was the cultivation of virtues and self-denial. Last fall the 23rd Regiment was ordered to proceed to the seat of war. Resolved not to return alive unless the object of the war was realized, the officers and men decided to erect in the Temple grounds a *kesshi-hi*, or "monument attesting a resolute intention." This was completed on the 31st of December, and a ceremony was celebrated at which the Rev. Hotta Doryu and his assistants delivered suitable sermons and the men of the Company headed by Captain Okajima, burned incense and bowed before the altar. A feast was then held in front of the monument after which the men gave three cheers for the Emperor, the Army, and their own Company, and then returned to barracks. The regiment left for the war by the mid-night train of that day. Before their departure the officers and men of the 6th Company presented their photographs to the two priests with minute descriptions as to the name, age, native place, and so forth of each man. A letter was also forwarded to the priests in the name of the Society organized by the Company expressing its gratitude for the benefit derived from their kind instruction.

THE PEACE EMBASSY.

Through the intermediation of the United States of America, writes the vernacular press, China communicated to Japan her wish to send a Peace Embassy to this country. As America's action in the matter could not be viewed in the light of interference, but was simply friendly, Japan accepted it as such, and intimated that should China sincerely wish to sue for peace, her course was to despatch a duly accredited Embassy to Head-quarters in Hiroshima where negotiations could be undertaken. It was further intimated that previous to their departure, the names and official ranks of the Envoys should be communicated to Japan. Not only has that been done, but the number of the suite and the date of the Embassy's arrival were duly communicated by China. The Embassy and suite called first at Nagasaki, where they remained 12 hours, and then came to Kobe. There they will be provided by the Japanese Government with a steamer by which they will proceed, together with their Adviser, Mr. Foster, to Ujina. The Japanese Peace Commissioners will be appointed two days after the arrival of the Embassy. The *Kokkai* gives a telegram from Hiroshima stating that Viscount Mutsu, Minister of Foreign Affairs, will be entrusted with the task of meeting and negotiating with the Embassy.

ROMAN CATHOLICISM AS AND AID TO ART.

The *Keisai Zasshi*, in the course of some outspoken remarks about Christianity, says that Buddhism in Japan is destined to be at last ousted by Christianity. It therefore becomes a matter of importance to decide which form of Christianity should be adopted. Our contemporary can see merely a historical difference between Roman Catholicism and Protestantism: their underlying tenets are the same. Putting aside the question of doctrine, the *Keisai* gives its preference to the older form of Christianity simply because it is the more artistic. In Roman Catholicism the fine arts play a conspicuous part, both in the building of churches and in the rites and ceremonies of the faith. The newer Christianity regards these things as of slight consequence, and in many instances disregards them altogether. In Europe, consequently, we find that the nations more predisposed to the influence of the fine arts, the Italians and the French, are centres of the Roman Catholic creed, while the less subtle minded Teutonic races, the English and the North Germans, embrace Protestantism. It is a matter for regret that the historic Buddhist temples of Japan are gradually being destroyed by fire, for they seldom or never rise again to their original splendour. It would be well then, that the religion taking the place of Buddhism in Japan be that lending itself to the greater artistic expression.

"PREACHING IN SINIM; OR, THE GOSPEL TO THE GENTILES."

One would suppose the above to be a rather narrow subject for the theme of a book, but into his seventeen chapters Dr. Du Bose has succeeded in putting a great deal of valuable and interesting matter. The style is simple, terse, and vigorous, at times rising to eloquence. The book is written by a man evidently full of his subject, in the sense of being thoroughly in love with it, as well as of thoroughly understanding it. He is very enthusiastic, but by no means a blind enthusiast: his practical good sense is evident on every page. In some of the earlier chapters he discusses various practical problems of missionary work in a manner full of interest to any one at all connected with these matters, and his occasional mild thrusts at mission methods in Japan will add zest to his pages for his fellow workers in this Empire. The chapter on Literary Preparation and Style of Preaching has value for young missionaries in all Eastern lands. Into the chapters on Natural Theology and The Light of Ethics he has concentrated the practical lessons learned in his twenty-one years of preaching to the people of China. These chapters are literally packed with seed-thoughts, hints and suggestions of how to reach the heart and conscience of people absolutely unacquainted with the Christian doctrine and severely satisfied with themselves and their own religion. Presumably that is the aim of all missionaries, and therefore these chapters will furnish food for much reflection. The remaining chapters, while not so valuable, are more or less of the same character.

JAPANESE CAVALRY.

The *Mainichi* has lately been discussing the question of the Cavalry of Japan, and gives some interesting information about the arm of the service. A Division of the Army, it says, is composed of the following:—12 battalions of Infantry (one battalion=4 companies of 200 men each); 3 battalions of Artillery (6 companies); one battalion of Cavalry (3 troops of about 120 troopers each); one battalion of Engineers (2 companies). Thus in a Japanese *corps d'armée* there are only 240 troopers; a very insignificant body when compared with the position held by the Cavalry in the German army. Under these circumstances, the Cavalry is not used by the Japanese Commanders on services of assault, pursuit, and other duties connected with actual fighting operations: they employ it almost entirely for purposes of reconnaisance. The only instance in the present war in which the Cavalry formed a part in the regular plan of fighting, was at the battle of Phoyng yang, when the main column under Lieut.-General Nozu engaged the fleeing Chinese cavalry. One of the principal reasons for the small numbers of the Japanese Cavalry is the old-style fashion of fighting in Japan, which had few movements necessitating the use of horse soldiers. Then again, Cavalry costs twice as much as the Infantry to maintain, there being a horse as well as a man to accoutre and keep. By an Imperial ordinance issued in the 23rd year of *Meiji* (1890) it was provided that a battalion of Cavalry consisting of three troops, should be established in each Division. But this provision has not been carried into effect owing to the great cost it would entail. To remedy the deficiency in the nation's defensive forces, the Government asked the consent of the Diet, in the present session, to an additional grant of money to be devoted solely to this one purpose. The Diet granted the appropriation, and the additional Cavalry will be raised during the 27th, 28th, and 29th fiscal years of *Meiji*. The money granted will provide for 360 troopers, but this is far from being a satisfactory increase. The Japanese Cavalry should be raised to the strength of one regiment to each Division.

KOREAN TALES.

Tragical to the last degree were the fates of many who joined Kim Ok-kyün and Boku Yeiko in their abortive attempts to reform the administrative government of Korea ten years ago. The little Kingdom was then completely in the toils of the oppressive Mings, and their faction. When Kim and Boku and many of their prominent followers fled the Kingdom, the families left behind were arrested, flung into prison, tortured, and, in many cases, all put to death. Most of the rebels who escaped came to Japan, where they found hospitable shelter and safety. Communication with members of their families who, having escaped the vigilance of the Korean detectives, were still living the peninsula, was impossible; and so on both sides of the Sea of Japan were fears entertained of the death or imprisonment of some loved one who had fortunately escaped both. The events of the last six months have led to many joyful reunions, for now the one-time hunted rebels can return to Korea without let or hindrance, after some ten years of wandering in foreign lands. The present Minister of War is a case in point. He had fled to Japan with Kim and Boku, but afterwards proceeded to America. There he was fortunate enough to obtain a clerk-ship in the War Department of the United States Government, and for ten years he was a resident of the States. All this time he was in utter ignorance of the whereabout of his wife, and she on her part was entirely without news of him. Now they are living happily together again, all the years of parting and sadness put behind. A sad story is that of Boku Yeiko's wife. On the failure of their schemes of reform, she fled from Sôul with a baby of a month old at her breast. Her steps were directed toward the mountains in which the Sôul river has its source. But the fear of being captured and put to an ignominious death gradually overcame her resolution, and she resolved to put an end to her life and thus join her husband in the other world—for [illegible] and

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killed. She could not, however, bring herself to kill her baby. A farm-house happened to be in sight, and she hastened to it, and left her baby, warmly wrapped up, upon the doorstep. Then she went to the river and breaking the thin ice which had formed on the surface of the water, cast herself into the water, and was drowned. During the night the inmates of the farmhouse, hearing a baby's piteous cries, searched outside the building and found a female infant lying in their doorway. It was clad in garments of rich texture. From marks upon the clothing the peasants discovered the paternity of the child, and notwithstanding their poverty they determined to rear it. Upon Boku's return to Korea last year, the farmer took the child, now a maiden of ten, to the capital, and gaining admittance to Boku's presence, related the tale of the foundling. Boku was overjoyed at the discovery of his daughter, but his gladness was marred by hearing of the death of his wife. It is said that the wife and daughter of the late Kim Ok-kyün are staying in Boku's house.

THE TONKIN PIRATES.

L'Extreme Orient states that the French troops encountered a band of pirates on the 11th ult., at Tu-long, on the Red River. After a desperate resistance by the pirates the position was taken, but the French contingent had four Europeans killed and ten wounded and five natives killed and thirteen wounded. Amongst the wounded were Commander Gouttenegrie, commanding the Laokay column, who was shot in both legs; Lieut. Bollardiere, of the Marine Infantry, who had the misfortune to be wounded four months ago; and Capt. Pironneau, of the Foreign Legion, who was shot in the chest. Lieut. Bollardiere was seriously wounded that it was impossible to move him to the Hospital in the rear. As will be seen, says our contemporary, the pacification of this Colony, which M. de Lanessan had reported to be complete, is not yet *un fait accompli*.

THE EMPRESS DOWAGER OF CHINA.

A STRANGE story is to told by the *Mainichi* of the Empress Dowager of China. Though now the most influential woman in China—so influential that it was intended to celebrate the 60th anniversary of her birthday at a cost of 25 million *taels*—she is the daughter of parents so poor, that, about fifty years ago, they were obliged to sell her for a slave. This is no fiction, avers the *Mainichi*, as the following facts will show. In 1849 there lived in a suburb of Canton a poor couple who had one son and one daughter, the former 14 and the latter seven years of age. Times went hardly with the family, till finally the daughter, who was remarkably intelligent and very pretty, offered to relieve her parents' distress by selling herself as a slave. It was a bitter thing to do, but no choice was left, and so with tears and heartwrung anguish the wretched parents handed their daughter over to a slave-dealer. Her attractive appearance soon drew notice, and a military officer of high rank finally obtained her at a moderate figure. He took her to his house, and as their acquaintance ripened, the General discovered that his slave-girl possessed sterling qualities of heart and mind rarely to be found in Chinese women of her class. He became so attached to her at last that he adopted her as his own daughter, and thenceforth her fortune was made. On being appointed to fill a high position in Pekin, the General took his adopted daughter with him. He rapidly gained the esteem of the Emperor, and then sought about for a suitable present to make his Imperial master as a token of his gratitude. He determined at last to offer his adopted daughter for service in the Palace as a maid-of-honour. The Emperor became fascinated by the extreme charm of the young maiden, and little by little she rose in his favour, until at last the erst-while Canton slave-girl became the legitimate wife of the ruler of [illegible] of China. The first thing she did upon being exalted to the lofty station was to send a messenger to Canton to search for her parents and brother. The house of her childhood was found to be in ruins, while her father and mother had long since died; the brother was eking out a bare existence as a coolie. Imagination cannot describe the surprise of the poor fellow when the news of his sister's advancement was conveyed to him. The rest of his life has been spent in the Court at Pekin. It will be remembered that when the late Emperor of China died, the Empress Dowager was made Regent of China until the present Emperor—who was then seven years old—came of age; but she did not shrink from the immense labours involved in governing so vast an Empire. It is only quite recently that she handed over the supreme power to the Emperor of China.

SUSPENSION OF THE "KOKUMIN NO TOMO."

THE *Kokumin-no-tomo* has been placed under the ban of suspension for publishing an article considered prejudicial to the maintenance of public peace. It advised the House of Representatives to tender an address to the Throne in connection with China's appeal for peace. The article was permeated with an unfriendly spirit towards the Cabinet and was, at the same time, somewhat inflammatory in tone. It observed that a crisis of the Japan-China trouble is now impending, ■ the matter is being transferred from the hands of the greatly trusted Army to those of the Cabinet, and urged to Diet to be on the alert. The people, not the Ito Cabinet, declared war against China, and it was therefore right that peace being now on the *tapis*, the people should express their opinions about the matter. This was all the more important considering how little the Diet had been accustomed to place confidence in the foreign policy of the present Ministry. The House should therefore decide, first, whether the time for peace negotiations has really come, and, secondly, what conditions on those two points should be embodied in an Address to be submitted for the perusal of the Emperor before the arrival of the Peace Embassy.

SUDDEN DEATH ON THE "NURNBERG."

AT Kobe on Thursday afternoon a sudden death occurred on the steamer *Nürnberg*. A man named Frederic Dupres, an A.B. belonging to the *Metapedia* (the vessel recently sold to the Japanese), went on board the steamer in the afternoon, passage to England having been taken for him and other members of the former crew of the *Metapedia*. Shortly after getting on board he complained of feeling faint and ill, and it being evident that he was in great pain, Dr. Miller was summoned, and at once ordered the removal of the man to the hospital, where he died an hour or two afterwards. He is believed to have been suffering from heart disease.

THE NATIONAL BANKS.

YESTERDAY the House of Representatives rejected the Government's Bill for the re-organization of the National Banks, a problem that occupies a large share of Japanese public attention. We hold over our report of the debate, in order to give it more clearly than we could do did we rely solely on the greatly abbreviated stenographic reports available on the evening of the session.

THE H. AND S. BANK DIVIDEND.

SUBJECT to audit, the Directors of the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation propose to pay a Dividend of £1 5s. per share, place $500,000 to credit of Reserve Fund, to write $100,000 off Property account, and carry forward about $130,000 to next half-year.

NEW P. AND O. STEAMER.

MESSRS. CAIRD and Co. launched on the 13th December from their yard at Greenock a new passenger and cargo steamer for the Peninsular and Oriental Company named the *Nubia*. This vessel, besides having accommodation for 80 first and 60 second saloon passengers, will carry a large cargo. She is 430 ft. long and 48 ft. broad, and her registered tonnage 5,700. She is one of three sister ships which Messrs. Caird are building for the Company, the first of which, the *Nimla*, was to leave London for Calcutta on the 4th January.

PRESS CENSORSHIP AND THE PLAY.

The *Kokumin-no-tomo* has a sensible article by Mr. Fukuchi against the conduct of Press Censors in connection with plays. Whenever a theatrical performance is to be held, the manager is obliged to submit the play on paper for the inspection of the Press Censors, whether it be old or new, and they, after reading it through, decide whether its representation may be allowed or not. In Tokyo the censorship is undertaken by the Metropolitan Police. Many are the plays returned with objections to their being performed. Mr. Fukuchi is exceedingly desirous to know what standard is kept in view by the Censors when making their decision. He gives us his opinions on the subject at some length. The enforcement of a special standard, says he, necessarily offers serious obstacles to the active development of the drama, reducing it to a mere conventionality. Mr. Fukuchi feels this restraint particularly when he intends to write a comedy, being always prevented from giving full scope to his ideas. He considers that all that the Censors should aim at is the maintenance of public peace and morality. Another great drawback to dramatists is the injunction that no play relating to the Court may be represented on the stage. Mr. Fukuchi has himself experienced great inconvenience in this respect. A few years ago, in compliance with the request of a certain gentleman, he wrote a play about the murder of Iruka by Prince Nakanooye, afterwards Emperor Tenchi. It was intended that the piece should be acted at a charity performance to be given in aid of the Red Cross Society. When the manuscript was formally submitted to the Censors, however, it failed to obtain their sanction. A few weeks after, the author met one of the Censors and asked him why the representation of anything relating to the Court is forbidden. The reply was that the precedent of Germany was being followed. The author adduced the case of England where all such matters are left entirely free, but the officer adhered obstinately to his former assertion. Mr. Fukuchi thinks that such a point ought to be determined according to the nationality of a country. In many countries of Europe restaint on stage performances may be necessary, but it is not so in Japan. The representation of matters connected with the Court of olden times would serve only to awaken the loyalty of the people. Though due perhaps to the relative insignificance of the Court in the days when the military was everything in Japan, many plays were written at that time about the Emperor and Court by celebrated dramatists, as Chikamatsu Monzaemon, Takeda Izumo, or Ki Haion, such matters being left in those days without supervision. Far from impairing the dignity of the Court, those plays tended to deepen the sentiment of loyalty in the country. The Censors are very inconsistent in their decisions. Although most of the pieces just mentioned may not now be publicly recited or represented, not a few are performed on the stage with the consent of the inspectors. A point that strikes an outsider considerably is the great difference between the rigidity of control over the *No* performance and that exercised over ordinary plays. Quite a number of *No* pieces are directly connected with the Court, and yet they are not forbidden. Mr. Fukuchi is extremely solicitous for all such checks to be removed and for more freedom to be given to the writers of dramas. There are many subjects pertaining to the Emperor and the Court, which, dramatized by great authors, would not fail to stimulate the loyalty of the people.

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IMPERIAL DIET.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 25TH.

HOUSE OF PEERS.

The House met at 11.10 a.m., the Order of the Day being :—

1.—Application for Leave of Absence.
2.—Report of Prince Tokugawa Iyesato, Chairman of the Petitions Committee.
3.—Bill relating to Joint Stock Railway Companies; sent up from the Lower House.
4.—Bill for rescinding Law No. 7, of the 23rd year of *Meiji*; sent up from the Lower House.
5.—Bill for rescinding Notification No. 2 of the 18th year of *Meiji*; sent up from the Lower House.
6.—Bill for amending a part of Code of Civil Procedure; sent up from the Lower House.
7.—Petition relating to the Control of Pawnbrokers.
8.—Petition relating to the Shonai River.
9.—Petition relating to Agricultural Experimental Stations.
10.—Petition relating to Railways in Hokkaido.
11.—Petition relating to Okinawa Prefecture.

The President announced the death of H.I.H. Prince Arisugawa, and asked the House to approve a brief message of profound condolence which he read. The House agreed.

The President consulted the House as to the advisability of rising for the day, in token of the reverential sorrow felt by the members for the death of a Prince whose services to the State had been so conspicuously meritorious.

The House agreed.

The President further announced that the obsequies would take place on the 29th instant, and that as it would be the wish of the House to attend in a body, the sitting on that day also would be suspended.

The House rose at 11.15 a.m.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The House met at 1.15 p.m., the Order of the Day being :—

1.—Bill for taxing the Bank of Japan.
2.—Bill for amending the Bank of Japan Regulations.
3.—Bill relating to the Election of Members of Prefectural Assemblies and of the Diet.
4.—Bill for amending the Brewery Tax Regulations.
5.—Bill for amending the Postal Regulations.

The first Bill, having been discussed on the preceding day, was entrusted to a Special Committee nominated by the President.

Mr. Taketomi Tokitoshi moved that the Order of the Day be changed for the purpose of introducing a Supplementary Estimate presented by the Government. The House agreed.

Mr. Taketomi said that the estimate referred to a most lamentable circumstance, the decease of His Imperial Highness Prince Arisugawa. It was scarcely necessary to refer to the eminently meritorious services rendered by the late Prince. In the days preceding the Restoration, when the great mass of the people were completely subservient to the Tokugawa rule, he appreciated the national necessity of restoring the Imperial Administration, and employing the high talents with which he was endowed, succeeded in achieving that great purpose. Then, as Commander-in-chief of the Imperial forces, he had reduced Kwanto to complete order and subjection, and subsequently applying himself to State reform, had contributed materially to the progress of which the country now enjoyed the fruits. He had in truth been distinguished not less by civil than by military capacity. Various posts had been filled by him with distinction. He had served as Governor of Fukuoka Prefecture; then as a Senator; then as President of the Senate, displaying in every case admirable talent and judgment. In 1877, as Commander-in-Chief of the country's troops, he had quelled the Satsuma rebellion, and afterwards, being appointed to the important post of Chief of the Staff, his counsels and experience had been of the greatest value in the prosecution of the war now being waged. The successive and uninterrupted victories achieved by the Japanese arms were, of course, due in the first place to the Sovereign's virtues, but the eminent services of the deceased Prince must have contributed not a little to the result. It was a subject of the deepest grief and pain to the 40 millions of Japanese people that death had removed His Imperial Highness at the moment when the armies of his country, having penetrated far into the enemy's territory, were on the point of marching against Pekin itself. That a State funeral should be given to His Imperial Highness would undoubtedly be the wish of the whole nation, and the House would assuredly vote the necessary expenses without a dissentient voice.

The appropriation sought, amounting to 20,000 *yen*, was granted at once.

Mr. Ishida Kanosuke introduced the Second Bill, providing that, after paying a dividend to the shareholders, from $\frac{1}{10}$th to $\frac{3}{10}$th of the remaining profits should be devoted to increasing the Reserve Fund and equalizing dividends. This differed from the method now in practice, in that it contemplated a superior instead of an inferior limit in making appropriations for the Reserve Fund.

Mr. Tajiri, Government Delegate, opposed the Bill. It was a corollary to the preceding Bill for taxing the Bank of Japan, which measure the Government considered premature.

In answer to questions, Mr. Tajiri explained that the sum allotted to the Bank of Japan for handling the public funds had been 550,000 *yen* in the 23rd fiscal year, and would be 450,000 in the present year. Such payments would continue until the 30th year, when it was in contemplation to abolish them.

The Bill was entrusted to the previous Committee.

Mr. Kokure Budayu introduced the next Bill. Under the present system, the voting for members of Prefectural assemblies took place at District Offices, with the result that a large number of voters were brought together at one place, disturbances and inconvenience often resulting. The Bill proposed to extend to the election of members of Local Assemblies the system obtaining in the case of members of the Diet, namely, the use of Divisional offices for voting purposes.

Mr. Kusakari opposed the Bill in view of the fact that a measure dealing radically with the question of elections was already in the hands of a Special Committee, and until its fate had been decided, the House need not consider such a minor detail as that touched upon by this Bill.

The House refused to entrust the Bill to a Special Committee, and, after a brief discussion, threw out the Bill.

Mr. Kajima Kahei introduced the next Bill. Its object was to consult the convenience of brewers by altering the periods of paying the Brewery Tax.

Mr. Megata, Government Delegate, saw no reason for altering the present system.

The Bill was entrusted to a Special Committee.

Mr. Hirose Sadamaru introduced the next Bill. Its object was to reduce the postage upon agricultural seeds send by post, from two *sen* per 30 *momme*, the present rate, to one *sen*.

Mr. Suzuki, Government Delegate, while approving the principle of the Bill, drew attention to the fact that its details required careful drafting on account of its bearing upon other matters.

The Bill was entrusted to a Special Committee.

The House rose at 2.25 p.m.

SATURDAY, 26TH JANUARY.

HOUSE OF PEERS.

The House met at 10.45 a.m. the Order of the Day being :—

1.—Application for Leave of Absence.
2.—Report of Prince Tokugawa Iyesato, Chairman of the Petitions Committee.
3.—Resolution relating to time for examining and reporting upon the Budget.
4.—Bill relating to Joint Stock Railway Companies; sent up from the Lower House.
5.—Bill for rescinding Law No. 7, of the 23rd year of *Meiji*; sent up from the Lower House.
6.—Bill for rescinding Notification No. 2, of the 18th year of *Meiji*; sent up from the Lower House.
7.—Bill for amending a part of the Code of the Civil Procedure; sent up from the Lower House.
8.—Petition relating to the Control of Pawnbrokers.
9.—Petition relating to the Shonai River.
10.—Petition relating to Agricultural Experimental Stations.
11.—Petition relating to Railways in Hokkaido.
12.—Petition relating to Okinawa Prefecture.

The President announced that, as the House's Representative, he had proceeded to the Palace of Prince Arisugawa on the preceding day, and presented the House's condolence. He had been received by H.I.H. Prince Arisugawa Taruhito, who begged him to express his sincere appreciation of the House's action, and to convey his thanks to the members.

The House then proceeded to consider, as an urgency measure, the supplementary Budget providing funds for the late Prince Arisugawa's public funeral.

Viscount Soga paid an eloquent tribute to the virtues and ability of the deceased Prince, and called upon the House to vote the necessary appropriation without question.

The House voted the Budget unanimously.

On the motion of Viscount Soga, the House agreed that the Budget Committee be instructed to present its Report within 15 days.

Prince Tokugawa, on behalf of the Petitions Committee, reported that the Committee had examined 132 petitions, and had selected 26 for submission to the House, rejecting the rest.

With regard to the first Bill on the Order, the Government Delegate explained that the Government had no objection to the proposal that Joint Stock Railway Companies be allowed to commence operations so soon as one-tenth of the face-value of their shares was paid up, instead of one-fourth, as fixed by the existing law, the Bill was handed to a Special Committee nominated by the President.

The Government Delegate, in answer to questions, said that the Government neither offered any special objection nor expressed definite approval of the next Bill, namely, that for rescinding the law that required a deposit of 20 *yen* from persons desiring to appeal in case of major crime. So far as concerned the principle of bringing the privilege of appeal within reach of all, the Government agreed, though, in point of fact, the law now in force placed no real obstacle in the path of impecunious defendants, since the Courts had power to dispense with any payment should the circumstances seem to demand such a concession. But the House must note that the tendency of the Bill would be to increase litigation, and to increase, also, the number of persons held in prison pending the final settlement of their cases. That, however, was not a consideration that ought to have much importance as compared with the rights of the subject.

In answer to a question from Mr. Mitsukuri, the Delegate said that the last returns showed the number of persons held for major crimes to be 3,129 annually, and those held for minor crimes, 78,107. Assuming that ½ of the former and ¼ of the latter appealed, in consequence of the proposed change, and that they had to be detained 45 days longer at a cost of 20 *sen* daily, the difference in expenditure would be over half a million *yen* annually. Probably, however, that was an over-estimate. The extra cost might not be more than 180,000 or 190,000 *yen*.

The Bill was entrusted to a Special Committee nominated by the President, to which was handed the next Bill also, without question or debate.

In answer to Mr. Mitsukuri, the Government Delegate said that the Government did not oppose the next Bill, and it was handed to the preceding Committee.

The five Petitions standing next on the Order were adopted for presentation to the Government, without debate.

The House rose at 12.20 p.m.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The House met at 1.15 p.m., the Order of the Day being :—

1.—Measure relating to the Reserves for the 26th year of *Meiji*.
2.—Bill relating to the Office Expenditures of the Department of Home Affairs and the outlay connected with the repairs of the Chikugo River.
3.—Second Reading of the Game Law Bill.
4.—Bill relating to ineffective Ballots; Second Reading.
5.—Bill for amending the Regulations relating to Dealers in Second Hand Articles.
6.—Second Reading of the Bill for amending Law No. 102 of the 23rd year of *Meiji*.
7.—Bill relating to relief of Soldiers' Families.

Mr. Saito Ryosuke presented a Question with reference to State Forests.

Mr. Yoshimoto Yeiji asked whether the first Measure on the Order had not been presented to the House and rejected last session. The President replied in the negative, explaining that the Measure had been re-entrusted to the Committee, and before the latter could prepare its second report, the House had been dissolved.

The Measure was handed to a Special Committee nominated by the President, as was also the next Bill on the Order.

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Mr. Komatsu Sansei, on behalf of the Special Committee, reported in favour of the Game Law Bill, with some slight amendments.

The House voted for the Second Reading, but refused to proceed with it at once.

The next Bill was withdrawn by its introducer.

Mr. Tsunoda Shimpei, on behalf of the Special Committee, reported in favour of the Bill for amending the Dealers in Second Hand Articles Regulations, with a few amendments.

The House voted for the Second Reading, and decided to proceed with it at once.

The various articles were voted, for the most part, as amended by the Committee, and the Third Reading was passed at once.

Mr. Shigeoka Kungoro, on behalf of the Special Committee, reported in favour of the next Bill, and carried it through all its Readings as amended by the Committee.

The last Bill was entrusted to a Special Committee, and

The House rose at 4.25 p.m.

MONDAY, JANUARY 28TH.

HOUSE OF PEERS.

The House met at 10.45 a.m., the Order of the Day being :—

1.—Report of the Petitions Committee.
2.—Bill for amending Law No. 84.
3.—Bill for abolishing the Special System of City Government in the Three Cities.
4.—Supplementary City Government Bill.
5.—Bill containing a Project of Press Law.
6.—Bill relating to Inspection of Silk-worm's Eggs.
7.—Petitions.

Prince Tokugawa, on behalf of the Petitions Committee, reported that the Committee recommended the adoption of four petitions for presentation to the Government, namely a petition relating to restoration of ranks and incomes ; a petition relating to a charity hospital ; a petition relating to the tobacco tax in Okinawa Prefecture, and a petition relating to lighthouses.

Viscount Soga, on behalf of the Special Committee, reported that the Committee unanimously recommended the rejection of the first Bill, namely, that for reducing the penalty imposable for violations of administrative regulations. The Lower House had passed this Bill on the ground that such penalties were unconstitutional. But if a fine of 200 *yen* was unconstitutional, so also was a fine of 50 *yen*. The Lower House's amendments, while based on the constitutional question, did not touch that question at all. Further, the Committee had been assured by the Government Delegate that the proposed reduction of penalties would impair the efficient enforcement of administrative regulations.

Viscount Tani was astonished at the Committee's report. There were limits to the degrees of punishment that might properly be connected with the enforcement of administrative measures, and he failed to discover any precedent in any country for penalties so severe as those enacted by the Law to which the Bill took exception.

The House voted against carrying the Bill to a Second Reading.

Viscount Tani, on behalf of the Special Committee, reported in favour of the proposed Press Law, with various minor amendments. As to the Article depriving the Minister of State for Home Affairs of power to suspend or prohibit a journal should its writings appear calculated to injure public peace or good morals, the majority of the Committee were in favour of preserving the article, with the added provision that the reason of the suspension must be declared.

After some questions, Viscount Tani, on behalf of the minority of the Special Committee, reported in favour of the Bill as sent up from the Lower House, in so far as regarded abolishing the power of the Executive to suspend or prohibit a journal. He spoke at great length, contending that the time was long past for such legislation, and that the opinion of the nation was opposed to it. The supporters of the Law as it stood contended that suspension was rather a preventive than a punitive measure, but such a contention carried its own refutation, for how could it be called civilized or constitutional to give an official power to stop a man's legitimate business because in his (the official's) judgment the method of conducting it might prove improper, or to punish for an offence not yet committed? It was impossible to justify the measure on any ground, and the fact that it led to all kinds of injustices and abuses was universally acknowledged.

Viscount Okabe supported the report of the majority of the Committee. The House ought to abide by the press law that it had passed in the 4th session. He contended that, in the present stage of Japanese journalistic development, the power of suspension was essential to the proper control of newspapers.

Mr. Kato Hiroyuki argued that neither the Lower House's Bill nor the present Law was proper : both were extreme measures. A middle course must be adopted, and it would doubtless be found in a consultation of Managers appointed by the two Houses.

Mr. Hirata Tosuke denied that the principles of constitutionalism were violated by investing an executive official with the power of suspension. It was equally true that the exercise of every right must be limited by the principle of non-interference with the rights of others. Newspapers could not be suffered to write anything they pleased without consideration for the interests of public peace. That was an extravagant notion. The power of the press was immense, and its employment must be surrounded by proper safeguards in the interests of society. As for the contention that the use of suspension as a preventive measure was, in effect, coercion with reference to an offence supposed to be in contemplation by the person coerced, it was a mere playing with terms. Human judgment was not infallible, but human judgment could generally tell with tolerable accuracy how far any particular kind of inflammatory writing tended to become mischievous. He maintained that the power of suspension should be preserved, but that it ought to be exercised under two provisions ; first, that the reason of the suspension must be clearly announced, and secondly, that the period must be fixed.

Viscount Soga supported the Minority of the Committee, his principal arguments being that the Japanese people were essentially loyal and law-abiding, and that they should be suffered to freely express opinions always dictated by patriotism and public spirit.

Mr. Matsuoka Koki supported the existing Law.

The closure was put and carried, and the House voted for the Second Reading of the Bill, and proceeded with it at once.

With reference to the Suspension Article, a closed ballot was taken, when 102 voted with the Majority of the Committee and 87 against, the power of suspension being thus retained, as amended by the Committee. The other articles were passed as recommended by the Committee, and the Bill was carried through its Third Reading at once.

Count Kiyosu, on behalf of the Special Committee, reported, with reference to the next Bill, that the Government having indicated, last session, its intention of introducing a Bill to improve the system of City Government, the Committee had inquired why the Bill was not forthcoming, and had been informed that owing to the Treaty Revision negotiations now in progress, it was considered better to defer the question for the moment. The Committee did not approve of the present special system for the Three Cities, but could not recommend its abolition until there was something to replace it. Hence it advised the rejection of the Bill.

The House voted against the Second Reading of the Bill, and also against that of the next Bill being correlated.

The House rose at 4.40 p.m.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The House met at 1.15 p.m. the Order of the Day being :—

1.—Bill relating to the Disposal of the National Banks on the Termination of their Charters.
2.—Bill relating to the Note Issues of the National Banks.
3.—Bill for Supplementing Law No. 25 of the 23rd year of *Meiji*.
4.—Bill for amending the National Bank Regulations.

The President announced that in view of the importance of the National Bank problem he had eliminated all other business from the Order of the Day. The Chairman of the Special Committee would report the view taken by the majority of the Committee, after which a minority report would be submitted, and the Government Delegate had announced his intention of subsequently addressing the House. A great many members also had sent in their names as desiring to speak, and it was to be hoped that wide limits of discussion would be allowed before the closure was moved.

Mr. Kawashima Jun, on behalf of the Special Committee, reported that the Committee had examined the three Government correlated Bills and the Bill sent in by members of the House. The labours of the Committee had been delayed by the fact that the Budget Committee was in session at the same time, and neither the attendance of the Government Delegates nor the services of the stenographers could be secured. Finally, however, after an exhaustive discussion, the Committee, by a narrow majority of 9 votes to 8, had decided to recommend the adoption of the Government Bills providing for the continuance of the Banks as private institutions, and the rejection of the Bill presented by certain members providing for the continuance of the Banks on their present footing.

BILL RELATING TO THE DISPOSAL OF NATIONAL BANKS WHOSE CHARTERS HAVE EXPIRED.

Art. I.—A National Bank which, after the expiration of its charter, intends to continue business in the capacity of a private bank, in accordance with Art. XII. of the National Banks Regulations, must prepare a resolution as to the continuation of its business and the amendment of its bye laws, six months in advance, counted from the day on which the charter is to expire, and must apply to the Minister of State for Finance for permission to continue its business, submitting at the same time a copy of its amended bye-laws.

Art. II.—A National Bank of the kind mentioned above that intends to continue business on a reduced capital, must apply, in accordance with the process mentioned in the preceding article, for permission to continue its business, after having complied with the procedure specified in Arts. XLII., XLIII., and XLIV. of the National Banks Regulations. Provided that the restrictions mentioned in Art. XVII. of the same Regulations need not be adhered to.

Art. III.—Resolutions in connexion with the continuation of business and the amendment of bye-laws should be of the form specified in Art. LXIX. of the National Banks Regulations.

Art. IV.—As to the process of winding up the business of a National Bank that does not intend to continue its business on the expiration of its term, the provisions of the Commercial Code relating to the dissolution of a joint stock company and to the settlement of its accounts must be adhered to.

BILL RELATING TO THE NOTE ISSUES OF THE NATIONAL BANK NOTES AND THE PERIOD OF THEIR REDEMPTION.

Art. I.—The period of circulation of National Bank Notes shall end on the 9th of December of the 32nd year of *Meiji* (1899).

Art. II.—Any person possessing a National Bank Note must apply to the Government for its exchange within the period of full five years, computed from the next day after that mentioned in the preceding Article.

Art. III.—The present Law shall not be applicable to notes issued by a National Bank that has been closed by harmonious arrangement, or that is under special control by the Government.

Mr. Motoda Hajime, on behalf of the minority of the Special Committee, reported in favour of the Bill presented by certain members, providing that, at the expiration of the terms of their charters, any Banks desiring to continue on their present basis should be allowed to do so for seven years, and any Banks desiring to reorganise as private institutions, should be free to do so. He spoke at great length, the gist of his argument being that, in the first place, to give the Banks the option of taking whichever course suited their business convenience was only proper and fair ; in the second, the Government was virtually pledged by its own laws not to dictate any hard and fast terms on the expiration of the charters ; in the third, to compel the Banks either to close their doors or become private institutions was contrary to the economical ex-

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pediency of the time; and in the fourth, the occasion was ill chosen for a measure of the nature introduced by the Government. It must be obvious to everyone that the vested interests of the Banks' shareholders were entitled to consideration, and that to dictate to them a course leaving no option was unjustifiable and contrary to the theory of tradal liberty. As to the laws, the Regulations of the 6th of *Meiji*, under which the Banks were established, did not contain any provision relating to their fate on the expiration of the twenty years' charter, and the absence of such provision was in itself a constructive indication that there was then no idea of not renewing the charters. Farther, in the amended Regulations of the 9th year of *Meiji*, it was distinctly provided that the charters might be renewed at the end of twenty years, and although, in the 16th year of *Meiji*, another amendment was made, virtually interdicting the renewal of the charters, there existed no manner of doubt as to the reason of the amendment. It was dictated by the disordered state of the fiat currency. The Government believed that its measures for redemption would be completed by the end of the twenty years, and that the note-issuing power of the Banks might then terminate. But the redemption of the Banks' notes was not yet complete, and consequently the spirit of the amendment not being satisfied, its provisions should become inoperative. The economical aspect of the question would be better explained by Mr. Nakano Buyei than he, the speaker, could hope to explain it, but as to the third point, namely, the suitability of the time, he need only remind them of the great struggle in which the country was now engaged, and of the consequent fact that all possible financial facilities might be needed. He did not mean to suggest that the floating of a war loan of 150 million *yen* was in any sense embarrassing. The country could carry twice or even three times that amount of indebtedness with ease, and was fully prepared to carry it if the national prestige demanded such an effort. But they were none the less bound not to deprive themselves of any mechanism that might be serviceable at this crisis, and the minority consequently recommended that a Bill be passed authorizing the Banks to determine their own future for themselves.

Mr. Tajiri, Vice-Minister of Finance, said that the Government's objects in introducing its Bills were to unify the note issues of the country and to dispose of the Banks problem. For many years the distinctly declared policy of the Treasury had been to introduce uniformity in the paper currency of the empire. With that purpose, the Regulations of the 16th year of *Meiji* had been enacted, and convertible notes had been issued in the following year. It was unnecessary to dwell upon the fact that political economists everywhere were agreed as to the necessity of such uniformity. The Government could not consent now suddenly to abandon a policy pursued steadily for so many years and admittedly beneficial from an economical point of view. To allow the Banks, or such of them as pleased, to renew their charters at the expiration of the twenty years period, would be to abandon that policy, since all arrangements had been fully completed for achieving uniformity in the paper currency by that time, one of the essential conditions of achievement being that the Banks' charters should not be renewed. The National Banks of Japan had been established on the basis of the corresponding institutions in the United States of America, and the system having proved unsuited to Japan, a Central Bank—the Bank of Japan—had been created, with the design of gradually abolishing the numerous special privileges enjoyed by the National Banks. It had long been fully understood by the National Banks that their future was to be controlled by that theory, and they had, each on its account, entered into various arrangements with the Bank of Japan, looking to their re-organization at the expiration of their charters. Those arrangements would all be dislocated were the Bill proposed by the minority to become law. It had been contended that the plan contemplated by the Government involved a sudden change, and that all sudden changes should be carefully avoided in dealing with large financial problems. But from what he had said, the House would readily perceive that the really sudden change would be the abandonment, at this eleventh hour, of a policy openly pursued by the Government for many years and accepted by the Banks as a basis for the reorganization of their affairs.

The President said that 15 members had given notice of their intention to speak against the Government Bill, and 28 members of their intention to speak in favour. He should summon the opponents and supporters to the rostrum in turn.

Mr. Shigeno Kenjiro spoke at some length in favour of the Bill for prolonging the charters, but adduced no argument of importance. He contended that the unification of the paper currency had already been accomplished, and that it was only just to allow time for the Banks' securities to recover their normal value.

Mr. Suzuki Jubi supported the Government Bill. The last speaker's contention that the uniformity of the paper currency had already been achieved was an obvious misapprehension. A programme tending to that end had been put into practice, but was not yet fully carried out, and would be seriously dislocated by extending the Banks' charters. With respect to the plea for time in order that the Banks' securities might recover their normal value, it involved the introduction of an interminable element. What was the normal value, and at what era could they predict its restoration? The House must consider the interests of the country at large not those of special companies or individuals. He then dwelt at length on the obvious inconvenience of granting complete liberty of action to an immense number of Banks, and thus abandoning suddenly and signally the policy of unification wisely pursued by the Government for so many years.

Mr. Nakano Buyei spoke at length in opposition to the Government Bills, his arguments chiefly turning upon the disturbance caused in the market value of public securities by the recent issue of War Loan Bonds, and the consequent inexpediency of augmenting the disturbance by any change of the Banking system now in force.

Mr. Taguchi Ukichi traversed Mr. Nakano's arguments, and showed that the financial operations undertaken and successfully carried through in the past were of far greater magnitude than those involved in the project embodied in the Governments' Bills. He adduced figures in support of his contention, and showed a remarkable grasp of the details of the question.

The closure was put and carried.

A closed ballot was taken, when 117 voted for and 131 against the Government Bills—*i.e.* the First and Second on the Order.

The House voted, without debate, for the Second Reading of the Third Bill on the Order.

BILL FOR SUPPLEMENTING LAW NO. XXV. ISSUED IN THE 25TH YEAR OF MEIJI (1891).

The following Article shall be supplemented after Art. IV. of the Law of Special Account, concerning Funds for the Redemption of Notes of National Banks that have been closed:—Art. V. The present Law shall be applicable to the final Accounts of Redemption Funds of a National Bank that has been closed under ordinary circumstances, or the term of whose charter has expired.

After a brief debate on the last Bill, a closed ballot was taken, when 132 voted for, and 104 against, the Second Reading.

The Second Reading was proceeded with at once, and the Bill was passed through all its Readings in the following form:—

BILL FOR AMENDING THE NATIONAL BANK REGULATIONS.

The 12th Article to read:—A Bank established under these Regulations, shall be entitled to continue its business for a period of twenty years, except in the event of closure or some other circumstance.

A Bank desiring to continue its business at the end of the period mentioned in the preceding clause, shall be entitled to have its charter renewed for a term of 7 years.

Provided that such Bank shall be entitled to change to a private institution, even within the period mentioned in the preceding clause.

The House rose at 5.50 p.m.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 31ST.

HOUSE OF PEERS.

The House met at 10.45 a.m., the Order of the Day being:—

1.—Bill (Government) relating to the Capture of Sea Otters and Seals.
2.—Bill for amending the Regulations relating to Dealers in Second Hand Goods; sent up from the Lower House.
3.—Bill for amending the Code of Criminal Procedure; sent up from the Lower House.
4.—Bill for amending Law No. 70, of the 23rd year of *Meiji*, relating to the Banking Regulations; sent up from the Lower House.
5.—Bill relating to the Inspection of Silk-worm Eggs.
6.—Petitions.

Viscount Enomoto, Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce, briefly explained that the object of the first Bill was to extend the operation of the Regulations already existing for the control of Sea-otter and Seal fishing, and to supplement them for the better protection of those valuable animals. The areas to which the operation of the present Regulations was limited did not include the real fishing and breeding grounds for either sea otters or seals, neither were their provisions sufficiently explicit.

Mr. Fujita, Government Delegate, in answer to questions, said that the number of sea otters taken had been 51 in 1889, 47 in 1890, 3 in 1892, and 27 in 1893; and the number of seals, 380 in 1890, and 600 last year. In recent years a monopoly of the fishing had been enjoyed by the Imperial Marine Products Company, but the privilege was now more extended. As to the so-called poaching by foreign ships it was to be noted that such vessels did not trespass in Japanese territorial waters but fished outside their limits. Twenty-four of such ships had visited the seas in the neighbourhood of the Kuriles between February and June of 1892.

The Bill was entrusted to a Special Committee nominated by the President, as was also the next Bill, without debate.

The Third Bill on the Order, namely, that relating to payments made to witnesses in criminal cases, was also entrusted to a Special Committee, the Government Delegate having explained that the Government approved the proposed changes, and that, if necessary, corresponding changes could be made in the Code of Civil Procedure.

Count Mataura, on behalf of the Special Committee, reported in favour of the Bill for amending the Banking Regulations as sent up from the Lower House (*i.e.* providing for a change of banking hours and modification of other provisions), with the exception of the 5th Article, which the Committee had expunged, considering that its provisions were calculated to impede commercial development.

The House dispensed with the Third Reading of the Bill and passed it at once.

Mr. Fujimura Shiro, introducing the Bill for the Inspection of Silk Worm's Eggs, explained the great rapidity with which silk-worms multiplied, and the consequent necessity of providing against diseased eggs being allowed to propagate poison. He dwelt also on the immense importance of the silk trade to Japan, and condemned the existing regulations as inefficient and defective. A sum of about 150,000 *yen* would be required. At present it might be difficult to appropriate the necessary funds, and as he did not contemplate charging any inspection fees, he feared that the contemplated change could not be introduced at once.

Mr. Fujita, Government Delegate, said that the Government was not satisfied with the existing Regulations, but did not altogether agree with the proposed method of amending them.

Count Sakai have propounded some questions, the Bill was entrusted to a Special Committee nominated by the President.

The President said that as many of the members were engaged upon committee work, the session had better be concluded at this point.

The House rose at 12.35 p.m.

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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The House met at 1.10 p.m., the Order of the Day being :—

1.—Bill relating to a project of Game Laws; Second Reading.
2.—Second Reading of the Bill for the Control of Pawnbrokers.
3.—Bill for amending the Medical Diplom Regulations.
4.—Bill for granting State aid to Agricultural Experiment Stations.
5.—Bill relating to Open Ports.
6.—Petitions.
7.—Representation relating to Repairs to the Kiso River.
8.—Representation relating to the Control of Government Forests.
9.—Representation relating to a Grant in Aid of the Kobe Waterworks.

Mr. Miyama Takatsura presented a Question with reference to the Government's method of dealing with the Kiso River.

Mr. Otake Kwanichi presented a Question with reference to sanitary measures at Hiroshima. The death of His Imperial Highness Prince Arisugawa from typhoid fever, and the death of a Red Cross Hospital nurse from the same disease, showed that the hygienic conditions of the place were faulty, and in consideration of the great number of important officials, civil and military, now residing there, as well as of the large bodies of troops quartered at or passing through the place, it was obviously of prime importance that every possible precaution should be adopted to ensure a healthy environment. What steps had the Government taken with that object?

The Game Law was then taken. Some amendments were proposed by members but voted against by the House.

The Government Delegate, in answer to Mr. Inouye Kakugoro, said that when foreigners came to be subject to the income tax, the fees levied from them for shooting licenses would be the same as those levied from Japanese.

The Bill was passed as amended by the Committee, the Third Reading being dispensed with.

The Bill for the Control of Pawnbrokers was passed through its Second and Third Readings, with trifling amendments.

Mr. Yamada Taizo, on behalf of the Special Committee, reported against the Bill for amending the Medical Diploma Regulations.

Mr. Otsu Junichiro, on behalf of the minority of the Committee, reported in favour of the Bill, on the ground that the Chinese system of medicine had been in practice for over 3,000 years and had now more than 27,000 practitioners in Japan. To refuse recognition to such a system was illiberal and unjust.

Mr. Awaya Shinazo spoke at some length in support of the Bill, reminding the members opposing it that they had all benefited by the Chinese system of medicine before the introduction of the Occidental.

After a brief debate, the House voted for the Second Reading of the Bill, and decided to proceed with it at once.

The Second Reading led to a warm discussion. Amendments in the sense of expunging article after article were proposed. The first of these amendments resulted in a vote of 94 against and 93 for. The House gradually seemed to treat the whole affair as a joke, but the Second Reading was ultimately passed.

Mr. Awaya Shinazo proposed that the Third Reading be taken at once, but, on a proposition by Mr. Hoshi Toru,

The House rose at 5.30 p.m.

WAR NEWS.

MONDAY, JANUARY 28TH.

Katsura's position in Haicheng is well understood by the Chinese. They are making every possible effort to dislodge him, but the character of their attempts does not suggest the least probability of success. Sung's fight at Kangwasai was the most creditable among these enterprises, yet it can scarcely be described as a resolute essay to drive the Japanese from Haicheng, since Sung halted his forces at a distance of 12 miles from that place and there received the onset of the Japanese. It is more than probable, however, that if Katsura had not moved out of Haicheng to attack Sung, the latter would have pushed on to attack Katsura. But that is mere conjecture. The fact is that Sung's punishment at Kangwasai on the 18th of December was sufficiently severe to deter any renewal of his attempt against Haicheng. Since that time he has remained in the neighbourhood of Yinkow (modern Newchwang), showing no sign of moving northward. We may note here that the operations against Haicheng on December 12th and 13th have evidently been confounded with the battle of Kangwasai five days later. The Newchang correspondent of the *North China Daily News* writes that the sound of heavy guns was heard on the 12th December to the north-east, and that, on the following day, news was obtained of Sung's having retreated to Newchwang (proper). To a certain extent that intelligence was correct. Sung, or a portion of Sung's forces, had indeed retreated to Newchwang proper, but Haicheng, not Kangwasai, had been the point of departure.

Katsura, when he found himself in possession of Haicheng, had doubtless a thorough perception of the value of the situation. Long before he set out on his westward march from Suiyen, on December 9th, we explained that the keys of southern Shinking were Haicheng and Kaiping, since the former commands all the inland roads, the latter the coastwise routes, from China proper to the Yalu as well as to the Liaotung peninsula. Moreover, troops holding Haicheng and Kaiping can, at any moment, converge upon Yingkow, becoming masters of the mouth of the Liaoyang river, which is the great waterway of Shinking and the chief source of supplies for Mukden. Marshal Yamagata saw all these things, we must presume, when he planned the westward elongation of his line of operations that involved his Left Wing's movement, *viâ* Takushan and Suiyen, to Haicheng. But, it is scarcely possible to doubt that when Yamagata conceived that project, he had an overland march against Shanhaikwan, and thence to Pekin, in his mind; a march involving the cöoperation of the Second Army from the Liaotung peninsula. For the purposes of such a programme the advance against Haicheng was an essential preliminary, to say nothing of its palpable influence on the fate of the campaign in northern Shinking. But the cöoperation of the Second Army being an indispensable element of the strategical conception, the interval that separated the taking of Haicheng and the northward movement of Major-General Nogi's Brigade from Chinchow against Kaiping, was unquestionably a time of peril for Katsura. Sung's troops in Tomucheng and Haicheng were probably unprepared for Katsura's sudden and rapid advance from Suiyen. Hence their exceptionally spiritless effort to hold their ground. But from the moment that Katsura planted himself in Haicheng, it was in Sung's power to hurl against him, from the north and south simultaneously, two armies aggregating fifty or sixty thousand men, and if that had been done without allowing Katsura leisure to intrench himself, a heavy disaster might have been inflicted upon the Japanese arms. For it must be noted that Katsura's numerical ability to fight was comparatively small. His whole command consisted of a Division, aggregating, at the most, 20,000 of all arms. From that force considerable detachments were needed to guard his line of communications from Tatung, Takushan, and Suiyen. Further, when he set out from Suiyen, he had to protect himself against the palpable danger of a flank attack from the Chinese on his left front (in Kaiping). Our readers may remember that his order of march from Suiyen was in three columns, the routes of the central and the northern columns converging at Tomucheng, the first point of attack, whereas the route of the southern column led it away in the direction of Kaiping, thus virtually eliminating it from the field of immediate operations. This last column, in truth, was intended solely to guarantee the Japanese line of communications with Suiyen against a cutting stroke from Kaiping. It was commanded by Colonel Sato, and it consisted of one Battalion of infantry and a troop of cavalry. We may note, here, that Sato pushed to within a few miles of Kaiping on the east, and that his proximity to that town gave rise to a rumour that he had actually occupied it in the middle of December. But the story was a mere journalistic canard, never so much as hinted at in official despatches. All these deductions being made from Katsura's Division, we may conclude that his fighting strength when he occupied Haicheng did not exceed nine thousand men, and probably fell short of that total. Under the circumstances, the most he was entitled to anticipate was the successful holding of his position, and with that object he set about fortifying it as strongly as possible. Hills on the east, north, and west offered excellent sites for batteries, but on the south the only obstacle was a river of no great size. It was from the south that Sung marched up almost immediately Katsura's scouts had already reported signs of a southward movement on the part of the Laoyang Army, and it must have been evident to Katsura that to wait inactive in Haicheng would be to expose himself to a combined assault by overwhelming numbers from the north and south simultaneously. In fact, Sung's procedure —stopping short of Haicheng and intrenching himself—strongly suggested the design of waiting until he could act in concert with the Laoyang Army. It is easy to understand, therefore, why Katsura, lost no time in moving out to dislodge Sung: he could not lie quiet while his enemies concerted their plans. The battle of Kangwasai resulted; a sharp fight, with, however, most valuable results, since it not only beat back the Chinese forces on the south, but also compelled the Laoyang Army to rely on its own strength alone, and thus probably deterred its attack upon Haicheng for an interval which Katsura turned to vigorous account in fortifying his ground.

It would seem that up to this time there had been no definite intention of immediate cöoperation on the part of the Second Army. The Kumamoto Brigade was in garrison at Port Arthur and the First Division was quietly resting with its head-quarters at Chinchow, and its outposts at Pitszwo and Pulantien (Port Adams). But although the strategical defects of Katsura's march upon Haicheng were probably fair risks in the face of such foes as the Chinese, it was evident that the situation created for the latter by his presence at Haicheng could not be tolerated, and that he must inevitably be prepared to encounter resolute assaults, unless, indeed, the enemy contemplated abandoining Shinking altogether. Hence a movement by the Second Army to protect his left flank became necessary, and on December 30th Marshal Oyama issued orders to the Brigade to move north with all celerity and attack Kaiping. The general outline of these operations has already been traced in our columns, but we refer to the story again in order to fill in the details. The Brigade designated for the movement against Kaiping was composed of 12 Battalions of Infantry, 2 Battalions of Artillery, a company of Engineers, and sanitary and field-hospital corps. Its combatant strength represented about 8,000 of all arms. With the prospect of a rapid march through snow and frost, the thermometer ranging below zero, many special arrangements had to be made, but these must have been already completed, for within 48 hours of receiving the order the Brigade was in motion. For every soldier a fur-lined over-coat had been provided, but as these could not be carried by the men themselves or with them on the march, they were sent forward to each halting place. At Pulantien (25 miles from Chinchow), whither a portion of the troops had marched across from Pitszwo, a general muster took place, and Major-General Nogi, having divided his force into two columns, marched out on January 3rd. To cover the road as quickly as possible was evidently desirable for climatic reasons. It was accordingly arranged that 82 miles should be traversed in 7 days, an exceptionally rapid rate of progress. The columns advanced by two roads converging at a point 18 miles south of Kaiping, the right wing commanded by Colonel Oki, the main body by Nogi himself. On the 9th instant the two columns came together, and bivouacked for the night at

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a place 8 miles from Kaiping. The commissariat arrangements seem to have worked without hitch. Originally the number of stations contemplated was 14, their average distance apart being about 8 miles. But it being afterwards judged expedient to increase this organization, 256 Chinese ox-carts were hired, representing some 800 hand-carts. A brief interval of rest to recruit the strength of the troops after 9 days hard marching under climatic conditions of the most rigorous nature would doubtless have been very desirable on the eve of the attack. But when troops have to bivouac in snow, a commander's object is to reach his objective as quickly as possible. Accordingly, at 5.30 a.m. on the 11th of January, the columns were again in motion, and a march of 8 miles brought them to the Kaiping river, on the opposite bank of which the Chinese had taken up a position. The battle has been already sufficiently described.

Katsura's position was now secured, the pressure on his left flank being relieved. The Chinese had lost their opportunity. But it was impossible for them tamely to accept a situation involving such contingencies as those described above. On the 17th of January, as our readers know, they moved down from Laoyang, 14,000 strong, and attempted to recover Haicheng. As to that operation, probably unprecedented in the annals of warfare, so paltry was the tale of casualties, a word of explanation may be given. The rule laid down by the Japanese commanders and carefully observed by the troops, is that rifle fire must never be employed at a greater range than 600 metres. From 600 to 200 metres the soldiers use their rifles. Within the latter distance they resort to the bayonet. We have seen that when Sung marched up to attack or menace Haicheng on December 18th, Katsura at once, moved out and assumed the offensive at Kangwasai, and we have examined the reason of such tactics from the Japanese point of view. But when the Laoyang army deployed on the north and west of Haicheng a month later, it faced a position that Katsura had intrenched strongly in the interval. Hence the Japanese forces waited quietly behind their intrenchments, and inasmuch as the Chinese never ventured closer than 1,500 metres, they had the firing all to themselves throughout the whole forenoon. It was not until 1 p.m. that the Japanese artillery came into action, and not until two hours later did the Japanese infantry move out to hasten the already-commenced retreat of the enemy. Fighting, in the generally accepted sense of the term, scarcely took place at all. Another point worth notice is the singular disparity between the numbers of killed and wounded on the Japanese side. At Kaiping the killed were 46, the wounded, 263; which means that out of every seven men hit only one was killed on the spot. At Haicheng there were 40 wounded and only one killed. In either case the ratio is contrary to the results expected from arms of precision, and is markedly contrary to the records of Japanese rifle-fire, for on the Chinese side the wounded, or, at any rate, those disabled by wounds, appear to constitute only a small per-centage of the casualties. At Phyŏngyang, for example, not more than 600 Chinese were left wounded upon the field against some 2,000 killed, and at Kaiping only about 100 wounded fell into Japanese hands, whereas some 300 were killed. The explanation seems to be that Chinese fire is effective at long ranges only. So soon as he gets near enough to the Japanese to become himself a mark, the Chinaman loses his nerve, and if he shoots at all, does so from his hip or with closed eyes. The Japanese soldier, on the contrary, does not open fire until he is within 600 metres of the enemy, and his hits are proportionately more fatal.

The repulse experienced by the Laoyang Army on the 17th instant was not sufficiently severe to deter a fresh attempt. Besides, the Army was strengthened about that time by the advent of General I, the ablest and most resolute commander that has yet appeared on the Chinese side. It was I that led the Amur Tartars against Tatsumi and the Japanese positions at Fenghwah and Tanhokow. He fairly [illegible] it is true, but he nevertheless displayed qualities worthy of his German education. With I at Laoyang, it was not likely that an army of from thirty to forty thousand men would tamely remain cut off from its chief base of supplies and threatened with complete elimination from the field of final operations. On the 22nd of January, that is to say, five days after the previous repulse, Generals Chang and I, having reorganised their forces and brought up reserves that raised their strength to over 20,000, moved again to the attack of Haicheng. They chose almost the same routes of approach as before, thus advancing against the hilly faces of the position. But on this occasion they ultimately moved up to within 600 metres of the entrenchments, and the Japanese thereupon assumed the offensive. Seven battalions of infantry and three batteries of artillery attacked the enemy's right wing and rolled it back without difficulty. Meanwhile, another force of infantry had been marched to a position whence it threatened the Chinese line of retreat. That manœuvre seems to have completed the discomfiture of the Laoyang troops. The whole army retreated precipitately, the greater part moving in a north-easterly direction, but a few following the westward road toward Newchwang (proper). The Japanese casualties in this affair were even smaller than they had been on the 17th instant—one killed and 26 wounded. The Chinese left over 100 dead upon the field, and the following motley list of articles:—1 breach-loading gun of ancient type; 1 modern cannon; 70 rifles; 4,500 rounds of small-arm ammunition; 1 sword; 4 flags; 1 drum; 1 trumpet; and 15 fur-lined over-coats. They also lost 5 prisoners. It seems probable that a portion of the troops hitherto stationed at Tienchwangtai under Sung took part in the above encounter. Lieut-General Katsura, telegraphing on the 23rd instant, reports that Su Pangtao marched up to Newchwang (proper) with 10 regiments (5,000 men), and moved out on the 22nd to points on the roads leading toward Haicheng and Laoyang. He adds that, the same morning, the enemy received a further accession of 5 regiments. It is always possible for Sung to cōoperate with the Laoyang forces *via* Newchwang (proper), but if he employs any large portion of his troops for that purpose, he uncovers Yingkow and the coastwise route to China. As for the main body of the Laoyang Army, though beaten back from Haicheng, it has not retreated far, but has halted at positions on the northwest and west, from 8 to 10 miles distant. Katsura may look for a repetition of these desultory and spiritless attacks, until he feels strong enough to assume the offensive in earnest, or until Nogi moves forward to Yingkow and Tienchangtai.

Nogi, telegraphing from Kaiping on the 24th at 11 p.m., says that, according to seemingly trustworthy information furnished by the people of the locality, the Chinese forces in the neighbourhood of Yingkow are 4,000 under Sung, 5,000 under Chang, 1,000 under Ma, and 3,000 under Tsiang. These troops were posted in the immediate neighbourhood of Yingkow, on the roads leading eastward (*i.e.* toward Kaiping). Nogi's advance guard was within 3,000 metres of the enemy's outposts, and his cavalry videttes pushed, on the 18th instant, to a place 9 miles north of Yingkow and attempted to cut the Chinese telegraph, but whether they succeeded or failed, the report does not say. On the 24th, the Chinese seem to have contemplated an advance, for they moved their artillery to a point some 2,000 metres from the Japanese position and fired a few rounds. A force of their infantry also advanced to within five or six hundred metres of the two companies forming the Japanese advance guard, but retired in about a quarter of an hour, even before the guard had been reinforced.

The long tranquillity enjoyed by the Japanese forces holding the positions at Fenghwan and in its vicinity was broken on the 24th instant by the appearance of a detachment of Chinese, numbering about 100, at Suehlichan, a place 15 miles north of Fenghwan. They were easily dispersed, but whence they came, or with what object, the telegram does not inform us. It adds, however, that all is quiet at Saimatsui, Kwantien, and Haicheng. This telegram is from the Staff of the First Army, and is dated 8.55 p.m. on the 24th.

The 3 Japanese ships that bombarded Tungchow on the 18th and 19th instant in order to diverd the enemy's attention while the third expeditionary force was carried to Yungcheng Bay, were the *Yoshino*, the *Akitsushima*, and the *Takachiho*. They joined the ships that on the 20th covered the landing at Yungcheng. We learn from Admiral Ito's report that it was snowing when the first batch of troops disembarked, and that the whole force, together with its impedimenta, would probably be on shore by the 25th instant. The Admiral adds that the Chinese fleet is in Weihaiwei. The natives pray that the troops will advance quickly to Laoyang, where the inhabitants are longing for the advent of the Japanese to deliver them from the lawlessness and brutality of the Chinese braves.

Tuesday January 29th.

We are without any news of the further movements of the Japanese expeditionary force in Shantung. That was to be expected. An interval without special incident was certain to separate the landing from any decisive encounter with the enemy.

There is a rumour that, on the 20th instant, two small Chinese men-of-war were captured by the Japanese ships in the neighbourhood of Weihaiwei. We can not discover any grounds for the story.

The *Kokkai* says that the *Akitsushima*, when reconnoitering Weihaiwei on the 19th instant, saw 16 vessels there. Our contemporary conjectures that a portion of the Southern Squadron had entered the harbour. But that seems scarcely credible.

The same journal says that the people of Shantung fled at the first appearance of the Japanese troops, but are now reassured, and lend their services readily for transport and commissariat purposes.

According to the *Yomiuri*, investigations reported to the Head-quarters in Hiroshima indicate that the garrison of Weihaiwei numbers only 8,000, but reinforcements bringing it up to fourteen or fifteen thousand are expected to reach it from Chefoo and elsewhere before the assault.

In the *Nippon* we read that further reinforcements have been sent from Tientsin to Mukden, and that the arrival of Hunan troops at Tientsin brings the forces in the vicinity of that place to 60 regiments (30,000).

Admiral Ito reports that the forts at Weihaiwei fired at his vessels as they passed on the 22nd and on his torpedo-boats the same night, but did no damage. That, doubtless, was the firing heard at Yungcheng, as described in our last issue. Admiral Ito says nothing about the Chinese vessels attempting to escape. The *Yomiuri*, however, asserts that they made an attempt at dawn on the 22nd, and were frustrated by the Japanese ships on guard off the port. Simultaneously with the Squadron's movement the forts opened a furious fire on the Japanese guard-ships, but failed to touch them.

A telegram from Shanghai reports that all the foreigners have left Weihaiwei, that the greatest confusion prevails there, that the inhabitants are all preparing to fly, and that some of the troops are contemplating a similar step. The *Jiji Shimpo* attaches credence to this intelligence.

According to the *Yomiuri*, the Chinese forces are preparing to resist the advance of the Japanese toward Weihaiwei at a place called Paichiltsuisu, 20 miles from Yungcheng on the direct road to Weihaiwei.

The 29th instant is now spoken of as the day on which the assault of Weihaiwei will probably take place, but of course that is not an official prediction: it is mere conjecture.

The *Nichi Nichi* says that when the *Akitsushima* was reconnoitering Weihaiwai on the 25th instant, 21 shots were fired at her by the Chinese ships, and one shell fell in her vicin

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Lieut.-General Nodzu telegraphs that an influential Manchurian, enraged by the pillage and rapine practised by the Chinese troops, has offered to assemble 60,000 men and take Mukden, for the purpose of handing it over to the Japanese. He asked for a loan of 30,000 Tls. to equip his army, but of course the Japanese told him that they were quite strong enough to carry on the campaign without assistance, and that he had better not attempt anything rash, contenting himself rather with furnishing useful information to their Staff. Credence seems to have been placed, however, in the offer. General Nodzu adds that numbers of persons in Haicheng come to beg that the Japanese will advance with all speed against Laoyang, where the inhabitants are longing for the advent of the Japanese to deliver them from the lawlessness and brutality of the Chinese braves.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 30TH.

Marshal Oyama's telegraphic report, despatched at 9 a.m. on the 26th instant, indicates that the operations prior to the assault on Weihaiwei are likely to be much more protracted than the general public seem to anticipate. The Marshal's message sets out by confirming the statements previously received, to the effect that only 300 Chinese troops were stationed at the Yungcheng earthworks when the Japanese flotilla arrived, and that the enemy's forces in Yungcheng itself, too few to offer any resistance, retired at once. We are then told that large forces of Chinese appear to be massed at Kieshan and Chiaoteutsi. Our readers will probably fail to find these places on any ordinary map. We may explain, therefore, that two roads lead from Yungcheng to Weihaiwei. One goes straight along the coast; the other trends inland as far as Chiaoteutsi, whence it bends northward toward the coast. Chiaoteutsi is 15 miles from Yungcheng. Kieshan, which lies on the coast road, is 17 miles from the same place. Both of these positions are therefore within easy striking distance of Yungcheng, so far as mere mileage goes. But the difficulty is to get at them. The mountains have to be crossed by way of preliminary, and it seems that the operation of moving artillery over the mountains is likely to prove very troublesome. The engineers' report says that the coastwise road, in its present condition, is fit for the passage of field-guns through a distance of 4 miles only. Westward of that point—*i.e.*, going in the direction of Kieshan—repairs must be effected, and they can not be completed without considerable expenditure of time —" can not be completed in a few days," is the exact language of the report as telegraphed by Marshal Oyama. As for the inland road, it is fairly good as far as Pulintsun, 5 miles from Yungcheng, but beyond that place troublesome works of repair must be undertaken in order to enable the artillery to get to Chiaotsutsi. From all this it will be evident that the mere operation of making roads for the march of the troops may be a matter of a week or more. Moreover, that calculation refers to field artillery only. If seige guns have to be taken, as is more than probable, a still longer delay must be anticipated. Another fact indicated by the Marshal's despatch is that the operation of debarkation was not completed so quickly as previous statements led us to expect. Admiral Ito's telegram, despatched on the 22nd, said that the landing would probably be finished by the 25th. But Marshal Oyama, telegraphing on the morning of the 26th, reports, not that the entire force, but only that the van of the Army and the greater part of the baggage train had already landed. Of course there would be no object in hurrying the men ashore before roads to march on were available, but whether that consideration delayed the landing, or whether other reasons operated, it appears certain, at all events, that instead of the disembarking operations being finished by the 25th, they were likely to occupy until the 29th or 30th. In view of these circumstances it would evidently be idle to attempt any definite estimate of the number of days that must elapse before the expeditionary force is actually before Weihaiwei. All that we can say at present is that the Chinese seem disposed to make a stand at positions on the other side of the hills lying between Yungcheng and Weihaiwei, and that the Japanese troops will not able to reach those positions for several days. We learn incidentally from the Marshal's report that his force consists of the Sendai Division, and a Brigade of the Kumamoto Division. The advance guards of these two bodies, at the time of the despatch of the Marshal's telegram, were posted five or six miles westward of Yungcheng, the Sendai Division being on the inland road and the Kumamoto Brigade on the coast road. To the former, therefore, will presently fall the duty of attacking Chiaoteutsi, and to the latter that of attacking Kieshan. We believe that within certain limits Marshal Oyama was left to exercise his own discretion as to the size of the expeditionary force. It was to consist of the Sendai Division, at any rate, but the Kumamoto Brigade might be taken or left. Naturally, the Marshal would prefer to have as large a force as the circumstances reasonably warranted.

It appears certain, though very incredible, that the ships of the Peiyang Squadron are still lying in Weihaiwei. A telegram from Marshal Oyama, despatched at 9.30 a.m. on the 28th instant, says that a Chinaman who had escaped from Liukung island—the island at the entrance to Weihaiwei—reported that there were anchored in the harbour the *Chen-yuen*, the *Ting-yuen*, the *Chi-yuen*, the *Lai-yuen*, the *Ping-yuen*, the *Kwang-ping*, the *Wei-yuen*, and the *Kwang-sai*, together with 6 coast-defence ships, 7 large torpedo-boats and 4 small, the total number being 25. The man added that the *Chen-yuen's* bottom having been repaired with cement only, she could not fire her guns, that the *Lai-yuen* still needed repairs, and that the *Kwang-sai* had no armament on board. We are driven to the conclusion that the Squadron has abandoned its natural idle, and will devote itself to assisting in the defence of the forts. That hypothesis is borne out by the statements collected from Chinese sources by the *North-China Daily News*. We read there that the Weihaiwei batteries have been manned by trained blue-jackets from the fleet, and are commanded by naval officers, so that the land forces are entirely free to fight at the outposts. But even with that programme, it is inexplicable that the fate of the ships should be made to depend on that of the forts. The Chinese are putting too many eggs into one basket, if that be their plan.

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* writes that the latest reconnaissance showed a force of about 5,000 men garrisoning Liukung island, and 13 ships, besides a number of torpedo-boats in Weihaiwei.

In the same journal we read that when the Japanese landed on the Shantung Promontory, the Chinese telegraph officials ran away, leaving their apparatus *in statu quo*. The Japanese thought it worth while to try and open communication with Weihaiwei. They accordingly asked across the wire whether any Japanese men-of-war were in sight, and received a negative reply. They then asked about the Peiyang Squadron, and were answered that it had left for the south the preceding day, but the Chinese seem to have suspected something, for they declined to take notice of any further messages.

It was reported at Hiroshima on the 27th, says the *Nichi Nichi*, that the assault on Weihaiwei was then in progress. But the rumour was obviously incredible. The *Chuo Shimbun* also publishes a telegram from Shanghai, dated on the forenoon of the 28th instant, saying that a land and sea assault was then being made on Weihaiwei, that the sound of a heavy cannonade could be heard, and that the place was probably in Japanese possession at the time of the despatch of the message.

THURSDAY JANUARY 31ST.

Two telegrams from Kaiping indicate that the Chinese forces at Yingkow (modern Newchwang) and in its neighbourhood are growing in numbers and confidence. The first message is dated 10 a.m. on the 29th instant, and is despatched by Colonel Isechi, Chief of Staff of the First Division. It says:—A telegram from Major-General Nogi, dated 8 p.m. on the 28th instant, reports that the enemy in the neighbourhood of Yingkow have apparently been reinforced. Our cavalry videttes, sent out in the direction of Kaokan, bring intelligence that a general advance of the Chinese line has taken place, and that they are now massed near Laopieu. Our videttes were unable to push their reconnoissance farther." The second message is also from Colonel Isechi, covering a telegram from the chief of Staff of Major-General Nogi's Brigade under date 11.9 p.m. on the 29th instant. The telegram runs thus:—"The enemy in our front seem to have received reinforcements. Their strength is not exactly known, but according to statements made by people of the neighbourhood, there are 20,000 troops in Newchwang under Li, or Liu, of Nanyang. Another report is to the effect that Li Kokin has come to Newchwang at the head of 5 regiments from Laoshang-ying. His troops are Hunan braves, men of Nankin. They passed through Tienchwangtai *en route* for Newchwang on the 23rd of December, and they have not been in any fight yet. Their number is 2,500. The enemy's lines are being gradually and slowly advanced.

We are without any further intelligence of an official character from Shantung. The *Yomiuri Shimbun* alleges that the advance guard of the Second Division has passed Puyecheng, and that the advance guard of the Sixth Brigade, advancing by the coast road, is already within 8 or 9 miles of Weihaiwei. But we venture to doubt the correctness of that intelligence, or, in any rate of the latter part of it. The same journal adds that the Chinese Government, being unable to send re-inforcements to Weihaiwei, is in much perplexity, and the Peiyang Squadron lies quietly awaiting the Japanese attack.

The *Shogyo Shimpo* says that the troops assembled for the defence of Weihaiwei aggregate over 70,000 of all arms, but that of these two-thirds are old men, and only one-third in the prime of life. In the same journal we read that the Viceroy Li is at Lutai, and that he contemplates sending an embassy of some 30 persons to the Commander-in-chief of the Japanese forces, urging that an armstice be agreed to pending the conclusion of the peace negotiations now in progress. But that is a very incredible story.

By the *Nippon* we are informed that a Chinese officer and two soldiers were taken prisoners in Yung-cheng. Another paragraph says that the *Wei-yuen* and several other ships are in the Yangtsze, protecting the movements of troops.

It appears from an account published in a Moji journal and copied into the *Jiji Shimpo*, that the whole of the transports carrying the third expeditionary force were assembled in Talien Bay on the 16th, and that they left in three batches, the first arriving at Yung-cheng on the 20th, and the 2nd and 3rd on the 21st. We also hear from the same authority that two small coast-defence vessels were in Yung-cheng Bay, and that the *Fayeyama Kan* took possession of them.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 2ND.

Two interesting telegrams are published by the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*. We give them in their order:—

Hiroshima, 30th January, 9.45 a.m.

The business of reconnoitering Weihaiwei was concluded on the 28th instant. Steps were immediately taken for a general attack, and it was probably delivered on the 29th, or is going on to-day.

Hiroshima, 30th January, 1.20 p.m.

The advance guard of the * * * that marched against Weihaiwei by the inland road has already reached Changchia-Kowtsz; and the * * * that advanced by the coast-wise road has passed Kushanken. The main body has passed Puyecheng and is now from 10 to 12 miles from Weihaiwei. The above is a rumour.

Our readers will remember that Kushanken was indicated in previous telegrams as one of the places where the Chinese forces were believed

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to be massed, with the intention of opposing the Japanese advance.

The *Jiji's* telegram, published in our issue of yesterday, that on the 27th ultimo the Chinese ships in Weihaiwei came to the two exits of the harbour, indicates an intention to escape if possible. But it also constitutes additional evidence that the Peiyang Squadron is still there.

A telegram from Shanghai, dated 10.32 a.m. on the 30th ultimo, says that, according to a report received from the officer commanding the Chinese forces at Weihaiwei, 19 Japanese ships appeared off the place on the morning of the 26th, whereupon the Chinese cruisers and torpedo-boats sallied out, and drove them off, inflicting serious damage. At the same time an attack made from the land side was also repulsed, with a loss of 250 men to the assailants. It is plainly out of the question that the Japanese forces could have been within striking distance of Weihaiwei on the 27th ultimo.

The *Hochi Shimbun* has a paragraph to the effect that, great as is the number of the troops guarding Weihaiwei, they are, for the most part recruits that have joined merely for the purpose of earning money. According to our contemporary, the Chinese officials, in their proclamations inviting volunteers, never state the pay to be given. Hence it becomes a question of bargaining to determine what each recruit shall get, and some are clever enough to exact a promise of 3 taels per month, while others are content with 2½. Men enlisted under such conditions are not likely to fight well, adds the *Hochi*.

In the *Yomiuri* we find a paragraph purporting to contain the opinions of a Japanese officer of Engineers with regard to the fortifications of Port Arthur. He says that the position is well suited for defence but that the plan of fortification is faulty in many respects. In the first place, a prime object in constructing forts is to choose for them sites where they shall be as little as possible exposed to the enemy's fire. But the forts at Port Arthur are placed on the tops of hills, being thus visible from a long distance and offering excellent marks for hostile artillery. In the second place, the guns are mounted in such a manner as to be unable, for the most part, to concentrate their fire, a serious defect. In the third place, the magazines are not sufficiently protected. A shell from a big gun striking than would inevitably produce an explosion. In the fourth place, the magazines are not properly drained. In the fifth place, there are no bomb-proof casemates. In the sixth place, the men's quarters are behind the forts, a most perilous position. In the sixth place, the guns are, for the most part, of inferior make and old —many dating from 1871—and their carriages are bad. In one fort—that on Manten Hill —the 24-inch gun-carriages have suffered so much from the discharge of a few rounds that they are now under repair. It would seem that the Chinese were cheated by the persons from whom they purchased the guns. As for the forts on the land side, they are not capable of flanking fire, they have no magazines and no casemates, so that their competence to resist attack for any length of time is small. It will interest General von Hanneken to read these criticisms.

Telegrams from Shanghai received yesterday say :—

FIRST TELEGRAM.

The attack on Weihaiwei began to-day. Three forts have been captured by the troops and one has been silenced by the fleet.

SECOND TELEGRAM.

The Weihaiwei land forts are taken. The island fortifications are offering strong resistance.

The island referred to in the second of the above telegrams is evidently Liukung, at the entrance to Weihaiwei harbour. The telegrams seem worthy of credence. At all events, we can not look for either confirmation or contradiction from Japanese official sources before the 2nd instant.

THE NATIONAL BANKS PROBLEM.

The Committee on the Bill relating to the Renewal of Charters has come to a decision in favour of the Government, or Re-organization, Bill, though only be a majority of one. There are 17 commissioners, exclusive of the Chairman, Mr. Kawashima. Of these Messrs. Motoda, Wada, Furusho, Kudo, Sudo, Nakano, Shigeno, and Kono voted for the Renewal, while Messrs. Mayekawa, Abe, Suzuki, Misaki, Taguchi, Ishida, Konishi, Higashio, and Ono favoured the Re-organization scheme. Mr. Motoda introduced a Bill compromising the two, but this failed to secure a majority. The rumour that Mr. Kono Hironaka had seceded from the Renewal Party was, as we see, unfounded. Mr. Ono's position was not clear at first, but his support of the Re-organization Bill settled the affair so far as the Committee is concerned. Though generally counted as an upholder of the Renewal Bill, Mr. Kawashima's real views do not seem to have been known. But having supporting the Government Bill, as he did last session, his objection to it this year amounts to withdrawal. Being Chairman, he did not take actual part in the voting, but he declared his intention of supporting Mr. Motoda's Compromise Bill. Though the latter was defeated in the Committee by a minority of one vote, it was to be laid before the House and discussed there. The Banks Problem has wrought considerable havoc among the Tokyo papers. The *Mesamashi, Choho, Kaika,* and *Yeiri Nippo* have been suspended for having published articles in connection with it injurious to public peace. They all gave sensational paragraphs about the alleged bribery of Government Officials, Members of the Lower House, and of others by the rival parties.

CHINA'S PERFIDY.

Now that the Chinese Embassy to sue for peace is reported to be coming to Japan, accompanied by the American ex-Secretary of State, it is most important, says the *Mainichi*, that Japan should decide how much faith to put in it. We think, continues that paper, that the Embassy does not deserve to be trusted in the least, and that any confidence placed in it would be most disastrous to the Japanese Army occupying the enemy's territory. All that has been so brilliantly accomplished by them would be entirely undone. Our contemporary then goes on to recount instances of China's having played false, giving the cases of the *Arrow*, the subsequent united expedition of England and France against Pekin, and the frontier trouble between China and Russia. There are also other examples of more recent date which are quite sufficient to convince Japan of her neighbour's faithlessness. About eleven years ago an abortive reform was undertaken in Sōul by the late Kim, resulting in the massacre of many Japanese by the Chinese troops in that place. The following year Count Ito was despatched to China by the Emperor for the purpose of negotiating with the Viceroy Li at Tientsin in connection with the trouble. It was arranged between the two that the Chinese Government should seek out and punish the offenders, that Yuan, the instigator of the massacre, should be recalled, and that thenceforward neither Japan nor China should despatch troops to Korea without informing the other country of the contemplated action. All those points were systematically violated by China. Yuan retained his post till last June; nothing was heard of the punishment of the other offenders, and last year the Chinese Government sent thousands of troops to Korea without informing Japan of her intention to do so. It is an international usage, when any two countries have declared war against each other, to take steps for the safe withdrawal of the Representative of the belligerents and his suite. Now when the Japanese *Chargé d'Affaires* and the other members of the Legation were on their way home from Pekin last June with their families, the Chinese troops seized the latter and subjected the women to the most shameful treatment. And yet the Viceroy Li had the face to declare that he had guaranteed their security. The Chinese are, in short, an extraordinary people that do not seem to include perfidy under the category of wrongful actions. They are now going to despatch on Embassy to sue for peace, and are again going to try and palm off a faithless stipulation upon Japan like the Tientsin Convention, but Japan is not likely to fall a victim to their snares a second time. She must positively reject any attempt of the kind. The only way to force perfidious China to strictly observe a treaty, is by means of blood and iron, and the time to contract a treaty with her will be when the Japanese troops have planted their guns against the walls of Pekin and the Chinese Emperor has come out in an unadorned carriage to receive the Japanese Army. Any number of Embassies of the kind that now proposes to come to Japan will simply end in smoke, as did the Detring mission.

RAILWAY ACCIDENTS.

Some time ago, writes the *Nichi Nichi*, a vernacular paper called the attention of the Railway Authorities to the alleged fact that railway accidents have been growing more numerous since the 22nd year of *Meiji* (1889). That statement, however, was entirely misleading, as it did not take into consideration the extended mileage of railways. Only by proportioning the rate of accidents to the extent of mileage is it possible to arrive at a correct result. The following tables give such data :—

Date.	Total mileage traversed by trains in the year.	Engineers and conductors. Killed.	Wounded.	Passengers. Killed.	Wounded.
1889	5,304,000	19	24	2	2
1890	5,918,000	28	59	4	6
1891	9,039,000	36	72	2	14
1892	9,392,000	30	88	3	9
1893	9,904,000	32	122	1	13

Date.	Others. Killed.	Wounded.	Total. Killed.	Wounded.
1889	124	33	145	59
1890	100	48	232	113
1891	202	62	243	148
1892	238	68	271	165
1893	215	98	318	233

Rate of casualities per 1,000,000 miles.

	Engineers and Passengers, Killed.	Wounded.	Others (Suicide). Killed.	Wounded.	Total. Killed.	Wounded.
1889	3.9	4.9	23.4	6.2	27.3	11.1
1890	5.4	11.0	33.8	8.1	37.2	19.1
1891	4.2	9.5	22.7	6.7	26.9	16.4
1892	3.5	10.3	23.5	7.2	28.8	17.5
1893	3.3	13.7	28.8	9.9	32.1	23.5

The above figures include the cases of those voluntarily or accidentally killed by trains. If the ratio be taken for passengers alone, the result is very trifling. In 1890 the mortality was 1 for 117 million miles approximately, and in 1893 the ratio of wounded about 1 for every 637 million miles.

THE FUNERAL OF H.I.H. PRINCE ARISUGAWA.

Nothing could have been more impressive than the funeral of H.I.H. Prince Arisugawa Taruhito, which took place on Tuesday in Tokyo, amid demonstrations of grief from all classes, a fitting tribute to the memory of the wisest, kindest, noblest, and purest of the Imperial Princes. Business was at a standstill in the metropolis all day long; the schools, both public and private, were closed; and tens of thousands of sincere mourners, young and old, rich and poor, helped to swell the funeral pageant that wound through the city out beyond Koishikawa to the ancestral temple of the House of Arisugawa. The streets through which the funeral train passed were crowded, but special constables lined both sides of the route of march and did their utmost to preserve the necessary decorum. For two days before the appointed time the trains had been bringing hosts of sympathisers and sightseers to the capital, and it is estimated that fully three hundred thousand people had gathered to witness the memorable scene. At some of the turnin

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on the route to the cemetery the crowd was enormous, particularly at the Tora-no-mon, Funakawara Bridge, the base of Kudan-zaka, and the long narrow street that leads to Iida-bashi. Despite every precaution, several scores of people are said to have been wounded in the crowd, while one man is reported to have been killed outright.

The route followed by the funeral procession —which took nearly two hours to pass a given point—had been carefully mapped out and published beforehand. It led from the Prince's residence at Kasumigaseki past the Tora-no-mon towards the Rokumeikwan; turning the the corner there, it went by the residence of the Home Minister and then to the left through the Hibiya Gate. Thence it proceeded along the moat through the Kiji-bashi Gate, skirting Kudan-zaka, through Iida-machi, across the Iida Bridge. There it turned to the right, crossed the Funagawara-bashi—where the pressure of the crowd was enormous—along the left bank of the little rapid Yedo River, branching off to the left on reaching Ishikiri-bashi. Passing to the right of Kobinata Suido-machi, it went through Otowa-cho, and finally, wheeling leftwards, reached the Gokoku Shrine and the adjoining cemetery. The cortége was arranged in the following manner, slightly different from the order to which it was originally proposed to adhere :—

Constables on Foot.	Constables on Foot.
Mounted Police Inspectors.	Mounted Police Inspector.
Stands of Flowers.	Stands of Flowers.

There seemed to be countless hundreds of these stands, some of them being of exceptional beauty. Particularly noticeable were the magnificent stands presented by Their Majesties the Emperor and Empress, the Empress Dowager, the Prince Imperial, and Their Imperial Highnesses Komatsu, Yamashina, Fushimi, Kita-shirakawa, Kan-in, Kwacho, and Hashimoto. The palm for beauty of arrangement and elegance of flowers was popularly given to two wonderful flower-stands presented by the High Priest Otani Koei. After these came stands of *sakaki* trees, with roots intact, the trees to be planted within the cemetery, in accordance with both Buddhist and Shinto observances. There was a similarly vast number of these trees, after which came countless other stands of artificial flowers. Then came

Heralds (Forerunners).

Mounted Police Inspectors.	Mounted Police Inspectors.

Chief of Police on Horseback.

Mounted Police Inspectors.	Mounted Police Inspectors.

Guard of Honour, composed of two Regiments of the Imperial Guard, with arms reversed.

Stands of *Sakaki*-trees.	Stands of *Sakaki*-trees.

Alternate white and red flags and banners.

The *Karabitsu*, or casket containing offerings.

Bearers carrying the stand and coverings of the *Karabitsu*.

Mounted Shinto Priests (*Shinkwan*).	Mounted Shinto Priests.

Assistant Chief Officiating Priest, in a coach.

Chief Officiating Priest, in a coach.,

Mounted Shinto Priests.	Mounted Shinto Priests.

A "Nishiki no Hata" or Flag of Brocade.

Musicians	Musicians
Musicians	Musicians.
Sakaki stands.	*Sakaki* stands.

(These *Sakaki* were presented by Princes of the Blood.)

Artificial Flower-stands	Artificial Flower-stands

Officials carrying the deceased Prince's decorations and medals.

A steward in uniform.	A steward in uniform.

The Bier, borne by fifty persons and under the immediate escort of Lieutenant-General Shigeno, Vice-Admiral Kodama, and Colonels Ando, Inouye, Yamauchi, and Fujii.

Stewards in uniform.	Stewards in uniform.
Footmen in white livery	Footmen in white livery.

Swords of the deceased Prince, borne by stewards.

Wooden clogs of the Prince, carried by a steward.

Horses belonging to the deceased Prince, each led by a steward in uniform.

The Master of the Mourning Ceremonies.

The Chief Mourner, H.I.H. Arisugawa Takehito, on foot in mourning garb, with coarse straw sandals on his feet and a [illegible] in his hand, and moved many (This was a most [illegible], and moved many of the onlookers to tears, the grief of the princely mourner being so plainly evident).

Stewards in uniform, on foot.

Members of the deceased Prince's household, on foot.

Chief Steward of the Household, on foot.

Members of the Family, in coaches.

(This was again a profoundly pathetic sight, the deep grief of the bereaved family making no attempt at concealment).

Princes of the Blood, in coaches.

Relatives of the Arisugawa House, in coaches.

Officials in charge of the funeral ceremonies, in coaches.

Mounted Stewards.	Mounted Stewards.

Ministers of State, in coaches.

(Particularly conspicious were Count Kuroda, Viscounts Enomoto Nomura, and Mr. Yoshikawa)

Officials of *Shinnin* rank, among whom were Mr. Miyoshi, Chief Judge of the Supreme Court, Mr. Haruki, Chief Public Procurator, and a host of other notables of the highest rank.

Princes, other than of the Blood.

Members of the 2nd Class of the First Rank.

Holders of decorations of the First Class. Nobles.

Government Officials above *Sōnin* rank.

Holders of Decorations of the Third Class.

Members of the Upper House.

Members of the Lower House.

All of the above, unless otherwise specified, were either in coaches or on horseback.

Guard of Honour, composed of one Regiment of the Imperial Guard, with arms reversed.

General Mourners.

Rear guard and Escort.

Mounted Chief of Police.

Mounted Police Inspectors.	Mounted Police Inspectors.

The whole train is stated to have included upwards of twelve thousand people, and even from this necessarily brief description it will be seen that the cortége was of a very imposing nature. On arriving at the cemetery, the bier was carried into the shrine, followed at first by only the chief mourners and nearest relatives of the deceased Prince. The members of the *corps diplomatique* were escorted to the Sanshu-jo, at one side of the shrine, while the Consular Body and other foreigners had had places assigned to them in the school-building within the temple-grounds. Thousands of people had preceded the funeral cortége and they were awaiting it at the cemetery gates, where a number of tents had been erected for their shelter and convenience. On nearing the cemetery, Prince Takehito acknowledged, for the first time, the reverent salutations of the people who lined both sides of the road. Nearly all of the leading foreign residents of the metropolis were present and were treated with the utmost courtesy, everything being done to ensure them a good view of the proceedings. As soon as the bier was deposited within the shrine a luncheon was served to all those present: a simple luncheon in approved Japanese style.

Within the shrine the ceremony began at a little after one o'clock, the arrangements being as follows :—

THE BIER.

ON THE LEFT.	ON THE RIGHT.
Musicians.	Offerings of food to the gods.
Nearest relatives of the deceased Prince.	Shinto Priests.
Space reserved for the representatives of Their Imperial Majesties, the Empress-Dowager, and Prince Imperial.	A receptacle filled with water, for rinsing the hands.
Military and Naval officers.	Princes of the Blood.
Members of the two Houses of Parliament.	Ministers of State.
Officials of lower rank.	Foreign Corps Diplomatique.
The public.	Officials of Shinnin Rank.
	Nobles of Highest Rank.
	Other Nobles.
	Foreign guests.

The ceremony itself was of the simplest possible description, in strict accordance with the Shinto ritual, the Chief Ritualist officiating. It may be divided into four parts, which were :

1. Offering of silk and *hei* to the deceased, now deified;

2. Offering of food to the deceased;

(Music, performed by the priests and the regimental bands.)

3. Reading of the Shinto litany and the prayers relevant to the occasion;

4. Bowing of all those present before the coffin, in accordance with their rank.

This whole programme was finished shortly before two o'clock. There was no special order observed after the ceremony was over. The coffin was left in the shrine, to be interred privately later on. The whole ceremony, from the time of leaving Kasumiga-seki, lasted just five hours.

THE LATE PRINCE ARISUGAWA.

At 1 p.m. on the 28th instant Marquis Nabeshima, the Grand Chamberlain, proceeded in the capacity of Imperial Messenger to the residence of the late Prince Arisugawa where he presented the following Imperial message of condolence:—"Connected by blood with the Imperial Court, you earnestly upheld the cause of the Restoration which was successfully consummated by your rare ability. Your virtue inspired respect both at home and abroad and very few men have rendered greater services to the State than you. You were to the Court what a wing is to a bird, and you were indeed a pillar of the State. The Empire is now engaged in a foreign warfare and expeditionary armies invade the enemy's territory. You took an active part in the central strategical deliberations in connection with this war, thus contributing toward its success. We regret extremely, therefore, that while the affair is still far from being ended and before entire victory has been won, you have fallen ill and died. In order to manifest Our sincere sorrow, We despatch Marquis Nabeshima, Our Grand Chamberlain, and order him to convey Our condolence and to present Our Gifts."

* * *

The *Nippon* considers that the Japanese ought to be extremely thankful for the goodness and strict impartiality of the Emperor. When the case of H.I.H. Prince Arisugawa grew serious and apparently hopeless, the question arose among the Councillors of the Board of Decorations as to what decorations should be conferred upon the Prince. They decided in favour of the Grand Cross and Grand Collar of the Chrysanthemum Order and the First Class of the Distinguished Service Order. The matter was duly submitted to the Emperor who sanctioned the giving of the Cross and Collar, but not of the third Order suggested. He observed that though sincerely desirous to grant the First Class Medal to the Prince, he felt that it would not be quite fair. The Prince had, it is true, so far rendered great service in the war, but the latter was far from its conclusion and if the First Class Medal be bestowed on the Prince who, to the extreme regret of the nation had been taken away in the midst of the war, what should be granted to those who took part in it to the end and distinguished themselves most conspicuously. Partiality must be avoided above all things in rewarding military services, especially as this is the first occasion of the bestowal of the new military Order. It was on that account, observes our Tokyo contemporary, that the Second and not the First Class of the Order of the Gold Kite was granted to the late Prince.

THE KAISER'S BIRTHDAY.

The German community of Tokyo celebrated the 36th birthday of the German Emperor by a thanks-giving service in the chapel of the German Theological Seminary at Koishikawa. By special permission, the band of the Imperial Household, conducted by Prof. Eckert, gave a fine selection of sacred music, winding up with variations of some national tunes. In the evening about 24 gentlemen sat down at dinner in the splendidly decorated rooms of the German Asiatic Society in Kanda. The bust of the Emperor, a large picture of Bismarck, the coat-of-arms and mottoes of the four Kingdoms of Prussia, Bavaria, Württemberg, and Saxony, and an enormous German Eagle formed the centre of an elaborate decoration enlivened by the colours of the Fatherland and of those four Kingdoms. The committee is to be congratulated on the great success of the evening, especially Dr. Grasmann, to whose design and skilful hand the good artistic effect was due. Count Quadt, secretary of the German Legation, proposed, in a few well chosen words, the toast of the Emperor, which was enthusiastically responded to. Again the Imperial band was in attendance. Prof. Eckert had a special treat prepared for the party. A chronological ar-

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rangement of military music was executed most magnificently. It comprehended not less than 33 pieces, ranging from the year 1292 to as late a date as 1888. An old English tune of Edward I's. times, some marches of the 17th century and the march composed for Bonaparte's Guard at Marengo, were, besides the old favourites, most applauded. A number of patriotic and cheerful songs and the Emperor's own "Song to Aegir" were rendered at short intervals during a long and thoroughly enjoyable evening.

The following is the programme of music:—

FESTESSEN.

Zur feier des geburtstages seiner majestät des Deutschen Kaisers, Tokio, den 27. Januar 1895.

MUSIK-PROGRAMM.

1. Ouverture 2. Op. "Der Wildschütz." A. Lortzing.
2. Phantasie a. d. Op. "Der lustige Krieg" ..... Z. Strauss.
3. "Das Erwachen des Löwen" Caprice ..... K. Konsky.
4. "Am schönen Rhein gedenk ich dein." Walzer. ..... Keler-Bela.

CHRONOLOGISCHE ENTWICKLUNG DER MILITÄRMUSIK VON 1292—1888.

(Nach authentischen Quellen zusammengestellt von L. Kott.)

XIII—XVI. JAHRHUNDERT.

1. Fanfare der Feldtrompeter und Heerpauker aus dem Mittelalter (1292.) Allen Denen, die dies gegenwärtige Musikstuck hören, den tun wir an diesen stucke kund, was man spielte von Gottes geburte tusene jar, zwey hundert jar, zwey onde neunzig jar, da reisiges Kriegsvulk anmarschirte.
2. Alt-englischer Kriegsmarsch aus Wales (Ende des 13. Jahrh).
3. Marsch der Stadt Worms, geblasen beim Pfeiffergericht (14. Jahrhundert)
4. Fanfare der Reiterei aus dem 16. Jahrh.
5. Alt-niederländischer Siegesmarsch und Kriegslied: "Wilhelmus van Nassauen" v. Marnik van Aldegonde (1572).

XVII. JAHRHUNDERT.

6. Fanfare der Pappenheimer Reiter (1631).
7. Der alte Pappenheimer-Marsch (1631).
8. Stralsunder Fanfaren-Hohnblasen von Stralsunds Thürmen auf Wallensteins Abzug (am 24. Juni 1628).
9. Marsch der Finnländischen Kürassiere aus dem 30jähr. Kriege (1618—1648).
10. Alt-brandenburgischer Marsch, wohl noch aus der Zeit des Grossen Kurfürsten (Ende des 17. Jahrh.) Original a. d. Haag.

XVIII. JAHRHUNDERT.

A. Vorfridericianische Zeit.

11. Der alte Dessauer-Marsch mit Fanfaren (1705).
12. Prinz Eugen (nach der ältesten Aufzeichnung 1706).
13. Marsch der Butowsky'schen Grenadiere, gespielt in der Schlacht bei Kesselsdorf (1742).

B. Fridericianische Zeit.

14. Der Hohenfriedeberger Marsch (1745).
15. General-Laudon-Marsch aus dem 7jährigen Kriege mit dem Laudon-Lied (1756).
16. Maria Theresia-Hymne, Schweige, Fama, still von andern Ruhmesthaten" (Original)."
17. Marsch von Friedrich dem Grossen (1780).
18. Der Torgauer Marsch (comp. vom Leher Scholz in Torgau) um die Wende des 18. Jahrhunderts.

XIX.—JAHRHUNDERT.

A. Das Zeitalter Napoleons I.

19. Marsch der Consular-Garde Bonapartes bei Marengo (1800).
20. Marsch des I. Bataillons der preuss. Leibgarde, von Roetscher Armee-Marsch No. 7 (1805).
21. Schwedischer Björneborganes-Marsch aus Finnland (Orig.) (1808).
22. Marsch des Preobrajensky'schen Regiments der russischen Garde (1812).
23. Marsch des York'schen Corps (1813), von Beethoven.
24. Einzugsmarsch der verbündeten Armeen in Paris (1814).
25. Sturmmarsch der alten napoleonischen Kaisergarde bei Waterloo (1815), „Die Garde stirbt, aber sié ergiebt sich nicht."

B. Bis zur Gegenwart.

26. Radetzky-Marsch von J. Strauss (1848).
27. Marcia Reale, Italienischer Krönungsmarsch von Gabethi (1862).
28. Düppelerschanzen-Marsch von Gottfried Piefke (1864)
29. Der Königgrätzer March (1866).
30. Die Wacht am Rhein (1870).
31. Der Sedan-Marsch (1871).
32. Kaiser-Friedrich-Märsch (1888), von Friedemann.
33. Zapfenstreich und Gebet.

LETTER FROM TALIEN-WAN.

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.]

Talien-wan, January 16, 1895.

After a tiresome voyage of twelve days, we at last arrived here this morning at 10 o'clock. The reasons why the voyage has proved so unusually long will be apparent as I proceed with a brief account of it.

On the 5th instant at 2 p.m., the transport *Fujikawa Maru*, on board of which I took my passage, left the port of Ujina. The *Fujikawa* is a tight little steamer of 354 tons carrying capacity, commanded by Capt. Harada, formerly plying between Osaka and the principal ports in Kyushu. It belongs to the Osaka Shosen Kaisha. Among the first class passengers, 13 in all, were Captain Yoshida, Imperial Artillery, who was going to Inchhön to take up his post as a commissariat officer in that port; Mr. Yoshiyasu, of the Japan Red Cross Society, going to Wiju with a staff of surgeons, pharmaceutists, and nurses, numbering in all 38; Mr. S. Shirai of the Tôhô Kyokai (Oriental Association), whose object is to study the state of things in the territory occupied by the Japanese Armies; and a few Army surgeons charged with the duty of tending the sick and wounded on ships carrying them back to Japan. The second class saloon contained the Red Cross Society's nurses and a few sub-officers and privates assigned to Port Arthur. About 110 coolies bound to Talien-wan occupied the steerage.

The ship was to come here via Fusan, Inchhön, and Gyointo (漁隱洞) on the Tadong-gang. I had applied for a passage on board some transport going direct to this port, but the commissariat authorities at Ujina told me that for the present there would be no such vessel, and advised me to go by the *Fujikawa*. Staying several hours on the 6th at Moji—where I noticed a dozen steamers, among them the *Kiu-shu*, *Shinshu*, *Kaga*, *Sesshu*, *Fukuoka*, *Higo*, *To-ei*, *Ujina*, *Contest*, *Clara*, *Marquis Bacquehem*, *Glenfruin*, *Blorg*, *Romney*, and *Chusan*,—the ship entered the well known port of Fusan on the morning of the 7th instant. There were in port the *Tsukuba Kan* and a small gunboat, which, on approaching nearer, was found to be the *Sôkô* (操江) captured from the Chinese at the battle off Phung-do. There was no mercant steamship in the harbour; but a large number of Japanese and Korean junks lay at anchor. As we approached the shore, the settlement, snugly nestled at the base of a lofty range of mountains completely shutting it in on three sides, appeared in all respects a purely Japanese seaport town of a progressive type; and a Japanese approaching it from the sea would be unable to realise that he was entering a foreign port, save for the crowds of white robed Koreans smoking on the wharf and the complete absence of trees on the mountains. The colony, several centuries old, now contains about 5,000 inhabitants, mostly from Tsushima. It was exceptionally warm, the thermometer registering 60° F. at noon. The residents told us that such weather in midwinter had never before been experienced. To the right of the town, as you enter the port, are visible the remains of an old Japanese castle constructed by the renowned warrior Konishi Yukinaga at the time of the invasion by Hideyoshi. That this castle has been suffered to stand till to-day, is a significant fact, illustrating in an unmistakable manner how hopelessly wanting the Koreans are in the spirit of patriotism and independance. A nation in the least degree patriotic would not have tolerated such a relic of national disgrace for a single day.

We left the port at half-past noon for In-chhon, which we reached on the morning of the 9th. The voyage between the two ports was extremely smooth and uneventful, except that the evening before the ship entered In-chhön, one of the coolies—a young man of about five-and-twenty, who has belonged to the fraternity of story-tellers in Tokyo—enlivened the first and second class passengers with stories of the forty-eight *ronins* and some other *kataki-uchi*. The entertainment was repeated on two succeeding evenings, to the intense delight of the whole party. It was bitterly cold at In-chhön, the deck being frozen over the whole day. Landing in company of Captain Yoshida and several Red Cross Society men, we dined at the Daibutsu Hotel, and afterwards called on the Acting Consul, Mr. Nagataki. From Mr. Nagataki I learned that about a hundred Chinese are staying in the settlement, and that the attitude of the Japanese toward them is one of moderation and magnanimity. He also told me that on the 9th and following days the Korean King was to take, at the mausolea of his ancestors, a solemn vow for the regeneration of the Kingdom. The foreign staff of the Customs are now in the employ of the Korean Government and have no official connection with China. The Japanese settlement, occupying the centre of the place and surrounded on all sides by the settlements of other nationalities, is already too small to accommodate the ever increasing residents, and negotiations have for some years been going on with the Korean Cabinet for its extension on the sea side by reclaiming land now under water. Like all negotiations with the statesmen in Sôul, this discussion has thus far produced little result, and the object of the Japanese Government now is to obtain a fresh concession in the vicinity of the town. The present population of the place consists of 3,200 Japanese, 44 foreigners, and 120 Chinese. *A propos* Korean reforms, walking through the native town (a collection of small, low, and dirty straw-thatched huts) we encountered one or two Korean police constables clothed in a tight-fitting double-buttoned jacket, a felt hat of a peculiar shape, and a pair of Korean shoes. They carry neither sword nor baton. Afterwards we paid a visit to the local *Amun* (Chinese *Yamên*), and found there about thirty constables under Mr. Pak Seihan. Most of these constables speak Japanese. They go by turns to the Japanese police office in the settlement to be taught the duties of police. They are the first visible fruits of the reforms that the Japanese Minister in Sôul is so assiduously encouraging the Korean Cabinet to introduce. This new police system is in its infancy, but it is a step in the right direction, and will by degrees develop into a beneficial piece of machinery under the able guidance of Inspector Takehisa, one of the unsalaried advisers of the Korean Government.

We left In-chhön on the 10th at 10 a.m. The weather was still excessively cold, and the sea rather high. After steaming for a few hours, the wind became so strong that the ship had to take refuge behind an island not far from the mouth of the bay of In-chön, where we lay at anchor until 11 p.m. the following evening, when the voyage was resumed under a clear moonlit sky, and in tolerably smooth water. Early on the morning of the 12th, it began to snow, and the weather grew colder and colder. In the afternoon it became quite stormy and the sky was still overcast with dark and theatening clouds. Moreover, fog and snow almost completely concealed from sight the mountains on the mainland and other marks by which the course of the ship could be steered. Under the circumstances, it was deemed necessary to seek shelter behind a headland, which the Japanese navigators call Chippiri-zaki, about 40 or 50 miles south-west of the mouth of the Tadong-gang. That evening, the regular story-teller being indisposed, the passengers in the second class saloon amused themselves by an exhibition of the so called *kakushi-gei* (hidden accomplishments). The noise being very great, I went into the saloon and for some time enjoyed the feats. Among the amateur performers, two young men distinguished themselves. One of them, a Red Cross Society's nurse, was uncommonly skilful in imitating the cries of dogs under various circumstances, and the peculiar sounds of of the national Japanese weaving machinery. The other youth was still more worthy of notice. He was an old school acquaintance of

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mine; named T. Yasuda, handsome, only three or four-and-twenty, and already learned in various kinds of experience. After spending a few years in Australia, Singapore, and Hongkong, he returned home and chose literature as a career. He has published a novel under the *nom de plume* of *Royu*, which attracted some attention at the time as the virgin product of a rising author, and he is now acting as military nurse on board hospital ships, for the purpose of getting material for a new romance. Having served for some months a kind of apprenticeship at the Kabuki Theatre in Tokyo, he contributed to the enjoyment of the present occasion by mimicking the peculiarities of speech of the various distinguished actors in the capital. These performances were subsequently repeated almost every evening.

After lying idle for nearly 40 hours, the ship resumed its course on the morning of the 14th. About 1 p.m. she suddenly slowed down, and, going on deck, I observed ■ a little distance ahead something white extending far to the right and left on the sea. On approaching nearer, it was found to be a mass of melting ice poured down from the Tai-tong-gang. There were three ships lying to at the spot, the *Taiyo*, the *Daini Taiko*, and the *Ajikawa*. From the *Taiyo*, which had come from Talien-wan, it was soon learned that the mass of ice spread six miles on all sides from the mouth of the Tai-tong, and that the *Ajikawa*, trying to cut a passage through it, had destroyed her steering apparatus, and had been obliged on the evening of the 14th to be towed back to In-chhŏn by the *Daini Taiko*. The other vessel, the *Taiyo*, left for Talien-wan soon after our arrival. All these ships had been unable to enter the river, except the *Daini Taiko*, which had just been in time to come out before the ice began to move down. Our vessel lay at anchor for the night near an island in the vicinity. The next morning, the ice being still formidable, the ship turned its course in the direction of Talien-wan, which we reached at 10 a.m. to-day.

The harbour is splendid, spacious and deep. To the right, as one enters, is the famous Hoshan-tan (和尚島), which, though its name indicates an island (on most maps it appears as such), is really a promontory, crowned with a strong fort in which the guns are worked by hydraulic gear. At the back of the port at some distance and a little to the right looking from the sea, is a lofty range of mountains. The rest of the ground enclosing the harbour is a low ridge of hills. On the south the harbour is shut in by the island of Sanshan. A large number of ships were in port when we entered.

It may be interesting to add here some figures supplied me by the above mentioned Mr. Yoshiyasu about the work that the Red Cross Society of Japan is doing in the present war. The Society's staff is now distributed as follows :—

Locality.	Physi-cians.	Phar-macutists.	Clerks.	Nurses.	Total.
Hiroshima	9	2	—	—	136
Pingyang	5	2	2	20	29
Wiju	5	2	1	49	57
Talienwan	5	2	2	40	49

The figures for Wiju in the above table include the party now proceeding thither under Mr. Yoshiyasu. If must also be noted that, with the exception of those at Hiroshima, the nurses are all men. The Society has long since completed its preparations, and is now in a position to send out a large staff of surgeons and nurses, but at present the regular medical staff of the Army being sufficient for the purpose, there is little necessity for the cŏoperation of the Red Cross. Nevertheless, what the medical staff of the Society has thus far done for the poor wounded and sick of the Japanese and Chinese Armies reflects great credit upon its organization and resources.

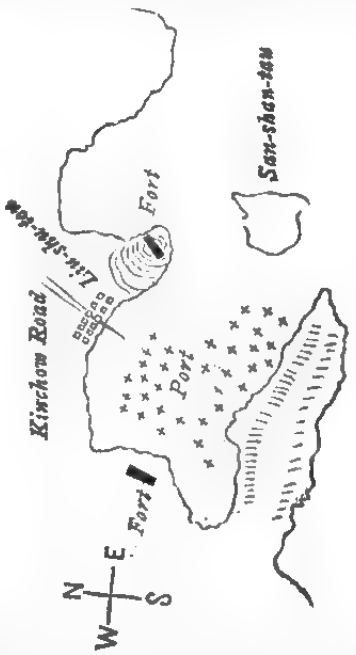
THE total amount of money collected towards the expenses of the great war rejoicing at Uyeno, Tokyo, was *yen* 14,427.850, of which *yen* 12,466.854 only was spent. Of the remainder *yen* 1,200.000 is to be carried forward to a second rejoicing, and the remainder will pay the cost of issuing a report of the pre-celebration.

LETTER FROM KINCHOW.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Kinchow, January 18th.

In my last letter I concluded with a brief description of the harbour of Talien. I stated that the South of the port is shut in by an island called San Shan. I have since discovered that I was not accurate. What I mistook for the island of that name is really a mountainous promontory extending from the left of the village of Liu-shu-ton. The connecting neck being low land, it was at the time completely hidden from view—as seen from the transport in which I had come—by a dense mass of ships then in port. The form of the port is something like this :—



The asterisks in the above sketch indicate ships in port. So many vessels being in the harbour and great military activity prevailing there, the Commissariat authorities could not find time to attend to our ship until the morning of the 18th (the ship had entered on the 10th) when the landing of passengers and cargo commenced. The Red Cross Society staff, who, unable on account of the ice to land at the Tai-tong-gang, had come to Talienwan, were not permitted to go on shore; they were instructed to return to In-chhŏn and from thence to proceed to Wiju by land. The boats and small junks used for ferrying purposes had been brought, boatmen and all, from Japan. At first they suffered from cold on account of incomplete clothing, but having been afterwards sufficiently provided in that respect, they are now doing very well. Few Chinamen are used in there boats, but a number of Chinamen ply in small boats (containing usually two men) between the steamers, offering fish and other articles of food for sale. It is apparent that they feel complete security though living among and dealing with their conquerers. The Chinese in the region speak the Shantung dialect.

On the morning of my landing, it was exceptionally fair and calm, but the port was covered with a thin layer of ice which at times constituted a considerable obstacle to the progress of the ferry boat. Fortunately, however, the distance to be rowed was not great, only some 400 metres, and we were soon at the end of a splendid iron pier, about 350 ft. long and 15 wide, with a powerful crane at the outer extremity and two flights of stairs one on each side. The height of the pier at the outer extremity above the water at low tide is about 20 ft. Liushuton is a little place containing about a hundred small and mean looking huts constructed of stone and mud, the roofs thatched with straw. The only buildings of any size are public offices, the best being the Torpedo Office, which is now occupied by the Japanese Commissariat Staff. It is close to where the pier stands. After leaving our luggage in the Commissariat Office, I started for Kinchow in company with Mr. Shirai of the *Toho Kyokai* (Oriental Association). The shabby streets of the place were filled with a motley crowd of Japanese soldiers, coolies, and Chinese labourers. We were soon out of the town, and found ourselves on a highway winding over a bleak and undulating space between cultivated fields. The road was almost one long line of waggons carts, pack-horses, drivers, officers, and soldiers on horse-back and on foot. I also noticed several *jinrikisha* pulled by two men. I afterwards learned that about twenty of those vehicles, together with coolies, had recently been brought from Tokyo by the head-quarters of the Second Imperial Army at Kinchow. The waggons were drawn by a mixed team of oxen and donkeys under the charge of Chinese coolies, the lighter carts by Japanese coolies. The soil is clayey on a rock foundation, so that the road, though upon the whole in good order, was at places so broken up and rocky that even the quick-footed *jinrikisha* men from Tokyo had difficulty in dragging their vehicles. At some places the fields were planted with wheat whose young shoots, 2 to 3 inches long, were lying flat on the ground, nipped by the cold and frost. Millet, corn, and beans are, however, the principal agricultural products in the peninsula, as indeed in other parts of Manchuria. The soil looks barren and unproductive. What most strikes people coming from Japan is the utter absence of trees on all sides, except a few straggling specimens—a kind of willow—about farm houses scattered here and there. I could not help reflecting how completely changed would be the aspect of the country after ten years of Japanese possession. There would then be evergreens (pines of course) on all sides, and flourishing towns and villages. With railways and other improved methods of transportation into the interior, it is not an idle dream that in the course of years the port of Talien, which, unlike its rival Newchwang, is open the whole year, will become the principal mart for the whole of the country north and east of Shanhaikwan.

It was a little past 1 p.m. when we arrived at Kinchow. The town is situated in a sort of hollow, surrounded by mountains on the north and west, and by low ranges of hills on the south and east. The south-west is open and faces the sea, the indentation being called the Bay of Kinchow. The town is completely surrounded by brick walls, 30ft. high, with four gates, called the Eastern, Northern, Western, and Southern. It is rectangular in shape, about 600 yards from north to east and 430 from east to west. Coming from Talienwan, one enters through the Southern gate. Passing through, one finds oneself on a thoroughfare running straight from the Southern to the Northern gate. More than half of the Chinese shops along the street were open, stocked with various kinds of necessaries. Both sides of the street were lined with Chinamen loudly crying out in broken Japanese the names of things they were offering for sale to the Japanese soldiers and coolies, such as sugar, matches, cakes, fowls, beef, pork, eggs, oysters, and so forth. Walking about 250 yards, we came to a shrine dedicated to the warrior Kwan-u. Thence, turning to the right and entering a street running from east to west, we arrived at the Taotai's office, now the head quarters of the Second Imperial Army. Important movements being near at hand, there was a great deal of bustle about the place. I saw a number of high officers, but I was unable to have an interview with Field-Marshal Oyama, as he was busily engaged in consultation with his generals. After obtaining a room in the compound for a night's lodging, I started for the Civil Admistration Office. It occupies a suite of buildings formerly appropriated by a branch office of the Coast Defence. A few days previously to my arrival, Major-General Ibaraki had been appointed Governor of Kinchow, the formerly Governor, Mr. Arakawa, having been

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ordered to accompany the Army on its intended expedition. The Major-General was not in when I called, but the ex-Governor received me very courteously, and supplied me with all available information about the method of his administration, the condition of the people, and so forth. He had directed his attention throughout the term of his administration to securing the confidence of the local inhabitants as to the safety of their lives and property under Japanese rule, and in that object he was justly proud to be able to claim no small degree of success. He made it his principal care that the Chinese should thoroughly understand that Kinchow, the head-quarters of the Second Army, was perfectly safe and even profitable for purposes of residence. He divided the city into four administrative districts, the conduct of affairs within each district being placed in charge of a Commissioner-in-Chief and three General Commissioners. The Commissioners, it is scarcely necessary to add, are all Chinamen of local standing and influence. The police of the place are under the control of a body of gendarmes, who discharge their duties so impartially that the native population hold them in great respect and esteem. All the local customs and practices are respected, and offences are punished according to the enlightened laws of Japan with certain modifications unavoidable under the circumstances. In order to make himself understood by the Chinese population correctly, Mr. Arakawa succeeded in procuring the services of a very capable Chinese literatus, who has ever since remained his adviser in matters relating to Chinese customs and laws. Mr. Arakawa avoided all formality and very often heard and decided cases in the streets of Kinchow while taking a walk. His wise administration so far won the hearts of the frightened Chinese, that the population of Kinchow, originally about 15,000 but reduced to less than 2,000 at the time of the capture of the place, had increased to more than 7,000 by the time he handed over the Government to his successor, Major-General Ibaraki. There is a branch office at Port Arthur and a few more are to be established to the northward of Kinchow. Among other things told me by Mr. Arakawa, I may mention that the military medical staff is getting up a charity hospital in Kinchow for the benefit of the Chinese population. He also permitted me to read an official paper relating to the history of Kinchow and vicinity. The peninsula of Kinchow in ancient times formed part of Korean territory. Exactly when it was conquered by the Chinese there is difficulty in ascertaining, but good reasons exist for the belief that the country passed into Chinese hands in the early years of the Han Dynasty. Kinchow castle was reconstructed in the 24th year of the Chien-lung era (1760). The ex-Governor also caused inquiries to be made into the system of taxation, but the subject being still in course of investigation, it would be premature to speak of it in detail in the present letter. Considering the shortness of his term of office and the exceptional circumstances under which he had to work, one cannot admire too much the excellent results accomplished by Mr. Arakawa.

While talking with him, there came into the room the new Governor and new Vice-Governor. In the latter I found Mr. Mitsuhashi, formerly Secretary of the Kanagawa Prefecture. He had arrived on the 16th and at once took up the duties of his post. He was very busy, so much so that he had not yet found time to write his friends in Japan. He looked strong and healthy. I afterwards accompanied him to his private room, hitherto occupied by Mr. Ariga, legal adviser to the Second Army. Mr. Mitsuhashi told me that the scope of the Administration Office was to be extended considerably. Among other things learned from him, I may mention an interesting fact. A few days ago small-pox made its appearance in the vicinity of Port Arthur, and some Japanese coolies were infected by the disease. The medical staff proposed to vaccinate the Chinese as well as the Japanese. As to the former, however, it was feared that the attempt might create a misunderstanding and lead to disagreeable results. But on inquiry the Authorities learned that vaccination was not new to the Chinese; and when it was announced that the process would be performed free of charge for any and all Chinese, the latter were delighted and largely availed themselves of the opportunity. Departing from the regular order of my narrative, I shall here refer to an interesting point, forcibly illustrating how highly Mr. Arakawa is esteemed by the Chinese people. On his departure from Chinchow, they presented the following memorial to him through their own officials:—

"We, Ki Saisei and Kyu Teisho, General Commissioners in Chief; Sou Hoten, Cho Shoson, and Sai Denshon, General Commissioners; and Wu Hailin, Liu Saishun, Zai Shunyo, and Jo Kaohyo, District Commissioners, respectfully present to Your Excellency this memorial and beg to express our feelings of regret on bidding you farewell. Since your arrival at Kinchow, your Excellency has been benevolent to the people, like a parent to his children, and has taken every means to protect them. Your Excellency has spared no pains to carry out whatever measure was deemed beneficial to the people, and has suffered to go unsuppressed nothing in the least injurious to them. Deeply impressed with gratitude to Your Excellency, the people congratulated each other at their good fortune, and wished to remain for ever under Your Excellency's benign administration. But your Excellency is now about to leave us, and our people, feeling like children suddenly deprived of their parent, sincerely pray to the Imperial Court that Your Excellency may be long allowed to remain in the present post. Would that by good fortune our poor people may have the great happiness once more to welcome Your Excellency as their Governor. For our own part, we, the signatories of the present memorial, consider it an especial favour and honour that we have been allowed daily to be near Your Excellency and to bask in Your Excellency's favour. We respectfully hope that that Your Excellency may enjoy a safe and pleasant journey. Should our imperfect language fail to convey our meaning correctly, we trust that Your Excellency will nevertheless appreciate our good intentions."

LETTER FROM YUNGCHENG.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Yungcheng, January 23rd.

For reasons that I am not permitted to mention at present, but which, when fully explained, will, I believe, justify my action, I have taken the liberty of departing from the plan upon which I was instructed to proceed, and have decided to accompany the Second Army in its expedition to the Shan-tung peninsula. Accordingly, I applied for and obtained passage on board the transport *Yokohama Maru*, Captain Haswell, which was to carry Field-Marshal Oyama and his Staff, as well the foreign military attachés. The Field-Marshal was to leave Kinchow on the 21st, but I bade farewell to that place on the 19th and went on board a little after dusk. The trip back from Kinchow to Talien-wan presented much the same features as those encountered on the route up—the same chain of waggons, carts, coolies, horses, officers, men, and so forth along the whole length of the road. One or two facts that I omitted to mention in my preceding letter, may be described here. I observed that since the advent of the Japanese, all the Chinese in this locality have given up the national practice of shaving the portion of the head in front of the queue. The latter, however, they still retain. Another point worth reference that came to my notice while in Kin-chow is the willingness of the local native population to receive payment in Japanese currency of any kind, whether paper, silver, nicked, or copper. In this respect the Chinese are far easier to deal with than the Koreans, whose utter ignorance makes them still reluctant to receive Japanese money even in localities very near to open ports or Japanese encampments. It is an interesting and often very comic sight to see the Japanese soldiers and coolies making bargains with the Chinese. The latter have learned a few Japanese words, and similiarly, the former know some of the commonest terms in the local vernacular. Thus, through the medium of a compound jargon of the two languages, largely assisted by gesture, purchasers and sellers manage to convey their meaning to each other.

When I called at the Commissariat Office at the Head-quarters to take leave of the officer who had been very kind to me, I saw in the ante-room an exceptionally handsome young Chinese, attired in silk clothes—obviously a gentleman. It was apparent that he must be a sort of a privileged person in the employ of the Army. On enquiry, I found that he was the Chinaman so frequently mentioned in the Japanese press, who welcomed the Second Army on its arrival in the neighbourhood of Pitzu-wo when it landed in October last. He has made valuable presents to the Japanese army on several occasions. His name is 劉翊田 (Liu Woo-ten). He belongs to an illustrious family in Kinchow. His ancestors, devoted adherents of the Ming dynasty, fled to the Liaotung peninsula on the downfall of that dynasty. The family has always been strongly opposed to the Manchu usurpers, and the present representative was glad to welcome the enemies of the reigning dynasty as his friends. I made his acquaintance and exchanged cards.

Having left Kinchow late in the afternoon, it was already dark when I reached Talien-wan, where I at once went on board the *Yokohama Maru*. Some officers and coolies had already preceded me. There were also on board the foreign Military Attachés, Captain du Boulay, Colonel Taylor, Captain O'Brien, and Colonel Woogack.

The next morning, the 20th, was very cold, the water in the harbour being covered with a a thin layer of ice. About 6 a.m., I landed and called at the Commissariat Office, where I was agreeably surprised to meet Dr. Paul and Mr. Cowen. They had arrived at the port the preceding day, and were going up to Kinchow. The 22nd was very cold, 32° F.

At 1 p.m. exactly on the 22nd, the ship started on its voyage, followed by nearly twenty transports. The Field-Marshal and the Staff had come on board the preceding day. As the steamer left her moorings, nearly all the passengers came on deck where the band was playing. It was a grand and exhilirating sight to witness the fleet of transports going out in line. I noticed with much surprise that the transports proceeded the greater part of the distance without the escort of a single man-of-war. Early on the morning of the 23rd, we rounded the extreme point of the Shantung peninsula, and about 8 a.m. entered the port of Yungcheng, and dropped anchor about half a mile off the village of Siao-pia-chwang. The harbour is surrounded by high mountains on all sides, except on the south-east, which is open to the sea. According to a naval officer who came on board that morning, the port is well sheltered from strong gales. All around the mountains are bare, but close to the village there is a handsome grove of pretty large pine trees, which gives the place a certain likeness to some spots on the Tokaido in Japan. A landing can be effected anywhere along the beach for a distance of more than a mile. The shore, as I write, is covered with troops, coolies, and horses, most of whom were landed in the course of the morning. Coolies are already moving briskly along the shore toward the west, and bands of them are visible for a distance of about a mile and a half, where they are lost to view in a valley between two mountains. Presumably the road to Yungcheng lies in that direction, at which town the van of the troops is now quartered.

Since writing the above, I have met a man who has just returned from Yungcheng. He witnessed the landing and went as far as Yungcheng. I obtained the following facts from him. The twenty transports conveying the troops, leaving Talien-wan on the 19th, escorted by four men-of-war, came in sight of the lighthouse at the headland of the Shan-tung Promontory a little before dawn. Shortly afterwards, at about 6 a.m., my informant heard reports of guns. These reports, as he subsequently learned, proceeded from Yungcheng Bay, where an exciting scene on a small scale was being enacted between a

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Chinese battery on shore and a Japanese squadron that had come there to prepare the way for the landing of the troops. A small party consisting of 18 marines and 13 soldiers, tried to land, but was repulsed by the fire from the Chinese battery. Then a smaller party of 7 picked marines from the war-ship *Yayeyama* effected a landing, cut the telegraph line, and afterwards, assisted by a few engineers, succeeded in storming and capturing the Chinese battery with four guns. Everything was now ready for the landing of the troops, which operation was commenced at 8 a.m., and finished before dusk. The landing was effected by boats (*hashike-pune*), a large number of which, with *sendo*, had been brought by the transports. Imagine what a tremendous task it must be to get on shore, say, 30,000 men and several thousands of coolies, together with ammunition, horses, stores, and all other accessories of an Army Division. That the work was accomplished in so short a space of time must be ascribed in part to the experience that the military officers have obtained in this war, and partly to the excellent manner in which the warship *Yayeyama* had arranged matters relating to the landing. The officers from that ship had previously divided the beach into a large number of sections, apportioning them for the use of different battalions and regiments. In this way, and by other devices on the part of the Naval officers, confusion was avoided, and the operation of landing proceeded with perfect smoothness, though heavy snow was falling at the time. About 2 in the afternoon, a battalion (the 4th) was sent forward in the direction of Yung-cheng some 7 or 8 miles west. Like other prefectural towns, it is walled, and the walls are said by some to be much better built than those of Kinchow. Chinese troops stationed there made some slight resistance but were soon put to flight. The Eastern Gate, which was the one attacked by the advanced guard of the Japanese, was scaled by six soldiers and thrown open by them from inside. The Chinese force in the place was estimated at 500. As soon as the town had been entered and occupied, a company was at once sent to pursue the enemy. The battalion passed the night about a mile from Siao-pia-chwang, where it had landed. My informant tells me that various proclamations had been posted in Yungcheng warning the people of the probable descent of a Japanese army and enjoining them in such a case to resist the progress of the invaders. These proclamations, as may well be imagined, did more to frighten the people than to reassure them, and must have caused many a wealthy family to prepare for immediate flight. Nevertheless, the majority of the citizens, I am told, remained in the town. Indeed, the people in these regions are reported to be even better disposed toward the Japanese than those in the Kinchow peninsula. From the very morning of the landing, men came down in large numbers offering for sale various articles of food. A large number, I am informed, have already been engaged as coolies. About 15 or 16 prisoners were taken in Yungcheng, besides a large quantity of ammunition and stores.

The above facts I give on the authority of a person whom I have no reason to doubt. As there on no quarters on shore, the landing of the party in this ship has been delayed, but perhaps to-morrow (24th) we may go ashore.

To-day the British fleet came into port, and Admiral Fremantle paid a visit to Field Marshal Count Oyama.

Among some "wonder working plants" mentioned the other day by Mr. D. Morris, in a London Institution lecture, was the coco-nut palm the most beautiful plant of the tropics, which always leans toward the wind, and whose fruit sometimes produces pearls. These pearls differ from those of the oyster only in being slightly duller. A taste-spoiling plant has leaves that, when chewed, cause sugar to become tasteless and sour things to lose their sourness; and a remarkable—but undoubted and unexplained—effect of the wild tamarind is that of causing horses that eat its leaves to lose the hair of their manes and tails.

CHINESE ARTILLERY.

An officer in command of the Artillery Corps of the First Division, who took part in the battles of Sŏng-hwan, Phyŏng-yang, and Chiulien, made, according to the *Mainichi*, the following remarks on Chinese artillery. Whatever may be said about other points, China, it must be admitted, was well prepared as regards the number of cannon available by her. Not a few of these have fallen into the hands of the Japanese, indeed, she must have lost about half of her artillery. According to the acknowledged tactical rule of modern times, a Division composed of about 1,000 fighting men must have at least 3 cannon. The Chinese conformed to this rule at first, but latterly that has not been the case. Both the troops led by Sung and those of I in the battles of Feng-hwan and Haicheng were several thousand strong, yet they only had 3 or 4 guns. It is evident, therefore, that the Chinese Army in Manchuria is suffering from scarcity of ordnance. Want of uniformity in arms and ammunition is a well-known fault of the Chinese. In rifles, Mausers are used side by side with old breechloaders, and a similar irregularity prevails among the cannon. Krupps predominate, but with them are used home-made guns fashioned after the Krupps, but thicker and not scientifically cast. The Chinese are also careless in their use of cartridges. These are not coated with copper, but with lead which sticks to the side of the barrel when the ball is ejected, thus materially injuring the piece which wears out much more quickly than would a cannon used by the Japanese. The Chinese artillery fire is a miserable performance, but what strikes the Japanese with admiration is the way in which the Chinese soldiers manipulate their cannon. Generally only three soldiers are attached to a heavy piece, which, however, seems to give them no difficulty. The Japanese cannot vie with them in this respect, but that is only owing to their inferior physical strength. There is no regularity in the firing of the Chinese. Each battery works independently, and as the mouth of a gun is directed solely by the gunners, shots come toward the Japanese in a very hap-hazard manner. The *Mainichi's* informant frequently looked to see whether any artillery officer was in the vicinity of a battery, but could never see one. He is of opinion that the officers must always be posted at a distance from the batteries, leaving the soldiers to manage the guns at their own will. The Amoor troops led by General I were rather above the average in respect of fighting strength, but that was because they had not yet been defeated by the Japanese. Henceforth they will be as pusillanimous as the other troops. The informant is said to have boasted that in precision and discipline Japanese Artillery can only be equalled by that of France or Germany.

THE FOURTH DOMESTIC INDUSTRIAL EXHIBITION.

A cluster of fine buildings in front of the Heian Shrine in Kyoto, by which runs the artificial canal, will be the scene of the Fourth Domestic Industrial Exhibition. The first enterprise of the kind in Japan was undertaken in the 10th year of *Meiji* (1877) at Uyeno Park in Tokyo. Two more were held in the same place, but when the prescribed time for holding the Fourth Exhibition drew near, the Chambers of Commerce of the Kwansei districts which are the provinces lying west of the Hakone Pass, tendered an application to the Government. This was to the effect that, as it was best for the furtherance of national industry, commerce, and agriculture to hold Exhibitions in different localities, which idea was moreover embodied in the Regulations for Domestic Exhibitions, the Fourth Domestic Exhibition should take place in some suitable locality in the Kwansei districts. Just at that time the Kyoto citizens conceived the idea of celebrating in the 28th year of *Meiji* (1895) the eleven hundredth anniversary of the removal of the Imperial seat to Kyoto, or Heian as it was formerly called, and they requested the Government to hold the next Exhibition in that city. The plan being approved both by the Government and Diet, Imperial Ordinance No. XVI. was issued on April 5th of the 26th year of *Meiji* (1893), fixing that the Fourth Exhibition should be held at Okazaki-cho in the Kamikyo division of Kyoto. H.I.H. Prince Kumatsu was nominated Superintendent, and Viscount Enomoto, Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce, Vice-Superintendent of the Exhibition, while Mr. Kuki was appointed Head of the Committee, and Mr. Kaneko, Vice-Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce, Chief Manager.

The Exhibition covers an area of 80,000 *tsubo*, donated for the purpose by the citizens of Kyoto. The buildings occupy about 9,600 *tsubo*. The principal are those devoted to general Industry (4,050 *tsubo*), Machinery (1,200 *tsubo*), Agriculture and Forestry (1,440 *tsubo*), Marine Industry (540 *tsubo*), Fine Arts (420 *tsubo*), and Live Stock (600 *tsubo*), besides which there are the Committee Rooms and Offices of various kinds. The front approach to the Exhibition faces a bridge laid over the canal, and midway stands a large fountain. In the wide space in front of the approach trees are planted, giving the place the look of a large garden. The exhibits are grouped in seven classes:—1, general industry; 2, fine arts and fine art industry; 3, agriculture, forestry and horticulture; 4, marine industry; 5, education and science; 6, mining and metallurgy; 7, machinery. In the General Industry Building the exhibits coming under classes 1, 5, and 6 are arranged. This building stands just within the front approach and is large and square with an inner yard. In it is the greatest number of exhibits. Crossing the rectangular yard, the visitor will find on the eastern side a place where pot plants are arranged for show, and a miniature garden laid out in purely Japanese style. The Machinery Building is on the right-hand side of the gallery leading from the Industry Building and faces the Agriculture and Forestry Building, while the Marine Industry Building is on the east of that for Machinery, attached to it being an aquarium showing live fish. The Fine Arts exhibits and others allied to them are arranged in a building north of that for Marine Industry. It is intended that the Fine Arts Building shall remain after the Exhibition is closed, and its construction is therefore somewhat different from that of the other edifices. A fountain stands in front of it. Two buildings at the extreme east of the premises are set apart for the exhibition of purely agricultural articles coming under class 3. In the General Industry, Marine Industry, and Agriculture and Forestry Buildings, the exhibits are arranged according to the order of the provinces sending them, while in the other three structures they are classified according to their kind. The Offices and Committee Rooms are on the west of the premises, being reached by the gate leading to the Nijo thoroughfare. The exhibitors' rooms, rooms for unpacking, and Post and Telegraph Office, are all on the premises. Sales rooms of various descriptions are to be found beyond the Canal. The Exhibition is to open on the 1st of next April and to close on the 31st of July. The Buildings for Live Stock will only be opened twice for short periods, namely, from the 1st to the 15th of May, and from, the 26th of May to the 9th of June. The Exhibition will remain open every day from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., but this may be altered according to circumstances. All persons over 5 years of age must provide themselves with tickets. The latter are of three kinds, the Sunday ticket (red, price 10 *sen*); the Saturday ticket (white, 3 *sen*), and the ordinary day ticket (blue, 5 *sen*). Visitors will not be allowed to touch the exhibits except by special consent, nor will they be permitted to copy or take photographs of any exhibit without having previously secured the consent of the Exhibitor or Exhibition Office. A ceremony for the purpose of awarding prizes will be held on July 11th.

The Heian Shrine dedicated to the Emperor Kwammu may be seen from the back gate of the Exhibition grounds.

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ADMIRAL COUNT KAWAMURA AND THE CORRESPONDENT OF THE NEW YORK "WORLD."

HAD the correspondent of the New York *World* been a eulogist instead of a detractor of Japan, it is safe to say that he would have been smothered long ago in a torrent of local abuse. That, in truth, is one of the most interesting and suggestive phases of the miserable Port Arthur affair. The *World's* correspondent has been convicted of palpable falsehoods, yet not one word of censure has he received from the local foreign press of Yokohama, the *Japan Mail* excepted. The correspondent of the *New York Herald*, on the contrary, having untruly asserted that he arrived at Phyöng-yang in time to see the end of the first day's battle, has been pilloried until his name is a by-word. But then, he was pro-Japanese. There is the difference. The *World's* correspondent, in an account of the fight at Phyöng-yang, extending over several columns, constructed sentence after sentence in such a manner as to convey the impression that he had been an eye-witness of the events he described. Further, in his telegraphic story of the Port Arthur excesses, he committed himself to several serious exaggerations, and concluded by a deliberate falsehood, that the foreign correspondents, "horrified by the spectacle, had left the Army in a body." Yet he has been covered with applause by Yokohama journals, has been publicly thanked as a benefactor of the community, and has been quoted as a witness of unimpeachable veracity. It furnishes, we repeat, a curious contrast, does the treatment extended to him as compared with that extended to the New York *Herald's* representative. Not even the hacknied acusation of mercenary motives invariably preferred against every one that ventures to say a word in Japan's defence, has been wanting in this case. However, it is useless to dwell on these too familiar methods. We proceed at once to our purpose, namely, to expose another of the falsehoods told by Mr. JAMES CREELMAN. In his account of the Port Arthur affair, it did not content him to invoke public execration on the heads of Japan's soldiers; he extended his abuse to her sailors also. "During the battle," he writes, "Japanese torpedo-boats sunk ten junks laden with terror-stricken people. Torpedo-boats were going through the waves sinking junks loaded with men, women, and children endeavouring to escape. The water was filled with drowning inhabitants." Now it is quite plain that Mr. JAMES CREELMAN was not competent to make any such assertion. The Japanese men-of-war and torpedo-boats were outside the harbour, and at a long distance from the forts. In other words, they were miles away from any position that a correspondent on shore could have occupied at the time. The acts he attributes to them and their results must have been quite beyond the range of his observation. The impudence of his falsehood becomes even more palpable when he undertakes to identify as non-combatants people drowning in the sea so far away as to be scarcely discernible at all. But in addition to this intrinsic evidence of falsehood, we have now the positive evidence of Admiral Count KAWAMURA, who was with the fleet all the while. Here is the Admiral's statement as published by the *Fiji Shimpo* :—

> On the day of the battle, our fleet came round from the left of Port Arthur and was nearing Chin Bay, when we suddenly observed a small steamer approaching the place from the west. It flew no flag, and its behaviour on sighting our ships being evidently suspicious, the Flag-ship signalled to intercept it. Then, for the first time, it ran up the British flag. Having been conducted by a torpedo boat to the neighbourhood of the Flag-ship, a boat was lowered from the latter, and the steamer, having been boarded, proved to be the *Kinriu*. Nothing questionable was found on board, and presently the British man-of-war *Archer*, which happened to be in the vicinity, sent an officer to explain that the steamer was in truth an English trading vessel. She was accordingly released. Our ships now steamed round outside Chin Bay. At about 4 p.m., as we were heading to the east of Port Arthur, we observed two small steamers leave the port and steer westward. Our immediate impression was that the Chinese commanding officers were escaping in these steamers. One of the two presently turned back to Port Arthur, apparently apprehensive of being struck by the missiles that the forts were firing, but the other held her course, and was pursued by one of our torpedo-boats. Unable to escape by sea, she was run ashore at the base of Laotieshan by her crew, and every one on board landed and escaped, the steamer falling into our hands. That night the wind grew so boisterous and the sea so rough that the Flag-ship signalled the Squadrons to return to Talien Bay. The above is an exact statement of the doings of the ships on the day of the battle. No cruelty or excess of any kind was perpetrated. The correspondent of the American newspaper was with the Army on shore: he was not with the fleet, and it is evident that he could not see what the fleet did. For what reason has he invented the story that Chinese junks were sunk and men and women, old and young, barbarously killed? Did he expect to enhance the fame of his own newspaper by defaming other people? Or did he look to achieve some other object of ambition by such fabrications? I am at a loss to conceive.

It thus appears that Mr. JAMES CREELMAN'S tale about "ten junks laden with terror-stricken people" being sunk by Japanese torpedo-boats, and about "the water being filled with drowning inhabitants," is a total falsehood. Not a syllable of it is true. The Japanese torpedo-boats did not sink or fire on a single junk, and not a solitary person lost his life through their agency. It does not follow, of course, that everything related by Mr. CREELMAN is untrue because the man himself has been proved to have no regard for truth. Some of the excesses laid by him to the charge of the Japanese troops are substantiated by collateral testimony. But it does follow that the columns of the New York *World* are the last authority to be consulted by any one desiring to learn the exact facts of the Port Arthur affair.

WALKING DOWN THE RANKS.

THE *coup d'œil* that enables an observer to analyse and synthesise the qualities of a nation after half a dozen days' observation, is not given to one in a million. But probably one in every ten thinks that he possesses it. It is pleasant to meet these believers in their own perspicacity: their moral swagger is so fine; the courage of their phraseology is so inspiriting. Colonel HENRY KNOLLYS is one of them. What he does not know about the Chinese and the Japanese is not worth knowing. A few years ago, probably about 1885—we forget the exact date, though it ought to be impressed on our recollection—the gallant Colonel, then a Major, visited Japan, and spent about three weeks "doing" the country. During that time he invented a phrase, "imitative, but not initiative." It delighted its inventor and imposed on many of his less self-assertive friends. "Imitative, but not initiative"! Suppose that a man, having just acquired ability to read, were placed in an immense library stocked with books embodying the pith and marrow of the world's scientific and philosophical research during the past ten centuries. After what lapse of time would it be just to call him "assimilative, not original" because he had devoted himself entirely to exploiting these immense stores of novel knowledge instead of venturing into the path of authorship on his own account? Major KNOLLYS had found that the limber-boxes in a Japanese field-battery were packed as English artillerists pack the same receptacles. Had he discovered any variation from the "sealed pattern," it is probable that he would have dubbed the Japanese "docile, but defective." Finding identity, however, he invented his formula "imitative, but not initiative," and went away happy. A phrase has often accomplished formidable results, but Major KNOLLYS' phrase proved very ephemeral. It had long been forgotten, when the words and their deviser were recalled by an article in *Blackwood's* for November. There we have the Major—now a Colonel—discoursing in the "cocksure" accents of other days. Lapse of years has not impaired his colossal self-confidence. He is still the same deliverer of omniscient judgments in epigrammatic language. No fragment of observation is too small in his eyes to support a pinnacle of deduction; no "yarn" too ornate to embellish a page of solemn history. His contempt for the Chinese is splendid in its thoroughness. There is not one redeeming feature in the whole nation. It is true that the Colonel brings no fresh pigments to paint the revolting picture he limns. His palette is confined to colours prepared by others. But he lays them on with his own brush, and what a brush it is to be sure! "A Chinese officer," he says, "provided he be rich and quiet, is content

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to be infamous. He has not the faintest idea of that sense of honour which feels a stain like a wound. To imply to him that he is a thief, a liar, and a coward would scarcely convey greater offence than to charge an English gentleman with being an inveterate punster." Is not that fine? How conspicuous is the "sense of honour," how marked the respect for truth, inspiring such a magnificently damning verdict! None but a punctiliously honourable, a scrupulously honest, man would venture to call the military officers of a whole nation "thieves, liars, and cowards." Besides, Colonel KNOLLYS has a merit seldom associated with volubility and omniscience. He always adduces the testimony on which his conclusions are founded, and it is always conclusive testimony. Here, for instance, is one of his proofs that Chinese officers lack "the faintest sense of honour," and are "thieves, liars and cowards:"—

I was on board a ship of the China Merchants Company, conveying a Chinese general and some hundreds of his men to Foochow. The general, in support of his own dignity, claimed to dine with the five or six Europeans present, and we all exerted ourselves to treat him with the utmost civility and consideration. But the poor fish-out-of-water crawled cringingly to his meals, replied tremblingly to the conversation I addressed to him in French—he knew little English—and shrank servilely into a corner at the conclusion of the repasts. He had little general education, less professional knowledge, and no dignity of address whatever, whether European or Oriental. On disembarking at Pagoda Anchorage, he suddenly blossomed into a high official, and was received with great pomp by his garrison. But on closer examination I realised that the latter consisted of a disorderly mob, and that the blaze of colour was chiefly due to a conglomeration of standards, amounting to about 50 per cent. of the fighting strength.

Could any one fail to be impressed by this picture? Some of us may have formed a different impression of the individual Chinaman; may have learned to regard him as a person of high intelligence, fine physique, often handsome face, and nearly always dignified demeanour. But that blundering estimate is merely because we have not climbed to Colonel KNOLLYS' pinnacle of observation. Could we get there, we should at once recognise "the poor fish-out-of-water, crawling cringingly to his meals, replying tremblingly to conversation, and shrinking servilely into a corner at the conclusion of a repast." Perhaps, after all, our illusions are pleasanter than the Colonel's horrible realities. Still we are bound to worship such a divinity of intelligence and acuteness. He does not even suffer us to entertain any fond fancies about the fighting qualities of the Japanese soldier. We have been accustomed to regard the latter as a brave fellow before everything; a man imbued with the instinct of battle; a man ready at all times to sacrifice life to military honour. But Colonel KNOLLYS knows better. He has taken the true measure of the Japanese. This is his verdict:—

No; the Jap. will remain a Jap., do what you will to dress him, and arm him, and drill him as a European soldier. You may discipline him into military semblance, but you will never manufacture him into a "vielle moustache." Relax the stringency of barrack life, and set him to campaigning work, and nature will insist on reasserting herself; the soldier will rapidly revert to coolie instincts—a thoroughly well-behaved coolie, but still a coolie.

As usual, the conscientious Colonel submits the evidence upon which this sweeping verdict is founded. He did not find in Japan any of the defects conspicuous in China. He did not discover there any of the cheating, lying, cowardice, and patent military ineptitude that he saw in China. On the contrary, he found "infantry precise and efficient in their movements;" "cavalry fair, though scanty in numbers;" and "artillery the aspect and efficiency of which so enamoured him that he could not resist the temptation of personally assisting in the manœuvres of the field batteries." But then, something ominous happened: he walked down the ranks. This man with the miraculous *coup d'œil* walked down the ranks. If the process of dining with a Chinese General showed him "a poor fish-out-of-water, crawling cringingly to his meals, replying tremblingly to conversation, and shrinking servilely into corners," was it not inevitable that stupendous discoveries should attend his perambulation up and down the ranks of a Japanese battalion? "The aspect and the turn-out of the three arms—infantry, cavalry, and artillery—left little to be desired," but then came the walk down the ranks, with this result:—

And yet—as we walk down the ranks a sensation of illusion creeps over us, for the spirit of the soldier is not here. Here are not men with an innate love of fighting, who would take the initiative of danger, and who, out of hand in their eagerness, would storm a position with a cheer. That they have fought fiercely against the Chinese does not confute my suggestion, because in this case national hatred has been roused to fury, and has assumed the phase of personal animosity rather than that of the courage of a soldier.

Such are the discoveries made by "walking down the ranks," when one is endowed with a divine *coup d'œil*.

THE TWO HOUSES OF THE DIET.

THE experience of all bicameral systems of parliamentary government is apparently not destined to be upset in Japan's case. Already the House of Peers and the House of Representatives stand in marked opposition to each other, the former adopting a conservative attitude, the latter, a radical. Five reforms receive in every session the early and earnest attention of the House of Representatives, and, having been embodied in Bills, are sent to the House of Peers, there to be either rejected *in toto*, or so materially amended that a *via media* between the two branches of the Legislature cannot be easily found. Those five measures are, the abolition of the Peace Preservation Regulations, the abolition of the Law of Premonition, the abolition of the Special System of Local Government in the Three Cities, the amendment of the Press Law, and the amendment of Law No. 84 of the 23rd year of *Meiji*. The Diet has not yet been in actual session for more than three weeks, yet the Lower House has passed the whole of the above five measures and the Upper House has already rejected three of them and radically altered one. The abolition of the Special System of Local Government in Tokyo, Osaka, and Kyoto cannot properly be called a political question, but seems undoubtedly to be desired by the great majority of the citizens of those places. The Government, on its side, does not claim that the Special System as it now exists is entirely satisfactory. It merely asserts that there must be some special system in view of the exceptional conditions that distinguish the "Three Capitals," as they are called, from all other administrative districts in the empire. Last session when this problem came up for discussion, the Minister for Home Affairs announced that an official Bill amending the present system was in course of preparation, and urged the expediency of taking no decisive step in the sense of abolishing the present system until the projected substitute was ready to take its place. To this view the Lower House paid no attention, but abolished the Special System off hand, repeating the operation this session. The Peers, on the contrary, finding that the Government's revised Bill was not forthcoming as promised, asked the reason why, and having been informed that the measure could not be satisfactorily drafted, pending the issue of negotiations now in progress for opening the country to foreigners, voted to keep the Special System in force for the present. That does not constitute a very marked divergence of opinion between the two Houses, but the question has become more accentuated than the above bald statement indicates. The Peace Preservation Regulations, however, are a very distinct bone of contention. Session after session the Lower House has rescinded them, and session after session the Upper House has voted in the opposite sense, the Commons claiming that the Regulations are an unconstitutional outrage, and the Peers asserting that they are a necessity. The same story covers the case of the Law of Premonition, except that the Upper House has not yet been called upon to vote about it this session. Law No. 84 belongs to a similar category. It is a statute providing that persons violating Administrative Ordinances shall be liable to a fine not exceeding 200 *yen* and to Minor Imprisonment for not more than one year. The Opposition in the Lower House cannot reconcile themselves to the idea of enforcing any purely official order by punitive processes so drastic. They denounce the thing as unconstitutional, and insist on cutting down the maximum fine to 50 *yen*, and changing the Minor Imprisonment to Police Detention, overlooking the obvious fact that, if a fine of 200 *yen* and a term of imprisonment be unconstitutional, so

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also are a fine of 50 *yen* and a term of detention. The Upper House, appreciating that principle and crediting the Government's declaration that Administrative Ordinances could not be properly enforced by milder means, votes uniformly for preserving the impugned Law. Finally, we have the greatly vexed question of the Press Laws, which virtually reduces itself to the one problem of Suspension. The Commons insist that the power of Suspension and Suppression must be removed altogether from the hands of the Minister of State for Home Affairs. The Peers contend that the power is essential to the proper control of newspapers such as Japan has at present, but at the same time consider that its exercise ought to be modified by two provisions, namely, that the reason for suspension or suppression should be distinctly stated, and that the term should be limited to one day in the case of a diurnal newspaper, and to three issues in the case of a periodical. A compromise between the two views would evidently mean a material addition to the privilege of free speech now enjoyed in Japan, but it is to be feared that the temper of the Lower House precludes any chance of compromise.

From the above brief statement our readers will be able to form a tolerably clear conception of the lines along which the forces of parliamentary Conservatism and Radicalism range themselves at present in Japan.

MR. JAMES CREELMAN.

THE methods of Mr. JAMES CREELMAN'S eulogists constitute an interesting psychological study. The man has been convicted of the grossest exaggerations and the most palpable falsehoods, yet he is still held up as a mirror of truth and accuracy. The latest exposure of his romancing was made by Admiral Count KAWAMURA. Mr. JAMES CREELMAN appears to have thought that unless he managed to include the Japanese Navy in his story of the Port Arthur atrocities the indictment would not be complete. Accordingly, he included the Fleet in a most thorough manner. He declared that during the assault on Port Arthur Japanese torpedo-boats "were going through the waves sinking junks loaded with men, women and children endeavouring to escape;" that "ten junks laden with terror-stricken people were thus sunk and that "the water was filled with drowning inhabitants." Admiral Count KAWAMURA, on the other hand, avers that not a single junk was sunk by the torpedo-boats, that not a single junk was even seen by them, and that the only Chinese vessel they pursued was run ashore and abandoned by its crew. No two statements could be in more complete opposition. Admiral Count KAWAMURA'S testimony is not negative, but positive. He describes every operation of the topedo-boats in the sense referred to, and says that no such operation as that spoken of by Mr. JAMES CREELMAN ever took place. What is the defence now attempted of Mr. CREELMAN? It is this:—"Count KAWAMURA, being at sea in command of a squadron, can hardly be expected to have seen every movement of all his torpedo-boats, and it may well be that certain things occurred which did not come under his observation." Count KAWAMURA, by the way, was not in command of a squadron at all. He was with the Fleet by the EMPEROR'S orders for the express purpose of observing and reporting upon its operations. But that is a detail. The main point is the extreme comicality of the defence. Count KAWAMURA was with the Fleet; therefore his statement of its doings is probably defective. Mr. JAMES CREELMAN was not with the Fleet, but miles away from it; therefore his statement of its doings is probably more comprehensive than Count KAWAMURA'S Could any attempt to impose upon public intelligence be more naïve? There is another defence also. "Mr. VILLIERS," we are informed, "told the Editor of the *Japan Gazette* that he saw two junks fired into, so that, so far, Mr. CREELMAN'S testimony is corroborated." How is it corroborated, we should like to know. The whole question now under discussion relates to the conduct of the Navy. It has nothing whatever to do with the behaviour of the Army. Did Mr. VILLIERS say that he saw torpedo-boats fire into two junks? It is curious that no hint of anything of the kind is contained in his published interview with a representative of the *Japan Gazette*. If he said, as Mr. CREELMAN himself says elsewhere in his account, that junks attempting to leave the harbour were fired into by the soldiers, that has no manner of connection with his independent assertion that ten junks were sunk by the torpedo-boats outside the harbour. Finally, it is urged in behalf of Mr. Mr. CREELMAN'S veracity that "all his other assertions in connection with Port Arthur have been found accurate." Have they indeed? Was he accurate when he penned the wretched falsehood that the correspondents, "horrified by the spectacle, left the Army in a body?" That one lie should have been enough to prevent any honest reader from attaching full credence to the tales published in the columns of the *New York World*. We do not wish it to be thought that we seek to defend the Japanese troops. We believe that they committed disgraceful excesses and that they greatly impaired the prestige that their country was rapidly winning. But let us have the truth about what they did. Let us not be betrayed into the injustice of accepting as gospel the sensational romances of Mr. JAMES CREELMAN.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[Our readers must distinctly understand that we are in no sence responsible for the sentients or opinions of our correspondents, for the accuracy of their assertions, or for the deductions they may choose to draw therefrom.]

THE IROKWAI.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Since the military Head-quarters were removed to Hiroshima and the Sendai garrison also temporarily quartered there, a society composed of local Christian workers has been for days and weeks doing what it could for the large body of men now in the city. The long name of the society is *Kirisuto Kyoto Domei Senji Gunjin Irokwai*. It is briefly called the *Irokwai*. Its efforts have been true to the full name, united efforts to comfort soldiers at this time of war. A few ministers and others, both Japanese and foreign, from outside of Hiroshima, have gone for longer or shorter visits as the time of each would allow, to render such assistance as they might to the well-nigh overwhelmed members of the local society. Books, pictures, papers, and Bibles, or portions of the Bible, have been distributed in the hospitals and among the soldiers and men quartered in the city. Preaching places have been opened in different parts of the city, where daily preaching has been fairly well attended, and many earnest, intelligent inquirers have been met in private conversation. The men expecting to start for the front at any moment and realizing that they are offering their lives for their country's cause, were many of them most serious. And it is believed that substantial comfort has been afforded these men at a crucial point in their lives. Two or three large social gatherings were held in the spacious buildings and grounds of the Methodist Girls School for the strengthening of ties already formed, the giving of mutual comfort, and the strengthening of every good purpose. These gatherings, it is said, were well attended and eminently successful.

Your correspondent reached Hiroshima on the evening of the 9th inst., and it so happened that the following three days were occupied by the embarking at Ujina of some 25,000 fighting men, together with all the *attachés*, including a large number of coolies for service of various sorts. As the last bit of cheer the *Irokwai* could give these departing men, a house well out on the line of march from Hiroshima to Ujina was secured, and modestly decorated for the occasion. "Long live the Imperial arms," and such sentiments written in large characters were conspicuously placed in front of the house. The Okayama Orphanage band, twenty strong, were there in bright uniforms, with bugle, fife, and drum. And for three days, as each company of men passed by, the Christian workers gave them a cheer (*banzai*) and the band discoursed its best music. All alike were greeted as they passed by, from the returned heroes, General Yamagata and Prince Fushimi, to the warmly coated bearers of burdens. And the responses of all were alike hearty.

These forces gone, the streets of the city were less crowded; houses hitherto packed full with strangers were once again left to quiet and to their own native members, and one stage of *Irokwai* work was finished. There is still much that may be done in the hospitals, but the minds of all involuntarily follow the troops just departed. Among them are many personal acquaintances, a goodly company of believers in the same Father and in his Son, the Saviour of the world, and a much larger number who in the strange land to which they go will greatly need the friendly word and act of sympathy and help we should all be glad to give. What can be done? Can any one be sent? These are questions of deep interest to those who saw the troops pass out to Ujina. On the evening of the 14th inst. a free consultation among all those interested who could be called together confirmed the opinion that it is both desirable and practicable to send messengers of ministration—chaplains shall we call them, for lack of a fitter term?—to be with the armies. The unanimous thought was:

(1.) That not Hiroshima alone but every Christian in Japan should be appealed to for sympathy and such support as he or she could render.

(2.) That central authority and reponsibility be vested in a committee of some half score of men who can meet in Hiroshima for consultation as occasion may demand. These men were tentatively named.

(3.) That for the sake of interesting a large constituency in all parts of the country, co-operating committees be chosen in several central localities to work with the central

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committee in raising funds in such other ways as may be practicable.

(4.) That for the present two chaplains be sent, to the *dai ni shidan* that has just left Hiroshima. Other chaplains may be sent later to the other armies as the experience of the first two may make it seem wise and as the men and means may be available.

This, of course, is all conditional upon permission being granted by the Authorities, but of such permission being granted those nearest the centre have little doubt.

These plans are likely to be considerably modified by the central committee when it meets. But whatever be the plans in detail, the movement seems worthy of the cordial co-operation of every benevolent European in Japan, as well as that of the Japanese themselves. The central committee were very likely organizing and holding their first meetings last night and to-day. I write now to bespeak in advance the interest of your readers and their readiness to help on the enterprise. I write too with the thought that this same issue of the *Mail* may have a later word on the subject from some member of the central committee now in Hiroshima.

Yours truly, GEORGE M. ROWLAND.

Tottori, January 22nd, 1895.

INFORMATION WANTED.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—Your issue of the 21st inst. states that the maximum horizontal motion during the earthquake of the 18th January was 41 m/m. in 9". As this only equals 16·4 metres an *hour*, a motion so slow as to appear incompatible with the violence of the vibrations, I feel sure there is some special interpretation put upon these figures by the initiated, and shall be obliged if one of them will kindly explain it for the benefit of an

IGNORAMUS.

January 29th, 1895.

MISSING HEIRS AND KINDRED, 1894.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—In the course of a year many thousands of notices appear in the "Agony" columns of the Press enquiring for missing heirs, legatees, and others. Many of these advertisements, apart from their monetary value, possess a curious air of romance, which renders them of great general interest. A short summary of the more important cases for the year may, therefore, be worthy of record.

Among many persons whose next-of-kin are enquired for may be mentioned John Ismay French, who died intestate, without child, parent, brother, sister, uncle, aunt, nephew or niece, and whose estate is valued at £147,734; H. T. H. Thompson, late Swedish Vice-Consul at Morocco; George Dean, of Northumberland, who died 40 years ago; Catherine Gardner, for many years lady's maid to a Countess, deceased about 1820; the daughter of an artist who emigrated to Australia; John Henderson, of Berwick-on-Tweed in 1842; Samuel Kerslake, a brewer, who died in 1827, and whose parents were married in 1736; John O'Connor, deceased at Panama in 1845; Robert J. W., storekeeper, who died in Auckland; Joseph Jacques, who left for Australia in 1853; a Band Master, late of the Bengal Infantry; Rose M'Ardle, who died in Queensland in 1870; a watch-case maker; and Mary A. Clayton, of St. Petersburg.

Numerous enquiries for missing persons are made by the Court of Chancery. The absentees include the grandchildren of the Rev. Daniel D., who died in 1820; the next-of-kin of William Rowley, who emigrated to North America in 1784; the heir-at-law of Joseph Hall, of Coventry, who died in 1837; Francis Lupton, who left York in 1872 to attend race meetings; Robert B., supposed to have been drowned in California whilst attempting to cross a river; Ann Hill, of Baltimore in 1855; Eleanor H. Tomlins, last heard of in America in 1820; the brothers and sisters of Robert Parratt, who died at Tooting Common in 1875; David Wotton, of Melbourne, who died in 1883; and Betsey Savage, who emigrated 50 years ago, and who is entitled to share in five houses in Cambridgeshire.

Many lucky individuals are wanted for "something to their advantage." These include the children of George Hansum, who is believed to have been killed by a fall from a waggon 40 years ago; the son of the late Sir Jacob Preston; W. Purchase, who emigrated in 1848; the sisters of James Scott, of Fifeshire, afterwards of South Africa; J. W. Kirton, known as "the Wanderer"; D. A. N., who was sentenced to seven years transportation at the Bradford Assizes in 1838; the son of Thomas Peachey, of Calcutta; Mrs. Muir, who left Scotland for New Zealand in 1873; Sarah Gover, of Salt Lake City in 1869; and the relatives of Q. Carswell, late inmate of a Mariner's Asylum; while Martha P., London, who was thrown out of a cab and taken to a hospital eleven years ago; Stephen Peacock, of Australia in 1877, and John Colston, late of Manchester, are wanted for something "greatly" to their benefit.

Persons claiming to be interested in twenty houses, bequeated by the will of James Thompson, an innkeeper, who died in 1867, are sought; and a considerable sum of money awaits the next-of-kin of David Cowan, of Dublin. The heirs of Stephen Denison and James Douglas, who were engaged in the Texas Revolution in 1836, and of Daniel Cotter, who went to America thirty years ago, are missing; while persons entitled to £2,075, arising from the estate of Henry Atkinson, who died in 1743, are only now sought. Hugh Strath, of Manchester, is interested in the estate of J. M. Strath, of Cape Town; the heir-at-law of Thomas Lewis, of Ludlow, who died in 1811, is wanted; and the residuary estate of Abraham Murcott of Leamington Priors, deceased in 1863, is about to be distributed, as is also that of Peter L., formerly of Hamburg, who mysteriously disappeared many years ago. The widow of James Marsden, brush manufacturer, of Liverpool, or her heirs, are sought; also the heirs of E. Middlemass, of Edinburgh, who died in 1842. Claimants are wanted to a freehold plot of land near Manchester, part of the estate of James Weeks, who died in 1875; nothing is known of the heirs of L. Hirschfield, of independent means, who died in Berlin, and the division of a Chancery fund only awaits tidings of J. W. Evans, last heard of at Queensland.

Over £2,000, arising from the estate of Michael Mahon, of Dublin, bankrupt in 1797, is now divisible; funds await Richard Carr, formerly of Sandhurst, Australia; and Georgina Davis, of Ohio in 1880, is informed that her cousin is dead, and that she is greatly interested in the event. William C., a hawker of tea, who in 1844 was convicted of arson and transported for life, is entitled to funds; and the heirs of Ann Wilcox, who died in an Asylum, are entitled to estates. Among other missing beneficiaries may be mentioned George Chalmers, who left Scotland for Australia in 1852; J. G. Stephenson, who sailed from Dundee to London in 1858 in search of employment; Thomas Hull, who emigrated thirty years ago; and John Ross, of Armagh, who left for Australia many years since. In pursuance of the law of Prussia, notice is given that 6,000 marks await the son of M. E. Schnabel, who is supposed to have gone to America; and funds also await the representatives of John Woodmass, of Dumfries, born in 1774, and Agnes Gifford, deceased prior to 1821.

The representatives of Hannah Jordan, widow, who died in 1754; Nathaniel Gifford, deceased in 1716; Elizabeth Harrison, widow, who died in 1759, and Rebecca Dixon, supposed to have died in 1833, are only now sought; funds await the residuary legatees of shareholders in the Edinburgh Academy; and Daniel Prust, last heard of in America, is entitled to lands in Devonshire. The heirs of William Peacock, of King's Lynn in 1873, and the relatives of Anthony Crosby, believed to have died in 1855, are wanted; also the representatives of Sydney Norton, who was drowned at Malta in 1869. The son of Captain C. W. S., who formerly served in Zululand, is enquired for; also the son of a surgeon in the army, said to have died prior to 1824.

The next-of kin of William Pollock, formerly of Blantyre, a noted stonebreaker, are wanted, and the heirs of Henry Ward, deceased abroad, who was twenty-six years in the employ of a London Hospital, are missing. A very liberal reward is offered for a clue to a "million inheritance," said to have been left by a German gentleman who died in London under an assumed name; and information is wanted as to the parentage of of Helen Blake, deceased intestate in 1876, and whose estate, valued at £140,000, became the property of the Crown in the absence of heirs.

In addition to the foregoing, notification is made that large sums are due to representatives of share holders in the West New Jersey Society, on whose stock no dividends have been paid since 1692; the Colonial Governments have issued long lists of intestates who have left money for their unknown heirs; the Treasury Solicitor has advertised for next-of-kin in some forty cases in which estates have fallen to the Crown in the absence of heirs and by reason of intestacy; notices are published respecting unclaimed dividends on Government Stocks; the War Office notify that many sums are due to soldiers' kin; and large rewards are offered for Missing, Wills, Birth, Marriage, and Death Certificates.

I am, Sir, your obedient Servant,

SIDNEY H. PRESTON.

Lonsdale Chambers, 27, Chancery Lane, London, W.C., 26th December, 1894.

JAPANESE TROOPS AND FROST.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—The *Mail* of January 25th contains a report of an interview between Count Okuma and a representative of the *Kokumin*, in which my name is mentioned repeatedly. The remarks attributed to me there can not be allowed to pass uncontradicted, as they convey to a great extent almost exactly the contrary of what I really said. For instance, I am credited with the monstrous statement that about one-third of the whole German army then in France (which numbered over 600,000 men) was incapacitated by frost!!

The fact is, that about a month ago Count Okuma asked my opinion about the probable resistance to cold of the Japanese soldiers in the north of China.

I said we knew now that, with suitable clothing and sufficient warm food, an army could stand a surprising amount of cold and go on fighting at the same time. As a proof I adduced the German army in the war of 1870-71; when the actual losses from cold were *exceedingly small*, although fighting often went on in the snow for several consecutive days or even nights, and although the cold during the terrible struggle near Belfort in January, 1871, was about the same as the lowest temperature reported so far from the First Japanese Army.

As to the Japanese, I said they astonished every foreigner coming to this country by the way they could stand or walk in the snow or cold weather, bare legged or thinly clad without apparent damage to their health. Besides, I had read it reported by Mantegazza, that the Italians and Spaniards stood the cold during the Russian campaign of 1812 as well or even better than the soldiers from middle or northern Europe. So in my opinion the Japanese ought not to be too much afraid of the effect of the winter in China.

Then it was Count Okuma who said that, according to the latest reports (second half of December) the soldiers in Manchuria suffered nevertheless much from frost-bites, and he gave some number, which struck me as indeed very high, until I heard a satisfactory explanation from Surgeon-General Ishiguro some weeks afterwards.

These few remarks will make it sufficiently clear, that either Count Okuma has been deceived by his memory or that his interviewer has blundered sadly.

I am, Sir, yours faithfully, E. BAELZ.

12, Kagayashiki, Tokyo, Jan. 27th, 1895.

THE JAPANESE NEW TESTAMENT TRANSLATION.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—I wish to thank my worthy critics for the interest they have taken in the late question under the above heading, and for the able way they have discussed it. It is not my present purpose to add anything especially to what has already been said. In passing, I may say, however, that as "Epsilon" well observes, my remarks are intended to be purely critical, not doctrinal, hence have to do with the points in question as *translations* not as comments. As such it seems to me the words used are without due authority. Both the primary and derived meaning of *Keiosu* and *Sabaki* seem to me to very closely resemble each other, and there is no more reason for adding "righteous" to the one than the other. *Keiosu:—a separating, power of distinguishing, decision, judgment. Sabaki:—The unravelling of anything perplexing or intricate, as a lawsuit; the selling of goods, judgment, sentence.* A parallel case to "*tadashiki sabaki*" is found in the older edition (明治十九年) of the translation in Acts, 12:15, where it says:—*mamoru ten no tsukai—guardian angel*; but in the later editions I notice *mamoru*—guardian, has been dropped, leaving the reader to make his own comment as to whether it was Peter's guardian angel or some other kind. It seems to me by the same authority (rather for the lack of it) *tadashiki* in Acts, 8:33 can have no place in the text as a translation. If anyone writing a commentary on Acts should see fit to say it was Jesus' *righteous* judgment that was taken away, I am sure I shall not feel disposed to call it in question. *Yoshitsuji* in 1 Tim., 3:11, seems to me to have crept into the text precisely on the same ground as *tadashiki*, namely, as a comment in the translator's mind. As to the [illegible] worthy critic "A.," that

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there is no adequate word in the Japanese language to express *γυνή* (pl. ac. *γυναῖκας* as found in the text) it seems to me that for as common and important beings as women, found in all countries, and that Japan has never been without, there ought not to be any difficult in finding an adequate term to express the idea without being put to the necessity of taking a general view of the whole "context" and thus deducing a word entirely unknown as a definition of *γυνή*. Moreover, I find in the eleventh verse of the previous chapter, the translators seemed to think *onna* the proper word for *γυνή*, and so translated it.

There are some other points I hope to present for criticism as opportunity may afford. For the present I only mention one other. In Luke 1:77 we have the expression "*fukaki awaremi*"—*deep* mercy. I can find no such definition as *deep* given to *σπλάγχνα*. Literally it means the bowels, intestines (the supposed seat of the affection,) and the "our *heart*," "tender mercies, affections." So far as the dictionary goes, *fukaki* means, "Deep, profound; intimate; hard to understand," none of which seem to be considered by the Lexicon as proper definitions of *σπλάγχνα*. Can there be no better word found in the Japanese language than *fukaki* to express tenderness or affection?

Let no one conclude from what has been said by way of criticism, that it is intended as a disparagement to the translations. It would have been almost an impossibility I presume to have given a perfect translation against the difficulties with which they had to contend. The Revised Text is no disparagement of the King James' Translation. It is to be hoped, however, that the errors of our present Japanese translation will not be maintained as long as those of the King's Translation.

Most respectfully and sincerely,

J. M. McCALEB.

Tokyo, January 27th, 1895.

ASIATIC SOCIETY OF JAPAN.

A general meeting of the Asiatic Society was held at No. 17, Tsukiji, on Wednesday, January 23rd, at 4 p.m. The President, the Rev. Dr. D. C. Greene, was in the chair.

The minutes of the preceding meeting having been read and approved, the RECORDING SECRETARY read the following resolution coming from the Council:—"The President, Council, and members of this Society greatly regret the departure from Tokyo of Dr. J. N. Seymour, and the consequent discontinuance of his active share in the management of the business of the Society; and the Corresponding Secretary is requested to transmit a copy of this resolution to Dr. Seymour, to convey to that gentlemen the cordial expression of the Society's most sincere thanks for his valuable, efficient, and hearty services as Treasurer during his long period of service."

This resolution was unanimously approved.

Mr. MASON then read a paper written by W. G. Aston, Esq., on the "Onmun,—when invented." The author, after criticising various theories propounded by different scholars on this subject, briefly developed his own. On the evidence of some contemporary Japanese and Korean documents, he showed that this system of writing was invented by command of a Korean King, Sye-chong, in the winter of 1443, and was derived from the Sanscrit. This kind of writing was then introduced into Japan by means of the various embassies that passed between Korea and Japan in the 15th century.

Following this paper, a long and scholarly investigation of the different systems of writing prevailing in Korea was given to the Society by M. Maurice Courant. The purpose of his paper was to show how Korea acquired her written language. Anciently, Chinese characters were used in Kokuryé (the north-west part of Korea and part of Manchuria), and also by the Chinese officials established at various places by the Han dynasty. But they were not introduced until the end of the 4th century into the Paikkyei (the south-west of Korea), and not until the 6th century into the Synra (the south-east of Korea). They were carried and spread by the Buddhist priests, and in a short time Chinese became the official and literary language, and it has kept this prëeminence ever since. In order to read Chinese, the Koreans inserted particles to mark the case and verbal terminations of their own language. These terminations, which form the grammatical skeleton of the phrase, were transcribed by the learned C. L. Chong in A.D. 692 in the Chinese characters. This form was called *nido* or *ni mounn*, and is still used, especially for petitions and law procedure, but it has never had any place in the literary language. In the first of the 15th century, King Sye-chong formed the Korean Alphabet, by means of the Sanscrit letters and the Chinese *tsu mon*. This alphabet was employed only for the purpose of giving the pronunciation of the Chinese characters and for writing the songs and romances used by women and by the lower classes. Different authorities concerning the exact date of this invention assign it to 1434, 1443, and 1447.

The PRESIDENT, on behalf of the Society, thanked M. Courant for his interesting and scholarly paper; after which the meeting adjourned.

THE PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY OF JAPAN.

A regular meeting of the above-mentioned Society was held at the rooms of the Geographical Society (Chigaku-kiokai) Nishikonya-cho, Kiobashi-ku, Tokyo, on Tuesday, January 29th, at 8 p.m., Mr. K. Ogawa in the chair.

The business part of the minutes of the last meeting were read and approved, the part referring to technical matters, being long, and having been read by all members present either in the *Shashin Shimpo*, or the *Japan Mail*, was taken as read.

Mr. H. C. Pigott, and Mr. Rokujo were duly proposed, seconded, and elected members of the Society.

Mr. K. Nakahara showed a cyanotype print, much superior to anything of the kind generally seen. It was from a mechanical drawing, line sectioned, and showed deep black clear lines on a perfectly white ground. Mr. Nakahara described the precautions necessary to get this effect, and the difficulties that were likely to be met with. Briefly put, the process is as follows:—

A paper highly sized should be used. Small sheets can easily be worked, but the difficulty increases greatly with dimensions, a sheet about 20 × 18 being the largest that he had, so far, been able successfully to manipulate. Want of equality in the depth of the lines, and staining in the whites are the defects that it is difficult to overcome. All manipulations are with a view to avoid these.

The sensitizing solution is as follows:—

Gum Arabic	15 grams.
Water	110 c.c.
Tartaric acid	2 grams.
Chloride of sodium (common salt)	9 grams.
Sulphate of iron	10 grams.
Iron perchloride	15 grams.

In mixing the solution, the gum Arabic is first dissolved in the water by the aid of heat, and the other salts are added whilst the solution is still warm.

The solution is spread over the surface of the paper with a sponge, and after allowing a little time for it to penetrate the surface all superfluous moisture is removed, using the sponge again, well wrung out. If this precaution is not attended to, the depth of the lines is not equal. The paper is then dried as quickly as possible. If the drying is not rapid, the whites stain.

Exposure is somewhat longer than would be needed with sensitized albuminized paper. The colour of the sensitised paper is yellow. During exposure, all but the lines turns to white.

A development is by a plain aqueous solution of gallic acid, the strength of which is not important. Care must be taken not to leave the print too long in the developer, otherwise staining will result. After development the print is rapidly washed, when superfluous moisture is carefully sponged off the surface. If this precaution be not observed inequality in the depth of the lines will result.

The success of the process would appear greatly to depend on the sponging of superfluous sensitizing solution and water from the surface of the paper, and on quick drying after sensitizing.

Mr. R. Konishi showed a "Moderate Power Tele photographic lens," consisting of a Dallmeyer Rapid Rectilinear of 8¼ inches focus, with a negative element of 4 inches focus by the same maker. The Rapid Rectilinear was fitted with a pair of the new Burchett colour screens, one green, the other yellow. These are used for getting orthochromatic effects which it is claimed can be got with their aid, even on ordinary plates.

Mr. Konishi presented to the Society samples of Marion's "Academy" and "Special Portrait Plate," as well as of Ilford's Orthochromatic plate. These were handed over to Mr. W. K. Burton, who was instructed to test them, and to report to the Society at his earliest convenience.

The proceedings ended with a vote of thanks to the Chairman.

GRAND HOTEL, LIMITED.

The half-yearly general meeting of shareholders in the Grand Hotel, Limited, was held on Wednesday afternoon. There were present, Mr. J. F. Lowder, in the Chair, Messrs. Rickett, Jas. Walter, E. A. Sargent, R. Howie, C. K. M. Martin, W. B. Walter, and J. Tornae, Secretary.

The CHAIRMAN said that, with the permission of the meeting, he would take the report and accounts as read. It was perhaps a subject for regret that the dividend which the Directors had to offer shareholders that half-year was a smaller one than they had ever offered before. At the same time he did not think that the shareholders should come to the conclusion that the earning capacity of the hotel—of the company—was worse than in previous years. In comparing the accounts for the same period in 1893 with the last half-year they would find that their earning capacity was a little better this year, certainly it was no worse. In December, 1893, their working account totalled $36,971, and for the same period ending December, 1894, it was $36,236, so their earning capacity was about the same. Their expenses account for December, 1893, was $17,627 against $19,144 for December, 1894, a difference of $2,000. This amount was almost exclusively owing to the increased price of coal: they had to pay twice as much for coal this year than they did in the previous year. The gross profits for the corresponding period in 1893, was $21,845: this year they had been $24,845—$3,000 in excess. Notwithstanding this, they had a balance for distribution as dividend in 1893 of $15,000, against, in 1894, $7,500. The reason why they had been unable to declare a larger dividend this year was owing to the increase in their expenses. They had spent, in the last half of 1894, $4,088 upon repairs; $837 upon the steam launch; $3,709 upon furniture; and $966 upon the electric light; a total of $9,600. It would therefore readily be seen that as they had $7,500 to distribute as dividend now, they would have had $7,500 plus $9,600, which sum, as he had explained, had been spent upon repairs and improvements. He had the various items of these expenditures before him if any shareholder wished to see them, but he thought it was scarcely necessary to read them out. He might mention, however, that a lot of money had been spent on repairing the big chimney, while by the conversion of the old banqueting hall into sleeping-rooms they had obtained six extra bed rooms, which, of course, they had had to furnish. He thought that the accounts showed that the Company was in a most satisfactory position, and that instead of its earning capacity being less, it was even better than last year. The accounts were now before them.

Mr. JAS. WALTER asked whether it was not a fact that a good deal of money had been spent in repairs to the roof.

The CHAIRMAN—Yes, that is so.

Mr. WALTER—The amount is large, I believe.

The CHAIRMAN—It is over $700.

Mr. HOWIE moved the adoption of the accounts.

Mr. W. B. WALTER in seconding the resolution observed that the position of the Company must be a source of satisfaction to shareholders in this exceptional year. The war had kept away a good many tourists. The extensive repairs recently effected, had, he hoped, put the hotel in such a good state of repair as to considerably lessen the amount to be spent under that head for some years. Then again a part of these repairs were necessitated by the heavy earthquake, and they might hope that that would occur not again.

The CHAIRMAN said he took it that the accounts were approved. That concluded their business that afternoon.

REPORT.

The Profit and Loss Account, and Statement of Assets and Liabilities for the half year ended the 31st December, 1894, accompany this Report.

The net profit for the half year, including balance brought forward from the 30th June, 1894, and after providing for general expenses, Directors' and Auditor's fees, interest, and depreciation, and after writing off bad debts, amounts to $9,818.14, which it is proposed to apply as follows:—

In payment of a dividend of 3 per cent. for the half year	$7,500.00
Balance to new Account	$2,318.14
	$9,818.14

The reduction of Liabilities by payment of $5,000 mortgage debt, having again necessitated a corresponding deduction from Assets, the whole sum has been written off Buildings.

It is proposed that the dividend shall be payable on the 31st day of January, when the warrants will be issued.

J. F. LOWDER, JAMES WALTER. } Directors.

Yokohama, January 14th, 1895.

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STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES ON DECEMBER 31ST, 1894.

ASSETS.

Chartered Bank of I. A. & C.	$ 9,063.01
Cash in hand	394.56
Fire Insurance Policies	1,273.50
Ground	60,000.00
Buildings	143,000.00
Furniture	37,000.00
Electric Light Plant	12,000.00
Steam Launch	1,400.00
Wine in stock	6,291.05
Provisions in stock	3,748.99
Bills receivable	7,824.74
	$300,186.73

LIABILITIES.

Stock, 2,100 Shares, at $100	$250,000.00
Mortgage	10,000.00
Bills payable	10,368.67
	$300,368.67
Balance, Profit	9,818.24
	$310,186.73

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT, DECEMBER 31ST, 1894.

Dr.

To General Expenses				$ 29,424.91
To Fire Insurance				2,917.34
To Interest				981.83
To Directors' and Auditor's Fees				900.00
To Bad Debts written off				50.00
To Balance, Gross Profit			$94,645.88	
Less written off for Depreciation of Buildings		$7,388.00		
Less written off for Depreciation of Electric light plant		2,366.59		
Less written off for Depreciation of Steam Launch		836.58		
Less written off for Depreciation of Furniture		5,136.58		
		$23,007.74		
Balance available for Division: Dividend 3 %		$7,500.00		
Carried forward to new account	2,178.24	9,818.24	24,845.88	24,845.88
				$ 47,209.96

Cr.

By Balance, brought forward from June 30th	$ 20,000.00
By Working Account	26,236.88
By Rent Account	605.00
By Share Transfer Fees	14.00
By Share Warrant Fees	50
By Sale of old Material	254.18
	$47,109.96

January 1st, 1895.

By Balance	$ 2,328.24

E. & O. E.

Yokohama, December 31st, 1894.

J. F. LOWDER, JAMES WALTER, } Directors.

I have examined the foregoing accounts and compared them with the vouchers of the Company, and certify them to be correct.

O. KAIL, Auditor.

Yokohama, January 11th, 1895.

YOKOHAMA AMATEUR ROWING CLUB.

The annual general meeting of the Yokohama Amateur Rowing Club was held in Kiel's Building on Wednesday afternoon. There were present Mr. J. Rickett, in the Chair, Messrs. F. J. Hall, D. McNeill, M. Schellenberg, G. Philip, A. L. Bouffier, H. C. Litchfield, F. J. Lias, E. W. Tilden, H. V. Henson, T. McWilliams, R. N. St. John, Rev. E. C. Irwine, Messrs. P. Bent, A. L. Mottu, G. H. Scidmore, G. Hood, G. Brooke Smith, H. L. Tanner, K. Kingdon, B. Hyde Pearson, W. Goddard H. S. Goddard, H. Goddard, R. W. Boothwick, W. W. Campbell, E. T. Nicholas, J. B. Coulson, V. Blad, C. K. M. Martin, G. Macondray, N. P. Kingdon, F. H. Hooper, J. Tounoe, L. Salabelle, J. T. Boag, J. McLean, T. Browne, A. Wingman, W. Tucker, W. R. Bennett, E. O. Kenyon, C. Gibbens, H. Allcock, H. R. Mair, H. R. Campbell, and W. S. Drummond.

The CHAIRMAN said that he had to congratulate the Club not only upon its financial position, but also upon the interest which the members had displayed throughout the season in the rowing and the sports, which had conduced so much to the great success attending all their regattas and aquatic sports. He would propose that the minutes of the last meeting be taken as read.

Mr. TILDEN seconded.—Carried.

The CHAIRMAN—The report and accounts are now before the meeting. They have been circulated for some days, and I think that members have had an ample opportunity of reading and digesting them.

Mr. N. P. KINGDON proposed and Mr. BOAG seconded the adoption of the accounts.—Carried.

REPORT.

ACCOUNTS.—These show a balance in favour of the Club of $1,161.56 or an increase of $401.84 on that brought forward from 1893, in spite of the large expenditure on the extension of the buildings. This is due to the increase in the membership and the greatly enhanced earnings of the Bar.

ROWING.—The interest shown in rowing during the past few years has been well maintained. The entries for the Spring and Autumn Regattas were numerous, and the events, for the most part, well contested. The Committee trust that the success of the Gen... International Race at the Autumn Regatta will lead to another contest, during the coming year, for the Cup subscribed for by members of the German Club and the Y. U. C.

SWIMMING RACES AND AQUATIC SPORTS were successfully held and brought out a fair number of entries. The chief feature of the latter was an interesting game of water polo: a game which the Committee hope will not be allowed to drop.

BOATS.—These are all in good order, with the exception of the Blue Boat which will require replanking. A single sculling boat was built on the lines of the Black single sculling boat, but it has not been altogether a success; the wood obtainable in this country not being suitable for shell built boats. The committee obtained, from England, three new sets of oars (for Canton fours) at a cost of $150.18.

PROPERTY AND HOUSE.—The Eastern wall has been refaced, with a guarantee for three years, at a cost of $33.79. The recommendation of the members expressed at the last General meeting that the incandescent light be installed has been carried out at a cost of $137.30, with the result that the Boat House is better lighted than formerly, but the saving anticipated in the consumption of gas has not been effected. The new shed and slip built during the year supplied a much felt want for extra accommodation for storing and handling the boats: while the extension of the verandah has much improved the Boat House. These additions and extension cost altogether $1,038. The Boat House requires scraping and painting, but is otherwise in good order.

BATHING BARGE.—The Barge has been supplied with some new matting and two new spring boards. As the Barge has now been in use for a good many years, the Committee have thought it advisable to have it surveyed by Mr. Clausen who reports as follows:—"The Barge can be repaired, and by putting in four extra cross beams for strengthening, two underneath and two on top of the deck, extending the whole width of the Barge, and fastened with eight 1" or 1¼" bolts., will be good for another two or three years." The Landing stage is in good condition.

RULES.—The proposed alterations in and additions to the Rules are already in the hands of the members, so do not call for mention.

Your Committee tender their resignations with best wishes for the future prosperity of the Club. J. Rickett, Captain, F. J. Hall, Hon. Sec., P. S. Bent, Hon. Treas., F. H. Hooper, Marshall Martin, Duncan McNeill, George Philip.

Yokohama, January 28th, 1895.

THE YOKOHAMA AMATEUR ROWING CLUB IN ACCOUNT WITH THE HONORARY TREASURER.

Dr.—December 31st, 1894.

To Working Account:—			
Wages, Gas, Water, &c.			$ 886.02
To House Account:—			
Insurance $4,000	$ 57.67		
Ground Rent	70.27		
Repairs and Sundries	248.91		
New Boathouse, Slip, &c.	1,018.00		1,396.75
To Bathing Barge and Landing Stage:—			
Insurance [$1,800]	18.50		
Painting, hauling, sampans, &c.	155.23		673.73
To Boat Account:—			
Insurance [$3,500] premium	47.78		
Repairs and Sundries	274.74		
New Single Scull	40.00		
New Oars and Sculls	150.18		512.68
To Regattas and Aquatic Sports:—			
Bands, Refreshments, and Sundries			562.85
To Prizes Account:—			
Spring and Autumn Regattas and Swimming Races			324.20
To Bar Account:—			
Coffee Cups, Chit-books, and Sundries			58.35
To Jerseys and Caps			74.77
To Stationery and Printing			218.00
To Subscription Account:—			
Refund Hon. Member, 1894 and ½ 1893.			25.00
To Balance			2,262.56
			$5,405.80

Cr.—January 1st, 1894.

By Balance brought forward from 1893			$ 759.72
December 31st.			
By Subscription Account:—			
162 Active Members 1st half year		$ 966.00	
158 Active Members and half year		948.00	
107 Honorary Members one year		1,070.00	
3 Honorary Members half year		15.00	
9 Tokyo Members		90.00	
7 Members' Sons		35.00	
27 Entrance Fees		270.00	3,394.00
By House Account:—			
Rent for Evening and Breakages			20.50
By Sundries:—			
Use of Club Carpenter		3.80	
Bank Interest		9.70	13.00
By Storage of Private Boats			45.00
By Prizes Account:—			
Entrances to Races			149 25
By Bar Account:—			
Profits 1894		928.23	
By Jerseys, etc., sold		124.00	
		$5,405.80	

E. & O. E.

Yokohama, January 25th, 1895.

P. S. BENT, Hon. Treasurer.

Examined with the vouchers and found correct.

(Signed) S. WARNING.

The CHAIRMAN—We will now to proceed to the election of officers. I shall be pleased if Mr. Boag and the Rev. E. C. Irwine will act as scrutineers.

Both gentlemen accepted the position.

The CHAIRMAN, during the taking of the ballot, observed that the report of the Committee stated that the boats were all in good condition, with the exception of the Blue-boat, which required fresh planking. It has been suggested, as the Club was in such a good financial position, that the purchase some new four-oared boats and get rid of some of the older ones. The Boathouse will require some painting, both in the interior and outside. It is proposed to whitewash inside and put in a ceiling. The outside boathouse also required painting, as owing to recent alterations it had rather a patch-work appearance. The outgoing Committee, as they were doubtless all aware, had issued a notice to members regarding some alteration in the wording of the rules and bye-laws: they proposed principally to convert some bye-laws into rules. They were governed just at present more bye-laws than by rules, and he thought that the Committee's suggestion that some of these bye-laws be made rules would meet with their approval. The report also spoke of the condition of the bathing-barge. Mr. Clausen, at the Committee's request, had examined it, and his report had been printed. It must be borne in mind that the bathing-barge was an old structure. One other thing he had to bring before the members. It was in reference to a subject which it was proposed to bring before the notice of members of the Cricket Club at their next meetings. It was the intention of the C.C. Committee to move—and he dare say the project would meet with the approval of the members of the Y.A.R.C.—that an alteration should be made in the Yokohama time. As he had just remarked, it was the intention of the C.C. Committee to bring the matter before their own Club members at their next meeting, and he had been asked to bring the matter before the members of the Y.A.R.C., so that they might act in coöperation with the Cricket Club with a view to the accomplishment of the object. It would merely be going back to the old time that prevailed before railway time was adopted, but it would give nearly half-an-hour more to the afternoon. Of course it was not in the power of the Club, nor in the power of any Club, to alter the *town's* time, but if co-operation was secured among the Athletic Clubs then steps could be taken to approach the Community in the matter. As Chairman of that meeting he would be pleased to hear some expression of opinion on the subject: an expression of opinion would be very useful. It was not a new question. If they went to India, to Bombay, Calcutta, and elsewhere in that country, they would find a sun-time and a railway-time existing. There was no difficulty in the matter of adjusting one to the other. The *extra* half hour in the *afternoon* would be very useful to members of the club during practise, and when they were preparing for their regattas. In America, he believed, a similiar thing existed. There was a railway time and a sun time. He brought the matter up by request, as the committee of the Cricket Club would bring the matter up at their meeting.

Mr. SCIDMORE—Would not this alteration necessitate our carrying about two watches?

The CHAIRMAN—I don't think so.—(A Voice—Have extra hands put on.)—What do they do in America?

Mr. Scidmore—Yes, they have railway-time, and other time in the States: they alter the time every 15 degrees of longitude. There is, I believe, a difference of 20 minutes here between sun-time and Kobe time. All our clocks and watches are now set by Kobe time. The object therefore of the C.C. Committee could be achieved by fixing the time of athletic meetings, etc., twenty minutes earlier.

The CHAIRMAN—If the alteration is made, people will simply start work twenty minutes earlier and leave off twenty minutes earlier.

Mr. SCIDMORE—Then if the times here are fixed by sun-time, we shall have to translate that as being twenty minutes earlier than railway time.

The CHAIRMAN—Watches would be set to sun-time and it would be easy to calculate railway time.

Mr. SCIDMORE—I think that all arrangements of our life in Yokohama are now set to railway time. If we alter the time we shall only create confusion.

The subject then dropped.

The CHAIRMAN—The ballot for officers has resulted as follows:—Captain, myself (Mr. J. Rickett) —(Loud applause); Hon. Sec., Mr. F. J. Hall—(Hear, hear); Hon. Treas., Mr. E. T. Nicholas—(Loud applause). I think Mr. Hall and Mr. Nicholas will accept the positions. On behalf of myself, I thank you heartily for the honour you have done me.—(Applause.)

The ballot for the Committee then took place. Messrs. Philip and Hooper, through the Chairman, signifying their desire not be re-elected.

The CHAIRMAN announced the result of the ballot as follows:—Messrs. J. T. Boag, P. S. Bent, R. Boyes, and C. K. M. Marshall.

The proposed alterations and additions to the Rules were then taken seriatim.

Rule II.—To insert after the word "exclude" the words "Voting by proxy is not allowed." This was carried unanimously, as was also Rule XI.—To add after the word "number" the words "and fill vacancies."

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The next, Rule XIX., was carried after an amendment in the final wording had been approved. It now reads:—

Rule XIX.—To cut out the sentence "Payment of such bills to be subject to Rule VII." and substitute the following:—"Payment of all chits is due on the 1st day of the month following that in which they are signed. In the event of any member failing to make payment of his chits within one month after the same shall have become due, the Secretary shall, by notice, sent through the post, request such member to remit him the amount of same, and shall, unless his request be complied with two weeks thereafter, place conspicuously in the Boat House, the name or a list of the names of the members, to whom he has sent such notice. Any Member whose chits are not paid within one month after the date on which such name or list was first exhibited in the Boat House, shall cease to be a member and his name shall be struck off the list of members."

Bye Laws II. and III. were made rules.

Some discussion arose on the next alteration. It was proposed from the Chair, and seconded, that Bye Law VI. be altered to read:—"The Boat House closes at 8 p.m. by which hour all boats must be returned to the Boat House, except when authority has been obtained from the Committee;" and as amended made Rule.

Mr. CAMPBELL proposed that the time of closing should be fixed at 8.30 p.m., and found a seconder.

Mr. MCWILLIAMS proposed, as a further amendment, that the time of closing be fixed at 9 p.m. This was seconded.

Mr. BOAG proposed as a third amendment, that the upper part of the Club-house be kept open till 11 o'clock, but that the bar be closed and the boats all returned to the Boat-house by 8.30 p.m. This was seconded.

The CHAIRMAN thought that the making of such a rule as that suggested by the last amendment would be contrary to the agreement under which the Japanese authorities lent them the ground on which the Boat-house stood. It was leased to them for the purposes of a Rowing Club.

Mr. BOAG thought that it was also used as a gymnasium, a yatching club, and a swimming club.

The CHAIRMAN—Yes, but that is all in connection with the object of rowing, I take it.

Mr. BOAG—I don't think the Japanese authorities would take exception to a rule of this description.

Mr. MCWILLIAMS—We might try it, anyway.

Mr. CAMPBELL thought that the proposed rule had been misunderstood. It simply related to the returning of boats by a certain time in the evening. At the same time he was strongly against making the Club a social club: it was a rowing club, and this should be remembered.

Mr. BOAG—But it is also an athletic club, and of an evening some of the members may prefer to go in for gymnastics: if the place is closed they would be debarred from so doing.

Mr. CAMPBELL—You would propose to keep the Club open all the year round. I differ from you, I think in this cold weather that the members prefer to remain at home to kicking about the boat club of an evening.—(Laughter.)

Mr. LITCHFIELD thought it as well that the members should remember that the authorities had given given them permission to use the ground and foreshore at the Boat Club for the purposes of a rowing and athletic club. He deprecated any attempt at making a rule which might conflict with the conditions of their lease. It was not advisable to give rise to any question of that kind.

Mr. BOAG—If I correctly remember we have broken the conditions several times by giving dances in the Boat-house.

The CHAIRMAN—But then they were exceptional cases, and no rule was broken.

Mr. BOAG did not see that the Japanese would object to the rule if it were made.

The CHAIRMAN—It appears to me to be a mistake to keep the Club open so long.

Mr. LIAS moved an amendment to Mr. Boag's amendment, that the bar be kept open till 11 o'clock also.

Mr. BENNETT seconded.

Mr. LIAS' amendment was put first and lost. Then Mr. Boag's was put and declared lost—27 voted for him and 14 against—a two-thirds majority being required to carry such an alteration of the rules. The original motion was also lost on being put to the vote.

Bye Law XV. was made a Rule, omitting the words "or Captain."

Bye Law XVI. was also made a Rule, inserting the word "Honmoku" before the word "Lightship."

The next alteration was carried after some discussion, "That Bye Law XVII. read—Bathing from or beaching the Club Boats is strictly prohibited," and it was made a rule; as were also Bye Laws XX., XXI., XXII., and XXV.

Mr. BLAD asked some questions relative to members of the Club, and also members of the Sailing Club, being allowed to land at the landing stage.

The CHAIRMAN said the matter could easily be arranged.

Mr. T. BROWNE threw out a suggestion that the Committee should make some Bye Law in regard to entrance fees for races.

Mr. CAMPBELL suggested that as the Club had such a large balance in hand, the Bar tariff be reduced by 10 per cent., and the price of jerseys, caps, sweaters, and mufflers to cost price.

Mr. BOAG asked for suggestions as to the disposal of the balance. He thought it a good opportunity to purchase some half dozen single sculling boats in England, as sculling was becoming so popular among members.

The CHAIRMAN thought that no objection would be taken to such a course.

The meeting concluded with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

YOKOHAMA ENGINE AND IRON-WORKS, LIMITED.

The semi-annual meeting of shareholders in the Yokohama Engine and Iron-works, Limited, was held on Thursday afternoon in Kiel's Building. There were present Mr. J. F. Lowder, in the Chair, Messrs. Jas. Walter, J. Rickett, J. Johnstone, H. M. Arnould, F. H. Bull, C. Giussani, J. H. Curtis, C. W. Ure, W. R. Bennett, R. Kuby, S. D. Hepburn, and C. Charlesworth, Secretary.

The CHAIRMAN announced, upon twelve shareholders being present, that the meeting was open, there being sufficient for a quorum. As most present doubtless knew, it was not the custom of their company to issue a report for the first half-year, the Directors' report always appearing but once a year. According to their rules, however, a meeting of shareholders was held every half year, and the Directors had thought it advisable on the present occasion to have the profit and loss account set out and printed. The lane that had no turning was proverbially a long one, and he thought shareholders had matter for congratulation that after striving had for three years they were at last out of the wood. As a witness of this he invited a comparison of the figures presented for the half year ending the 31st May, 1894. At that time they were indebted to the New Oriental Bank to an amount of $43,000. Upon referring to the figures now presented, they would observe that this had been reduced to $3,786.11. In other words, the Directors had paid off $40,000 since they last met shareholders in general meeting. They were in a position that day to pay off the remaining indebtedness to the Bank if it was necessary, but the Board thought that has they had paid the Bank since its failure some $78,000 in cash, including $10,000 for interest, making altogether $88,000, the Directors should open communication with the liquidator of the Bank with a view to getting the balance of the account remitted—it was the balance of interest only. This they had done, but no reply had yet been received from the liquidator. The profits during the last half year had shown considerable improvement. For the whole year ending 31st May, 1894, the profits were $41,000: for the half year ended November last, the profits amounted to $51,000, thus showing an increase of $10,000 on the half year over the whole of the previous year. He mentioned these figures solely in the interest of shareholders who might not have the previous accounts before them to enable them to make the comparison. What the practical result of their three years work had been, was this: they were now the actual owners of the Kobe property. They could now do what they pleased with it. The Board were still negotiating for its sale. When the property was sold then the shareholders would be entitled to receive as dividend whatever amount they received for it. The last dividend which the Directors had offered to shareholders was a small one of 3 per cent. This was for the half-year ending November, 1891. The company found itself in a much better position that day, and had some money in hand. They had the sum of $8,000, odd, in cash in the Bank. He had explained already that there was an amount of about $4,000 outstanding: it was a dependency, but they did not know yet whether they would have to pay it or not. The Directors thought, however, that it would be prudent as well as advisable to hold that amount in reserve. This left them with the sum of $4,000 in cash. After consultation amongst themselves before they met shareholders that day, the Directors had come to the conclusion that it would be best to divide this sum among shareholders and declare an interim dividend of three per cent.—(Hear, hear.)

Mr. JAMES WALTER thought that the thanks of the shareholders were due to the Directors. They had had to go through very hard times, and encounter a great deal of trouble and annoyance during the last three years. They had now placed the company on a very sound basis, and for these reasons he moved that the meeting give its hearty thanks to the Directors, to show how it appreciated the work they had done.—(Hear, hear.)

Mr. KIRBY—I would add the employés in that vote of thanks.—(Hear, hear.)

Mr. WALTER—I add the employés, the manager, and all our servants with pleasure. The present success of the company is due to the way in which they have worked together.

The CHAIRMAN—I thank you on behalf of my colleagues and our employés for the kind expressions which have fallen from you. The Directors recognise as clearly as you do, what we owe to our servants, and at Christmas time we presented them with a reward such as our financial position allowed. But we were all quite assured that it was not commensurate with the services rendered. They have worked hard and worked well. Without their assistance we, as Directors, could have done nothing. We can but supervise their work. But among our body, as on all Boards of similar companies, there is one man who has a practical knowledge of the business, and is the working man amongst us; to whom we look, and who really does all the active work of supervision. To him our thanks are greatly due—I refer to Mr. Johnstone.—(Applause.)

BALANCE SHEET—NOVEMBER 30TH, 1894.

Dr.

To Capital, 2,300 Shares at $100	$230,000.00
New Oriental Bank Corporation, Limited	3,786.11
Wages due November, paid December	1,300.73
Directors' and Auditors' Fees	600.00
Profit and Loss	10,578.74
	$246,689.62

Cr.

By Cash in hand	$ 100.26
Property (Kobe)	98,004.53
Property (Yokohama)	22,834.87
Stock	42,795.29
Working Plant	45,537.86
Bills Receivable	5,922.54
Insurance (unexpired)	899.00
Chartered Bank	1,594.87
	$246,689.62

PROFIT AND LOSS—NOVEMBER 30TH, 1894.

Dr.

To Balance from June 1st	$ 26,142.84
Bad debts written off	285.59
Depreciation of Plant	2,314.70
Depreciation of Property	450.00
Wages	13,963.01
Insurance	386.40
Interest	2,251.10
Expense	667.00
Directors' and Auditors' Fees	600.00
Balance carried down	10,573.74
	$ 57,426.28

Cr.

By Bad debts collected	$ 45.00
Gross earnings, 6 months	50,976.28
Rents, Profit	590.00
	$ 57,426.28
Balance brought down	$ 10,573.74

E. & O. E.

C. CHARLESWORTH, Secretary.

We have examined the foregoing accounts, and compared them with the books and vouchers of the Company and find them to be correct.

O. KEIL,
J. ARCHER, } Auditors.

Yokohama, January 16th, 1895.

THE BUDGET.

SPECIAL BUDGET (CLASS A).

FINANCIAL DEPARTMENT.

MINT.

	YEN.
Receipts:—	
I.—Working receipts of the Mint.	1,326,773.060
1. Working receipts	1,302,837.590
2. Sundry receipts	23.935.470
Expenditures:—	
I.—Working expenses of the Mint	1,130,091.428
1. Salaries and wages	14.556.000
2. Office expenses	942.081
3. Repairs	376.957
4. Expenses connected with casualties	50.000
5. Mispayments refunded	50.000
6. Travelling expenses	329.880
7. Miscellaneous salaries and expenses	36,907.012
8. Factory expenses	103,799.585
9. Purchases of Materials	972,980.913
II.—Reserves	1,500.000
Total	1,131,591.428

PRINTING BUREAU.

Receipts:—	
I.—Working receipts of the Bureau	774,446.077

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1. Working receipts	770,101.405
2. Sundry receipts	4,344.672
Expenditures :—	
I.—Working expenses of the Bureau	662,269.953
1. Salaries and wages	26,771.000
2. Office expenses	2,150.457
3. Repairs	100.800
4. Expenses connected with casualties	182.982
5. Travelling expenses	636.930
6. Miscellaneous salaries and expenses	204,883.161
7. Factory expenses	268,504.717
8. Purchases of materials	159,039.806
II.—Reserves	2,000.000
Total	664,269.953

HIROSHIMA MINING BUREAU.

Receipts :—	
I.—Receipts from Mining works	118,342.000
1. Receipts from Mining works	115,525.000
2. Sundry receipts	2,817.000
Expenditures :—	
I.—Expenses for Mining works	115,805.000
1. Salaries and wages	4,430.000
2. Office expenses	534.000
3. Repairs	167.000
4. Expenses connected with casualties	50.000
5. Indemnities and legal expenses	20.000
6. Travelling expenses	1,153.000
7. Miscellaneous salaries and expenses	66,384.000
8. Factory expenses	36,210.000
9. Purchases of materials	6,562.000
10. Rebuilding expenses of Office rooms	295.000
II.—Reserves	500.000
Total	116,305.000

FUND FOR EXCHANGING PAPER NOTES.

Receipts :—	
I.—Transferred from withdrawal of subsidiary paper notes	1,000,000.000
Expenditures :—	
I.—Withdrawal of subsidiary paper notes	1,000,000.000

CENTRAL FAMINE FUND.

Receipts :—	
I.—Receipts for Central Famine Fund	275,694.414
1. Interest on Deposits	294.414
2. Interest on Public Loan Bonds	89,700.000
3. Sundry receipts	185,700.000
Expenditures :—	
I.—Disbursements of the Fund	275,000.000
1. Subsidies to Famine Fund of Fu and Ken	185,300.000
2. Purchases of Public Loan Bonds	89,700.000

INTEREST ON DEPOSITS IN DEPOSITS BUREAU.

Receipts :—	
I.—Receipts from Interest on Deposit money	1,455,776.000
Expenditures :—	
I.—Transferred to Interest on Deposit money	1,214,902.000

WAR DEPARTMENT.

TOKYO ARSENAL.

Receipts :—	
I.—Receipts from works of the Tokyo Arsenal	1,931,411.480
1. Receipts from the works	1,921,895.784
2. Sundry receipts	9,515.696
Expenditures :—	
I.—Expenses for the works of Tokyo Arsenal	1,431,211.480
1. Expenses connected with casualties	255.000
2. Travelling expenses	572.004
3. Miscellaneous salaries and expenses	448,006.000
4. Factory expenses	239,062.943
5. Purchases of materials	743,315.497
II.—Reserves	500,200.000
1. First Reserve	200.000
2. Second Reserve	500,000.000
Total	1,931,411.480

OSAKA ARSENAL.

Receipts :—	
I.—Receipts from works of Osaka Arsenal	2,133,277.543
1. Receipts from the works	2,122,117.727
2. Sundry receipts	11,109.816
Expenditures :—	
I.—Expenses for the works of Osaka Arsenal	2,133,277.543
1. Expenses connected with casualties	414.000
2. Travelling expenses	4,443.240
3. Miscellaneous salaries and expenses	245,128.200
4. Factory expenses	169,805.131
5. Purchases of materials	1,213,236.972
II.—Reserves	500,200.000
1. First Reserve	200.000
2. Second Reserve	500,000.000
Total	2,133,277.543

SENJU CLOTH FACTORY.

Receipts :—	
I.—Receipts from works of Senju Cloth Factory	897,794.233
1. Receipts from the Works	895,210.413
2. Sundry receipts	2,583.820
Expenditures :—	
I.—Expenses for works of Senju Cloth Factory	745,798.991
1. Salaries and wages	6,912.500
2. Office expenses	489.096
3. Repairs	58.800
4. Expenses connected with Casualties	108.540
5. Indemnities and legal expenses	50.000
6. Mispayments refunded	25.000
7. Travelling expenses	714.360
8. Miscellaneous wages and expenses	52,558.720
9. Factory expenses	97,683.131
10. Purchases of materials	587,199.744
II.—Reserves	150,350.000
1. First Reserve	350.000
2. Second Reserve	150,000.000
Total	896,148.991

NAVAL DEPARTMENT.

YOKOSUKA ADMIRALTY SHIPBUILDING MATERIAL FUND.

Receipts :—	
I.—Receipts from the sale of materials	677,700.000
Expenditures :—	
I.—Expenses for the purchase of materials	700,000.000

KURE ADMIRALTY SHIPBUILDING MATERIAL FUND.

Receipts :—	
I.—Receipts from the sale of materials	374,000.000
Expenditures :—	
I.—Expenses for the purchase of materials	450,000.000

SASEBO ADMIRALTY SHIPBUILDING MATERIAL FUND.

Receipts :—	
I.—Receipts from the sale of materials	49,500.000
Expenditures :—	
I.—Expenses for the purchase of materials	50,000.000

EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT.

IMPERIAL UNIVERSITY.

Ordinary Receipts :—	
I.—Imperial University	462,283.415
1. Subsidy from the Government	405,910.041
2. Sundry receipts	56,373.374
II.—Receipts from Hospitals of Medical College	94,015.528
III.—Receipts from Tokyo Observatory	3,000.000
IV.—Contributions for special purposes	4,424.650
V.—Transferred from previous fiscal year	131.231
Total	563,854.824
Extraordinary Receipts :—	
I.—Receipts for the expenses for Historical Compilations	12,900.000
Grand Total	576,754.824
Ordinary Expenditures :—	
I.—Imperial University	450,455.855
1. Salaries and Wages	203,825.653
2. Office expenses	85,248.650
3. Repairs	10,528.899
4. Expenses connected with casualties	10.000
5. Rents of houses, etc., already leased	21.500
6. Expenses for water supply stipulated	887.140
7. Salaries of Foreign Employés in service	69,905.160
8. Indemnities and legal expenses	5.000
9. Mispayments refunded	2.000
10. Travelling expenses	2,000.500
11. Miscellaneous wages and expenses	32,601.052
12. Students' expenses	9,926.000
13. Salaries, etc., of Foreign Employés	35,473.301
II.—Expenses for Medical College Hospitals	102,957.088
1. Office expenses	80,018.301
2. Repairs expenses	2,950.500
3. Rents of houses, already leased	1,200.000
4. Miscellaneous salaries and expenses	18,788.287
III.—Expenses for Tokyo Observatory	5,636.000
1. Office expenses	3,694.000
2. Repairs expenses	750.000
3. Miscellaneous salaries and expenses	1,192.000
IV.—Contribution for Special Purposes	4,555.881
1. Expenses for Students	4,008.187
2. Purchases of Instruments	67.694
3. Expenses for Investigations	480.000
Total	563,604.824
Extraordinary Expenditures :—	
I.—Expenses for new building works	250.000
II.—Expenses for Historical Compilations	12,900.000
1. Salaries and wages	1,146.000
2. Office expenses	406.000
3. Miscellaneous salaries and expenses	11,348.000
Total	13,150.000
Grand Total	576,754.824
Fund Receipts :—	
I.—Receipts for the Special Fund	17.025

HIGHER NORMAL SCHOOL.

Ordinary Receipts :—	
I.—Higher Normal School	58,201.293
1. Government Subsidy	44,833.992
2. Miscellaneous receipts	13,367.301
Ordinary Expenditures :—	
I.—Higher Normal School	58,201.293
1. Salaries and wages	35,817.000
2. Office expenses	7,124.043
3. Repairs	1,318.260
4. Expenses connected with casualties	1.000
5. Indemnities and legal expenses	2.000
6. Mispayments refunded	1.000
7. Travelling expenses	439.330
8. Miscellaneous salaries and expenses	4,788.550
9. Students expenses	6,309.210
10. Foreign Employés' salaries	2,400.000
Fund Receipts :—	
I.—Receipts for Maintenance Fund	1,098.000
Fund Expenditures :—	
I.—Purchases of Property	1,128.389

FEMALE HIGHER NORMAL SCHOOL.

Ordinary Receipts :—	
I.—Female Higher Normal School	34,468.078
1. Government Subsidy	24,247.078
2. Miscellaneous receipts	10,221.000
Ordinary Expenditures :—	
I.—Female Higher Normal School	34,468.078
1. Salaries and wages	21,586.000
2. Office expenses	3,174.208
3. Repairs	1,000.000
4. Expenses connected with casualties	1.000
5. Indemnities and legal expenses	2.000
6. Mispayments refunded	1.000
7. Travelling expenses	146.000
8. Miscellaneous salaries and expenses	2,106.000
9. Students' expenses	6,451.000
Fund Receipts :—	
I.—Maintenance Fund Receipts	173.333
Fund Expenditures :—	
I.—Purchases of Property	173.333

HIGHER COMMERCIAL SCHOOL.

Ordinary Receipts :—	
I.—Higher Commercial School	37,074.000
1. Government Subsidy	25,677.686
2. Miscellaneous Receipts	11,396.314
II.—Contribution for special purposes	1,239.366
III.—Transferred from the previous fiscal year	176.634
Total	38,490.000
Ordinary Expenditures :—	
I.—Higher Commercial School	37,074.000

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1. Salaries and wages	22,331.000
2. Office expenses	2,851.570
3. Repairs	710.500
4. Expenses connected with casualties	1.000
5. Salaries of Foreign Employés in service	4,175.000
6. Indemnities and legal expenses	2.000
7. Mispayments refunded	1.000
8. Travelling expenses	157.280
9. Miscellaneous salaries and expenses	2,928.178
10. Students' expenses	120.000
11. Salaries of Foreign Employés	3,796.472
II.—Contributions for special purposes	1,416.000
Total	38,490.000
Fund Expenditures:—	
I. Purchase of Property	6,866.708

FIRST HIGHER SCHOOL.

Ordinary Receipts:—	
I.—First Higher School	102,604.209
1. Government Subsidy	72,522.319
2. Miscellaneous receipts	30,081.890
II.—Transferred from Special Fund	811.916
Total	103,416.125
Ordinary Expenditures:—	
I.—First Higher School	102,604.209
1. Salaries and wages	55,996.000
2. Office expenses	18,538.373
3. Repairs	2,192.000
4. Expenses connected with casualties	1.000
5. Rents of houses, etc. already leased	5,163.120
6. Indemnities and legal expenses	2.000
7. Mispayments refunded	1.000
8. Travelling expenses	625.040
9. Miscellaneous salaries and expenses	8,085.676
10. Salaries of Foreign Employés	12,000.000
II.—Contributions for special purposes	811.916
Total	103,416.125
Fund Receipts:—	
I.—Receipts for Maintenance Fund	1,556.216
II.—Receipts for Special Fund	531.890
1. Interest on Scholarship Fund	10.858
2. Contribution to French Scholarship Fund	500.008
3. Interest on French Scholarship Fund	9.966
4. Transferred from the surplus of Scholarship Fund	11.066
Total	2,088.106
Fund Expenditures:—	
I.—Disbursements out of Maintenance Fund	1,884.782
II.—Disbursements out of Special Fund	811.916
Total	2,696.698

SECOND HIGHER SCHOOL.

Ordinary Receipts:—	
I.—Second Higher School	51,554.189
1. Government Subsidy	36,236.137
2. Miscellaneous Receipts	15,318.052
Ordinary Expenditures:	
I.—Second Higher School	51,554.189
1. Salaries and wages	34,360.000
2. Office expenses	7,579.009
3. Repairs	850.850
4. Expenses connected with casualties	1.000
5. Indemnities and legal expenses	2.000
6. Mispayments refunded	1.000
7. Travelling expenses	457.680
8. Miscellaneous salaries and expenses	3,482.650
9. Salaries of Foreign Employés	4,820.000
Fund Receipts:—	
I.—Special Fund Receipts	23.073
1. Interests on Scholarship Fund	11.750
2. Transferred from the surplus of Scholarship Fund	11.323
Fund Expenditures:—	
I.—Maintenance Fund Disbursements	131.304

THIRD HIGHER SCHOOL.

Ordinary Receipts:—	
I.—Third Higher School	71,025.890
1. Government Subsidy	55,113.756
2. Miscellaneous Receipts	15,912.134
Ordinary Expenditures:—	
I.—Third Higher School	71,025.890
1. Salaries and wages	43,247.333
2. Office Expenses	20,229.922
3. Repairs	939.794
4. Expenses connected with casualties	2.000
5. Indemnities and legal expenses	3.000
6. Mispayments refunded	6.000
7. Travelling expenses	874.460
8. Miscellaneous salaries and expenses	4,923.381
9. Salaries of Foreign Employés	800.000
Fund Receipts:—	
I.—Maintenance Fund Receipts	1,606.000
II.—Special Fund Receipts	23.034
1. Interest on Scholarship Fund	11.750
2. Transferred from the surplus of Scholarship Fund	11.284
Total	1,629.034
Fund Expenditures:—	
I.—Maintenance Fund Disbursements	1,669.000

FOURTH HIGHER SCHOOL.

Ordinary Receipts:—	
I.—Fourth Higher School	49,323.869
1. Government Subsidy	35,653.077
2. Miscellaneous Receipts	13,670.792
II.—Contribution for special purposes	8.883
III.—Transferred from Special Fund	71.117
Total	49,403.869
Ordinary Expenditures:—	
I.—Fourth Higher School	49,323.869
1. Salaries and wages	33,191.833
2. Office expenses	9,204.926
3. Repairs	808.000
4. Expenses connected with casualties	1.000
5. Indemnities and legal expenses	2.000
6. Mispayments refunded	1.000
7. Travelling expenses	625.100
8. Miscellaneous salaries and expenses	2,970.000
9. Salaries of Foreign Employés	2,520.000
II.—Contributions for special purposes	80.000
Total	49,403.869
Fund Expenditures:—	
I.—Maintenance Fund Disbursements	2,269.904
II.—Special Fund Disbursements	71.117
Total	2,341.021

FIFTH HIGHER SCHOOL.

Ordinary Receipts:—	
I.—Fifth Higher School	60,593.492
1. Government Subsidy	39,581.741
2. Miscellaneous Receipts	21,011.751
II.—Contributions for special purposes	11.601
III.—Transferred from Special Fund	63.399
Total	60,668.492
Ordinary Expenditures:—	
I.—Fifth Higher School	60,593.492
1. Salaries and wages	37,819.500
2. Office expenses	13,086.432
3. Repairs	1,620.500
4. Expenses connected with casualties	1.000
5. Indemnities and legal expenses	2.000
6. Mispayments refunded	1.000
7. Travelling expenses	1,645.320
8. Miscellaneous salaries and expenses	4,017.740
9. Salaries of Foreign Employés	2,400.000
II.—Contributions for special purposes	75.000
Total	60,668.492
Fund Receipts:—	
I.—Maintenance Fund Receipts	3,263.309
II.—Special Fund Receipts	11.080
Total	3,274.389
Fund Expenditures:—	
I.—Maintenance Fund Disbursements	3,655.665
II.—Special Fund Disbursement	63.399
Total	3,719.064

YAMAGUCHI HIGHER SCHOOL.

Ordinary Receipts:—	
I.—Yamaguchi Higher School	2,422.400
II.—Contributions for special purposes	18,665.178
III.—Transferred from previous year	4,800.000
Total	25,887.578
Ordinary Expenditures:—	
I.—Yamaguchi Higher School	25,887.578
1. Salaries and wages	16,614.000
2. Office expenses	3,765.880
3. Repairs	650.000
4. Expenses connected with casualties	1.000
5. Salaries of Foreign Employés in service	686.612
6. Indemnities and legal expenses	2.000
7. Mispayments refunded	1.000
8. Travelling expenses	682.120
9. Miscellaneous salaries and expenses	1,570.450
10. Salaries, etc., of Foreign Employés	1,914.516

KAGOSHIMA HIGHER SCHOOL. (Zoshikwan).

Ordinary Receipts:—	
I.—Kagoshima Higher School	505.500
II.—Contributions for special purposes	21,199.681
III.—Transferred from Special Fund	.819
IV.—Transferred from previous year	643.500
Total	22,349.500
Ordinary Expenditures:—	
I.—Kagoshima Higher School	21,706.000
1. Salaries and wages	14,910.000
2. Office expenses	2,387.000
3. Repairs	400.000
4. Expenses connected with casualties	1.000
5. Indemnities and legal expenses	2.000
6. Mispayments refunded	1.000
7. Travelling expenses	700.000
8. Miscellaneous salaries and expenses	1,505.000
9. Salaries of Foreign Employés	1,800.000
Extraordinary Expenditures:—	
I.—Expenses of new building works	643.500
Total	22,349.500
Fund Expenditures:—	
I.—Special Fund Disbursements	.819

SAPPORO AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE.

Ordinary Receipts:—	
I.—Sapporo Agricultural College	21,243.043
1. Government Subsidy	19,421.399
2. Miscellaneous Receipts	1,821.644
II.—Receipts from Experimental Farm	10,316.769
Total	31,559.812
Ordinary Expenditures:—	
I.—Sapporo Agricultural College	19,734.711
1. Salaries and wages	12,438.500
2. Office expenses	2,331.931
3. Repairs	700.000
4. Expenses connected with casualties	1.000
5. Indemnities and legal expenses	2.000
6. Mispayments refunded	1.000
7. Travelling expenses	1,138.280
8. Miscellaneous salaries and expenses	1,182.000
9. Students' expenses	1,940.000
II.—Experimental Farm	11,825.101
1. Office expenses	3,316.211
2. Repairs	650.500
3. Expenses connected with casualties	30.000
4. Miscellaneous salaries and expenses	7,828.390
Total	31,559.812

TOKYO TECHNICAL SCHOOL.

Ordinary Receipts:—	
I.—Tokyo Technical School	32,674.376
1. Government Subsidy	27,831.376
2. Miscellaneous Receipts	4,843.000
II.—Receipts from Experimental Laboratory	15,200.000
Total	47,874.376
Ordinary Expenditures:—	
I.—Tokyo Technical School	31,474.376
1. Salaries and wages	20,497.000
2. Office expenses	4,986.026

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3. Repairs	918.000
4. Expenses connected with casualities	17.000
5. Indemnities and legal expenses	2.000
6. Mispayments refunded	13.000
7. Travelling expenses	280.000
8. Miscellaneous salaries and expenses	4,667.150
9. Students' expenses	95.000
II.—Experimental Laboratory	14,780.000
1. Office expenses	8,254.940
2. Travelling expenses	150.000
3. Miscellaneous salaries and expenses	6,375.060
Total	46,254.376
Extraordinary Expenditures:—	
I.—Expenses for new building works	1,620.000
Grand Total	47,874.376
Fund Receipts:—	
I.—Maintenance Fund Receipts	800.000
Fund Expenditures:—	
I.—Maintenance Fund Disbursements	958.000

TOKYO SCHOOL OF FINE ARTS.

Ordinary Receipts:—	
I.—Tokyo School of Fine Arts	21,484.437
1. Government subsidy	19,245.830
2. Miscellaneous Receipts	2,238.607
II.—Receipts from Experimental Laboratory	30,000 000
Total	51,484.437
Ordinary Expenditures:—	
I.—Tokyo School of Fine Arts	21,484.437
1. Salaries and Wages	14,137.500
2. Office Expenses	3,024.000
3. Repairs	667.000
4. Expenses connected with casualties	1.000
5. Indemnities and legal expenses	2.000
6. Travelling Expenses	36.000
7. Miscellaneous salaries and Expenses	3.616.937
II.—Experimental Laboratory	30,000.000
1. Office Expenses	10,541.500
2. Repairs	300.000
3. Expenses connected with casualities	15.000
4. Mispayments refunded	10.000
5. Miscellaneous Salaries and Expenses	19,133.500
Total	51,484.437
Fund Expenditures:—	
I.—Maintenance Fund Disbursements	371.697

TOKYO BLIND AND DUMB SCHOOL.

Ordinary Receipts:—	
I.—Tokyo Blind and Dumb School	5,200.000
1. Government Subsidy	974.217
2. Miscellaneous Receipts	4,225.783
Ordinary Expenditures:—	
I.—Tokyo Blind and Dumb School	5,200.000
1. Salaries and wages	2,938.000
2. Office expenses	1,048.464
3. Repairs	242.363
4. Expenses connected with casualties	1.000
5. Indemnities and legal expenses	1.000
6. Mispayments refunded	1.000
7. Travelling expenses	32.620
8. Miscellaneous salaries and expenses	575.550
9. Students' expenses	360.000
Fund Receipts:—	
I.—Maintenance Fund Receipts.	678.000
Fund Expenditures:—	
I.—Maintenance Fund Disbursements	2,726.000

TOKYO LIBRARY.

Ordinary Receipts:—	
I.—Tokyo Library	9,395.490
1. Government Subsidy	7,895.490
2. Miscellaneous Receipts	1,500.000
Ordinary Expenditures:—	
I.—Tokyo Library	9,395.490
1. Salaries and wages	4,003.500
2. Office expenses	3,808.550
3. Repairs	96.000
4. Expenses connected with casualties	1.000
5. Indemnities and legal expenses	2.000
6. Travelling expenses	4 280
7. Miscellaneous Salaries and expenses	1480.160
Funds Receipts:—	
I.—Maintenance Fund Receipts.	150.000
Fund Expenditures:—	
I.—Maintenance Fund Disbursements	635.303

DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATIONS.

GOVERNMENT RAILWAYS.

Annual Receipts:—	
I.—Working Receipts of Railways	7,061,020.837
1. Traffic Receipts	6,671,197.962
2. Miscellaneous Receipts	389,822.875
Annual Expenditures:—	
I.—Working Expenses of Railways	4,392,904.788
1. Salaries and wages	296,994.667
2. Office expenses	10.922.984
3. Repairs	10,307.100
4. Expenses connected with casualties	817.120
5. Indemnities and legal expenses	719.423
6. Salaries of Foreign Employés in service	41,580.000
7. Miscellaneous repayments	453,107.078
8. Travelling expenses	2,260.430
9. Miscellaneous salaries and expenses	13.535.904
10. Business expenses	3,562,660.087
II.—Reserves	150,000.000
1. First Reserve	100,000 000
2. Second Reserve	50,000.000
Total	4,542,904.788

GOVERNMENT RAILWAYS MATERIAL FUND.

Annual Receipts:—	
I.—Receipts from sales of Materials	4,690,583.483
Annual Expenditures:—	
I.—Expenses for purchases of Materials	4,690,583.483

FACTORY FOR LIGHT-HOUSE AND TELEGRAPHIC MATERIALS.

Annual Receipts:—	
I.—Working Receipts of Factory.	236,723.255
1. Working receipts	235,644.939
2. Miscellaneous receipts	1,078.316
Annual Expenditures:—	
I.—Working Expenses of Factory	234.972.089
1. Salaries and wages	3,225.000
2. Office expenses	186.015
3. Repairs	21.510
4. Expenses connected with casualties	185.000
5. Travelling expenses	33 360
6. Miscellaneous salaries and expenses	95.593.772
7. Factory expenses	9.442.999
8. Purchases of Materials	126,284.433
II.—Reserves	168.000
Total	235,140.089

DEPARTMENTS OF FINANCE AND COMMUNICATION.

RAILWAYS PUBLIC LOAN.

Annual Receipts of Financial Department:—	
I.—Receipts from Railway Public Loan	1,520,000.000
Annual Expenditures of Communications Department:—	
I.—Railway building expenses	1,520,000.000
1. Railway between Fukushima and Aomori	801,708.000
2. Railway between Tsuruga and Toyama	718,292.000

SPECIAL BUDGET (CLASS B).

I.—Expenses for Historical Compilations.

The total sum of compiling expenses 64,500.000

This to be divided and disbursed as follows:—

28th fiscal year—	
Compiling expenses	12,900.000
29th fiscal year—	
Compiling expenses	12,900.000
30th fiscal year—	
Compiling expenses	12,900.000
31st fiscal year—	
Compiling expenses	12,900 000
32nd fiscal year—	
Compiling expenses	12,900.000

II.—Expenses for Railways Construction.

The total sum of building expenses 18,451,080.060

Of this, *yen* 4,560,000.000 already disbursed up to 27th fiscal year inclusive, and the remainder *yen* 13,891,080.000 to be applied for Railways to be built between Fukushima and Aomori, and Tsuruga and Toyama, as follows:—

28th fiscal year—	
Building expenses	1,520,000.000
29th fiscal year—	
Building expenses	1,520,000.000
30th fiscal year—	
Building expenses	1,520,000.000
31st fiscal year—	
Building expenses	1,520,000.000
32nd fiscal year—	
Building expenses	1,524,954.000
33rd fiscal year—	
Building expenses	1,280,000.000
34th fiscal year—	
Building expenses	1,280,000.000
35th fiscal year—	
Building expenses	1,280,000.000
36th fiscal year—	
Building expenses	1,280,000.000
37th fiscal year—	
Building expenses	1,166,126.000

SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET OF THE 27TH FISCAL YEAR (CLASS A).

(Passed by the Diet as introduced by the Government.)

ORDINARY EXPENDITURES.

	YEN.
Financial Department:—	
III.—Pensions and Annuities	700.000
War Department:—	
II.—Military expenses	60,495.967
1. Salaries and wages	4,441.185
3. Arms and Ammunition expenses	598.549
4. Provision expenses	2,446.605
5. Clothing expenses	21,213.213
6. Horses expenses	21,244.084
7. Medical expenses	59.072
9. Exercises and Review expenses	2,308.159
12. Office expenses	6,119.470
13. Travelling expenses	2,065.630
Total of Ordinary Expenditures	61,195.967

EXTRAORDINARY EXPENDITURES.

Home Department:—	
X.—Yokohama Harbour Works supplementary expenses	165,197.926
2. Miscellaneous salaries	2,020.440
6. Building works expenses	163,177.486
XI.—Fourth Domestic Industry Exhibition, Hokkaido Exhibits expenses	5,300.000
Total	170,497.926
Financial Department:—	
II.—Constructions and Repairs expenses	44,270.660
2. Yokohama Custom-house Warehouse, new building expenses	25,900.000
3. Yokohama Custom-house Carriage way, new building expenses	18,370.660
Educational Department:—	
II.—Constructions and Repairs expenses	22,500.000
Total of Extraordinary Expenditures	237,268.586
Grand Total of Expenditures	298,464.553

SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET (CLASS B).

I.—Yokohama Harbour Works Supplementary Expenses.

Total sum of supplementary expenses 309,320.883

This to be divided and disbursed as follows:—

27th fiscal year.	
Supplementary expenses	165,197.926
28th fiscal year.	
Supplementary expenses	144,122.957

II.—Fourth Domestic Industry Exhibition, Hokkaido Exhibits Expenses.

Total sum of the Hokkaido exhibits expenses	7,800.000
This to be divided and disbursed as follows:—	
27th fiscal year.	
Hokkaido exhibits expenses	5,300.000
28th fiscal year.	
Hokkaido exhibits expenses	2,500.000

III.—Yokohama Custom-house Warehouse, new building expenses.

Total sum of building expenses	89,885.660
This to be divided and disbursed as follows:—	
27th fiscal year.	
Building expenses	25,900.000
28th fiscal year.	
Building expenses	63.985.660

IV.—Yokohama Custom-house Carriage-way, new building expenses.

Total sum of building expenses	43,391.081

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This to be divided and disbursed as follows :—
27th fiscal year—
Building expenses 18,370.660
28th fiscal year—
Building expenses 25,020.421
V.—Engineering College Applied Chemistry and Metallurgy Lecture Rooms, new building expenses. Total sum of the building expenses 70,156.000
This to be divided and disbursed as follows :—
27th fiscal year—
Building Expenses 22,500.000
28th fiscal year—
Building expenses 47,656.000

SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET (Class A).

Ordinary Receipts.

V.—Appropriation of Interest on Deposits 97,905.000

Ordinary Expenditures.

Home Department :—
V.—Penitentiaries 7,719.626
3. Prisoners expenses 3,746.264
6. Miscellaneous Salaries 3,973.362
VI.—Metropolitan Police Board. 1,497.250
VIII.—Hokkaido Administration Board 4,316.228
6. Travelling expenses..... 2,418.235
16. Prisoners expenses 1,897 993
XI.—Fu and Ken 56,573.595
9. Police joint expenses 46,569.322
10. Travelling expenses 10,004.273
Total 70,106.699
Financial Department :—
II.—National Debt 97,905.000
III.—Pensions and Annuities ... 296 322.697
2. Civil Service Pensions 136,326.697
3. Military Service Pensions... 160,000 000
VI.—The House of Peers 25.793 000
1. Salaries and wages..... 18,610.000
3. Travelling expenses 5,671.000
4. Miscellaneous salaries 1,512.000
VII.—The House of Representatives 37.735.723
1. Salaries and wages..... 26.188.531
3. Travelling expenses 8,035.080
4. Miscellaneous salaries 2,093.000
5. Office expenses 1,419.112
X.—*Official Gazette* Bureau..... 27,244.312
XII.—Expenses of collecting Taxes 4,978.000
5. Expenses connected with arrears of tax payments and violations of Regulations... 3,650.000
6. Expenses of Stamps and Licenses..... 1,328.000
XIII.—Expenses for dealing with Currency 36,802.297
XIV.—Fund for miscellaneous repayments and for supplying deficiencies and losses... 4,400.000
XVI.—Reserve Fund of the Treasury..... 200,000.000
Total 731,181.029
War Department :—
III.—Gendarmerie expenses 1,404.995
IV.—Colonial Troops expenses... 2,297.354
Total 3,702.349
Naval Department :—
II.—Naval..... 8,436.524
12. Allowances to survivors..... 3,436.524
13. Office expenses 5,000.000
Judicial Department :—
II.—Courts of Law 72,486.937
Educational Department :—
I.—The Department proper 1,000.000
II.—Earthquake Investigation Association 707.870
III.—Schools and Libraries 4,438.655
Total 6,146.525
Department of Communications :—
III.—Expenses for Communications 295,466.286
Total of Ordinary Expenditures 1,187,526.349

Extraordinary Expenditures.

Financial Department :—
VII.—Expenses for printing Military Bonds..... 18,939.200
VIII.—Special Allowances..... 616,204.413
Total 635,143.613
Naval Department :—
I.—Expenses for building Warships 253,146.703
Educational Department :—
II.—Constructions and Repairs.. 5,000.000
Department of Communications :—
III.—Expenses of Investigating Railway Routes throughout the Empire 5,982.525
1. Salaries and wages..... 3,250.000
2. Office expenses 810.025
3. Miscellaneous salaries 706.500
4. Travelling expenses 1,216.000
Total of Extraordinary Expenses 899,272.841
Grand Total of Expenditures 2,086,799.190

SUPPLEMENTARY SPECIAL BUDGET.

Financial Department.

Mint.

Receipts :—
I.—Receipts from the works of the Mint..... 125,000.000
Expenditures :—
I.—Expenses for the works of the Mint 5,870.600

Interest on Deposits in Financial Department.

Expenditures :—
I.—Transferred to Ordinary Receipts 97,905.000

Naval Department.

Kure Admiralty Shipbuilding Material Fund.

Receipts :—
I.—Receipts from Materials..... 44,000.000
Expenditures :—
I.—Expenses for Materials 50,000.000

Educational Department.

Imperial University.

Ordinary Receipts :—
I.—Imperial University 10,351.099
1. Government Subsidy..... 4,438.655
2. Sundry Receipts 5,912.444
Ordinary Expenditures :—
I.—Imperial University 10,389.227
1. Salaries and wages..... 4,438.635
2. Office expenses..... 3,475.412
5. Miscellaneous Salaries 584.160
6. Students Expenses 691.000
9. Salaries of Foreign Employés 1,200.000

Higher Normal School.

Ordinary Expenditures :—
I.—Higher Normal School..... 988.428
2. Office Expenses 672.828
5. Miscellaneous Salaries 315.600

School of Music subordinate to Higher Normal School.

Ordinary Expenditures :—
I.—Tokyo School of Music..... 135.000

Female Higher Normal School.

Ordinary Expenditures :—
I.—Female Higher Normal School 90.000

Second Higher School.

Ordinary Receipts :—
I.—Second Higher School 992.899
Ordinary Expenditures :—
I.—Second Higher School 1,034.699
1. Salaries and wages..... 549 999
5. Miscellaneous salaries 484.700

Fourth Higher School.

Ordinary Expenditures :—
I.—Fourth Higher School 498.450
1. Salaries and wages..... 175.000
5. Miscellaneous salaries 323.450

Fifth Higher School.

Ordinary Expenditures :—
I.—Fifth Higher School..... 186.000
Extraordinary Expenditures :—
I.—New building works expenses 357.500
Total 543.500

Yamaguchi Higher School.

Ordinary Expenditures :—
I.—Yamaguchi Higher School ... 190.050

Tokyo Technical School.

Ordinary Receipts :—
I.—Tokyo Technical School 4,000.000
Ordinary Expenditures :—
I.—Tokyo Technical School 4,000.000

Tokyo School of Fine Arts.

Ordinary Receipts :—
I.—Tokyo School of Fine Arts ... 450.000
Ordinary Expenditures :—
I.—Tokyo School of Fine Arts... 450.000

Tokyo Library.

Ordinary Receipts :—
I.—Tokyo Library 150 000
Ordinary Expenditures :—
I.—Tokyo Library 150.000

SUPPLEMENTARY SPECIAL BUDGET.

Financial Department.

Mint.

Receipts :—
I.—Receipts from the works of the Mint 1,000,000.000
Expenditures :—
I.—Expenses for the works of the Mint 893,421.627
4. Allowances 1,526.900
5. Factory expenses..... 2,680.345
6. Purchases of Materials 889,214.382

War Department.

Tokyo Arsenal.

Receipts :—
I.—Receipts from the works of the Tokyo Arsenal 938,396.830
Expenditures :—
I.—Expenses for the works of the Tokyo Arsenal 938,396.830
1. Allowances 258,817.800
2. Factory expenses..... 112,075.480
3. Purchases of Materials 567,503.550

THE "ERNEST SIMONS."

This vessel arrived here on Wednesday, and the following is an interesting account of the ship's dimensions, construction, accommodation, etc. :—

The *Ernest Simons* is the latest addition to the Messageries Maritimes, and this is her first visit to Japan. She is intended to run regularly on the China line, for which service she is been specially designed. She is built of steel, with five decks, and has a curved stem and an elliptical stern. Her dimensions are :—length over all 457 feet, breadth 45 feet, and depth moulded to upper-deck 35 feet. Her displacement at the load-line is 8,500 tons at 25 feet, and gross register 5,707 tons. The subdivision of the *Ernest Simons*, throughout by water-tight bulk-heads, has received very careful attention, the aim having been to make these capable of resisting any pressure that can come on them from either side, and to place them in such positions that if any two adjacent water-tight compartments were by collision or other cause thrown open to the sea the ship would have a sufficient surplus buoyancy to enable her to float with safety. She carries 10 boats and one steam launch. These are stowed on the promenade deck and are fitted with special patents which allow them to be swung out quickly into a position of readiness for lowering.

Of the five decks, the shade-deck is at a height of 33 feet above the water line, and acts as an awning over the forepart of the promenade deck. At the forward end of this deck is the navigating bridge with the steam steering-gear, chart-room, and captain's cabin. The promenade-deck is 275 feet long by 40 feet wide, and at the forward end is the reading room, a large apartment, the walls of which are hung with a casing of cork embossed in imitation of Cordvan leather, and adorned with pictures by Ph. Rousseau. This room is entered from the stairway, which leads down to the upper-deck, and thence to the first-class accommodation on the main deck. About the middle of the promenade deck is the music hall, on each side of which doors open on the grand stairway, which leads down to the dining saloon. At the after end of the balcony is the drawing-room, a large apartment, richly decorated, the walls and ceiling being adorned with landscapes and allegorical subjects. Connecting with the saloon and cabins on the main-deck, the music-hall can be reached without going outside in bad weather. Further aft is the first-class smoking-room, a spacious apartment, lighted with large square windows, the sides being decorated with ceramic panels representing female figures of different provinces of France. The first-class dining-room is on the upper deck, right in the middle of the ship. It is richly panelled in maple, acacia, ash, and beech woods, and decorated with Aubusson's tapestries. It is well lighted, and is ventilated from the sides by large square windows and from above by an arch-shaped dome 20 feet in height. This room is 26 feet long by 20 feet wide. The first-class cabins are mostly on the main-deck, some forward of the stairway leading to the saloon, and some abaft of it in the middle of the ship, where there is least motion. There are also two large cabins forward of the dining-room on the starboard side, and 12 excellent deck cabins on the upper-deck abaft the main-mast. These are of various sizes, most of them fitted for 2 passengers, but some for one only. There are also a number of family cabins. Further aft are the second-class cabins, four of them being on the upper-deck. All the apartments are fitted with electric bells, and have each an independent electric light under the cont-

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tol of the passengers. The lavatory and bath-rooms are all fitted with cold and hot water throughout, and are of the most commodious and modern description.

The *Ernest Simons* is lighted throughout by electricity, both on deck and below, on the latest and best system hitherto applied to marine installations. The installation consists of three dynamos, coupled direct to special engines capable of supplying currents for all the lights in the ship, of which there are 800, besides side and mast-head lights and a projector for use in the Suez Canal. Steam machines are provided for steering the ship, and a special system for working cargo by steam. The system employed in this class of vessel combines the advantages of the power and silence of hydraulic machines, the unpleasant noise of the old winches being done away with. Powerful hand steering gear is also fitted as an alternative, and every possible arrangement has been made for natural ventilation. The engine-room skylight as well as the boiler casings have been carried above the shade deck, and the store-room being placed at the forward end of the ship and independently ventilated, all smells, dust, steam, and smoke are carried off clear of the passengers. The refrigerating chamber is one of the most elaborate that has ever been fitted to a ship, so that fresh meat, fish, vegetables, butter, fruit, milk, etc., and an ample supply of ice is always available.

The *Ernest Simons* has been built to fulfil the requirements of the Government as to subdivision into watertight compartments so as to be eligible for employment as an armed cruiser. Her engines are of the triple expansion type, the cylinders being respectively 38½, 57½, and 95 inches in diameter, with a stroke of 48 inches, the engines being capable of working up to 85 revolutions per minute, and giving a speed of 19 knots an hour. Steam developing 7,200 horse-power is supplied by 16 patent Belleville generators working up to a pressure of 227lbs.

The ship is furnished with two life buoys of special construction. These are placed at the stern of the ship and fitted with a light which ignites as the buoy reaches the water. The special feature connected with these buoys is the method of lowering them when required. They can be released from the chart room by a special arrangement as well as by hand from the deck.

It may be mentioned that the *Ernest Simons* was not only built, but was also engined at the private establishment of the Messageries Maritimes at La Ciotat, near Marseilles. The vessel is commanded by Captain Vimont, well known in the East and late of the *Melbourne*.

LETTER FROM AUSTRALIA.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Healesville, Victoria, Dec. 13th, 1894.

At last Victoria is awakening to the fact that she has interests in Japan. In foreign affairs the leading papers here take their tone from the great London journals. Now that the British government had made an important move and signed a new treaty with Japan, leading colonials are beginning to take an interest in the successes and aspirations of the Japanese. The writer of the *Argus* Monetary and Commercial articles has evidently received a new impression. Some of his remarks, published in a recent issue of the paper, are worth quoting. On the bearing of the new Anglo-Japanese treaty he discourses as follows:—

One of the articles of the treaty concluded between Great Britain and Japan is of vital importance to the Australian colonies, and should lead to immediate action being taken. For it is not only the present but the future of the commerce of the Pacific Ocean—and a Commonwealth of Australia will be a Pacific power—that has to be taken into account. In the twentieth century the Pacific will probably be dominated by four powers principally, viz. Federated Australia, Japan, Chili, and California (as representative of the United States). Between Australia and Japan a large trade will have sprung up, and the preservation of amity between the two countries will have become a question of supreme importance. But the nineteenth article of the treaty just concluded provisionally shuts out the Australian colonies from participation in its benefits. We assumed some days ago that the treaty provisions would extend to the colonies as integral portions of the British Empire. This is not necessarily the case, for the colonies have to move the Foreign Office to arrange for their inclusion in the treaty arrangements. It therefore behoves the colonial Governments to take action without delay; and to present the position as clearly as possible we quote the nineteenth article in full, as follows:—

"Article XIX.—The stipulations of the present treaty shall be applicable, so far as the laws permit, to all the colonies and foreign possessions of Her Britannic Majesty, excepting to those hereinafter named, that is to say, except to—

India	The Dominion of Canada
Newfoundland	The Cape
Natal	New South Wales
Victoria	Queensland
Tasmania	South Australia
Western Australia	New Zealand.

Provided always that the stipulations of the present treaty shall be made applicable to any of the above mentioned colonies or foreign possessions on whose behalf notice to that effect shall have been given to the Japanese Government by Her Britannic Majesty's representative at Tokyo within two years from the date of the exchange of ratifications of the present treaty."

It will be observed that the colonies having constitutions of their own are the exception, the Crown colonies going without stipulation with Great Britain. No doubt Her Majesty's Government will officially bring the treaty under the notice of the various Australian Governments, who will be only too willing to apply for admission. The tariff of import *ad valorem* duties under the treaty contains some articles of interest to Australia, as follows:—

	Per Cent.
Lead	5
Leather, sole	15
Leather, other kinds	10
Milk, condensed and desiccated	5
Refined sugar	10
Tin	5

The *ad valorem* duties are, however, to be converted into specific duties, as far as is practicable, within six months from the date of the protocol to the treaty. With regard to refined sugar, it has been considered of sufficient importance (owing possibly to the development of the sugar-refining industry in Japan) to justify a separate clause in the protocol. The text of this clause is as follows:—

"4. It is understood between the two High Contracting Parties that if Japan think it necessary at any time to levy an additional duty on the production or manufacture of refined sugar in Japan an increased Customs duty equivalent in amount may be levied on British refined sugar when imported into Japan, so long as such additional excise tax or inland duty continues to be raised.

"Provided always that British refined sugar shall in this respect be entitled to the treatment accorded to refined sugar being the produce or manufacture of the most-favoured nation."

It is as well that attention should be drawn to the provision regarding sugar, for, as a matter of fact, Japan means to make a big bid for the supply of refined sugar in the Pacific, and the interests of Queensland and New South Wales, as well as of the great Australian Refining Company (the largest in the world outside the United States Sugar Trust), have to be watched.

As we have before suggested, this new Anglo-Japanese treaty constitutes a totally fresh departure, one calculated to have far reaching results. Owing to the want of nationality in Australia—the result of having a cluster of merely parochial "roads-and-bridges" colonies—her high destinies are apt to be overlooked. But no treaty development in the Pacific should be allowed to take place without our claim to participation in it being advanced.

There are, however, serious difficulties in the way of Australia's participating in the benefits to be derived from the stipulations of the new treaty. Is Australia prepared to rescind the regulations dictated by the labour party bearing on immigration? In the present Victorian parliament, the labour party, like the Irish party in England, is master of the situation, as upon its vote the fate of the ministry depends. The members of this party would scout the idea of allowing Japanese to enjoy equal rights with Victorians. To the stipulations of Article I. of the new treaty the men now in power here never could be induced to agree. To me it seems that nothing but federation can deal a death blow to that policy of selfish isolation and exclusiveness which has for so long a period been followed to a greater or less extent by each of the Australian Colonies and by New Zealand in a most marked manner, as I will show later on. Undoubtedly the more advanced and intelligent members of the Australian communities are in favour of greater liberty being granted to Japanese subjects residing in these parts, but hitherto every legislative Act has been of an opposite tendency. That the merchants, manufacturers, and producers of Victoria are anxious to establish markets for their produce in Japan, is shown by the fact that another mission has been despatched to Japan, Hongkong, Manila, Java, and other countries of the East. Mr. Dyer, to whom the organisation of the mission has been entrusted, is taking with him a large assortment of products for public exhibition in those countries and for presentation to the Emperor of Japan, the Governors of Java, Manila, and Hongkong. The articles to be presented to the Emperor of Japan are valued at over £250. Notwithstanding all these efforts, however, as long as existing laws remain in force, Australia's commercial dealings with Japan must be very limited compared with the trade of countries that are prepared to follow England's new departure.

For gruesome details and cold bloodedness the annals of Victoria crime contain nothing that equals the following confession made by a little girl of thirteen summers a few weeks ago:—

"I was thirteen years old last January, 14th. My sister Janet came home from Cranbourne on Monday the 5th inst., and she and I and Margaret slept in the same bed. On Wednesday morning early Margaret became very ill, and at seven o'clock a child was born. We had all known of Margaret's condition for some months, and when father or mother mentioned it Margaret only laughed. She had blamed Hugh Taylor, who lived in the house with us, and father turned him out. Father usually went away on a Monday. He was away when the child was born, but mother and Janet were in the room with Margaret, and I was outside in the kitchen. I heard a baby crying several times, and I then went into the room. Margaret was in bed covered up, and mother was sitting on the bed with the baby in her arms. It was naked and crying. Janet was standing looking on. Mother said to me, 'Take it away and kill it,' and at the same she handed the baby to me. I took it out into the garden and laid it down on the ground. It was then alive, and crying. I got the spade and hit the baby on the head with it twice. I chopped it straight down and killed it. Some of the brains fell out, and the fowls gathered round and ate them. Having killed the child I went back to Margaret's bedroom and said to mother, 'I have killed it with the spade.' She told me to dig a hole and bury the body, and I did so. Later she said, 'Have you buried it deep enough?' I answered yes. Mother and Janet went away to my sister's place. I think Janet went there because she wanted to get away from our place, and had no other place but Taylor's to go to. It was arranged amongst us that we should kill the baby as soon as it was born, so that no one should know anything about it. That was about a month before it was born. It was I who suggested that we should kill it. Mother and Margaret were present, and agreed to it. When father came home on Saturday, the 10th inst., Margaret was in bed sick. He asked me what had been done with the child. I told him I had buried it. He did not ask whether it had been born alive, and I did not tell him." A brother 13 years of age and a sister eight confessed that they saw the dreadful deed. "I saw," admitted the latter, "Jane hit it with the spade. She hit it twice and killed it, and then buried it. I saw the brains fall out of the head and the fowls picked them up and ate them." The wholesale murder of infants by poison and other means reported in the daily newspapers, and the numerous cases of indecent assaults on children whose ages range between 3 and 12 are attracting the attention of the authorities here. I think there is little doubt that the morals of the lower orders in Victoria are about as bad as they well could be. In numerous families all sense of decency and propriety seems lost. Subjects which children should never be allowed to hear discussed are talked over by the parents in their presence with the most astonishing carelessness. Among a small population such as that of Victoria, it would be difficult to find crimes of more malignant types than those perpetrated here within the last few years.

What claims to be a most remarkable invention has been designed by Mr. C. Seymour Allan, of Sydney. Mr. Allan has constructed a model submarine torpedo boat, which not only moves as rapidly under water as on the surface, but can be sunk on an even keel to the bottom and raised at pleasure. The passage of the boat beneath the water is not indicated by even a single ripple on the surface. A trial of the working model took place at the City Baths, Melbourne, a few weeks ago, in the presence of the Governor and a number of naval and military experts, and is thus described by an eye-witness:—

Placed in the water the little 3ft. model—which for the purposes of the trial had to be connected with a pliant electric cable to a shore battery—was the perfection of a craft built for speed, and the inventor claims 60 knots an hour as one of the possibilities from a full-sized boat. Only a slight fin appeared above water, and on one touch of an electric key the little boat sank out of sight, and being lit up with electricity on the instant she sank the onlookers were able to see her going down and resting on the bottom of the baths in 8ft. of water. Another turn of the key, and just as promptly she rose evenly and steadily to the surface again. "She will do anything you tell her," said the inventor; and in response to requests by His Excellency, by Captain White (who was much interested in the trial), and by Colonel Dean Pitt, the model sank and rose by the head or stern as required, was submerged to depths of 2ft., 3ft., or 4ft. as required, and their either remained stationary or was driven about, reversed, and manœuvred while keeping her depth. Captain White's opinion was very much that of Admiral Bowden Smith, who on seeing the trial in Sydney said "If you can build a full-sized boat to do the same work as the model, you not only have a huge fortune at command, but you will revolutionise naval warfare." His Excellency the Governor was also much pleased with the invention, which he was satisfied fully realised the inventor's claims.

Mr. Allan has spent 13 years in bringing the model to its present state of perfection, and has spent no less than £7,000 on improvements and experiments. He does not intend to take his invention abroad. He will construct a full-sized vessel here, and go down in her and torpedo a hulk as an experiment. Unlike most inventors, Mr. Allan has no intention of selling his designs. They have been publicly exhibited on several occasions and hence, if the new torpedo boat proves a success, will doubtless be in the possession

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of the foes as well as the friends of the inventor's fellow-countrymen. A full-sized vessel would be about 80 feet long, with a displacement of 127 tons and would cost about £10,000.

The diligence with which New Zealand has been making laws is perfectly astounding. The last parliament in a single session put nearly 100 measures on the statute book. It goes without saying that the quality of the legislation that proceeds at such a rapid pace is most inferior. The aim of the New Zealand legislator is to control and regulate every industry, occupation, and pastime. Even the toils of the washtub are not to be exempted; for not long ago a Bill entitled, "The Washers and Manglers Bill," was solemnly introduced to the Assembly. The latest piece of legislative wisdom has taken the form of a measure entitled the "Undesirable Immigrants Exclusion Bill." Among the classes henceforth to be prohibited from defiling New Zealand with their presence are the following:—"Every contract workman, imbecile, pauper, *cripple*, habitual drunkard ..... every person suffering from tuberculosis or leprosy." Hence if a tourist is unfortunate enough while *en route* to New Zealand to fall down and injure his leg he will not be allowed to land. A tourist on arrival is to be medically examined. If sound he will receive a permit to reside in the colony for 6 months; after that period, though he may be as virtuous as Socrates, he is to be reckoned a "prohibited" person, and unless the clarity of the immigration office grant him an extension of time, he must leave the country like an outlaw. When the new bill becomes law the captains of ships entering New Zealand harbours will have to furnish the immigration officer with a biography of every passenger, including some 20 particulars, such as the occupation, means, antecedents, mental and physical health of the immigrants. One clause of the bill provides that if any immigrant shall within a year of his arrival apply for aid to any public institution, "the owner of the ship from which such person landed shall forthwith take him to the port whence he came and shall pay to the immigration office the cost of his maintenance which has been borne by any public institution and any expenses incurred by the General Government." Under certain provisions of this act the vessel itself is liable to be seized and condemned as a forfeit to the State. Talk about the exclusiveness of China and Japan! It is nowhere when compared with the "Dog in the Manger" policy of the modern New Zealander. By the folly of benighted legislators a group of islands with an area nearly equal to that of the United Kingdom, and with resources and a climate such as few countries can boast of, has no larger population than that of a London suburb. Population is what New Zealand needs, and yet by some strange infatuation her rulers do all in their power to drive would-be settlers from her shores.

In addition to all the other burdens under which the colony groans, Victoria is now to be saddled with a land and income tax. The land is unremunerative enough as it is, and in the case of numerous farmers this tax will prove the last straw that breaks the camel's back. But money must be found to pay Ministers of State their £14,000 a year, and other public officers on a similar scale. The land tax policy is dictated by the labour members, who have no land to be taxed. Socialists to the backbone, these men publicly advocate the wresting of the land from its present owners by imposing taxation that will render it no longer to their interest to remain land owners. There has been a great outcry against the new tax, but Turner and his colleagues are sure of their majority and hence can afford to ignore public clamour. One thing is certain, the political blunders of Victoria are doing her no small amount of harm in London, for Victoria stocks during the past few weeks have been steadily declining. The tyranny of a somewhat despotic but sable government is of a far milder type than the oppression of a government that has no fixed principles and is perpetually engaged in making legislative experiments at the cost of its subjects. The Australian has many strong points, but government is certainly one of his weakest. To a very large extent the troubles through which this colony is now passing are the result of bad legislation. Australia has in the past imported from Europe and America the finest and best of animals, machines, and commodities. Her statesmen, however, are home made and lack the mental calibre and education of European political leaders.

THE PEACE MISSION AT KOBE.

A HOSTILE RECEPTION.

It cannot be said, writes the *Kobe Chronicle*, that the reception accorded the Chinese Embassy on Wednesday is a very favourable augury of peace. On the part of the Japanese officials it was marked by decided coldness, the necessary courtesies being, it seemed, only perfunctorily gone through, while on the part of the populace assembled to witness the plenipotentiaries land there was such decided hostility that it appeared to bystanders as if it needed but a spark to cause an explosion. Both in coming ashore from the *Empress of China* and in proceeding to the *Owari Maru*, the Embassy preferred to use the Canadian Pacific chartered steam launch *Benvenue* instead of the somewhat inadequate accommodation offered by the Government launch. Mr. Foster proceeded on board shortly after eight o'clock to meet his clients, and Mr. Inouye, the Secretary of the Foreign Department, accompanied only by Mr. Tei and two Kencho officials, went on board between eight and nine to receive the plenipotentiaries. Mr. Inouye and the Japanese officials returned direct to the Tokiwa hotel, after making certain arrangements, and Mr. Foster and the plenipotentiaries with their *suites* left the Canadian Pacific steamer shortly before ten o'clock, being escorted to the hatoba by police launches and boats.

On shore a very large force of police was drawn up at the American hatoba, and another force lined the Bund and the road leading to the Oriental Hotel. That their presence was very necessary was seen immediately the party landed, for the demeanour of the crowd was unmistakably hostile. Their Excellencies Chang Ying-huan and Shao at once got into the carriage which was waiting, and with their secretaries and the members of their *suite*, who were accommodated with jinrikisha, proceeded to the Oriental Hotel, escorted by police and accompanied by the American adviser Mr. Foster. As they left the hatoba the large crowd assembled uttered a prolonged yell, and for a few moments matters looked critical, but fortunately the crowd did not proceed to translate their unmistakable hostile feelings into action, or it might have gone ill with the Chinese Envoys, as the force of police, though large, would scarcely have been sufficient to cope with a mob determined on violence. With regard to this incident it is only right to say that the crowd was composed mainly of coolies, every few members of the better classes being present or taking part in a demonstration—that reflects but little credit on the Japanese reputation for politeness to guests.

Arrived at the Oriental Hotel, the first half-hour was devoted to the reception of the foreign Consuls, every one of whom, we believe, paid a formal visit to their Excellencies. Mr. Chang, the only one of the plenipotentiaries who can speak English, and who naturally attracted most attention, has all the appearance and ways of a diplomat. It need scarcely be said that he did not show his hand or give the slightest hint of the attitude which would be taken by the plenipotentiaries in the negotiations,—in fact, beyond the most formal of greetings he said nothing whatever of importance. The same attitude of reserve was taken up by the interpreters and secretaries, who were necessarily so engaged during the two or three hours the Embassy remained on shore that it was almost impossible to get speech of them.

As soon as the Consuls' visit came to an end, their Excellencies entered upon a close consultation with Mr. Foster. No visit was made to the Kencho as had been anticipated, but after the conference with Mr. Foster was concluded, and some refreshment had been obtained, the plenipotentiaries prepared to go on board the *Owari Maru*, which had been appointed by the Japanese Government to convey them to Ujina. During all the time the Embassy remained at the Oriental Hotel, the building was guarded by a considerable force of police, and it was an unusual sight to see such a number of the Japanese police in the Foreign Settlement. The very strictest precautions were taken against any unauthorised Japanese entering the Hotel, the police having apparently been placed on their guard by the hostility shown by the crowd at the hatoba. The hostile demonstration was not repeated as the Embassy retraced its course to the landing-place about 1.30 p.m., and this was especially fortunate, as on arrival at the American hatoba some difficulty was experienced in embarking owing to one of Jack Young's lighters engaged in loading coal having gone aground, and it was impossible for some time to move her and leave a clear way for the steam launch. Meanwhile the Embassy had to stand in the midst of coal buckets and coolies until matters could be rectified. How the lighter came to be allowed upon any pretext to load coal at a wharf reserved for the landing of passengers we do not know,—the attention of the authorities will, we understand, be called to this matter,—but the police or whoever were responsible for keeping the landing-place clear are certainly to blame for taking no steps to see that the hatoba was clear upon this occasion if only out of respect to the Envoys. The incident was on a par with the rest of the proceedings, and may be regarded as a proof of the almost studied indifference with which the Embassy was received by the Japanese authorities, the coldness of the reception being further marked by the absence of the Governor, Mr. Sufu, who is at present in Tokyo.

The plenipotentiaries arrived on board the *Owari Maru* about two o'clock, and preparations were immediately made to leave. The vessel left her moorings shortly afterwards and had disappeared round Wada Point before three o'clock.

CHESS.

(All Communications to be addressed to the Chess Editor.)

The Yokohama Chess Club meets at the Club Hotel, No. 5, Bund, on Monday and Thursday in each week from 5 to 11 p.m.

The Tokyo Chess Club meets at the Tokyo Hotel every Friday from 1 to 11 p.m.

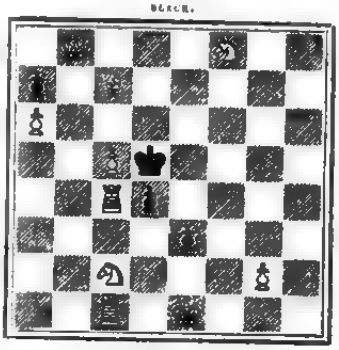
SOLUTION TO PROBLEM No. 161.

WHITE.	BLACK.
1—K to Kt 2	1—K to K 7
2—Q to Q 3 ch.	2—K × Q
3—Kt to K B 4, mate	
	1—K to K Kt 5
2—Q to K B 5 ch.	2—K × Q
3—Kt to K 3, mate	
	1—K to K Kt 7
2—Q × Kt ch.	2—K × either Kt
3—B mates accordingly.	

Correct solutions received from Omega, Kr., Shogi.

PROBLEM No. 163.
By A. G. FELLOWS.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in two moves.

TOKYO VERSUS YOKOHAMA.

We are sorry to learn that there seems to be no chance of a match between these two clubs at present, the Junior Club holding back. This is a pity. We should like to have seen a repetition of last year's contests; with it possible a reversal of the result. As it is the Yokohama men are going round seeking new worlds to conquer.

GAME No. 213.

CORRESPONDENCE BRILLIANT.

The following, from the *Montreal Weekly Gazette*, is the game that won the prize for brilliancy in the second correspondence tourney of the *St. John Globe*:—

THE CENTRE GAMBIT.

WHITE. J. B. Stebbins (New York).	BLACK. J. S. Narraway (Ottawa).
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—P to Q 4	2—P takes P
3—Q takes P	3—Kt to Q B 3
4—Q to K 3	4—P to K Kt 3
5—B to Q 2	5—B to K Kt 2
6—Kt to Q B 3	6—P to Q 3
7—P to K B 4	7—Kt to K B 3
8—Q to Q 3	8—B to Q 2
9—Kt to K B 3	9—Kt to Q Kt 5
10—P to Q R 3	10—Kt takes B ch.
11—Q takes Kt	11—Q to K 2

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12—Castles Q R	12—Castles Q R
13—Q to Q B 4	13—B to Q B 3
14—K R to K sq.	14—K R to K sq.
15—Kt to Q 5	15—Q to Q 2
16—Kt to Q 4 (b)	16—R takes P
17—Kt takes Kt	17—B takes Kt
18—R takes R	18—B takes R
19—Kt to Q Kt 5	19—P to Q 4 (c)
20—Q to K B sq.	20—P to Q R 3
21—Kt to Q B 3	21—B to K B 4
22—Q to K Kt sq.	22—P to Q 5 (d)
23—B to K 3	23—P takes Kt
24—R takes Q	24—P takes P ch.
25—K to Kt sq.	25—R takes R
26—P to K Kt 4 (e)	26—R to Q 6 (f)
27—B to Q B sq. (g)	27—P takes B (Q) ch.
28—K takes Q	28—B to Q 5
29—Q to K sq.	29—R to K 6

And Mr. Stebbins resigns.

NOTES.

(a) When Black plays 7..... Kt to B 3, as in the text, White's best continuation is 8—K Ii to K e.
(b) This move loses a Pawn, and gives the attack into the hands of Black.
(c) It is probable that when White made his 16th move he did not anticipate this resource.
(d) The initial move of a beautiful combination.
(e) White had to prevent ..... B to K Kt 5.
(f) Another beautiful stroke to which White has no satisfactory reply.
(g) If 27—P takes R, then 28..... B takes B ch.; 28—K to R 2, B Queens ch., and after exchanging pieces, Black would remain with two Pawns to the good. If 27—P takes B, then 28..... R takes P, followed by ..... R to Q R 8 ch., &c. Lastly, if 27—B to Q B 5, then 28..... B to K 5; 28—Q to K sq., B to Q B 6, followed by ..... R to Q 7, it being evident that White could not capture the Bishop.

TOKIO CLUB TOURNAMENT.

The open Tourney begun three months ago has resulted as follows:—

I.—Walz..... with 12 wins.
II.—Mason ..... with 10 wins.
III.—Pownall ..... with 9 wins.

GAME No. 214.

Played by correspondence between W. H. K. Pollock of Baltimore and J. L. McCutcheon of Pittsburg.

MUZIO GAMBIT.

WHITE. Pollock.	BLACK. McCutcheon.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—P to K B 4	2—P takes P
3—Kt to K B 3	3—P to K Kt 4
4—B to B 4	4—P to Kt 5
5—Castles	5—P takes Kt
6—Q takes P	6—Q to B 3
7—P to K 5	7—Q takes P
8—B takes P ch.	8—K takes B
9—P to Q 4	9—Q to K B 4 (a)
10—B takes ■	10—Kt to K B 3
11—Kt to B 3	11—P to Q 3
12—Q R to K sq.	12—R to Kt sq.
13—Q to K 2	13—Q to Kt 3
14—Kt to Q 5	14—Q Kt to Q 2 (b)
15—Kt takes P	15—R to Kt sq.
16—Kt to K 8	16—Q takes P ch (c)
17—Q takes Q.	17—R takes Q ch
18—K takes R	18—Kt takes Kt
19—B takes P ch.	19—K Kt to B 3 (d)
20—B takes R	20—Kt takes B
21—R takes Kt ch.	21—K takes R
22—R to K 8	22—B to Q 3
23—R takes B	23—Kt to B 3
24—P ■ B 3	24—P ■ K R 4
25—P to K R 3	25—P to R 5
26—K to B 3	26—K to K 3
27—K to K 4	27—K to Q 2
28—R to K R 8	28—B to Kt 6
29—R to B 7 ch	29—Kt to K 2
30—P to B 4	30—Resigns

Notes, by Mr. Pollock. From the *Baltimore News*.

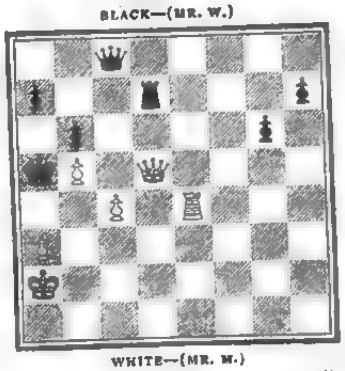
(a) Considered better than Q takes P ch.
(b) If Kt takes Kt, 25—B to R 6 ch., Q to B 4, 26—R takes ■ ch., and must win.
(c) Again Kt takes Kt loses through 27—B to R 6 ch.
(d) He cannot prevent the recovery of material whereby White remains with just enough superiority to win.

CHESS BY ELECTRICITY.—Mr. Gunsberg, in the April number of the *New Review*, says:—"I have played a game of chess with an opponent who was neither sitting opposite to me at my board, nor at the same table, nor was he even in the same room with myself. I could neither see his game nor hear his voice. In fact, if he had been at the Antipodes, the means which enabled us to play together would, theoretically, still have held good. The moment a move was played on one table it was registered on the other, no matter whatever the distance between the two boards. There was no signalling, no action of any kind whatever. The registration of the moves was automatic and self-acting. Of course, the players had moved each other's pieces on their respective boards, according to the indications received of each other's.

CHESS IN TOKYO.

END-GAME No. 22.

BLACK—(MR. W.)



WHITE—(MR. M.)

White won as follows,—a problem-like termination.

WHITE.	BLACK.
1—R to K 7	1—R × Q
2—R × P mating next move	if 1—R × R

2—Q to Q 2 ch. mating next move.

If Black make any other move he must lose a piece, or the game, in two moves.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[REUTER "SPECIAL" TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

London, January 29.

The Emperor of Russia, in receiving delegates from all parts of the empire, has declared that he will firmly uphold the autocracy.

London, January 31.

The United States Senate has ratified the Treaty with Japan.

The French Chamber has approved of a vote of credit for a funeral at the expense of the State for Marshal Canrobert, but only after a long debate of an uproarious character, in which the Radicals and Socialists vehemently denounced the deceased soldier as an accomplice of the *coup d'état*.

["SPECIAL" TELEGRAMS TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

Nagasaki, January 28.

The Chinese Embassy that arrived here today in the *Empress of China*, consists of Messrs. Chang and Shao, with a suite of fourteen.

(FROM THE "N.-C. DAILY NEWS.")

London, January 24.

Chefoo, January 23, 4-30 p.m.

Another force of Japanese have landed at Ninghai, and General Sun has gone thither with 2,000 men to oppose them. Foreign men-of-war are landing forces to protect the Settlement of Chefoo.

(FROM THE SIAM OBSERVER.)

Paris, January 12.

The French troops which were landed recently at Tamatave, are suffering severely from fever.

London, January 13.

A Hova cruiser has been captured by the French.

(FROM JAPANESE PAPERS.)

Söul, January 31.

I Yu-retsu, Chief of Police in Korea, has resigned, his position being taken by I In-yo.

Saga, January 31.

Mr. Nakamura Ryoken has been successful at an election for a representative in the Upper House of the payers of the highest amount of direct national taxes in Saga Prefecture.

Chinchow, January 31.

The Commander-in-Chief of the Second Army reached Yungcheng on the 25th. On the 24th the Japanese scouts encountered 1,500 Chinese soldiers at Akakshan, at a distance of 3 *ri* (one *ri*=2½ miles) from Yungcheng, and fight took place. One Japanese was killed, and a few were wounded. Nothing has been ascertained as to the casualties of the enemy.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From America	per P. M. Co.	Sunday, Feb. 3rd.*
From America	per O. & O. Co.	Tuesday, Feb. 19th.†
From Hongkong	per O. & O. Co.	Sunday, Feb 3rd.‡
From Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Sunday, Feb. 10th.§
From Europe, viâ Hongkong	per M. M. Co.	Sunday, Feb. 17th.
From Canada, &c.....	per C. P. R. Co.	Monday, Feb. 18th.
From Europe, viâ Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd	Wed'day, Feb. 20th.
From Hongkong	per C. P. R. Co.	Thursday, Feb. 28th.

* *China* left San Francisco via Honolulu on January 23th. † *Belgic* left San Francisco on January 24th. ‡ *Gaelic* left Nagasaki on January 30th. § *Peiena* (with English mail) left Hongkong on February 1st.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Sunday, Feb. 3rd.
For America	per O. & O. Co.	Wed'day, Feb. 6th.
For Europe, viâ Shanghai	per M. M. Co.	Saturday, Feb. 9th.
For America	per P. M. Co.	Saturday, Feb. 16th.
For Hongkong	per C. P. R. Co.	Monday, Feb. 18th.
For Europe, viâ Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd	Friday, Feb. 22nd.
For Canada, &c.	per C. P. R. Co.	Friday, Mar. 1st.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Ancona, British steamer, 1,880, W. D. Mudie, 26th January,—Hongkong 18th, Nagasaki 23rd, and Kobe 25th January, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Nürnberg, German steamer, 2,007, Hugo Walter, 26th January,—Hongkong 20th January, Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.

Picciola, German steamer, 865, E. Haas, 27th January,—Hongkong, Sugar.—Flint Kilby & Co.

Ashdown, British steamer, 1,893, Jas. Cowie, 28th January,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Strathesk, British steamer, 1,454, Foulds, 29th January,—Otaru, Coal.—Hokkaido Tanko Tetsudo Kaisha.

Ernest Simons, French steamer, 3,370, Vimont, 30th January,—Marseilles 23rd December, Hongkong 21st January, Shanghai 24th, Nagasaki 26th, and Kobe 29th, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

Empress of China, British steamer, 3,003, R. Archibald, 31st January,—Hongkong viâ ports, 23rd January, Mails and General.—Frazar & Co.

Glenfalloch, British steamer, 1,410, Pithie, 31st January,—London viâ ports, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Teucer, British steamer, 1,802, Riley, 31st January,—Liverpool viâ ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Eskdale, British steamer, 1,575, Houston, 1st February,—Shanghai, General.—Hokkaido Tanko Tetsudo Kaisha.

Strathdon, British steamer, 1,720, Johnston, 2nd February,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

DEPARTURES.

Oopack, British steamer, 1,930, C. de la Perrelle, 27th January,—Kobe, General.—W. M. Strachan & Co.

Orestes, British steamer, 2,879, Pulford, 27th January,—London viâ ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Nürnberg, German steamer, 2,007, Hugo Walter, 29th January,—Hongkong viâ ports, Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.

Erato, German steamer, 1,926, Ostermann, 30th January,—Hamburg viâ ports, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Ashdown, British steamer, 1,893, Jas. Cowie, 30th January,—Otaru viâ ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Picciola, German steamer, 865, E. Haas, 30th January,—Moji, Sugar.—Flint, Kilby & Co.

Waverley, British steamer, 1,685, Calvert, 31st January,—Kobe, General.—Frazar & Co.

Servia, American ship, 1,778, D. Gilmore, 1st February,—Ilailo, Ballast.—Order.

Empress of China, British steamer, 3,003, R. Archibald, 1st February,—Vancouver, B.C., Mails and General.—Frazar & Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per British steamer *Ancona*, from Hongkong via ports:—Mr. A. Brown, Mr. G. Lowther, Miss Lowther, Mr. Soma, Mr. Ono, Mr. A. Moritz, Mr. B. C. Howard, Mrs. W. P. White, Mrs. Sharp and child, Mr. C. P. Low, Mr. J. K. Trafford, and Miss Edwards in cabin.

Per German steamer *Nürnberg*, from Hongkong:—Mr. and Mrs. Cameron and 2 children, Miss Bonner, Mr. Adolf Fischer, Count Ercole Orfini, Mr. Clay MacCauley, Mr. E. Volger, Dr.

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Iwasa, Messrs. D. T. Lavier, Chin Lee Chung, Kau Yock Chow, Chun Poi Yee, and H. Silversum in cabin.

Per French steamer *Ernest Simons*, from Marseilles viâ ports:—Mr. Chonine, Mr. Alfred Herbet, Mr. and Mrs. Waylen, Mr. J. C. Hamilton, Admiral Dupuis, Captain J. C. Grigorowitch, Mr. W. S. Ewens, Mr. H. Renault, Rev. F. L. Hon Ke Pott, and Mr. de Gunsburg in cabin; Mr. Asano, Mr. C. B. Brooke, Mrs. Waylen's servant, Mr. and Mrs. J. Farnham, Miss H. Domballe, Miss A. Woodward, and Miss Anna Domballe in second class, and Mrs. Okiosan, Messrs. C. Wiel, C. Davis, Chomssohn, and J. A. Krause in third class.

Per British steamer *Empress of China*, from Hongkong viâ ports:—Mr. F. de Soliveres, Mr. J. H. Cocksedge, Mr. and Mrs. F. E. Haskell, Miss Sale, Mr. E. H. Drew, and Mr. and Mrs. E. Tuska in cabin. For Vancouver, B.C.:—Mr. Frank Leyburn, Mr. Dudley Hunter, and Mr. Hockridge in cabin, and 71 passengers in Asiatic steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per German steamer *Nürnberg*, for Hongkong viâ ports:—Captain Turner in cabin; Rev. Freese, Mrs. Freese, Miss Winstanley, Messrs. Wm. Shepherd, Wm. Beedie, F. McDonald, Lewis, Storey, Wm. Waugh, J. Fillico, and Emil Hitzker in second class; 20 Europeans in third class, and 2 Chinese on deck.

Per British steamer *Empress of China*, for Vancouver, B.C.:—Mr. Drew, Admiral Dupuis, Mr. W. G. Hockridge, Mr. Dudley Hunter, Hon. M. Johnson, Mr. R. F. Lambe, Mr. Frank Leyburn, Mr. Frank B. Woodruff, and Mr. Woolsey in cabin.

CARGOES.

Per German steamer *Nürnberg*, for Hongkong viâ ports:—Raw Silk for Europe, 871 bales; Waste Silk for Europe, 302 bales.

Per British steamer *Empress of China*, for Vancouver, B.C.:—

TEA.

	CHICAGO AND WEST.	NEW YORK AND EAST.	PACIFIC COAST.	OTHER CITIES.	TOTAL.
Hongkong ...	5	—	37	34	30	96
Hyogo	—	300	—	—	—	300
Yokohama ...	450	—	—	—	—	450
Total	455	300	37	34	30	856

SILK.

	NEW YORK.	OTHER CITIES.	TOTAL.
Hongkong & Canton	33	—	33
Shanghai	648	—	648
Yokohama	613	—	613
Total	1,294	—	1,294

REPORTS.

The German steamer *Nürnberg*, Captain Hugo Walter, reports:—Left Hongkong the 20th January; had very strong N.E. monsoon with high head sea up to Van Diemen Strait; thence to port strong N.W. winds and rough sea.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

The expected improvement has not arrived and everything looks gloomy! Yarn—No business; holders would like to raise prices as a compensation for the low exchange, but it cannot be done just now. Shirtings—Some little enquiry but not much business done. T.-Cloths have moved to a small extent. Fancy Cottons dull and lifeless. Woollens dead.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirtings—8½lb, 38½ yds. 39 inches	$2.25 to 2.90
Grey Shirtings—9lb, 38½ yds. 45 inches	2.50 to 3.25
T. Cloth—7lb, 24 yards, 32 inches	1.60 to 1.90
Indigo Shirtings—12 yards, 44 inches..	1.70 to 2.35
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches..	2.00 to 3.75
Cotton—Italians and Sateens Black, 32 inches	PER YARD. 0.16 to 0.21
	PER PIECE.
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches ...	7.25 to 9.50
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 12-3 inches..	0.85 to 1.00
Turkey Reds—2.0 to 2.4lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.65 to 1.75
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.85 to 2.05
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.30 to 2.60
Turkey Reds—4.8 to 5lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.80 to 3.10

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.
Flannel.....	$0.30 to 0.50
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches heat	0.32½ to 0.37½
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Medium	0.27½ to 0.30
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Common	0.20 to 0.25
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yards, 31 inches.....	0.15 to 0.22½
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches	0.15 to 0.50
Cloths—Presidents, 52 @ 56 inches ...	0.60 to 0.65
Cloths—Union, 52 @ 56 inches	0.40 to 0.70
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 3lb, per lb	0.60 to 0.70

COTTON YARNS.

	PER PICUL.
Nos. 16/24, Ordinary	—
Nos. 16/24, Medium	$34.50 to 35.00
Nos. 16/24, Good to Best	35.50 to 36.00
Nos. 16/24, Reverse	—
Nos. 28/32, Ordinary	—
Nos. 28/32, Medium	36.00 to 36.50
Nos. 28/32, Good to Best	37.00 to 37.50
Nos. 38/42, Medium to Best	42.00 to 43.00
No. 32s, Two-fold	40.00 to 42.00
No. 42s, Two-fold	43.00 to 46.00
	PER BALE.
No. 20s, Bombay	—
No. 16s, Bombay	—

METALS.

Quiet market, dealers generally holding off as exchange is against them. Bars and Pig have sold to some extent at quotations; and Wire Nails have improved slightly in value, while Tin Plates and Galvanized Iron sheets are lower.

	PER PICUL.
Flat Bars, ½ inch	$3.60 to 3.70
Flat Bars, ¾ inch	3.70 to 3.80
Round and square up to ¾ inch	3.60 to 3.80
Iron Plates, assorted	3.70 to 3.85
Sheet Iron	4.90 to 5.10
Galvanized Iron sheets	8.50 to 9.00
Wire Nails, assorted	6.00 to 6.25
Tin Plates, per box	6.00 to 6.25
Pig Iron, No. 3	1.70 to 1.72½

KEROSENE.

Small business, but holders are very strong and prices up once more. In fact, Russian (which is in small supply just now) is held above the American brands. Deliveries are good, but dealers hesitate to replace at what they consider high figures.

Chester	$1.82½ to 1.85
Comet	1.80 to 1.82½
Devoe	—
Russian Anchor	1.85 to 1.87½
Russian Moon	

SUGAR.

Browns—Market dull and all quotations lower. Small sales, with fair arrivals, have increased the stock, and there seems little or no demand for Formosa kinds, either "spot" or "to arrive." White—Very quiet, with large supplies. Prices are called steady at about 10 cents reduction on last quotations.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Takao	$4.05 to 4.10
Brown Manila	4.70 to 4.80
Brown Daitong (New)	3.50 to 3.55
Brown Canton	3.70 to 4.00
White Java and Penang	6.50 to 6.60
White Refined	6.40 to 8.90

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Market quiet and prices more or less nominal. The rush is over for the present; but with a reduced stock, but holders do not seem inclined to lower quotations, especially for the better kinds.

QUOTATIONS.—(NEW SILK.)

Hanks—No. 1A	—
Hanks—No. 2 (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 2 (Joshu)	—
Hanks—No. 2A (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 2A (Joshu)	—
Hanks—No. 2A to 3	—
Hanks—No. 3	—
Hanks—No. 3A	—
Filatures—Extra 10/12 deniers	$910 to 930
Filatures—Extra 13/15 deniers	Nom. —
Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers	870 to 890
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den	830 to 840
Filatures—No. 1A, 10/14 deniers	830 to 840
Filatures—No. 1A, 13/16, 14/17 den	800 to 820
Filatures—No. 2, 10/13 deniers	780 to 810
Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	770 to 780
Filatures—No. 3, 13/20 deniers	—
Re-reels—Extra	—
Re-reels—(Oshu) Best 12/14	—
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 deniers	810 to 820
Re-reels—No. 1A, 13/16, 14/17 deniers	780 to 790
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	740 to 760
Re-reels—No. 2A, 14/18 deniers	730 to 750
Re-reels—No. 3, 13/20 deniers	700 to 710
Kakedas—Extra	—
Kakedas—No. 1	790 to 800
Kakedas—No. 1A	760 to 770
Kakedas—No. 2	720 to 730
Kakedas—No. 2A	—
Kakedas—No. 3	—
Kakedas—No. 3A	—
Kakedas—No. 4	—
Oshu Sendai—No. 2A	—
Hamatsuki—No. 1, 2	—
Hamatsuki—No. 3, 4	—
Sodai—No. 2A	—

WASTE SILK.

This market has now had its turn of activity, and a large business has been done at quotations. Best Oshu Noshi and Best Selected Filature Kibiso have been most in demand, and for these kinds holders are now very strong. The general stock is down to 16,000 piculs, and the dealers feel more cheerful than for some time past.

QUOTATIONS.—(NEW WASTE.)

Pierced Cocoons—Good to Best	—
Noshi-ito—Filature, Best	$130 to 135
Noshi-ito—Filature, Good	120 to 125
Noshi-ito—Filature, Medium	110 to 115
Noshi-ito—Oshu, Good to Best	170 to 130
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Best	—
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Good	80 to 90
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Medium	—
Noshi-ito—Bushu, Good to Best	100 to 115
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Best	—
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Good	70 to 75
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Ordinary	60 to 65
Kibiso—Filature, Best selected	100 to 110
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds	90 to 95
Kibiso—Oshu, Good to Best	—
Kibiso—Shinshu, Best	—
Kibiso—Shinshu, Seconds	—
Kibiso—Joshu, Good to Fair	30 to 27½
Kibiso—Joshu, Middling to Common	25 to 22½
Kibiso—Hachoji, Good to Fair	25 to 23
Kibiso—Hachoji, Medium to Low	22 to 20
Kibiso—Nari, Good to Common	13 to 8
Mawata—Good to Best	150 to 200

TEA.

No change. Season comatose and well nigh moribund.

EXCHANGE.

Exchange has been fairly steady all the week at undernoted rates:—

Sterling—Bank T.T.	1/11⅛@⅜
— — Bills on demand...	1/11⅜@½
— — 4 months' sight ...	1/12⅛
— Private 4 months' sight	1/11½@2/0
— — 6 months' sight	2/0@2/0⅛
On Paris—Bank sight	2.44@45
On Lyons—Private 4 months' sight	2.51@52
On Hongkong—Bank sight.....	½ p.
— Private 10 days' sight.	Par.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	71⅛
— Private 10 days' sight.	72⅛
On India—Bank sight	185⅛
— Private 30 days' sight.....	188
On America—Bank Bills on demand.	47@⅛
— Private 30 days' sight..	48⅛@⅜
— — 4 months' sight	49⅛@½
On Germany—Bank sight	1.97@98
— Private 4 months' sight	2.04@05
Bar Silver (London, 30th)	27 7/16

WATCHES & CLOCKS.

A WATCH & CLOCK MANUFACTURER in Switzerland wishes to do Business direct with Dealers throughout Japan. Would take goods in payment. Offers to "L.E.," 102, Poste Restante, Chaux-de-Fonds, Switzerland.

January 26th, 1895. 2ins.

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Thousands of Testimonials from all parts of the World.

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REFRIGERATORS, ICE CHESTS & MOULDS, ICE CREAM FREEZERS, DISTILLING APPARATUS, BREWING APPLIANCES, BOTTLE WASHING, FILLING, and CORKING MACHINERY, FILTERS, PUMPS, GASOGENES, SYPHONS, MOTORS, and all kinds of Appliances for Saving Labour.

Estimates given for Fitting-up a Complete Mineral Water Factory from £50 upwards. Illustrated Catalogues and full particulars on application to

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September 29th, 1894.

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Offices—Bishopsgate House, London, E.C.

Cable Address: Dinero, London.

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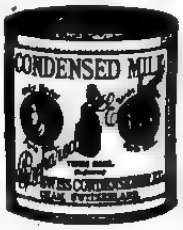
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Printed and Published for the PROPRIETOR at 51 Main Street, Settlement, by JAMES EDGCOTT BEALE, of No. 52, Bluff, Yokohama.—SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 1895.

The Japan Weekly Mail:

A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

No. 6.] REGISTERED AT THE G.P.O. AS A NEWSPAPER. YOKOHAMA, FEBRUARY 9TH, 1895. 明治二十八年二月九日郵便物認可 Vol. XXII.

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS:—ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same: and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, FEB. 9TH 1895.

BIRTH.

At No. 6, Bluff, on 29th January, the wife of S. ISAACS, of a son.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

SIX houses were destroyed by fire at Senju, Tokyo, on the 4th inst.

RUMOUR has it that Count Yamagata will be appointed Minister of War.

THE death is announced of Major-General Otera, who fell during the advance on Weihaiwei.

AN agricultural association is being organized for Kanagawa Prefecture under the auspices of the Govenor.

ARRANGEMENTS are being made by various public organizations in Tokyo to celebrate the fall of Weihaiwei.

THE members of the Nobles' Club propose to dispatch three nobles to convey comforts to the Japanese soldiers afield.

SOME relics of five Yokohama soldiers who were killed during the fight at Kaiping, reached this port on the 4th inst.

THE Lower House of the Diet has rejected a Bill providing for official recognition of practitioners of the old Chinese school of medicine in Japan.

THE Interport football match between Kobe and Yokohama will be played on Monday afternoon on the latter's ground.

THE Judge of H.B.M. Court has directed that the *W. P. Hall*, a sealing schooner, be sold to provide funds to pay off the crew.

THE total number of dysentery cases throughout the Empire during last year was 154,718; the deaths therefrom reached 38,388.

BARON TAKASAKI has contributed *yen* 225 towards the relief of sufferers in the earthquake districts of Yamagata Prefecture.

THE Japanese population of Yokohama at the end of last year was 160,439; the number of houses actually occupied being 29,774.

HEAVY snow-falls in Shimane, Niigata, and Nagano have occasioned several deaths, through the collapsing of houses and snow-slides.

THE Kiushu main railway line now extends from Moji to Matsubashi, a distance of 131 miles. The Saga branch line is 16 miles in length.

J. A. Frame, who shot a man in a liquor saloon in Honmura Road, has been sentenced to one year's imprisonment by the Yokohama Chiho Saibansho.

THE Chinese Embassy of Peace is returning home, its credentials being of too vague and elementary a nature for recognition by the Japanese Authorities.

THE marriage of Li Shun-yo, the newly appointed Korean Minister to Japan, took place on the 19th ult. The Minister will leave for Japan in the middle of February.

MR. MIYAZAKI, of the War Department, who was engaged at Talien upon the erection of cold-proof barracks, died there on the 30th ult. from typhoid fever.

THE House of Peers have passed a Bill providing for the more efficient control of seal and sea-otter hunting along the coasts of Hondo, Hokkaido, and the Kuriles.

MR. ASANO, who was dispatched by the Communications Department to investigate matters connected with electric railways in America, returned home on the 3rd instant.

THE loss sustained by the Osaka Muslin Manufacturing Co. through the recent fire at the factory is estimated at *yen* 156,516 for various machinery, a total of *yen* 171,357.

A FAREWELL entertainment, promoted by Marquises Nabeshima and Tokugawa, was given to the Italian Minister, Cav. R. de Martino, on the 3rd. at the Koyokan, Shiba, Tokyo.

THE proposed removal of the Noble's School for Boys to Kamakura has been abandoned, it is said, in favour of a scheme of building new school premises on the site of the late Senate in Tokyo.

THE steamer *Allonower*, lately purchased by the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, has been renamed the *Eijo Maru* (or *Yung-cheng*), the name of the landing place of the Third Japanese Army in Shantung.

DURING last year the amount of rice exported from Japan was 1,469,071 piculs, valued at *yen* 9,631,059 17. Some 3,304,831 piculs of foreign rice, valued at *yen* 8,413,913 50, were imported into Japan during the period, an increase of 1,905,591 piculs, valued at *yen* 5,158,525.74, against the previous year.

W. GRUNER, the alleged Austrian Baron, who was arrested in Yokohama on charges of robbery and forgery, was sent home on the 31st ult. A police-constable of Yokohama Settlement accompanied him to Kobe.

TWO hundred military surveyors enlisted at the close of last year, left the capital for Hiroshima on the 3rd inst. They are in charge of Lieutenant-Colonel Seki, and are to be dispatched to survey the district occupied by the Japanese armies in China.

A BLINDING snow-storm greatly hindered the Japanese forces in their attack on the forts at Weihaiwei, but the Chinese took advantage of the meterological conditions to effect their escape from the land forts. Liukung Island offered a more stubborn resistance.

SOME 1,050 casks of *mochi* (rice bread) and 50 casks of sugar contributed by Yokohama residents for the Japanese soldiers afield, were taken to the Yokohama Branch of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha on the 5th inst., and are to be conveyed to the seat of war by the Company's steamers.

REUTER telegraphs:—It is reported from Rome that the Cabinet has decided to establish a border tutelage over the tribes in Erythrea, and to send fresh troops there. The new Greek Ministry is comprised mostly of officers, and probably many more officers will be appointed prefects, replacing the civilians. M. Tricoupis' organs bitterly attack the King of Greece. General Ferrero has been appointed Italian Ambassador to London, and Signor Tornielli to Paris. M. Rochefort has been included in the recent amnesty granted to political offenders. There are daily parades in Rio de Janeiro of the partisans of Marshal Peixoto, the Vice-President of Brazil. The troops have been called out, and the situation is looked upon as serious. The steamship *Elbe* collided with a collier in the North Sea, and three hundred persons were drowned. The Queen's Speech announces that England's relations with foreign Powers are friendly, and, while regretting the state of war in the East, says that Her Majesty's Government has maintained the *entente cordiale* with the Powers interested in those parts and will lose no favourable opportunity if the occasion occurs to promote peace. The Speech also refers to the atrocities in Armenia and to the agreement with France in respect to the Sierra Leone boundary. The House of Lords voted an Address in reply to the Queen's Speech.

THERE is no improvement in the Import trade, and the continuous stringency in the money market keeps buyers from dealing, though stocks in the interior are known in the case of many commodities to be very low. Yarns and Cotton Piecegoods are dull and Woollens are particularly depressed. Very little has been done in Metals, though offers are made at low figures. Holders of Kerosene are firm and buyers hold off, but stocks are so low in the interior that dealers will shortly be compelled to come to terms in order to replenish. There has not been a great deal of Sugar bought, thought deliveries of late contracts are well taken. Prices are unaltered for all kinds, and there is a fair amount of both Brown and White sorts in stock. The Silk trade is exceedingly quiet, and holders are apparently strong. There has been next to nothing done in Waste during the week but the packing and shipping of the recent large purchases, and at present the outlook for another similar movement is not bright. There is nothing be to said about Tea. Exchange rose a point early in the week, since which rates have been fairly steady.

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THE SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS DURING THE WEEK.

Strange as it may seem, our vernacular contemporaries say little about the Chinese Peace Mission. That little, however, is worth reproducing in view of the undoubted importance of the event. Not one paper touching upon the subject omits to state, in terms at once explicit and emphatic, that the failure of the mission is not a matter for surprise; that Japan should never again undertake to negotiate with China for peace unless the latter, by way of guaranteeing her earnestness and sincerity, agrees to a Japanese occupation of Taku, Tientsin, Shanhaikwan, and some other important places in the Middle Kingdom; and that China having shown herself so neglectful of diplomatic etiquette as well as of the courtesies of international intercourse, nothing short of the seizure of Pekin can suffice to chastise her into a consciousness of her inability to resist Japan and to convince her of the consequent unpleasant necessity of suing for peace in real earnest. We need scarcely add that our contemporaries do not fail to accord high enlogiums to the Japanese expeditionary forces. The *Choya Shimbun* has a leader entitled "China's real motive in sending the Peace Embassy" runs as follows:—"A friend of ours, writing from Hiroshima, gives this analysis, as the result of close investigations made by an official there into the secret motives of the Chinese Authorities in sending the Peace Mission:—Li Hung-chang has long endeavoured to lay upon Japan the blame of having disturbed the peace of the East, so as to induce Europe, particularly the States that have large interests in the Orient, to sympathize with the helpless Celestial Government, and to curb the ambition of intrepid Japan. With that view, from an early stage in the war he essayed device after device. But all in vain. There can be no doubt that the sending of the late Mission was another step in the Viceroy's diplomatic intrigue. There was not the least intention of making any final adjustment of the trouble. The idea was merely to betray the Japanese Court into a declaration of its terms, which the old Chinese Statesman probably pictured to himself as something extravagant in the shape of territorial concession and an immense indemnity into the bargain. Once in possession of Japan's conditions, it is easy to conceive that he meant to place them before Western Governments in such a magnified light as to create the impression that Japan's ambition is to wield the control of all interests, commercial and political, in the Far East. The great Viceroy doubtless counted on producing a feeling of exasperation throughout the whole of Europe at the supposed dangerous aims of Japan. That accomplished, he probably expected that China would be able virtually to assume the rôle of a spectator during the progress of a great diplomatic, if not sanguinary, struggle, in which the chief actors would be Japanese on one side and the European States having large interests in Asia, on the other. Thus China, thought the old schemer, might come out of the war little damaged and less humiliated." That, comments the *Choya*, seems a rather far-reaching device, yet it is not unlikely to have been conceived by Li Hung-chang, grown old as he is in crooked maxims and policies of state. As regards a third Peace Embassy, the *Nichi Nichi* declares that no less a personage that the Emperor of China himself should be welcomed by Japan.

* * *

The *Nippon* praises the present Government for having placed the affairs of the Chinese Mission before the Houses of Parliament, and calls upon the Ministry to make public all that it has done and is doing concerning Treaty Revision. The nation is more interested in treaties of commerce and friendship with Western Powers, than in the question of an abortive Chinese mission for peace. The Government's procedure in connection with the Chinese mission is praised from beginning to end by not only pro Government and Independent, but also by Opposition journals.

* * *

The Government, says the *Mainichi*, has shown itself well-advised about the prevailing temper of the Japanese people, in issuing the Territorial Army Regulations. The people, high as well as low, young as well as old, are all ready to fight, their hatred of the brutality of the Chinese Government and people being deadly. Our contemporary takes occasion to say once more all that it has often said before about the probable benefits that Japan will be able to reap from the present war and about the humiliation of China.

* * *

Referring to the successful attack upon Weihaiwei, the *Niroku* says that China, having lost her left arm by the fall of Port Arthur, has now lost her right at Weihaiwei. Though deprived of both arms, she may yet have some vitality left, and the Japanese expeditionary forces must make all haste to cut off her legs too. Her legs are the two islands of Formosa and Chusan. The same journal is well pleased that a petition for the promotion of corporals and sergeants to the rank of officers has been presented to the Diet, and calls upon the Houses warmly to take measures to have it made a law at the earliest possible movement. The inferior officers constitute the main strength of an army. No troops can be expected to achieve anything great without able sergeants and corporals. Nothing, therefore, can be more important in strengthening an army than to provide an easy gate to promotion for non-commissioned officers.

* * *

A correspondent of the *San Francisco Chronicle*, says the *Kokumin*, writes to the effect that there has arisen in Japan a strong anti-British feeling. This is no mare's nest. The Japanese cannot but be displeased with the conduct of the British Oriental Squadron. It may be that Admiral Fremantle's doings in the China Sea do not reflect the policy of the Government he serves. If that be the case, the British Authorities ought to address a strong warning to its Squadron in the Far East. The same journal, referring to some Japanese commercial enterprises started on the Coast of Talien Bay and northward, protests against them, saying that the natural course of commercial growth tends towards the south and not towards the north. Japanese business men are warmly urged to turn their attention to the southward. What our contemporary means by that is somewhat obscure to us, but may be intelligible to those whom it addresses. Such an engimatical style is often affected by Japanese journalists.

* * *

The National Bank problem continues to torment Tokyo journalists. They all tell the members of the Upper House not to listen to any one approaching them with selfish complaints from either party, or to respect the dictates of their own personal interests as shareholders of the 15th National Bank. A question of constitutional bearing is advanced by the *Choya* and some other Tokyo journals with reference to the course that the Government may adopt in case both Houses vote against its wishes in this matter.

* * *

The *Jiji* has a long leader headed "The Foreign War," the gist of which we here reproduce. It is divided into the six following heads:—

1.—China's capacity for revenge must be nullified.

2.—Japan has no difficulty in raising fighting men.

3.—Japan need not entertain any profound anxiety as regards war expenditures.

4.—How the war fund is raised and expended must be well considered.

5.—The state of affairs that would have arisen under present circumstances had the feudal system been in existence.

6.—A *Daimyo*, under the old régime, had to make an expensive military journey every year.

Under the first heading, the *Jiji* says that it is necessary to exact from China an indemnity and a territorial concession of such proportions as will incapacitate her from taking up arms again against Japan. In concluding peace let Japan be wide awake to the teaching of the proverb:—"Never leave a snake half-killed; it may regain vigour and strength enough to bite you." Under the second heading, our contemporary tells us that Japan, which, under the old feudal system, had 25,000 able fighting men or *samurai*, has now more than 300,000, who are now, or have been at some time, in the ranks of the Army. In addition to these regular troops, she has able warriors in the younger of the former *samurai* and their sons, and in other public-spirited men, who may be numbered by tens of thousands. Hence she may rest assured of her ability to send into the field any required number of combatants having stout hearts and robust constitutions.

Under the third heading, the *Jiji* says that the wealth-producing elements in Japan are not at all impaired by the war. Her foreign trade has even increased since the breaking out of hostilities.

Under the sixth and last heading, the Tokyo journal gives a list of the retainers that a *Daimiyo* of 100,000 *koku* had to take with him in his yearly journey to Edo (now Tokyo) for paying homage to the Shogun. As our readers may be interested in a *Daimyo's* procession in the good old feudal times, we give the *Jiji's* list without greatly abridging it:—That list is as follows:—

	No. of head, loads, etc.	No. of men.
Horse	1	3
White Bear Lances	2	4
White Bird Lance	1	2
Weight Lance	1	2
Boxes on poles	2	4
A coat-of-mail box	1	5
Bows	1	2
A halberd	1	1
Sword boxes	2	10
Foot-soldiers	—	
Sedan-chair	—	11
Head-followers	—	5
Pages	—	5
Private Secretaries	—	7
Bed-side lance	1	2
Umbrella	1	1
Umbrella and Stick	—	1
Sandal-bearer	—	1
Tea-making master	—	1
Tea-makers	—	3
Tea and lunch-box	1	2
Straw rain coat box	—	2
Long box for weapons	1	4
Treasure box	—	2
Grooms for horse	—	2
Veterinary surgeon	—	1
Stable head-official	—	1
Stable official	—	1
Shoe-basket	1	1
Ladle for watering horse	—	1
Rain apparel	—	1
Fodder	—	3
Butlers	—	2
Doctors	—	2
Horse in reserve	1	2
Boxes on poles	10	13 or 14
Rear-guard	—	5 or 6
Special servant	—	1
Bearers of articles in daily use	—	2
Butlers and Accountants	—	2
Cooks	—	2
Fish-cooks	—	2
Kitchen servants	—	2
Tea-makers' servants	—	2
Forerunners	—	6
Hotel managers	—	17
Lance-bearers	—	30

Other men used to carry the *Daimyo's* bed-clothes, etc., so that the followers amounted in all to as many as 240 or 250. The Japanese, who could support hundreds of such *Daimyos*, the *Jiji* concludes, ought to find the present war by no means hard to bear.

At a recent school examination in Germany the pupils were asked the value of the widow's mite in the New Testament. One boy answered; "Twelve mark and forty-two pfennigs," and on being asked for his authority, showed in his book the reference, "Widow's mite, Mark xii., 42."

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EDITORIAL NOTES.

THE NATIONAL BANKS PROBLEM.

THE vernacular papers say that according to the information of the Foreign and Domestic News Agency, the Government is not united in its views about the National Banks Problem. The Ministry is in fact divided into two parties, the moderates and extremists. The Department of Finance, it is needless to say, is composed entirely of the latter; indeed all of its influential officials, headed by the Minister and the Vice-Minister, are soearnestly opposed to the Renewal of the Charters that they are resolved to resign in a body should the Cabinet be irresolute in dealing with the question. Those views are also prevalent in the Department of Agriculture and Commerce, but so far direct opposition to the Renewal measure appears to be confined to the above two Departments, the rest being all more or lesss inclined to be less extreme. The Premier and the Minister of Communications, Foreign Affairs and Justice, it is true, uphold the Re-organisation scheme, but at this important juncture they are desirous of avoiding collision with the Diet and of terminating the present session as smoothly as possible, even though such a course obliges them to concede more or less. The rumour that the successful passage of the Renewal Bill through both Houses would be followed by the dissolution of the Diet is not likely to be justified, but as the Minister of Finance will not swerve from his original declaration, it is very probable that some difficulties will arise in the Cabinet. A pro-Renewal Bill newspaper is confident that the measure will pass the House of Peers where, it says, about 80 members will support it on account of their interest in the Peers' Bank and some 20 more will give their votes to the Bill for other reasons. It is very seldom that the quorum of the Upper House reaches 200 members, almost all Bills of importance being decided on an attendance of about 170 or 180, so that as there are already 100 supporters of the National Banks scheme, its successful passage in the House is certain. So at any rate, says the newspaper in question.

A FRENCH TRANS PACIFIC LINE.

CHARLES N. TUTTLE, Portland, agent of a French steamship line, has received a cablegram from the home office relative to the establishment of a steamship line between Portland, Astoria, and Oriental ports. The Portland *Sun* says:—"The cable states that an agent of the Compagnie des Messageries Maritimes is now on his way to Portland direct from the home office of the company in Paris and that immediately on his arrival, should the situation prove as Mr. Tuttle has represented it, arrangements will be immediately made and the necessary papers signed looking to a semi-monthly passenger and freight service between Portland and China, via Yokohama and Kobe. If substantiation of the figures as to freight procurable, already furnished by the local agent of the French company, is all that is necessary to secure the immediate installation of the steamship line, then the service is assured, for with every day of delay the amount of flour and other merchandise awaiting transportion to the East has increased, until to-day the warehouses of Portland are over-flowing with goods bought and paid for months ago, but which are forced to lay here through the inability of the consignees to secure space on the outgoing steamers of the Empress, Northern Pacific, and Pacific Mail steamship lines."

AN INSECTIVORE.

WE find in the columns of the vernacular press a strange story about an elderly resident of a village in Hiroshima, the like of which it would be difficult to produce. The man in question, now over fifty years of age, has a curious predilection for everything that comes under the Japanese heading of *mushi*, which includes both reptiles and insects. He eats, and ravenously at that, snakes, toads, grasshoppers, caterpillars, all sorts of grubs and larvæ, cicada, and by a devious route back to the Parade earth-worms, in short "such small deer" as are to be found in and around the village, where his remarkable diet has caused him to be regarded with detestation. Although in comparatively easy circumstances, he has never found a woman willing to become his wife—and small blame to the sex for that. He lives apart, and his house is shunned, it is said, by the inhabitants, who hold him more than half a ghoul. Mark Twain has elsewhere conclusively shown that the Digger Indians are very fond of grasshopper-soup; indeed he derives the name of that beautiful lake, Tahoe, from the Indian word for this *pâte*. And in Japan there are a good many people who think that the peculiar species of grasshopper which may be found in every field of young rice, is particularly appetizing. These insects are sold and eaten under the style of *inago*,—a misleading term according to the opinion of foreigners who have ventured to partake of them either broiled or roasted, as the antepennult ought properly to read *out* instead of *in*, to judge by results.

A JAPANESE IN THE PRISON OF YUNGCHENG.

THE correspondents of the Tokyo papers write of a curious incident that occurred at Yungcheng. When the van of the Second Division entered that town and liberated the prisoners detained there, one young man thanked the soldiers in Japanese colloquial. The latter, thinking this very curious as the fellow was entirely Chinese in appearance, put several questions to him through the interpreter accompanying the van. They learned that the prisoner was named Imai Tetsunosuke and that he was a native of a Kobe. When 6 years of age he had been sold to a Chinaman who took him to Shanghai. He was there for a number of years, but being subsequently employed by a certain man-of-war, he went afterwards to Weihaiwei. One of the officers of the ship was kind enough to accommodate him with the sum of 110 Tls. with which to purchase a junk for the purpose of engaging in the lading and unlading of cargo. In return for this service, the officer was to be conveyed in the junk free of charge whenever he had occasion to require it. The young Japanese became owner of a small ship and plied his trade so assiduously that he had at last laid by enough to repay the money advanced to him by his benefactor. One day a package belonging to one of the passengers in the junk disappeared in a mysterious manner, and suspicion falling on the owner of the vessel, he was thrown into the prison of Yungcheng. He had not yet undergone examination when the Japanese Army landed on the Shantung promontory, and he was unexpectedly set free by his own countrymen. He told his deliverers that he had only once been suspected to be a Japanese, but that he had been able to remove the suspicion. The young man is now employed by the Japanese as a guide.

A FATAL WAGER.

A MOST foolish bet, attended with fatal results, is recorded in the columns of a metropolitan paper. There were two rival jinrikisha-pullers in the city, one living in Yotsuya and the other in Akasaka. Both were about twenty-four years old and fleet of foot, keeping to a rapid, tireless trot up hill and down. The Yotsuya man was proud of his fleetness and used to boast that he had not his peer in Japan. This was contested by the Akasaka *kurumaya*, so the two agreed to run for an hour over a large portion of Tokyo, to test their several abilities, the winner to hold the title of champion. They started in the evening, after their day's work was over, from the Aoyama Parade Ground, each pulling a *kuruma* in which rode one of their own comrades, likewise *jinrikisha*-men. From the Parade Ground they ran, at full speed, and urged on by the shouts of their "fares," past the Detached Palace, on to Azabu, thence to Iigura, Shiba Park, Atagoshita-machi, through the Sakurada gate and past the Imperial Palace, where the Yotsuya man fell some twenty-five yards behind. The road then led through Nigata-cho to Kojimachi; then on to Yotsuya Ground—a prodigious and unparalleled distance to cover inside of an hour, a stretch indeed that few rapid horses could pass over in that time. The Yotsuya man, after making superhuman exertions, managed to reach the goal about seven yards ahead of his rival. Both were greatly exhausted. The "Champion" went home but not to sleep, and lay in great pain till midnight, when cerebral hæmorrhage set in and death resulted. It is a thousand pities that such magnificent limbs and sinews should not have been employed to a better purpose.

CHINESE PRISONERS AT NAGOYA.

THERE are sixty-seven Chinese prisoners at Nagoya, says a vernacular contemporary. All are well and rapidly putting on flesh—quite different from the gaunt, haggard beings brought thither a couple of months or so ago. News of a Chinese defeat does not affect them unpleasantly; they laugh and joke as if there were no reason for uneasiness and declare that they consider themselves exceptionally fortunate in having been taken prisoners so early, for here they are well-housed and warmly-clad, while food is in plenty and there is no need to forage in the empty granaries of a starveling peasantry. Of the whole number only ten can write their own names; the rest are absolutely illiterate. Some acknowledge, without the least sense of shame, that they joined the army simply with the hope of unlimited loot. That being impossible, the best thing that could happen to them was to have to stop fighting, or rather its pretence. A few of the men appear to be incurably idle, spending all their time in chatting with their fellows and taking long siestas; the majority, however, are busy enough. Some split wood for matches; others sew and are adept at the needle. Two or three are making rather ludicrous attempts to acquire a knowledge of Japanese, stating that they intend settling in this country when the international unpleasantness becomes a thing of the past. A good deal of license is given them, which they do not abuse.

EVIDENCE OF JAPANESE UNPUNCTUALITY.

A WRITER on the staff of the *Keisai Zasshi* gives an interesting table showing how unpunctual the Japanese are in their habits. He says, however, that as the table is entirely based on what he himself has experienced, it cannot of course be regarded as altogether reliable especially as he himself is not a punctual man by any means:—

Cases.	Out of 100.	Remarks.
Those that failed to call though under engagement to do so.	Called within 5 days, 4. Called within a days, 7.	
Those called on behind time.	Behind by 1 hour—50; behind by 2 hours, 27.	Those behind by less than half an hour omitted.
Answer (letter) delayed.	Delayed by above 3 days, 19; above 10 days, 7; above 1 month, 3.	
Answered after pressed twice	4	
Non-performance at appointed times	28	
Things ordered brought behind time	45	
Ditto repeated twice,	8	
New Year's cards or visit not repaid	27	Those in higher ranks excluded.
Calls not received	20	
Calls not promptly received.	After waiting 10', 8; 30', 5.	Offices or those really busy excluded.
Obliged to wait in Offices.	Above 40', 42; 30', 40.	
Coming to assemblies, ceremonies, &c., behind time	90	
Jinrikisha men asking for extra	58	

THE "SHIBATA MARU."

A SPECIAL correspondent of the *Kobe Chronicle* writing from Hiroshima, on February 1st, says:—The *Shibata Maru*, Captain Tipple, while trying to make Ujina on Tuesday night, ran on a rock about ten miles off the port and knocked a hole in her bottom. The hole was a very large one and water rushed in with great force. The captain at once determined to beach the vessel, and it was fortunate he did so, as the water was almost putting out her fires when she was run ashore. It was a dark night, and I understand the rock in question was not marked down on the chart. The *Shibata Maru* was one of the finest boats recently purchased by the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, being formerly known as the famous tea-ship *Mayune*.

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The transport has now been brought into Ujina, her cargo having been discharged into lighters by military coolies. She is full of water, and at the time of writing the extent of her damage has not been ascertained.

PROBABLY A SURPRISE.

THE Yasukuni Shrine, better known as the Shokonsha, at Kudan, Tokyo, is still a great centre of attraction owing to the various kinds of Chinese plunder there exhibited—articles of clothing, weapons of all sorts, banners and standards, in short a miscellaneous collection of representative war-spoils. By reason of the daily crowds of sightseers this locality is the happy hunting-ground of the metropolitan pick-pockets, who, despite vigilant and argus-eyed constables, manage each day to reap quite a nice little harvest of spoils more their peculiar fancy. One of these thievish prestidigitateurs, however, made a sad slip the other day, and his confidence in the human race must be well-nigh obliterated in consequence. A well-dressed Japanese lady was carrying an unusually bulky and curious-looking bundle across the grounds, when she stopped for a moment to look at the trophies displayed and had, on the instant, the bundle whisked out of her grasp by some unseen hand. She gave a little cry and the police were at once at hand, but without being able to trace the offender. The bundle was gone; would the lady tell them what was in it? If she did so they might be able to restore the contents later on. On this the lady crimsoned, and after much hesitation replied that the parcel, contained nothing more or less than the corpse of *uchi no neko*, or her favourite cat, which had suddenly died that day and which she was taking to bury in the family cemetery out of respect for the many virtues of the departed feline. A crowd had collected to hear what the parcel had contained, and at this announcement there was a loud guffaw of merriment, as the painful disappointment of the thief dawned on their lively imaginations. Lady and police chimed in, and the episode ended in great good humour.

CARTOONS AND CARTOONISTS.

IT is only quite recently that the vernacular newspapers have taken to publishing rough sketches of a generally humourously sarcastic nature, but now and then downright libellous. Be it however said to the credit of the Japanese press that comparatively very few papers so far forget their dignity as to caricature anything or anybody but public laughing-stocks. The drawings, mostly coarsely executed, are not calculated to find favour in European eyes: the execution is not only rough but the point lies oftenest in some verbal catch quite unintelligible even to those who have a fair knowledge of Japanese. It was, if we remember correctly, the *Kokumin Shimbun* which first gave an impetus to sketches of this description; not, however, jocose, but bits of scenery and details of events of interest. Now from one end of the Empire to the other the daily papers are in the habit of frequently publishing wood-cuts of a similar nature, though the subject is nearly always with the avowed intent of holding up something or some one to derision. It goes without saying that China comes in for the worst of these pictorial stabs, her nationals and great men being depicted in all manner of trying and unenviable situations. Yet many of these cartoons are not without a spice of wit of a pungency all their own, and characteristically Japanese. In the *Yorozu Choho* the other day, shortly after the arrival of the abortive Peace Embassy, there was a sketch of the kind worthy of notice. One of the most frequently met with peripatetic hawkers is the seller of *amé*: that not-unpalatable species of wheat-gluten so affected by the *jeunesse dorée* of this country. The cry of this hawker, pitched in a high, melancholy minor key, is *Ameya, kobashii ame!* or "*Amé*, sweet-savoured *amé*." The *Yorozu Choho's* artist, for reasons of his own, dressed his puppet in Chinese clothing, gave him a most hang-dog expression, and put into his mouth the words, *Dame ya, ko-wa shi dame!* or "Futile! the Peace Mission is futile!" the jest lying in the similarity of the pronounciation. Again, the *Yushin Nippo*, of Nagasaki, regaled its readers with another significant cartoon, not long ago. A Chinaman sprawling on his back was being unmercifully drubbed by a Japanese soldier, while from the Celestial's mouth proceeded the wail: "England! Russia! France! Help! What's the use of your big fleets in Eastern Asia if you don't help me in my trouble?" The 3rd inst. was the date of the *toshi-koshi* ceremony, being the last of the observances connected with the New Year festivities. It is customary on the evening of this day to strew parched beans about the rooms while reciting the formula *Fuku wa uchi! Oni wa soto!* "Happiness in the house; oh demons! (go) outside!" This is done in the belief that evil spirits are thus definitely exorcised, good luck remaining in their stead. Of course the educated classes no longer credit the efficacy of the exorcism; yet the old custom is kept up as an excuse for merriment and innocent frolicking. The *Yomiuri Shimbun* of the 3rd instant took due advantage of the occasion and published an excellent cartoon. It represented the world in miniature, with hordes of Chinese fleeing over its confines into outer space, and energetically pursued by Japanese bean throwers who were echoing *Fuku wa uchi! Oni wa soto!* The sketch was very *à propos* of the abrupt termination of the peace negotiations.

EXPORTS OF PETROLEUM FOR 1894.

THE following are the figures of the export of petroleum from New York to the undermentioned ports from January 1st to December 31st, 1894, as compared with the preceding year:—

	Gals. 1894.		Gals. 1893.
Shanghai	28,564,796	...	37,996,360
Hongkong	11,328,680	...	15,029,510
Yokohama and Tokyo	18,236,653	..	10,790,600
Amoy, Tamsui and Tientsin	2,245,240	...	1,023,340
Saigon and Swatow	1,092,890	...	5,236,420
Haiphong	12,000	...	721,900
Nagasaki, Kobe and Hiogo	461,260	...	1,567,020
Total gallons	61,941,519	...	72,365,150

MR FOSTER

IT is impossible not to sympathise with Mr. Foster. He was brought to the east on a fool's errand, and as every one recognises that, in undertaking the journey, he was actuated chiefly by a humane desire to assist in restoring peace to the Orient in general, and in particular to two empires among whose statesmen he counts many friends, the farce in which he has been made an unwilling actor seems doubly inexcusable. It is to be hoped that he may be induced to remain in the East until either the credentials of the discredited envoys are rectified, or a new and less trivial a mission be organized. His continued presence here would materially strengthen the prospects of early peace.

BRITISH BOARD OF TRADE NOTIFICATION.

THE *Kobe Chronicle* learns from a Shanghai contemporary that the Board of Trade has issued a notification "that the red ensign usually worn by merchant ships without defacement or modification whatsoever is hereby declared to be the proper national colours of all ships and boats belonging to any British subject." In the case of any ship flying a modification of this flag without warrant from the Admiralty, the master of such vessel will be liable to a fine not exceeding £500, and any commissioned naval or military officer can order the flag to be hauled down and have it confiscated. On being signalled to by a British man-of-war, or while entering or leaving a port the red ensign must be hoisted, in default of which the master is liable to a fine of £100.

THE ACCIDENT TO THE "VICTORIA."

THE breach in the plates of the *Victoria* (as seen from the inside by a representative of the *Kobe Chronicle*) certainly forms a very ugly gash. It is located at the foremost end of the first-class saloon, commencing from about three feet from the water-line, and extending upwards (including a scuttle in the fracture) for about three or four feet. The plates are completely torn asunder, and it is fortunate that the fracture was upwards, as had it been otherwise and extended below the water-line, the inrush of water might have compelled the beaching of the vessel. Workmen are now engaged upon the repairs, which will occupy at least a fortnight. The accident, as already reported, occurred in Moji, and was caused by the Japanese transport *Ariake Maru* swinging round stem on to the *Victoria* as she lay at anchor, the blow striking the Northern Pacific steamer just abaft amidships.

KEROSENE ACCIDENT.

A FEW days ago a Japanese woman, living at Sakai, near Osaka, dropped some kerosene oil on her clothes, and then very foolishly endeavoured to dry them over a *hibachi*. The heat of the charcoal suddenly ignited the kerosene, and her clothes caught fire, the result being that the woman is so seriously burned that she is not expected to live.

THE KING'S DAUGHTERS.

WE call attention to the entertainment of the King's Daughters' Circle this evening at 9 o'clock in aid of the Yokohama General Hospital.

MAJOR-GENERAL OTERA.

The death of Major-General Otera in the battle at Weihaiwei is now beyond doubt. On the 3rd inst. a telegram reached the family of the General at Yotsuya, from Colonel Mayeda of the 4th Division, to the following effect—"The Major-General has died a glorious death: do not give way to grief." It was Mrs. Otera who broke open and read the brief message, but as she was prepared for such a contingency she was not surprised at receiving the news. His old mother, now advanced to the venerable age of 87, received the news with equal composure. She is said to have observed, according to the *Yomiuri*, that her son had fallen in the discharge of his duty, and she regretted that he was not permitted to live longer and be of more service to his Sovereign. Major-General Kawamura, of the Imperial bodyguard, hearing that his friend had been seriously wounded at the assault on the Eastern forts at Weihaiwei, called on the family to express his sympathy, and was surprised to see the message sent the family by Colonel Mayeda. He hastened to the War Department to ascertain the truth, but learned that no official news had yet been received, but that it must be authentic. Major-General Otera was a most distinguished officer, and of Satsuma origin. His military career dates from the troublous times of the Restoration, and he took a conspicuous part both in the expedition to Formosa and the Civil War in Satsuma. When the question of the invasion of Korea was mooted by the elder Saigo and his distinguished compatriots more than two decades ago, it failed to secure the approval of the Ministry of the time, and a number of officers, both in the Army and Navy, resigned their commissions and accompanied Saigo in his retirement. Major-General Otera, at that time a Captain, strongly opposed the plan of his superior, and remonstrated with him regarding his intention, but without avail. He was travelling in Europe, on a military tour of inspection, when the war broke out, and was, with others, recalled. On his return he was sent to the seat of war as Chief of Staff of the Tokyo Division. The plan of attack of Port Arthur was drafted by him, and for his services he was promoted to Major-General and appointed Commander of the 11th Brigade. His comparatively slow promotion is ascribed by the vernacular press to his unyielding nature and dislike to currying favour with his superiors. He leaves behind him his mother, his wife, aged 39, and four children, the eldest of whom, a daughter, is married to Lieut. Wada of the Osaka Division. Major-General Otera was only a little over 50 years of age.

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IMPERIAL DIET.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 1ST.

HOUSE OF PEERS.

The House met at 11 a.m., the Order of the Day being :—

1.—Bill for amending the National Bank Regulations, sent up from the Lower House.
2.—Petitions.

Mr. Tajiri, Government Delegate, explained in detail the Government's objections to the first Bill on the Order as sent up from the Lower House, his arguments being mainly on the same lines as those submitted by him to the Lower House.

Viscount Tani inquired whether it was found possible in practice to discharge satisfactorily the functions of supervision delegated to the Government by the existing Regulations.

Mr. Tajiri could not undertake to say that the inspection was everything desirable, but no efforts were spared to make it so. In answer to another question, he said that, the Government Bill having been rejected in the Lower House and the Bill now under consideration having been adopted in its place, the Government, in the event of the rejection of the latter by the Peers, would re-submit its Bill next session.

After various questions, the Bill was handed to a Special Committee nominated by the President, but the House refused to give any instruction to the Committee with regard to the time of presenting its report.

On the recommendation of Prince Tokugawa, Chairman of the Petitions Committee, the House then adopted the following four petitions for presentation to the Government :—

Petition relating to Restoration of Ranks and Incomes.
Petition for the Establishment of a Charity Hospital.
Petition relating to the Tobacco Tax in Okinawa Prefecture.
Petition relating to Lighthouses.

The House rose at 12.05 p.m.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The House met at 1.25 p.m., the Order of the Day being :—

1.—Bill relating to Pensions and Gratuities; sent down from the Upper House.
2.—Bill for granting State Aid to Agricultural Experiment Stations.
3.—Bill relating to Open Ports.
4.—Petition.
5.—Representation relating to the Repair of the Kiso River.
6.—Representation relating to the Control of State Forests.
7.—Representation relating to State Aid for the Kobe Waterworks.

The President announced the receipt of a Government Bill relating to the establishment of a Naval Council, and said that it should be taken as an urgency measure.

Mr. Suzuki Shigeto asked leave to have the Order of the Day changed for the purpose of introducing a Resolution.

The House having given the necessary permission, Mr. Suzuki, in a few words, urged the passing of the Resolution.

Mr. Inouye Kakugoro supported the Resolution in a speech which the House seemed to consider unnecessary. He urged that the country's banners must be carried to the walls of Pekin and that all party differences must be merged in this great question.

The House unanimously voted the Resolution as follows :—

Whereas, in the opinion of this House, the time is still distant when the objects on account of which war was proclaimed by His Majesty will be accomplished and the country's prestige established, therefore this House is prepared to grant whatever amount of appropriations may be necessary for the purposes of military expenditure, and adopts this Resolution with the express intention of making known its sentiment on the subject.

Mr. Sasaki Shohyo, on behalf of the Special Committee, reported in favour of the first Bill on the Order. After some opposition on the ground that means to carry out such a measure were not available under the circumstances of the time, the House voted against the Second Reading of the Bill.

Mr. Tada Sakubei, on behalf of the Special Committee, reported in favour of the second Bill, as amended by the Committee. This Bill also was opposed on the same grounds as the last, and also on the ground that if agricultural experimental stations were needed, they should be supported by the localities without aid from the Treasury.

The House voted against the Second Reading.

Mr. Taguchi Ukichi, on behalf of the Special Committee, reported in favour of the Bill for opening additional ports to foreign trade. The Government Delegate had opposed the project on the ground that preparations were not complete, but the same objection might have been urged with equal force in the case of Yokohama or Kobe at the time of their opening. In China there were 23 open ports, and the customs duties aggregated over 30 million *yen*. In Japan there were only 5 ports and the customs revenue was but 5 millions. The measure contemplated by the Bill was a means of enriching the country.

Mr. Megata, Government Delegate, briefly opposed the Bill for the reasons already advanced by him.

Mr. Kawashima Jun regretted to be obliged to oppose the Bill, but felt that while negotiations for Treaty Revision were in progress, with the prospect of the whole country being thrown open to foreign trade, it was not only premature but even mischievous to fix upon certain places for additional open ports. Besides, they had been told that there were to be no foreign settlements at the new ports, but if a place were opened to foreign trade, the persons engaged in that trade must necessarily be allowed to live there.

Vice-Admiral Ito, Government Delegate, said that while every one would rejoice to see the country's foreign trade prosper and to have as many ports as possible thrown open, there were connected with this question considerations of naval strategy that made the Bill unadvisable at the present juncture.

Mr. Suzuki Jubi failed to see why the development of trade should be checked on account of strategical conditions. He did not consider that a civilized country could keep ships out of its ports, or confine them to certain ports, when they came as the carrying agents of peaceful and wealth-bringing commerce.

The closure was put and carried, and the House rejected the Second Reading.

Mr. Hamana Shimpei, on behalf of the Petitions Committee, reported in favour of adopting a Petition relating to the pensions of certain Satsuma *Shisoku*.

On the motion of Mr. Moriya Konosuke, the House voted to postpone the consideration of the Petition until the Government Delegates were present to answer questions.

After a long speech by Mr. Kudo Kokan, the House rejected the Representation with regard to the Kiso River.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 2ND.

HOUSE OF PEERS.

The House met at 10.50 a.m., the Order of the Day being :—

1.—Game Law Bill, as amended by the Lower House
2.—Petition.

The President asked the House to consider the amendments made by the Lower House in the project of Game Law, and to decide whether they should be accepted, or whether any Conference of the Houses would be necessary.

Baron Date desired to know the Government Delegate's views as to the amendments. The Lower House had divided the fees payable for licenses into three classes, taking the taxes paid by an applicant as the basis of the fee to be charged to him, and had further decided that all foreigners must pay the highest rate of fee. An explanation of the Government's views as to these changes was desirable.

Mr. Fujita, Government Delegate, said that the Government did not approve of the proposed changes, and preferred the system hitherto in vogue. As to the differentiation made against foreigners, by placing them in the first class, the Government could not endorse it, seeing that foreigners did not pay any of the taxes constituting the basis of classification.

Mr. Murata Tamotsu strongly disapproved of the amendments. He deemed it a totally wrong principle to take a shifting standard like the payment of income tax and land tax as a basis, and he denounced the idea of levying a larger fee from foreigners merely on the hypothesis that they were better able to pay it. He moved that the Bill be re-entrusted to a Special Committee for the purpose of having a report made on the Lower House's amendments.

Marquis Daigo approved of the amendments, their spirit being to distinguish between persons who pursued game for sport and those who pursued it as a profession.

The House voted to re-commit the Bill to a Special Committee.

Mr. Ando Sokumei asked the House to favourably consider a Petition for restoring to the people of Kagoshima Prefecture the expenses incurred in surveying State lands for the purpose of reassessing their taxable value. Such expenses ought to be defrayed out of the Treasury, since the lands were public property.

Prince Tokugawa, on behalf of the Petitions Committee, explained that the Committee did not recommend the Petition, for though the principle involved might be just, it was plain that were such a concession made to the people of Kagoshima, it must be extended to the people of all the other Prefectures, with serious financial consequences.

After some debate, several members contending that if the principle involved was just, the question of expense should not be suffered to stand in the way, the House adopted the Petition for presentation to the Government.

Prince Konoye moved that as the session was nearly half over the Joint Stock Railway Companies Bill should be taken at once, but the House voted against the proposal and rose at 11.30 a.m.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The House met at 1.10 p.m., the Order of the Day being :—

1.—Bill relating to a Special Naval Court.
2.—Bill embodying a project of Press Law, as amended by the Upper House.
3.—Representation relating to the Control of Government Forests.
4.—Representation relating to State aid to the Kobe Waterworks.
5.—Bill relating to the National Banks.
6.—Bill for amending the 20th Article of the Land Tax Regulations.
7.—Representation relating to the Rectification of Pensions and Gratuities.
8.—Representation relating to the Establishment of an Iron Foundry.

Vice-Admiral Ito, Government Delegate, explained that the object of the Bill relating to a Special Naval Court, was to invest the Central Naval Court, established in connection with the war, with competence to enforce the various regulations. Such Courts already existed at the five Admiralty Stations, but another was needed at the base of operations.

The Bill was entrusted to a Special Committee.

Mr. Komuro Shigehiro exhorted the House to reject the Peers' amendments in the Press Law. Public opinion had emphatically declared in favour of abolishing the suspension of newspapers by arbitrary decree of the Executive, and in favour of dispensing with security money. He was entirely at a loss to understand why a Chamber containing men of erudition and experience as the Upper House did, should assume an attitude directly opposed to the will of the nation. To accept the changes proposed by the Peers would be yielding an ell to gain an inch. The House must assert itself, and guard its resolutions against such disrespectful treatment.

On the question being put whether the House would accept the amendments, not one member voted in the affirmative.

The President was empowered to choose 10 Managers for the purpose of opening a consultation with the Upper House.

Mr. Fuji Kinsaku, in a long speech, introduced the Representation relating to the control of State Forests. He declared that owing to official mismanagement and partiality the country's forests were gradually becoming unproductive, and that it was necessary to import from abroad timber easily producible at home.

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He charged the Authorities with selling at nominal prices to favoured individuals, especially in Satsuma, large tracts of valuable forest land, and alleged that, under the present system, the public forests were perverted into a means of impoverishing the country, instead of being one of its most wealth-earning assets.

Mr. Saito Ryosuke moved that the Representation be entrusted to the Special Committee already charged with the duty of reporting on the Representation relating to the Sale of Public Forest Lands, and on correlated measures.

On the motion of Mr. Yoshimoto, the House agreed that the previous Committee of 9 be increased to 18, by nomination of the President, and that the Representation be handed to them.

Mr. Koizuka Ryo introduced the Representation relating to Kobe Water Works:—

REPRESENTATION.

Whereas, the construction of Water Works at Kobe is an affair of great urgency, alike from economical and hygienic points of view, therefore, this House trusts that an estimate for granting State aid to the said Water Works will be compiled and presented for discussion by the Imperial Diet.

He said that the principle of granting such aid had been endorsed by the Government already, but the work had been postponed in view of the warlike necessities of the time. Yet the Government had spent over forty thousand *yen* collecting materials for history. In Kobe's case the comfort and health of more than 170,000 persons were concerned, and not a day should be lost in taking measures to provide a supply of pure water.

After a few questions, the Representation was passed unanimously.

Mr. Motoda Hajime introduced the next Bill. He said that the House, having rejected the Government Bill for the disposal of the National Banks on the expiration of their charters, and having passed another Bill providing for a seven years' extension of the charters, it seemed advisable to supplement the latter measure by legislating in the sense that a Bank not desiring to renew its charter as of old, but wishing to carry on business as a private institution, should be at liberty to do so; and further, that a Bank wishing neither to renew its charter on the national basis nor to continue as a private concern, should be free to wind up its affairs.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 4TH.

HOUSE OF PEERS.

The House met at 11.50 a.m., the Order of the Day being:—

1.—Leave of Absence.
2.—Bill relating to *Joint Stock Private* Railway Companies sent up from Lower House.
3.—Bill for the Control of Pawnbrokers; sent up from Lower House.

Mr. Hayashi, Vice-Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, made the following statement:—

Gentlemen:—I have the honour to inform you that I have received a telegram from Count Ito, Minister President of State, and Viscount Mutsu, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, Imperial Japanese Plenipotentiaries for conducting the Peace Negotiations with China, directing me to report to you the following intelligence:—The Chinese Peace Plenipotentiaries arrived at Hiroshima on the 31st ultimo, and two meetings of the Plenipotentiaries of both countries were held at the Hiroshima Kencho. The credentials of full powers presented by the Chinese Plenipotentiaries having been examined, were found materially incomplete and improper. Being compelled to infer from the Chinese Government's failure to confer plenary powers on their Envoys that they are not yet sincere in their desire to amicably settle the important question at present pending between the two countries, the Imperial Japanese Plenipotentiaries were constrained to declare to the Chinese Envoys their inability to continue the negotiations.

The President announced that the House should proceed to elect managers to confer with the Lower House on the subject of the Press Laws.

On the motion of Prince Konoye, the House decided to elect the managers by Sections.

Prince Konoye, on behalf of the Special Committee, reported in favour of the Bill relating to Joint Stock Private Railway Companies.

A long discussion ensued, and the House finally voted for the Second Reading of the Bill by 67 to 50, and decided to proceed with the Bill at once, and passed it in the following form:—

PROJECT OF LAW RELATING TO THE PRIVATE JOINT STOCK RAILWAY COMPANIES.

(As passed by the Houses of Representatives and Peers.)

Art. I.—A Private Joint Stock Railway Company more than one tenth of the face value of whose shares has been paid up, shall be entitled to apply for registration.

Art. II.—Although registration, as provided in the preceding article, has been effected, any transfer of shares made before one-fourth of the whole capital has been paid up, shall be null and void.

Art. III.—A Private Joint Stock Railway Company must be dissolved in the event of its capital being reduced to less than one-tenth of the original amount. Provided that a Private Joint Stock Railway Company whose paid up capital amounts to more than one-fourth of the original sum, shall fall under clause 4 of Art. CCXXX. of the Commercial Code.

The Bill for the Control of Pawnbrokers was handed to the Special Committee already charged with the duty of reporting on the Bill relating to Dealers in Second-hand Goods.

The House rose at 2.50 p.m.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The House met at 1.15 p.m., the Order of the Day being:—

1.—Bill for amending the Chamber of Commerce Regulations.
2.—Petition relating to Pension Bonds.
3.—Representation for the Establishment of an Iron Foundry.
4.—Bill for amending the City Government Regulations.
5.—Bill for amending the Urban and Rural Divisions Government Regulations.
6.—Bill for establishing a Silk-conditioning Warehouse.
7.—Representation relating to State Forests.
8.—Representation relating to the re-establishment of the Ecclesiastical Bureau.
9.—Representation relating to the Preservation of ancient temples.

Mr. Hayashi, Vice-Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, made the same statement as that made by him in the forenoon to the House of Peers.

Mr. Nakano Buyei, on behalf of the Special Committee, reported in favour of the first Bill, with various amendments, to which the Government Delegate had agreed. The object of the Bill was to develop the system of Chambers of Commerce.

The House voted for the Second Reading, and proceeding with it at once, passed the Bill as amended by the Committee.

The Petition relating to Pensions was adopted for presentation to the Government, after some discussion.

Mr. Hayakawa Ryosuke, on behalf of the Special Committee, in a speech of considerable length, reported in favour of the Representation for establishing an iron foundry. He adduced no arguments other than those advanced by supporters of the Representation in previous debates.

After a few questions, the Representation was passed.

REPRESENTATION RELATING TO THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN IRON FOUNDRY.

The essential character of the work done at an iron-foundry viewed from the standpoint either of national defences or of national economy, needs no exposition. The reason why, when the Government in a previous session of the Diet introduced a scheme for establishing a foundry, the House of Representatives withheld its consent, was that the Government declined to assume the responsibility of asserting the existence of raw material in sufficient quantities, and to guarantee the success of the operation. Since that time, however, the question of the sufficiency of raw material and the excellence of its quality having been, as we understand, settled beyond any doubt, and the success of the technical part of the business has also been assured after repeated experiments. Under the circumstances, to abstain from inaugurating the work of iron founding must be considered highly disadvantageous to the nation. The present condition of the country both in its domestic and in its foreign relations renders the initiation of the enterprise specially imperative. The House therefore submits this Representation, urging the Government to take prompt steps for preparing a draft scheme, and for obtaining the consent of the Imperial Diet.

Presented by Mr. KURIHARA RYOICHI and 6 others.

Supported by Mr. YAMADA KAKOKU and 29 others.

The Bills relating to amendments of Local Government Regulations were passed through all their readings with slight amendments.

Mr. Obata Iwajiro, on behalf of the Special Committee, reported in favour of the Bill for establishing a Silk-conditioning warehouse in Yokohama, but said that the Committee recommended the establishment of one in Kobe also, and were of opinion that the time for carrying the scheme into force should be deferred to a later date.

Mr. Konishi Jinnosuke opposed the Bill on the ground that such a subject should not be dealt with legislatively, but ought to be settled by Administrative Ordinance.

The Bill was carried to a Second Reading.

PROJECT OF LAW RELATING TO A SILK CONDITIONING WAREHOUSE.

(As Amended by the Special Committee.)

Art. I.—Silk Conditioning Warehouses shall be established in Yokohama and Kobe.

Art. II.—Any one, whether a Japanese subject or a foreigner, who carries on transactions in Japanese silk, shall be entitled to apply to the Conditioning Warehouse for the examination of his silk. No charge shall be levied for such examination.

Art. III.—The Silk Conditioning Warehouses shall be placed under the control of the Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce; and detailed rules relating to the operation of the present Law shall be determined by the said Minister. The present Law shall go into force from April 1st of the 29th year of *Meiji* (1896.)

The Representation relating to State Forests was entrusted to a Special Committee.

The Representation for re-establishing the Ecclesiastical Bureau was rejected, after a brief debate, by a vote of 67 to 59.

Mr. Takemura Tobe, introducing the Representation for the preservation of ancient Temples and Shrines, said that, in pre-Restoration days, these establishments enjoyed considerable revenues, and had been well preserved as types of the country's architecture and receptacles of its art objects. But being now deprived of means of support, they were gradually falling to ruin, and the objects of art kept there were disappearing from Japan, to the irreparable loss of the country's artists and its people.

The Representation was entrusted to a Special Committee.

The House rose at 4.50 p.m.

TUESDAY, 5TH FEBRUARY.

HOUSE OF PEERS.

The House met at 10.50 a.m., the Order of the Day being:—

1.—Bill for rescinding Law No. 7 of the 23rd year of *Meiji*; sent up from the Lower House.
2.—Bill for rescinding Ordinance No. 2 of the 18th year of *Meiji*; sent up from the Lower House.
3.—Bill for amending the Code of Civil Procedure.
4.—Representation relating to Educational Councils.
5.—Representation relating to Telegraphs and Telephones.

Mr. Ando Sokumei presented a Question with reference to the debate that had occurred in the Lower House last session on the subject of the Fujita-gumi and the forgery of notes. He alleged that in a document produced by the Government as evidence and purporting to have been written by him, Mr. Ando, words occurred that he had never penned. He wished to know how they got there.

Prince Tokugawa, on behalf of the Special Committee, reported that the Committee were unanimously opposed to the first Bill on the Order; namely, that rescinding the provision of law by which a person appealing from a judgment in a case of major crime must lodge a sum of 20 *yen* in court.

The House, without debate, refused to carry the Bill to a Second Reading.

Prince Tokugawa, on behalf of the Special Committee, reported similarly against the Bill for dispensing with a deposit of 10 *yen* in the case of persons appealing from a judgment in a minor crime.

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The House rejected the Bill.

The third Bill met with a similar fate, after brief debate.

Mr. Kato Hiroyuki introduced the Representation for establishing Educational Councils. There were already Councils for debating the affairs of railways, engineering, sanitation, and so forth, and it could not but be called a national defect that no such council existed in the educational sphere.

Viscount Tani strongly supported the proposal, as furnishing a means of guaranteeing education against repeated changes incidental to changes of Cabinet.

The Representation was adopted by the House.

Mr. Murata Tamotsu introduced the next Representation urging the Government to take immediate steps for extending the system of telegraphs and telephones. The State was obtaining an income of 2 million *yen* annually from these sources, yet the lines laid, though palpably insufficient, were not increased.

The Representation was adopted without debate.

The House rose at 2 p.m.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The House met at 1.20 p.m., the Order of the Day being :—

1.—Bill (Government) relating to Expenditures on account of the building of the Diet and the Repair of the Chikugo River.
2.—Bill for amending the Law of Election.
3.—Representation relating to Agricultural Districts.
4.—Representation for Experimental Sugar-growing stations.
5.—Representation for Experimental Sericultural stations.
6.—Representation relating to the Appointment of Headmen of Divisions.
7.—Bill for amending the Standing Orders of the House.

The President announced the death of Mr. Ito Keisuke, one of the members, and read a message of condolence, which the House adopted.

Mr. Naka Kujuro presented a Question relating to Fire Brigades and the Regulations applicable to them.

Mr. Terada Hikotaro, on behalf of the Budget Committee, reported in favour of the first Bill, which merely provided for extending over a longer terms of years appropriations already voted on account of various works which it had been found impossible to finish in the originally prescribed time.

The House voted for the Second Reading and passed the Bill at once.

Mr. Naohara Morijiro, on behalf of the Special Committee, reported that the Committee approved of amending the Law of Election, but recommended that the qualifications of an elector be first payment of national taxes to the annual amount of 10 *yen*, instead of 15 *yen* as at present; and secondly, that he have attained the full age of 20, instead of 25 as at present. Finally, the Committee recommended that one and the same person be not permitted to stand in more than two different election districts.

A number of questions were asked, and after a desultory debate the House voted to carry the Bill to a Second Reading.

The Special Committee reported against the Representation for increasing the number of Agricultural Experimental Stations, but the House adopted the Representation by a vote of 68 to 53.

The Representation relating to Sugar-growing stations was withdrawn, and that for the Establishment of experimental Sericultural Stations to improve the quality and eliminate the diseases of silk-worms, was entrusted to a Special Committee.

The next Representation on the Order was withdrawn for further examination by the Special Committee.

The last Bill, providing for an additional Standing Committee of 27 members to examine and report upon Settled Accounts, was passed without debate.

The House rose at 4.30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 6TH.

HOUSE OF PEERS.

The House met at 10.50 a.m., the Order of the Day being :—

1.—Report of Petitions Committee.
2.—Bill (Government) for amending the Naval Penal Code.
3.—Bill (Government) relating to the capture of Seals and Sea Otters.
4.—Bill for amending the Penal Code; sent up from the Lower House.
5.—Bill for amending the Second-hand Articles Dealers Regulations; sent up from the Lower House.

The Chairman of the Petitions Committee informed the House that since the date of the Committee's last report 58 petitions had been received, of which the Committee had decided that 29 should be submitted to the House.

Vice-Admiral Ito, introducing the first Bill, said that the object was to change the method of dealing with deserters. Since the war broke out there had been virtually no deserters, but in times of peace they constituted the greater part of the defaulters in the Navy. The present mode of dealing with them was imprisonment, but that was a punishment rather affected by such persons, and it was therefore proposed to put them to hard labour. The reform had been made some time ago in the Army, but had not yet been introduced in the Navy.

The Bill was entrusted to a Special Committee nominated by the President.

Baron Ozawa Takeo, on behalf of the Special Committee, reported in favour of the Bill relating to the capture of seals and sea-otters.

Mr. Murata Tamotsu supported the Bill on the ground that it would serve to check foreign poachers. Scarcely any foreign schooners came to Japanese waters in search of sea-otters, but schooners to hunt seals were numerous—46 in 1893 and 57 in 1894, their annual take being worth 700,000 *yen*. The present law interdicted hunting in Hokkaido only, where no seals were to be found, and left out the Kuriles, where important rookeries existed. The Bill, by removing the restriction from Hokkaido and extending it to the Kuriles, was distinctly a wise measure.

Mr. Fujita, Government Delegate, said that the Government's first object in introducing the Bill was to facilitate the taking of seals; restrictive measures were a secondary consideration.

The Bill was read a Second time and passed at once.

PROJECT OF LAW RELATING TO THE HUNTING OF SEA-OTTERS AND SEALS.

(As passed by the House of Peers:)

Art. I.—Any one intending to pursue sea-otter or seals must obtain a licence from the Ministes of State for Agriculture and Commerce.

Art. II.—For the purpose of protecting sea-otters and seals the Government may establish, by Imperial Ordinances, hunting limits and hunting periods, may enforce restrictions with regard to ships and implements used in hunting, and modes of hunting, and may interdict the capture of the animals according to their ages.

Art. III.—The Commanders of men-of-war, police officials, custom house officials, and other officials, acting under special instructions from the Government and in accordance with the provisions of Imperial Ordinance, will carry out the inspection of ships and implements used in hunting sea otters and seals, and of the game captured, and may arrest any one that infringes the laws relating to hunting, seizing the ships, the gear, the hunting implements, the ship's papers, and the game caught.

Art. IV.—Any one that captures sea-otters or seals within hunting limits and hunting periods, shall be liable to major confinement for the period of not less than one month and not more than one year, or to a penalty of not less than 20 *yen* and not more than 200 *yen*, as well as to confiscation of the ship's gear and hunting implements employed, without respect of ownership, and the game captured.

Art. V.—Any one that infringes restrictions relating to ships used for hunting; to implements, or to modes of hunting; or that violates the interdiction relating to the capture of sea-otters and seals of certain ages; or that infringes the provisions relating to inspection of hunting ships, implements, and game captured, shall be liable to major confinement for a period of not less than 11 days and not more than one month; or to a fine of not less than 2 *yen* and not more than 50 *yen*.

Art. VI.—Any one that, without obtaining the license mentioned in Art. I., captures sea-otters or seals, shall be liable to a fine of not less than 2 *yen* and not more than 50 *yen*, together with confiscation of the game captured.

Art. VII.—In case the game to be confiscated in accordance with the provisions of Arts. IV. or VI. has been already sold, the price shall be collected.

Art. VIII.—The present Law shall be put into force on and after January 1st of the 29th year of *Meiji* (1896).

Notification No. XVI., issued in the 17th year of *Meiji* (1884), and Imperial Ordinance No. LXXX., issued in the 19th year of *Meiji* (1886), shall be amended from the day on which the present Law shall be put into operation.

Mr. Mitsukuri Rinsho, on behalf of the Special Committee, reported in favour of the Bill for reducing the allowances to witnesses in criminal cases, leaving those to experts and medical men untouched. The Committee considered the reform most proper, and had obtained an assurance from the Government Delegate that it should be extended to witnesses in civil cases also.

The House voted for the Second Reading, and passed the Bill through all its Readings.

Count Ogasawa, on behalf of the Special Committee, reported in favour of the Bill for amending the Second-hand Articles Dealers Regulations. The proposed changes were in the sense of removing needless restrictions and facilitating business, and were especially commendable on account of the provisions for preventing the spread of contagious diseases.

After some questions the House voted for the Second Reading of the Bill, and rose at 12.20 p.m.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The House met at 1.15 p.m., the Order of the Day being :—

1.—Bill for amending the Railway Construction Law.
2.—Bill for amending the Railway Construction Law.
3.—Bill relating to the Prevention of Contagious Diseases.
4.—Bill (Third Reading) relating to Medical Diplomas.
5.—Bill (Second Reading) for establishing Silk Conditioning Warehouses.
6.—Representation relating to the Collection of Materials for History.
7.—Bill for amending the Law Court Organization Law.
8.—Bill for preventing the importation of Diseased Foreign Cattle.

Mr. Koizuka Ryo presented a Question asking for full information as to the points in which the credentials of the Chinese Envoys were found defective. In the Special Session of the Diet convened in Hiroshima, it had been urged upon the Minister President that greater frankness should be shown toward the Diet in matters relating to foreign affairs, and since then the Government's system had sensibly improved, there being now a plain desire to consult with the House in respect of such affairs, as witness the statement submitted two days ago about the failure of the Peace Embassy. He trusted that the Government would go a step farther, and explain clearly in what respects the credentials of the Envoys had been insufficient.

The first two Bills, providing for changes in the routes of two lines of railway included in the First Construction Period, were passed without objection.

Mr. Tsunematsu Ryukei, on behalf of the Special Committee, reported in favour of the second Bill, which provided that, in the event of a serious epidemic the business of duly dealing with which exceeded the resources of the Prefecture where it prevailed, the Prefect should be competent to apply for a grant in aid from the Treasury, and the Minister of State for Home Affairs should be competent to make the grant. Last year the number of cases of dysentery throughout the empire had been 154,327, and that fact alone showed that preventive measures were not efficient.

Mr. Nakamura Kokusho considered that the Bill went too far in providing that whenever an epidemic occurred the locality should be entitled to receive one-third of the cost of preventive measures from the Treasury. He thought that such a system would defeat the end in view.

In answer to a question, Mr. Matsuoka, Government Delegate, declared that the Government neglected no resource of modern medical science to prevent the spread of epidemics, especially dysentery.

Mr. Horikoshi alleged that the marked spread of dysentery constituted a proof of the Government's defective methods. He should support the Bill.

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The House refused to carry the Bill to a Second Reading.

Mr. Kokure Budayu trusted that the Bill relating to Medical Diplomas would be thrown out at its Third Reading. He thought that the House would bring itself in well merited ridicule did it, at this stage of the country's progress, vote to rehabilitate the obsolete system of Chinese medicine, and to place its practitioners on the same level as experts trained in the teaching of modern science.

Mr. Mori Baku thought that the country had recovered its *sangfroid*, and that a thing was no longer condemned merely because it was old. People ventured now-a-days to direct their selections by merit, not merely by the test of modern and ancient. The Chinese system of medicine had conferred great benefits on the nation for centuries past. In his own prefecture (Oita) there were many that preferred it to the Western system and found its remedies more beneficial.

An open ballot was taken, when 105 voted against, and 76 for, the Third Reading of the Bill.

The Bill for establishing Silk-conditioning Warehouses in Yokohama and Kobe was then passed through its Second and Third Reading without debate or dissent.

Mr. Hirose Sadabumi, on behalf of the Special Committee, reported in favour of the Representation relating to Historical Materials, but said that the Committee, while fully appreciating the importance of amassing good materials for a history of an era so eventful as the present, considered that an annual grant of 30,000 *yen*, instead of 40,000, would suffice.

The House voted for the Representation as amended.

Mr. Hayashi, Vice-Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, informed the House that he had been instructed by the Imperial Peace Plenipotentiaries, Count Ito and Viscount Mutsu, to lay before the House a statement with respect to the negotiations that took place at Hiroshima.

(Translation.)

Viscount Mutsu Munemitsu, Junii, First Class of the Imperial Order of the Sacred Treasure, His Imperial Majesty's Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, has the honour to announce to Their Excellencies the Plenipotentiaries of His Majesty the Emperor of China, that His Majesty the Emperor of Japan has appointed His Excellency Count Ito Hirobumi, Junii, Grand Cross of the Imperial Order of Paullownia, His Imperial Majesty's Minister President of State, and the undersigned as His Plenipotentiaries to conclude with the duly authorized Plenipotentiaries of China, Preliminaries of Peace, and has confided to them Full Powers for that purpose.

(L. S.) Viscount Mutsu Munemitsu.
H.I.M.'s Minister of State for Foreign Affairs.

Hiroshima, the 31st day of the 1st month of the 28th year of *Meiji*.

(Translation.)

The undersigned, His Imperial Majesty's Plenipotentiaries, have the honour to acquaint Their Excellencies the Plenipotentiaries of His Majesty the Emperor of China, that the meeting of the Plenipotentiaries of the two Powers is appointed to take place at the Hiroshima Kencho, on the 1st day of the 2nd month of the 28th year of Meiji, at 11 o'clock A.M.

The undersigned will on that occasion be prepared to make with the Chinese Plenipotentiaries a reciprocal exchange of Full Powers.

Count Ito Hirobumi,
Viscount Mutsu Munemitsu,
H.I.M.'s Plenipotentiaries.

Hiroshima, the 31st day of the 1st month of the 28th year of Meiji.

The 6th day of the 1st moon, the 21st year of Kwang-Su.

Their Excellencies, Count Ito and Viscount Mutsu, Plenipotentiaries of His Majesty the Emperor of Japan.

We have the honour to inform Your Excellencies that in obedience to the command of His Majesty the Emperor of China we proceeded to Japan with the Imperial letter and arrived at Hiroshima on the 6th day of the 1st moon of the 21st year of Kuang-Su.

We beg to acknowledge the receipt of Your Excellencies' note to the effect that you have been especially appointed by His Majesty the Emperor of Japan to be Plenipotentiaries for the purpose of concluding with us Preliminaries of Peace, and to express high appreciation of the fact that Japan has not forgotten her old friendship.

We were about to request Your Excellencies to meet us by by asking you to appoint the time of such meeting when we had again the honour to receive your note communicating to us that the meeting will be opened at the Hiroshima Kencho at 11 o'clock on the 1st day of the 2nd month.

We beg in reply to say that we will, in compliance with your desire, attend the meeting at the appointed day and hour.

We have the honour to convey to Your Excellencies the assurance of our highest consideration.

Chang In Hoon,
Holding the Rank of President of a Board, Minister of the Tsung-li Yamên, and Junior Vice-President of the Board of Revenue.

Shao Yu Lien,
An Officer of the Button of the 1st Rank and Acting Governor of Hunan,
Plenipotentiaries of His Majesty the Emperor of China.

(Translation.)

Mutsuhito, by the Grace of Heaven, Emperor of Japan and seated on the Throne occupied by the same Dynasty from time immemorial.

To all to whom these Presents shall come, Greeting!

With a view to the restoration of peace between Our Empire and that of China in order to maintain the peace of the Orient:

We, reposing special trust and confidence in Count Ito Hirobumi, Junii, Grand Cross of the Imperial Order of Paullownia, Our Minister President of State, and Viscount Mutsu Munemitsu, Junii, First Class of the Imperial Order of the Sacred Treasure, Our Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, and having full knowledge of their wisdom and ability, do hereby name them as Our Plenipotentiaries.

We have given to Our Plenipotentiaries Full Powers to meet and treat, either separately or conjointly, with the Plenipotentiaries of China, and to conclude and sign Preliminaries of Peace.

We shall examine all stipulations which Our said Plenipotentiaries may agree upon and, finding such stipulations proper and in good and due form, We shall ratify them.

In witness whereof, We have hereunto set Our signature and caused the Great Seal of the Empire to be affixed.

Done at Hiroshima, this thirty-first day of the month of the twenty eighth year of Meiji, corresponding to the two thousand five hundred and fifty-fifth year from the Coronation of the Emperor Jimmu.

(Seal of the Empire) (Sign Manual.)
(Countersigned) Count Ito Hirobumi,
Minister President of State.

(Translation.)

Memorandum.

His Imperial Majesty's Plenipotentiaries have the honour to announce that the Full Powers which they have just communicated to the Plenipotentiaries of His Majesty the Emperor of China, embody all the authority which His Majesty the Emperor of Japan has confided to them in connection with the negotiation and conclusion of peace.

In order to avoid as far as possible any future misunderstanding, the Japanese Plenipotentiaries desire reciprocally to be categorically informed in writing, whether the Full Powers which have been communicated to them by the Chinese Plenipotentiaries, but which they have not as yet examined, embody all the authority confided by His Majesty the Emperor of China to the Chinese Plenipotentiaries in connection with the negotiation and conclusion of peace.

Hiroshima, the 1st day of the 2nd month of the 28th year of Meiji.

(English translation accompanied by the Chinese original.)

To the Plenipotentiaries of His Majesty the Emperor of Japan.

We have the honour to state that you handed to us on the 7th day of the 1st moon of the 21st year of Kuang-su, your Commission from your Imperial Majesty, and at the same time a Memorandum in which you ask of us a written reply respecting our Full Powers.

We beg to state in reply that our Commissions, handed to you at the same time in exchange, embody Full Powers given by our Imperial Majesty for the negotiation and conclusion of peace, with authority to conclude articles to that end and to sign them. In order to insure the more prompt execution of the treaty we may agree upon, we shall submit the terms for Imperial sanction, and fix the date for signature; after which the same shall be taken to China for examination by His Imperial Chinese Majesty, and being found proper and in good and due form, will be ratified.

8th day of the 1st moon of the 21st year of Kuang su.

(As translated by the Japanese Government.)

By Decree We do appoint (Chang In Hoon, holding the Rank of President of a Board, Minister of the Tsung-li-Yamên and Junior Vice-President of the Board of Revenue, and Shao Yu Lien, an Officer of the Button of the First Rank, and Acting Governor of Hunan), as Our Plenipotentiaries to meet and negotiate the matter with the Plenipotentiaries appointed by Japan.

You will, however, telegraph to the Tsung-li Yamên for the purpose of obtaining Our commands by which you will abide.

The members of your mission are placed under your control.

You will carry out your mission in a faithful and diligent manner and will fulfil the trust We have reposed in you.

Respect this!

Seal of Imperial Command. (The date.)

Speech Addressed by His Excellency Count Ito, to Their Excellencies Chang In Hoon and Shao Yu Lien, at the Conference of the 2nd February, 1895.

The measure which my colleague and myself find it necessary at this moment to adopt, is the logical and inevitable result of a situation for which we are in no wise responsible.

China has hitherto held herself almost entirely aloof from other Powers, and while she has in some instances enjoyed the advantages accruing to her as a member of the family of nations, she has perhaps more frequently denied the responsibilities of that relation. She has pursued a policy of isolation and distrust and consequently her external relations have not been characterized by that frankness and good faith which are essential to good neighbourhood.

Instances are not wanting in which Chinese Commissioners, after having formally agreed to international compacts, have refused to affix their seals, and cases might be cited in which treaties solemnly concluded have been unceremoniously and without apparent reason, repudiated.

Those unfortunate occurrences find a sufficient explanation in the fact that China was not on those occasions seriously in earnest, but beyond that it might be said with truth that the officials who were designated to carry on negotiations had not been clothed with the necessary authority for the purpose.

It has from the first been the wish of Japan to avoid results which history teaches her are liable to be the outcome of negotiations with Chinese officials who are not clothed with full powers in the sense in which that term is usually understood. Consequently the Imperial Government made it a condition precedent to any peace negotiations, that the Chinese Plenipotentiaries should be furnished with full powers to conclude peace, and it was only upon receiving positive assurance from the Chinese Government that that condition precedent had been complied with and that the Chinese Plenipotentiaries were on their way to Japan, that His Majesty the Emperor of Japan conferred upon my colleague and myself full powers to conclude and sign Preliminaries of Peace with the Plenipotentiaries of China.

That Your Excellencies' powers are, notwithstanding that assurance, fatally defective is to me a sure indication that the Government of China is not yet really solicitous for peace.

Criticism is nearly exhausted by a simple comparison of the two Instruments which were reciprocally exchanged at this board yesterday, but it is not out of place to point out that one fulfils the definition which is usually given among civilized States to the term Full Powers, while the other is destitute of nearly all those qualities which are regarded as essential to such powers; it even fails to indicate the subject upon which Your Excellencies are to negotiate; it does not authorize Your Excellencies to conclude or sign anything; it is silent on the subject of the subsequent Imperial ratification of Your Excellencies' Acts. In short, it would seem that the authority which has been conferred upon Your Excellencies would be completely fulfilled by your reporting to your Government what my colleague and myself might have to say.

In this situation it would be impossible for us to continue negotiations.

It may be urged that usage has not been entirely ignored in this instance. I cannot admit the sufficiency of such an explanation. I disclaim any right to interfere with the purely domestic customs of China, but I deem it not only my right but my duty to insist that in international concerns affecting my own country, the peculiar methods of

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China shall yield to the superior rules of international intercourse.

The restoration of peace is a matter of the greatest importance. To bring about a re-establishment of amicable relations it is not only necessary that Treaties with that object in view should be signed, but it is imperative that the engagements should be fulfilled in *good* faith.

While Japan has found no reason to approach China on the subject of peace, she nevertheless feels bound in deference to that civilization which she represents, to listen to any *bona fide* overtures which China may advance, but she will decline to take part in the future in any fruitless negotiations or to become a party to a paper peace. The terms which Japan agrees to will be scrupulously observed by her and she will at the same time insist upon a like observance of the terms by China.

Whenever, therefore, China finds herself seriously and sincerely desirous of peace and will confide actual full powers to Chinese officials whose names and positions will serve as an assurance that the terms which they may agree to will be confirmed and carried out in good faith, Japan will be prepared to enter upon new negotiations.

(Translation)

MEMORANDUM.

The Imperial Government repeatedly declared through the United States Representatives at Tokyo and Pekin, that the appointment of Plenipotentiaries with Full Powers to conclude peace was an indispensable pre-requisite to negotiations on the subject of peace.

His Imperial Majesty's Plenipotentiaries, however, find that the authorization which Their Excellencies the Plenipotentiaries of His Majesty the Emperor of China communicated to them on the 1st instant, is wholly inadequate for the purpose for which it is claimed it was issued. It lacks nearly all the essential attributes of Full Powers as usually understood.

The Imperial Government have not receded from the position which they announced to the Representatives of the United States that they had taken on the subject of Full Powers, and the Imperial Japanese Plenipotentiaries, having been entrusted by His Majesty the Emperor of Japan with actual, proper, and complete Full Powers, cannot consent to treat with Plenipotentiaries of His Majesty the Emperor of China who are only authorized to discuss matters, to report to the Tsungli Yamên, and to obtain subsequent commands of the Throne by which they are to be guided.

Under these circumstances, it only remains for Plenipotentiaries of His Majesty the Emperor of the Japan, to declare the present negotiation at an end.

Hiroshima, the 2nd day of the 2nd month of the 28th year *Meiji*.

The Bill for amending the Law Court Organization Law was introduced by Mr. Moriya Konosuke, and opposed by H.E. Mr. Yoshikawa, Minister of State for Justice, on the ground that its provisions encroached unduly on the competence of the Executive.

The House refused to hand the Bill to a Special Committee, and voted against its Second Reading.

Mr. Mori Baku introduced the Bill for preventing the Importation of Diseased Cattle from abroad. He alluded to the terrible ravages that had been caused among Japanese cattle by the plague brought from Korea. The Bill simply provided that, in case of necessity, the Executive should have power to interdict the landing of all beasts coming from infected regions.

The Bill was entrusted to a Special Committee.

The House rose at 4.50 p.m.

WAR NEWS.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 2ND.

There can no longer be any doubt that the attack on Weihaiwei commenced on the 30th ultimo. We are in receipt of two official Japanese telegrams relating to the events of that day. In order that our readers may understand them, it is necessary to premise that the bay forming Weihaiwei harbour has its sea-ward forts at three places, namely on the island of Liukung, at the mouth of the bay, at Weihaiwei, on the west (*i.e.* opposite the western entrance), and at Pohchihyaisu, on the east. The Japanese forces marched from the east against the place, and consequently had to assault the Pohchiyaisu forts first. The Chinese forces appear to have formed their line of outposts on the hills to the eastward and southward of Pohchihyaisu, their chief strength being massed on an eminence to the south-east of that place, so as to cover the inland road from Yungcheng, and at Kushanheu, so as to cover the coast road. We are not now speaking from certain knowledge, but merely from deductions based on the meagre details furnished by the telegraphic account.

We explained in a previous issue that the Kumamoto Brigade had been directed to march from Yungcheng by the coast road, and the Second Division by the inland road. At 2 a.m. on the 30th ultimo the Kumamoto Brigade moved to the attack, and by 9.30 it had driven back the enemy's line of defence and reached Kushanheu, being thus in a position to proceed to the assault of the Pohchihyaisu fort. Meanwhile, the fleet had been bombarding the latter from daylight. The Kumamoto men appear to have pushed on rapidly from Kushanheu, and stormed the Pohchihyaisu fort, for at 12.30 p.m. it was in their possession, and they signalled the fact to the fleet and the main body of the army. The enemy's ships, now lying inside the island of Liukung, kept up a vigorous commonade against the Japanese forces and vessels, in which they were aided by all the remaining forts. As for the Second Division, advancing by the inland road, it came into action at 6 a.m. against the enemy's positions on the hills to the south-west of Pohchihyaisu, and gradually forcing its way northward, gained possession, at nightfall, of the high lands immediately on the east and south of Fangliutsi, where it bivouacked for the night, the Kumamoto Brigade encamping at Pohchihyaisu.

The above facts represent the whole of the intelligence emanating from Japanese official sources. They are embodied in two telegrams sent by Colonel Harada to Major-General Terauchi, from Lungshui Bay. Shanghai telegrams, however, affirm that the whole of the forts were taken by the Japanese on the 31st, at 4 p.m., after a fierce fight, except the fort on the island of Liukung, and as it was then the object of a combined attack from the sea and the shore, its capture was momentarily expected. The same telegram says that the vessels of the Peiyang Squadron did not attempt to manœuvre as a fleet, but confined themselves to firing a few shots in aid of the batteries on shore.

We should add that, according to the Japanese telegrams, the Japanese ships, after the capture of the fort on the east of the bay, devoted themselves to blockading the two exits, so as to imprison the Chinese ships within.

The correspondent of the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* sends to that journal the following account of the capture of Kaiping on January 10th :—

"At 5.30 a.m. on the 10th of January, the Mixed Brigade of the Second Army under the command of Major-General Nogi, advanced to the attack of Kaiping. The enemy, variously estimated at from 4,000 to 5,000 strong, under the leadership of General Chang Chantai and Su Pangtao, had taken up a position on the northern and southern banks of the Kaiping river, and our troops moved against them in three columns, a right wing, a centre, and a left wing. The Chinese opened fire first on the infantry forming our centre, the 3rd Battalion of the 1st Regiment, using rifles and artillery, our troops replying vigorously, under the direction of Major Iwamura, who was in command of the Battalion. The right wing, under Colonel Oki, came next into action. The Colonel, perceiving that some 2,000 of the enemy, infantry and cavalry, had occupied a strong position on Fenghwan Hill, thirteen or fourteen hundred mètres to the east of Kaiping, made up his mind at once that the place must be taken, and gave orders in that sense to Major Takenaka, who commanded the 1st Battalion. It was then 7.50 a.m. The engagement had become general, and the air was full of the din of cannon and small-arms, but our troops retained their intrepid bearing unchanged. Pushing on over the bodies of their comrades falling on all sides, the men of the 1st Battalion stormed Fenghwan Hill, and took possession of it. Seeing the key of their position in our hands, the enemy's right wing began to waver. Thereupon Colonel Oki ordered Major Kagawa, at the head of the 2nd Battalion, to cross the Kaiping river, at the same time placing himself at the head of two companies of the reserves, and charging the enemy's left wing, which retreated in a westerly direction. Just then the 1st Battalion, descending from Fenghwan Hill, which it had stormed, assumed a position close to the enemy's line of retreat, and opened such a hot fire that in a very brief interval more than a hundred Chinese corpses lay upon the snow. Colonel Oki's companies, following up their advantage, pushed on and finally reached the southern gate of Kaiping, where they cut right into the flying Chinese, and broke them in two, one body running westward, the other northward, outside the town. Ensign Ogawa, carrying the colours of the First Regiment, rushed through a hail of bullets, and though wounded in his left foot and seeing two of the colours' guard fall by his side, mounted the south-eastern corner of the walls, and planted the flag of the Rising Sun there. It was then 8.50 a.m. An accident that might have had very serious results occurred at this stage. Colonel Oki and his men had charged so rapidly on the heels of the flying Chinese, and had become so entangled with them at the gate, that the Japanese artillery, mistaking them for the enemy, opened fire on them. Happily the blunder was discovered before any casualties resulted. About this time, a strong force of the enemy advanced against the front of our left wing by the Yingkow high road, and forced our men back. But Major-General Nogi rode forward with his staff and encouraged the troops to resume the offensive, which they did with a rush that carried them to the bank of the river. It was covered with ice, the surface of which being full of inequalities—produced by the Chinese who from ancient times have adopted that method of utilizing rivers in winter as military obstacles—the men's progress was slow and painful, numbers of them stumbling and falling time after time. During this interval the Chinese, who placed great faith in the river, kept up a hot fire on their assailants. But our men were not to be checked. They charged on, carrying everything before them, and sweeping the enemy from their path, entered Kaiping, amid loud shouts of *Banzai*. The struggle had lasted a little over three hours, namely, from 6 a.m. until 9.40."

It seems beyond question that a considerable army is gradually being massed to oppose any advance of the Japanese along the coast road from Kaiping towards China. Major-General Nogi telegraphs from that town, *vid* Chinchow, under date of the 30th ultimo, that there are at least 20,000 men assembled in the neighbourhood of Yingkow. Nogi's scouts bring intelligence that the Chinese have pushed to Laoyemiao, and are gradually moving southward of that place. The people of the locality say that General Su Pangtao has arrived at Yingkow.

Laoyemiao, spoken of in the above telegram, is a hamlet 10 miles east of Yingkow. The movement of the Chinese forces in that direction seems designed to cut the communication between Nogi in Kaiping and Katsura in Haicheng.

On the other hand, the telegram says that up the 23rd ultimo no signs of the enemy's presence were observable to the east or west of Haicheng, as far as Yentai, Changhutai, and Pochipao, and that all was quiet at Fenghwan. We do not understand why a telegram sent from Chinchow on the 31st ultimo should give no later news of Haicheng and Fenghwan than the 24th, while speaking of the state of affairs at Kaiping on the 30th. There seems to be some error of dates.

Another telegram from the Head-quarters of the First Division (Chinchow), dated 10.30 a.m. on the 1st instant, says :—"According to a report from the Chief of the Staff in Kaiping, a trustworthy Chinaman states that the enemy have 8 field-guns at Kouchiayingfang, 2 at Changpingtien, and 18 at Pomiaotai." Inter-

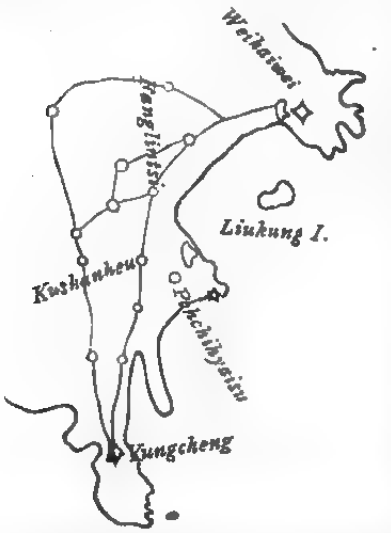
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preted into simple language, that means that the Chinese forces massed on the north and east of Yingkow have 28 field-guns. The same telegram goes on to say:—"About 10,000 Shantung troops under the command of Sung, arrived at Yingkow on the 30th of December."

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 4TH.

The state of affairs at Weihaiwei ought to be fully known by this time, but owing to uncertainty resulting from a mixture of Japanese official intelligence and Shanghai telegrams, the public is probably perplexed. At this moment of writing (Sunday night) we have no news of later date than January 31st. Perhaps the simplest method of laying the facts before our readers will be to follow briefly the movements of the troops during the 30th and 31st, and to explain the dispositions for defence at Weihaiwei.

Here is a sketch that will help the explanation:—



It will be observed that two roads lead from Yungcheng to Weihaiwei, and that the chief defences of the harbour lie on the east and west. The island of Liukung and a smaller island on its east are also strongly fortified, but for the moment we confine ourselves to the defences on the mainland. To guard the approaches to the rear of the forts on the eastern side of the harbour, that is to say, the forts at Pohchihyaisu, the Chinese had posted strong forces at Kushanheu and Fanglintsi, and against these positions the Japanese troops moved on the morning of the 30th ultimo, the Kumamoto Division (Sixth) marching by the coast road, with Kushanheu for objective, and the Sendai Division (Second) marching by the inland road toward Fanglintsi. The common purpose of both Divisions was to sweep the enemy from the rear of Pohchihyaisu, and to attack the coast-defence forts there. We know nothing as to the strength of the Chinese massed at Fanglintsi and Kushanheu. We only know that they occupied elevated ground with excellent facilities for defence. Simultaneously with the attack by the Japanese troops on these two positions, the fleet bombarded the forts at Pohchihyaisu. These forts were four in number. Numbering them from east to west, their armaments were as follow:—No. 1 fort, one 24-cent. and three 15 cent. guns; No. 2 fort, four 24-cent. guns; No. 3 fort, two 28-cent. guns; No. 4 fort, two 13 cent. guns. We have no details as to how the engagement progressed, but it is certain that by 3 p.m. on the 30th these four forts, as well as the positions at Kushanheu and Fanglintsi were in Japanese possession. Apparently their guns were left uninjured by the Chinese, for a force of marines, landing from the Japanese ships, turned the guns on the vessels of the Peiyang Squadron, and on the island fortifications. With regard to the latter, the islands are Liukung, shown on the above sketch and Zhih, a little island between Liukung and the Pohchihyaisu headland. On the island of Zhih [illegible] mounting two 12-cent. quick-firing guns and two 26 centimeters, and on Liukung are three forts mounting, altogether, four 24-cent. guns and three 26-centimetres. As soon as the forts at Pohchihyaisu fell into Japanese possession, and their guns were trained on the ships lying behind Liukung Island, the vessels withdrew as far as possible out of range, placing themselves, doubtless, under the guns of the forts on the west side, where they would be comparatively safe from the Pohchihyaisu forts. It does not appear that the Peiyang Squadron attempted to manœuvre as a fleet. It confined itself to assisting in the defence of the forts. On the 31st a violent snow storm occurred, rendering operations at sea impossible, and doubtless the troops also were unable to continue the attack.

The above represents the sum of our knowledge up to midnight on the 3rd. Rumours, however, are numerous. One statement, not unlikely to be true, inasmuch as it accords with the previously arranged plan of attack, is that a force of blue-jackets and marines landed from the ships during the 1st instant on Liukung Island and stormed the forts there, after which the fort on Zhih Island also was taken. It then became possible to remove the obstructions at the eastern entrance to the harbour, so that the Japanese ships and torpedo-boats could steam in. Another statement, which we fear is true, says that Major-General Oera, of the Kumamoto Division, is very severely wounded. From Shanghai we have no intelligence as to the fate of the Peiyang Squadron or the remaining forts, but a story is circulated that two Japanese torpedo-boats have been sunk, and that one of the Japanese cruisers is badly injured. The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* publishes a telegram from Hiroshima giving the purport of a statement made by the officers of a ship that arrived there on the night of the 2nd. They said that after the capture of the eastern forts the reduction of the rest would be an easy business. For the moment we have only to await the receipt of further official intelligence from Admiral Ito or Marshal Oyama.

The telegraph in Korea seems to be still interrupted, for all Japanese news from Weihaiwei is coming via Chemulpho.

It is stated that certain foreign merchants—Messrs. McClure, Schnell, and Hachmann—have proceeded to Chili commissioned to buy men-of-war for the Chinese Government. The six-per-cent. loan of 3 millions sterling, just put out on the London market by the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank for China (at 93¾) is supposed to be for the purchase of vessels.

In the *Nippon* we find a telegram to the effect that the Viceroy Li, determined to defend Weihaiwei at all cost, has despatched thither 15,000 troops, drilled in Western style, under the command of a German officer, and that they were to arrive there in the beginning of this month.

From Kaiping and Haicheng comes news that the Chinese troops in and about Newchwang were said to have received, from Shanhaikwan and Chinchow, reinforcements aggregating 25 regiments—some ten or twelve thousand—and that a general attack on the Japanese positions was to be made about the 4th instant.

The official report of the attack made upon Tangchow for the purpose of diverting the attention of the Chinese forces from the place where the expeditionary force was to land for the attack on Weihaiwei, is as follows:—"Commander Sameshima, under date of January 20th, reports:—Our squadron, together with the *Yoshino*, *Akitsushima*, and *Naniwa* of the First Flying Squadron, left Talien Bay on the 18th instant, as instructed. The wind was blowing fresh from the N.W., and snow began to fall, increasing in thickness from noon and obstructing our view so greatly that by 1 p.m. the ships could scarcely discover one another. At 1.30 p.m. the weather cleared slightly, and the signal was given to anchor off Changshan island, the snow being too thick to permit us to make out our objective point at Tangchow. By 2.40 p.m. it had entirely cleared up, and the order was given to steam for Tangchow without anchoring. At 3.20 p.m. we passed that place, going from East to West, and observed several barracks outside the eastern gate and 2 guns mounted in a fort on the promontory. Our ships being sighted, two red flags with white discs were hoisted at the barracks, and subsequently a red flag was run up at the promontory. Men and horses were seen busily moving on the east outside the eastern gate, and reports of small arms were heard. At 3.45 p.m. we turned east, and the signal to open fire was given. We fired at the fort for about 20 minutes, first using blank cartridge, and then shell. During that time the fort did not reply, but a battery of field-guns, about 8 in number, fired at us from the shore outside the eastern gate. Among them there seemed to be a piece of 12-centimetres, for its shells alone came near us, all the rest falling short. We replied, and our shells took effect. A fire was seen to have been started in the town. At 4.40 p.m. we steamed toward Shechi island and anchored there for the night, signs of snow being observed to windward. In the morning, Tangchow and its neighbourhood being obscured by snow, we remained at anchor until 10 a.m., when the weather having cleared slightly, we steamed toward Tangchow, arriving off the place at 1 p.m. We observed a much greater display of warlike preparations than on the preceding day. At 1.15 p.m. the signal to open fire was run up. We again bombarded the fort, first with blank ammunition and then with shell. A foreigner came out in a Chinese boat flying a white flag over American colours, and, approaching the squadron, watched the bombardment. The enemy replied from the batteries both on the promontory and at the eastern gate. The shells from the promontory fell close to us. There were now about 20 guns in the battery before the eastern gate. We steamed to and fro, firing until 3 p.m., when the signal "cease firing" was run up, and we steered for Shantung promontory, joining the main squadron there at 6 a.m. on the 20th.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 5TH.

We remain (1 a.m., 5th) without definite news as to the fate of the forts and ships of Weihaiwei, but it is now known that from the 31st ultimo until the afternoon of February 2nd the snow-storm was so violent that all military and naval operations had to be suspended. Admiral Ito's report, received in Hiroshima at 3 p.m. on the 4th instant, says:—"The three forts on the east of the Bay were taken on the forenoon of the 30th ultimo. Thereupon a force was landed from the Navy, and it being found that the guns and all the equipment of the captured forts were complete, the fortifications on Zhih island and the enemy's ships were bombarded from them. The enemy's forts and vessels replied, killing 3 of our men. We tried a few of the torpedoes laid in the harbour. They all failed to explode. We thus cut the connections of all the others, but our ships were still kept outside the port. A high wind was blowing, and from noon heavy snow began to fall. The cold was intense. The guns were covered with ice, their mouths frozen solid. This weather lasted throughout the 31st ultimo, and on the 1st instant the cold was still more intense, the shore also being completely obscured so that naval movements were impossible. The First Flying Squadron was, therefore, left to guard the Harbour, the other ships returning to Yungcheng Bay. The sea was still so high that it was impossible to communicate with the land. The ships were kept in readiness to move so soon as the weather should permit. British, French, German, and Italian ships were observing our movements."

To supplement the above we have only rumours. It appears trustworthy, however, that the weather cleared at noon on the 2nd and that operations were then resumed. It is stated that one of the transports leaving Yungcheng for Port Arthur, passed close to Weihaiwei on the morning of the 3rd, and saw the Japanese Squadron off the place near the eastern forts. She further observed that all the land forts

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were firing at the Chinese fleet, and that the latter was returning the fire. If that statement may be taken literally, it would follow that by the morning of the 3rd instant, the Japanese had obtained complete possession of the land forts. We understand that from Shanghai news in that sense has been received: namely, that the western forts were captured on the 2nd instant. Another report from the same place says that the Peiyang Squadron attempted to retake the eastern forts but failed. It would appear, therefore, that the Chinese ships are behaving well, but we can not place any great reliance on accounts coming *vid* Shanghai.

Intelligence from Chefoo is to the effect that General Li of Shantung has collected a force of 18,000 foot, 3,000 horse, and 16 guns, and has set out from Fushan to relieve Weihaiwei. It is further alleged that the Viceroy Li's troops, under General Chiu, have crossed the Yellow River at Wuling, and are marching for Chefoo *vid* Tingchow to join the Shantung army, while a body of 6,000 men under General Chang, *en route* for Tientsin from Nanking, were stopped and ordered to proceed to Weihaiwei. Apart from unforeseen contingencies, it was expected that these three armies would join forces in the vicinity of Weihaiwei on the 9th instant. How far this news is credible we do not pretend to say, but our readers will remember a previous telegram attributing to the Viceroy Li the intention of defending Weihaiwei at all hazards.

Another budget of intelligence from Chefoo is to the effect that the *Cheng-yuen* showed herself none the worse for her accident, and that she fired 115 rounds from her big guns on the 1st instant without the slightest leakage ensuing. We should be more ready to believe that assertion were we told what the big ship fired at, for inasmuch as Admiral Ito's report shows that throughout the 1st everything at Weihaiwei was completely obscured by the snow-storm, it would appear that the iron-clad must have been discharging her ordnance at random. It is added, however, that when the proper moment arrived, the *Cheng-yuen* would be able to go out with her consorts and fight in the open.

According to Chinese reports, the loss on their side, both ashore and afloat, in the encounters up to the 3rd instant had been 69 wounded, the foreigners and officers of the Army and Navy being untouched. It would seem that either the veracity or the courage of the Chinese must be very defective.

The latest news is that the *North China Daily News* issued, on February 4th, an express saying:—"Chefoo, 3rd February 7 p.m. All the forts on the main land have been lost and the guns destroyed. The Japanese fleet bombarded Liukung Island to-day, and it is believed that the gale at the time wrecked some torpedo-boats."

Official news from Japanese sources must soon be forthcoming. Pending its receipt, we place credence in nothing.

The *Yomiuri Shimbun* quotes a rumour, said to prevail generally, that, at the attack on the eastern forts of Weihaiwei, Major-General Otera met the fate of General Wolfe.

The *Jiji Shimpo* says that, apart from the eastern forts captured on the 30th ultimo, there are 55 guns mounted at Weihaiwei, varying in size from 12-centimetres to 28-centimetres, the majority being 24-centimetres.

According to the same journal, the original estimate of the military authorities was that the operations against Weihaiwei would occupy 10 days from the beginning of the fight, but things having moved more quickly than was expected, the complete capture will be effected at an earlier date.

A telegram from the Staff of the Third Division (at Haicheng), dated the 2nd instant, and published by the *Nichi Nichi*, says that, according to intelligence obtained from Chinese sources, there are 4,000 or 5,000 fugitive troops from Port Arthur in Newchwang, over 300 of them having recently arrived there. The telegram adds that Liu Kun-yi, at the head of 50,000 men of Hunan and Hupeh is *en route* for Newchwang; that 20,000 of his braves had already passed Shanhaikwan, and that 30 steel guns had arrived at Newchwang.

Wednesday, February 6th.

Official news of the capture of the remaining forts at Weihaiwei was received in Tokyo yesterday evening. It appears that the snow storm lasted from the afternoon or evening of the 30th ultimo until the night of the 2nd, rendering all operations on sea and on shore impossible. At 2 a.m. on the 2nd instant two Battalions of the Second Division moved against the forts on the west of the Bay and found them deserted, their defenders having fled during the 31st ultimo and the 1st inst. The fortifications on the land side and on the shore were therefore occupied by the Japanese without opposition. To the Fourth and Seventh Regiments the duty of guarding these forts was assigned, those on the east being garrisoned by a smaller force. Marshal Oyama's telegram, despatched at 10 a.m. on the 2nd, adds that about 8 large ships of the enemy's were between Liukung Island and Weihaiwei, the remainder of his vessels being scattered throughout the harbour, and that the Chinese, before effecting their escape, had burned all the cargo boats near the shore. A second telegram from Colonel Harada, despatched apparently on the evening of the 2nd, confirms the above, and supplements it by saying that the Japanese Squadrons, manœuvering on the east and north of Liukung Island, engaged the Chinese Squadron until night-fall, and that the fight was then in progress.

It appears from the above that the defence of the land forts at Weihaiwei was an even greater fiasco than that at Port Arthur. The casualties among the troops on the first day were only 2 officers, 20 non-commissioned officers, and 128 rank and file, wounded. The number of killed is not given, but it is added that four of the wounded died afterwards. Seeing that the westward forts offered no resistance to capture, we shall be justified in concluding that the loss of life on the Japanese side was very small.

But what has become of the Chinese fleet? On the evening of the 2nd it was still fighting. Neither the Field Marshal nor Colonel Harada says anything of bombarding the ships from the shore batteries. In the case of the eastern forts that may probably be attributed to the distance. From the forts to Liukung Island the distance is eight thousand to ten thousand metres, and the ships were doubtless able to keep at very long range.

A telegram despatched from the head-quarters of the First Division at 11.40 p.m. on the 1st instant, says that the Chinese have 11 regiments in Newchwang, 70 at Shanhaikwan, 30 in Chinchow, 30 at Shwangtaitsz, 5 at Wanghaitien, 10 at Tienchwangtai, 12 between Shiitsz, Shwangtsing, and Paochiasatsz, and over 10,000 men at Yingkow. It was expected that the enemy would move to the attack about the 10th instant.

Thursday, February 7th.

Intelligence is now anxiously awaited of the naval operations on the 3rd instant in Weihaiwei Bay. We know that after the occupation of the forts on the mainland on the forenoon of the 2nd, the Japanese fleet set itself to capture or destroy the island fortifications and the Peiyang Squadron, which, after all the rumours circulated as to its goings and comings, seems to have been lying quietly in the Bay for many weeks. The Bay of Weihaiwei is a large place. The crescent forming it measures 18 miles of coast, and the diameter from east to west is something like 6 miles. Hence there is plenty of room for the Peiyang Squadron to lie there without being fatally exposed to the fire of the forts on shore. It is possible that the Chinese destroyed or disabled the guns in the four forts on the west of the Bay, as well as those in the two forts lying at the centre of the crescent. They had plenty of time to do so, since they effected their escape in a leisurely manner during the snow-storm of the 31st ultimo and the 1st instant. On that hypothesis the only guns available for bombarding the ships and islands from the mainland would be the 20 guns mounted in the four eastern forts, namely, six 24-centimetres, four 21-centimetres, six 15 centimetres, and four 12 centimetres. The range from these forts to the islands of Liukung and Zhih is from 8,000 to 10,000 metres, a distance at which effective fire is exceedingly difficult with ordinance of such calibres. If the ships of the Peiyang Squadron lay close to the island of Liukung, or, still better under its westerly shore, there would be little chance of damaging them much from the eastern forts. On Liukung Island there are forts mounting six 24 centimetre guns, as well as a masked fort, and on Zhih Island also there is a masked fort. These places are capable of strong defence if resolutely held, but what warrant have we for supposing that the Chinese will show more obstinacy in defending them than they have shown in all previous contests? If the island forts fell into Japanese hands with their guns in serviceable condition, the fate of the Peiyang Squadron would be sealed. Up to evening and instant, however, they had not been captured. It is not likely that any scheme for their immediate attack had been elaborated. Marshal Oyama can not have expected to march into the Western forts unopposed. He doubtless allotted the whole of the 2nd instant for their reduction. The Japanese ships, however, were not idle, but it can not be supposed that they ventured to push right into the Bay without removing the obstructions, and to do that under the fire of the guns on the two islands and in the vessels—some 25 in number, large and small—forming the Peiyang Squadron, would have been a terribly hazardous operation. We are disposed to think that the programme pursued would be to bombard the island forts vigorously, and then land a force from the Navy to take them by storm. Probably that was done on the 3rd. But, after all, being within a few hours of definite news, it seems useless to conjecture. There is this to be said about the island forts that no route of escape is open to their defenders. They are completely surrounded. As for the Peiyang Squadron, it may always attempt to make a run for it. Some of the ships would be pretty sure to escape.

After the occupation of the westerly forts, the Japanese troops, according to the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, pushed their outposts westward, as far as Chiumatsan, where some force of Chinese appears to be in position.

Major Sekiya has compiled a most interesting report, showing that the Chinese tactics at Kaiping differed materially from their tactics in any previous fight. Our readers will remember that although the actual fighting at Kaiping lasted only three hours, the Japanese had 46 killed and 263 wounded, which means that nearly one man was put *hors de combat* per minute. We were much perplexed to discover the reason of such a deadly resistance, and could only conclude that the crossing of the Kaiping river in the face of the foe had proved a costly operation. Major Sekiya's report elucidates the matter. In the first place, he says, the Chinese, instead of confining themselves to fighting behind walls, moved out into the open, and assumed an advantageous position on the northern bank of the Kaiping river, which, from 50 to 70 metres wide, was completely frozen over. According to the principles of military science, the true use of an obstacle is to delay troops under fire. Hence a skilled Commander posts his forces so that they can rain a shower of bullets on the position occupied by an obstacle that must be passed by the enemy. The Chinese obeyed that principle. They deployed their forces parallel to the river on either side of the main road, a thousand metres each way, so that their firing line extended over a length of 2,000 metres, and while the Japanese were slowly moving over the frozen river, whose surface had been purposely rendered difficult of passage, the Chinese kept up a hot fire, killing and wounding many of their assailants. The Japanese, on their side moved in three bodies; 2 battalions on the right of the road; 2 with the artillery and engineers on the road itself, and 2 on the left. The enemy showed no flags. For

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the first time they dispensed with that most foolish fashion. They waited quietly for the Japanese to advance, and instead of wasting their ammunition at long ranges, reserved it until they could pour in an effective fire at four or five hundred metres. The Japanese, under these circumstances, had to deploy over a wide front, and the artillery, dividing into two parks, came into action on either side of the road. Another noteworthy point about the Chinese tactics was that they regulated their fire so as to synchronise it with the rushes of the Japanese. The latter, when advancing in the face of an enemy, move by a succession of rests and rushes, lying down when not pushing forward. Hitherto the Chinese had continued firing all the while, but at Kaiping they ceased firing when their assailants laid down, and commenced again simultaneously with the rushes. Between 7.30 and 1 o'clock the position looked bad for a moment, the enemy's right wing being unexpectedly long and compact, and their left showing a disposition to attempt a flanking movement, while, at the same time, the Japanese centre was found to be too weak. The reserves of the engineers had to be brought up, and the whole advanced, firing vigorously. At 9 30 o'clock, it was ascertained that a large force of the enemy was moving from the direction of Yingkow to re-inforce the garrison of Kaiping. It became necessary, therefore, to hasten the issue before these troops could arrive. The reserves were therefore pushed up, and the centre charged forward, followed by the two wings. The Chinese stood their ground with unusual resolution, allowing the Japanese to get within a hundred metres before they retreated, forming two columns for the purpose, one of which headed for Tashihchiao, the other for Yingkow. Major Sekiya, in conclusion, recapitulates the five points of marked difference in the tactics pursued on that occasion :—(1) that the Chinese fought in the open rather than behind walls; (2) that they used no banners; (3) that they did not waste their ammunition at long ranges; (4) that they fired when the Japanese were rushing, and not when they were resting; and (5), that they covered their retreat with a rear guard. The Chinese cavalry also behaved in an unusual manner. They halted and deployed when they saw the Japanese troopers coming in pursuit, and so soon as the latter were checked by that manœuvre, the Chinese closed in and resumed their march.

Friday, February 8th.

We are still without definite intelligence as to the fate of the island forts and the Peiyang Squadron at Weihaiwei. Yesterday evening the following telegram was received in Tokyo from Hiroshima :—

Lieut. Yamagata, telegraphing under date of the 3rd instant at 6 p.m., says :—"On the 31st ultimo the Third Torpedo Squadron attempted to attack the ships in the Bay, but was prevented by the tempestuous weather. No renewal of operations was possible until the 3rd, on the forenoon of which day the Third Flying Squadron bombarded Zhih island, the eastern forts of Liukung Island, two of the recently captured forts on the mainland joining in the attack. The enemy's forts, conjointly with the *Ting-yuen*, the *Lai yuen* and one or two gunboats obstinately resisted. The fighting was carried on until sundown by which time the fire from the Zhih forts had apparently slackened. The Japanese fleet remained outside the port prepared to meet the enemy's vessels should they come out, but they have not ventured to do so. The prisoners say that Admiral Ting issued orders to the effect that, even though the forts on the mainland were captured, Liukung Island must be held, and the ships must assist in its defence, remaining in port to the last for that purpose. To-night the torpedo fleet will attack and if possible take the forts on Zhih island.

"To-night" in the last sentence of the above telegram means, of course, the night of the 3rd instant. Up to this moment of writing (1 a.m. 8th instant) no official telegram has reached Tokyo announcing the result of the torpedo fleet's attack. But while the House of Representatives was in session, yesterday afternoon, Mr. Secretary Hayashida received a private telegram from Hiroshima saying that the *Ting-yuen* and *Chen-yuen* had been torpedoed and sunk. If such news had reached Hiroshima officially, we fail to understand why it was not at once telegraphed to the War Office and the Naval Department in Tokyo. Nevertheless, the statement appears to be generally credited, for all the Tokyo leading journals, with the very important exceptions of the *Nichi Nichi* and the *Jiji*, published extras giving the news.

In Shanghai it was yesterday reported that the island forts and the fleet were still holding out, and that General Tei, Commander-in-chief at Weihaiwei, and Mr. Schnell with two other foreigners had been killed. But as Weihaiwei is no longer in communication telegraphically with Chefoo we do not attach much credence to accounts transmitted *viâ* the latter place.

The battery on Zhih island is said be masked, that is to say, the guns are mounted on disappearing carriages. Hence the difficulty of bombarding it effectually is immense. Moreover, the water on the east side of the Bay—Zhih Island is situated between Liukung Island and the eastern promontory—is too shallow to permit the passage of large vessels. It will therefore be seen that the assailants have a tough job to get at the Chinese ships, which, for the rest, seem to be fighting with admirable pluck, though little chance of ultimate success.

The news from Manchuria retains its usual monotonous character. The Chinese forces in Yingkow, Newchwang proper and their vicinities, are increasing, and the Japanese remain quietly entrenched in Haicheng and Kaiping. A telegram from Head-quarters to the War Department, dated 7.55 p.m. on the 6th instant, transmits a message, dated 11.10 a.m. on the same day, from the General Staff of the First Division (at Chinchow), to the effect that Major-General Nogi, telegraphing from Kaiping (at 6.30 p.m. on the 5th instant), reports the arrival on the 2nd instant, of 40 new regiments of Chinese troops at Yingkow, under the command of Wu Tach'eng. These reinforcements, added to 18 regiments already there, bring the Yingkow Army to a nominal strength of 29,000 men. Major Uchiyama, of the staff, also reports that on the 3rd instant General Liu arrived at Yingkow with 20 regiments of re-inforcements. If these be additional to the above, Yingkow has now an army of 68 regiments, or nominally 34,000 men. An important engagement ought to take place in that district soon.

We read in the *Jiji Shimpo* that the Chinese have greatly strengthened the fortifications of Chiaochow Bay, and that there are now mounted in the forts there ten 24-cent. guns, nine 21 centimetres, nine 15-centimetres quick-firing, four 12-centimetres, and three 28 centimetres, making 35 in all. The garrison, however, mustered only 4 regiments until lately, but is now probably much larger. A transport has of late been engaged carrying thither munitions of war.

THE CREDENTIALS OF THE CHINESE ENVOYS.

Among the documents laid before the House of Representatives by the Vice-Minister of State for Foreign Affairs on the 6th instant, was a copy of the credentials brought by the Chinese Envoys. The following is a literal translation :—

We hereby appoint you (here follow the names and ranks of the Envoys) to be Our Plenipotentiaries, to meet and negotiate the matter with Plenipotentiaries appointed by Japan. You will, however, telegraph to the *Tsung-li Yamén* for the purpose of obtaining Our commands, by which you will abide. The Members of your mission are placed under your control. You will carry out your mission in a faithful and diligent manner, and will fulfil the trust We have reposed in you. Respect this."

It will be seen that no mention whatever is made of the purpose for which the Envoys were sent, and that they are not invested with power to conclude anything. They are simply to act as media for conveying messages from the Japanese Government to the *Tsung-li Yamén*. Such credentials do not confer even the most shadowy semblance of plenary power.

KOREAN NEWS.

The smallness of Korea's foreign debt is significant, but it does not reflect to her credit. It simply shows that her securities are too poor to allow of her floating a large foreign loan. Indeed, the Customs is the only source available for the purpose. According to inquiries made by some persons into the matter a few months ago, Korea's total foreign debt was 560,000 *taels*, but that amount must have been reduced since then as it was to be paid back in monthly installments. The whole of the above sum was obtained from China, but last fall a new debt amounting to 130,000 *yen* was contracted in Japan. The money was absolutely necessary to the Korean Government for preparations for the New Year, and was furnished by the First National Bank of Japan through the kind services of Count Inouye. The interest is 8 per cent. per annum, the security being the customs duties of Fusan, Ninsen, and Gensan. This magnanimous act on the part of the Bank deserves special commendation when we remember that it can easily procure at home a profit of 10 per cent. on its capital.

The inborn characteristics and time honoured customs of a nation are not easily rooted out, and Korea is not showing herself to be an exception to this rule. Some time ago a certain high personage in the Department of War was dismissed without the Japanese adviser's knowledge. When the latter heard of it, he protested strongly against the step and suggested the recall of the official. It was found, on enquiry, that the cashiered man had brought upon himself the displeasure of Boku Yeiko, the Home Minister, for some reason or other, and that the latter had induced the Minister of War to dismiss him. When the matter reached Count Inouye's ears he is said to have remonstrated strongly with the Home Minister for having taken such an undignified step. The Chief of the Police has been fined to the amount of one month's salary for having exceeded his competence. It appears that the old Police felt some umbrage on account of the preference shown to their new *confrères* and threatened to resign in a body, upon which the Chief ordered the seizure of two or three ring-leaders who were then imprisoned without trial. When Mr. Takehisa, the Police Adviser, remonstrated against the illegality of such an action and asked, at the same time, why the men had not been dismissed, the Chief of the Police is said to have replied that he had only followed an old usage in the country and that it was impossible for him to deprive them of their offices except for some more serious offence.

Four of the ring-leaders of the Tonghak insurgents have been arrested and executed, and the mobs that threatened to become formidable in Chol-la and Chun-Chhon have now been driven into remote districts. Even the spiritless Koreans have been turned into tolerable soldiers by force of discipline. It is said that model Korean soldiers trained under Captain Saiki have been despatched to the south to quell the Tonghaks and have proved good fighters. They obey orders well and are found specially useful for reconnoitring.

A contract has been made between the Nippon Yusen Kaisha and the Korean Treasury with regard to three small steamers owned by the latter. The Japanese Company is to take charge of those vessels for the space of five years, paying to Korea during that period a certain percentage of the profit accruing from the coasting-trade carried on by the ships. The Company made the proposal, it is said, owing to its desire to further maritime enterprise in Korea.

The new Korean Minister to Japan was married on the 19th ult. to the daughter of a certain wealthy couple in Chun-chhon-do. The *Jiji's* correspondent writes to the effect that the new Minister is expected to leave Sôul for his destination about the middle of this month.

Li Isshoku, the would-be assassin of Boku Yeiko, has been in prison in Sôul since last October. The *Nichi Nichi's* correspondent paid a visit to him in his cell and held a con-

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versation of some length with him. The prisoner appears to have been as lively as ever. It is unlucky for him that he is now in prison for an action which would have secured him wealth and honour were the Ming faction still in power.

Of the many reform measures that the new Korean Government intends to carry into effect, one is specially deserving of notice on account of its peculiarity. It is that long pipes may not be smoked in the streets.

THAT HANDFUL OF FOREIGNERS.

The handful of foreign adventurers, ignorant of military matters and without any experience of discipline, that were to do and had already done such doughty deeds at Weihaiwei, have shared the fate of Humpty Dumpty. According to their historian of the 4th instant, their presence in Weihaiwei made all the difference between a tough resistance and a tame surrender. Led by them the Chinese would no longer show themselves despicable cravens, but would fight as brave men fight. Already the handful had succeeded in inflicting on Japanese arms "the first serious disaster" recorded in the present war, and their journalistic panegyrist shuddered to think what might be the fate of an unfortunate Japanese army condemned to assault a place garrisoned wholly by such desperadoes. It was a great occurrence; a turning point in the war. Picked up on the highways and byways, without any proved military capacity, without any training, without any qualifications whatever for the task of directing the defence of a fortress armed with weapons the like of which they had never even seen, that handful of foreigners were nevertheless able to keep at bay a whole army of brave, highly disciplined, and well-equipped Japanese troops. Was it not a fine, a pulse-quickening episode? Race, Sir, race did it. Racial superiority is bred in the bone. Any out-at-elbow loafer, provided only he has a white skin, becomes a being of divine qualities when placed among Chinese or Japanese. So in Greek mythology a god or goddess sometimes descended from heaven to lend puissant aid to the hosts of a pet warrior. But facts have a horribly inconvenient trick of thrusting themselves into the way of pretty heroics. It turned out that there never had been any disaster to the Japanese arms; that the Chinese had not attempted any resolute defence of the forts; that, in short, they had run away in a snow storm and left the forts to take care of themselves. What then became of the handful of foreigners? They could not, like the wayward Grecian divinities, take their flight heavenward, leaving the muddle they had created to mend itself. Nothing remained but to thrust them into an island. On the 4th instant a column and a half of leading type had been needed to extol their achievements in the past and predict their successes in the future as defenders of the extensive fortifications of Weihaiwei. On the 6th, the fortifications were all lost except one little island, and there the handful of foreigners were supposed to have taken refuge. But they were no longer the god-like invincible desperadoes, so great of heart that none could be pusillanimous in their neighbourhood. They had now become "foreign mercenaries, fighting with a rope round their neck, who ought to be relied on to do all that desperate men may do, to resist to the last." Poor Humpty never fell farther. "Foreign mercenaries," "fighting with a rope round their neck," might at least be trusted "to do all that desperate men may do." In 48 hours this cruel *culbute* was achieved. Where will they turn up next we wonder, this handful of foreigners. They were supposed to be at Port Arthur. They were supposed to be at Weihaiwei. They are now supposed to be in Liukung Island with ropes round their necks. Unfortunate nomads, where will they end their chequered career?

ARRIVAL OF THE CHINESE EMBASSY.

(From our own Correspondent.)

Hiroshima, January 31st.

The day was fine, warm, and bright, the glory of the morning sun seeming emblematic of the repeated triumphs won by the Japanese arms. The waters of Ujina Harbour were as smooth as glass, and the shores were crowded with people many of whom had travelled miles to satisfy their curiosity. Old and young, rustics and city-folk, all the types and specimens of Japanese were to be seen. A considerable force of troops completed the scene. The men wore thick overcoats specially made for the present expedition, and being heavily laden with accoutrements, they seemed to find the weather much too hot when they reached the shores of Ujina Harbour.

A little after eight o'clock, a cry of "Miyeta" was raised by a man with a spy glass, and everybody stood on tip-toe. Soon a black-looking steamer slowly moved in, but as she neared the shore she proved to be the *Kumamoto Maru*, to the intense disappointment of the crowd. About 9.30 another vessel was sighted, and as she slowly steamed in, it became clear that she was the *Owari Maru*, with the Chinese Embassy on board. The moment she dropped anchor, the police steam-launch was at her side to receive the Embassy and its suite. At 10.5 they landed, and were taken to the Kikkawa House, where they rested a few minutes preparatory to proceeding to Hiroshima. About fifty *jinrikishas* were needed to carry the party.

H.E. Chang is about 60 years of age. He is a portly type of humanity, rivalling in corpulency the historical monk of the 16th Century. Mr. Shao also is of imposing dimensions. Both of them were very simply dressed. They seemed to be in high spirits, and it was hoped that their happy air and healthy visages portended a successful termination of their mission. As they drove along the faces of the suite were an interesting study. A band of soldiers along the beach and a row of stores newly built for munitions of war, evidently attracted their eager attention. Some of them appeared unable to suppress feelings of fear and amazement, while not a few looked alternately to either side of the road, their eyes expressing mingled curiosity and embarrassment. Sightseers lined either side of the route through almost the whole distance from Ujina to Hiroshima. But they were very quiet. In Kobe the crowd had shouted at the Envoys and their suite, so much so that Mr. Foster's sympathy was moved, and he requested that when the Embassy embarked for Hiroshima, they should be taken in covered carriages. Thus they had gone to the ship unexposed to the scrutinizing gaze of curious observers. But at Ujina and Hiroshima they had no cause for complaint on that score.

A few minutes' drive in *jinrikisha* brought them to the Shun-wayeu Hotel in Hiroshima, from whence Mr. Shao proceeded to another house prepared for him, while Mr. Foster took possession of Mr. Asano's residence. After lunch, Mr. Shao and nine others left the Shunwayen at about 2 o'clock for their hotel, the Senshinto. On their way thither, they were again the objects of a large crowd's curious scrutiny, but the people behaved decorously and quietly as the Chinese magnates passed through.

When the Envoys arrived at Ujina, there was nobody officially appointed to meet them, except a few military officers sent from Head-Quarters. The Governor was not to be seen, nor were any other persons of prominence either civils or military. Mr. Sonoda, Superintendent of the Metropolitan Police Bureau, and the Chief of Police in the Prefecture were there, but their presence was for the sake of preserving order, not to welcome the Embassy.

While on board the *Owari Maru*, both Mr. Chang and Mr. Shao were seen mostly in the saloon, occasionally with Mr. Foster. But they showed no sign of conferring about the work of their mission. Their subjects of conversation were every-day topics, not at all of a business nature. Mr. Wū was seen reading an English book most of the voyage. Mr. Foster and Mr. Liao spent much of their time together. The latter gentleman had formed a close friendship with the Ex-Secretary of State while in Washington. What passed between them on board is said to have been nothing more than light chat about reminiscences of some years ago.

When the ship left Kobe, the Embassy expressed a wish to fly the Chinese flag, but Mr. Secretary Inouye objected on the ground that special permission had not been obtained from Head-quarters, and in its absence he could not comply with the Envoy's wish. Again, just before reaching Ujina, the Embassy desired to wear the regulation head-gear of their official standing and were informed that they could use their own discretion in this matter. But they did not wear the caps after all.

The first batch of Chinese that drove into Hiroshima consisted of 25, and Mr. Foster was with them. Mr. Chang and 14 others are in the Shunwa-yen hotel, while Mr. Shao is in the other house above mentioned. The rest of the suite are still on board as I write. They are supposed to be looking after the elaborate personal effects and belongings of the Envoys. Among them soldiers in civilian dress are to be seen. They are said to be mostly large, strong men.

The conference will be held in the second story of the *Kencho* where workmen are now busy, furnishing and so forth. The Japanese Plenipotentiaries have not yet been officially appointed, but it is said that the conference will open to-morrow. Viscount Mutsu has been observed very frequently visiting the office of the Foreign Department now opened in the *Kencho*. Count Ito, after a conversation with Viscount Mutsu, was seen going to the Castle on horseback about 3 o'clock.

Interviewers are not allowed access either to the Embassy or to Mr. Foster. Police officers keep very strict watch over the houses where the Chinese are stopping. All through the city the Police are unusually on the alert.

The following is a list of the Chinese Peace Embassy and suite with their official ranks and capacities:—

H.E. Chang Yin-tuan, Minister Plenipotentiary and Envoy Extraordinary.
Shao Yu-lien, Minister Plenipotentiary and Envoy Extraordinary.
Wū Ting-fang (Barrister-at-Law), 1st Secretary (Expectant Taotai).
Ku Cho-hsin, 2nd Secretary (Secretary, Judiciary Department).
Jui Liang, 2nd Secretary (Secretary to Tsung-li Yamên).
Liang Ching, 3rd Secretary (Expectant Taotai).
Kwang Shan-ih, 3rd Secretary.
Ching Fak, Translator (Expectant Governor).
Lo Kan-lei, Translator (Expectant Governor).
Lu Yow-ming, Translator (Expectant Governor).
Chien Sho-tai, Attaché (Secretary, Judiciary Office).
Chang Tao-hwao, Attaché (Expectant Vice-Governor).
Chang Yu-ping, Attaché (Expectant Governor).
Shang Nu-tsai, Translator (Ex-Governor Shantowshen).
Chao Shih-lien, Translator (Expectant Chief Salt Commissioner).
Ching Yin-chang, Translator (Expectant Educational Official).
Hsü Chan, Business Manager (Candidate for Office of Puli).
Hsü Pho-ming, Business Manager (Expectant Provincial Secretary).
Chang Hua-fang, Student.
I Ching-ki, Student.
Wang Yu-yen, Student.
Li Wang-to, Officially Appointed Merchant (Candidate for Office of Guaiyi).
Shih Hung-shing, Officially Appointed Merchant (5th rank of Ting-tai).
Shih Shang-chee, Officially Appointed Merchant (5th rank of Ting-tai).
Liu Sui-lin, Officially Appointed Merchant (6th rank of Ting-tai).

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LETTER FROM YUNGCHENG.

(From our own Correspondent.)

Yung-cheng Town, January 24th.

The staff still remaining on board the *Yokohama Maru* on the 24th, I could spend only a few hours on shore. I landed about 9 a.m. in in company with one of the official interpreters. The shore presented a busy scene. Coolies, horses, provisions, fuel, cooking utensils, camping material, and other necessary articles were being carried thither from the transports in the harbour by hundreds of boats, each rowed by three men. Everywhere on shore one could see mountains of stores and other warlike material. That day I had an opportunity of witnessing the excellent fruits of the drill to which I saw the coolies of the Land Transport Corps subjected at Hiroshima. Company after company of cart-drawers set out for Yung-cheng, each under command of a private soldier. They obeyed orders as strictly as regular troops. Hundreds of carts moved away smoothly and without the slightest confusion. As we approached the village of Siao-pia-chwang, we saw Chinese coming and going as though they were completely indifferent to what was in progress around them. The village contained scarcely a hundred houses of the regular Chinese type, mud and stone huts. We entered a few, and found them disgustingly dirty. The pine grove to which I referred in my preceding letter, proved to be the burial ground of the villagers. Agriculture seems to be the principal occupation of the latter, all the available ground at the back of the village being under crops. In many cases we found wheat growing, though the young plants seemed to be suffering considerably from the cold. The soil is a kind of sandy loam, and though evidently not very productive, is richer than that in the Kinchow peninsula. The mountains are all rugged, bare, and rocky; so are the low grounds generally, but there are more trees here than in Kinchow, the commonest varieties being pines, willows, and a kind of *kiri* (Paullownia).

After inspecting the village, we directed our steps toward the light-house at Chenshan, about two miles to the south-west. Passing through to another and smaller village, we came to a hill at the side of which is a temple dedicated to the warrior Kwan-wu, the most popular deity in China. There is not a village of any consequence without a shrine to him. One would suppose the people to be a nation of fighters. Leaving the shrine behind and rounding a ridge, we came in sight of the light-house. It is an occulting light, showing red to the south and the north-west, and is 220 feet high above sea level. All the appliances are of the most advanced type. Three foreigners were found in charge— two British and one German. They are now Japanese employés receiving salaries from the Japanese army, under the superintendence of Lieutenant Hirabara of the Imperial Navy, who kindly supplied me with the facts relating to its occupation. He landed on the 20th instant at the head of a party of 12 marines from the *Amaki* and *Banjo*. The Chinese soldiers having all fled, the Japanese met with no resistance at the light-house, and found the foreigners willing to serve under the Japanese Army. The marines are now staying there, principally for the purpose of signalling. There is also a small Japanese telegraph party with them. At a little past noon we returned to the ship. The weather, which was calm and genial when we left in the morning, had become quite tempestuous, a strong gale blowing from the west. The boatmen had great difficulty in rowing.

Early on the morning of the 25th, the Field-Marshal and the staff, together with the foreign military *attachés* and other passengers on board the *Yokohama Maru*, landed and proceeded to Yung-cheng. I tried to get a horse, but failing to do so, had to make the journey on foot. The road is on the whole tolerably good. It lies along the sea-shore over undulating ground. In my preceding letter I stated that the route seemed to pass between two mountains. That I have found to be a mistake. The weather was calm and warm. Throughout the whole distance I did not care to wear gloves. Provision carts, soldiers, pack horses driven by commissariat troops, and other necessary accessories of an expeditionary army, made one long line between the shore and Yung-cheng. After travelling about six miles with, on the one (left) side, the bay of Yung-cheng, and, on the other, rocky mountains, I came to a flat and sandy expanse whence a fine view of one side of the walls of Yung-cheng could be obtained. From the road the sea to the north (right hand) is generally screened from view by a succession of sand-hills thrown up by the waves, but the spot of which I speak formed the narrow neck of the Liu-shi promontory, on which we had landed. About a mile further on, nearly at the extremity of the sandy ground, we reached Yung-cheng, and entered through the eastern gate. The gate is crowned by a small tower, and the walls are about 30 ft. high and 25 ft. thick at the base. In several places, as I afterwards found, they are crumbling down, from the effect of climate and neglect. The streets are narrow and dirty. Their normal condition was rendered worse at the time of our visit by melting snow. The Chinese inhabitants were in their houses, scarcely a dwelling having been deserted by its inmates, who were smoking at their doors, placidly regarding the bustling throng of Japanese coming and going. With some difficulty we discovered the newly appointed Head-quarters of the Army. It was small shabby house, such as an ordinary farmer would disdain to inhabit in Japan, a sorry abode for the Field-Marshal, who was doomed to occupy it until a more commodious and less unsightly building, the Prefectural Office, should be vacated by the Head-quarters of the Second Division. I had hitherto seen nothing of the Japanese correspondents, but proceeded to visit them at their newly appointed quarters near the Western gate, arriving that at about three in the afternoon. I found that eleven correspondents had just arrived. They were beginning to arrange the house and cook their food. The building was small with only three rooms, each about 15 ft. by 12. The central, being a sort of kitchen, was not fit for either sitting or sleeping purposes, the room to the left as one entered, was half occupied by tubs of beans. So all the correspondents had to sleep huddled together over a thick layer of straw in one apartment. It will be not uninteresting to introduce your readers to the life that Japanese journalists lead with the army. The party of correspondents whose story I proceed to transcribe consisted of 12 persons, representing various leading papers in Tokyo and Osaka, such as the *Jiji Shimpo*, the *Mainichi Shimbun*, the *Yomiuri Shimbun*, the *Asahi Shimbun*, and so forth. Among them were two artists, Mr. Yamamoto Hosui and Mr. Kuroda Kiyoteru, the latter a son of Viscount Kuroda Kiyotsuna. Among the correspondents, I may mention Mr. Amano of the *Asahi*, Mr. Hayashi of the *Mainichi*, and Mr. Harada of the *Yorozu Choho*. These men had been with the Second Army for about three months, from the time of its landing at Kwwyuenkow, in October last. They were like members of the same family. Mr. Amano of the *Asahi* was the spokesman of the party; Mr. Horii, its accountant; and Mr. Yamamoto, the artist, had charge of the commissariat and culinary affairs. When I visited them in their quarters, they were busily engaged putting the house in order. In one of the rooms I noticed an old Chinese woman weeping. The poor dame had been frightened nearly out of her wits by the appearance of so many Japanese. She and her son, a sickly looking youth, removed their few articles of furniture to the next house, an apartment of which they were going to occupy during the employment of their own home for Japanese purposes. These matters had of course been arranged by the officers charged with the billetting of the troops. Presently, Mr. Kuroda, the young noble, came in followed by a Chinese carrying half a dozen cabbages, extremely palatable vegetables. The commissariat officials at Head-quarters had sent two fowls. Some were for attacking the fowls at once, but the more prudent insisted on preserving them for dinner the following day, and the latter opinion prevailing, Mr. Yamamoto at once proceeded to prepare the evening meal by boiling canned beef with plenty of Chinese cabbages. In the hurry and confusion of the day the coolies attached to the party were not at hand, so some of the correspondents had to go and procure boiled rice from the cooking department at Head-quarters. After blundering into half-a-dozen wrong places, these purveyors at last found out the so-called cooking department. It was located in an open space in the vicinity of the northern gate. Several large ovens, formed of thin iron plates were set up, and over them were placed hug iron pots, 3 ft. in diameter, in each of which rice was boiling. The ovens had gratings, about 3 inches from the bottom, with large rectangular apertures for throwing in fuel. The smoke issued from three apertures in the sides near the top. To the great disappointment of the envoys, they were told that their rice would not be ready for two hours. The official in charge of the cooking explained that, there being a great scarcity of wells and water, it was with much difficulty that the rice had been washed and cleaned. So the correspondents had to go away empty-handed and to restrain their appetite, inordinately sharpened by the delicious smells emitted from the canned meat and cabages boiling over the fire. They then received orders to wait on Captain Yoda, the staff officer charged with the control of correspondents. So they had again to go out without food. Captain Yoda furnished them with the following information:— The disposition of the Chinese forces on the day of the landing of the Japanese army—the 20th—was as follows:—200 to 300 (from Weihaiwei) with 4 guns, at the place of landing; and five regiments each composed of about 350 men, in and around Yung-cheng. These five regiments had been despatched from Wutai, several miles west of Chefoo. Two of them were posted outside the Southern gate; two at Yentau, and one at Litao, south of the city. Captain Yoda's account of the landing and of the entry into Yung-cheng was substantially the same as that given in my previous letter. The only encounter worthy of note that has thus far taken place was on 25th instant at Yakochwang between a Japanese scouting party and a body of the enemy about 1,500 strong. Shots were exchanged for a considerable time. At last Japanese reinforcements arriving, the Chinese retired in the direction of Chiaoteutsi, from whence they had originally advanced. The enemy's casualities were not known; on the Japanese side, there had been one killed and a few wounded. From Yung-cheng there are two roads to Weihaiwei, one along the sea-shore, the other, parallel to it but a little inland. The above encounter took place on the inland road. The advance guard on the latter route reached Tungteushan on the 25th. On the coast road no resistance had thus far been encountered. When the correspondents returned to their den, their quantum of rice had already been brought by commissariat coolies, and they at once attacked it in grim earnest. It was now a little before nine, and the air of relish with which the half-famished correspondents consumed the badly boiled rice and the stew prepared by the artist, was a sight to see. After supper, they all sat down on the straw to pen their correspondence. By way of accompaniment to their literary labours, the booming of guns fired from the forts at Weihaiwei was audible. While still on board the *Yokohama Maru*, I had heard from a naval officer that the ports at Weihaiwei constantly fired at the Japanese torpedo-boats, which not only guarded the entrances, but occasionally advanced far into the port to take observations. This afternoon, I climbed upon the wall, and looking toward the west could indistinctly see the forts of Weihaiwei and the island of Liukung in the distance.

More than ten Chinese soldiers hiding in Yung-cheng were taken prisoners. Among them

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was a military clerk from whom was obtained the information recorded above as to the disposition of Chinese troops on the day of the Japanese landing.

INDIVIDUAL HEROISM.

The *Nichi Nichi's* correspondent now in Fenghwan records several instances of individual heroism among the Japanese troops quartered in that part of Manchuria. One is connected with a small party led by Sergeant Suyenaga with orders to reconnoitre the district lying between Lieushankwan and Pauchihu. The sergeant with 5 troopers under him left the former place, where a detachment of Japanese troops was temporarily quartered, on the 19th of November. The road to be traversed was very narrow and bounded on both sides by precipitous cliffs. When the party had advanced about 4 miles, they espied Chinese watchmen on the summits of the elevations on both sides who made signals to the rear. The troopers rode on, but after they had proceeded another mile they saw smoke rising from a hamlet some distance off, and the next moment the sound of rifle shots echoed through the narrow gorge. The sergeant then told his party to fall back, himself bringing up the rear, upon which the enemy gave chase. The sergeant was in imminent danger, as he stayed some way behind in order to ascertain more precisely the condition of the enemy, thus allowing the latter to gain ground in their pursuit. He spurred his horse on, however, and reached a ford when some 50 Chinese who had lain in ambush suddenly appeared from both sides of the road and fired at him. It was a desperate situation, but as he was preparing to rush through the enemy he saw in the distance one of his troopers, Murakami by name, who, anxious for the sergeant's safety, was riding back toward him. As soon as the Chinese perceived the new-comer they turned their attention to him, their shots wounding his horse and hitting his saddle and shoe. The intrepid soldier was not in the least daunted, but kept up the unequal contest, at the same time calling to the sergeant in a loud voice. The latter cut through the enemy by a desperate effort and returned to Lieushankwan with his gallant friend.

Two troopers, Koishi Jyomei and Sasaki Tsunetaro, of the 5th Battalion of the Hiroshima Division, accomplished a mission even more difficult than the one above mentioned. It had been arranged that, on the morning following the battle of Tsaohokow, Major General Tatsumi was to leave Fenghwan for Saimatsui and to attack the enemy on the 28th of December both from the rear and the front with the help of the detachment at Tsaohokow. Lieut.-General Tomioka, commander of the detachment, entrusted to two troopers the difficult task of conveying the intelligence to Tatsumi's column. As he did not know the whereabouts of the column, the men were ordered to proceed first to Tungyuen-pao, and to obtain information as to the probable locality of the column from the commander of a small detchment quartered there for the defence of the place. The troopers reached that outpost at dusk, stayed there overnight, and prepared to start next morning for the place where Tatsumi's column was supposed to be. Learning that the provisions of the garrison were all gone, they opened their food bags, and swallowing a few morsels dry, as not even a drop of warm water was to be had, set out on their way. The road became worse and worse, till at last they found that the gorge along which they were proceeding contracted into a narrow path terminating in a steep cliff. The two troopers were at a loss how to proceed as they were unacquainted with the topography of the district. Presently, however, they espied at a distance three soldiers, whom they recognised to be Chinese from the colour of their horses, riding along the brow of the elevation. Far from being afraid of the enemy, they were in their hearts grateful for having had the road pointed out to them, and followed the Chinese who [illegible] at their audacity, quickened their pace and were soon lost to sight beyond the summit. When the Japanese troopers ascended the elevation, they saw the three Chinese entering a hamlet some way off in which were 40 or 50 of the enemy. The two messengers then tried a ruse, slowing down their pace in order to make the Chinese think that they were the van of a reconnoitring party. The enemy did not attempt to approach, and the Japanese were therefore enabled to pass them without meeting any opposition. When out of sight of the hamlet the troopers spurred their horses on for several miles when they espied another group of men and horses, but these they found, to their great joy, to be a body of Japanese coolies, who informed them that the column in search of which they had come, was quartered about a mile further on. On reaching the temporary head-quarters they were led before the Major-General, but so terribly cold were they that they were unable to articulate a word. It was not until they had warmed themselves for some hours at a fire that sensation was restored to their lips and jaws, and they were able to communicate to the General the message with which they had been charged.

NECESSARY CORRECTIONS.

We observe that preparations are in progress to saddle the Japanese military authorities with another of those falsehoods the responsibility of originating and circulating which rests, not infrequently, with foreign journals themselves. The *Japan Gazette* of the 6th instant writes:—"Conflicting are the reports from Weihaiwei. The Chinese told a wonderful story of repulsing the Japanese with heavy loss. The Japanese official account avers that no soldiers were killed in battle, though four subsequently died of their wounds.' The Japanese official report does nothing of the kind. Its words are:—*Waga fushosha* (here follow the numbers) *shisha wa kono hoka nari*, which words, being literally translated, run thus:—"Our wounded are (so many). These are independent of the killed." Experience having demonstrated the *Japan Gazette's* remarkable capacity for iterating and re-iterating its own inventions and exaggerations until it probably believes them itself, this gross blunder deserves to be exposed at once before it fairly commences to run the gamut of embroidered repetition. At this moment no return of the killed on the 30th ultimo has reached us. Neither has Marshal Oyama attempted to give any estimate of the Chinese losses. But so far from "averring that no soldiers were killed" on the Japanese side, he carefully guards against any hasty inference that might be drawn from his failure to give the number, by adding the words:—"These (*i.e.* the wounded) are independent of the killed." It seems scarcely possible for a journal to be more reckless and inaccurate than the *Japan Gazette* is.

The very idea of comparing the Chinese and Japanese accounts, as it done in the paragraph quoted above, must be described, under the circumstances, as extraordinary carelessness, to use a gentle term. The Chinese story was that the Japanese, landing at Ninghai, advanced in a body some 12,000 strong, on the morning of January 26th, against the western forts of Weihaiwei, and, after a sharp fight, were driven back leaving 479 dead on the field. Now it is perfectly well known that the Japanese did not land at Ninghai. The rumour of their having done so—a rumour emanating from Chinese sources—has since been publicly admitted to be false. It is perfectly well known that on January 26th the forces landed at Yung-cheng were not within striking distance of Weihaiwei. Finally, it is perfectly well known that the Japanese did not attack Weihaiwei on the west. They attacked it on the east, as was inevitable, in view of their place of landing. Thus the Chinese tale of an attempt on the part of 12,000 Japanese to "surprise the market town of Weihaiwei, which is the western point of the port," on January 26th, is evidently a misconception. There may have been an affair of outposts on the 26th somewhere to the east of the Bay, but it was at most a skirmish, if it occurred at all, and nothing could be more recklessly careless than to compare a Chinese anonymous account of such an incident—an account not attested by any responsible official—with Marshal Oyama's report of the general attack four days later.

TROUBLE IN THE OSAKA BUSINESS COMMUNITY.

The *Nippon's* Osaka correspondent reports a serious trouble that arose at the last general meeting of the Osaka Steamship Company held at Sakaye on the 17th ult. When the proceedings had nearly concluded, one of the shareholders, a certain Mr. Aoki, who entertained a grudge against a manager of the Company, Mr. Tanaka, stood up and declared that though the report on the settled accounts read by Mr. Tanaka was endorsed by the Auditors as correct, he considered it suspicious. The sum of 16,000 *yen* which, according to the report, ought to be in the company's strong-box, had, he was firmly persuaded, been disbursed through the manager for certain purposs, and he proposed therefore that proper research into the matter be instituted. The motion was at once seconded by two or three other shareholders. Every one looked at Mr. Tanaka expecting that he would protest strongly against a motion that reflected so seriously on his honour and credit, but strange to say, he remained perfectly silent. The friends of the manager then took up the affair and asked his accuser whether he was prepared to deposit a sum of 250 *yen* to be confiscated to the Company should his grave allegations against the manager prove unfounded. Mr. Aoki replied that he was ready to deposit double the amount asked for. His self-assurance alarmed other shareholders and the matter began to look more and more serious. At last the auditor, feeling that his honour was somewhat implicated, said that as it was his duty to deal with such questions, he begged the shareholders to leave the affair to him. It was decided that he should report the result of his inquiries the following day. He failed to do so till two days later, when he informed the shareholders that after thorough research he had found that the allegation was not substantiated. Mr. Tanaka's accuser was not satisfied with that method of inquiry, however, and is now trying to persuade other shareholders to demand the opening of an extraordinary session. The Manager and his party are endeavouring to agitate a counter movement so that the enmity of the two sides is waxing more and more bitter. The quarrel is deep-rooted, being in fact a collision between two rival parties, each of which is trying to gain supremacy over the other. The Fujita Firm of Osaka has during the last few years gradually reduced its scope of business, and various measures have been resorted to in order to find positions for its surplus officers in important Osaka companies. It was, for instance, intended to engross the shares of the Osaka Railway Company thus making it a possession of the firm. Influential men stood in the way, however, and the project failed. The majority of the officers of the Osaka Steamship Company were formerly employed in the Fujita Firm and are endeavouring in every conceivable way to extend their influence in the Company. The latter has, in short, been divided into two rival sections, the President's party and that led by the old officers of the Fujita Firm. Each is on the alert to take any advantage that would tell against the other and the alleged dishonest conduct of the manager gave therefore a good opportunity for an open dispute. The Fujita party owns a greater number of shares than the President's party, but as the Company is under the special protection of the Department of Communications, the President's adherents expect that an inspector will be despatched by the Department when an extraordinary meeting is held, and that through him they may be enabled to attain their desires.

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THE REVOLUTION IN HAWAII.

(By our Special Correspondent.)

Honolulu, Jan. 22, 1895.

The *China* arrived at Honolulu early on the morning of the date given above, and did not leave till 5 o'clock in the afternoon; so that we had a good opportunity of "seeing the sights." We found a very interesting state of affairs, in view of the fact that the young Republic of Hawaii had just passed through a severe test of its strength, and had proved itself equal to a great emergency. A big conspiracy had been detected, and serious rebellion had been put down after some bloodshed. The unusual excitement had subsided, and comparative quiet prevailed: but martial law was still maintained, so that the passengers on the *China* were not allowed to go ashore without passes from the purser, and friends on shore were not permitted to come on board without passes from the proper authorities of the Republic. The condition of affairs, however, was so peaceful that President Dole was seen walking calmly down town from his home, and business seemed to be going on as usual. But the presence of numerous sentinels about the Government Building, and the sight of several prisoners escorted by the military from the jail to that building attested the fact that there had been some kind of a disturbance. Many of the *China's* passengers improved the opportunity by dropping in at the trial of these prisoners for treason before a Military Commission named by the President. One of the accused was Charles T. Gulick, evidently the "black sheep" of that noble family of Christian workers.

Your correspondent, having a brother resident in Honolulu, was enabled to see, not only the points of general interest, but also many of those connected with the events of the recent rebellion; to hear all about these stirring events; and to procure what is no longer purchasable,—a complete file of the *Pacific Commercial Advertiser*, containing an excellent account of the whole affair. From these sources and odd numbers of other Honolulu papers is derived the following story of "the 1895 rebellion":—

For some time the Hawaiian Government had known that there was a plot to overthrow the Republic and re-establish the monarchy. And yet all attempts to get at the leaders who were inciting the natives to rebellion were futile. On Saturday evening, January 5th, the evidences of an uprising increased, as bands of natives were seen coming into Honolulu from outlying districts. All day Sunday the police were active; and finally the Government became convinced that the rebels were intending to strike a blow soon, and that prompt action on their own account was necessary.

According, soon after dark, on Sunday, Jan. 6th, a party of police under Capt. Parker was sent to search the Bertelmann House, four miles out from Honolulu toward Diamond Head, for concealed arms. This party was afterwards joined by Deputy Marshal Brown, Representative Chas. L. Carter, Collector-General James B. Castle, and others living in the vicinity. This first episode of the uprising is best narrated in the language of the *Hawaiian Gazette*, the semi-weekly edition of the *Pacific Commercial Advertiser*:—

> When they reached the house it had been darkened, and Mr. Bertelmann was found in his sitting-room with a rifle lying by. He was informed that the party had a search-warrant, and told them to proceed with their work. Mr. Carter and Mr. Castle were standing by the steps, where the light from the sitting-room shown full upon them. Mr. Brown and the policemen went to the rear of the house to a canoe-house, where they found a party of natives. Mr. Brown was the first to discover them and jumped forward with the cry of "Here they are!" Firing was at once opened. Charles L. Carter sank to the ground, fatally wounded.
>
> Lieutenant Holi and Policeman Logan were also wounded. The natives in the canoe house fled up the beach, keeping up a running fire. Mr. Bertelmann, James Lane, and Andrew Brown were captured. Lane fired the shots that killed Mr. Carter, and only missed killing Captain Parker by the pistol being knocked from his hand. The house was darkened as soon as possible, and held by Mr. Alfred Carter. Captain Parker pursued the natives through the woods towards Diamond Head.
>
> Charles Carter and Lieutenant Holi were taken into the house, where those holding the premises immediately telephoned for more men and medical assistance from the city. They expected to be attacked by the natives at any time, and probably would have been had the natives known what a small force was in the house.
>
> Immediately the news reached the city an alarm was sent out, and volunteers and members of the Citizens' Guard rushed from the churches and houses to take the places assigned to them. Lieutenant King, with a detachment of regulars, were sent to occupy the Bertelmann House.
>
> Mr. Carter was taken to his Waikiki residence, where he died, in terrible agony, at 5 o'clock Monday morning.

From the men captured Sunday evening it was learned that the rebels were divided into two parties, one commanded by R. W. Wilcox and the other by Sam Nowlein; and that the plan was for the latter's forces to march on Honolulu early Monday morning from Waikiki, while the former's party would attack the city from the rear at the same time.

Early Monday morning the Government issued a proclamation of martial law; and sent out to Diamond Head reinforcements from the regulars, the Sharpshooters, and the Citizens' Guards as well as a tug with a squad of Sharpshooters to fire from the sea. That day there was sharp fighting, and when night fell, the rebels had been forced to the crater on Diamond Head, from which they decamped in the night. Tuesday morning the Government forces took possession of the mountain.

Tuesday evening a report was brought by a spy that Wilcox was planning to occupy Punchbowl, the hill just above the city of Honolulu, and to have Nowlein join him there. Consequently a company of troops was at once sent to get possession of Punchbowl: and a force was also sent up the Manoa Valley to obtain an advanced position. On Wednesday afternoon a lively battle was fought between the Government forces and Wilcox's men, who were finally compelled to retreat and go in hiding.

Meanwhile, the officials in the city had been able, through the testimony of prisoners, to discover the instigators of the rebellion; and even as early as Monday afternoon had begun to arrest prominent royalists. By Thursday, Jan. 10th, 160 men, including prisoners of war, were in confinement at Oahu Prison; and that same evening Minister King was enabled to say of the rebellion: "Its back-bone is broken."

The next night an attempt to start a conflagration in Honolulu was discovered just in time, and the incendiary was put under arrest.

On Monday, January 14, Wilcox, Nowlein, and their lieutenants, Carl Widemann (son of Judge Widemann), were all apprehended by the Government; and the next day important arrests (of Seward, Gulick, and others) were made in Honolulu. But the 16th was the greatest day of all; for, in the morning, ex-Queen Liliuokalani was arrested; and, in the evening, when her residence was searched, rifles, pistols, swords, ammunition, and bombs were dug up in the yard. Thus, on January 17, the second anniversary of the new Republic of Hawaii, the rebellion was completely "squelched," the leading conspirators were all in custody, and the court-martial began its sessions.

The Military Commission, appointed by President Dole to try the conspirators and rebels, consisted of Col. Whiting, President; Lieut.-Col. Fisher, Captains Ziegler, Camara, Pratt, Wilder, and Lieut. Jones, all of the National Guard of Hawaii. Captain Kinney, Aide-de-Camp on General Staff, was made Judge Advocate; and Paul Neumann and Antone Rosa were the attorneys for the defence.

The charge of treason and open rebellion was brought against R. W. Wilcox, Sam Nowlein, Henry Bertelmann, W. C. Lane, James Lane, Carl Widemann, William Greig, and Edgar Marshall. The first three pleaded guilty; the others, not guilty. Lawyer Neumann entered an objection that the Military Commission had not, but the regular courts had, the authority to try the accused; but the objection was overruled, and the trial proceeded.

It is scarcely necessary or profitable to follow out in detail the story of the trial. The testimony against the accused was very strong and could not be broken by cross-examination, however severe. Wilcox, Greig, Marshall, James Lane, and Widemann went on the stand in their own behalf. The two counsel for the defendants, in addressing the Commission, really attempted no defence, but made strong pleas for mercy; while the Judge Advocate insisted that justice must be meted out to all guilty ones, and that leniency was dangerous. According to the Hawaiian Constitution, the punishment for treason is death or imprisonment for a term not less than five years and a fine of five thousand dollars; but Paul Neumann suggested banishment as a proper penalty. The finding of the court had not been made public when the *China* left Honolulu.

On Monday, Jan. 21, the cases of Gulick, Rickard, Walker, and Seward were called, and were on the docket the day that the *China* was in port. The charge against these was also for treason and open rebellion; and the defence was conducted again by Paul Neumann. Damaging testimony was given, especially by John A. Cummins (who implicated the ex-Queen), Sam Nowlein, and others; and no testimony for the defence had been given when the *China* sailed, except that Walker had gone on the stand and made a clean breast of his share in the uprising.

There is no question that almost all the accused will be found guilty of treason; the only doubt is with regard to the punishment. The *Star* and the *Advertiser* are counselling strict justice; the *Bulletin* is advising mercy, especially to the native participants. There are more to be brought to trial:—Captain Davies, of the steamer *Waimanalo* that went out to meet the schooner that brought arms and ammunition to the rebels; several prominent royalists, who knew more or less about the conspiracy; and, last but least, the ex-Queen, in whose behalf it was all concocted. And, what to do with her, is really the most serious question of all. It is pretty certain, that some of the leaders of the rebellion will be put to death; others will be banished; and the rank and file will suffer various degrees of punishment: and it is not at all unlikely that the ex-Queen will be sent into exile. For, just so long as she remains in the country, she will be the inspiration and the centre of many similar insurrections.

The prompt quelling of this insurrection redounds greatly to the credit of the young Republic, which showed in this crisis its own strength. At the time of the rebellion there was not a single man-of-war in the harbour of Honolulu; so that great excitement was produced when the *Esmeralda* suddenly appeared. If there had been at Honolulu a U.S. man-of-war at the time, there would have been occasion, at least, for hinting at another case of interference on the part of our government. But not even the "moral influence" of a gunboat was on the side of the Hawaiian authorities, who, unaided, suppressed the rebellion. It is not at all likely that the new Republic will again be thrown into such a crisis. It has vindicated, and vindicated well, its right to existence. The death-knell of Hawaiian monarchy has been sounded: the only question is, "Will Hawaii continue an independent republic, or be annexed to the United States?"

For the benefit of those who may be interested in more of the details of Hawaiian affairs, I append a few clippings from Honolulu papers. The first is a sketch of the career of one of the leaders:—

> Robt. W. Wilcox has been a conspicuous figure in Hawaii many years. As a mere boy he came to the capital from Maui as a member of the legislature. He was a clever lad and caught the fancy of Kalakaua. At government expense Wilcox was sent to Italy and given a military education. He returned in seven years with a

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bride, a member of a noble family. She soon left him.

There had been political changes during Wilcox's absence. He was unable to get a decent billet from his royal patron. Such men as P. C. Jones, J. B. Atherton, and C. M. Cooke wanted to set the young man up in business. He cared only for a political position.

In 1889, Wilcox led a revolution. He had a couple of hundred men in red shirts. They took possession of the palace early one morning. The declared purpose was to set up a Republic. The foreigners put down the insurrection, killing nine of the rebels. Wilcox was driven from the bungalow with dynamite. He was not punished for this.

Since 1889 Wilcox has dabbled in public affairs only to the extent of serving one term in the Legislature.

In 1893, Wilcox joined the annexation movement. He wanted the San Francisco consulate. Failing to get it he went into this thing."

The next is the story of the surrender of this rebel chief :—

Yesterday evening the word flew round town like wildfire that Robert W. Wilcox, the rebel chief and revolutionist, had been captured.

A *Bulletin* representative was at the station in less time than it takes to tell it, and interviewed C. A. Brown, leader of the squad that brought Wilcox in.

Besides Mr. Brown there were in the party Lincoln L. McCandless, R. L. Warson, Fred Leslie, John F. Scott, and John Onderkirk. The capture was a very tame affair. It was really the voluntary surrender of a sick and heart-broken warrior. Attorney-General W. O. Smith and Minister of the Interior J. A. King were in the Marshal's office with Marshal Hitchcock to receive the rebel chief and one lone follower who stayed with him to the last.

Mr. Brown said: "Wilcox was in a house between the Quarantine Station and Chas. L. Hopkins' fishing station. He was delivered up to us by Hopkins at about 5 o'clock."

Brown and McCandless brought Wilcox over in a carriage. Warson came in another carriage with his native follower whose name is Ioela.

Charles L. Hopkins on being questioned said: "I was sitting at my door at 41 o'clock last night, when Wilcox's companion came trudging along and said, 'There's a man in a canoe down there who wants to see you.'

"I put on my pants and went down to the canoe, and there I found Wilcox. He asked where my house was. I said, 'Right over here.'

"Then I said, 'Come on; let's go to the house and I'll give you something to eat.' We came over and I gave him something to eat.

"Then he wanted to know where he could put up for the night.

"I pointed him to a vacant house probably a few yards from my place, and after their supper they went over.

"This morning I went over again and took them some coffee. Then we had a talk together in regard to what should be done with himself (Wilcox).

"He asked me as a favour to let him remain there for the day on account of his legs, which were all given away.

"I said I would allow him to stay there, but told him if he saw a carriage coming along he might be sure it was coming to take him up. He had agreed before that to surrender to the authorities.

"This afternoon I notified the authorities, because I told him that I would probably be down after him at 3 o'clock.

"I got a hack and went down, and I told Wilcox that the Attorney-General said that I could bring them to the station. He said that was all right.

"The squad of the Citizens' Guard sent over to receive the prisoners was at the pork-packing shop, Iwilei, and met me, when Brown took charge.

"The name of the place where Wilcox was sheltered is Kahakaaulana and is beyond the Quarantine Station."

Mr. Hopkins further stated that Wilcox and his companion had crossed over into Kalihi on Thursday night, and they had gradually worked their way over to Iwilei and the spot where they surrendered.

All the remaining followers of Wilcox were left in Manoa Valley.

The following is some of the important testimony elicited the very day that the *China* lay in Honolulu :—

The Commission began business promptly at 9.15 with the reading of the record by Lieutenant Jones, Messrs. Seward and Gulick consulted anxiously with their attorney. The attendance was large and the interest deeper than on any previous day. It was known that such men as John A. Cummins and Sam Nowlein were to be placed on the witness stand.

The jaws of the prisoners fell when John A. Cummins was called. Cummins looked ill. He has been a big man in Hawaii for years.

I am here as a witness by my own motion. I have not been promised or threatened. I first knew of arms to be brought here on December 3rd, in the evening. Major Seward had returned that day from the States. Two weeks before that Nowlein came to my house and asked for guns. He said, when the time comes I want them. I said no, I want them here for my own protection. Nowlein then said, "The old man" (Seward) has gone for munitions of war.

When Seward returned I said to him, I hear you have been after war material. He said, "Yes." I asked if he had been successful. He said, "Yes," but he had not done the work. He had a scow tug place the material on a vessel and the vessel put to sea. Two or three days after he said, he left San Francisco for this place. I said to him I was very sorry he had gone into the thing. It would make trouble for our house. He said, "All the blame would attach to me." I said, "You live in my house. How can we escape being associated with it by outside parties. I asked him where the money came from. He said he had received a letter from "the Queen," and that Rudolph Spreckels had the money in San Francisco. I understood the letter was a request for assistance to the Major in his mission. I said Spreckels has just returned to San Francisco. He replied that Mr. F. F. Follis would help. He was here with Rudolph.

No one of my family knew of this affair except myself. One Tuesday John Lilii brought me a horse from Koolau. He said Major Seward had sent him and had engaged him to watch at Rabbit Island.

In a conversation with Seward I protested against his doings. I saw him give John Lilii twenty dollars in gold to buy food for use on Rabbit Island. A boat had been sent. Seward asked me to tell the boy to take two horses for two of Nowlein's men. Kauli came and told Seward and myself that they had met the vessel and taken off pistols and concealed them. The Major wanted them carefully hidden.

In a few days the Major told me Nowlein had sent a man for the pistols. The man came back without them.

On Sunday afternoon the Major and Sam Nowlein came into my room. They said the pistols could not be got over. At their request I wrote a letter and gave it to Seward. They sent again for the pistols. Another day Seward excitedly said that the pistols were withheld. I said, "I have nothing to do with that. You are doing something to get us all into trouble. We have been friendly, but I don't like this." He said, "No, only myself will suffer. He declared that his part of the work was finished when the pistols were landed. Others would do the rest. In a couple of days he said the *Waimanalo* had gone to look for the vessel. I explained the signals to a native for Seward. I heard by telephone that nothing had been seen. Kauli took a carriage lamp for signal use. Seward gave it to him and gave directions. In a few days a message came that the vessel had been seen. Kauli came to town and told the Major and myself all that had been done in Koolau.

Even Mr. Neumann looked a trifle embarrassed when Sam Nowlein came in and was sworn.

I took part in the rebellion. Was on the field. The uprising had been planned four or five months by myself, Gulick, Rickard, and Seward. We met at Gulick's residence on King-street. Seward did not always attend. We met two or three times a week. I laid two plans. First plan was to surround the Government building and fifty-seven posts around town. Natives and white men were to command. We used a map.

Another plan was to work from Queen-street, Punchbowl, Beretania, and Mannakea, and seize the station house, telephone office, and electric light station.

"The fifty-seven posts were to stop the Citizens' Reserve from getting to their rendezvous. Early in December the plans were submitted and the second adopted.

"Seward went over for the arms and ammunition. I don't know who furnished the money.

"I sent natives to enlist rebels in town and in Koolau. Nowhere else and on no other island. This was my part of the work by agreement with Gulick and Rickard.

"I told my agents to organize squads of thirty-seven each and wait for orders.

"I sent Townsend and Warren to Rabbit Island. Seward sent a shore boat.

"Rickard, Gulick, Seward and myself agreed to charter the *Waimanalo*.

"We tried to start the revolution on the Thursday night before the Sunday it happened. Half the arms were to be landed at Kakaako and half at the fish-market. I sent word to my men. I was to take charge of the fish-market party. Tom Walker was to take the station house. This fell through because the police broke up a gathering of natives in Kakaako. It was to begin at 2 o'clock that night.

"Rickard went on the boat to take her to sea for twenty-four hours, so our men could be called in. I had the steamer stopped to prevent her capture by the police.

I received the letter for Gulick from Rickard. It was to the effect that shore boats must be used to land arms. I sent boys to get a boat from Liliuokalani's boat house.

Henry Bertelmann remembered the landing of arms off the *Waimanalo*, January 3rd. The evening before the whaleboat went out from place. That time Rickard was there and John Raden, a hackman. The latter came an hour after Rickard. Rickard did some writing. I gave him the paper and ink. Raden brought a package to Rickard and said it was from "Gulick." Rickard wrote an answer to be handed to "Mr. Gulick." Pua brought me a letter from the *Waimanalo*. It was for Charles T. Gulick. Next day I delivered it. Rickard came to my house Thursday night and I told him Nowlein said not to land the arms. Rickard wrote to the Captain to land the arms some way.

Cross-examined—I have made a confession. Kinney told me if I made a clean breast he would try and save my life. I have not spoken to Mr. Gulick.

John Raden, hackman, aged 39, born in Australia, has been here ten years. Chas. T. Gulick sent me to Bertelmann's with a package for W. H. Rickard. Mr. Rickard gave me a letter for Mr. Gulick and I delivered it.

Thomas B. Walker confessed that he filled the shells with giant powder for Sam Nowlien; and that he and his party were to take the Police Station and hold it till Nowlien should arrive with his forces.

The next clippings tell of the assistance of the ex-Queen, and of the discovery of a good-sized arsenal on her premises :—

Liliuokalani Dominis is a prisoner.

She is confined in what has been the auditor-general's office, at the Executive Building.

A corporal's guard stands watch over the former Queen of Hawaii. The woman who has caused all the trouble of the past three years is wholly within the power of the Government.

The arrest was made very quietly at 10 o'clock this morning by Deputy Brown and Captain Parker. This movement was decided upon at the Cabinet meeting Tuesday evening.

An order was sent at 9.30 o'clock this day from the office of Adjutant-General Soper to Marshal Hitchcock. It was to arrest Liliuokalani Dominis "forthwith and deliver her to Lieut. Col. Fisher, commanding the military, at the Executive building, immediately."

Deputy Brown and Capt. Parker reported in a few minutes to a cabinet meeting then in progress to ask if there were any special instructions. None were given. They left at once for Washington-place with two hacks.

There were a number of native guards around the Dominis' house. These did not even challenge the police. The mistress of the house had no visitors inside.

Liliuokalani was lying down in her bed chamber. She came into a larger room to meet the officers.

Capt. Parker spoke to the ex-queen, saying that he had an order for her arrest.

Mrs. Dominis has always been rated a strong woman. It was more than half expected she would resist.

She did not faint, or cry, or start back, or give any evidence of weakness.

The woman who has made Hawaii politically what it is to-day, merely said:

"All right; I will go."

In a very few minutes Liliuokalani had made her toilet. She was dressed entirely in black. She was seated beside Deputy Brown with Captain Parker in front with the driver.

Mrs. Chas. Clark, who has been a lady in waiting all the time, took the second cab, occupying it alone. She had a hand satchel. Mrs. Dominis brought no baggage at all.

Only a very few people knew what was going on. The native guards were thoroughly frightened and in trembling silence looked on, dismayed.

When the party passed Central Union Church and the Hawaiian Hotel a few at either place caught a glimpse of the woman who has worn the

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purple, but could scarcely believe that Lilinokalani was actually a prisoner charged with conspiracy.

Officers and the prisoner and Mrs. Clark were driven rapidly to the Richards-street entrance. The final stop was made at the mauka steps to the Executive building.

Mrs. Dominis, escorted by Deputy Brown and Captain Parker walked slowly up the iron stairway, along the hall, then up the carpeted koa staircase.

In the hall on the second floor there was a brief pause. Strangely enough, it was directly beneath a magnificent life size oil painting of the prisoner. Members of the Cabinet and others attending the meeting came to the doorways across the hall.

Mrs. Dominis had in one hand a white linen handkerchief. She was not weeping, but did wipe a few tears from her eyes.

There she disappeared in her prison. Everybody about the Executive building breathed a sigh of relief. They felt in the air the beginning of the end.

Lilinokalani must have felt what was coming. On Tuesday night she asked one of her advisors to say to the Government that she would do anything they asked. She was willing to sign any agreement, to relinquish all claims to the crown and crown lands, to give up her personal property if required.

A fragment of the case of one of the plaster of paris shells taken at Washington place, has been found upon the private desk of Lilinokalani. This seems to connect her directly with the dynamite plot.

Lilinokalani Dominis has been caught red-handed with a well equipped arsenal in her possession. Some of the material for destruction of life and property found upon her premises, Washington Place, links her with the plot.

At 9.30 o'clock Wednesday night Senior Captain Robert Parker left the Station house with two native policemen and a waggon. Volunteers for the venture pressed forward but their services were refused.

In a few minutes it became noised around police head-quarters that Parker had gone to Washington Place. It was also stated that a prisoner had disclosed the fact that arms had been hidden there. Parker and his men found over thirty natives at the house.

Identifying the parties they advanced to the garden in the rear of the premises and to a spot indicated by their prisoner. Here they dug down about four feet and unearthed the arsenal.

The munitions were taken to the Station house. Nearly all were in bags. The first bag contained bombs, twenty-one in number. They were spread out on the marshal's table. Sixteen of them were in cement, four in iron, and a very large one in a cocoanut shell. All had one minute fuses. They were evidently to be thrown into crowds of people by hand or slings. Doubtless the iron cased ones were intended for Central Union church.

The guns were then brought in. Some were a little rusty, but their locks worked all right.

Of the rifles there were thirteen Springfields, twenty Winchesters, and one old. All fine weapons.

Eleven large pistols in good order were in the lot. Five fine swords, for the officers, were carefully wrapped in gunny sacks.

Then came the cartridges. This was a revelation. There were thirty-eight belts for rifles and eight for pistols, all full. Several extra belts were empty. Bags and boxes contained about one thousand cartridges fitting the various weapons.

The bombs and guns were carefully examined by members of the Cabinet and officers of the army. General surprise was expressed at the extent of the collection and the evident purpose of the person hoarding the munitions. The bombs were carefully marked and put away. The guns and cartridges were put aside and will be brought into service if needed.

A notable arrest Tuesday evening was that of Chas. T. Gulick, who was at one time under the old régime Minister of the Interior. A month ago plotters were meeting at his house on King-street. It is charged that Gulick assisted in providing the arms. He has claimed to be sick ever since the war broke out.

As a reflex of public opinion in Hawaii, editorials are cited from the three English papers published in Honolulu. The first two are from the *Bulletin* of January 15th:—

In the midst of the excitement attendant upon the putting down of the insurrection our two daily contemporaries have seen fit to publish inflammatory articles, with the evident object of forcing the hands of the Government into taking extreme measures against the alleged conspirators and the leaders of the uprising captured in the field. Some of the articles in question were extremely ferocious in tone and calculated to inflame already sufficiently irritated public mind. It is no sign of either loyalty or friendship to the Government for anybody to dictate to it when it has such serious trouble on its hands as that which has existed for the past week. The administration that has piloted the country safely through many grave emergencies in the past two years, and made the Republic so worthy of respect in that time that more than a thousand volunteers in arms sprang to its defence when attacked, surely ought to be credited with judgment enough for dealing with its prisoners without dictation from newspapers inspired by naturally excited and enraged, but not by any means judicially-minded men taken in the mass. There is no doubt that the Government owes large obligations toward the loyal legions who have stood watch for its protection these two years and sustained it in this very serious crisis. It must see to it that, so far as any persons now in its custody are concerned, there will be no more plotting against its existence. This it can doubtless do without making a slaughter pen for human beings in the jail yard or capitol grounds. The Government has responsibilities both on its own account and on that of the brave and self-sacrificing men who have sustained it in its few days of peril. It will be held responsible by the civilized world for the way that it deals with the humiliated insurgents in its power, and in this as well as other respects its supporters have interests in common with it, otherwise they have stood back of the Government in vain. The Government will, in short, have to act according to the modern practice of civilized nations. It will be well to keep in mind at this juncture the wave of indignation that swept over the United States when the Queen was reported, officially, to have declared her desire, in the event of restoration, to take the most extreme measures against those who had deposed her. There should be confidence now that the Government will be able to take preventive measures against recurring insurrection which will be availing, and satisfy the claims of justice without allowing the element of revenge to influence its action to the damage of the good name of itself and the country. There are in the rebel leadership men who will not turn away from revolutionary folly if they are brayed in a mortar. These must be dealt with, not in vengeance, but in some way that will give the country peace from the machinations of themselves, as well as of their like who might arise, long enough to allow the process of unification of the various elements of the population, fit for a share in the government of the country, to go on to a successful conclusion. The responsibility rests with the Government, and confidence in the Government implies that its hands should be left free. Dictation to the Government in a crisis like the present would not only reveal a spirit of sedition, but it would be sedition in itself almost as flagrant as that of the insurrection now happily suppressed. All danger of any more uprisings of natives, it is certain, has been obliterated by the past eight days' events.

Elsewhere is discussed the matter of the disposal of the rebel leaders. What is to be done with the poor native dupes who followed them in the attempt to overthrow the Government? Here is a great opportunity for the Government to conciliate the native race and add its bulk to the mass of the loyal citizens of the Republic. The *Bulletin* would advocate a general amnesty for all these people. There is no better example can be followed by the Government in this matter than that of the United States after the Union army had crushed the four years' rebellion. Let the spirit in which the natives are treated be that of General Grant, when he gave orders to let the rebels take their horses home—they would need them to plough their fields. Let these poor natives go back in peace to their humble cottages and provide for their wives and children by their labor. "Let us have peace."

The following is from the *Star* of the same date:—

A military court martial consists of a board of thirteen officers. It may have fewer members, but not less than seven. An officer who is made the president sits as judge. The prosecutor is an officer called the judge advocate. According to law, attorneys *may* be in a case. The rules of ordinary legal proceedings are observed to a considerable extent.

The court in this case makes the findings and reaches a verdict. All this is sent to President Dole, the reviewing authority. Quite naturally the Executive will consult his Cabinet. They will in all probability ask the opinion of the Advisory Council, thus making that body the court of last resort.

It seems to the *Star* that by this arrangement the whole matter is in the hands of the people. The bodies in authority will dare to go [illegible] a tangent from the close and readily discernable circle of public opinion. They are the agents, the responsible agents of the rank and file of the good government forces. They have enormous responsibility, but they are fully advised and behind them is a power that will sustain as well as direct them.

While the situation has been clarified during the past twenty-four hours, there remain several pernicious elements. First and foremost is the sympathetic feeling which has so long pervaded, this soft hearted community. It is a small community and personal friendships and family connections too often sway men. These must be cast aside the same as prejudice. Let all extraneous considerations be removed clean cut. The march should be upon the clearly defined path of justice. Everybody knows what justice demands. It requires a course of action that will punish the present offenders and stamp out revolution. The day of namby-pambyism is done. If we permit its recurrence it is at our own peril.

In the trial the defence will fight for time. It will battle desperately for every minute. This explains why: Now nearly everybody wants the rebel leaders taken out and shot to death. In a few days some will be saying they should be hanged. Then imprisonment for life or deportation will be suggested. After that it will be "breaking stone on the reef." Next, "Oh, they have had a severe lesson and will behave better hereafter." And then, in 1897 we will have another revolution.

It was in its first editorial comment on the uprising that the *Star* said, "Don't Delay."

The following are two editorials of different dates from the *Hawaiian Gazette*:—

The all powerful hand of martial law has within its grasp every rebel leader. The rebellion is completely and thoroughly broken and the Government has before it the terrible responsibility of the disposition of the men who have been implicated in poisoning the native minds with the drugs of insurrection. In less than two weeks the true character of Robert Wilcox, Sam Nowlein, and the men who constitute the colony at Oahu Prison has been shown in its true light. They are cowards, root and branch. Had their plans not been interrupted they would have stooped to the lowest, most fiendish crimes known to the civilized world. They were not to stand up and fight like men. The dynamite bombs augured nothing but a slaughter of innocents. Defenceless women and children were to be numbered among the victims. The destruction of property and loss of fighting men in battle is as nothing compared with the barbarous, inhuman methods mapped out for the rebels to pursue.

These are facts which must not be forgotten. What though the plans were not executed? The spirit was there. The rebels are thoroughly cowed, willing to sell the souls of every man in their ranks to save their own skins. Let them cringe! Let them cower! Let them show what miserable wretches they are, and let each receive as never before the full extent of retribution which martial law allows. We have no time for sympathy. Two long years has the Government been lenient toward its enemies.

The welfare of the country demands prompt action against Wilcox, Nowlein, Davies, Rickard, and others against whom the officials have damaging testimony. The men in the field demand it. We do not advocate meeting slaughter with slaughter. We have our reputation abroad to sustain, but the country wants no short imprisonment, on tissue paper screen of punishment to cover a policy of weak leniency. The men in the field have stood by the Government and their loyalty must be reciprocated. The rebel leaders have shown themselves not only enemies of the Republic, but to humanity in general. They have forfeited all rights to life and liberty. The dignity of the Hawaiian Republic must be maintained. There are plenty of courageous men to stand at its back. Let justice, an unflinching, non-wavering justice reign.

The events of Wednesday night prove beyond all question that a different disposition must be made of Lilinokalani than has existed since January 17, 1893. Whatever the plans of the rebel leaders may have been as to the division of spoils had success attended their plot, Lilinokalani was the fountain head, the willing tool with which they worked upon the sympathetic and innocent mind of the ignorant class of natives. She has been a dangerous and disturbing element in all the two years in which she has lived in semi royal retirement. It is no longer possible to wink at the position occupied by Mr. J. O. Dominis. As the *Advertiser* has previously stated, to kill dissension that has resulted in one of the most murderous plots [illegible] The fountain

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head. No query of "What will others say?" should hold the hand of justice.

The people of Hawaii, in justice to themselves have no right to listen to the gadding tongues of gossipy sentimentality in their own or any other country. There are well-founded principles of right and wrong; these alone have we to give attention. The people know, as no foreign nation can know, to what extent lives and property have been threatened.

Lilinokalani has no right to the liberties which she has enjoyed for the past two years. By allowing her to live unguarded in our midst we are jeopardizing the lives and property that the citizen soldiery has fought to preserve. If it is thought best to allow her to remain in the country, we believe she should at least be under the strict surveillance of the police authorities.

The following suggestive editorial is also from the *Hawaiian Gazette*; and will serve to close our account of the Hawaiian Rebellion of 1895:—

By to-day's steamer the Government of the United States will receive the news of the rebellion in Hawaii; the people will learn of bloodshed, of death, of men still in the field standing ready to mingle their blood with that of the slain in order that the Republic may be continued—of a country reaping the deadly reward of the inaction of the present American administration.

What are we fighting for if not to protect the property of United States citizens? The American people have $21,700,689 invested in this country—twice as much as any other two nationalities represented in the Islands, nine-tenths of the whole amount of money invested in plantations or corporations.

And what have we received in return?

Nothing, absolutely nothing. Even the semblance of protection has been removed from the country. And for what? Simply to satisfy the personal jealousies of a few party leaders in the present administration of the United States. This country would never have been called to mourn the death of Charles L. Carter, had the administration done its duty. Every wound, every drop of blood shed in the present rebellion, cries out in condemnation of the recent policy towards these Islands.

'Tis not a question of whether the Republic of Hawaii can stand on its own legs. That has been and is now being fully demonstrated. This Government is not dependent on the United States for its continuance. It is a question of right and wrong; the inalienable right which every American citizen has to expect—a fair amount of protection from his mother country. 'Tis not the expression of a faint-hearted people. Far from it. Americans are to-day facing bullets to uphold the dignity of this country.

What would John L. Stevens, Frank Sewall, and thousands of men in the United States say? They are fair-minded, unbiased, clear-headed Americans; never swayed by petty political jobbery. The facts brought out in the last few days are hard things for the American people to face, but they they are none the less facts. In this instance the mother that stamped the man from the United States as an American has been tried and found wanting. God grant that she may not continue in her wrong doing.

CHINA ITEMS.

The Rev. C. W. Mateer, writing from Tungchow (or Têngchow) to the *North China Daily News*, gives the following account of the Japanese bombardment on the 18th and 19th inst.:—

This afternoon about four o'clock (18th January) the quiet city of Têngchow was startled by the firing of heavy guns. They came, as it proved, from three Japanese men-of-war passing opposite the city through Hope Sound toward the east. Hope Sound separates Miaotao Island from the mainland, and is about four miles wide. The city of Têngchow lies just opposite the east end of this island, the north wall being about half a mile from the shore. Between the city proper and the sea lies the "water city," which has its own separate wall, a small stream flowing between the two. The ordinary garrison of the city is stationed in this "water city," and to the west of it on a high hill there is a small fort with one good sized modern cannon. There are three encampments on the south and west sides of the city, containing in all about 2,500 soldiers. There are no soldiers in the city. When the first few shots were fired I supposed it was the Chinese firing away powder as they are wont to do for practice, but the shots being very heavy I went up to the look-out on top of the house, from which the sea is in full view. I saw a large vessel passing by the city about half way from the mainland to the islands. Presently another came in view from behind the bluff, and finally a third. Both the forward vessels fired continuously on the city as they passed. The hindmost only fired one or two shots. The gun on the little fort on the hill fired several shots as also did some guns in the water city mounted on the wall facing the sea, but their balls fell far short in the water. From my post of observation I could see every flash from the vessels and hear the balls whizzing over my head or striking the wall near by. The Têngchow College, with Mr. Hayes' house and mine, are about 200 yards from the north wall of the city and directly opposite the water city. It saw one shot plough into the earth in a garden about 100 yards from Mr. Hayes' house, and also saw a shell strike the wall and burst with a deafening explosion about 200 yards distant. One shot came through the wall and, glancing, demolished a Chinese house about 120 yards to the east of us. Probably about twenty five shots fell in the city. One shot at least went clear over the city and struck nearly a half mile beyond it. We have already heard of seven or eight houses being struck, two of them being set fire. One shot struck Miss Moon's yard wall, but did no other damage. Miss Moon herself was not at home. A considerable number of persons were wounded, though we have only heard of one being killed, which is rather a remarkable thing considering the number of shells that fell in the city. None of the vessels stopped, but simply fired as they went, and when well past the city turned off and steamed north towards Port Arthur. It is surmised here that the Japanese came through Hope Sound looking for Chinese vessels, which have once or twice secreted themselves there for a short time, and being fired on by the fort on the north hill, opened not only on the fort but also on the city. The Chinese stoutly deny that they fired the first shot, and it is impossible to tell at this writing just how the affray did open. It was a breach of the laws of war for the Japanese to fire in this reckless way and without notice on a defenceless city. They would, of course, have been justified in dismantling the fort, which they could easily have done without touching the city. We have, of course, informed the authorities at Chefoo and hope we may receive a visit from some of them to-morrow. We propose to stand by our homes and only ask that the Japanese be required to treat us according to the laws of civilised warfare.

When the Japanese turned north on Friday evening we supposed we were done with them for the present, but the next day a little after noon they were discovered lying behind the islands and a little later they steamed out as if going east toward the city, and as soon as the foremost got within range she opened fire, the other vessels following in turn. They made a circle, keeping beyond the range of guns on the north hill, and as they turned away from us ceased firing. We hoped they were gone, but they went round the circle and returned firing as before and then steamed off about four o'clock towards Chefoo. As soon as they appeared Mr. Hayes went down to the water city and with the help of a military officer there managed to get a sampan, and taking a white flag and also an American flag, put off to try to board one of the vessels and, if possible, make such statement of the facts as would prevent them firing into the city. He was for a time in the direct range of the gun on the hill and shots fell both before and behind him. He finally got outside of the direct range, and keeping on got quite near one of the vessels, but no signs or hailing from him were heeded and as they did not stop, he of course could not get alongside. I stood on top of the house with an American flag waving in full view of them through the whole first round and part of the second. They seemed to aim most of their shots at the tower over the gate, and as our house lay in about the same range we got a larger number of shots than any spot in the city. One of the first shots fired landed a shell in the earth about 40 feet from our house. A few moments later another fell within five feet of the first. Half a dozen more went whizzing over my head and struck and burst beyond. * * * In all 8 shots struck quite close around our house, and 6 or 7 more within a couple of hundred yards. Most of the shots fell in open gardens. One shot went clean through the North Gate tower but did not seriously damage it. At least 40 shells fell in the city and several struck the wall. The gun on the north hill fired from time to time, and Mr. Hayes reports that one shot came within 3 or 4 rods of the foremost Japanese vessel. The people fled in crowds to our houses supposing that somehow or other we could protect them. The first day's bombardment created a regular stampede from the city and fabulous prices were paid for any kind of conveyance. The second day trebled the panic; men, women, and children were flying in all directions the men carrying bundles of clothing and the women hobbling along on their little feet dragging their children after them. All night the city was astir with preparations for the moving, and on Sabbath morning multitudes started on foot and others with any conveyance that it was possible to get. A blinding snow-storm came on about 9 o'clock, and continued until late in the afternoon. It is feared that many perished in the snow.

A very circumstantial account is given in Chinese official despatches *via* Chefoo of an attack said to have been made on Weihaiwei by the Japanese fleet on January 26th. The largest and fastest of the ships are said to have made a dash for the port at full speed, "accompanied by a swarm of smaller craft." But the Chinese "received this audacious attempt with such a sharp and well sustained fire from their quick-firing and machine guns, assisted by the 37-ton, 30-ton, and 25-ton guns of the fleet and battery, that the enemy was compelled almost immediately to make a circular sweep to the north-east and disappear into the outer darkness. But not before we had smashed three of the enemy's torpedo-boats and over ten (thirteen were counted) of our largest shells struck the larger ships." There is more in the same strain, but truly we can scarcely conceive that any Chinese officers concocted such a clumsy falsehood. How can it be imagined that the Japanese fleet would have attempted during the night to dash into a harbour supposed to be so thickly sowed with torpedoes and other marine obstructions that even the enemy's ships lying within had difficulty in moving. It is the old story. A Japanese reconnaissance is magnified into an attack in force.

Still more circumstantial is the following:—

On the same morning, New Year's Day, at a quarter past 4 o'clock, the land forces of the enemy, computed at 12,000, men were observed by our outposts and videttes stationed to watch the main road leading to Chefoo on the north and Yung-ching on the south. This body of troops had apparently come from Ninghai and were advancing quickly for the port. The idea seemed to be to surprise the market town of Weihai which is the western point of the port. The approaches to the town being almost entirely devoid of natural features of defence, it had consequently always been considered the weakest spot. But since the war commenced, and especially after the fall of Port Arthur the approaches to the town for a distance of three miles had been strengthened by batteries and entrenchments as far as the ingenuity of foreign experts could avail, so that the position is now as strong as, perhaps stronger than, those guarding the southern and eastern approaches on the landward side. Immediately our videttes discovered the enemy the beacons were at once fired to give warning of their approach, while the whole of the outposts at this spot, numbering 800 horse and four guns—the latter commanded by a foreigner—fell back on the wood which constituted the first line of our defence on the western land side. A discharge from field-pieces and carbines was immediately opened on the advance guard of the enemy, 4,000 strong, who replied with their artillery. Commodore Liu, commanding at the town of Weihaiwei, despatched twelve machine and eight quick-firing guns and a body of 600 blue-jackets to the front as soon as the news of the land attack was received, while another division of 4,000 regular troops, under foreign officers, with twelve guns or two batteries of horse artillery also arrived at the wood a quarter of an hour after the naval brigade reached there. Our fire kept the enemy from advancing, and by 10 o'clock they were reported to have retreated to a distance of five miles or so from the wood. Our loss on this occasion was twenty-seven bluejackets and about sixty regulars. The enemy being in the open lost three times as many. Our scouts brought in 479 rifles and bayonets and counted as many of the enemy's dead bodies here and there within a mile and half of our entrenchments. Our position at the wood has now been considerably strengthened by extra machine and quick firing guns and we have pushed our videttes farther northwards and westwards from this point.

Both land and sea attacks were intended as a surprise; the enemy, being apparently under the impression that at the hour of the attack all the officers of the fleet and army would be occupied in going through the ceremony of paying new

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year congratulations to the Emperor's tablet at the Imperial temple at Liukungtao, which forms the northern barrier of the port, where is situated the Admiral's *yamén* and other government offices, state rooms, etc. The enemy probably thought that, as in the case of Pingyang, at the autumn equinox, our soldiers would be carousing or sleeping off the effects of their celebration of New Year's eve and that with the surprise and confusion arising from a night attack at that moment, they would be able to obtain a footing inside the port. They were apparently surprised in their turn. Vigilant watch is kept over land and sea, and our outposts are spread out several miles distant from the first defence lines. Our torpedo boats are also sent daily on scouting duty.

One can scarcely persuade oneself to believe that this entire tale is fiction; yet it is certain that no Japanese troops landed at Ninghai and that no attempt was made to capture Weihaiwei from the westward. The Chinese have surpassed themselves in this instance.

The *North China Daily News* publishes a translation of a proclamation to have been issued by Wu Tach'eng to the Japanese soldiers:—

Having perfected over fifty battalions of Hunan troops at Shanhaikwan for the last three months and given my men the rough drills and armed them with magazine rifles, I am now ready to proceed forth on my way to meet the enemy, and it is certain that within two months decisive battles will be fought. But how can you Japanese, exhausted by disease and cold stand up against my fresh troops? You Japanese have young wives and children at home who are weeping and longing for your safe return; you are but the tools of Otori; you have been forced by conscription to make your bodies the receptacles of our bullets. Where you are victorious your Generals get all the praise and honour; if you get defeated they escape while you common soldiers suffer. I am, however, also of a charitable state of mind, and I cannot bear to see you going to destruction before my fresh battalions in this severe cold, through no fault of your own. Hence, I hereby give you Japanese soldiers notice, if you should be defeated and have no place to run away to, wherever you should see my signal-boards bearing the words "Surrender and avoid death," you may at once present yourselves to the officers in charge, who are also delegated to the duty on account of their reputation for charity and justice; you must then throw down your arms and prostrate yourselves before the signal. You will then be received into our encampments and given two meals a day and exactly the same treatment as our own people. You will not be put to hard labour and when peace is restored you will be sent back in steamers to your homes to meet your wives and sons once more. I swear before Heaven, earth, and the gods that I will not go back on these words, for by so doing I will be injuring my own future life. But if you will not harken to my words, let us try conclusions with your best troops. Victory will rest with the best men in three battles. My experience of military matters for the past fifteen years makes me confident in the quality and ability of my troops.

Special proclamation of Wu, Assistant Imperial Commissioner of Defence, an officer of the Premier button, President of the Board of War, Vice-President of the Court of Censors, and Governor of Hunan."

Shanhaikwan, First Moon, 21st year of Kuanghsü.

General Sung telegraphs from the vicinity of Haicheng that the Japanese are suffering terribly from cold, and are either dying from its effects or committing suicide. It is often stated journalistically in this Settlement that a Japanese reverse would change the whole complexion of affairs, and put new heart into the Chinese. But the Japanese are perpetually meeting with terrible reverses according to Chinese accounts. There no lack of reverses. The "braves" of the Middle Kingdom ought to have hearts of magnificent dimensions. It will be remembered wholesale suicides were supposed to be taking place in Korea also during the early part of the war.

It has been shown to be a military idiosyncracy of the Chinese to re-capture towns that have passed out of their own occupation. Thus they re-captured Phyong-yang, long before the Japanese had reached its neighbourhood; then they recaptured Wiju, while their own troops were holding it, and thus they have now according to the Kuteau correspondent of the *North China Daily News*—re-captured Tienchwangtai, which has been in occupation by Sung's troops from first to last. The intelligence circulated and gravely published with reference to this war is supremely comical.

According to the *Pekin and Tientsin Times* the Coast Defences under General von Hanneken are to form part, administratively, of the Customs Service under Sir Robert Hart. It must be extremely difficult for Sir Robert Hart to withhold his active assistance from the efforts that certain foreigners are now making to organize some semblance of military capacity in China. His position is one of immense perplexity and anxiety, deserving of all sympathy.

THE KOREAN EX-PRISONERS.

Mrs. Okumura, says a Tokyo contemporary, is a lady well-known in this city, to which she has returned after sojourning for a considerable period in the Korean capital. She is a great friend of the present Korean Home Minister, Boku Yeiko, and has the following story to narrate about him:—When compelled to come as a political fugitive to Japan, in 1884, in company with the unfortunate Kim Ok-kyün and many others who were suspected of complicity in the *émeute* of that year, Boku left behind him a young wife. The vengeance of the party in power, according to Chinese as well as Korean custom, extended to even the female relatives of those who had fallen under the ban of their displeasure, and Boku's wife was hunted from post to pillar until further concealment became impossible. In the meantime she had given birth to a little girl. One night, in mid-winter, finding no helping hand to assist her, the poor woman resolved upon committing suicide. Wrapping up her baby as warmly as she could, she left the tiny bundle at the door of a peasant, and ran to a river that was close at hand. It was completely frozen over, but the desperate lady broke a hole through the ice and drowned herself, her body being recovered the next day. A document had been left with the child stating whose daughter she was, and on Boku's return to power the peasant brought him the little girl, now ten years old, whom he had reared as kindly as he could. The girl was passionately attached to her foster-father and refused at first to have anything to do with Boku, but she is now reconciled to the change in her fortunes. Boku intends sending his daughter to Japan shortly, where she will be given the advantages of a first-class education. So soon as the Home Minister entered upon the duties and responsibilities of his office, continues Mrs. Okumura, his first act was to liberate the prisoners that had been suspected of connection with the *émeute* of 1884, and incarcerated ever since. They were thirty in number, more than one-half being female-relatives of the former refugees. They were led at once to Boku's residence and the meeting is described as having been most pathetic. Gaunt skeletons, covered with vermin from head to foot, and clad in noisome rags, they looked as if resurrected from some living tomb. Boku had them fed and properly dressed, and is now doing everything in his power to make them forget their fearful sufferings. Among the number were the wife and daughter of the foully assassinated Kim Ok-kyün, who heard for the first time from Boku's lips the sad story of the death of their husband and father. The wife is described as looking like a woman of sixty, though only thirty-two or thirty-three years of age. The daughter, just seventeen, is said to be—as rumour had long ago reported—unusually fine-looking, and one whose spirit even the rigours of a Korean dungeon have failed to break. It is comforting to think that the two sufferers will be well-cared for in future. Mrs. Kim had been subjected to torture several times in order to make her confess the real or supposed misdeeds of her late husband, and she is now a mere cripple from the hideous treatment that she has undergone. Boku is warmly praised for his skill as an equestrian, he having no peer in Korea in the art. He was an excellent rider while in Japan, and excited the admiration even of Japanese military horsemen by his skill. The Home Minister is said to have told Mrs. Okumura, just before her departure, that he intended to devote his life to the work of Korean regeneration, but that he was almost in despair at the magnitude of the task. Everyone hitherto connected with the administration was tainted with the selfishness and rapacity of the Ming (Bin) faction; it was well-nigh impossible to find an honest, disinterested person to assist him in his labours. All looked forward to a continuence of the "spoils system" and seemed to regard the tax-payers as their legitimate prey, while it was most difficult to find any that would believe in his own sincerity and integrity of purpose, everybody, from the Court downwards, simply suspecting him of the desire to line his own pockets in the good, old-fashioned style. For all that he would not let himself lose heart wholly, and would try to make his country and countrymen follow the broad and humanizing lines of reform laid down by Count Inouye, for whom he expressed the warmest esteem and profoundest respect.

INVESTIGATIONS IN CONNECTION WITH THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN IRON FOUNDRY.

Hitherto, says the vernacular press, opinions were divided as to whether an iron foundry should be established in Japan as a Government or a private concern. After mature deliberation the Government has decided to take the responsibility. Convinced that the matter is of extreme importance on account of the extension of military defences and the development of the country's industries, the Department of Agriculture and Commerce appointed, three years ago, a special Investigation Committee who prosecuted various enquiries into the subject. The result of those enquiries is embodied in the following statements. With regard to the quantity of raw material, the Committee's investigations at Kamaishi, and Sennin-yama of Iwate Prefecture, at Akadani of Niigata Prefecture, and in several districts of Hokkaido, were entirely satisfactory. As it was found that in those four parts alone the supply of raw material was sufficient for an iron foundry, investigations were not extended to other localities. It is already known, however, that in many other places, in Niigata, Shimane, Fukuoka, Okayama, Yamaguchi, and Hokkaido, iron is found abundantly, while the sand ore of Sanin and Sanyo and along the Pacific coast extending between Tokyo and Aomori is almost inexhaustible. Then again, the copper ore found in Kii, Shikoku, and Kyushu is adapted for the manufacture of iron according to experiments made at the Besshi Copper Mine. Japan may certainly be called an iron country, and the remark made by some to the effect that there is not sufficient ore in Japan, is entirely fallacious.

The iron ore of Japan is chiefly red or loadstone, both of which kinds yield iron of the best quality. After extensive analysis of the ore produced in various localities, it was found that the percentage of iron in most specimens is very rich, while that of injurious ingredients, such as phosporus, is very insignificant. Such an excellent ferrous ore is not easily found even in Europe and America.

The iron produced at Kamaishi and Nakakozaka is well adapted for practical requirements. In the Osaka Arsenal Kamaishi iron only has been used for some years in the manufacture of shot. In the casting of coast guns foreign pig iron has lately been superseded by the pig iron of Kamaishi, which is far cheaper though of as good quality. In the Naval Arsenal and the Nippon Casting Company, Kamaishi iron is now mixed with foreign iron in order to make it harder and less brittle. Pure Kamaishi iron is sold at a higher price than this compounded metal. Experiments conducted with the ore of Sennin-yama, Akadani, and that portion of the Kamaishi mine not yet worked, show that the same kind of excellent iron can be obtained

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FAILURE OF THE PEACE EMBASSY.

THE hopes of peace that were based on the coming of the Chinese Envoys have proved abortive. On the 1st instant the Envoys met the Japanese Plenipotentiaries in the conference chamber of the Hiroshima Prefectural Offices, and the credentials of each side were submitted. Subsequently, the powers of the Chinese Embassy were examined, when it was found that they were signally defective. In the first place, no mention whatever was made about the object of the mission; in the second, the Envoys were not given power to conclude any arrangement; and in the third, they were distinctly instructed simply to act as conveyers of messages between the Japanese Government and the Tsung-li Yamên. Under these circumstances, it is plain that to open negotiations was out of the question. The Japanese Plenipotentiaries therefore invited the Chinese Envoys to another conference on the following day. At 4.40 p.m. their Excellencies CHANG and SHAO arrived at the Council Chamber, where Count ITO and Viscount MUTSU were already waiting. Some questions were addressed to the Envoys with reference to their credentials, and finally Count ITO informed them that as their powers were quite inadequate, the Japanese Plenipotentiaries must decline to confer with them. His Excellency added, however, that Japan would be willing to receive any plenipotentiaries coming duly accredited.

China's conduct in this matter seems open to one interpretation only; she is not in earnest. Yet even that explanation is insufficient. It is inconceivable that she can have expected to betray Japan into the flagrant blunder of negotiating with Envoys of such a character. She had received ample warning that the question of credentials would be carefully scrutinized. Communications on that very subject had passed between Pekin and Tokyo, their issue being an emphatic assurance from the Chinese Government that its Envoys were invested with due plenipotentiary authority. It follows, therefore, that China took the trouble of sending a peace embassy with full knowledge that it must fail on the threshold; fail, not because of Japan's greed, but because of China's deliberate neglect of essential technicalities. We say nothing of the insulting triviality of her assurances to Japan. That phase of the affair need not be discussed here. The perplexing point is that China should have put herself so palpably in the wrong. Her diplomacy is even worse than her military display. Those that did not believe in the integrity of her peaceful purpose—and we confess that we were among the number—imagined that she was merely playing to the European gallery. Her last resource lay in Western intervention. Could she have successfully posed as anxious for peace herself, while forcing Japan into the position of unjustly prosecuting the war, she would have established a strong claim upon the active sympathy of States already most desirous of seeing the sword sheathed. She might, perhaps, have managed to contrive such a situation. We do not think that she could, for we know well how reasonable is the mood of the statesmen now directing Japan's affairs. Still, the effort was worth making, and it was in pursuit of such an object, as we imagined, that she deputed their Excellencies CHANG and SHAO to come and talk peace at Hiroshima. But how could she hope for the smallest scintilla of success when she entrusted the unhappy Envoys with credentials obviously farcical? To choose men of comparatively insignificant rank was an intelligible part of the play, but to invest them with the functions of mere telegraph clerks was to reduce the whole business to the level of light comedy. We can scarcely imagine that the Chinese Government aspires to be pitied for ignorance of the alphabet of international etiquette. But what is its ambition? We can not tell. The incident must be added to the catalogue of incomprehensible items constituting the history of the present war. Infinitely regrettable, however, is this new obstacle needlessly thrust into the path to peace. Count ITO and Viscount MUTSU acted wisely in assuring China that, despite the unpleasant necessity imposed on them by her conduct in connection with this embassy, Japan would always be ready to receive duly accredited Envoys. But even that assurance will not appreciably lessen the greatly increased reluctance that China must feel to figure again as a suppliant.

A HANDFUL OF FOREIGNERS.

THE old saying that men readily believe what they wish to be true receives constant illustration in the writings of at least one Yokohama journal. Ever since the commencement of this war the *Japan Gazette* has given ready credence to every rumour of Japanese disaster, and has steadily laboured to represent the Japanese military position in a disheartening light. The results of such tactics have sometimes been very curious. Take the case of Port Arthur, for example. Port Arthur, as our readers remember, was attacked on November the 21st, and by the afternoon of November the 22nd the whole place was in Japanese possession. Here, however, are some of the *Japan Gazette's* predictions and comments about that stronghold:—

> We are of opinion that the reduction of the stronghold will be a task of weeks, perhaps even months, rather than of days. Sebastopol did not fall until after a year's seige, and Port Arthur, unless all reports are inaccurate, is much stronger than Sebastopol.—(*Japan Gazette*, Nov. 9th.)
>
> From the way in which Chinese transports have been coming to and from Port Arthur, the besieged ought not to suffer from lack of food, and the fact of foreigners leading them should give them courage. If they do not fight within Port Arthur, they never will. Upon their ability to resist a siege will depend the chance of China pulling herself together.—(*Japan Gazette*, Nov. 19th.)

As predictions, these utterances are amusing. Port Arthur was to stand a seige of "weeks, perhaps even months," yet it fell in 36 hours. Upon its "ability to resist a siege China's chance of pulling herself together" was to "depend," yet its signal inability to do anything of the kind did not in the least deter the *Japan Gazette* from placing credit in China's chances. Curiously as all that reads now, it is far surpassed by our contemporary's fiasco over the Weihaiwei affair. We really must be permitted to quote a little, the episode is so funny:—

> This which at the commencement of the war everyone looked for, that which everyone after the fall of Port Arthur thought to be impossible, has happened. The Chinese have at length made a resolute stand, and the war has entered upon a new phase. The reason is one which should convince the Japanese more than tons of newspaper argument ever could have done. Japan's easy successes led some sanguine men, amongst them no less a personage than Count Okuma, to make all kinds of preposterous statements. One of that gentleman's observations was to the effect that the Japanese troops were the best in the world. There was some ground for the remark. France found considerable difficulty in fighting the Chinese, whereas Japan conquered them with ease, and even Port Arthur, which ought to have been an impregnable stronghold, if held by determined men, fell almost without a struggle. But a change has come over the spirit of the scene. The Japanese attacked Weihaiwei. In that fortress were Chinese of the same calibre as those whom the Japanese encountered at Pingyang and Port Arthur, and the place was on the whole less powerful than the great arsenal on the Liaotung Peninsula. But, and the difference is a vital one, in Weihaiwei is a handful foreigners. They are not trained fighting men. The Japanese newspapers have told us, again and again, that these men are mere adventurers without technical knowledge, or experience of discipline. We do not doubt that statement, it is probably absolutely authentic. Yet the presence of these men has sufficed to inflict upon Japanese arms the first real disaster recorded in the present struggle. What the result would have been had Weihaiwei been garrisoned entirely by Europeans, instead of Chinese headed by a few European desperadoes, can be dimly imagined. But the few resolute men there have proved sufficient to stem the tide of unvarying success, and to give the Japanese the first taste they have had of what genuine fighting means. What is the actual extent of the reverse sustained cannot be ascertained. The Japanese official reports are silent as to the losses, and merely tell us that hostilities on both sides are suspended. . . . What the losses may have been there are no data to show. That they were considerable is demonstrated by the remarkable silence which the authorities observe in connection with them. We are inclined to believe they must have been very heavy, or the Japanese would never have suspended hostilities. . . . . Still there has been a check, and those who expected the Chinese when officered by Europeans, to be as pusillanimous as when left by cowardly commanders to their own devices, are much mistaken.—*Japan Gazette*, February 4th.

Nearly three days before the above appeared in print the whole of the Weihaiwei mainland forts were in Japanese possession. However, inasmuch as the news had come *viâ* Shanghai only, that point need not be much considered. But certain things were known beyond all question. It was known that on the forenoon of the 30th ultimo the Japanese had carried the Chinese entrenched positions as well as all the littoral forts on the east side of Weihaiwai. It was known that a force of blue-jackets and marines had landed from

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the Japanese fleet and turned the guns of these forts upon the island fortifications. It was known that, from the evening of that day until the night of the 1st instant, a violent snow-storm raged in the Gulf of Pechili, completely obscuring everything, rendering military or naval operations impossible, and even compelling the greater part of the Japanese Squadrons to put into Yungcheng Bay. And it was consequently known that intelligence could not be carried across the sea to Talien until the storm abated. That was all—a simply story enough. Yet out of it the *Japan Gazette* manufactured the pretty tale quoted above; a tale having for its moral the immense value of foreign aid. Between Weihaiwei and Port Arthur there had been "a vital difference." The former possessed "a handful of foreigners." Our readers will observe that the same authority made almost the same statement about Port Arthur:—"The fact of foreigners leading the Chinese should give them courage." But when Port Arthur fell ignominiously the "foreigners" disappeared from the reckoning, only to be placed once more upon the scene, with a louder fanfare, at Weihaiwei. They were not trained military experts but "mere adventurers, without technical knowledge or experience of discipline." "Yet the presence of these men sufficed to inflict upon Japanese arms the first real disaster recorded in the present struggle." "The first real disaster!" "A few resolute foreigners in Weihaiwei had proved sufficient to stem the tide of unvarying successes, and to give the Japanese the first taste they had had of what genuine fighting means." Were such a statement, *mutatis mutandis*, published by a Japanese journal, what denunciations it would justly evoke. Suppose that England and France being at war, a Japanese newspaper were to declare that the presence or absence of a few Japanese "adventurers without technical knowledge or experience of discipline" would constitute a "vital difference" between the capacity or incapacity of a French fortress to resist a British assault. What a shout of derision would be raised against Japanese conceit! If the Fay of ROBERT BURNS chanced to visit Yokohama, he would find some folks sadly in want of his gifts. But he keeps obstinately at a distance, and so the penny trumpet continues to blow brazen blasts about the marvellous prowess of "handfuls of foreigners," unconscious of the supreme ridicule thus brought upon foreign heads. One more quotation:—

> Weihaiwei has offered, and apparently is offering, resistence (*sic*) of a manner totally different to anything the Japanese forces have yet experienced. We need not credit the Chinese accounts to believe that for the first time since July the Japanese have found that fighting China is really a very serious undertaking. That they will eventually reduce Weihaiwei is considered by many people certain. But the mere fact that they have not captured it will seem to the Chinese like victory, and will have the same inspiriting effect, so that its ultimate fall will be shorn of much of the *eclât* that would have been Japan's had it succumbed as readily as did Port Arthur. And in any case the bill is bound to be a heavy one. The silence of the Japanese as to their losses is more significant than any fictions the Chinese can invent. It is the only occasion in the war that an official report of an engagement has not contained some estimate of the numbers slain.—*Japan Gazette*, February 5th.

Before the above was published, official news of the capture of all the remaining Weihaiwei forts on the mainland had reached Tokyo. The fall of the second half of the stronghold had been delayed by a snow-storm, happy for the Chinese, in that it enabled them to run away unobserved. On what evidence did the *Japan Gazette* base its assertion that "Weihaiwei had offered, and was apparently offering resistance of a manner totally different to anything the Japanese forces had yet experienced?" "Chinese accounts" are explicitly excluded. What then was the foundation of an assertion one of the most ridiculously false ever published by a newspaper? The Chinese defended one half of the Weihaiwei forts, and then ran away without attempting to defend the remainder. Where were the handful of "foreign desperadoes?" Where were the "few resolute men," "mere adventurers without technical knowledge or experience of discipline," whose leadership saved the Chinese soldiers from yielding to the pusillanimity that they display "when left by cowardly commanders to their own devices?" Fate was horribly ironical when she decreed this vertigo for the *Japan Gazette*, with the intention of ruthlessly sweeping away in a few hours the whole fabric of that unhappy journal's diseased imagination. It will scarcely be claimed that "the handful of foreigners" contrived the snowstorm during which the Chinese troops ran away and the Japanese soldiers doubtless felt very damp and uncomfortable. But unless they be credited with that measure of meteorological ability, we really fail to discover any evidences of "the first real disaster" that their "presence sufficed to inflict upon Japanese arms." As for the "bill" "bound to be heavy," well, it turns out that only 150 were wounded, and the loss of killed must obviously have been very small. The moral of it all is that newspapers should not too readily believe what they wish to be true.

AN OLD, BUT STILL MISUNDERSTOOD, INCIDENT.

IN a leading article, generally temperate and impartial, the *London and China Express* impugns the accuracy of Japanese official reports, and gives two instances in support of its indictment. The first is that Japanese officials alleged that the *Naniwa Kan* did not at the outset know the *Kowshing* to be a British ship; the second, that "the officer commanding at Söul declared that there was any lady present with Mr. GARDNER'S party, although Mrs. GARDNER had been pushed into the ditch." With regard to the former item of evidence comment seems scarcely necessary. What the officers on the *Naniwa Kan* knew or did not know at first, they alone are competent to say. Certainly, after their visit to the *Kowshing* they did know her to be a British ship. But the GARDNER incident, so far from serving to impugn the truthfulness of Japanese officials, tends rather to show the pertinacity of errors that have once found their way into print. The *London and China Express* plainly believes that a bodily attack was made by Japanese soldiers upon and Mr. and Mrs. GARDNER, and that the lady was pushed into a ditch. The facts of this affair are, we believe, well established, though apparently the public remains unacquainted with them. Walking one day in the outskirts of Söul with a friend, Mr. GARDNER, the British Acting Consul-General, came to a place where sentries were stationed about the camp of the Japanese Army. The two gentlemen were challenged by the sentry on duty, but without paying any attention, they attempted to pass into the camp. Naturally they were not allowed to proceed, but it does not appear that in restraining them any rudeness or unnecessary violence was resorted to. They were shown out of the lines by the officers on duty, who presented their cards to Mr. GARDNER. It is always unpleasant for a gentleman enjoying a leisurely stroll in places to which he thinks he has a right of access, to be suddenly challenged by a sentry and obliged to restrict his wanderings. Mr. GARDNER probably felt that keenly, but there is nothing to show that he was not treated as politely as the circumstances permitted. As for Mrs. GARDNER, several eye-witnesses are unanimous in asserting that she was not one of the party attempting to pass into the Japanese military lines, but that she joined her husband and his friend after they had proceeded some distance on their return to the city. The story of the pushing into the ditch seems to have been a figment of somebody's imagination. It should be added that so soon as Mr. GARDNER preferred a complaint, the officer in command of the Japanese troops and the Japanese Representative in Söul expressed to him their regret that he had been subjected to inconvenience, but he declined, it is said, to be satisfied with their conciliatory efforts and demanded that the Japanese Minister should go in person to the British Consulate, tender an apology, and give an undertaking that the officers and soldiers concerned in the affair should be punished. It is not surprising that such a demand did not meet with compliance, but it is surprising that an affair so simple and so explicable should remain misunderstood to this day.

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VINDICATIONS.

THE methods of Mr. JAMES CREELMAN'S vindicators are worthy of their object. One of the falsehoods for which that correspondent was apparently responsible is a statement that "the foreign correspondents, horrified by the spectacle, left the army in a body." The whole gravamen of the falsehood lay in the words "horrified by the spectacle, left the army in a body." Such an assertion indicated, as plainly as language could indicate, that the foreign correspondents were too much shocked by the excesses of the Japanese soldiery to remain with the army, and that they entered an indignant protest by leaving in a body. Nothing of the kind having occurred, the falsehood was exposed and justly denounced. Then Mr. CLEELMAN'S defenders came forward and explained that he had never made such a statement. Somebody in New York, expanding his telegram with more freedom than veracity, had quietly inserted the words "horrified by the spectacle, left the army in a body." This explanation was most explicit. We were told:—'Great stress is laid upon the alleged inaccuracy of that portion of his telegram in which it was made to read that the correspondents "horrified by the spectacle, left the Army in a body." * * * Mr. CREELMAN was too loyal to his paper to state that the words "horrified by the spectacle, left the Army in a body," were inserted in New York, but we consider ourselves at liberty to disclose * * * that the phrase was invented in New York?' Very well. There was an end of the matter. A sub-editor, or telegraph-expander, in New York had invented a lie and put it into the mouth of Mr. JAMES CREELMAN. One might reasonably suppose that the above disclosure of shameless fabrication would have terminated the attempt to vindicate this particular part of the episode. A man in New York had lied. *Voilà tout.* But no. There is a sequel. The explanation quoted above was published editorially on January 31st. Six days later the same journal, referring to the account given by the correspondent of *The Times*, wrote thus:—"Mr. COWEN begins by substantiating the statement that the foreign correspondents left the Army, and that they left it because they desired to escape to a place of freedom where they could safely describe what they had witnessed. * * * We may take it that the disgraceful charge of wilful lying brought against Mr. CREELMAN by the most virulent, because the most corrupt, of his assailants, will be withdrawn." Now the question, is by what form of explanation do Mr. CREELMAN'S vindicators propose to hold. At one moment, they excuse him by saying that he never wrote the falsehood attributed to him; that it was "invented" by a telegraph-expander in New York. The next, they announce that *The Times'* correspondent substantiates this particular statement, and call upon Mr. CREELMAN'S accusers to withdraw their disgraceful charge. Mr. CREELMAN'S accusers may well be pardoned if they find themselves a little bewildered. They can not hesitate to accept the revelation that the falsehood was invented in New York, and on the strength of that explanation they acquit Mr. CREELMAN, as a matter of course. But they are now asked to believe that the "invention" of the New York telegraph-expander is substantiated by *The Times'* correspondent, and that they are consequently bound to confess Mr. CREELMAN'S credibility, though he never had hand, act, or part in the New York "invention" substantiated by Mr. COWEN! Did ever casuists cling so clumsily to a palpable contradiction?

Quite apart from any question of Mr. JAMES CREELMAN, these methods are interesting. There is a thoroughness about them that commands admiration. Mr. CREELMAN must be proved to have been correct even in statements that he never made, and the very "invention" of a New York telegraph-expander must be shown to be corroborated by the correspondent of *The Times*. And then we have Mr. CREELMAN'S fine sense of loyalty. 'That gentleman was too loyal to his paper to state that the words "horrified by the spectacle, left the Army in a body," were inserted in New York.' Such loyalty is beyond praise. The words are a gross falsehood. As they stand they greatly heighten the effect of terrible charges brought against the soldiery of a country. They were admittedly "invented" by a subordinate in a news office. They were published in the columns of a journal recently convicted of probably the most shameless fraud ever perpetrated by a newspaper. Yet, loyalty to that subordinate and to such a newspaper restrained Mr. JAMES CREELMAN from exposing the falsehood for which he was publicly responsible. What matter about the victims of the lie. What matter about the tens of thousands of people deceived by it. Let us have "loyalty" before everything. That is *fin-du-siècle* morality with a vengeance.

SERFS AND SERFDOM IN OLD JAPAN.

OF the many strange customs that prevailed in Old Japan, one of the most interesting was serfdom. It constituted a recognised part of the social mechanism, and authenticated records establish beyond doubt that it remained in wide vogue for a considerable period. Its origin is lost in the shadows of antiquity, but its establishment as a regular system may be said to date from the *Taika* era (645-649 A.D.) when a social and administrative re-organization, almost as extensive as that of the *Meiji* Restoration, was inaugurated, and it received confirmation in the *Taiho* era (701-703 A.D.), when supplementary reforms, necessary for carrying out the *Taika* changes, were accomplished and embodied in the celebrated code known by the name of the era.

The English word "serf" does not appear to correspond strictly with the term used in that sense in Old Japan, for certainly the expression *Sen-min* (despised people), as distinguished from *Ryo-min* (respectable people), bore a wider sense than that conveyed by the English epithet. If the origin of serfdom is obscure, the records allege that the institution existed as early as the reign of the Emperor YURIAKU (457-479 A.D.), to say nothing of one or two cases referred by Japanese annalists to the regency of the Empress-Dowager JINGO (200-269 A.D.). The *Nippon-ki* (Japanese Annals, written by ONO YASUMARO in the year 612 A.D.) records that, during the reign of the Emperor YURIAKU, NE-NO OMI was detected plotting against the Court, and in consequence of that offence his posterity for eighty generations (the equivalent of "for ever") were degraded to the rank of common labourers. Thus, in ancient times, it is evident that the perpetration of grave crimes was sometimes punished by degrading the offenders and their posterity to the ranks of the despised classes. Six causes seem to have operated to produce serfs, or rather "despised people," namely, crime, subjugation, debt, special circumstances of birth, naturalization, and kidnapping.

In the section of the Law relating to Burglars and Brigands in the *Taiho* code, it was provided that persons charged with treason or murderous attempts against the SOVEREIGN, should be sentenced to capital punishment, and that all the other members of their families together with their property, should be confiscated. The example given above of NE-NO OMI may be cited as an instance of the first case, the persons confiscated to the Government becoming, in fact, State property, under the little of "*sen-min*." As for the process of subjugation it was divided into two kinds, foreign and domestic.

Foreign subjugation took place entirely in the case of Koreans. The Korean peninsula was a kind of vassal of Japan in ancient times. In the 53rd year of the reign of the Emperor NINTOKU (365 A.D.), General TAMICHI was despatched to Korea with an army to punish certain acts of insubordination. The country was soon reduced to subjection, and the inhabitants of four refractory villages, being carried back as prisoners, became serfs of the State. Subjugation of a weaker clan by a stronger and consequent reduction of the vanquished to the position of serfs of the victors, must have occurred frequently during the early periods of Japanese his-

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tory, when the whole land was not yet brought under the sway of one ruler. That, however, is only an inference based on the sociological annals of other races. What is certain is that strife between hostile clans and reduction of the weaker to serfdom were frequent occurrences even after the country had been brought under the sway of one ruler, though it may be taken for granted that the cruelty of the triumphant clan was greatly mitigated by the control of a generally recognised SOVEREIGN. During the reign of the Emperor KIMMEI (540-571 A.D.), for instance, when the two clans MONONOBE and SOGA were deadly foes, OMURAJI KAWAKATSU, of the former clan, was defeated and killed, and 273 members of his family were condemned to be hereditary serfs of a certain temple, his estate, also, being handed over to the same temple.

Turning now to debt as a factor in the creation of serfs, there is reason to believe that its influence was considerable. But public opinion soon rebelled against it. In the first year of the reign of the Empress JITO (690-696 A.D.), proclamation was made that a creditor exacting serfdom as a condition of failure to discharge a debt could not charge interest on the principal. Definite laws regulating the relations of creditor and debtor were first settled by the *Taiho* Code. In the Miscellaneous Laws section of that remarkable instrument, it was provided that interest payable every sixtieth day should not exceed ⅓th of the principal; that even though a period of 480 days had expired, the interest should not aggregate more than the amount of the principal; and that when a debtor could not discharge his obligation in money, he was liable to become the serf of his creditor. Special circumstances of birth were another cause of serfdom, inasmuch as the issue of a serf remained a serf. It must further be noted that, owing to the strictness of class distinctions in those early periods, a child, either of whose parents was a serf, continued to be included in the list of the despised race.

Naturalization did not necessarily involve serfdom. In the Census Laws Section of the *Taiho* Code it was provided that, if a person holding the position of a serf in a foreign country passed over to Japan and become naturalized there, he should be emancipated and treated as belonging to the respectable class, but that, should an alien be degraded to serfdom after his naturalization in Japan, any relative of his subsequently coming over must be placed in the same category.

The last cause to be considered is seduction and kidnapping. Both seduction and kidnapping were forbidden by law, even in the most ancient times, but the language of the law shows that these outrages were frequent by adding (a) "*Kwan-nushi*," State serfs; and (5) "*Shinushi*," private serfs, or slaves. Among these five classes, the guards of the Imperial tombs were generally descendants of persons who, on account of treason or some such grave offences, had been either degraded or sentenced to capital punishment. Those coming under the second category seem to have belonged originally to the fourth, but to have been raised in the scale on account of old age or disease. Domestic servants whose masters were degraded on account of some serious crimes were also converted into servants of the second class—a curious fact. The servants belonging to the first and second grades did not greatly differ from ordinary subjects. Indeed they were very often rehabilitated—especially those of the second grade. Unlike other serfs, they had establishments of their own. "Domestic servants" were generally the descendants of persons belonging to the same stock as the masters of the houses in which they served. They were, in fact, poor relations, whose parents or ancestors, lacking financial capacity to maintain separate establishments, had been obliged to become dependents. State serfs, for the most part, had originally been domestic servants whose masters, convicted of some grave crimes, had lost their rank and possessions. The meanest and most despised class of all were the "private serfs." These were veritable slaves, sold or bought like cattle. It may be presumed that actual sale was the usual preliminary to this kind of serfdom, for the selling of men or women was legally acknowledged even as late as the reign of the Empress JITO (690-696 A.D.). A notification issued in March of the 5th year of her reign, provided that a farmer sold by his elder brother should be treated as an ordinary subject, but that a child sold by a parent should be regarded as a serf Coming to the reign of the next Emperor, MOMMU (697-707), however, when the *Taiko* Code was compiled and put into operation, such transactions in human beings were strictly limited to private serfs. In the Law for Brigands and Burglars we find a provision that, with respect to the purchase of serfs and cattle, a period of three days must be allowed during which a purchaser might lodge a complaint if he found that a serf or an animal bought by him had been diseased before the sale. The only difference between serfs and cattle in this respect was that, whereas the sale or purchase of a serf must be reported to the competent authorities, no such formality was required in the case of cattle. As to the price of a serf, an old document preserved in the *Seiso-in* gives very interesting information. It contains a list of serfs purchased at some remote period in the province of Mino, specifying their names, their ages, and the names of their masters, and giving some distinguishing features. The unit

to the ranks of serfdom. In the Brigands and Burglars Laws Section of the *Taiho* Code we find the following article:—"Any person kidnapping and selling another into serfdom shall be condemned to exile; namely, to three years penal servitude when the kidnapped person has been sold into domestic serfdom (a higher form of serfdom as we shall presently see)," &c. when seduction instead of kidnapping was employed, the punishment was commuted by one degree. We find, also, that the closer the consanguinity existing between the person sold and the seller, the milder the punishment inflicted. Thus, though a person selling into serfdom his own parent, or cousin, or grandchild on the maternal side, was sentenced to two and a half years penal servitude, the punishment for selling one's own child or grandchild was only one year. In February of the 5th year of the reign of the Empress JITO (694 A.D.), a notification was issued to the effect that a woman sold into serfdom by her husband or her elder brother, should be rehabilitated into her former status, but that a woman sold by her parent should not enjoy that privilege.

In view of these various causes concurring for the multiplication of serfs, it may well be supposed that the number of such unhappy people was very large in ancient times. It is of course impossible to arrive at any exact estimate, but some idea may be obtained from the work of YOKOYAMA YOSHIKIYO, a scholar who died in the early part of the present era, and who was noted for wide research into the realm of the old rites and customs of Japan. Basing his calculations on the census and the tax registers of the various provinces, kept in the Shoso-in at Nara, and also on other materials connected with the Court of Nara (710-785 A.D.), he came to the conclusion that, during the Nara period in the history of Japan, the total population of the country aggregated about 3,694,331 souls. He further inferred from the same sources that, of the above total, the male element was 4.6 per cent. and the female 5.4, and that there was one serf for every twenty respectable people. In other words, out of a total of 1,699,592 males, there were 84,970 serfs, while among the female population of 1,994,739 no less than 99,737 belonged to the degraded class.

There were several grades of serfs, five in all. The lowest class must have corresponded very closely with slaves, according to the common acceptation of the term in the West. The others may be compared in some respects to the *Eta* of later periods. This classification was first distinctly defined by the *Taiho* Code. The enumeration there made was thus:—(1) "*Ryo-ko*," guards of the tombs of the Emperors; (2) "*Kwan-ko*," servants employed in Government offices; (3) "*Kajin*," domestic servants, generally hereditary;

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of price was singular, namely, a bundle of full grown rice plants. Thus, incidentally, we learn that no tokens of exchange were yet in use, and that commerce was an affair of barter. In the list there are three male serfs, aged respectively 34, 22, and 15. The first two were valued at 1,000 bundles each, the last at 700 bundles. The female serfs were also three, aged 22, 20, and 15. The first two were appraised at 800 bundles each, and the last at 600. Thus it appears that, during the period of the Nara Court, the ordinary price for a full grown male serf was about one thousand bundles of rice plants. We may note here that serfs in Japan seem to have been employed in domestic business or service of a similar kind. Hence female serfs possessed less value than male.

The next points to be considered relate to rehabilitation. A serf recovered respectable status by one of seven means, viz., emancipation, law suit, extinction of a master's family, adoption of the priesthood, sickness, age, and special grant. Emancipation was officially recognized, and there are many provisions in the *Taiho* Code relating to emancipated serfs. Thus, in the Law of Taxes and Imposts, we find a clause that a domestic serf, who, being emancipated, set up as an independent person, should be exempted from taxes for a period of three years. The process observed in emancipating a serf was to report the fact to the proper offices and have the man's name struck off the register. A master who, having emancipated a serf, attempted to force him back into bondage, was liable to a penalty of two years penal servitude. What considerations generally induced owners to emancipate their serfs we have no clear record. Suits at law to escape from bondage appear to have been not infrequently resorted to by serfs. In the Census Law section of the same Code, we find an article to the effect that a domestic serf released from bondage, or a serf who by suing against bondage has secured liberation, should be admitted into the respectable community in the district where he abode, &c., &c. The extinction of a master's family was another cause of emancipation. The Mourning and Funeral Law Section provides that:—"Domestic serfs and the property of a person dying without leaving any legal successor, shall be inspected by his neighbours; the property shall be applied to charitable purposes, and the serf shall be discharged and thenceforth classed as a respectable member of society. In case a will is left giving directions as to the disposition of the property, the foregoing provision need not be adhered to." The relation of the priesthood to serfs was somewhat peculiar. A priest had no rank in society; he was neither a respectable member of it nor a serf. Thus a serf that became a priest was placed outside the pale of serfdom. Sickness and old age must have been the most common causes of emancipation. The Census Law provided that when a State serf became 66 years old, or was incapacitated by disease, he should be promoted to be an official employé, and when he became 76 years old, he should be rehabilitated into the respectable rank and registered in whatever district he might choose to live. Even a person who, in consequence of having been implicated in the crime of treason, had been degraded into serfdom, was emancipated when he became 80 years old. No definite provision is found as to the liberation of serfs in virtue of distinguished talent or meritorious deeds, but instances of the kind are not infrequently found in history. In the 2nd year of TEMPEI JINGO (766 A.D.), for instance, a serf of the Yakushiji Temple, Nara, was emancipated on account of special merit and was made a respectable member of society.

The relations between the respectable and the despised classes were very rigid, especially after the period of the *Taiko* Reformation, when a strict law was issued forbidding intermarriage between the two classes. The law provided, that the issue of a marriage between a respectable person and a serf should be included in the class to which the serf belonged. This principle received still wider application in the *Taiko* Code, which forbade intermarriage between persons in different grades of serfdom, and provided that marriages between serfs must be restricted to persons of the same grade, a guard of the Imperial tombs, for instance, taking his wife from among the daughters of his comrades in the same grade. Any one violating this law was punished with flogging (fifty blows). Subsequently, however, this veto upon intermarriage, not only between persons of different caste, but also between persons in different grades of the same caste, was found to be too strict. It tended, among other evils, to undue multiplication of the number of serfs. Accordingly, in the reign of the Emperor KWAMMU (782-805 A.D.), the prohibition was practically abolished, and a child the issue of a marriage between a respectable person and a serf came to be admitted into the former's caste. But though legal disqualifications were thus removed, the sentiment of contempt for the lower caste must have survived very keenly in the minds of the people. The *Taiho* Code may be considered to have been in full operation for some four centuries, from the *Taiho* era to the rise of the military ascendency that began with the Heike clan—and to have continued in more or less interrupted operation down to the period of the Restoration of *Meiji*. Serfdom, as formulated in that code, may thus be regarded as having been in vogue during a very long period. After the advent of military usurpation with its frequent changes of usurpers, the administration was conducted in a rough and ready manner, no fixed laws being observed. It is probable that, like everything else, the old system of serfdom underwent some modification under these circumstances. But that serfdom continued to exist for a considerable period subsequent to the rise of the military power, there are unquestionable evidences. During the supremacy of the HOJO Family (1200-1334 A.D.), for instance, notifications were issued, more than once, warning people against violating the accepted usages of serfdom, under pain of severe penalties. These warnings were probably directed against the vicious and inhuman practice of kidnapping young persons and selling them into serfdom; an abuse kept up during the feeble reign of the next Regency, the ASHIKAGA (1336-1573 A.D.), for, in the annals of that time, we find frequent use of such terms as *hito-kai* (kidnapper), *hitokai-bune* (ship used for kidnapping), and so forth, especially in the *No* dramas composed during that period. Under the Tokugawa Regents, rigorous rules were enforced against every form of this practice. It was provided, for instance, that any one convicted of the crime of kidnapping and selling a person, should be capitally punished; that any one buying and then selling a kidnapped person to a third party, should be imprisoned for one hundred days, and further sentenced to a heavy fine, failure to pay which involved death. The practice apparently ceased under this rigid régime, but only to appear under the new garb of the articled engagement of women for immoral purposes, an abuse that may be said to exist to some extent even in the present day, despite the earnest endeavours of the Administration to eradicate it.

IMPERIAL ORDINANCE.

We hereby sanction the present Ordinance relating to Territorial Army Regulations, and order it to be promulgated.

(His Imperial Majesty's Sign Manual).
(Great Seal).

Jan. 25th, 28th year *Meiji* (Jan. 25th 1895).

(Countersigned)
Count SAIGO TSUKUMICHI,
Minister of War.

IMPERIAL ORDINANCE No. XIII.

TERRITORIAL ARMY REGULATIONS.

Art. I.—The Territorial Army shall be under the control of the Head-quarters Staff, and shall be used for the purposes of home defence and frontier guard.

Art. II.—The Territorial Army shall be organized as territorial troops.

Art. III.—Under instructions from the Emperor, the Commander of a Division shall carry out the mobilization of territorial troops.

In cases of urgency where no means are available for obtaining advice from Head-quarters, owing to the interruption of means of communication, the Commander-in-chief of a Division invested with the right of proclaiming the Law of Siege may order the mobilization of the Territorial Army.

Art. IV.—The Territorial Army shall be officered from the Staff of the Army, by non-commissioned officers serving with the Colours or on the retired list, and also by special appointment, from the following classes:—

1.—Persons holding equivalent rank to retired military commissioned or non-commissioned officers who shall have applied to join the Territorial Army.

2.—Non-commissioned officers or soldiers of the

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first grade, who, having undergone regular service with the Colours, are now on the Reserve, but who have applied to join the Territorial Army.

3.—Persons in the Territorial Army who have distinguished abilities.

Art. V.—Soldiers of the Second Reserve who may not have been called out with their Reserve, may, by special permission, be mobilized with the Territorial Army.

Art. VI.—Before appointing officers as specified in Clauses 2 and 3 of Art. IV., the Commander-in-chief of a Division shall, in accordance with the graduated schedule of officers, submit his views to the Minister of State, who, subject to the supervision of the Emperor, shall make the appointments as suggested. The appointment of subordinate officers shall be vested in Commanders of Regiments, subject to the supervision of the Commander of the Division. A Commander of Division who mobilizes the Territorial Army in accordance with the provisions of Clause 2 of Art. III., may assign to persons so mobilized various duties pertaining to commissioned officers. Persons assigned to posts in this manner shall rank as if regularly commissioned to those positions.

In cases where the Commanding Officer who mobilizes the Territorial Army on his own initiative, is not a Commander of Division, he shall be vested with the same competence as a Commander of Division in the matter of assigning persons below the rank of commissioned officers to duties usually undertaken by commissioned officers.

Art. VII.—The promotion of officers in the Territorial Army shall be by selection. The appointments shall be in accordance with the terms of the preceding Article.

Art. VIII.—The services of persons called out for service in the Territorial Army, or who have volunteered to join its ranks, shall be considered equivalent to service with the Colours.

Art. IX.—In the case of those that are given appointments in accordance with Clauses 2 and 3 of Art. IV., and are commissioned officers, or non-commissioned officers treated as commissioned officers, when the Territorial Army shall be disbanded, they will be considered as being on the active list, but non-commissioned officers will be relieved of their duties.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[Our readers must distinctly understand that we are in no sence responsible for the sentients or opinions of our correspondents, for the accuracy of their assertions, or for the deductions they may choose to draw therefrom.]

MR. CREELMAN AS AN ARTIST.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—As a trifling contribution to the discussion concerning Mr. James Creelman's veracity, permit me to state that the *New York World* of December 20th contains two illustrations representing scenes in Liao-tung, each of which is stated to have been reproduced "from a sketch by Mr. Creelman." The same pictures appeared in Japanese newspapers about a month before their publication in the *World*, having been contributed by Japanese artists attached to General Oyama's corps. Is this a case of mental telepathy or of moral obtuseness?

Yours faithfully, QUERIST.
January 30th, 1895.

A TOUCH OF MUNCHAUSEN.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—The following is one of the numerous instances in which Mr. James Creelman overreaches himself in the endeavour to produce a realistic sensation. "I went out and saw a body of soldiers led by an officer, chasing three men. One carried a naked infant in his arms. As he ran he dropped the baby. I found it an hour later, dead. Two of the men were shot down. The third, the father of the baby, tripped and fell. In an instant a soldier had pounced upon his back with a naked bayonet in his hand." How in the name of heaven does Mr. Creelman know who the "father of the baby" was? Do the Chinese in Port Arthur carry certificates of paternity hanging about their necks, in correct English, for enterprising newspaper correspondents to read? It is all too utterly ridiculous.

Respectfully, ANTI-HUMBUG.
January 31st, 1895.

THE TRUTH IS COMING.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—I observe in the papers a reading of Mr. Creelman's shame of one of his fabrications by a suggestion that his story about the correspondents leaving Port Arthur horrified, in a body, was not invented by him, but by the editorial authorities of the *New York World*. How, then, about Mr. Creelman's later statements, that "Lieut. O'Brien declared he would like to leave the Japanese army immediately, and that "if the facts were known at Washington the War Department would undoubtedly recall him?" As it happens, the facts—the true facts—are known at Washington, and through Lieut. O'Brien himself; yet we do not hear of his recall. Mr. Creelman and his defenders have all along been proclaiming their reliance upon this American officer's testimony. By this time it should be known throughout the United States that, except with regard to the first day of the attack, Mr. Creelman is absolutely unsupported by the very witness to whom he has professed to trust implicitly for his complete vindication.

Yours, &c., OBSERVER.
February 1st, 1895.

CHRISTIAN CHAPLAINS FOR THE ARMY.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—Japan has once more justified the hopes of her best friends and Protestant Christianity has secured a signal victory in what has been supposed to be a most conservative quarter. Formal permission has been secured from the "Dai Hon Yei" at Hiroshima to send six able Christian Japanese evangelists to the front to minister to the spiritual and physical needs of the army. *Imonshi* is the technical term used. Buddhists already enjoy a similar privilege.

It is easy to imagine that there must have been strong opposition to granting this request from Christians. The discipline and hard practicality of army life tend to a distrust of all religious considerations or radical innovations. Furthermore, it has been stoutly asserted in some quarters that high army officials were bitterly opposed to the "Western religion" and were putting every possible obstacle in the way of their men becoming Christians. Therefore this permission comes at a very opportune time, and goes far toward proving that Japan really desires the best for herself and is open to instruction as to what that best may be. As soon as her officials were convinced that this was the request of no narrow sectarianism, but the earnest plea of strong minded, broad-hearted, devoutly patriotic Christian men of every name, and that the great forces of Christendom lay behind it, they quickly yielded and affixed their seals to the papers.

The whole body of Protestant Christians in Japan both native and foreign, is united in this new movement and determined to make the best possible use of the opportunity. The men already selected to go to the front are:—

Rev. S. T. Miyagawa, of Osaka (sometimes called the Chrysostom of the Japanese pulpit).

Y. Honda, Ph.D., of Tokyo, Principal of the Aoyama College.

Rev. K. Aoki of Kobe, Revs. S. Terada and H. Yamanaka of Hiroshima. These last two have been leaders in work for the soldiers at Hiroshima, and are specially conversant with the needs of such service.

Some $500 has been pledged already, and a central committeee of representative missionaries will soon issue an appeal for $1,000, in order properly to sustain and push this timely, promising work.

I make this public preliminary announcement in order to bespeak the cordial interest and hearty cooperation of those who believe in the religion of Jesus Christ as the corner-stone of all true national prosperity. The general treasurer of this inter-denominational and inter-racial movement is Rev. W. A. Wilson, Kami Nobori Cho, Hiroshima.

The securing of this permission at Hiroshima linked with the granting of permission at Tokyo to agents of the Bible Societies for the unrestricted distribution of Portions of Scripture in the various garrisons of Japan, the letter of Lieut.-General Katsura in Manchuria, showing special interest in and promising extra protection to all sincere Christians, these and other recent events mark an epoch in the progress of Japan along the highway of Christian civilization.

The simple success of a single religious party is a small thing hardly worthy of note, but the marked recognition by those high in power and influence of certain deep religious principles which lie at the base of all true living, is a matter of great moment, worth more than a passing notice.

Yours, etc., J. H. PETTEE.
Okayama, February 4th, 1895.

VICTORIA PUBLIC SCHOOL.

THE CLOSING MEETING.

A meeting of subscribers to the late Victoria Public School was held in Kiel's Building on Monday afternoon for the purpose of receiving the final report and accounts of the Committee, and to decide upon the disposal of the balance. There were present, Mr. James Troup, in the Chair, Messrs. A. J. Wilkin, Hon. Treas. and Sec., C. D. Moss, Geo. Sale, M. Russell, O. Kiel, E. Flint Kilby, J. F. Lowder, and Jas. Walter.

The Chairman briefly introduced the report and accounts, which he moved should be taken as read.—Carried.

EIGHTH ANNUAL REPORT.

Your Committee now present to you the customary Annual Report and Accounts, and these serve also as a final statement of the position, after closing the School in accordance with the Resolution passed at the Extraordinary Meeting of 30th November last.

The year has been one of much difficulty and anxiety to those on whom devolved the charge of the School, and the difficulties have been increased by the uncertainty as to its future, while from the same couse its interests have materially suffered.

It will be remembered that when the situation was discussed a year ago, it was left with the Committee to determine whether the School should be carried on upon the basis as then existing, or whether it should be worked with a modified staff. It was understood that the primary factor in the decision was to be the amount of support obtainable, financial or otherwise.

A canvas for subscriptions was accordingly made, and your Committee had no reason to complain of the way in which this was met; as per list attached hereto, the sum $742 was obtained. But at the same time they became confirmed in their opinion, that the general feeling of residents was, that the Community should not be called upon to provide annually any large sum. Nor again were they able to derive any encouragement from the School Roll. At the re-opening for the Easter Term, the numbers even showed a slight farther falling off.

They had thus no choice but to endeavour to arrange to carry on with a modified staff, limiting their financial responsibility to the means actually at their disposal. To attain this end two courses seemed open, viz., either to guarantee the Master in charge $200 per month (with house accommodation), or, to hand the whole of the fees over to the Master as his remuneration, he, in each case, to provide his own teaching assistance subject to the approval of the Committee.

It is needless now to detail all that was done in the endeavour to effect satisfactory arrangements, and moreover this matter was more or less explained in the statement made at the meeting on the 30th November. Let it suffice to say that communications were opened with every one in Yokohama and Tokyo, of experience in scholastic work, who was likely to be available, but without arriving at any definite result. Finally, Mr. Fardel, who had expressed his willingness to take a re-engagement, proposed to the Committee a scheme by which Miss Aebersold gave him the requisite assistance and at the same time united her own school with the Victoria School. This proposal they accepted; it was arranged that they would undertake to pay the rent and some incidental expenses, but otherwise the financial responsibility rested with Mr. Fardel; and accordingly after Easter things were placed on this footing.

It turned out that, financially, this arrangement proved far from satisfactory to Mr. Fardel, partly because that while the receipts from fees were for two terms only, the expenses extended over nine months more over the interests of the School suffered from the uncertainty as to the future, and the number of pupils entering the Winter term was discouraging. When therefore Mr. Fardel in October made application to be released from his position, the Committee felt compelled to accede to it, on condition of his providing a substitute for the remainder of the term.

A pleasant occasion in the year was that of the usual Summer breaking up. Mr. Justice Wilkinson kindly presided and distributed the prizes. The boys acquitted themselves well in their exercises and did credit to their teachers.

In accordance with the Resolution passed at the Extraordinary Meeting of 30th November, the school was closed at Christmas, and the furniture and school building have been sold by Auction. It will be seen by the statement of account accompanying this, that a balance of $445.09 remains in hand, and this meeting will be asked to decide as to the disposition thereof.

It is but justice to the retiring Masters, Mr. Fardel and Mr. Fenton, to take this opportunity to place on record some acknowledgment of the good work they have done for the School. Their service has been faithful, painstaking, and earnest, while their remuneration has been by no means excessive. Indeed, while it cannot but be matter of much regret to all interested in the Victoria Public School should have ceased to be, there is the satisfaction left of knowing that during its seven years of existance, it has done much good work, and that its memorial remains in the lives

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of many young men who are now taking their places worthily in the battle of life, here and elsewhere.

For the Committee, A. J. WILKIN, Hon. Sec.

January 25th, 1895.

SUBSCRIPTION LIST, 1894.

Mr. M. de Bunsen...	$25	Mr. P. Sarda	10
Mr. J. F. Lowder ...	25	Mr. W. B. Walter...	25
Mr. R. D. Robison...	20	Mr. C. G. Buchanan-Dunlop.....	$20
Right Rev. Bishop Bickersteth	10	Mr. James Walter...	20
Mr. A. MacMillan...	5	Mr. Mendelson	25
Dr. E. Divers	5	Mr. M. G. Reiffinger	10
Mr. M. Kirkwood ...	10	Mr. E. H. Tuska ...	5
Capt. F. Brinkley, R.A.	10	Mr. M. Russell	25
Mr. W. H. Stone ...	5	Mr. W. S. Stone ...	10
Mr. F. H. Trevithick	5	Mr. F. W. Palmer...	5
Mr. T. H. James, R.N.	5	Mr. P. Hodnett	5
Mr. W. F. Mitchell..	10	Mr. A. M. Apcar ...	5
Mr. David Jackson..	25	Mr. H. Tennant.....	5
Mr. R. Home Cook	10	Mr. J. D. Hutchison	10
Mr. Donald Fraser...	10	Mr. D. McLaren ...	5
Capt. Efford	5	Mr. G. Philip	5
Mr. W. W. Till	10	Mr. R. M. Stirling ...	5
Mr. L. Brouwer	5	Mr. T. B. Macpherson	10
Mr. E. A. Sargent...	5	Mr. A. B. Brown ...	5
Mr. P. E. F. Stone...	5	Mr. J. B. M. Barrett	5
A Friend	5	Mr. W. Gordon	2
Mr. J. Troup	25	Mr. G. Blundell	2
Mr. A. B. Walford...	10	Mr. J. Johnstone ...	5
Dr. Wheeler	10	Mr. J. H. Jewett ...	20
Mr. F. R. Daniel ...	10	Mr. A. Dumelin ...	20
Mr. R. Masujima (annual)	15	Mr. A. O. Gay	10
Mr. C. D. West.....	5	Mr. J. Carey Hall ...	10
Mr. R. Mowat	25	Messrs Hellyer & Co.	20
Rev. E. S. Booth ...	25	Mr. A. H. Dare ...	10
Mr. G. W. Bramhall	20	Mr. F. Strahler	5
Mr. J. H. Brooke (annual)	5	Mr. J. G. Crane	3
Mr. F. Schroeder (annual)	5	Mr. Wilkin	10
Mr. G. Sale (annual)	25	Rev. J. G. Cleveland	10
		Rev. J. L. Dearing	5
		Total	$742

THE VICTORIA PUBLIC SCHOOL IN ACCOUNT WITH THE HONORARY TREASURER.

1894.		Dr.	
March 31.	To Salary and Allowances, Head Master 3 months to date	$	435.00
	To Salary and Allowances Assistant Master 9½ months to 15th March		150.00
	To Salary and Teacher Japanese class 3 months to date...		24.00
Dec. 31.	To Rent 12 months		840.00
	To Fire Insurance "Hongkong" Office ...		16.50
	To Repairs		3.05
	To Sundries		7.60
	To F. Woodruff collecting fees for year ...		30.00
	To Chinese shroff collecting part subscriptions		3.00
	To Electric Light, 12 months...		20.00
	To Advertising for 12 months		36.00
	To Paid for Prizes		52.75
	To Balance carried down...		445.04
			$2,198.59

1894.		Cr.	
Jan. 1.	By Balance brought forward	$	52.46
March.	By Fees Easter Term 301 boys		860.50
	By Fees Easter Term Japanese class		16.00
	By Subscription as per List		742.00
June 30.	By Interest H. & S. Bank current account		3.78
	By O. Welsh Estate, final dividend		9.20
Dec. 31.	By Net Proceeds Auction furniture and school building...		484.65
	By Prize Fund from Mr. Poole as per last year's statement transferred		57.50
			$2,198.59

By Cash at H. & S. Bank...		384.44
By Petty Cash		15
By due, to be collected		60.50
		$445.09

E. & O. E.

Yokohama, January 16th, 1895.

A. WILKIN, Hon. Treas.

Examined with vouchers and found correct.

H. W. BELL.
B. GILLETT.

Mr. KIEL moved and Mr. JAS. WALTER seconded the adoption of the report and accounts as presented.—Carried.

The CHAIRMAN then announced that the next business before the meeting was the disposition of the surplus, $445.09. He would be glad to hear the opinion of those present.

Mr. LOWDER said he desired to make a few remarks upon the disposition of the balance in hand. He had been present at the birth of the Victoria Public School, and at the risk of causing other people inconvenience he had broken an engagement in order to be present at its obsequies. He had no wish nor intention, however, to make a funeral oration over it. Nor was it his desire to revive the deceased. He merely wished to make a suggestion which he hoped would meet with the approval of the Committee. It was, briefly, that something should be done to perpetuate the idea with which the Victoria Public School had started. Mr. Lowder then went on to refer to the starting upon the Bluff of the High School for Boys conducted by Mr. Schurr, an English gentleman. The speaker often met Mr. Schurr's pupils when on his way to chambers in the morning, and it was owing to the conversation which he had had from time to time with these lads, that the idea which prompted his suggestion arose. From what he had gathered from these boys and elsewhere he was convinced that Mr. Schurr's school would be a success, and he thought that perhaps that gentleman would not mind his school being made the repository of the name, as it were, of the Victoria School. Her most gracious Majesty the Queen, had presented the Victoria School with her portrait. Now if Mr. Schurr would consent to become the repository of the Victoria School, he (the speaker) would propose that this portrait be handed over to him for preservation. He did not know whether Mr. Schurr would fall in with his proposal, for he had never approached him on the subject; but if he did, he would further propose that the Committee be empowered to devote a part of the balance in hand to the preservation of the idea of which he had just spoken. The preservation of the portrait of her Majesty might be attended with some expense, but the Committee could be empowered to devote a part of the money in hand, or if they thought fit, the whole of it, to defraying the cost of such expenses. One thing he could promise Mr. Schurr if he consented to take over the name of the Victoria School, and its goodwill, such as it was, he could rely upon the moral support of the community, and from the speaker's experience of the community he was assured that its moral support meant its financial support also, should necessity arise.

Mr. KIEL, while fully agreeing with Mr. Lowder that the idea with which the school had been started should be perpetuated, thought that some of the balance in hand should be voted to Mr. Fardel as remuneration for his losses in connection with the last year of the School's existence.—(Hear, hear.) Mr. Fardell had been a heavy loser, and the meeting should do something towards making those losses a little less.

The CHAIRMAN emphasized Mr. Kiel's remarks as to Mr. Fardel's pecuniary straits during the last year of the Victoria Public School, and asked Mr. Wilkin, the Treasurer, to inform the meeting as to the extent of them, so far as he was aware.

Mr. WILKIN said that for the last nine months of Mr. Fardel's engagement $600 had been spent by him in obtaining teaching assistance. The fees for that time did not account to over $75 per month, and as Mr. Fardel's former salary was $145 a month, he sustained a loss of about $70 a month. This was only a rough estimate. Taking these facts into consideration Mr. Wilkin suggested that $300 of the balance should be given to Mr. Fardel as reimbursement of his losses.

Mr. E. FLINT KILBY thought that both Mr. Lowder's and Mr. Wilkin's suggestions could be carried out. He fancied that Mr. Schurr would have no objection in perpetuating the name of the Victoria School—of course it could be the Victoria Public School no longer. He thought Mr. Schurr would be pleased to do this in return for the goodwill and the moral support of the community. As for the picture now in H.B.M.'s Consulate, he thought Mr. Schurr would be pleased to receive it, and after paying Mr. Fardel the $300, the balance of the money could be put in the Bank and used for reframing and preserving the portrait, or whatever else the Committee might think fit to spend it upon. It was such a trivial sum that he thought the Committee should be left to do with it just as they thought best.

Mr. WILKIN quite agreed with Mr. Lowder's sentiments as to the preservation of the idea with the Victoria Public School was started by its founders, but he should like the disposal of the balance definitely proposed.

Mr. KILBY—I think we can leave it to the Committee to dispose of it to the best advantage.

Mr. KIEL—I will second any resolution awarding $300 to Mr. Fardel.

Mr. LOWDER gathered from Mr. Wilkin's remarks and also from the report that the Committee proposed to devote the remainder of the balance, after paying Mr. Fardel, as an honorarium to Mr. Fenton. Upon that assumption, he would be pleased to second any motion to that effect. If any further funds were needed to carry out the suggestion he referred to just now—the preservation of their original idea—he was sure they would be forthcoming.

The CHAIRMAN said the the Committee had no suggestion whatever to make as to the disposal of the balance.

Mr. WILKIN then definitely proposed, and Mr. KIEL seconded that $300 be awarded to Mr. Fardel.—Carried.

The CHAIRMAN—There is a suggestion that the balance now remaining—some $145—be converted into a school prize fund, but it is too small, I think, for such a purpose.

Mr. LOWDER—If Mr. Schurr is approached upon the matter of preserving the name of the Victoria School and consents to it, and also if he consents to receive the portrait, I think that we can leave the disposal of the balance in the hands of the Committee.—(Hear, hear.)

The proposition was then put into definite shape, and Mr. Kiel seconded it.

The CHAIRMAN—But you are making a perpetual trust for the Committee.

Mr. LOWDER—No conditions will attach to the proposition which we make to Mr. Shurr: except the condition that he maintains the name of the Victoria School. If you want to dispose of the money at once, there are three deserving institutions in the town who could receive it—the Ladies' Benevolent Society, the Yokohama General Hospital, and the Convent. All have done and are doing excellent work in our midst.

Mr. C. D. Moss said that a suggestion had been made that the money should be used for paying the school-fees of poor boys. If it was handed over to the Ladies' Benevolent Society, they would undoubtedly expend it for them in that manner.

Mr. LOWDER feared that the Society would not care to enter upon a trust of that kind.

The CHAIRMAN, after some further desultory remarks, said that a rider might perhaps be added to Mr. Lowder's proposition, and that was, that the publication in the newspapers of the report of the final disposal of the money should be sufficient acquittal of the Committee in the matter—that would obviate the necessity of another public meeting.

Mr. LOWDER—Certainly, I will add it. I gather that the Committee wish to dispose of its balance on educational objects, in accordance with the original intentions of the donors.

Mr. KIEL said he accepted the rider with pleasure.

Mr. C. D. MOSS—It is such a small matter; I think we could hand the money over to the Ladies' Benevolent Society right away, without condition. They would expend it for school fees I am sure.

Mr. LOWDER—Well, my motion is that the committee be left free to dispose of the balance; that covers your suggestion.

The motion was then carried.

The CHAIRMAN said that the portrait of Her Majesty was in his official possession in accordance with the resolution passed at the last meeting. It was now to be entrusted to a private person.

Mr. LOWDER—On the sole condition that while it is his possession he keeps and maintains the name of the Victoria School.

The CHAIRMAN—We have met to meet no more as the subscribers of the Victoria Public School, as this concludes our business.

Mr. E. FLINT KILBY said that the hearty thanks of the community were due to the outgoing Committee for the hard work, the time, and the trouble they had expended. They all regretted that the school had ceased to exist; but at the same time they were well assured that the Committee had done good and hard work in their endeavours to maintain the institution.—(Hear, hear.)

The CHAIRMAN in thanking the meeting said it was perhaps appropriate that Mr. Kilby, who had been one of the earliest and staunchest supporters of the school should be present to pronounce its final benediction.

After a hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Wilkin for his services as Hon. Sec. and Treasurer, the meeting dispersed.

LETTER FROM PEKING.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Peking, January 9th, 1895.

Ever since the first excitement, when the Japanese were supposed to have landed at Taku and were soon to march on Peking, the city has been the most quiet of any place concerned directly with the war. Mrs. O'Conor and several other English ladies have returned, and the only complaint now heard is the excessive dullness and monotony.

In keeping the city quiet a great deal of credit should be given to the Imperial Government, which in other ways is so much abused by the Progressionists for corruption and incapacity in military affairs. The edicts and proclamations that have been issued have checked all tendency to molest foreigners or disturb the peace. There is hardly ever heard a word of reviling, which is certainly better than in ordinary times. During the present week of prayer among Protestant Christians, large numbers gather each day in three different places, with no sort of hindrance to

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missionary work. Possibly all this is merely the calm before the storm.

After the failure of the Detring mission in the interests of peace, through the unexpected willingness of the United States to mediate, there has been much talk of peace. The Chinese who heard of it have rather supposed that America's mediating meant the closing up of the war with no demands. Here and there the information has been received that Japan was going to demand some enormous indemnity, and then a calm serious stoical look would appear, and the stoical comment, "Tien-i—heaven's decree."

How far the Ministers of the United States in Japan and China have carefully arranged for satisfactory negotiations, we are unable to learn. We can judge by the result attained. Anyway, the two special Envoys are now on their way to Japan, Minister Chang leaving here only a few days ago. He at least goes with high desires to effect peace, even if China must suffer loss. The appointment of Governor Shao, we understand, is not so acceptable to Japan, though he is regarded as a pushing energetic man, familiar with foreign ways. The acceptance of the two Envoys and the opportunity for negotiation have no doubt been guaranteed by the American go-betweens. If not, more blame will fall to them than even to the Detring mission.

Along with the scheme for peace walks the scheme for war. It is not war *or* peace, but war *and* peace. By the refusal of an armistice during a certain period of negotiation, there has come the necessity to continue the war and to seek for reinforcements. Japan has her Third Army sent to the front, and China likewise has her Seventh or Eighth Division marching from the south or west, crying out for vengeance. Mahommedan troops are the most furious of all, owing to the death of General Tso, the one brave officer of many months, who, unfortunately for China, was killed in the battle at Ping-yang.

The appointment of a Commander-in-chief or Imperial Commissioner in the person of the Viceroy from Nanking, Liu Kun-yi, would seem to indicate that war measures are not given up. In fact, judging from the published Edicts and memorials, war measures are supreme, while the effort for peace is ignored, not being so much as mentioned.

To an outsider the whole international affair seems to be more and more of a muddle. If Japan merely desired the independence of Korea, that could have been arranged earlier. If Japan wanted reforms in Korea under her own direction, that was really gained at the battle of Ping-yang. Instead, she has pressed into Manchuria, to cast contempt on the reigning dynasty, and her forces are now encamped on Chinese soil. How is she to reach an end? By peace, you say. Let us see.

Up to the present the mass of the people in China are ignorant of the real nature of the Japanese victories and advance. To announce all the facts to the people would cause greater dissatisfaction with the ruling powers. Suddenly to accept peace by ceding territory like Manchuria and paying two to four hundred millions of taels, would likewise cause disaffection. The people of the provinces would say, "Why submission? We are willing to fight. Our men have enlisted and are now on the field ready to fight. Against submission in that way we protest, and the men who have so acted act only for themselves. The Throne that allows it is not the Throne that we henceforth serve."

If Japan closes the war and drops the curtain, what good will result? If she presses into China, for what purpose? The Japanese Chargé d'Affaires in London has said: "The height of Japan's satisfaction would be to see her neighbour China consolidated, free from corruption, prosperous, and open to commerce and civilization." That is indeed fine, and such a result would be rejoiced in by all. How is it to come? Far better than a huge indemnity, tending to crush China and create internal disaffection, would be the opening up of China "to commerce and civilization." To guarantee and effect all this we fear the negotiations in Japan at this time will be futile or premature. Were it not for the loss of life and the added expense, we would prefer to see the Japanese successfully march near to Pekin, and there through the highest plenipotentiary agents under a flag of truce, and with a few days' armistice, effect a treaty for the real progress and development of China. Then by such successive victories the country would be prepared for submission, as it is not now. By negotiating on Chinese soil, and especially in Pekin, all stipulations for opening up the country as well as for payment of an indemnity would not only appear unavoidable, but could by peaceful gradation secure lasting prosperity to the nation, as would bring to Japan the praise and thanks of the world.

However, we watch with interest the present attempt at peace. If possible now, not in making Japan and China greater enemies to each other, but in bringing prosperity and internal peace, we will rejoice.

LETTER FROM SAN FRANCISCO.

(From our own Correspondent.)

San Francisco, January 15th.

The February *Harper's Monthly* will contain an article on "The Yakusho's Summer Pleasures," by Mr. Sen Katayama. The article, illustrated by Mr. F. Motimoto, will give an insight into the family life of the Japanese.

The Associated Press dispatches, giving an account of the New Year's reception at the White House, contained an amusing incident, relating how the Japanese and Chinese Ministers, accidentally meeting each other, indulged in an "exhibition of profound bowing and wishing one another the compliments of the season such as few of us wild westerners had ever beheld."

President Dole, of the Republic of Hawaii, has presented the draft of his new land bill to the Cabinet for consideration. It forbids the sale of large tracts of land to corporations, and provides for the sale or lease of twenty-five or forty acre lots to legitimate homesteaders.

Hawaiian Minister Thurston has returned from Europe to Washington; and is reported as having said that the people of Hawaii are looking forward to a change of administration in the United States in 1896, when they hope that annexation will result.

President Cleveland has sent to Congress another batch of Hawaiian correspondence supplementary to the Walker reports. This batch shows that Admiral Walker affirms, and U.S. Minister Willes denies the necessity of keeping a man-of-war at Honolulu. President Cleveland recommends that the consent of the United States be given to the Hawaiian authorities to lease an island (Neckar Island?) to the British Government as a cable station; but Representative Hitt favours a subsidy for a U.S. Cable.

Mexico has made a formal demand on Guatemala for damages amounting to almost $2,000,000 on account of the recent "invasion" by Guatemalans; and, to emphasize the demand, is massing troops and Krupp batteries at Acapulco.

From Argentina also comes a rumour of war, or at least of a preparation for war in time of peace; for the Argentine Congress is said to have sanctioned "in secret session" a war credit of £2,000,000.

On January 7 there was a terrible accident in Rio Janeiro Bay. The boiler of the steamer *Nichtheroy* exploded, and the steamer caught fire. The vessel was loaded with excursionists, of whom more than a hundred were drowned when they jumped overboard to escape the flames.

Still no news comes from Frank Lenz, the bicyclist, who disappeared in Armenia. Robert Bruce, of the *Bicycling World*, of Boston will soon start on a search for the missing man; he will go viâ Constantinople and Batoum, to Erzeroum, whence came the last news of Lenz.

Gen. P. S. Post, an Illinois Congressman, resident at Galesburg, died in Washington on the 6th instant.

The Senatorial contests in several States have been settled. Senators Harris (Dem.), of Tennessee; Pettegrew (Rep.), of South Dakota; Frye (Rep.), of Maine; and McMillan (Rep.), of Michigan, will succeed themselves. Congressman J. C. Burrows, of Kalamazoo, has received the Republican nomination for the short term Senatorship in Michigan; and the notorious "Steve" B. Elkins won the Republican nomination in West Virginia: in both cases a nomination is equivalent to an election. The same thing is probable, though not certainly true, of the Republican nominations in Wyoming, where ex-Senator F. E. Warren gets the long term and Charles B. Clark the short term. In Minnesota Governor Nelson has also entered the field against Senator Washburn; in California Senator Perkins finds M. R. de Young a formidable rival for the Republican nomination; and in Oregon Senator Dolph has to fight hard for a renomination.

The American newspapers, always ready to improve a remarkable event, have been working up columns over the fact that Senator Hill was one of the guests of President Cleveland at the annual dinner to the Cabinet on New Year's Day; and, in print at least, have effected a reconciliation between the two!

An attempt to force an early vote on the currency bill in the House of Representatives was defeated by a vote of 122 to 129 (Republicans voting solidly against the bill). It is now pretty certain that this bill will be abandoned, and a new bill, somewhat different, will be pushed. Senator Vest, of Missouri, has already introduced another bill, which provides that all Treasury notes and gold and silver certificates be destroyed, and an equal amount of notes, payable in standard gold and silver coin, be issued in their stead, with none of less value than $10; that silver bullion, of no less value than $100, be coined free at any U.S. mint; and that national banks shall not issue notes.

The first half of January brought heavy floods in many parts of Pennsylvania; but fortunately very serious damage was avoided.

The New York College of Physicians and Surgeons has received $350,000 from four of the Vanderbilt family, and the promise of a maternity hospital from William D. Sloane, who married a Miss Vanderbilt.

Ex-Gov. Pennoyer, of Oregon, has endowed Williams College with a scholarship of $34,000 in memory of his deceased son; the income is to be used to support needy students, preferably those from Oregon.

The University of Chicago received from John D. Rockefeller a New Year's gift of $175,000 for running expenses, and $20,000 from Mrs. Caroline E. Haskell to establish a course of lectures in Bombay on the religions of the world. The Convocation Address this time was given by President Seth Low of Columbia College on the subject, "The University in its Relation to Questions of the Times." A department of pedagogy is to be opened under the department of Philosophy.

The great event of New Year's Day in Chicago was a reunion of the World's Fair Congress Auxiliaries. President C. C. Bonney was in the chair; and Professor Toulmin was in charge of a big chorus. The programme included the following speakers on appropriate subjects:—President Bonney, Mrs. Charles Henrotin, Mrs. Elizabeth Boynton Harbert, Mrs. Caroline K. Sherman, President Henry Wade Rogers (North-western University), Rev. F. W. Gunsaulus, D.D. (Armour Institute), Mrs. J. M. Flower, President W. R. Harper (University of Chicago), Professor William Haynes (Notre Dame University), R. N. Foster, Rev. L. P. Mercer, President John M. Coulter (Lake Forest University), Professor S. Choyo (Tokyo), Rev. Jenkin Lloyd Jones, D.D., Rabbi Emil G. Hirch, Rev. F. M. Bristol, D.D., Professor Graham Taylor, and Rev. John Henry Barrows, D.D. The subjects discussed covered the relations of religion with education, with philosophy, with science; and recalled the blessed unifying effects of the great Parliament of Religions. The remarks of Prof. Choyo on that occasion are hereto appended:—

To-day this national hymn is sung every-where in Japan:

Long live the golden age of the sovereign and the Master,
Until thousands and thousands of years shall come and go,
Until the pebble stones shall form into one solid mass of rock,
Over which the heavy moss shall cling and grow.

In Japan for thousands of years New Year's Day has been queen of national holidays. The people have a happy day visiting their friends and acquaintances, saluting and congratulating each other. All the streets are adorned with the national flag, with arches made of evergreen, pine and bamboo, symbols of longevity, purity, and righteousness. From the houses of the poorest to those of the richest and greatest, as well as over factories, temples and all public buildings, flies the national flag, on which is a disc of the glorious sun, representing the land from which the sun rises.

Japan, that is to say, Ja, sun, and Pan, origin, means just this, and hence the expression that Japan is the true orient. These national flags, unfurling calmly in the beautiful golden sunlight, are as mirages of the sun itself in the soft breeze of pure air and blessing every home. The musical reverberations of ten rhythmical reports from cannon, speaking for peace and not even now for war, salute the emperor, the empress, and the happy people. Not even a babe must cry that day, and all when they have leisure must drink from shallow lacquered cups as a sign of sacred purification.

In this brief way my words hardly express the phenomenal Japanese joy and merriment. It is as if I might say that it is your Christmas, New Year's, Fourth of July and all other joyous holidays combined. From imperial court to poorest home this is a day of universal leisure. It is in reality a heaven in Japan to-day, a place where paradise is found.

A happy new year so full of promise, of knowledge, has begun to move. Japan is sympathizing with you and your celebration to-night in this meeting, and here exchange words of knowledge and peace. Ignorance has been the universal obstacle to the progress of movements in the ocean of human thoughts and actions. Civilization's constant currents have brought them blessings which are never to be monopolized by selfish human beings.

Besides many other means of exchanging thought, the expositions of Vienna, Philadelphia, and Paris have been of greatest value, but especially the World's Fair in Chicago, with its congresses of various departments of thought, have undermined the great walls of prejudice and crushed seemingly everlasting cold mountains of ignorance. Material productions, industrial art and sciences, religious sentiments and emotions have been compared, and knowledge of them exchanged between all nations, but especi-

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ally between the great young republic in the west and the oldest existing empire of the eastern world.

Civilization, it is said, began in Persia, and spread eastward and westward. On the east, through India, Thibet, China, and Korea, it reached Japan. On the west through Assyria, Egypt, Europe, and America, it again passed to Japan.

Thanks to the United States for introducing Japan to the west, a country now known to have French quickness, German solidity, English conservatism, and American progressiveness, all impressed upon her own national spirit of hard yet ductile iron. Ladies and gentlemen, Japan, with her crown of two diamonds, one of which you may call oriental and the other occidental civilization, will yet sit an empress in the chair of state in the new era of the twentieth century side by side with the United States, which introduced her to the western world as her emperor. Long live humanity and civilization.

"It is a polite fiction" to call this a "letter from San Francisco," except so far as it is being written on the *China* some distance away from San Francisco. Among the passengers on this vessel are eight missionaries (two for China, one for Korea, and five for Japan); Mr. E. C. Potter, of Chicago, who represents steel industries; Commander and Mrs. F. M. Barber, who, as he is to be Naval Attaché of the U.S. Legation, will be welcomed in Tokyo; Mr. McMillan, of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, with his wife; C. M. Littlefield, Paymaster, and W. R. Pattison, Paymaster's Clerk, of the *Charleston*; Mrs. Jernigan, who, with her two children, comes out to join her husband, formerly U.S. Consul at Kobe, and now U.S. Consul at Shanghai; J. S. Van Buren, son of a former Consul-General at Yokohama, and now agent of the P.M. S.S. Co. at Hongkong; F. E. Woodruff, a Commissioner of Customs of thirty year's service in China; Lord Dormer; M. Sato, silk merchant, of Yokohama; and Dr. Davies, who came from Valparaiso, Chile, on the *Esmeralda*, to Honolulu.

P.S.—The *Esmeralda* left Honolulu Sunday, Jan. 20th, ostensibly for San Francisco, but presumably for Oriental waters.

CHESS.

(All Communications to be addressed to the Chess Editor.)

The Yokohama Chess Club meets at the Club Hotel, No. 5, Bund, on Monday and Thursday in each week from 5 to 11 p.m.

The Tokyo Chess Club meets at the Tokyo Hotel every Friday from 1 to 7 p.m.

Solution to Problem No. 162.

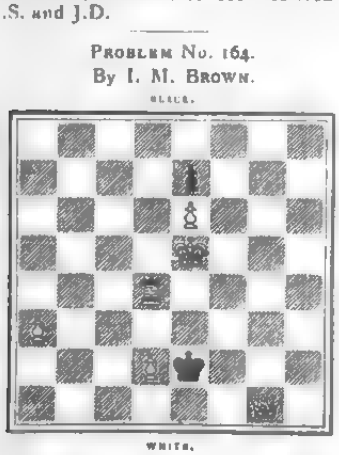
WHITE.	BLACK.
1—P to K B 4	1—K × Kt
2—Q to Q Kt 7 ch.	2—B × Q
3—R to K 8, mate	
	2—K to K 3
3—Q to K B 7, mate	
	1—K to Q B 2
2—Q to Q B 6 ch.	2—Kt × Q
3—R to Q B 8, mate	
	1—P to Q 4
2—Q × P ch.	2—K × Kt or moves to Q B 2
3—Q to Q 6, mate	
	1—P × P
2—Q to Q Kt 7	2—Any
3—Q to Q 7, mate.	

Correct solutions received from Omega, Digamma, W.H.S., Kr., E. J. King, and J.D.

Correct solution of No. 161 received from W.H.S. and J.D.

Problem No. 164.

By I. M. Brown.



BLACK.

WHITE.

White to play and mate in three moves.

Brilliant Chess.

(Taken from a recent issue of the *San Francisco Chronicle*.)

Game No. 215.

SCOTCH GAMBIT.

Some idea of the strength of Mrs. Showalter's play can be gained by a glance at the game printed below. It was played on Thanksgiving Day between Mrs. Showalter and Louis Schmidt, the distinguished violinist and well-known expert, and won by the former. The notes are by Mr. Schmidt:—

WHITE. Mrs. Showalter.	BLACK. Mr. Schmidt.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—Kt to K B 3	2—Kt to Q B 3
3—P to Q 4	3—P takes P
4—Kt takes P	4—Kt to B 3 (a)
5—Kt takes Kt	5—Kt P takes Kt
6—B to Q 3	6—P to Q 4
7—P to K 5 (b)	7—Kt to Kt 5
8—B to K B 4 (c)	8—B to Q B 4
■—Castles	9—Castles (d)
10—P to K R 3	10—P to Kt 4 (e)
11—B to Kt 3	11—Kt to R 3
12—Q to R 5	12—K to Kt 2
13—Kt to Q 2	13—Kt to B 4 (f)
14—Kt to B 3 (g)	14—P to K R 3
15—B to R 2 (h)	15—R to Q Kt sq.
16—P to K Kt 4 (i)	16—Kt to Q 5
17—Kt takes Kt	17—B takes Kt
18—P to B 3	18—B to Kt 3 (j)
19—P to K 6 (k)	19—Q to B 3
20—Q R to K sq.	20—Q to Kt 3 (l)
21—B to K 5 ch.	21—K to R 2 (m)
22—P to K 7	22—R to K sq. (n)
23—B to B 6	23—B to R 3
24—B to Kt sq.	24—P to Q 5
25—P takes P (p)	25—B takes R
26—B takes P (q)	26—Q takes B (r)
27—Q takes B P ch.	27—K to R sq.
28—B to B 5 mate (s)	

NOTES.

(a) Introduced by the late Dr. Zukertort and of late years regarded as the best defense to the Scotch.

(b) P takes P, P takes P; 8—B to Kt 5 ch., B to Q 2; 9—B takes B ch., Q takes B; 10—Castles, B to K 3; 11—Kt to Q 5 and later Kt to Kt 3 is held to be a better variation for White. The analysis agree in the verdict that the text move leads into positions favourable to Black. (We would recommend 7—Q to K 2 for White as worthy of the analysts' attention.—Ed.)

(c) The best move. If castles Black gets a fine attack by B to Q B 4, after which the following variation might occur: 9—P to K R 3, Kt takes K P; 10—R to K sq., Q to B 3 (; 11—Q to K 2, castles; 12—Q takes Kt, Q takes P ch.; 13—K to R sq. (if K to R 2, B to Q 3 wins Q), B takes P; 14—P takes B; 15 B to Q 3 and wins.

(d) Inconsiderate. Black should rather leave his K uncastled for the present and play a K side attack. P to K Kt 4 was the move, then if 10—Q to Kt 3, P to K R 4; 11—P to K R 5, P to R 5; 12—B to R 6 (he dare not take Kt), Kt takes B; 13—K takes Kt, P to Kt 5; 14—P takes P, Q to Kt 4, etc., with a fine attack. Yes, and Black might do better still, perhaps, by 9—R to Q Kt sq., if 10—P to Q Kt 3, Kt takes B P; 11—R takes Kt, B takes R ch.; 12—K takes B, Q to R 5 ch.; 13—B to Kt 3 P to Kt 3 and K to K 3 are also bad., Q to Q 5 ch.; 14—K to B sq., Q takes R, etc.—Ed.)

(e) Risky, but not more so than the alternative, Kt to R 3; 11—B takes Kt, etc. (Black would have done better to have sacrificed the Kt in this position: Kt takes B P; 11—R takes Kt, B takes R ch.; 12—K takes B, Q to R 5 ch.; 13—R to Kt 3, Q to Q 5 ch.; 14—K to B sq., Q takes Kt P; 15—Kt to Q 2, P to B 3, etc., with at least a fair game.—Ed.)

(f) B to B 4 was necessary here. If then Kt to B 3, B takes B; 15—P takes B, Kt to B 4; 16—Kt takes P, (Q takes Kt P ch. loses a piece), P to K R 5; 17—Kt to K 4 (only move to save the piece) P takes Kt; 18—Q takes Kt, Q takes P and Black has a good game.

(g) White has developed admirably and carries the attack forward like a master. Though Black apparently threatens a piece and the exchange, his hands are tied on account of the threatened mate.

(h) Wisely preserving a B destined to play an important role in the drama later.

(i) Boldly shutting the white queen up in a position of possible danger, but sound and beautiful play nevertheless.

(j) The fatal error. This it should have gone to B 4; thence, if P to Kt 4, to K 2 and Black might have been able to defend the position.

(k) Excellent chess. If Black capture with the P he is mated in two, if with B in three moves, having made useless sacrifices.

(l) The only resource, but a most ingenious one; if 22 B take Q P take B and B and Black recovers the queen with a piece to to the good—Ed.

(m) What an odd situation! The only present safety for the Q is to move the K into this position of "pin". To avoid being "pinned" with one B, both K and Q move so as to be "pinned" by the other, but there is no choice save between evils.

(n) If Q take B, 23 Q take P ch! K take Q; 24 P take R, queening, ch. K moves, 25 Q mates. White makes every move tell and her opponent has no chance of escape.

(o) The climax of a series of elegant coups. White threatens to win by B take P ch, and Black is powerless to prevent it. If B to K 5, 24 R take B, and if B take B mate on the move.

(p) White must stop take this P, otherwise P to Q 6 cuts off that tremendous pinning factor which can neither be captured (even at the cost of the Q) nor blocked out, white B.

(q) Inevitable, but none the less elegant.

(r) There is nothing left but suicide in this distressing position.

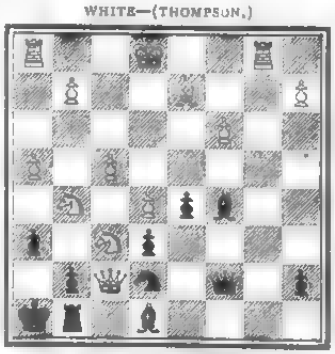
(s) The time consumed by White in playing this game was thirty minutes, that by Black twenty-four minutes. Let the masculine chess "crank," who fondly imagines that only his sex's giant brain can successfully cope with the intricate problems of the checkered board, carefully peruse this little brilliant and forever after hold his peace.

Chess in San Francisco.

The leading players in the chess tourney at San Francisco have been making grand efforts to increase their score, consequently the games recently played have excited great interest. Many of the players have been greatly improved by the careful play which a hard contest requires, and this will probably make them anxious to have similar contests in the future, and thus chess on the Pacific Coast will have a "boom" which will gladden the hearts of the knights of Caissa.

Lovegrove and Thompson, the leading players, contested their second game on Saturday. Thompson, received the odds of pawn and move, and was thus enabled to gain a strong attacking position, which finally won. The winner was highly commended for the brilliant manner in which he carried on the attack, and the game was pronounced the finest tourney game played. The position after Lovegrove made his twenty-fifth move looked as if he had gained the opposition, but Thompson replied by the subtle move Kt to B 6, leaving three pieces *en prise*, none of which his opponent could capture, without submitting himself to checkmate in one move. As the position is one of unusual brilliancy, a diagram is given showing the position after White's twenty-sixth move:

WHITE—(THOMPSON.)



BLACK—(LOVEGROVE.)

Herewith is the score of a game contested by Senor Quiroga and G. O. Johnson. It is a fine specimen of a game at rook odds. Senor Quiroga fought a gallant battle, but was at length compelled to yield to his young opponent's admirable strategy.

The game between Lovegrove and Thompson is also given.

Game No. 216.

REMOVE WHITE'S QUEEN'S ROOK.

WHITE. Quiroga.	BLACK. G. O. Johnson.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—Kt to K B 3	2—Kt to Q B 3
3—B to B 4	3—B to B 4
4—P to Q Kt 4	4—B takes P
5—P to B 3	5—B to B 4
6—Castles	6—P to Q 3
7—P to Q 4	7—P to P
8—P takes P	8—B to Kt 3
9—Kt to Kt 5	9—Kt to R 3
10—P to Q 5	10—Kt to K 4
11—B to K 2	11—Q Kt to Kt 5
12—P to R 3	12—Kt to K 6
13—Q to Q 3	13—Kt takes R
14—K takes Kt	14—Castles
15—P to B 4	15—P to B 4
16—P to K 5	16—P takes P
17—P takes P	17—B to Q 2
18—P to K 6	18—B to K sq.
19—Kt to Q B 3	19—B to K Kt 3
20—B to B 4	20—Q to B 3
21—Kt to Kt 5	21—P to Q R 3
22—Kt to Q R 3	22—Q to Q 5
23—Q takes Q	23—B takes Q
24—B takes P	24—Q R to Q B sq.
25—P to Q 6	25—B to K 4
26—Kt to Q B 4	26—B takes B
27—Kt takes ■	27—R to B sq.
28—P to Q 7	28—R to R sq.
29—B to B 4	29—K to ■ sq.
30—Kt takes B	30—P takes Kt
31—P to K 7	31—R to K sq.
32—P to Q 8	32—R takes P
33—P takes R	33—R takes P
34—B to B 7	34—R to Q 3
35—K to K 2	35—R to Kt 3
36—K to K 3	36—Kt takes B
37—Kt takes Kt ch.	37—K to Kt sq.
38—Kt to Kt 5	38—R to Kt 7
39—P to R 4	39—R takes Kt P
40—K to B 4	40—R takes Kt
41—K takes R	41—P to Kt 4
42—Resigns.	

Game No. 217.

REMOVE BLACK'S K B P.

WHITE. Thompson.	BLACK. Lovegrove.
1—P to K 4	1—Kt to K R 3
2—P to Q 4	2—Kt to K B 2
3—B to Q 3	3—P to K 3
4—P to K B 4	4—P to Q 4
5—P to K 5	5—Kt to Q B 3
6—Kt to K B 3	6—B to Q 2
7—P to Q B 3	7—B to K 2

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8—Q to B 2	8—P to K R 3
9—P to K R 4	9—Kt to Q R 4
10—Q Kt to Q 2	10—P to Q Kt 3
11—P to Q Kt 4	11—Kt to Kt 2
12—Kt to B sq.	12—P to Q B 4
13—Kt P takes P	13—Kt P takes P
14—Q ■ to Kt sq.	14—Q to B 2
15—B to Kt 6	15—Q Kt to Q sq.
16—Kt to Kt 3	16—B P takes P
17—Kt takes P	17—R to Q B sq.
18—B to Q 2	18—Castles
19—Kt to B 3	19—B to B 4
20—Kt to R 5	20—Kt to B 3
21—B to R 7 ch.	21—K to R sq.
22—Q to Kt 6	22—R to Kt sq.
23—B takes R	23—R takes B
24—Q takes Kt	24—Kt to K 2
25—Kt to Kt 5	25—B to K sq.
26—Kt to B 6	26—B to K 6
27—Kt takes B	27—B takes B ch.
28—K takes B	28—Q to B 5
29—Kt to Q 6	29—Q takes R P ch.
30—K to K 3	30—Q takes Kt P
31—Q takes R ch.	31—K takes Q
32—K to Kt 8 ch.	32—Resigns.

A BALLADE OF FEBRUARY.

Down by the shore of the sunlit bay
The plumtree orchard is all abloom;
And a breeze, as warm as the breeze of May,
Scatters a delicate faint perfume;
There's a shimmer of green on the willow plume,
And a touch of red where azaleas stand,
And my wife has talked of a spring costume—
Surely the spring is at hand, at hand!

What though to-morrow reverse to-day
With winds that whistle and clouds that gloom,
And snow lie thick on the blossoming spray!
What though winter his power resume!
Can he frighten us? Can his doom
Crush the life in the teeming land,
Chill this year's bud to a last year's tomb?
Surely the spring is at hand, at hand!

In the brain of youth there are sprites at play;
And fancy weaves at her fairy loom
Threads of gold in a life of grey;
Care goes to Bath (or to Bergen-op-zoom);
Love grows heedless of how or whom,
Pulses beat quicker and hearts expand;
The old maid captures a willing groom—
Surely the spring is at hand, at hand!

ENVOY.

Merchant, who watch from your office room
A margin of profit that shifts like sand,
Silver will rise and trade will boom—
Surely the spring is at hand, at hand!

D.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[REUTER "SPECIAL" TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

London, February 5.

General Ferrero has been appointed Italian Ambassador to London, and Signor Tornielli to Paris.

London, February 6.

The Queen's Speech announces that England's relations with foreign Powers are friendly, and, while regretting the state of war in the East, says that Her Majesty's Government has maintained the *entente cordiale* with the Powers interested in those parts and will lose no favourable opportunity if the occasion occurs to promote peace. The Speech also refers to the atrocities in Armenia and to the agreement with France in respect to the Sierra Leone boundary.

The House of Lords voted an Address in reply to the Queen's Speech.

["SPECIAL" TELEGRAMS TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

Nagasaki, February 4, 9.30 p.m.

Arrangements have been made by the local authorities at this port for accommodation at the Bellevue Hotel for the Chinese Embassy pending their departure for China. The local press reports that previous to Mr. Foster's departure from Hiroshima for Kobe a strong altercation occurred in regard to the absence, so far as the Embassy is concerned, of full authority.

Nagasaki, February 5, 6.45 p.m.

The Chinese Envoys, having arrived at this port, landed, and are quartered at the Bellevue Hotel in accordance with the previous arrangement for their accommodation made by the Governor pending their departure for Shanghai.

[FROM THE "SIAM OBSERVER."]

Paris, January 19.

The Duc D'Orleans issued on Thursday a manifesto in which he declares that the time is now very near when France, tired of the constant changes of the past, will wish to revert to a monarchy. He refers to the glorious past of France, and points to it as being a guarantee for the future. He declares that, whenever the country should call him, he will be ready to fulfil the task which will be before him, and to shed his life-blood for the best interests of France.

[FROM TOKEIN PAPERS.]

Paris, January 18.

The election of M. Felix Faure has produced an excellent impression both in France and abroad.

Paris, January 21.

Kushan, in Persia, has been destroyed by an earthquake. There were a hundred victims of the disaster.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From America	per O. & O. Co.	Tuesday, Feb. 19th.*
From Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Sunday, Feb. 20th.†
From America	per P. M. Co.	Thursday, Feb. 21st.‡
From Hongkong	per P. M. Co.	Thursday, Feb. 14th.‡
From Europe, viâ Hongkong	per M. M. Co.	Sunday, Feb. 17th.¶
From Canada, &c.....	per C. P. R. Co.	Monday, Feb. 18th.‖
From Europe, viâ Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd	Wed'day, Feb. 20th.
From Hongkong	per C. P. R. Co.	Thursday, Feb. 28th.

* *Belgic* left San Francisco on January 24th. † *Peiho* will leave Kobe on February 9th. ‡ *Peru* left San Francisco on February 2nd. § *City of Peking* left Hongkong on February 6th. ‖ *Empress of Japan* left Vancouver on February 5th. ¶ *Saghalien* (with French mail) left Hongkong on February 8th.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Saturday, Feb. 16th.
For America	per P. M. Co.	Saturday, Feb. 16th.
For Hongkong	per C. P. R. Co.	Monday, Feb. 18th.
For Europe, viâ Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd	Friday, Feb. 22nd.
For Europe, viâ Shanghai	per M. M. Co.	Saturday, Feb. 23rd.
For Canada, &c.	per C. P. R. Co.	Friday, Mar. 1st.
For America	per O. & O. Co.	Saturday, Mar. 9th.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Benmohr, British steamer, 1,935, Clarke, 2nd February,—London via ports, General.—Cornes & Co.

Matsumaye Maru, Japanese steamer, 478, Higo, 2nd February,—Yukkaichi 1st February, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

China, British steamer, 2,600, W. B. Seabury, 3rd February,—San Francisco 15th January, viâ Honolulu 22nd, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Gaelic, British steamer, 2,690, W. G. Pearne, 4th February,—Hongkong viâ ports, 26th January, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Vedra, British steamer, 1,764, R. H. Prout, 4th February,—Kobe 3rd February, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Vorwaerts, German steamer, 756, Bruhn, 4th February,—Moji, Coal.—Japanese.

Else, German steamer, 747, Christiansen, 5th February,—Handa, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Worcester, British steamer, 1,894, Morice, 5th February,—West Coast, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Com. T. N. Allen, American ship, 2,271, R. L. Merriman, 5th February,—New York 16th August, Petroleum.—Standard Oil Co.

Alexandrine (18), German cruiser, Captain von Frantzius, 5th February,—Kobe.

Satsuma Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,160, Sommer, 5th February,—Yokosuka 5th February, Ballast.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tenasserim, British steamer, 1,975, Robertson, 5th February,—New York viâ ports, General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Liddesdale, British steamer, 1,716, A. Clarke, 6th February,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Amaranth, British steamer, 1,735, Cliff, 6th February,—Otaru viâ ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Agra Head, British steamer, 1,826, Motyer, 7th February,—Yukkaichi 6th February, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tacoma, British steamer, 1,661, R. Crawford, 7th February,—Tacoma, Wash., viâ Victoria, B.C., 15th January, Mails and General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Else, German steamer, 747, Christiansen, 8th February,—Handa 7th February, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

DEPARTURES.

Ancona, British steamer, 1,880, W. D. Mudie, 3rd February,—Hongkong viâ ports, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Eskdale, British steamer, 1,575, Houston, 3rd February,—Otaru, Ballast.—Hokkaido Tanko Tetsudo Kaisha.

Strathesk, British steamer, 1,454, Foulds, 4th February,—Otaru, Ballast.—Hokkaido Tanko Tetsudo Kaisha.

Teucer, British steamer, 1,802, Riley, 4th February,—London viâ ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Maple Branch, British steamer, 1,935, Hutchinson, 4th February,—Otaru viâ ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Matsumaye Maru, Japanese steamer, 478, Higo, 4th February,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Strathdon, British steamer, 1,720, Johnston, 4th February,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

China, British steamer, 2,600, W. B. Seabury, 5th February,—Hongkong viâ Nagasaki, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Else, German steamer, 747, Christiansen, 6th February,—Handa, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Gaelic, British steamer, 2,690, W. G. Pearne, 6th February,—San Francisco, viâ Honolulu, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Vedra, British steamer, 1,764, R. H. Prout, 6th February,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Glenfalloch, British steamer, 1,410, Pithie, 7th February,—Havre viâ ports, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Satsuma Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,160, Sommer, 8th February,—Ujina, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hinode Maru, Japanese steamer, 789, G. Soluye, 8th February,—Otaru, Ballast.—S. Asano & Co.

Liddesdale, British steamer, 1,716, A. Clarke, 8th February,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tacoma, British steamer, 1,661, R. Crawford, 8th February,—Hongkong viâ ports, General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Amaranth, British steamer, 1,753, Cliff, 9th February,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Assam, British steamer, 1,611, T. Leigh, 9th February,—Hongkong viâ ports, General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Ernest Simons, French steamer, 3,370, Vimont, 9th February,—Shanghai viâ ports, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per British steamer *China*, from San Francisco viâ Honolulu:—Mr. and Mrs. G. B. Madison, Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Spark, Mr. F. F. Jaques, Mr. L. T. Jaques, Mr. E. C. Potter, Commander F. M. Barber, U.S.N., Mrs. F. M. Barber, Miss Hall, Paymaster C. W. Littlefield, U.S.N., Mrs. Lemond, Mr. N. Sato, Mr. L. de Sales, Mr. B. F. Coulter, Jun., Lord Dormer, Mr. and Mrs. Macmillan Mr. W. R. Pattison, Mr. S. Matsumura, Mr. W. K. Azbill, Mr. Albert Sacks, Mrs. T. R. Jernigan and 2 children, Mr. and Mrs. H. J. Mason and child, Madame Clement, Mr. and Mrs. E. W. Clement, and 2 children, Miss Alice Millar, and Dr. C. B. Davies in cabin. For Shanghai:—Miss E. M. Boynton in cabin. For Hongkong:—Mr. J. S. Van Buren, Mr. De Bormont de Avs, Mr. E. J. Bales, Dr. H. F. Bower, Mr. F. E. Woodruff, Dr. Sun, Mr. J. W. Bolles, Miss Magee, Mr. C. A. Tomes and family, and Mr. G. F. Wells in cabin.

Per British steamer *Gaelic*, from Hongkong viâ ports:—Mr. C. H. Best, Mrs. E. O. Tuttle, Captain F. L. Hansford, Mr. Chas. Logan, Mr. M. M. Zavier, Miss P. Brittain, Mr. P. S. Lacaca, and Mr. M. D. Tata in cabin. For San Francisco:—Mr. and Mrs. H. O. Phillips, Mr. H. Sutherland, Dr. and Mrs. M. Otte and 4 children, Mr. Chas. Freeman, and Miss Sumfest in cabin, and 7 Europeans in steerage.

Per British steamer *Tacoma*, from Tacoma, Wash., viâ Victoria, B.C.:—Mr. and Mrs. A. M. Smith, Mrs. Thomson, Miss Glover, Dr. R. H. Glover, Messrs. J. S. Dooly, F. C. Dyer, R. B. Wildinsey, C. B. Sutton, H. S. Ferguson, C. R. Clow, L. B. Worcester, N. G. Winston, A. O.

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Decker, F. L. Smelser, F. Burbaugh, A. Barnes, W. T. Crane, and V. Fuentes in cabin, and 4 Japanese and 19 Chinese in steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per British steamer *Ancona*, for Hongkong viâ ports:—H.E. Baron d'Anethan, Mr. J. C. Budd, Mr. A. S. Harper, Mr. F. D. Bulloch, and Mrs. Ah Yow in cabin.

Per British steamer *China*, for Hongkong viâ Nagasaki:—Mrs. Jernigan and two children, Mr. T. D. McKay, Mr. Hunter Sharp, Mrs. C. F. McWilliams, infant, and amah, and Mr. M. Abraham in cabin.

Per British steamer *Gaelic*, for San Francisco, viâ Honolulu:—Mr. C. Breuer, Mr. V. Berensteht, Mr. E. Cruickshank, Mr. E. R. Eagler, Mr. Chas. Freeman, Rev. and Mrs. J. M. W. Farnham, Captain F. J. Hansford, Miss M. M. Haines, Mr. A. Holbrook, Mr. W. B. Van Ingen, Mr. O. Kaichiro, Count Kiasicky, Miss Lambert, Mr. D. Madden, Mr. John Martin, Mr. V. Murota, Mr. J. H. Moore, Mr. K. Matsui, Mr. E. H. R. Manley, Mrs. Nagasaki, Dr. and Mrs. M. Otte and 4 children, Mr. C. A. Peacock, Mr. and Mrs. H. O. Phillips, Mr. Rush, Mr. Wm. Quackenbush, Mr. C. Sutherland, Mr. F. E. Shean, R.N., Rev. A. W. Skoglund, Mr. H. Telge, Captain Turner, and Mr. G. Wiasiemsky in cabin.

Per French steamer *Ernest Simons*, for Shanghai viâ ports:—Mr. H. MacArthur, Mr. C. G. Coningham, Mr. L. Ph. Von Hemert, Mr. and Mrs. C. A. Tomes and 2 children, Mr. and Mrs. G. H. M. da Costa, child, and amah, Mrs. F. T. dos Remedios, son, and 2 servants, Messrs. D. J. Xavier, Matthew Browne, Edward Young, T. Winkook, Fernando Koep, J. Choy Shee, J. Ah Laung, Comte de Bylandt, Mr. and Mrs. Van der Polder, Mr. and Mrs. Bougouin, Mr. Charles A. W. Powell, Mr. Reiffinger, Miss Edwards, Messrs. T. Wong, Feurer, C. A. Heinlien, H. Blum, M. T. B. Macpherson, B. Munster, H. Hickers, J. Stewart, Mrs. Taft, Mr. and Mrs. Gomes and servant, Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Chapman, Messrs. F. F. and L. C. Jaques, M. Mariano, T. S. Lalcaca, H. D. Tata, Miss Anna Domballe, Messrs. D. Larrieu, Ch. W. Littlefield, W. R. Pattison, Yuanoff, Yeend Duer, J. W. Lee, H. Meyer, Van Hing, and Isam in cabin, and 2 passengers in steerage.

CARGOES.

Per British steamer *Ancona*, for Hongkong viâ ports:—Silk, 307 bales; Waste Silk, 199 bales.

Per British steamer *Gaelic*, for San Francisco, viâ Honolulu:—

TEA.

	SAN FRANCISCO.	NEW YORK.	CHICAGO.	MONTREAL.	OTHER CITIES.	TOTAL.
Shanghai	5	—	1,040	—	—	1,045
Hyogo	13	—	—	—	—	13
Yokohama	358	—	—	—	—	358
Hongkong	266	—	—	—	—	266
Total	642	—	1,040	—	—	1,682

SILK.

	SAN FRANCISCO.	NEW YORK.	HARTFORD.	TOTAL.
Shanghai	—	53	—	53
Hongkong	—	15	—	35
Yokohama	2	326	101	329
Total	2	314	101	417

Per French steamer *Ernest Simons*, for Shanghai viâ ports:—Raw Silk for Europe, 186 bales; Waste Silk for Europe, 292 bales. Treasure for London, $14,367.

REPORTS.

The British steamer *China*, Captain Seabury, reports:—Left San Francisco the 15th January. Arrived at Honolulu the 22nd and sailed same day. Arrived at Yokohama the 3rd February. Last three days had heavy gales from S.W. to W.

The British steamer *Tacoma*, Captain R. Crawford, reports:—Left Tacoma, Wash., the 15th January, and Victoria, B.C., the same evening; had strong gales and heavy sea during the greater part of the voyage.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

Dull and unsatisfactory market all round. There seems to be a growing stringency in the money market which prevents dealers from operating beyond actual requirements. We leave quotations unchanged until prospects assume a more definite shape. Cottons generally are dull enough, but Woollens appear to be specially depressed.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirtings—8½ lb., 38½ yds. 30 inches	$2.25 to 2.90
Grey Shirtings—9lb., 38½ yds. 45 inches	2.50 to 3.25
T. Cloths—7lb., 24 yards, 32 inches	1.80 to 1.90
Indigo Shirtings—12 yards, 44 inches	1.70 to 2.35
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches	2.00 to 3.75
Cotton—Italians and Sateens Black, 32 inches	PER YARD. 0.16 to 0.21
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	PER PIECE. 7.25 to 9.50
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches	0 85 to 1.00
TurkeyReds—2.0 to 2.4lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.65 to 1.75
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1 85 to 2.05
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.50 to 2.60
Turkey Reds—4.8 to 5lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	3 80 to 3.10

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.
Flannel	$0.30 to 0.30
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches best	0.32½ to 0.37½
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Medium	0.27½ to 0.30
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Common	0 20 to 0.25
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yards, 32 inches	0.15 to 0 22½
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches	0.55 to 0.80
Cloths—Presidents, 54 @ 56 inches	0 60 to 0 75
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0 40 to 0 70
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 5 lb. per lb.	0 60 to 0.70

COTTON YARNS.

	PER PICUL.
Nos. 16 24, Ordinary	—
Nos. 16 24, Medium	$34.50 to 35.00
Nos. 16/24, Good to Best	35.50 to 36.00
Nos. 16/24, Reverse	—
Nos. 28/32, Ordinary	—
Nos. 28/32, Medium	36.00 to 36.50
Nos. 28/32, Good to Best	37.00 to 37.50
Nos. 38/42, Medium to Best	42.00 to 43.00
No. 32s, Two-fold	42.00 to 42.00
No. 42s, Two-fold	43.00 to 46.00
	PER B.
No. 20s, Bombay	—
No. 16s, Bombay	—

METALS.

Some little business doing in staple articles, but there is very little animation in the trade.

	PER PICUL.
Flat Bars, ¾ inch	$3.60 to 3.70
Flat Bars, ½ inch	3.70 to 3.80
Round and square up to ¾ inch	3.60 to 3.80
Iron Plates, assorted	3.70 to 3.85
Sheet Iron	4.90 to 5.10
Galvanized Iron sheets	8.50 to 9.00
Wire Nails, assorted	6.00 to 6.25
Tin Plates, per box	6.00 to 6.25
Pig Iron, No. 1	1.70 to 1.72½

KEROSENE.

Holders are firm and buyers will probably soon have to replenish their stocks at the enhanced values now current.

Chester	$1.82½ to 1.85
Comet	1.80 to 1.82½
Devoe	—
Russian Anchor	1.85 to 1.87½
Russian Moon	

SUGAR.

Browns—There is a fair distribution going on of former purchases but no general activity in the market at present. White Refined—The usual steady trade continues but with no special feature at the moment.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Takao	$4.05 to 4.10
Brown Manila	4.70 to 4.80
Brown Daitong (New)	3.50 to 3.55
Brown Canton	3.70 to 4.00
White Java and Penang	6.50 to 6.60
White Refined	6.40 to 6.50

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Dull and apathetic after the large business of last month. We leave quotations unchanged but they are all nominal. Holders make some show of strength, but we fancy they would listen to offers if any real business appeared.

QUOTATIONS.—(NEW SILK.)

Hanks—No. 1	—
Hanks—No. 2 (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 2 (Joshu)	—
Hanks—No. 2½ (Joshu)	—
Hanks—No. 2½ to 3	—
Hanks—No. 3	—
Hanks—No. 3½	—
Filatures—Extra 10/12 deniers	$910 to 930
Filatures—Extra 13/15 deniers	Nom. —
Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers	870 to 890
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den	830 to 840
Filatures—No. 1½, 14/16 deniers	830 to 840
Filatures—No. 1½, 15/16, 14/17 den	800 to 820
Filatures—No. 2, 10/13 deniers	780 to 810
Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	770 to 780
Filatures—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	—
Re-reels—Extra	—
Re-reels—(Oshu) Best No. 1	—
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 deniers	810 to 820
Re-reels—No. 1½, 15/16, 14/17 deniers	780 to 790
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	740 to 760
Re-reels—No. 2½, 14/18 deniers	720 to 730
Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	700 to 710
Kakedas—Extra	—
Kakedas—No. 1	790 to 800
Kakedas—No. 1½	780 to 770
Kakedas—No. 2	720 to 730
Kakedas—No. 2½	—
Kakedas—No. 3	—
Kakedas—No. 3½	—
Kakedas—No. 4	—
Oshu Sendai—No. 2½	—
Hamatsuki—No. 1, 2	—
Hamatsuki—No. 3, 4	—
Sodai—No. 2½	—

WASTE SILK.

No change. Buyers are packing and shipping recent purchases and prices are firm for the best grades of Noshi and Kibiso.

QUOTATIONS.—(NEW WASTE.)

Pierced Cocoons—Good to Best	—
Noshi-ito—Filature, Best	$130 to 135
Noshi-ito—Filature, Good	120 to 125
Noshi-ito—Filature, Medium	110 to 115
Noshi-ito—Oshu, Good to Best	120 to 130
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Best	—
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Good	80 to 90
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Medium	—
Noshi-ito—Bushu, Good to Best	100 to 115
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Best	—
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Good	70 to 75
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Ordinary	60 to 65
Kibiso—Filature, Best selected	100 to 110
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds	90 to 95
Kibiso—Oshu, Good to Best	—
Kibiso—Shinshu, Best	—
Kibiso—Shinshu, Seconds	—
Kibiso—Joshu, Good to Fair	30 to 37½
Kibiso—Joshu, Middling to Common	25 to 28½
Kibiso—Hachoji, Good to Fair	25 to 25
Kibiso—Hachoji, Medium to Low	22 to 20
Kibiso—Nari, Good to Common	12 to 8
Mawata—Good to Best	150 to 200

TEA.

No change. Season comatose and well nigh moribund.

EXCHANGE.

There was a slight rise in rates early in the week, but these are still very low.

Sterling—Bank T.T.	1/11½
— — Bills on demand	1/11½
— — 4 months' sight	1/11½
— Private 4 months' sight	1/11½
— — 6 months' sight	2/0
On Paris—Bank sight	2.44
On Lyons—Private 4 months' sight	2.51
On Hongkong—Bank sight	½ p.
— Private 10 days' sight.	Par.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	71½
— Private 10 days' sight.	72½
On India—Bank sight	184½
— Private 30 days' sight	187
On America—Bank Bills on demand.	47
— Private 30 days' sight	48½
— — 4 months' sight	49½
On Germany—Bank sight	1.97
— Private 4 months' sight	2.04
Bar Silver (London)	27 7/16

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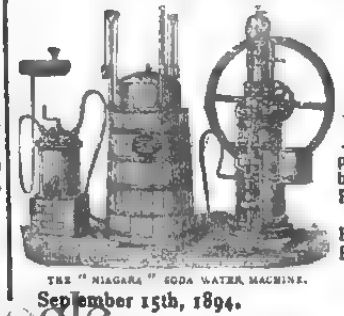
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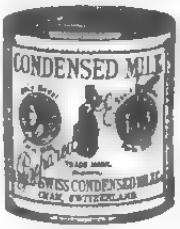
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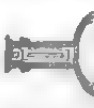
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The Japan Weekly Mail:

A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

No. 7.] REGISTERED AT THE G.P.O. AS A NEWSPAPER. YOKOHAMA, FEBRUARY 16TH, 1895. 明治二十八年二月十三日郵便物認可 VOL. XXII.

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"PAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same: and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, FEB. 16TH, 1895.

BIRTH.

On the 9th February, at No. 38, Bluff, the wife of H. L. FARDEL of a daughter.

MARRIAGE.

On February 12th, 1895, at St. Thomas' Cathedral, Bombay, WILLIAM ROBINSON, Esq., E.T.S., of Southsea, England, to EMILY only daughter of Captain J. J. Efford, Marine Surveyor, Yokohama. Australian and American papers please copy. (By telegram.)

DEATHS.

On the 22nd January, 1895, at Port Arthur, China, in his 23rd year, H. V. YOUNG, Engineer, steamer *Miike Maru*.

At Meran, on January 4th, 1895, AURORA, the beloved wife of L. Wolf, formerly of Yokohama.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

AFTER a stubborn resistance, Admiral Ting has surrendered to the Japanese at Weihaiwei. He had lost a number of ships, and all the land forts ere he took this step.

IT is expected that China will Li Hung-chang to sue for peace.

IT is expected that the Korean loan will be floated in Japan by the middle of next month.

A CARGO boat, while returning from Otsu to Uraga, was wrecked on the 1st inst., off Enoshima. Two of her crew of three were carried away by the heavy sea, and although one was able to make land he afterwards died through exhaustion and cold.

THE shareholders in the Yokohama Four-staples Exchange have reduced their capital from *yen* 210,000 to *yen* 84,000.

THE death is announced of Mr. Todo Koyu, ex-Chief of the Anotsu clan, which took place in the capital on the 12th inst.

THE members of the Union Church, Yokohama, have elected their officers for the year. The accounts show a deficit of $18.56.

A MOST enjoyable lantern-entertainment was given in Yokohama on Friday evening by the members of the Japan Photographic Society.

THE Minister of Education has conferred upon Messrs. Kishigami Kenkichi and Okamura Kintaro the degree of *Rigaku Hakase* (Science).

THE Interport Football match—postponed on account of the rain on Monday—took place on Tuesday, and resulted in a draw—one goal each.

THE British Jury List has been approved by the Judge for the ensuing year. Mr. Diack was exempted from further service by reason of age.

ON Monday evening a torch-light procession paraded the principal streets of Yokohama in celebration of the recent victories of the Second Army.

THE receipts of the Imperial Japanese post, telegraph, and telephone offices for January last show an increase of *yen* 134,279 above the returns for January, 1894.

THE King's Daughters' entertainment at the Public Hall on Saturday last drew a large house. The proceeds were given to the Yokohama General Hospital.

RUMOUR has it that a special session of the Diet will be convoked by the Emperor in May next in Hiroshima for the purpose of discussing further outlays for the war.

A SEALING schooner, the *Walter P. Hall*, sold by auction this week by order of H.B.M.'s Court at Yokohama, fetched $3,300, Captain Martin being the purchaser.

THE 11th inst., Constitution Day, was duly observed throughout the Empire as a general holiday. On the eastern seaboard heavy rains fell for the greater part of the day.

THE death is announced of Mr. Tachiiri Kiichi, ex-*Kaishin-to* representative in the Lower House for Miye Prefecture, which took place on the 5th inst. at Miye.

A PARTY of four hundred engineers, draughtsmen, and commissaries, under Lieutenant-Colonel Seki, left Ujina on the 9th inst. by the *Himeji Maru* for China.

ARRANGEMENTS are being made by the metropolitan newspaper and magazine offices to tender a farewell banquet to M. Boissonade at the Imperial Hotel on the 17th inst.

TWO stowaways who obtained surreptitious passages on the P. & O. steamer *Verona*, have been punished with ten days' imprisonment. One was an English man, the other a Dane.

A RAILWAY collision took place at Okayama station on the 4th inst. through the mistake of a pointsman. About three hundred passengers were in the colliding train, and nearly them were slightly injured, two or three being very severely wounded.

IT is stated that the residents at Port Arthur, desire the Emperor of Japan to visit that place, and have chosen a committee to petition the Japanese Government to that end.

OVER one hundred Japanese residents of Yokohama Settlement held a picnic in the plum gardens at Sugita on the 10th inst. to celebrate the victory of the Japanese at Weihaiwei.

TWO women and a man were burnt at Nishiarose-mura, Awami District, Yamagata Prefecture, on the 30th ult. In an adjoining village two men and one woman were fatally injured by fire on the 2nd instant.

THE U.S. Consular-General Court has found for the defendants in the case of Kobayashi Beika versus The American Trading Company, in which Kobayashi claimed $2,250 damages for alleged wrongful dismissal.

REUTER telegraphs:—The French troops occupied Mojanga on the 16th of January without opposition. The funeral of Marshal Canrobert was a most imposing spectacle. H.M. the Queen, H.M. the King of Italy, M. Faure, President of the French Republic, and the Russian army sent wreaths. The British, French, and Russian Ministers in Tokio and Peking have received instructions from their home governments to advise Japan and China to arrange terms of peace. President Cleveland, in a further Message to Congress, announces the issue of Thirty-year Four per Cent. Bonds to the amount of $62,500,000, the bonds to be payable in coin, with the option of substituting the Three per Cent. Bonds payable in gold, should the sanction of Congress be obtained within ten days. On the 12th February, Mr. Redmond's amendment praying for a dissolution of the House for the purpose of submitting the question of Home Rule to the country was rejected by a majority of twenty. Mr. Balfour supported the amendment solely because he desired a dissolution.

THE Import trade is generally dull, the condition of Exchange being the principal factor in the slackness, holders of commodities generally declining the offers made. A little more enquiry has been made for Yarns, but dealers will not pay the prices asked. Shirtings, Turkey Reds, and Victoria Lawns have sold to some extent, but other Cottons are hard to move. In Woollens there is not much doing, Italian Cloth and Blankets being the principal articles in request. Very little doing in the Metal market, quotations being unchanged and holders firm. Only small sales of Kerosene are reported, and though fresh arrivals continue and the stock increases, holders are strong and decline to part at the figures offered. In Sugar, business is quiet. There have been small sales of Brown, but fresh arrivals have made holders somewhat weak, and buyers are waiting for a turn in prices. Only moderate sales of White sorts at late rates, at which buyers decline to go any further. The demand for Silk has fallen off, and the settlements have been small, holders keeping up asking prices. The stock is still about 7,000 piculs. In Waste Silk a fair daily business has brought the week's settlements to a moderate figure, but the stock is still very large with no immediate prospect of any considerable reduction. Exchange fluctuated slightly—lower at the commencement of the week, with a slight improvement towards the end, but rates are better than those of a week ago.

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URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

THE SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS DURING THE WEEK.

Admiral Ting's surrender is the topic of the day. The *Nichi Nichi* sees in the event the close of a chapter in the history of the combined operations of Japan's Squadrons and Second Army. It does not doubt that the fall of Weihaiwei and the surrender of China's best ships will do much to hasten the termination of hostilities. "Admiral Ting may be censured by the Japanese public as false to his Sovereign and unworthy of his rank and profession. But, for our own part, considering the pitiable circumstances under which he had to labour we find that his act deserved praise rather than blame. It is true, he ought to have saved his country from the impending danger, but that was almost an impossibility. He saved the lives of the thousands under him by wisely bowing to necessity." The *Nichi Nichi* concludes by advising the Pekin Government to follow the wise and courageous example of the former Commander-in-chief of the Peiyang Squadron. The *Yomiuri* accords high praise to Admiral Ting for having so long and so comparatively well defended Liukung Island. As to his final surrender, our contemporary entirely shares the opinion of the *Nichi Nichi*. It declines to compare him with either MacMahon or Osman Pasha, and it declares its assurance that the Japanese Government and people will receive him generously and politely as an honourable prisoner of war, in entire conformity with civilized usages and customs. The *Chu-o* sees nothing strange in the event. The world has seen many an abler soldier surrender under much better circumstances. For example, Napoleon III. at Sedan, with an army some 100,000 strong under him, and Arabi Pasha, who surrendered to the English while he still had 36,000 fighting men under his command. The *Kokumin* deduces such auguries from the fate of the Peiyang Squadron that in March it expects to see the flag of the Rising Sun decorating the gates and walls of Pekin.

* * *

A writer in the *Nippon* takes strong exception to the attitude of the Lower House toward the Government in the present session. Hiding his identity behind the *nom de plume* of "Jun-an Koji," he seeks to impose upon the House a responsibility the extravagance of which every reasonable person must at once appreciate, unless, indeed, the interests of the State count for nothing. Not even the present war, "Jun-an Koji" thinks, should prevent the House of Representatives from attacking the Ministry, if the latter be proved to have neglected the performance of any of its normal duties. So ill does he think of the present members of the Japanese House of Commons that he calls them mere lovers of the position they now hold and of the yearly allowances attached to it. He enters a strong protest, almost amounting to a personal attack, against some of the Government Delegates for making the war a constant shield. Finally, he laughs the members to scorn, alleging that they tamely suffer themselves to be silenced by the Delegates.

* * *

Seeing that the House of Peers has decided contrary to its view with regard to the National Banks, the *Choya Shimbun* writes as follows:—"The Upper House has shown itself opposed to popular opinion in rejecting the Bill for extending the charters of the National Banks sent up to it from the Representatives. Often have the Peers ignored public opinion before, the most remarkable instance being, of course, their attitude toward the Bill for amending the Newspaper Regulations, session after session. There exists an almost unaccountable gulf between them and the people at large. We shall not, however, make this an occasion for accusing the Upper House of faithlessness to the true interests of the State. Nor shall we take the members to task for approving the Government's scheme for the redemption of notes, though it involves something not less blameable than dishonesty. We write merely to give the Peers a piece of our mind by submitting the following questions for their consideration:—How may the Bank of Japan be prevented from wielding in the future undue power in the money market? Even at present, when over 130 national banks share with the great *Ginko* the privilege of issuing paper currency, people view with apprehension the menacing proportion of the Central Bank's power. Is it not easily conceivable that when the Bill securing to the great Bank the monopoly of the note-issuing privilege becomes law, the Bank's power may grow to such dangerous dimensions as to compel the Government itself to bow to it in matters of finance? Did it not occur to the Peers that some instrument is necessary for counteracting such an obvious danger? Do they think it safe not to divert the Government from a path leading to financial thraldom under a great bank?" Such is the chimera distressing the poor *Choya*.

* * *

A prominent writer in the *Asahi* calling himself "Hasenshi," whose real name shows him to be quite a conspicuous figure among the rising generation, says that Japan must distinctly understand that, in the present struggle, her enemy is not China alone, but a strong Power in the Far West. He tells his readers calmly that they need not be at all concerned as to the results of the battles yet to be fought. China is easy to conquer. But any one gifted with ordinary discernment can see another, a stronger, and a non-Asiatic foe likely to step forward for the purpose of preventing Japan from reaping any large gains when she comes to sheathe her sword after the fight with the Middle Kingdom. In conclusion, he emphatically advises the Government and the people not to forget for a moment that such an enemy may come to the front, and to be fully prepared against it in every respect, from diplomacy to an appeal to arms.

* * *

The British House of Lords, writes the *Mainichi* is often found fault with as stolid and obstinate. But holding independent views of its own, it has never degraded itself to be a tool of the statesmen in power. We are not about to discuss its merits and demerits as compared with its brother institution here in Japan. But we sincerely regret that the latter has by no means obtained the sympathy of the Japanese public. We fear that its attitude toward the Newspaper Regulations Bill may raise among the people strong indignation against it, as an enemy of liberty and progress. The same journal speaks against some of the English newspapers, which, according to the *Kaishin-to* organ, on receiving the news of the failure of Chang's peace mission, began to assert the necessity of some Western Power's intervening strongly as regards the terms of peace. These papers once advocated European interference, founding their argument upon the fact that the war has much to do with the interests of many Western States. But their writing, voluminous as it was, proved all in vain. They ought to be persuaded by this time that their States have nothing to do with the peace terms any more than they are entitled to interfere with the war itself. The Japan-China affair must be left from beginning to end to the two countries concerned and to them alone. As for the peace terms, it is the victor State's right to fix them. The Treaty of San Stefano is a single exception in the diplomatic history of Europe. Western essayists may think it applicable in the present case. If so they have still much to learn about matters Oriental.

* * *

We proceed to make brief reference to some other topics touched upon by the vernacular Press during the past week. The *Mainichi* opens one of its leaders by praising Count Kamei, who, as our readers may recollect, went to Chinchow and Port Arthur with Marshal Oyama's Army, as photographer. It then goes on to advise Japanese painters to proceed to the seat of war, enumerating quite a number of benefits that Art might reap from the productions of their pencils and brushes. The *Choya's* zeal for the extension of the National Banks' charters is so keen that it finds cause for complaint in President Kusumoto's way of nominating the *personnel* of the Committee on Mr. Motoda's Bill relating to the National Banks. Among nine members selected by the President to form the Committee, only one is in favour of the *Choya's* favourite views. The *Yomiuri*, writing much to the effect that Japan offers at present many important subjects demanding profound consideration at the hands of the members of the Diet, urges the Houses each to elect, at the close of the session, a Committee, for the purpose of continuing the investigation of the numerous legislative subjects calling for discussion. The *Mainichi* advances a grandiloquent opinion with reference to the restoration of peace. It alleges that, at the present stage of the war, China can purchase peace ■ no cheaper cost than by sending her Emperor himself to the camp of the Japanese Marshal in the field, in an unvarnished carriage drawn by white horses as the Chinese custom has been from time immemorial under similar circumstances, to offer unconditional surrender! The *Kokumin* advises the Japan Mail Steamship Company to despatch, at the earliest possible date, a yacht on a tour around the world, with a party of scientists, editors, explorers, etc., on board. That, we are told, is a necessary step to be taken by a maritime firm of the Yusen Kaisha's standing, in view of the promising development and increase of its own business in particular and of Japanese commerce in general, after the war. The *Jiji* says of the Japanese victories at Weihaiwei that they have carried the war to the very verge of termination. It counts on seeing peace restored in the near future. The *Kokkai* tells the merchants and artisans of Japan to commence rapid preparations for starting their businesses on a large scale on Chinese soil, immediately after the war.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

A THROUGH ASIATIC RAILWAY.

MR. TAGUCHI, M.P., editor of the *Keisai Zasshi*, delivered a lecture at the last meeting of the Economic Society. His subject was the best route for the construction of a trunk railway through Asia, that is to say, from Pekin to Constantinople. The first consideration is whether the line should be laid through the trans-Tienshan or the cis-Tienshan districts. Mr. Taguchi thinks the southern route the easier. He first gives historical causes for the preference. It was through the southern districts that communication was kept up in ancient times between China and Hindustan, that route being taken by all the Buddhists coming from the latter country, and it was by the same route that the founder of the Wön dynasty invaded the West. Marco Polo came to China by that way. Mr. Taguchi has pursued inquiries into the geography of the districts in question and has come to the conclusion that the construction of a trunk railway is feasible in that part of Asia. The proposed line would start from Pekin and then enter the Ho-nan province *vid* Tientsin, Hokian, and Kwangping. After that it would stretch southward as far as Kai-fung and then, crossing the Yellow River in the vicinity of that city, would strike westward passing through Ching-chow, Ho-nan, and other places along the bank of the river as far as the pass of Tung-kow. Here the land begins to rise, the pass itself being about 4,000 ft. above the sea. After this is crossed, however, the route becomes level once more till it reaches the city of Sin-gan. It then becomes mountainous, rising gradually to a height of about 8,000 ft. above the sea. Passing by the town of Yumakhien a small desert is traversed and we then come to the thriving little town called Khamil. From this place what is called the cis-Tienshan route commences. Turfan, Karashar, Aksu, Marashar, and Kashgar are passed in succession, and Tienshan is then reached. Kashgar appears to be some five or six thousand feet above the sea level, and from there the land

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rises more and more till at Terek pass it is as high as 12,500ft. above the sea. This is the highest point along the whole route, but according to the calculation of Mr. Saburi, a railway engineer, the slope probably does not exceed 1 in 100. Os and Polja are next reached, after which comes Kokand, which place is in Russian dominions. The work will not be difficult after the Tienshan range is once passed. Mr. Taguchi's proposed route goes through Samarkand, Bokhara, Merv, Meshad, Teheran, Bagdad, Tskandaran, Adana, Kamiah, Bausa, and Tamid, which is connected by rail with Constantinople. The total length of the line would be 7,650, and the total cost is estimated at 765 million *yen*. The lecturer urged the construction of the railway with great earnestness, and suggested the prosecution of more accurate enquiries.

THE HEIAN SHRINE.

THE construction of the Heian Shrine to be dedicated to the Emperor Kwammu, undertaken by the Society for commemorating the eleven hundredth Anniversary of the Removal of the Imperial Seat to Kyoto, is progressing steadily and will therefore be completed by the prescribed time, namely, the 25th inst., writes the *Yomiuri*. The Shrine is located at Okazakicho in the Kamikyo Division of Kyoto and covers an area of 15,000 *tsubo*. All the buildings on the premises are of white wood. In the eastern portion of the grounds stands the edifice devoted ■ the offering of divine sacrifices, while in the opposite direction is another in which sacred articles are to be kept. In front of the latter structure, on a lower plane of ground, stands the commemoration building fashioned after the Dai Kyoku-den building erected by the Emperor Kwammu. This is roofed with bronze tiles and is supported by pillars painted red. On the top of the roof a golden-hued falcon, 5 feet 2 in. high is fixed. On the right and left of the hall are corridors; both terminate in five-storied pagodas of splendid workmanship. In front of the hall is an elevated covered platform 408ft. long, furnished with steps at four places and enclosed by a row of red pillars, each of which is surmounted by a gilded decoration. In front of the platform stands a towered gate 64ft. high, built like the Otaru gate, and on the eastern flank of the platform is an office. Around the grounds an earth embankment has been raised, beyond which is a ditch 5ft. wide and 2 ft. 4 in. deep. Outside this embankment there are ordinary roads to the east and south, while on the west and north are gardens and woods. Iron pipes have been laid from Lake Biwa Canal to the premises of the Shrine for use in case of fire. The donations thus far received by the Anniversary Commemoration Society amount to 244,347.68 *yen*. Of that sum 25,000 *yen* has been granted by the Court. Over 100,000 *yen*, that is, about half of the total contribution, has been raised in Kyoto city.

THE KOREAN FOREIGN LOAN.

THE floating of a Korean loan in this country appears to be progressing favourably, according to the *Jiji's* information. After repeated deliberations in the circle of influential bankers, says that newspaper, the matter has now been virtually placed in the hands of the Nippon Ginko. As to the price of a share and the rate of interest, the general belief is that the 100 *yen* face value of the former will be fixed at from 90 to 95 *yen* and the rate at eight per cent. per annum. The sum asked for by the Korean Government through Count Inouye was 5 million *yen*, but as the whole of that amount is not necessary at once, 3 millions will be raised now and the remainder later on. The security for the loan is to be the Customs returns and the taxes of three specified provinces of Korea, but that point has not yet been definitely settled. The Customs receipts of Korea amount at present to half a million *yen* annually, so that even if an interest of 10 per cent. be paid for the loan of 3 millions, a surplus of 200,000 *yen* remains. Thus, on the security of the Customs receipts alone, a certain sum can be appropriated toward the repayment of the principal, and as the shares will keep their market price provided that the interest is paid regularly, the capitalists of Japan are ready, it is said, to invest their money even though no fund is available for the purpose of redeeming the principal. With regard to the last point, the Premier and the Minister of the Treasury have pledged their honour, and consequently large capitalists such as Mr. Iwasaki, the Mitsui family, and Mr. Shibusawa have consented to provide the amount required. The matter will be definitely arranged after Count Inouye has contracted a properagreement with the Korean Court.

THE ICE-CAVES OF FUJI.

THE tempestuous weather of Friday evening greatly thinned the gathering at the Photographic Society's Lantern-meeting held in the Masonic Temple. It was matter for regret, for the slides shown were of high merit, worthily sustaining the standard set in previous exhibitions of this kind. First of all was shown a negative taken that day by the Incandescent Light, an illuminant which Prof. Burton thought not quite so effective for photographic purposes as the electric light, but still of such a character as to produce good results. The selection of slides illustrating Japanese customs, trades, manners, and people, to be sent to the American Lantern Society, were next exhibited, after which Dr. Wood described some slides which had been developed from negatives taken in the Hokkaido the previous summer. After an interval, a splendid collection of views on, of, and around Fuji were shown, in the course of which Professor Burton described the ice-caves which he had stumbled across, as it were, in the course of a survey upon the lower slopes of the famous mountain. He propounded the theory that these marvellous caves had been formed through an accumulation of immense snow-drifts which had been overwhelmed by a huge mass of scoriæ during some far-back disturbance of the volcano; and this snow had gradually turned to ice, first by heat and then through compression. The learned Professor arrived at this conclusion upon noticing that the ice of the caves was stratified, a condition not attendant upon glacial formations. A curious thing in connection with these caves is that a long narrow tunnel, never yet thoroughly traversed, leads from the far end, and through this tunnel rushes a blast of air sufficient to extinguish a torch. Professor Burton advises a trip from Yokohama to the neighbourhood of these caves, claiming that the scenery to be passed through on the way to them is unsurpassed for grandeur and beauty in the whole of Japan.

ADVANCE OF THE GENERAL HEAD-QUARTERS.

THE rumour that the Emperor intends taking a decisive step and moving his Head-quarters into the enemy's territory is now gaining ground. Even the *Nichi Nichi*, prudent as generally are its utterances, especially with regard to matters connected with the war, refers to the rumour, though in a somewhat reserved manner. The *Kokumin*, one of the first papers to make any suggestion on the subject, is very outspoken about it. The editor, now in Hiroshima, discusses the matter earnestly in the following strain:—Strategical and political considerations alike justify the idea. The General Head-quarters should not be stationary, but should move with the movement of the Army. Now that Port Arthur and Weihaiwei have fallen and the Pei-yang Squadron has been annihilated, thus entirely removing any danger of attacks at sea, the opportunity should be taken to advance the General Head-quarters and to give a forcible impetus to the troops now bent on marching to Pekin. The step would be attended by numerous advantages. The Japanese soldiers would be inspired with increased courage, the enemy with awe, and the other nations taken by surprise. In short, such a bold stroke of policy would subdue the enemy without any battles being fought and would suppress any meddlesome designs entertained by Neutral Powers toward Japan. Then again, however perfectly strategical operations may be planned, they cannot be satisfactorily carried out when the General Head-quarters are separated from the seat of war by hundreds of miles, being solely dependent upon telegraphic communication as is the case at present. The troops are now about to be concentrated to strike a decisive blow at the enemy, and the Head-quarters should therefore spur them on to a glorious accomplishment of the task before them. The removal of the Emperor's seat to the enemy's territory will also enable the natives of the districts occupied by the Japanese troops to enjoy his benign and benevolent influence. The enlargement of our country's interests will thus be brought about. A great prize requires a great price, and when after a country has put forth its resources both military and financial for the attainment of an object, its Generalissimo himself crosses the sea and personally directs his troops, no other nation will interfere in the matter. The people of this land will read of it in future centuries with quickened pulses just as they now read the account of the Empress-Dowager Jingo having crossed over to Korea and subjugated that country, though that happened fifteen centuries ago. We are firmly convinced, concludes the writer in the *Kokumin*, that only when the Imperial standard is raised in the Chinese capital will the present war be brought to a close.

JAPAN AND EUROPE.

UNDER the above caption, *Das Echo* has an interesting article, taken from the *Berliner Politischen Briefe*, from which we reproduce the following:—If the Japanese victories have produced unselfish joy in any European capital, it was here in Berlin. From the very beginning the sympathy with the Japanese forward movement was no secret, at least not among the people, while diplomacy, very naturally, had to suppress its feelings in order to observe strict neutrality. For twenty years Japan has been sending a large number of her intelligent young people from good families to Germany where they studied the various sciences with great earnestness and zeal—in the army, in the navy, in universities, and in large industrial establishments. These young gentlemen, and later some older ones, appeared everywhere as well bred men, quiet, industrious, and modest, and withal amiable in their social intercourse. They were remarkably apt in adapting themselves to West-European society, adopted the same dress and outward customs, and on account of their neat and pleasant ways they were generally liked. They were received in private houses, and with the families with whom they lived many a friendly relation was established. Their talents were respected and their agreeable manner created sympathy for them. Not the scholars alone were amicably disposed towards them, but the common people as well. Somehow they liked the little fellows—to our notion they were mostly small and weakly men, and youths—who seemed to take a special delight in obtaining their new culture from Germany. On the other hand, a large number of educated Germans, representing all phases of learning and science, were invited by the Japanese Government, to serve as teachers and instructors under very favourable material conditions. German jurists, for instance, assisted in framing the present parliamentary system, &c. All those that did not remain in Japan, returned with the pleasantest recollections of their sojourn in the far East and entertain sincere affection for this aspiring East Asiatic empire. When they give expression to their impressions it is usually done with words of hearty praise. During this same period Chinese students also came to Germany; among them were also many bright young men, but somehow they were, with few exceptions, able to awaken but little sympathy in their behalf. They retained their native dress and remained strangers,—"China" in the midst of European life. And although China also induced German instructors, under very favourable conditions, to go to China, yet no cords of friendship were spun between the scholars of the two nations. It is therefore quite explicable why Germany's sympathies in this war were unreservedly with Japan.

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all the more so because Japan's army and navy are largely modelled after the German pattern. In the beginning a few cautious voices were heard from commercial and political circles, which said that one should bear in mind that China's friendship was of far greater material value than that of Japan; moreover China was a power which in case of a European war might, as an opponent of Russia, become a valuable friend. Further, they alleged, China's markets were as yet hardly opened: in the course of time this empire of 400 millions of inhabitants would offer to German trade and industry a far greater field than Japan with her 40 millions, which is commercially already far more independent that China; one should therefore not sacrifice China's friendship for the sake of Japan, &c. But even these few pro-Chinese voices, as for instance that of Von Brandt, who was for many years the German Minister in China, were of a very passive character. The sympathies remained with Japan. With marked pleasure and satisfaction the development of Japan's military talents was watched and her pluck admired. One rejoiced like a teacher when he sees an able scholar develop into a master. How deep the Japanese sword has struck or will yet strike, into the life of China, we do not know and will here not undertake to predict. Even the so-called well informed people who have spent many years in Eastern Asia, shrug their shoulders and say it is impossible to prophesy as to how things may develope in China. They believe however, that the Japanese are sufficiently well informed to know the exact state of things in China and to what extent they can utilise China's demoralisation to their advantage. In short, if the Japanese are not too much blinded by their victories, they can judge best as to how much they may risk against China. At the same time it is now clearly understood, in political circles that Europe will have to deal differently with Japan hereafter. In Eastern Asia a well equipped military nation has arisen, which is perfectly able to utilise all technical means of European warfare, and which has the ambition and determination to become the leading political power of Eastern Asia, insisting on being recognised on an equal footing with the old European Powers and with North America. This is especially to be noted by Powers that have colonial interests in the neighbourhood of Japan. It is known how Japan, before she undertook this war with China, reopened the treaty negotiations in Europe, in the first place in London, in order to do away with the present Consular courts and revision of her Tariff.—The article from which we take the above concludes by giving a history of numerous attempts on the part of Japan to bring about treaty revision; the willingness on the part of the United States, and later on of Germany, to accede to Japan's wishes in this respect; the causes of the numerous failures and the final consumation of a treaty between Japan and Great Britain, which will no doubt be soon followed by similar treaties with the other Powers

OMENS.

It is invaluable to have clear indications of a nation's purposes when great issues are at stake. We now know that Japan intends to go to Pekin. The omens are infallible. They have been indicated and interpreted by a local English journal, though, indeed, to indicate them was enough: they carry their own interpretation. "Japan has now decided that she is going to Pekin. The reception of the Chinese Envoys at Kobe was a proof of that. A delapidated one-horse shay and disreputable-looking *jinrikisha* were the vehicles provided for the personages who came to sue for peace, and the landing stage was allowed to be littered with coal baskets." Was not that terrible? And how silly on Japan's part to proclaim so publicly her intention of sending an army to Pekin? If she had confined herself to the dilapidated one-horse shay, nay, even if she had added the disreputable-looking *jinrikisha*, her full purpose might have remained in doubt. But the coal baskets litte[illegible] the landing place. There was an air of savage braggadocio about the whole display that can not be too strongly condemned. Was it not nice that the Chinese Envoys happened to be provided with credentials of an insultingly trivial nature? Otherwise the poor fellows must have gone away without avenging the coal baskets. But the honour of the Chinese empire is nobly vindicated.

DEPRESSION OF SPINNING BUSINESS.

The Spinning business of Japan during the latter half of last year was in an unusually depressed condition, as will be seen by the following table:—

	Receipts during the second half.	Net profit per spindle.
Hirano Spinning Co.	50,510.747	4.077
Mieke Spinning Co.	37 653.031	3 638
Owari Spinning Co.	50.510 747	3.215
Settsu Spinning Co.	110,930.504	3.175
Kurume Spinning Co.	15.982.927	3.140
Kishiwada Spinning Co.	28.749 334	2.976
Wakayama Spinning Co.	29.638 216	2.949
Koriyama Spinning Co.	10,352.868	2.462
Amagaseki Spinning Co.	52,131.691	2 433
Kurashiki Spinning Co.	25.663 974	2.407
Sakaye Spinning Co.	10,972.295	2.108
Uwajima Spinning Co.	7.933 604	1.897
Osaka Spinning Co.	96,974 853	1.817
Himeji Spinning Co.	7,838.632	1.649
Miye Spinning Co.	63,680.260	1 493
Tamashima Spinning Co.	11,849.579	1.147
Asahi Spinning Co.	13,150.004	.903
Tokyo Spinning Co.	12.989 433	.766
Kamaboko Spinning Co.	28,520.465	.703
Okayama Spinning Co.	9,020.289	.653
Matsuyama Spinning Co.	2,695.219	.539

There is apparently a great difference in the profits of the respective companies, but taken as a whole, last year's proceeds were only half the amount realized the year before last when the spinning industry enjoyed great prosperity. The *Shogyo* enumerates the following causes for this depression: 1st, the high price of cotton in the purchasing season and its subsequent fall; 2nd, the appreciation of the coal market; 3rd, the rise in the rate of interest on money; 4th, the ruinous competition of spinners; 5th, the fall in the yarn market in consequence of decrease in demand, owing to the war. The *Shogyo* is of opinion that any enterprise with only a narrow margin of profit would collapse under such difficulties, and that the very fact of the spinning companies having realized so much gain under the circumstances speaks well for the future of the industry.

H. M. S. "LEANDER."

The *China Mail* remarks:—There is much activity again in the Royal Naval Dockyard, and in several departments overtime is being worked. H.M.S. *Leander* will require an extensive overhaul before she rejoins Admiral Sir E. Fremantle's squadron in the North. Her machinery is reported to be in a bad state. The twin screw cruiser *Pique* (second class), 8 guns, 3,600 tons and 9,000 horse power, is coming out to the China Station to relieve the *Leander*. Though of less tonnage, the *Pique* is a much faster vessel than the *Leander* and of a better type. The tendency of the Admiralty authorities appears to be to keep the China Station strong in fast cruisers of a powerful pattern. At no time in British naval history have there been so many fine ships on this station.

BAR GOLD.

A remarkable story, that requires confirmation, is told by the *Yorozu Choho*. A moderate-size box was recently forwarded, in the name of four Japanese constables now in Korea, to a certain address in this city. The box was roughly wrapped in coarse straw-matting and was otherwise innocent-looking enough; but the altogether disproportionate and phenomenal weight aroused the suspicions of the express agents. In some way or other the box came to be officially opened before reaching its destination, and was found to be filled to the brim with bullion—bar gold—the total value being estimated at not less than five hundred thousand *yen*. It appears that the treasure fell into the hands of the four constables shortly after the battle of Phyöng-yang, though exactly where they discovered it is not stated. The finders resolved to appropriate the treasure and, after much discussion, determined to ship it to a friend in Tokyo, who was requested by letter to part with a little at a time, particularly to get noblemen to buy the bars, if possible, and thus avoid raising suspicion. This letter, it seems, was also intercepted. At all events, the four constables, hitherto men of unblemished character, have been arrested, and their golden fleece officially impounded. The story sounds quite incredible. Discoveries of a small amount of gold and silver bullion were, our readers may remember, made in the Chinese camp a day or two after Phyöng-yang had fallen; but it is altogether beyond the range of possibility to suppose that the Chinese commanders had so large a sum of the yellow metal with them at the time. For five hundred thousand read fifty thousand, and even then the narrative looks apocryphal. The story is not confirmed by any other Tokyo journal that we have seen.

LAMENTABLE OCCURRENCE ON THE "KAISAR-I-HIND."

A deplorable scene was witnessed by the passengers and crew on the *Kaisar i-Hind* on Sunday, the 20th Jan., when the vessel was about 85 miles N.E. of Acheen Point, Sumatra. A young Lascar sailor named Fouger deliberately threw himself overboard and in the attempt to save him the second officer, Mr. A. J. Cooper, and an A.B. named John Foster sacrificed their lives. The day was beautifully calm and bright and the decks were crowded with passengers, when the cry of "man overboard" was raised. Mr. Cooper, who was universally beloved by all who knew him, immediately sprang overboard to the rescue, without even getting out of his frock coat. A scene of confusion followed, in the course of which a boat, lowered from the ship's side was smashed, and Foster, a quarter-master, was drowned. The delay cost Mr. Cooper his life. The second boat searched for him for over an hour, but no trace could be found of the missing men among the cross-seas. Mr. Cooper, who is well known in Yokohama, was noted for his bravery. He had saved four lives altogether, and had been awarded the Albert gold medal and the Stanhope and bronze medals by the Royal Humane Society. He died wearing his honours. A pathetic part of his death is that only about two months ago he left his mother at Colombo in order to join his ship at Bombay, and she proceeded to Shanghai where she was awaiting his arrival by the *Kaisar-i-Hind*.

HAWAII.

The American mail brings no fresh news from Hawaii—slightly otherwise—the latest date from the islands being January 11th, whereas our correspondence published ten days ago was dated Honolulu January 22nd. The *Belgic's* news refers to Wilcox and Nowlein as being still at large—they were being tried when our advices left Honolulu; and speaks of the Queen's premises being under surveillance—the Queen was in custody when our last letter left. The report says:—"Just what action will be taken in her case cannot be ascertained." This is somewhat ancient history after the particulars of the Queen's removal from her residence published in the *Mail* of the 4th inst.

A TOUCHING STORY.

The vernacular papers recount a touching instance of the brotherly affection of an officer now in Manchuria. Two sons of Mr. Uchida Matake, a *shizoku* of Yanagawa, Kyushiu, proceeded to the seat of war with the First Army. The elder held the commission of lieutenant while the younger was a first sergeant. The latter fell in the battle of Hushan and his remains were sent to the old father. When the box containing them was opened a letter was found from the elder son which ran to this effect:—"When we were ordered to proceed to the seat of war, we promised each other to discharge faithfully the duties dictated by patriot-

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iam and loyalty until death claimed us, and we also promised that if either of us were to fall on the battle-field his remains should be carried by the survivor on the march to Pekin. I therefore have in my cap a part of my brother's corpse and am resolved to rout those dastardly Chinamen and to sack Pekin so that my brother's desire may be fulfilled. Brother, look on my action from another world and comfort yourself." When the father had perused his son's letter tears rose to his eyes and he was silent for a moment. Then turning to his family with an air of great satisfaction, he said with a smile "well done."

WRESTLERS AND THEIR SALARIES.

THE great semi-annual wrestling bout, now in course of progress at the Eko-in, Tokyo, has this year attracted an unusual number of people, thereby proving that the national interest in contests of this sort is by no means on the wane. Every wrestler representing the two great companies of "East" and "West" must take part in at least four matches during the ten-days' period, and his salary is determined by the number of wins or draws or losses that fall to his share. Irrespective of these factors, the amounts assured to the most prominent wrestlers, before the matches began and to which they were entitled in consequence of deeds of prowess in the past, for their services during these ten days, are this year as follows :—

Nishinoumi ("Western Sea"), champion	90 *yen*.
Konishiki ("Little Brocade"), sub champion	77 *yen*.
Asashio ("Morning Tide")	63 *yen*.
Odate	62 *yen*.
Otohira ("Great Wide Gate")	60 *yen*.
Wakaminato ("Young Harbour")	55 *yen* 50 *sen*.
Keisho	44 *yen*.
Dewanoumi	44 *yen* 50 *sen*.
Chitosegawa	41 *yen*.
Onigaya ("Demon Valley")	41 *yen*.
Shitenyu ("Four Celestial Dragons")	40 *yen* 50 *sen*.
Onzaki ("Front of the Great Door")	39 *yen* 50 *sen*.
Ozutsu ("Big Gun")	38 *yen*.
Sotoonmi ("Outer Sea")	36 *yen*.
Kitanoumi ("Northern Sea")	36 *yen*.
Imaizumi	35 *yen*.
Oizumi ("Great Spring")	33 *yen* 50 *sen*.
Howo ("The Phœnix")	33 *yen* 50 *sen*.
Tamanotatsu ("Gemmeous Dragon")	26 *yen*.

All this, of course, may be changed according to each wrestler's skill or degree of luck. Tamanotatsu, the lowest on the list, may come out abreast with Otohira, and thus obtain a gage of sixty instead twenty-six *yen* next time: it all depends on himself; and to do this he must be successful in every bout and draw with a sub-champion. Ozutsu, who stood much higher last year, is far down the list. He is the tallest and one of the bulkiest of wrestlers, but is possessed of comparatively little skill.

FUNERAL OF A YOKOHAMA SOLDIER.

ON Sunday the residents of Yokohama accorded an imposing funeral to the remains of Moguchi Yoshimatsu, a soldier of the town who died at Kaiping. The representatives of various public associations attended the funeral, and the cortége included over one thousand persons. The interment took place at Kuboyama in accordance with Shinto rites.

A STEAM LAUNCH MISSING.

NEWS has been received in Kobe that during the recent heavy weather a launch belonging to the Nippon Yusen Kaisha left Shimonoseki to cross the straits and did not return. It is feared she was caught in a squall and that all on board were drowned. It was rumoured in Kobe that a foreign *employé* was on board the launch at the time, but the office of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha there has received no information to this effect.

A JAPANESE NATIONAL ANTHEM.

IN the *University Courier* we find the following :—

While in Japan it occurred to the writer that the native Christians and the missionaries should have some special form of words to express, on great occasions, their loyal sentiments. To supply this desideratum the following anthem was composed and published. It was generally sung to our tune, "America."

GOD SAVE THE EMPEROR.

God save the Emperor,
And be his Counsellor;
Give happy times.
Upon his ancient name,
Of constitution fame,
Let glory great remain,
In those fair climes.

Long live the Emperor,
The Lord's Executor
Of righteous will.
May right the wrong assail;
May truth and peace prevail;
May plenty never fail
The land to fill.
God bless the Emperor,
And be his Comforter.
O guard these shores
From floods, and shocks, and fire;
From traitors who conspire:
From foes and evils dire,—
Japan implores.

God save the Emperor,
The true Inheritor
Of royal throne.
The Lord has crowned with might
Our King to rule aright,
O'er all these isles of light,
God's will be done.

NAGASAKI.

WE have to acknowledge the receipt from the *Rising Sun* office of the Nagasaki Directory and Almanac for the current year, being the 17th annual issue. The Directory is printed on one side of a sheet of fine cardboard, the other side being filled up with a variety of valuable information and a plan of the foreign Settlement, the whole being a neat example of printing.

THE "SHIBATA MARU."

THE Japanese transport *Shibata Maru* (formerly the *Moyune*), which stranded on a shoal near Ujina during a snow-storm, has gone to Kure to be repaired. The *Chronicle* hears that among other repairs she will require three new plates, and that the work upon her will take from two to three weeks to complete.

THE KAI-HIN-IN.

WE learn from the police that there is no foundation for the rumour that the Kai-hin-in at Kamakura has been destroyed by fire. Some confusion of names has apparently arisen in regard to some temples and shrines near Kamakura which were recently burnt.

THE "ERNEST SIMONS."

THE M.M. *Ernest Simons* on her way down to Kobe from Yokohama, leaving at 9.15 on Saturday morning and passing Rock Island at 1.35 p.m., was stopped for four hours to repair the joint of the slide-valve of the high-pressure cylinder.

MADAME SANNOMIYA'S RECEPTIONS.

WE are asked to state that Madame Sannomiya regrets being prevented by unavoidable reasons from having her usual reception on Wednesday, the 13th instant, but will receive a usual the ensuing week.

DEATH IN KOBE.

THE death is announced in Kobe on Friday of Percy William, the second son of Mr. H. J. Pearce, late of that port. The deceased, who had won the good opinion of all who knew him, succumbed to pneumonia.

KAIPING.

The *Nichi Nichi's* war-correspondent gives an account of Kaiping. He says that the wall of the place is of brick and is about 30 feet high and 10 feet thick. The houses of the citizens are both inside and outside of the wall and number about 2,500, the population being estimated at about 15,000. The buildings all indicate the competence of the inhabitants. Both at the east and the north of the city stand eminences about 1,000 metres in height while the other two sides are open fields. The river Kaiping flows by the south of the town at a distance of some 300 metres. The place is well suited for defence, and it is no matter for wonder that the number of casualties on the side of the assailants was unusually large. Though not constructed in exact conformity with the modern principle of defensive works, the castle of Kaiping was, so far as practical requirements went, admirably adapted for purposes of defence. The front was made proof against the penetration of cannon-balls by the thorough freezing of earth-works which would under ordinary circumstances have afforded but weak protection. The works on the flank were indented like the teeth of a saw. It was, moreover, possible for the garrison to direct cross fire at the enemy. Besides those advantages the front was open and devoid of shelter for the assailants, while a large river offered a serious obstacle to their advance. The length of the wall surprised the Japanese greatly. Commencing at the foot of Fenghwan hill at the south-east it extends for about 4 miles westward till it terminates in a small hamlet. If built in a straight line it would reach for more than 8 miles. An officer told the correspondent that had the Japanese known the strength of the position beforehand, they might have hesitated to make the bold attack that they so successfully carried out. It was well therefore that they were ignorant of it. After the fall of Kaiping the officers of Major-General Nogi's Mixed Brigade assembled in front of the southern gate of the city where mutual congratulations were made. The commander then pointed out to the officers the quarters for their troops and also the posts to be guarded by them. When Colonel Oki and the officers under him reached a certain narrow alley in the southern part of the city, they met a Japanese soldier coming toward them with an alarmed look on his face. Pointing to a house close by he said that he had come across a number of Chinese inside, who had handled him roughly. The officers caused the house to be thoroughly searched but found no soldiers. As the dwelling next to it looked suspicious, however, two or three Japanese soldiers were ordered to knock loudly at the door, the interpreter with the party calling to them loudly at the same time to set the building on fire should the inmates hesitate to come out at once. As no sound was heard from the interior, the windows were broken open and the Japanese entered the house. They found inside Indian corn stalks heaped up to a great height. Thinking this suspicious a soldier thrust his bayonet into the mass upon which a Chinese soldier rolled out uttering a piteous cry. He was at once secured. As it was evident from rustling sounds emitted from various parts of the heap that other Chinese were hidden there, the interpreter was ordered to call out loud that if they came out promptly and surrendered they would be saved; if not they would be forced to come out and put to death. As the cowardly Chinese stayed where they were, however, the officers arranged themselves round the heap with their swords drawn and soldiers and grooms set to work beating the stalks of corn with the result that 16 Chinamen were driven out, some weeping to be saved, others endeavouring to escape, and a few firm enough to stretch out their necks for the death-blow. They were told to keep quiet, and one who appeared to be an officer was led out and interrogated. He said that he was the captain of the little party and that they were under the command of General Chang. The Chinese were then informed of the usage accorded by a civilized country to prisoners of war, after which the soldiers were all tied together by their queues, with the exception of the captain who was spared this ignominious treatment, and were taken to the head-quarters. The incident gave great amusement to the Japanese officers and soldiers, writes the correspondent who was himself one of the actors on the scene.

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IMPERIAL DIET.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 7TH.

HOUSE OF PEERS.

The House did not meet.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The House met at 1.15 p.m., the Order of the Day being :—

1.—Bill (Government) for amending the Conscription Law.
2. Bil for amending the National Banks Regulations.
3.—Representation relating to the Development of Maritime Communications.
4.—Bill for amending the Law of Election for the House of Representatives.
5.—Bill for opening the port of Tsuruga in Echizen to ships trading with Saghalien and Korea.
6.—Bill for opening the ports of Sakai in Tottori Prefecture and Hamada in Shimane Prefecture to ships trading with Korea.
7.—Bill for opening the port of Moratsu to ships trading with Korea, China, or Vladivostock.

Mr. Tsunematsu Rinkei presented a Question relating to the Control of Rivers.

Mr. Takenouchi, Government Delegate, introduced the first Bill, explaining the various changes proposed in the Conscription Law.

The Bill was entrusted to a Special Committee nominated by the President.

Mr. Kozaka Zennosuke, on behalf of the Special Committee, reported in favour of the Bill for amending the National Banks Regulations with a few changes.

The House voted to carry the Bill to a Second Reading.

The Special Committee reported that they had fully considered the three Representations submitted by various members with reference to the development of maritime facilities, and had collated the three, so as to form one document which they now recommended for the adoption of the House.

After a very brief debate the House adopted the Representation by a large majority.

REPRESENTATION RELATING TO THE EXTENSION OF MARITIME COMMUNICATIONS.

(As passed by the House of Representatives.)

Japan being a sea-girt country, the importance of developing navigation need not be explained. Already the principle is fully acknowledged by the public at large, not being traversed by either the Government or the people. It remains only to carefully investigate the mode of attaining the object. The points of importance with regard to maritime communications may be divided into three, as follow :—

I.—AID IN CONNECTION WITH NAVIGATION ROUTES.

There are two methods of giving help in connection with navigation routes ; one is to aid special, the other ordinary, routes. By aiding special routes is meant the arrangement of special stipulations between the Government and competent ship-owners for a service of ships on certain designated routes, the Government designating the routes and granting suitable subsidies, and the ship-owners undertaking to establish and carry on the service. For instance, on such important routes as the Australian, European, and American, any shipper undertaking to establish a service must be prepared to encounter keen competition. Nevertheless, as it is essential to engage in the shipping business on those important routes, in order to develop the foreign commerce of Japan ; competition with foreign companies must be stoutly met, and consequently it is essential that aid be extended on account of such special routes. Further, should any one initiate a shipping service abroad over and above those specially designated by the Government, the latter should, in the same way, assist the enterprise, and by furthering its success endeavour to facilitate the development of maritime business. For these reasons it is essential to extend help in the cases of what are called "ordinary routes." As to the process of extending the two kinds of help above specified, the relative lengths and difficulties of the routes, as well as their importance should be taken into consideration ; and respect being had to the size of the ships employed for the service, their relative speeds, and the mileage, a subsidy at certain definite rates should be given for each route. Still to open at once the three lines to Australia, Europe, and America, would require an outlay larger than the resources of the country can afford. Therefore the Australian line should be opened first, the others to be taken up gradually when the proper opportunity arrives, in conformity with the capacity of the national resources. Such a line as the Bombay line, which has virtually fallen into the hands of Japan, should be kept up ; and a direct service to Vladiostock should also be started.

II.—PROTECTION OF SHIPS.

In a sea-girt country such as ours there is need of a sufficient number of strong ships capable of being turned into transports or employed by the Navy, and which could be requisitioned for Government service in time of emergency. Consequently, the Government should enact rules relating to the building of ships, and in the case of any ship already possessing the necessary qualifications, an agreement should be at once concluded, no matter whether the ship be owned by a company or by an individual, and a certain fixed rate of subsidy should by given according to tonnage, so that the ship may be available in time of emergency. In the event of an increase in the number of ships built, the amount of the subsidy should proportionately increase ; but such a result can not be looked for until after the lapse of years. Under existing circumstances, the outlay required for the purpose would not amount to much at first.

III.—TRAINING OF SEAMEN.

The training of seamen is an absolute necessity. It must keep pace with the development of maritime facilities and the increase of the number of ships. Consequently, the scope of the present Commercial Navigation School should be enlarged, and branch schools should be established in several important localities, so as train a sufficient number of seamen for manning the increased number of ships and to meet the requirements of developing maritime enterprise.

The House suggests that, based on the foregoing considerations, the Government should compile a draft scheme and introduce it to the Diet for the latter's consent.

On the motion of Mr. Nakajima, the consideration of the next Bill was deferred.

The three Bills relating to the opening of ports were handed to a Special Committee without question or debate, and the House rose at 3.25 p.m.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 7TH.

HOUSE OF PEERS.

The House met at 10.50 a.m., the Order of the Day being :—

1.—Bill (Government) for amending the Chamber of Commerce Regulations.
2.—Bill (Government) relating to the carrying forward of expenses on account of the Diet Buildings, the repairs of the Chikugo River, &c.
3.—Bill (sent up from the Lower House) for amending the City Local Government System.
4.—Bill (sent up from the Lower House) for amending the Urban and Rural Division Local Government System.

Mr. Hayashi, Vice-Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, laid before the House the same documents, with reference to the peace conference at Hiroshima, as those already laid before the House of Representatives.

Mr. Wakamiya, Government Delegate, introducing the first Bill, explained that its objects were six. First, to amend the system of electing members of Chambers of Commerce, so as to secure better men. Second, to develop the functions of Chambers of Commerce. Third, to define the qualifications for election to membership of a Chamber of Commerce. Fourth, to contrive that persons of ripe experience in commerce shall be elected. Fifth, to extend the system to Hokkaido. Sixth, to put an end to secret meetings of Chambers of Commerce.

The Bill was handed to a Special Committee.

Mr. Matsuoka, Government Delegate, having introduced the next Bill, it was handed to a Special Committee.

The Government Delegate having stated that the Government approved of the next Bill, it was handed to a Special Committee without question or debate, as was also the last Bill on the Order.

The House rose at 11.45 a.m.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The House met at 1.15 p.m., the Order of the Day being :—

1.—Bill relating to the Registration of Lands, Buildings, and Ships.
2.—Bill for restoring to Temples and Shrines Lands originally belonging to them.
3.—Bill relating to a Special System of Finance for the capital of Forest Lands.
4.—Bill providing for the Sale of unrequired State Forest Lands.
5.—Bill for changing Prefectural Boundaries.
6.—Bill for amending Law No. 42 of the 23rd year of *Meiji*.
7.—Representation relating to Telephones.

The Chair having been taken by the Vice-President.

Mr. Tsunoda Shimpei, on behalf of the Special Committee, reported that the Committee recommended the rejection of the first Bill, inasmuch as its provisions were intimately connected with those of the Civil Code now undergoing revision, and it seemed wiser to await the promulgation of the Code instead of legislating now in a sense that might have to be altered when the Code went into operation.

Mr. Nishimura Shintaro, on behalf of the minority of the Committee, reported in favour of the Bill on account of the convenience it would confer. As to the objection that its provisions might be found to clash with those of the Civil Code now undergoing revision, that seemed very unlikely, and besides, when the Civil Code went into operation the business of registration would be so largely increased that it certainly seemed advisable now to make a beginning in the case of the objects enumerated in the Bill.

Mr. Shigeoka Kungoro opposed the Bill. He thought that the principle of entrusting the business of registration to Divisional Local Officials was entirely wrong.

After another speech, the closure was put and carried, and the House voted against the Second Reading of the Bill.

Mr. Imai Isoichiro, on behalf of the Special Committee, reported that the Committee had considered the two Bills, namely, that for restoring to Temples and Shrines the Lands lying outside their Enclosures and originally belonging to them, and that for the control of Forests belonging to Temples and Shrines. The Committee had joined the two Bills into one, and had made various amendments, the most important being that the lands themselves should not be restored, but that the net revenues accruing from them should be paid over to the Temples and Shrines to support and preserve them, and that it should be illegal for the Temples or Shrines to pledge, sell, or cut the timber of the forests attached to them, the purpose of this latter amendment being to preserve the picturesque appearance of such places.

Mr. Nakamura Yaroku opposed both the original and the amended Bill. The amendment was merely toying with the question. If the lands properly belonged to the Temples and Shrines, they should be restored. But to have them managed by the State for the benefit of the Temples and Shrines was neither one thing nor the other. As to restoring them, he was entirely against it. The Buddhist and Shinto Priests had fallen far below the propagandists of Christianity. They had relaxed their old tenets about celibacy and meat diet, and had become notoriously venal. Wherever a forest was in their power they had cut down and sold all the timber. They already had control of 1,750,000 acres of land, and it was notorious that so far from improving these estates, their tendency was to waste them. He believed that poverty was the best condition for the priests. It offered fewest temptations. Besides, the proposal had important financial bearings that ought to be carefully considered.

Mr. Takahashi, Government Delegate, said that the titles of the lands referred to were far from clear. Some had been sold by the Government ; some had never really belonged to the Temples and Shrines. The Government could not consent to the Bill.

Mr. Saito Ryosuke was just as much opposed to the corruption of the priesthood as Mr. Nakamura, but the object of this Bill was not to put money in the pockets of the priests but to provide for the preservation of the Temples and Shrines. He understood that some of the lands in question had became Imperial Domain, but the Sovereign would never be content to retain them were the justice or expediency of restoring them established.

The House, by a vote of 81 to 80, agreed to carry the Bill to a Second Reading.

Mr. Nakamura Yaroku, on behalf of the Special Committee, said that as the next Bill was closely connected with another measure the examination of which had not yet been completed, he asked the House's permission to defer his report.

The House agreed.

Mr. Nakamura Yaroku, on behalf of the Special Committee, reported in favour of the

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next Bill, the Committee being convinced of the propriety of selling to the Districts concerned any State Forest Lands that were not needed for public purposes.

Mr. Kaneko, Vice-Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce, regretted that the Government was unable to give its assent to the Bill. He pointed out some important misapprehensions in the investigations of the Special Committee; dwelt on the almost unsuperable difficulty of dealing with the lands in the partial manner suggested, and urged that no legislative step should be taken until the exhaustive surveys and investigations now in progress were competed.

The House voted against the Second Reading of the Bill.

Mr. Noguchi Kei introduced the next Bill, providing for certain changes in the boundaries of Chiba and Saitama Prefectures. He explained that the projected changes was essential to the prevention of inundations.

The Bill was entrusted to a Special Committee.

Mr. Ota Shinichi explained that the next Bill was intended to facilitate irrigation and provide means of averting inundations.

The Bill was entrusted to a Special Committee.

The Representation for transferring the telephonic business from State to private management was handed, without further explanation, to a Special Committee.

The House rose at 5.15 p.m.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 9TH.

HOUSE OF PEERS.

The House met at 10.50 a.m., the Order of the Day being :—

1.—Bill for amending the Railway Construction Law (sent up from the Lower House).
2.—Bill for amending the Railway Construction Law (sent from the Lower House).
3.—Bill for establishing Silk-conditioning Warehouses (sent up from the Lower House).
4.—Petitions.

The Government Delegate, in answer to questions, having explained that the Government did not oppose the first two Bills, they were entrusted to a Special Commitee.

Mr. Kaneko, Government Delegate, said that, while the Government approved the principle of the Bill for establishing Silk-conditioning Warehouses, they were obliged to oppose the adoption of such a measure at the moment owing to the pressure of belligerent matters.

The Bill was handed to a Special Committee.

A Petition for the construction of a railway from Sorachi to Kamikawa (35 miles) in Hokkaido was adopted for presentation to the Government.

The Petitions Committee recommended for adoption a petition presented by certain residents of Kanagawa Prefecture. The document set forth that, owing to the superior facilities enjoyed by the foreign merchants of Yokohama for obtaining information as to the trend of public taste in Europe and America and the state of the market, they were able to drive a disproportionate profit from the trade in Japan silk. The petitioners, therefore, urged that, in order to correct the deficiency under which Japanese merchants laboured, the Consuls of Japan in the chief silk centres of France and Italy, in London, in New York, and in Shanghai, should be instructed to send a detailed report once a week for the information of their nationals in Japan, and to telegraph the state of the market every third day.

The House adopted the petition for presentation.

The Petitions Committee next recommended a petition for the establishment of a Silk-conditioning Warehouse in Yokohama. The petitioners set forth the defects in the present system of inspecting and packing silk, and said that if Japan was to compete successfully with Italy, means must be adopted to correct this state of affairs.

The petition was adopted for presentation, as was also a petition for changing the period of paying the *saké*-brewing tax.

The Committee then introduced a petition for enacting a statutory customs tariff instead of a conventional tariff as was now the system. The petitioners argued that every independent country reserved to itself the right of fixing its customs rates by statute, and resorted to conventions in exceptional cases only. Without such competence it was impossible to derive from the customs a revenue proportionate to that derived by western countries.

The House adopted the petition, as well as a petition for increasing the size of the vessels plying to Aogashima, and a petition for the establishment of another Divisional office in Ehime Prefecture.

The House rose at 11.30 a.m.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The House met at 1.20 p.m. the Order of the Day being :—

1.—Bill (Second Reading) for establishing a Temporary Naval Court.
2.—Bill (Second Reading) for amending the Savings Bank Regulations.
3.—Bill for amending the Pensions and Gratuities Regulations.
4.—Bill for amending the Regulations relating to the Retiring Allowances and Gratuities to Teachers of Primary Divisional Schools.
5.—Bill for amending the Regulations relating to the Emoluments of Heads of Normal Schools, and the Retiring Allowances and Gratuities of Officials of Public Schools.

Mr. Hamana Shimpei, on behalf of the Special Committee, reported that the Committee recommended 18 petitions for adoption by the House.

Mr. Tanaka Shozo presented a Question with reference to tinned provisions for the Army. He spoke at great length, dwelling on the fact that while the country was willing to grant any amount of money for warlike expenses, it did not contemplate emptying the contents of the Treasury into the pockets of dishonest merchants. He drew a vivid picture of the hardships that had to be encountered by the troops and denounced the rascality of traders who, for the sake of paltry gains, exposed the country's defenders and champions to suffering and perhaps disaster. Investigations made since the war broke out showed that not only were cattle used that could not possibly be considered fit for the purpose of canned meat, but great numbers of horses also were slaughtered, and there was strong reason to suspect that their flesh formed a considerable ingredient in the tins of so-called beef supplied to the Army.

Mr. Sakata Shozo, on behalf of the Special Committee, reported in favour of the First Bill with some slight verbal alterations.

The Bill was carried at once through its Readings.

Mr. Suzuki Shigeto, on behalf of the Conference Committee of two Houses, reported that, after considerable discussion and deliberation the Committee had adopted the Press Law as passed by the Lower House.

The House, without debate, agreed to the Bill.

The Second and Third Readings of the Bill for amending the Savings Bank Regulations were passed, the Special Committee's amendments being adopted, and an amendment proposed by Mr. Taguchi Ukichi, rejected.

Mr. Nakajima Yuhachi, introducing the next Bill, said that its objects were, first, to reduce the retiring allowances to officials; secondly, to abolish the special allowance to Ministers of State; and thirdly, to establish a uniform system for all retiring allowances. He claimed that the pay of officials in Japan was more than ample, and that all these additional allowances should be cut down.

Mr. Suyematsu Kencho, Government Delegate, denied that the salaries of officials in Japan were large. The present Regulations governing special allowances and retiring allowances had been drafted after careful comparison of the rates obtaining in other countries, and were on a distinctly economical scale. It was to be observed, too, that the Bill touched the emoluments of civil officials only. Why were those of military officials left undiminished? Why was such an invidious distinction set up? The Government strongly opposed the Bill.

The House refused to entrust the Bill to a special Committee and voted against its Second Reading.

Mr. Nakajima asked leave to withdraw the next two Bills since the last had been thrown out.

The House consented.

Mr. Hayakawa Ryosake moved that the House adjourn until March 1st, but the proposal obtained 3 votes only.

The House rose at 3.30 p.m.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 12TH.

HOUSE OF PEERS.

The House met at 10.50 a.m., the Order of the Day being :—

1.—Budget for the 28th Fiscal year.
2.—Correlated Budgets.
3.—Bill for amending the Second-hand Articles Dealers Regulations.

Viscount Okabe asked to have the Order of the Day changed in order to introduce the Press Law as passed by the Conference of the two Houses.

The House agreed and the Government's consent having been obtained, Viscount Okabe reported that after much discussion the amendments made by the Upper House, in the sense of retaining the clause providing for the payment of security money by newspapers, and also conferring on the Executive competence to suspend a journal for one week provided that the reason of the suspension were clearly stated, had been rejected by the Conference by one vote. There had been no proposal of a compromise between the opinions of the two Houses, nor had the Managers of the Lower House conceded anything.

Without debate a closed ballot was taken, when 52 voted for the Bill as passed by the Conference and 117 voted against it, 2 invalid votes being cast.

Viscount Soga, on behalf the Budget Committee, reported that the Committee had passed the whole Budget as amended by the Lower House. He explained the various items in detail, and said that in general the Government Delegates, though admitting that the reductions made by the Lower House were in some respects embarrassing, expressed willingness to accept the Budget as it stood. In answer to a question, he explained that the Government's intention was to increase the Commercial Navigation School to three times its present size, but at the moment necessary appropriations could not be made.

The various Budgets were then passed without debate or amendment.

The Second Reading of the Bill for amending the Second-hand Articles Dealers Regulations was then taken, and passed with slight amendments, the Third Reading being also voted.

The House rose at 2.30 p.m.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The House met at 1.10 p.m., the Order of the Day being :—

1.—Bill for abolishing the Confectionary Tax Regulations.
2.—Bill relating to Agricultural Councils.
3.—Bill for granting Special Privileges to the Wives and Children of military men killed in Battle.
4.—Resolution relating to the Fixed Accounts for the 24th year of *Meiji*.
5.—Representation for increasing the Tokyo Technical School.
6.—Representation for increasing the Fine Arts School.

Mr. Komuro Shigehiro, introducing the first Bill, said that the Confectionary Tax produced only 600,000 *yen* annually and caused great embarrassment to those obliged to pay it. The abolition of the tax would undoubtedly be a wise measure.

The House refused to entrust the Bill to a Special Committee.

Mr. Kusakari Shimmei opposed the Bill. The Confectionary Tax was not the only one to which valid objections might be raised. The tax on vehicles and that on tobacco belonged to the same category. But the abolition of these imposts could not now be undertaken, unless some compensatory source of revenue were provided.

The House refused to carry the Bill to a Second Reading.

Mr. Komuro Shigehiro asked to have the Order of the Day changed in order to proceed at once to the discussion of the National Banks Regulations Amendment Bill introduced by Mr. Motoda Hajime and now in the hands of a

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Special Committee. The House had already passed a Bill for extending the charters of the Banks, and the Peers were now on the eve of discussing that Bill. But in order to reach a satisfactory conclusion it was essential that the Second Bill also should be in their hands. He therefore moved that Mr. Motoda Hajime's Bill be taken back from the Special Committee and debated at once, so as to send it to the Upper House as quickly as possible.

Many objections were raised to such a course as irregular, and the House became considerably excited. Finally, an open ballot was taken, when 100 voted for and 72 against Mr. Komuro's motion for changing the Order of the Day.

A heated discussion ensued as to the propriety of taking back from a Special Committee a Bill entrusted to it for examination and report. Mr. Ozaki Yukio denounced such a procedure as obviously irregular and illegal, but Mr. Hoshi Toru defended it, alleging that the entrusting of private Bills to Special Committees was simply a measure dictated by the House's convenience, and that if legislative expediency dictated departure from that course the House was always competent to depart from it.

Mr. Horikoshi Kwansuke denounced the idea of suddenly depriving of its functions a Special Committee against which no fault had been charged. The House would be insulting the Committee by resorting to such a measure.

An animated discussion ensued, some members contending that anything not distinctly forbidden by the Standing Orders must be considered to depend on the discretion of the House, and others asserting that the spirit of the Orders must be considered quite as much as the letter.

Mr. Misaki Kamenosuke asked the House whether it had forgotten its previous decision, namely, that the Bill in question should be entrusted to a Special Committee. The plain meaning of that decision was that the House considered a Special Committee's investigation and report to be essential to the exhaustive discussion of the Bill, but now, on the ground that the Committee's report was delayed, they proposed to dispense with it altogether. Obviously they would be reversing their previous decision did they take that course. Further, although there was no provision of the Standing Orders explicitly forbidding the step they were now invited to take, there was provision to the effect that when a Bill was entrusted to a Special Committee, the latter should report upon it, after which the House should proceed to discuss. There was also a provision in the Law of the Houses that every Government Bill must be examined and reported on by a Committee. From these two provisions it could be inferred with certainty that a Bill placed in the hands of a Special Committee ought to be reported on by the Committee before being brought up for debate. He hoped that before establishing a dangerous precedent the House would reflect fully.

Mr. Orita Kenshi failed to see what occasion existed for making this question an affair of urgency. He thought that there was a palpable tendency to abuse the procedure of urgency. In the present case the sole and only reason they had for adopting an unprecedented course and disturbing the Order of the Day for the purpose of adopting it, was a mere supposition that the deliberations of the Upper House would be facilitated thereby. He had supported the Bill now before the Upper House, but he should rather see the Bill defeated than give his vote for the measure now proposed.

Mr. Tsunoda Shimpei thought that the House was suddenly attaching unprecedented importance to the functions of a Special Committee. Surely the members knew that at times they were in the habit of using Special Committees merely as an instrument for scotching Bills. When the session was drawing to a close and the chances of a Bill's becoming law depended entirely on expedition in dealing with it, was it not a common device of its opponents to hand it to a Special Committee so as to create a delay fatal to its chances of passing both Houses? And if that were so, surely it was within the competence of the House to save a desirable measure from failure by dispensing with the functions of a Special Committee even though they had already been engaged. A Bill was handed to a Special Committee when there appeared to be time for such a method of procedure. By parity of reasoning it could be taken back from a Special Committee when there appeared to be insufficient time to avail themselves of the Committee's services. As to the contention that since no provision for such a course existed in the Standing Orders, they might as well say that the members should refrain from eating their dinners because the Standing Orders contained nothing about the cooking of rice.

The closure having been put and carried, an open ballot was taken, when 84 voted for, and 103 against, the motion.

Mr. Takagi Shonen then asked that the Order be changed for the purpose of introducing a Resolution directing the Special Committee to present its report on the following day.

The House agreed.

Mr. Tsunematsu Rinkei, introducing the Second Bill, dwelt on the importance of agriculture to Japan, and urged the advisability of establishing Agricultural Councils or Chambers.

Mr. Kitagawa Kekei perceived that the House was disposed to attach little importance to the Bill, but he urged the members to think how many millions of their countrymen lived by agriculture, and to reflect that, if commerce had its chambers for discussing commercial affairs, agriculture ought to be similarly provided.

The House refused to entrust the Bill to a Special Committee and voted against its Second Reading.

Mr. Sakata Shozo, introducing the next Bill, granting special privileges to the widows and orphans of persons killed in battle, dwelt on the signal services rendered by the troops in the present war, and asserted the country's obligation to reward such loyalty and bravery.

The House refused to entrust the Bill to a Special Committee.

After a brief debate, the general tendency of which was to the effect that the proposed privileges—riding on State railways free of charge, and receiving education at Government or public schools free of charge—would be considered humiliating by the persons whom they were intended to benefit, the House voted against the Second Reading.

On a motion by Mr. Shigeoka Kungoro, the next item on the Order was deferred until the following day, in view of its importance and of the lateness of the hour.

The same course was pursued with regard to the next Bill.

Mr. Ishibashi Hanyemon, introducing the last Representation, spoke briefly on the reputation enjoyed by Japanese art abroad and the importance of encouraging its development, which could best be done by enlarging the Fine Arts School.

The Representation was entrusted to a Special Committee, and the House rose at 5 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 13TH.

HOUSE OF PEERS.

The House met at 10.45 a.m., the Order of the Day being :—

1.—Applications for leave.
2.—Bill relating to a Temporary Naval Court.
3.—Bill for the Control of Pawnbrokers.

Rear-Admiral Ito introduced the Bill for the establishment of a Temporary Naval Court, giving the same explanation as that furnished to the Lower House, and adding that a slight amendment made there met with the Government's approval.

The Bill was handed to a Special Committee.

Viscount Yuri, on behalf of the Special Committee charged with the duty of reporting upon the Bill for prolonging the charters of the National Banks (sent up from the Lower House), said that the Committee's report being now ready and the subject being of great importance, he moved that the Order of the Day be changed so as to take the Bill at once.

Viscount Soga objected. He claimed that the importance of the subject was precisely the reason why the regular, deliberate procedure should not be departed from.

Mr. Fujimura Shiro, a supporter of the Bill, complained that notice of this urgency motion had been sent round to its opponents the preceding evening by Mr. Kaneko Kentaro, and that the affair was evidently a matter of arrangement. He asked for an explanation.

Viscount Yuri denied that in proposing the immediate discussion of the Bill he was influenced by any consideration other than the public importance of the subject.

Mr. Shibawara Wa declared that the suggestion of official pressure was entirely groundless. It was merely a question of disposing of a problem that occupied the mind of the public and had already been over long on the *tapis*.

After some further desultory discussion, a closed ballot was taken when 104 voted for, and 81 against, Viscount Yuri's motion for changing the Order.

Prince Konoye, Chairman of the Special Committee, reported that considerable delay had occurred owing to a desire on the part of certain members of the Committee to await the presentation of a Bill on the same subject now under discussion by the Lower House. The advocates of delay, by absenting themselves from the Committee's meetings had caused some embarrassment, but finally the Committee had come together and decidedly unanimously to recommend the rejection of the Bill. He spoke at some length explaining the reasons influencing the Committee, which were chiefly those already set forth by the Government Delegate and the opponents of the prolongation of the charters in the Lower House.

Viscount Sakai supported the Bill. His chief argument was that the motive underlying the establishment of the National Banks had been to place the financial affairs of the nobles and the *Shizoku* on a firm basis. The country owed a debt to those two classes and was bound to pay it. But the Government had suddenly undertaken operations of conversion, by which bonds bearing interest of only 5 per cent. were substituted for the original Pension Bonds of the *Kwa-shizoku*, and now it was proposed to change the organization of the National Banks *in toto*, and make them private institutions. The whole course seemed to him improper and indefensible.

A discussion of considerable length ensued, when the closure was put and carried, and a closed ballot being taken 112 voted against, and 85 for, the Second Reading of the Bill.

The House rose at 3.40 p.m.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The House met at 1.15 p.m., the Order of the Day being :—

1.—The Settled Accounts for the 24th year of *Meiji*.
2.—Petition relating to Lighthouses.
3.—Bill (Second Reading) for amending the Law of Election of Members of the Lower House.
4.—Bill for restoring Lands to Temples and Shrines.
5.—Bill for the Preservation of Forests.
6.—Bill relating to a Special System of Finance for Forest Lands.
7.—Representation for establishing an Industrial School.
8.—Representation for increasing the Tokyo Industrial School.

Mr. Shigeoka Kungoro, on behalf of the Settled Accounts Committee, referred to the difficulty that had arisen in connection with this question of settled accounts. The accounts now before them had been presented to the last Diet, but before they came up for debate, the House of Representatives had been dissolved. Many persons argued that dissolution involved loss of competence to discuss the same accounts in an ensuing session, just as failure to pass a Budget removed that Budget from the pale of all further deliberation and brought the old Budget, *ipso facto*, into renewed operation. But such a contention seemed superficial. The provision with regard to a Budget was based on the consideration that without certain appropriations the business of the Administration could not go on. Hence it became necessary to have some substitute in the event of a Budget failing to come into existence. But no such argument applied to the Settled Accounts. They always fell under the purview of the Diet, no matter how many times Houses were dissolved.

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The Government Delegates held a different view. They were of the opinion that Settlement Accounts presented to the House in a certain session and not debated owing to the House's dissolution, could not be taken up by a different House in another session. They declared their willingness to answer questions about the accounts at any time, but with the principle of re-examination they would not agree. It was the House's wish to avoid collision with the Government as far as possible this session, but perhaps that object might be defeated in the present instance.

Mr. Motoda Hajime, in view of the importance of the question at issue and the fact that the members had not yet fully inquired into it, moved that the discussion be postponed for a few days.

The House agreed.

The Petition for establishing a light-house near the embouchure of the Tenriu river in Shizuoka Prefecture, was introduced by Mr. Hamano on behalf of the Petitions Committee. Mr. Matsushima explained that the temporary light-house now standing at the spot had been built by private subscription, and that Mr. Arai, a *shizoku* of the Tokugawa time, now over 70 years of age, had furnished funds for the purchase of oil by depriving himself of *saké*.

The House adopted the Petition.

The Second Reading of the Bill for amending the Law of Election was then taken. After one or two members had spoken, the House voted to defer the discussion of the Bill for a few days in consideration of the importance of the subject.

Mr. Tanaka Torio, on behalf of the Special Committee, reported against the Bill for restoring to Temples and Shrines the land originally in their possession, lying outside their enclosures. The confiscation of such lands by the Government had been a perfectly proper step, and any attempt to restore them after such a lapse of years would entail endless confusion and perplexity.

After a brief discussion, the closure was put and carried, and an open ballot being taken, 95 voted for and 90 against the Third Reading of the Bill.

Mr. Nakamura Yaroku, on behalf of the Special Committee, reported in favour of the Bill for the Preservation of Forests. Some measure to prevent deforestation was absolutely needed.

Mr. Kaneko Kentaro, Government Delegate, said that the House having rejected the Bill of which the one now before it was really a corollary—namely, the Bill providing for the sale of non-essential forest land and the purchase, with the funds thus obtained, of essential lands—the Government could not choose but oppose the present Bill.

The House, after a brief discussion, voted to carry the Bill to a Second Reading.

The next Bill was withdrawn, in consequence of its relation to another measure.

Mr. Maikawa Makizo, introducing the next Representation, said that he had expected to see a measure in the same sense presented by the Government. The object was to establish an industrial school in Osaka. Any one conversant with the great commercial and industrial importance of that city, must endorse the project. The plan was that Osaka should furnish half of the cost and the Treasury the remainder.

The Representation was entrusted to a Committee.

The next Representation was similarly treated without discussion.

The House rose at 4.45 p.m.

THE DUKE OF MECKLENBURG-SCHWERIN.

The German cruiser *Alexandrine*, on board of which His Highness the Duke Friedrich Wilhelm of Mecklenburg-Schwerin is serving, arrived in Yokohama a few days ago. The coming of the vessel to this country is in consequence of a wish expressed by the Emperor of Germany that the Duke should pay a visit to Their Majesties the Emperor and Empress of Japan. His Highness is a younger brother of the reigning Grand Duke of Mecklenburg-Schwerin. He is at present staying at the German Legation in Tokyo. It is arranged, we understand, that, on the 13th instant, Her Majesty the Empress—the Emperor being absent in Hiroshima—will give audience to the Duke and to the German Representative, the reception to be followed by a luncheon, at which the suite of His Highness and Count Quadt, Secretary of the German Legation, will be present. We learn that His Highness intends to visit Nikko, where he will spend a few days, and that, after his return, an official banquet will be given, on the 18th instant, by H.E. Baron Gutschmid, the German Minister, at which the presence of His Imperial Highness Prince Kitashirakawa and of His Excellency Viscount Mutsu, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, is expected.

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND THE CHINESE ENVOYS.

An obviously absurd statement made by certain of the vernacular newspapers has been taken seriously by some folks in Yokohama. It appeared among telegrams sent from Hiroshima to Tokyo, and was translated into these columns with the heading "From Japanese papers." It is scarcely necessary, presume, to point out that for items of intelligence grouped under such a heading we take no sort of responsibility. They are re-produced as they appear. To edit them at all would be to guarantee the accuracy of those left unedited. The statement in question was this:—

Viscount Mutsu, Minister of Foreign Affairs, has been soliciting the opinion of various Foreign Representatives with regard to the position taken by the Government upon the Chinese Peace Envoy's credentials. Upon being asked by the Viscount as to the advisability or otherwise of the step adopted by the Japanese Government, the U.S. Minister has, it is said, replied that Japan's measures were proper in the premises. The Russian and British Ministers have answered that they can not reply before they receive instructions from their Governments.

We are now in a position to state positively that there is not so much as one word of truth in the above statement. From first to last it is a baseless fabrication.

TORCHLIGHT PROCESSION IN YOKOHAMA.

On Monday evening the more patriotic section of the Japanese residents of Yokohama, celebrated the victories at Yokohama with a monster torchlight procession. The rains of the early morning caused the promoters some anxiety, but as the day wore on and the weather cleared-up these were allayed. The evening was remarkably fine, with a full round moon of unusual splendour for this time of year, and long before the time fixed for starting thousands of white-and-red capped men and youths had gathered at the rendezvous preparatory to taking places in the ranks. Most of them carried red and white lanterns, though some preferred more startling colours, while many bore huge square lanterns displaying transparencies of the Generals and high military and naval officers who have won distinction in the war. These included General Yamagata, Vice-Admiral Ito, General Oyama, Viscount Kabayama, Lieut.-General Nozu, etc. The procession, which was nearly half-a-mile long, left the site of the old Kencho buildings shortly after six o'clock. It headed first for the Bund and made a very orderly march down the sea-front road to the Grand Hotel, the band playing vigourously the while, and shouts of *Bansai*, *Teikoku Bansai*, being raised ever and anon. Many of the foreign residents gathered at various points of vantage along the route of the procession expressed hearty surprise at the great orderliness prevailing among so many thousands of young men and boys. Some fireworks were discharged opposite the Grand Hotel, and the procession crossed over the Yatobashi and entered the Motomachi. It next crossed the Minato-bashi and then on through Benten-dori, Otamachi, and a few other of the more important streets of native town to Noge. Here the National Anthem was played by the Town Band, and after cheers for the Emperor, Empress, Imperial Family, the Army and the Navy, the procession disbanded.

WAR NEWS.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 9TH.

It is not possible as yet to be quite certain about the state of affairs at Weihaiwei. The telegram received by a Secretary of the Lower House from Hiroshima on Thursday does not seem to have been quite accurate. It was apparently an abbreviation of the following, which the *Kokumin* publishes as coming from Hiroshima, under date 11.55 p.m. on the 7th:—"On the 4th instant from 2 a.m. until 7 a.m., a squadron of torpedo boats, taking advantage of the moonlight, entered the Weihaiwei Bay, and discharged 4 torpedoes at the *Ting-yuen* from a distance of 400 metres. A loud report was heard and a great column of water thrown up. It was not possible to be quite certain, but the ship seems to have been struck and sent to the bottom. The *Chen-yuen* was run ashore. One of the Japanese torpedo-boats got on a rock and was wrecked, and two others were injured and had to be towed away by the *Fayeyama*."

Taking the telegrams in order, we have next a message sent from Hiroshima at 11.55 a.m. on the 8th instant, and published by the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*. It says:—"The official report of Admiral Ito has not yet been received, but Vice-Admiral Tsuboi, Commander-in-chief at Port Arthur, telegraphs that he knows the *Ting-yuen* to have been sunk, and that apparently one or two more of the enemy's ships have been injured, but the message received by him being difficult to decipher, he was making inquiries." The telegram goes on to say:—"The attack made by our torpedo-boats on the 5th is a fact. The remaining ships of the Peiyang Squadron were either sunk or captured. The Squadron is annihilated. According to one statement, the *Chen-yuen* is lying on her side, and the *Tsing-yuen* has been sunk."

The next news is from Admiral Ito, off Weihaiwei. It was despatched from that place at 9 p.m. on the 7th by the *Saikyo Maru* which carried it to Vice-Admiral Tsuboi at Port Arthur, whence it was telegraphed to Hiroshima. It runs thus:—"While we were bombarding the forts, the enemy's torpedo-boats, to the number of more than ten, came out and made a dash to escape. The first Flying Squadron gave chase, and either sunk or drove ashore 10 torpedo-boats and 2 steam-launches, the place where they were run ashore being Sungmienchiang, in the vicinity of Chefoo. Commander Sameshima, of the Naval Staff, reports that, while passing Chefoo, a sound of violent cannonading was heard and shells were seen dropping from the land-forts into the harbour. It was thought possible that the soldiers of the garrison were effecting their escape and committing outrages of some kind. English, German, and American men-of-war were lying in the harbour. Further reports will be sent as soon as the facts are ascertained."

The above message is apparently the one that Vice-Admiral Tsuboi found difficulty in deciphering.

It will be observed that nothing is said in any of the above messages about the fate of the island forts. From Shanghai, however, comes a telegram, dated the 8th, saying:—"Liukung Island has been taken. The remainder of the Chinese fleet made a dash to escape, but are believed to have all been either taken or sunk."

Shanghai also telegraphs that the Chinese report the *Ting-yuen* and the *Chen-yuen* to have been torpedoed and sunk; that the *Wei-yuen*, the *Lai-yuen* and one other were torpedoed and sunk on the night of the 5th; and that Admiral Ting Ju-chang has escaped.

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The above is the substance of all the news yesterday received.

It is stated, Shanghai being the source, that the Japanese landed on the 7th at a place 10 miles to the east of Chefoo, and were attacking the eastern forts on the 8th. We can not tell how much credence this story deserves. There is very little doubt that it was in the programme of Marshal Oyama to occupy Chefoo, but his getting there on the 7th instant seems remarkably sharp work.

Another telegram says that full powers will now be given to the Chinese Envoys. We believe that to be correct. But the question is, how will the credentials be conveyed? A telegraphic communication will, of course, be insufficient, and if the documents are sent by hand, an interval of some three weeks must be anticipated. Still, it looks as if China was really in earnest.

The *Nichi Nichi* publishes a telegram sent from Moji at 4 p.m. on the 7th, which says that, according to intelligence brought by the *Matsuyama Maru* from Yung-cheng, Lieut. Suyenaga of the Sixth Dicision, with 40 men, were reconnoitering in the neighbourhood of Weihaiwei, when they were surrounded by over a thousand of the enemy. A fierce fight ensued, and the Lieutenant together with the greater part of his command were killed. That is very probably the incident forming the basis of the Chinese so-called official report telegraphed from Chefoo to Shanghai, to the effect that some 12,000 Japanese, landing at Ninghai, attempted to take Weihaiwei by suprise on the 26th January, and were driven back with a loss of nearly 500 men.

Intelligencee from the First Army, is to the effect that the Chinese troops at Yingkow have been reinforced by 8,000 men under General Hsü, and that they were preparing to advance at the time of despatching the telegram (7th) Their immediate objective seemed to be Tashihchiahiaho. A Squadron of Chinese cavalry pushed as far as the Japanese outposts at Lanshiuchang on the 6th instant, on the coast road from Yingkow to Kaiping. A noise of cannonading in the neighbourhood of Yingkow, was said to be the drilling of newly arrived troops. Major-General Nogi's cavalry scouts reported on the 7th instant that a force of about 1,000 Chinese infantry with some cavalry had appeared at Chilikao, about 3 kilometres to the north of the Taping mountain. The enemy's scouts were seen several times that day at Lanshiuchang, and it was inferred that the Yingkow Army was pushing forward. No signs of a retreat from Chilikao was observed. On the contrary, the enemy were establishing a camp there.

Monday, February 11th.

Amid a number of reports published without any care for order of dates, some official, some private, it is by no means easy to arrive at a clear understanding as to the state of affairs at Weihaiwei. We proceed to lay before our readers, as nearly as possible in proper sequence, the official, and therefore thoroughly truthworthy, accounts :—

Report from Head-Quarters at Hiroshima to the Naval Department.—"On the 30th ultimo the Third Torpedo Squadron essayed to enter Weihaiwei Bay, but being mistaken for the enemy by the forts already in possession of our forces on the east of the Bay, and subjected to a fierce cannonade, retired without affecting anything. An understanding having then been come to between the army and the navy, it was arranged that another torpedo attack should be made on the 31st, but owing to a violent gale operations at sea were out of the question. This ships withdrew to Yungcheng Bay while the storm lasted. On the 2nd, the weather having become somewhat quieter, the fleet put to sea again. The cold was so intense that the vessels-of-war, gunboats, and torpedo-boats were covered with ice, and blocks of from three to five inches in thickness were frozen into the throats of the guns. All the craft, however, were safe. On the 3rd instant, the Second, Third, and Fourth Flying Squadrons bombarded the forts on the islands of Liukung and Zhih, the latter replying vigorously. During this engagement, the *Tsukushi Kan* was struck by a shell that killed two of her people and wounded several. Meanwhile, the enemy's ships were moving about in the Bay inside the island, shelling the forts that had been taken by our men on the eastern side. The same night (3rd instant) the torpedo-boats again attempted to enter the Bay, but found the booms and other obstacles too baffling. A small opening was, however, effected in the booms on the eastern side. To-night (4th) another attempt to destroy the booms will be made. During the day gunners were sent from the Fleet to the forts on the West of the Bay for the purpose of training the guns there on the enemy's ships. At present, the ordnance in a serviceable condition in the easterns forts consists of three pieces of 24-centimetres, two of 21-centimetres, and one of 15 centimetres. On the 30th ultimo, a shell from the enemy's Squadron struck one of the 24-centimetre guns, destroyed the piece, and killed two marines, wounding two others, one severely and the other slightly."

(Signed) Dewa,
Chief of Staff of the United Squadron.
(Dated) February 4th.

From the above it will be seen that up to the night of the 4th instant, no entry had been effected into the Bay. All the forts on the mainland had been captured, but those on the islands of Liukung and Zhih were still holding out, and the Chinese ships were uninjured. Subsequent information as to the shell that struck the *Tsukushi Kan* shows that 2 men were killed and 8 wounded, but that the ship was not in any way disabled. The *Tsukushi* is a steel cruiser of 1,372 tons, carrying 9 guns.

We now proceed to translate the official account of the attack by torpedo-boats on the night of the 4th instant, which Captain Dewa, in the above report, allndes to as projected and also on the 5th instant. The account was carried to Port Arthur by the *Edo Maru*, and was telegraphed thence to Hiroshima by Rear-Admiral Tsuboi, Port Admiral. It runs as follows :—

"On the night of the 4th instant, the First Torpedo Squadron having been placed on guard at the western entrance to Weihaiwei Bay, the Second and Third Squadrons, as soon as the moon rose, entered the Bay from the east, passing through the aperture that had been effected in the booms, and attacked the enemy's ships. The *Ting-yuen* (iron-clad) was certainly destroyed, and the *Tsing-yuen* seems to have sustained serious injury to her bottom. With regard to the injuries suffered by our torpedo-boats, No. 8 received a shell in her engine-room and all the men there were either killed or wounded. The other boat of the Squadron, on the return voyage, run on the boom and was struck by the enemy's shot, so as to be almost lost, Sub-lieutenant Suzuki and two seamen being killed and one wounded." (This sentence is obscure in the original.) "Torpedo-boats No. 8 and No. 14, striking the boom or a sunken rock, had their rudders and screws injured. Torpedo-boat No. 6 was struck by 46 rifle bullets and 1 Hotchkiss shot; torpedo-boat No. 10 received 10 rifle bullets, and the rest were struck more or less, but there were no casualties to life or limb. Last night (5th instant) the Second and the Third Torpedo Squadrons were placed on guard at the western entrance to the Bay, and the First Squadron, as soon as the moon was up, passed in from the east through the break in the boom. No. 23 Torpedo-boat, the *Kotaka*, and No. 11 fired seven torpedoes, sinking the *Chen-yuen*, the *Wei-yuen*, and one gun-boat. The Torpedo-boats themselves escaped without any injury to their hulls or their crews. Torpedo-boats No. 8 and No. 14, which had been injured in the attack during the night of the 4th instant (as described above) were towed by the *Yayeyama Kan* to Port Arthur on the following day. Meanwhile, the ships were kept moving outside to seal the exits from the Bay. To-morrow (7th) the fleet, acting in concert with the forts on shore, will bombard the forts on Liukung and Zhih islands. There being no hope of using the guns in the Western forts, the troops there have returned. As for the eastern forts, it appears that, in addition to the guns stated to be serviceable in the staff report of the 4th instant, the marines will be able to use two pieces of 24-centimetres, one of 15 centimetres, and two of 12-centimetres."

(Signed) Vice-Admiral Ito,
Commander-in-chief.
(Dated) 4 a.m. 6th inst., Weihaiwei.

The above gives us information of the operations up to the morning of the 6th inst. To sum up the occurrences, we find that there were three torpedo attacks; the first on the night of the 3rd, the second on the night of the 4th, and the third on the night of the 5th. The first attack succeeded only in effecting a breach in the booms at the eastern entrance. The second resulted in the sinking of the iron-clad *Ting-yuen*, and the crippling of the *Tsing-yuen* (gun-boat, 578 tons), two torpedo-boats being temporarily disabled in the affair, one run ashore, and several men killed or wounded on the Japanese side. The third attack, made by only two torpedo-boats, had for its issue the sinking of the *Chen-yuen* (iron-clad), the *Wei-yuen* (1,300 tons) and a gun-boat, without any casualties on the Japanese side. It should be noted that Admiral Ito's message is not quite clear as to the *Chen-yuen*; or, to speak more correctly, the telegraphic repetition of it is not fully explicit. The name interpreted as *Chen-yuen* appears in the telegraph in the form of *Chen* only. On the other hand, a Shanghai telegram speaks of the ships torpedoed on the night of the 5th as the *Wei-yuen*, the *Lai-yuen*, and another. But Shanghai has no longer any special means of learning about the incidents occurring at Weihaiwei, for telegraphic communication between that place and Chefoo, is of couse, interrupted.

We come now to the 6th and 7th instant. On the former day, there appears to have been a suspension of active operations for reasons that are not stated. Evidently, however, as shown by Admiral Ito's report despatched at 4 a.m. on the morning of the 6th, there was no intention of commencing the joint military and naval bombardment of the island forts until the 7th instant. In all probability, a day's rest was deemed absolutely essential. During three consecutive nights—the 3rd, the 4th, and the 5th—nearly the whole fleet must have been on the *qui vive*, and it was not until the torpedo-boats had done their deadly work, sending to the bottom the only Chinese vessels capable of formidable resistance, that a brief breathing spell could be taken. At daylight on the 7th the bombardment commenced, and at 7.30 a.m. the seventh shell fired from the eastern forts, struck the powder magazine on Zhih Island and exploded it, putting an end, of course, to the island's capacity for resistance. There remained, then, only the forts on Liukung Island, but of their fate we have no official intelligence.

On the 7th instant another memorable incident occurred. News of it was brought by the *Saikyo Maru* to Port Arthur, by command of Admiral Ito, and was then telegraphed to Hiroshima by Rear-Admiral Tsuboi. The *Saikyo* reached Port Arthur at 9 a.m. on the 8th. The message she carried from Admiral Ito was as follows :—

"As I yesterday reported, while the bombardment of the enemy's forts was going on, over 10 of his torpedo-boats came out of the Bay and attempted to escape. The First Flying Squadron was sent in pursuit of them. It chased the 12 torpedo-boats and 8 small steamers into Lungman harbour, in the bay adjacent to Chefoo, and there either destroyed them or drove them ashore, rendering the whole unserviceable."

To the above was appended the following :—

"Captain Samejima, commander of the Flying Squadron, reports that, when passing Chefoo, he heard the boom of guns and saw shells flying from the forts into the harbour, where British, German, American, French, and Russian men-of-war were lying. As soon as the exact facts are ascertained, they shall be reported, but in view of the extraordinary nature of the occurrence, this intelligence is given immediately."

Referring to the above, the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* says that at Hiroshima the Chefoo affair was interpreted to mean that the fugitive Chinese troops from Weihaiwei, being in want of provisions, had raided the foreign Settlement, and been met by the marines landed by the British and other ships for the protection of the place. But we fail to see how that hypothesis accounts for the shells fired from the forts into the harbour, unless, indeed, the rioters got possession of the forts and trained the guns on the foreign ships to occupy the latter's attention while they raided the Settlement. It is a fact that British marines and blue-jackets had been landed some time previously, and were guarding the Settlement.

We learn incidentally from the above that two items of news sent from Shanghai were incorrect.

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The first said that, on the night of the 7th, a Japanese force landed at a place 10 miles to the east of Chefoo, and attacked the easterly forts. Now it was on the 7th that the First Flying Squadron, when in pursuit of the fugitive torpedo-boats from Weihaiwei, heard the sound of big guns at Chefoo and saw shells fired from the forts into the harbour. Evidently, therefore, the rumoured Japanese landing was untrue, and in all probability the story had its origin in the operations of the Flying Squadron at Lungman harbour. What really did take place at Chefoo that day is matter for conjecture. No telegraphic news seems to have reached Shanghai up to yesterday evening.

The second incorrect item of Shanghai news was to the effect that all the island forts of Weihaiwei were captured on the 6th instant. Captain Sameshima and the Flying Squadron can not have returned from the pursuit of the torpedo-boats until the afternoon of the 7th, and the *Saikyo Maru*, which carried the news of that operation to Port Arthur, must have left Weihaiwei about 8 or 9 p.m. on the 7th, since she reached Port Arthur at 9 a.m. on the 8th. But she brought no intelligence of the Liukung forts having fallen, and we may safely conclude that up to the evening of the 7th they were still holding out. It has to be noticed, also, that Shanghai does not adhere to its former statement about the 6th instant. Rumours current there yesterday said that the Liukung forts and the remnant of the Peiyang Squadron had not yet surrendered. All honour to them for their gallant stand.

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* publishes a telegram from Hiroshima, dated 6.17 p.m. on 9th instant, the contents of which help to explain the official intelligence recorded above. The telegram is as follows :—

"From 2 a.m. on the night of the 4th instant our Torpedo-boats entered the Bay, but the measure of success attained by them is uncertain. On the way back, torpedo-boat No. 22 ran on a rock between the forts Luchuetsui and Lungmiaotsui, and in that position was attacked at close range by 9 ships of the enemy, torpedo-boats and men-of-war. The forts Luchue and Lungmiao opened fire on the Chinese ships to save the torpedo-boat, which had not been destroyed, and in which her commander and eight or nine men were still alive. An attempt was made to reach and save them with Chinese *sampans*, but the ice near the shore was too thick to break through. Some other plan was being devised when the report was sent from Luchue fort. It is further stated that this was the torpedo boat by which the *Ting-yuen* was sunk, and that the enemy consequently pursued her with special animosity."

If our readers refer to Rear Admiral Tsuboi's report—the second translated above—they will see that one statement about a torpedo-boat is somewhat obscure, it being recorded that "the other boat of this squadron, ran on the boom and was struck by the enemy's shot so as to be almost lost," &c. Doubtless the boat referred to was No. 22, spoken of in the *Nichi Nichi's* last telegram. On that hypothesis the total Japanese loss was two torpedo-boats temporarily disabled, and one probably lost.

The same telegram adds :—

"The Chinese soldiers, in their retreat, are committing outrages in the neighbouring villages. Our men are pursuing them. The ships are now bombarding the forts on Liukung Island from outside the Bay."

From Shinking two telegrams are to hand with reference to the strength of the Chinese forces in the neighbourhood of Kaiping and Haicheng. The first message comes from the Divisional Staff of the First Army and is dated 11 a.m. on the 8th instant. It says that, according to a letter intercepted by Major-General Nogi's men from a Chinese merchant in Tashihchiao, the whole district was swarming with Chinese troops, and a great attack was projected for the 9th instant. The letter further said that re-inforcements amounting to 20 regiments had reached Tienchwangtai from Shanhaikwan.

The second message is also from the Divisional Staff of the First Army, and is dated 1 p.m. on the 9th instant. It says :—

"The strength and positions of the enemy's troops now actually confronting our army are as follow :—At Lienshankwan and in its neighbourhood, 9,900 men under Generals Chin, Lu Panyuen, and Nieh Tszchang; at Liaoyang and Shalio, 19,500 men under Su, Chang, Hau. At Mukden and in its vicinity, under Tang Zhantien, Han Pienwai, and Fang Shang, 13,000. At Yingkow and Tienchwangtai, 34,000, under Sung Ching, Su Pangtao, Chang Kaoyuen, Chang Kwangtsien, Li Kwangchi and the newly arrived Liu Kwan-yi. In the neighbourhood of Saimatsui under So, Fu, Shu, and others, 6,700. And at Chitungyu (20 miles east of Haicheng), and Sanchiatsz (25 miles north of Suiyen), 7,000 under Chin, Chang, Fang, Ma, Kang, Su, and Chau.

The *Kokkai* publishes a telegram from Hiroshima, dated the 8th instant, and therefore earlier than either of the above two messages, to the effect that Liu Kwan-yi having arrived at Tienchwangtai, arrangements are now being made to attack Haicheng simultaneously from the north and the south, and that a great battle may be expected shortly.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 12TH.

Our readers doubtless remember that in our last issue we speak of the fate of the second Chinese iron-clad, the *Chen-yuen*, as uncertain. The uncertainty is not completely resolved even now, for in the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* we find the following two telegrams :—

Hiroshima, 11.30 a.m., 10th February.

According to news received this morning, the 10 Chinese torpedo-boats that emerged from the western entrance of Weihaiwei Bay and attempted to escape to Chefoo, were attacked by the Japanese ships *en route* and either driven ashore or sunk. One of them was taken possession of by the Infantry of the Second Division; another by the Engineers of the same Division. The men captured in them said that the ships sunk by our torpedoes were the *Ting-yuen* (iron-clad), the *Wei yuen* (1,300 tons), and the *Lai-yuen* (2,850 tons), and that the ships remaining were the *Chen-yuen* (iron-clad), the *Tsi-yuen* (2,355 tons) and the *Ching-yuen* (2,300 tons). The prisoners further stated that Admiral Ting had transferred his flag to the *Chen-yuen*.

The above intelligence was sent by Captain Tojo under date 8 a.m. on the 8th instant.

But the same paper (*Nichi Nichi*) publishes another telegram of later date, which runs as follows :—

Hiroshima, 6.15 p.m., 10th February.

The sinking of the *Chen-yuen* is certain. On the 7th inst. the four eastern forts on the mainland and the Squadrons, which divided into two detachments for the purpose, bombarded the forts on Liukung Island from three directions. No official statement of the result has yet been received, but there can be little doubt that the island fell into our hands that day.

The casualties on board the fleet were :—In the *Yoshino* and *Fuso*, 4 men killed and 12 wounded; in the *Akitsushima*, Sub-lieutenant Takagi and Midshipman Mori, slightly wounded; in the *Matsushima*, Sub-lieutenant Ishii, injured by a burn. All the rest are safe.

It will be seen that the sinking of the *Chen-yuen* was accepted at Hiroshima as a fact on the evening of the 10th. A word of explanation may be given here. Our readers may be puzzled to understand how any doubt could exist on such a point, but their difficulty will be removed if they remember that telegrams have to be sent phonetically and that the Japanese syllabary does not enable any distinction to be made between such words as *Ching* and *Chen*. Could ideographs be sent across the wires there would be no uncertainty. Hence at Port Arthur, where Rear-Admiral Tsuboi is in receipt of written reports, the sinking or survival of the *Chen-yuen* must be known, and we presume that the statement at the commencement of the second of the above telegrams was made in consequence of special inquiries addressed from Hiroshima to Port Arthur. It is not possible to spell out *Chen-yuen* exactly on a telegraph wire, but it is perfectly possible to say whether an ironclad or a cruiser is indicated.

We have to correct an error that crept into our reports published yesterday. We wrote that the torpedo squadrons made their entry into Weihaiwei Bay when the moon rose, whereas it should have been "when the moon set." The attacks were made in complete darkness.

As to the capture of the Liukung forts, it is not yet possible to share the confident belief expressed in the second of the above telegrams. Reports received yesterday (11th instant) in Shanghai from Chefoo confirmed the previous statement that the Liukung forts and the remainder of the Chinese fleet were still holding out.

It was also announced yesterday in Shanghai from Chinese sources that the Chinese torpedo flotilla had been sunk or captured.

Another piece of intelligence circulated in Shanghai was that Admiral Ting had been killed. The news came from Chefoo. But, as we have already noted, Chefoo is no longer in telegraphic connection with Weihaiwei, and we fail to see how any intelligence of such an event as the death of the Admiral could have reached the former place. It is conceivable that the Admiral may have attempted to escape in the Torpedo Flotilla, or in the two small steamers accompanying it, and that he lost his life when the Flotilla came under the guns of the Japanese Flying Squadron. But in that case the news should have reached Japan. Besides, from more than one source we have the intelligence that the Admiral transferred his flag to the *Chen-yuen* after the sinking of the *Ting-yuen*. Everything indicated a firm resolution on his part to perish with his ships if he could not save them. We have spoken before of our faith in his pluck, and the men under his command had given ample proof that they possessed the same quality. It looks as if the action of the Peiyang Squadron in its last hours were destined to remove the reproach that has fallen upon Chinese manhood. The remaining ships of the Squadron are so hopelessly out numbered that surrender would have been justifiable long ago. But they do not surrender.

There is a rumour that a Japanese force at Ninghai is pushing westward so as to get round to the rear of Chefoo. We are not aware that any Japanese force has been landed at Ninghai, but it is very possible that a movement against Chefoo is in progress.

The mobilization of the Imperial Guard took place on the 6th and 7th instant, to the intense delight of the men, who have been longing to get the "rout." There was great carousing in Tokyo when the order went out. The first detachments of the Guard took train for Hiroshima on the 7th. We have no account of the exact number of the Division, but it probably musters some twelve thousand.

The *Yomiuri Shimbun* gives this account of the torpedo attack at Weihaiwei, one of the most interesting incidents of the war :—"On the 5th instant at 2.50 a.m., the Second and Third Torpedo Squadron, ten boats in all, entered Weihaiwei to attack the enemy's fleet. Six of them passed in safely, and making their way through a hot fire from the enemy—No. 6 was struck 47 times—advanced to discharge their torpedoes. One received a shell in her engine room and finally sank, though No. 19 tried to save her. No. 22 ran on a sunken rock off Luchuetsui fort and went to pieces on the 6th. At 4 a.m. on the 6th instant the First Torpedo Squadron, 14 boats in all, entered the port, with the result that the iron-clad *Ting-yuen* received such injuries that by the afternoon of that day she was half submerged, and had to be run on Liukung Island. The next day the *Lai-yuen*, the *Kang-tsi*, and a gunboat sank. Our casualties were Sub-lieutenant Suzuki and 9 men killed. The remnants of the enemy's Squadron anchored close under Liukung Island. Steps have not yet been taken to break up the remaining booms."

The above telegram purports to have been despatched by Captain Yamagata on the 7th instant at 6 a.m.

The same journal publishes a telegram from Captain Nakamura, dated the 7th instant in the afternoon, which says :—"The *Ting-yuen*, injured by our torpedo attack on the 5th instant, heeled over at 4 p.m. that day, and became incapable of movement. The *Lai-yuen* was sunk in the attack on the 6th instant, and one or two other vessels also were injured. As for the *Chen-yuen*, it had been commonly reported

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that she was incapable of manœuvring, but on the morning of the 5th she was seen moving about the Bay, and during the fight on the 7th she actually took part. From 7.40 a.m. on the 7th the eastern forts on the islands of Zhih and Liukung were the objects of a hot bombardment by our ships and by the forts we had taken on shore. At 8.20 a.m. the powder magazine on Zhih Island blew up, but it is not certain whether the island's capacity for resistence was destroyed by the explosion. The Liukung forts, however, were not disabled. The bombardment lasted about an hour. The remaining ships of the enemy are in the Bay, lying to the westward of Liukung Island, so as to avoid our fire. Our ships are gradually advancing towards Chefoo."

The vernacular newspapers continue to speak of a great battle at Haicheng and Kaiping as imminent. There are now over 90,000 Chinese troops confronting the Japanese in Manchuria, and Liu Kwan-yi having reached Tienchwangtai, a battle ought soon to occur.

From Pekin comes intelligence that the Chinese Government is consulting with the Foreign Representatives with respect to the full powers to be granted to the Chinese Envoys. We believe that this news is a little antiquated, and that the necessary powers have already been drafted, but whether H.E. Chang will return to Japan in the capacity of Envoy, or whether some much bigger man will be sent, is still an open question.

The *Jiji Shimpo* contains the first detailed account of the operations on shore in the campaign against Weihaiwei. We translate:—"There are two roads from Yungcheng to Weihaiwei: one on the north, the other on the south. The northern route being rough and difficult to traverse, the Sixth Division, which was numerically the smaller, was sent by it, while the Second Division moved by the Southern route. The whole set out from Yungcheng on the 26th ultimo the general objective point being Pohchihyaisu. The Commander-in-chief had arrived in Yungcheng on the 25th, and issued the following general order:—"The enemy's forces at the place of landing and in the neighbourhood of Yungcheng, numbering 1,500, have retired in a westerly direction. Some of his troops are also at Kushanken and Chiaoteutsi. The column forming the right wing will halt on reaching Paochia, and will reconnoitre the ground in front. It will also open communications with the fleet. The left column, on reaching Changchiakowtsz, will despatch scouts to ascertain the enemy's condition, taking care to keep touch with the right wing." In accordance with this command a general advance was made. On the arrival of the Second Division at Chiaoteutsi, it was found that the enemy had retired to Wanteu. On the 29th ultimo the following general order was issued at Mangchiachwang:—"The enemy is holding the heights to the south and west of Pohchihyaisu. The troops will take possession of the high lands eastward and southward of Fenglintsi on the 30th. The fleet is to bombard the forts in the vicinity of Pohchihyaisu. The left wing will attack the enemy from the morning of the 30th and will capture the elevated ground on the east and south of Fenglintsi. The right wing, joining forces with the left, will assist the assault." In obedience to this order the whole Army was divided into three bodies, a right and left wing and a reserve; the right under Major-General Yamaguchi; the left under H.I.H. Prince Fushimi (Sadanaru); the reserve under Lieut.-General Sakuma, Commander-in-chief of the Division. The right wing marched from its quarters at 6 a.m. and marched against Fenglintsi; the left wing took Kushan as its objective point, and the reserves assembled at 6 a.m. between Wanchuentang and Kotiensai. The left wing came first into collision with the enemy, at 7 a.m. in the north-east of Kushan. The Chinese brought their artillery into action, but retreated without offering any serious resistance, and at 7.30 a.m. their position was occupied by our troops, steps being immediately taken to pursue the retreating Chinese. The right wing opened the action on its [illegible] with artillery at a little after 7 a.m. Fifty minutes later, the Chinese infantry was found occupying high ground on the left front, but it retired without making any serious stand. The right wing followed in pursuit to the sea-shore, and being there hotly cannonaded by the Chinese ships, retired to the neighbourhood of Fenglintsi. It was now 9.50 a.m. The other troops attached to the right wing, assembled on a hill on this side of Fenglintsi. Thence an advance was subsequently made, and the elevation called Motienling having been occupied, the fort called Lungmiaotsui, on the coast, was captured. Our loss in these operations was 28 killed, among them being a Surgeon, and 54 wounded. The enemy's casualties were more than 150 killed and wounded in front of the Second Division. The Sixth Division, similarly divided into a right wing, a left wing, and a reserve, assembled at 3 a.m. on the heights to the west of Paochia, and at 3.30 a.m. commenced its advance. By 7 o'clock it came into action, the right wing moving along the shore, the left passing *viâ* Kushan against the forts on the enemy's right, which it took, and advanced thence against Motienling. From the last-named place to Pohchihyaisu the enemy formed a continuous line of defence, and developed a stubborn resistance. Accordingly the left and right wings of the Division worked conjointly, the left advancing against the right front of the Motienling entrenchments which it captured after a hot fight at a little after 10 a.m. About that time the fleet began to bombard the litterol forts at Pohchihyaisu, and by 1 p.m. the Division had taken possession of 4 land fortifications and 3 litterol forts, the whole of the works on that flank thus coming into our possession. The greater part of the enemy fled along the coast toward Weihaiwei. A company of our troops emerged upon their line of retreat and shot down several. In this fight Lieutenant Morinaka and Ensign Ito were killed; Major-General Otera was severely wounded; Captains Daichi and Mikami and Lieutenants Nakamuro and Sato were wounded. The remaining losses were 94 killed and wounded. Mr. Endo Mataichi, correspondent of the *Niroku Shimpo*, was also killed by a rifle shot. On the 31st, dispositions for the attack of Weihaiwei were made. On the 1st, a portion of the Second Division came into collision with the enemy's artillery, and had 3 men killed and over 20 wounded. The next day a reconnoitering party sent out by the Second Division to Weihaiwei, found the place deserted by the enemy, and took possession of all the forts without opposition. The fighting strength of the enemy was now reduced to the ironclads *Ting-yuen* and *Chen-yuen*, together with some ten other ships, and the forts on the islands of Liukung and Zhih. The *Ting-yuen* was very active, using her guns freely even on the 2nd."

The above account is dated the 5th instant.

Wednesday, February 13th.

The forts on the island of Liukung are evidently holding out still. They appear to be situated in such a manner that to bombard them with effect from the sea is an exceedingly difficult matter, and as their reduction is merely a question of days the Japanese probably do not feel justified in attempting to take them immediately at a heavy cost of life. The two latest telegrams on the subject are the following:—

Hiroshima 11th instant, 10 p.m.

Telegraphic Report from Captain Dewa, Chief of the Naval Staff, dated the 9th instant at 3 p.m.:—

To-day, from 8 a.m. the forts taken from the enemy bombarded his ships, and the Third Flying Squadron shelled the forts on the island of Liukung at the eastern entrance, the Second Flying Squadron assisting. The Chinese fleet at first withdrew for shelter to the Weihaiwei side of the island, but subsequently steamed out and cannonaded the forts on the mainland. Two shells from a gun in Luchuetsui fort, laid by Captain Naruta of the Navy, struck the *Ching-yuen* and she at once began to sink, her hull settling down and her stern ultimately rising so that her screw became visible. As for the Kwang island fort at the Western entrance, shells are being constantly thrown into it from rifled mortars placed in position by the land forces. Last night our people, without meeting any resistance, broke away 400 metres of the booms at the east entrance and the operation of effecting a practicable entrance will be doubtless be completed to-night. During the cannonading to-day not a single shot was fired from the fort on Zhih island. Its defenders seem to have effected their escape. Of the torpede-boats captured last night (? the night before last), the *Fulung* and two others have been brought in, and the Third Flying Squadron is now engaged getting the rest afloat. Since the flight of their Torpedo Flotilla the enemy's ships every night from moon-set, keep up a furious cannonade although not attacked by our torpedo-boats.

The second telegram of importance is, in great part, a recapitulation of previous news. It appears in the *Jiji Shimpo*:—

Sasebo, 11th instant, 12.10 p.m.

The ships torpedoed and sunk by our torpedo-boats are the *Ting-yuen*, the *Lai-yuen*, and the *Wei-yuen*, together with a despatch vessel. Our Principal Squadron and First Flying Squadron bombarded the forts on Liukung island from 7 a.m. on the 7th instant. Our casualties on the day were 3 officers wounded in the *Matsushima*, and the other ships 4 killed and 12 wounded. The same day the Second and Third Flying Squadrons shelled the Zhih island fort, in cooperation with the mainland eastern forts in the hands of our Army. Thirteen of the enemy's torpedo-boats steamed out of the Western entrance, and were pursued by our ships. Three of them have already been taken and brought in, and the rest are now being captured. Five will be at once serviceable. From 8 a.m. on the 9th instant the Third Flying Squadron shelled the forts on Liukung island, and the forts on the mainland sunk the *Ching-yuen*. According to statements made by the prisoners, the captain of the *Ting-yuen*, Liu Wu-shan, losing all hope, would have committed suicide, but was prevented by Ting Zhuchang. Ting (we do not know whether Admiral Ting is designated by the ideograph employed in this case as it is not that used in writing hisname) is now in Liukung island, but is apparently preparing to escape. When the *Lai-yuen* sunk, over 300 of her people were lost, and the number in the case of the *Wei-yuen* was 46. These last facts are given on the strength of the prisoners' statements.

Summing up the situation on the evening of the 9th instant, the facts seem to be these:—All the forts on the mainland in Japanese possession; the fort on Zhih Island silenced; four of the Chinese men-of-war and one despatch-boat sunk by torpedoes or shells, the men-of-war being, the *Ting-yuen* (iron-clad, 7,430 tons); the *Lai-yuen* (armoured cruiser, 2,850 tons); the *Ching-yuen* (steel cruiser, 2,300 tons) and the *Wei-yuen* (1,300 tons); 13 of the Chinese torpedo-boats destroyed or taken, and 1 Japanese torpedo-boat lost and 2 disabled; the remainder of the Chinese men-of-war gun-boats and the forts on Liukung Island still holding out. It is singular that no report is sent as to the number of Chinese men-of-war still afloat.

As to the firing heard on the 7th instant at Chefoo, when the First Flying Squadron passed that place in pursuit of the Chinese Torpedo Flotilla, Admiral Ito, telegraphing on the 8th instant, says that it was nothing more than gun practice carried on by the foreign men-of-war at anchor there.

The *Yomiuri Shimbun*, reproducing the above telegram from Sasebo, brought thither, it says, by the *Saikyo Maru*, adds one item, namely, that several thousands of the Chinese troops escaped to the island of Liukung with Ting Zhuchang, and are now manning the forts there.

Speaking of the armament of Chefoo, the *Jiji Shimpo* says that in the fort on Shankweitai Island there were originally three 21-centimetres, two 12-centimetres, two 8-centimetres, and six 52-m.m., and eight 43-m.m. quicking guns, all being Krupps. In the Tingshankang fort there are two 15-cent., one 52-m.m., quick-firing Krupps. Last June this armament was increased by three 24-cent., four 15-cent., eight 53-m.m. and thirteen 43-m.m. Krupps. This makes a total of 52 guns. As for the garrison, taking into account the large reinforcements recently sent and the fugitives from Weihaiwei, there is probably a total of from 20,000 to 30,000. Further additions to their number are expected soon.

Thursday, February 14th.

No official news (February 13th to 6 p.m.) seems to have been yet received of the fall of the forts on Liukung Island. Up to the evening of the 11th they were apparently safe. We say "apparently" because the only intelligence we have on the subject is a telegram received by the *Mainichi Shimbun* from Hiroshima, under date 7.10 p.m. on the 12th instant. It says that, on the 11th, the Second and Third Flying Squadrons, in cooperation with the eastern forts, bombarded the island, but did not succeed in silencing them. One or more of the Japanese vessels appear to have been struck, for 7 men were killed and 4 few wounded. A The vessels

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themselves, however, were not rendered unserviceable in any way.

We learn from the same telegram that of the 7 torpedo-boats captured by the Japanese fleet, the *Fu-lung* is fit for immediate service, and the other six can be used after repairing.

In our issue of yesterday we expressed surprise that no statement had yet been made as to the Chinese ships remaining in Weihaiwei. The *Mainichi Shimbun* supplies the deficiency. It says that, on the authority of a report brought by the *Saikyo Maru*, one of the enemy's torpedo-boats was captured on the 30th ultimo and 8 came into Japanese possession on the 7th instant, together with a steam-launch. Further, the ships sunk by Japanese torpedoes or fire from the forts were the *Ting-yuen*, the *Lai-yuen*, the *Wei-yuen*, the *Ching-yuen*, and one gunboat, the ships remaining being the *Chen-yuen* (iron-clad 7,430 tons), the *Ping-yuen* (steel-belted cruiser, 2,850 tons), the *Tsi-yuen* (steel cruiser 2,355 tons) and the *Kwang-ping* (?), together with a number of gun-boats and small steamers. After the sinking of the *Lai-yuen*, Admiral Ting is said to have transferred his flag to the *Tsi-yuen*.

An official report from the Chief of Staff of the Second Army says that the casualties among the Japanese land forces from the 29th ultimo to the evening of the 1st instant were as follow:

	Killed.	Wounded.
SECOND DIVISION.		
	47	120
SIXTH DIVISION.		
	36	99
Totals ...	83	219

Thus the total of killed and wounded was 302. Among the killed was Surgeon Takagi, Lieut. Morinaga of the Infantry, and sub-Lieutenant Sato of the Artillery; and among the wounded, Major-General Otera, Captain Mikami, and Lieutenants Nakamura and Saito of the Infantry. The enemy's casualties are believed to have been about 700 killed and wounded.

The war-correspondent of the *Kokkai*, writing from Hushan under date of the 7th instant, says:—On the 7th instant, the Principal Squadron and the First Flying Squadron bombarded the eastern fort on Liukung Island; the Second and Third Flying Squadrons, taking up positions on the east, bombarded the forts on the south coast of the island and the fort on Zhih Island, while the Torpedo Flotilla blocked the Western exit from the Bay. The three land forts at Taichihyaisu assisted the operation of bombarding Zhih Island. From 7 a.m. the bombardment commenced, and it continued for over an hour. I watched it from the back of Hushan (name of a hill). The enemy replied vigorously. At about half-past seven one of our shells struck the powder magazine on Zhih Island, and it blew up with a violent explosion. Three shells also struck the parapet of the Zhih fort and made large breaches. The armament of the fort consisted of two 24-cent. and two 15-cent. guns, of which three were probably rendered unserviceable. The forts seems to have been silenced. The enemy's ships, during the bombardment, collected at the west of Liukung Island. About two of them steamed out toward Chefoo and were pursued by our vessels, an engagement ensuing that continued for some time. (Doubtless the correspondent is confounding this incident with the Torpedo Flotilla's attempted escape.) This morning's bombardment was an affair of exceptional magnitude. The weather was fine, and admirably suited for such an operation. But though the Zhih fort was silenced, the Liukung forts and seven or eight of the enemy's ships continued to hold out. The iron-clad *Ting-yuen* had been struck three times on the night (*i.e.* after mid-night) of the 4th by torpedoes from the *Kotaka* and torpedo-boats No. 23 and 11, but during the forenoon of the 5th, to everybody's surprise, she showed no sign of injury. Gradually, however, from noon she began to settle down in the water, and by 4 p.m. only about a metre remained above the surface. This morning (7th) looking at her from the hill, I see that she is laying on her side on the shore of Liukung Island. The *Lai-yuen*, also, which had inflicted most injury on our land forces, is put *hors de combat*, and so are the *Wei-yuen* and one gun-boat."

The *Jiji Shimpo's* correspondent writes as follows:—"On the night of the 30th ultimo our navy endeavoured to remove the booms at the eastern entrance to Weihaiwei so as to send in the torpedo-boats, but the operation was not successful. Continual attempts were thereafter made, but not until the night of the 3rd instant could the booms be reached and examined. It was then found that they consisted of hawsers formed of three strands of steel wire, each strand from 3 to 4 centimetres in diameter. Lashed to these with wire at intervals of about 10 yards were baulks of timber from 30 to 40 centimetres thick, the booms stretching from the coast of Zhih Island to the shoal water near the shore of the mainland, a distance of about 4,000 metres. Between the end and the mainland the interval was full of rocks rendering the passage of a ship impossible. In the centre there had been an opening of about 100 metres giving ingress and egress to the enemy's vessels, but it was now closed, and all efforts to cut away the booms proved unavailing, even though dynamite was used. Finally it was found necessary to work at the shore end of the booms, and on the night of the 4th the Second and Third Torpedo Squadrons, 9 boats in all, succeeded in making their way in. Their immediate object of attack was the iron-clad *Ting-yeun*, but by the time they were inside the Bay boats No. 8 and No. 14 found that the water had frozen so solidly in their torpedo tubes as to render them unserviceable. No. 9 boat, however, sent a perfectly aimed torpedo at the big ship, but had scarcely discharged it when one of the enemy's shells struck her engine-room, killing 9 men on the spot. She had to be towed back by No. 19. Torpedo-boat No. 22 also discharged one of her missiles successfully against the *Ting-yuen*, but as she was steaming away she, too, received a shot from the iron-clad that killed 8 of her people. Sub-Lieutenant Suzuki jumped over-board and was frozen to death. The rest of her crew remained in the boat, which was unable to move, until the 5th instant, when they managed to get ashore, but with their feet and hands badly frost-bitten. No. 10 boat also struck the *Ting-yuen* with a torpedo. The ironclad, though hit by three torpedoes, did not sink immediately. From noon on the following day, however, she began to settle down, and by 3 in the afternoon, her deck was not more than a metre above water. On the night of the 5th also, another torpedo attack was made, the First Torpedo Squadron being told off for the duty. On that occasion the *Lai-yuen*, the *Wei-yuen*, and a gunboat were sunk. The enemy's squadron was thrown into great confusion by these manœuvres, and on the 7th inst. another attack was made on the remaining ships and forts. That day the infantry of the Second Brigade captured two of the enemy's torpedo-boats that had been run ashore, killing 12 Chinese in the operation."

A telegram from Hiroshima, dated 12.30 p.m. on the 11th, and published by the *Jiji Shimpo*, gives particulars of the fortifications of Chiaochow Bay. Taking the northern side first, we have on the island of Twan six 24-cent. guns and three 15 cent. quick-firing guns; and on the islands of Tsing and Tau, two 31-cent. and two 15-cent. quick-firing guns each. Thus the total number of cannon on the northern side is 17. As for the south, on Hwang-on Island there are four 14-cent. guns, and three 21-cent.; on Chanchra Island four 12-cent. guns and three 28-cent. rifled mortars; on Hwang Island there are two 21-cent. guns and two 15-cent. quick-firing guns. Thus the southern forts have 18 guns in all. The whole—the rifled mortars excepted—are breach-loading Krupps. The Chinese Government is said to attach great importance to the defence of this Bay.

13th instant, 8.30 p.m.

Yesterday evening the following official telegram, dated at Hiroshima 5.20 p.m. on the 13th instant, reached the War Department:—

Lungshui Bay, 6 p.m. February 12th.

The following message has just been received from Inzanko:—"To-day, one of the enemy's gun-boats, flying a white flag came out with a message from Admiral Ting, offering to surrender all the remaining ships, arms, and forts, on condition that the lives of the men of the Army and Navy and of the foreigners were spared.

(Signed) HARADA, Captain I.J.N.

Thus the Weihaiwei episode is closed.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 15TH.

There is virtually nothing in the way of news to add to the important intelligence received yesterday. The telegrams from Hiroshima indicate that the loss of the *Ting-yuen* had a most demoralising effect upon the Peiyang Squadron, and that after the sinking of the *Ching-yuen*, which was one of the most powerful ships remaining, all idea of offensive operations was abandoned and the ships withdrew under the shelter of Liukung Island, but solely to escape the Japanese shells. The effects of the torpedo that struck the *Lai-yuen* are said to have been particularly disastrous, but after all, the experience at Weihaiwei goes to show that torpedoes are not so immediately destructive as was generally supposed. The *Ting-yuen*, though struck by three, remained afloat for many hours. A curious and scarcely credible story is told about the flight of the enemy's Torpedo Flotilla. It is said that the Commanders of the torpedo-boats were on board the flag-ship in consultation with the Admiral when the crews of the boats seized the opportunity to make a dash for safety. If that be true they deserved the fate that befell them.

It will have been observed by everybody that Admiral Ting when making active surrender stipulated specially for the safety of the foreigners serving under him. Ting showed his ignorance of the usages of civilized warfare—if we may be permitted to use such an uncivilized term—when he inserted in his message of capitulation a condition with regard to the lives of his men. Capitulation means that the lives of those surrendering are necessarily spared. It is just possible, however, that in making such a condition Ting had the story of Port Arthur in his mind. After the excesses into which the Japanese troops were unhappily betrayed on that occasion we cannot honestly say that Ting's condition was altogether superfluous. The Japanese say that the foreigners numbered more than 40. They give the names of several, but we are unable to recognize any of them in their *kana* garb. We may mention, however, that out of 13 noticed, 7 are Englishmen, 3 Germans, and the rest Danes. The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, however, speaks of only 7 foreigners having been in positions of importance on the Chinese ships. But whether the foreigners be many or few, we do not suppose that Japan will go to the trouble and expense of keeping them prisoners. They will doubtless be released on condition that they promise not to serve China again during the present war.

Admiral Ting's future is much discussed. The course taken by him was undoubtedly the wisest and bravest under the circumstances. But he cannot go back to China. He has effectually blasted his career and expatriated himself for the sake of saving his men's lives. It is impossible to acquit him of all blame. His plain duty to his country was to blow up every one of his ships, destroy the artillery in the forts, and throw the ammunition and stores into the sea before capitulating. Why he failed to do so, we have no inclination to conjecture. But it is certain that Japan becomes responsible for his safety. It will be an act of morality and honour on her part to provide for him a home and a competence in this country should his return to China be attended with serious peril. As for the other Chinese prisoners, we do not see that Japan can do better than leave them where they are, following the precedent of England and France in the Crimean War when the Russian prisoners were confined in Prince's Island. There are good quarters in Liukung, we believe, and the task of provisioning the prisoners there ought to be easy.

The *Hochi Shimbun* published an extra

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yesterday evening containing a telegram despatched from Hiroshima at 11.07 a.m. on the 14th. The telegram is not official, so that its accuracy cannot be vouched for. It says that from the morning of the 13th the business of taking over the Chinese ships, forts, etc., commenced. The ships were the *Chen-yuen* (ironclad, 7,430 tons), the *Ting-yuen* (belted cruiser, 2,850 tons), the *Tsi-yuen* (steel cruiser, 2,355 tons), and the *Kwang-ping* (composite cruiser, 1,030 tons), and six gun-boats besides smaller craft. In addition to these it will doubtless be comparatively easy to raise and repair the ships sunk in the Bay, namely, the *Ting-yuen* (ironclad, 7,430 tons), the *Lai-yuen* (belted cruiser, 2,850 tons), the *Ching-yuen* (steel cruiser, 2,500 tons), the *Wei-yuen* (steel cruiser, 1,300 tons) and a gun-boat. Including the seven torpedo-boats captured on the 7th instant, the total increment to the Japanese Navy may prove to be 2 iron-clads, 6 cruisers, 7 gun-boats, and 7 torpedo-boats; a fleet in itself.

It will be very interesting to learn exactly how many shots from the island forts of Liukung and Zhih and from the Chinese Squadron struck the Japanese ships. There do not appear to have been any heavy losses of life, but that several shells were well aimed is beyond question. The *Hochi Shimbun* affirms that seven of the forts and four of the ships had foreign gunners in charge or on board, and the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, without mentioning the occasion says that the *Naniwa* received a shell, which, however, caused no casualties, but that one striking the *Katsuragi* killed and wounded a few men.

The *Kokkai* gives a few topographical particulars about Weihaiwei that will be found interesting at this juncture. In front of the Bay is the island of Liukung rising to a height of 510ft. and having a circumference of 6 miles. Behind this the Bay runs deep into the shore, the best anchorage being on the northern coast. There are two entrances, one on the west and one on the east of Liukung. The town of Weihaiwei is on the western side. It has walls 3 metres high which surround, not only the streets, but also a large park. At the northern corner of the westerly entrance is the island of Twan, and near the western promontory of Liukung Island there is an excellent anchorage. The coast line of the Bay measures from 18 to 20 miles. The eastern promontory is called Sanfangchue, the heights that crown it being named Paichibyaisu. The hills at the back of this promontory are all entrenched, having earth parapets and flanking works. Between the island of Liukung and the eastern shore lies Zhih Island which is strongly fortified. Round the coast are 10 forts all heavily armed.

VISCOUNT KAWASE ON THE FINE ARTS OF JAPAN.

Viscount Kawase, Japanese ex-Minister to Great Britain and Privy Councillor, delivered an interesting lecture on the fine arts economy of Japan before the Tokyo Fine Arts Society. The *Shogyo Shimpo* publishes the following *résumé* of his speech. Fine arts are as important to Japan's economy as they are to that of France, yet the latter country pays far greater attention to that branch than does the former. Even when France was reduced to a very disastrous condition financially, on account of its defeat in the Franco-Prussian War, its National Chamber gave unanimous consent to the proposal that a rare piece of art offered for sale by an Italian at the price of about 60,000 *yen*, should be purchased. Japan ought to have the same idea of supporting the fine arts of the country, but it is a matter for great regret that such is not the case. Fine arts only constitute an item of secondary importance in Japan, as the following figures will show. The total export of about 18 varieties of articles coming under the category of fine arts was only 3,291,000 *yen* in 1891; 3,595,000 *yen* in 1892, and 4,197,000 *yen* in 1893 in round numbers. The reason for this is of course the want of encouragement given to artists in this country. They only keep up a struggling existence, and if steps are not taken to improve this state of affairs the source of fine arts will be entirely dried up. The respect which Japanese art is regarded in the West is very significant and the reasons for this are numerous. In the first place the unbroken lineage of the Court greatly facilitated the development of refined arts. Then the patronage extended by successive *Shoguns*, the close connection of art with Buddhism, the encouragement of the Tokugawa Shogunate—all those causes tended to elevate the fine arts of Japan to the position they hold at the present day. It is of vital importance, therefore, to continue their development and to make them more subservient to the economy of the country. Just as France is regarded as the centre of Occidental fine arts, so Japan is of those of the Orient. It was only as late as 1879 that the public, or rather a very small portion of it, began to pay attention to the encouragement of fine arts. At that time a society called the Ryuchikai was organized by those interested in the subject, and about three years later the Kangakai was started. In 1884, the Department of Education began to take the matter up, and at last, in December, 1888, a Fine Arts School was opened in Uyeno Park. This institution is, however, far from perfect. In the first place, the curriculum is defective: it does not include courses in the art of tempering steel, of pottery as a fine art, of *cloisonné*, weaving, and architecture. The instructors are, moreover, poorly paid and their number insufficient. Messrs. Kono Natsuo, Hashimoto Gwaho and Kawabata Gyokusho are all first-class artists in their respective branches, yet the first only receives 300 *yen* and the other two, 700 *yen* each per annum. They must simply hold their positions with the noble and disinterested idea of transmitting their arts to posterity. But such a state of affairs ought not to be allowed to continue. The Government only disburses the paltry sum of 16,600 *yen* a year towards the maintenance of the school. It is true that receipts of various descriptions accruing from the work done by the institution bring its income up to about 48,000 *yen*, but the latter source cannot be entirely relied upon. In France the Treasury spends no less than 790,977 *yen* a year for the purpose of maintaining and developing the fine arts of the country. Japan ought to find the task of encouragement far easier, for it possesses rare art specimens from China ranging chronologically from ancient to modern, while the Japanese specimens extend in perfect order for more than a thousand years. The lecturer next proceeded to make suggestions as to the best mode of bringing about the resuscitation of the fine arts of this country. His idea is that two Fine Arts Schools for the purpose should be established in Japan, one in Tokyo and the other in Kyoto, and that the Treasury should expend upon them a sum of about 110,000 *yen* a year. It is needless to say that two such institutions are not sufficient for the country, but they would be a beginning. Next to Schools, Fine Arts Museums are essential. It is said that at present the Imperial Household expends 48,000 *yen* a year upon the museums placed under its control. The sum appropriated for the same purpose by the French Government is about 610,000 *yen*, while even Belgium disburses about 70,000 *yen*. In point of magnificence and thoroughness of installation the Kensington Museum stands first in the world, and should a museum of the kind be established in Japan it ought to be take the English Museum as a copy. The articles to be arranged in the building should first be collected, and the next question would be how to make use of them most efficaciously. Lectures ought to be held regularly at the museum, supplemented by the exhibition of the objects spoken of, and all such lectures should be put into print so that the public at large might benefit by them. Correspondence should also be held with similar museums of other countries. Access to the institution should of course be free, and the public allowed to copy any object in the building. The Viscount is of opinion that museums in Japan should be confined to fine art objects and articles pertaining to industry. Other articles should be transferred to various educational institutions according to their kinds. Thus simplified, the maintenance of museums should prove very easy. The lecturer considers that it would be desirable to have museums placed under the control of the Imperial Household.

A LITTLE BAND OF JAPANESE CHRISTIANS.

Hiroshima, February 7th, 1895.

Since the beginning of the War, native Christians of different denominations have formed themselves into one united body called the *Doshikwai*, or association of the like-minded. Their first action was to send out lecturers to different parts of the Empire, declaring, in the name of Christianity, that the present war was the inevitable result of China's unreasonable audacity and clandestine but constant efforts to block the progress of modern civilisation in the Orient; that Japan in her relations with China has already endured what could be endured; that the war is nothing but a step towards establishing the peace of the East on a firmer and more endurable basis. This action of the Christians did a great deal toward making their attitude widely known throughout the country. They then divided their work, and applied themselves partly to the more practical task of reaching the soldiers fighting for their country. Bibles and tracts were widely distributed among the troops. A body of soldiers recently arriving here from Nagoya had a copy of the Pocket New Testament given to each by the Christians of the city of the Golden Castle. Here in Hiroshima an Anglican Chapel is thrown open for soldiers every day, whither they can come either to read or inquire, some of the clergymen of different denominations being always present to give the visitors a cordial welcome.

When the last expeditionary army was embarking at Ujina, a little band of Christian musicians, consisting of inmates of the Okayama Orphanage, attired in uniforms, discoursed sweet music to the men on their way to the field of battle. Several other demonstrations were made by the public, but this little band touched most strongly the hearts of the men, and in answer to the music, they gave three cheers for Christianity as they marched on. A good many tracts were distributed on that occasion. There are many Christians among the military men, and they are clearly disproving by their action the false accusation preferred by Shintoists and anti-foreign politicians, that Christianity will make disloyal subjects.

The endeavours of the native Christians did not stop here. They have now succeeded in raising a sufficient amount of money to send their ministers to the fields of action, as conveyers not only of their good wishes but also of their appreciation of the noble work of the men arrayed against the common enemy of peace and civilization. They applied for and obtained permission from the general Head-quarters, and will leave for their respective destinations about the middle of this month. Those appointed to be sent are the Rev. Mr. Honda from Tokyo, the Rev. Mr. Miyagawa from Osaka, the Rev. Messrs. Terada and Yamanaka from Hiroshima, and the Rev. Mr. Aoki. The Rev. Mr. Honda and two others will go to the quarters of the First Army, while the rest will visit the Second Army.

Besides such demonstrative actions, the Christian work quietly carried on among soldiers is evidently doing much good. Hospitals are visited, and the inmates have the Gospels. Christian ladies of Kyoto, under the superintendence of Mrs. Niishima, are now volunteering as nurses at the Red Cross Hospital here. In such and many other way, propagandism is going on in earnest. Even little girls in Christian schools are contributing their mites toward the good work.

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MR. A. B. DE GUERVILLE.

We observe that a persistent attempt is made by some of our local contemporaries to establish a connection between Mr. A. B. de Guerville and this journal. Mr. de Guerville is now called "a whilom *attaché* of the *Japan Mail*," and on several occasions he has been spoken of in a similar sense. On what basis such a misapprehension rests we are unable to guess. Mr. de Guerville never had any relation, direct or indirect, with the *Japan Mail*. We published a letter of his placed at our disposal by a third party, but beyond that he has never had the smallest connection with this journal. In making this disavowal we do not mean to suggest any reflection whatever on Mr. de Guerville, or any credence in the gross accusations levelled at him by two of his confrères. The truth of those accusations will be known sooner or later. Meanwhile, it is to be observed that one of the journals conspicuously ready to denounce him, is also conspicuously persistent in circulating the utterly false statement that he was once attached to the *Japan Mail*.

LIEUT.-GENERAL YAMAZAWA.

The new Commander of the Osaka Division, Lieut.-General Yamazawa, who only attained his present rank a few days ago, is reputed to be one of the best strategists in the Japanese Army. He is a Satsuma *shizoku* and distinguished himself by his prowess during the disturbed days of the Restoration. He belonged to a company composed of the most desperate Satsuma youths led by Oseko Kuyemon, now Viscount Oseko, and among his comrades were Viscount Kabayama, Mr. Kawajima Jun, M.P., and others of equal renown. In 1871, when the conscription system was first inaugurated in Japan, the Lieut.-General was appointed a Major of the Imperial Body Guard. He was then in his twenty-seventh year. He had long wished to go abroad and study military science, and in 1872 his cherished desire was at last fulfilled, as he was ordered by the Government to proceed to France for the purpose of prosecuting his special study. While he was in Europe, the Russo-Turkish war broke out and Yamazawa was permitted to join the Russian Army and to hold a commission in it. While travelling by train to the seat of war he narrowly escaped a serious accident. He was alone in a first class carriage when from some cause or other fire broke out in the car and spread with alarming rapidity. It was a night train and communication with the conductor was impossible. The fire at last became so serious and the heat so intolerable that the solitary passenger was obliged to jump out of one of the windows of the carriage while the train was going at full speed. He fortunately escaped serious injury, being only stunned by the shock. In due time he reached the seat of war. He was at the head of a division in the bloody battle of Plevna, and rendered distinguished service to the Russian Government, in recognition of which the Czar afterwards bestowed upon him the iron medal of a famous military order. He remained in Europe about 6 years and on his return to Japan was appointed Commander of the Takasaki Regiment. He was formerly a very heavy drinker, thus impairing his constitution so severely that he was not considered capable of standing the hardships of the battlefield and was therefore not sent to the present campaign. Even the Emperor admonished him on his fondness for liquor, and since then he has given up his bad habit altogether. His health is consequently so much better that he has now succeeded in securing a health certificate from Surgeon-General Ishiguro. This was the immediate cause of his promotion to the post of Commander of the Osaka Division which will be the next to proceed to the seat of war.

CHINA'S INDEMNITY.

It is an important matter, writes the *Nippon*, to ascertain whether the indemnity to be exacted from China should be in the form of gold or silver. In order to decide this question, it is essential to know what standard Japan ought to adopt in her future monetary system and how the deficits incidental to the war are to be supplied. With regard to the first point, continues the *Nippon*, various considerations lead us to conclude that the silver standard should be kept up as before. Germany's case is a warning. After the Franco-Prussian War she suddenly adopted a gold standard, thereby enhancing the price of that metal and depreciating the value of silver. The amounts of gold and of silver circulating in the world as media of exchange are nearly equal, so that an increased demand on the former is not followed by an increase in the supply. The adoption of a gold standard by any large country would therefore result in scarcity of the yellow metal, a fall in the price of commodities, and the decay of productive power. All such disastrous results would be felt greatly in a silver country like Japan. On the other hand, should the silver standard be kept up as hitherto, no injury would be experienced, the silver having fallen as low as it is likely to go. Any change in the silver market must, therefore, be for the better. It will also be quite feasible to organize an Oriental Silver League, after the war is over, by the joint efforts of Japan, China, and Korea. India and America would gladly join such a League. Under the circumstances, the recovery of the original normal value of silver will prove an easy task. The next point is how to make good the enormous deficits caused by the war. Capital required for undertakings in the new territories, enterprises of various descriptions and for defending them, pensions for soldiers, expenses for new work in the interior—all these matters will require an enormous outlay which can hardly be supplied at home judging from the present state of the national finance. It is evident that the deficit must be supplied either by issuing more paper notes or by having recourse to foreign capital. The Treasury has already had unpleasant experience in connection with the issue of inconvertible notes, so that the only alternative is to float a foreign loan. This would prove advantageous to a certain extent. Gold is now at its highest premium, so that if money were borrowed from a gold country and repaid when the yellow metal has fallen more or less in value, it would prove highly beneficial to this country. Thus, all things considered, the indemnity should be exacted from China in the form of silver.

OBITUARY.

Japan has lost another pioneer of Western medical science in Mr. Hayashi Dokai, who died at his residence in Bancho, Tokyo, on the 2nd instant, at the ripe age of 82. He was one of the earliest Japanese introducers of medical science into this country, being only preceded by the late Adachi Choshun and Ito Genboku. Mr. Hayashi was a son of a petty *samurai* of the fief of Ogura, Kyushiu, and was born in March 1813. At the age of 19 he came to Yedo and applied himself to the study of medicine. At that time a limited number of Japanese scholars and medical practitioners took up the study of Dutch, and Mr. Hayashi, being wise enough to discern the superiority of Western over Japanese medicine, proceeded to Nagasaki with Sato Taizen and applied himself to learning Dutch. After staying in Nagasaki for a number of years, he again came to Yedo. About the 12th year of *Tempo* (1841) he returned to Nagasaki to prosecute his studies and remained there two or three years more. He then set up an office in Yagenbori, Ryogoku, and started to practice his profession. His fame soon spread and his office was constantly crowded with patients. Many young men applied for permission to become apprenticed to him, and these, initiated into the new medical science under Mr. Hayashi's kind instruction, afterwards became famous physicians. The late Fleet-Surgeon, Tozuka Bunkai, was one of his pupils. In 1860 Mr. Hayashi was appointed a physician in the Palace of the Tokugawa *Shogun*, and subsequently to the Restoration he was nominated to be one of the Court Physicians, which post he held for a considerable time. He was later on appointed consulting doctor of the Home Department, but about 10 years ago he was relieved of that duty at his own request, on account of his age. His translation of a Dutch medical book was the first of the kind that appeared in Japan. The Censors were at that time very strict about the publication of any foreign book, so that although the translation was completed about the 10th year of *Tempo* (1839), it did not appear till many years later. It was greatly valued by every Japanese doctor aspiring to the improvement of his practice, and the edition was consequently soon sold out. How highly this work was esteemed by medical men may be inferred from the fact that during the interval between the exhaustion of the first edition and the appearance of the second, quite a number of scribblers earned a living by copying the whole book to sell to earnest medical students. The deceased had many children. The late Viscountess Enomoto was one of his daughters, and others are Baroness Akamatsu, Mrs. Hayashi, wife of the Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs, and the wife of Mr. Matsumoto Zun, an ex-Surgeon-General of the Army.

COUNT OKUMA ON THE PEACE EMBASSY.

Count Okuma, in the course of a recent conversation, is said to have expressed an opinion that the failure of the late Peace Embassy was due not so much to the mismanagement of the Viceroy Li as to the lack of unity in the national policy of China. Anyone in the least acquainted with diplomacy must know that such an Embassy should be invested with full powers to negotiate peace, although the Envoys might also be secretly instructed to apply to their own Government for instructions on all such points as might arise in the course of the negotiations and which might not have been foreseen. In such fashion, continues the *Kokumin*, in which this interview appears, the Embassy could have been fully accredited, and yet have freely submitted to its own Government the demands which the other side advanced. Yet, although the plan here laid down was so easy to follow, China merely despatched an incompetent Embassy and brought down upon herself the derision of the whole world. The Viceroy Li and his foreign advisers must have been well acquainted with the outcome inevitable to the sending of such an Embassy, and therefore the fiasco can only be attributed to the cause stated above: China is like an animal of inferior organization which does not enjoy the harmonious working of its component parts. Many of the disasters that befall the northern provinces are often entirely unfelt and unheard of in the south; while many a problem that occasions the great Viceroy much anxiety at Tientsin is viewed with satisfaction by the Ministers at Pekin. As individuals the Chinese may still be regarded with due consideration, but as a nation they are hardly to be counted with. China keeps up her lingering existence as a Power merely through the inertia of venerable age together with the feelings of loyalty inculcated by the teachings of her sages, and by reason of the former distinguished services of the reigning dynasty. Just as one of the lower animal organizations maintain life even after being deprived of various limbs, so does China continue to exist even after many of its one-time dependencies have been lopped away. And so, Count Okuma perceives that history teaches that peace negotiations with China can only be successfully carried to a conclusion when Pekin is in the occupation of the Imperial Japanese armies.

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THE REVISED TREATY WITH THE UNITED STATES.

THE news that the American Senate had ratified the revised treaty with Japan was published by telegraph a few days ago, but beyond the bald statement of fact no information was given. An interesting point, however, has to be noticed with regard to the Senate's action. The 19th Article of the Treaty, as sent to the Senate, ran as follows :—

Article 19.—This treaty shall go into operation on the 17th day of July, 1899, and shall remain in force for the period of twelve years from date. Either of the high contracting parties shall have the right at any time after eleven years shall have elapsed from the date it goes into operation to give notice to the other of its intention to terminate the same, and at the expiration of twelve months after such notice is given this treaty shall wholly cease and terminate.

This article the Senate amended by cutting out the words "eleven years shall have elapsed from the date," so that the clause became :—" Either of the high contracting parties shall have the right at any time after it goes into operation to give notice to the other of its intention to terminate the same, and at the expiration of twelve months after such notice is given this treaty shall wholly cease and terminate."

With regard to the above change several considerations suggest themselves. It is argued by some, for example, that the purpose of the Senate was to reserve to the United States Government the power of terminating the Treaty at any time prior to 1899, as well as at any time subsequent to that date. We fail to see how such a construction can be supported. The exercise of the power reserved to each of the High Contracting Parties is explicitly limited to a time subsequent to the Treaty's going into operation, and since the date of operation is fixed as July 17th, 1899, the terminating power can not be exercised before that date.

But what motive induced the Senate to make such an amendment? At first sight a conservative tendency suggests itself. The Senate, doubtful as to the smooth working of the Treaty in practice, may have deemed it prudent to reserve the right of terminating it at any time on giving a year's notice. That explanation would be acceptable were there any alternative arrangement to fall back upon. But there is not. Did the United States Government decide to terminate the Treaty owing to deterrent experience of its working, American citizens in Japan would remain without any treaty at all, and would, of course, be subject to Japanese Jurisdiction. There could be no question of reverting to the old Treaty. That dies and is buried for ever from the moment that the Revised Treaty goes into operation. America, then, by terminating the Revised Treaty would be giving up everything and retaining nothing. But there is here an important reservation. The United States have a strong hold upon Japan. They are her best customers. They buy from her as much, approximately, as England sells to her. Hence they are always in a position to exact concessions of some kind. To the re-establishment of Consular Jurisdiction, however, they could never induce her to consent, though they might obtain some special privileges for American citizens. The Senators must be well aware of that. Hence we can not confidently conclude that their motive was one of prudence when they altered the 19th Article.

It may be inferred, again, that the alteration was intended as a mark of confidence in Japan: that the Senate desired to leave her quite free either to terminate or to continue the Treaty. We can not accept that inference. Friendly as is America's attitude toward Japan, it seems scarcely credible that she should go out of her way to do more than the Japanese themselves ask. Not among the well-balanced practical Senators, at all events, should we look for a display of such sentiment.

The explanation that suggests itself to us is different. We believe that the Senators aimed simply at consistency. What, after all, is the use of the twelve-years' period? The Treaty virtually guarantees to the citizens or subjects of each High Contracting Party within the territories of the other all privileges enjoyed by the subjects or citizens of the latter within its own territories. There is no occasion to fix a term of years for the duration of such a guarantee. It represents a concession dictated by the first principles of nineteenth-century civilization. The duration conventionally secured for treaties of amity and commerce between independent States, has logical reference to matters of tariff or special tradal privileges only. No special tradal privileges are promised to American citizens or Japanese subjects in the Revised Treaty, and there is no Tariff annexed. The United States have left Japan free to impose statutory duties on American imports. Selling very little to this empire and buying a great deal from it, they can always protect their goods against excessive imposts. From that point of view, therefore, the twelve-year period is evidently superfluous. It plays a useful part in the British Treaty because of the annexed Tariff, but in the American Treaty it is needless. Such, we think, was the consideration influencing the Senators. Having dispensed with a conventional tariff, there was no sense in preserving the twelve-year period.

THE TUNGCHOW AFFAIR.

OUR readers already know that, on January 18th and 19th, a Japanese Squadron bombarded Tungchow, in Shantung, in order to divert the attention of the Chinese troops from Yungcheng, the point at which the third Japanese expeditionary force was to land. Tungchow is a seaside town of some 20,000 inhabitants. It lies nearly 100 miles to the west of Yungcheng, but its bay forms an excellent harbour with a good landing place. The entrance to the cove is guarded by a fort, the armament of which was recently strengthened by four 21-centimetre and six 15-centimetre KRUPP guns, as well as by three quick-firing guns. The town has stout walls, upon which are mounted some twenty old pieces of ordnance, dating back to the days of the Taiping rebellion. All these details we take from a recent issue of the *North China Daily News*. Foreseeing that the place might be chosen by the Japanese for the purpose of landing a force, the Governor of Shantung is said to have taken measures, about a month ago, to increase the artillery defences and reinforce the garrison, so that the latter, at the time of the Japanese bombardment, consisted of 3,238 infantry, 500 cavalry, and 520 artillery-men, with 16 field and position guns of various calibres. The Japanese Squadron steamed towards the place on January 18th, but thickly falling snow prevented any operations until nearly 4 o'clock in the afternoon, when the ships fired a few rounds. At first blank ammunition was used, but on sighting the vessels the Chinese garrison ran out a battery of 8 guns to a position near the eastern gate of the city, and as these opened fire on the Squadron, the Japanese replied with shells. Among the guns in the Chinese battery there were some 12-centimetre pieces, the shot from which struck very near the ships. After 20 minutes' exchange of such compliments the Japanese Squadron steamed away and anchored for the night at Shechi Island. The following day, at 1.15 p.m., the bombardment was renewed. By that time the Chinese had placed some 20 guns in the battery outside the town, and the fort at the entrance was also prepared, for the Japanese were received with a hot fire from the two places. None of the shots from the shore took effect: the ships kept just out of range, and steamed slowly to and fro, commencing their practice with blank ammunition, and subsequently loading with shell. This artillery duel lasted for 75 minutes, when the Squadron steamed away to join the flotilla then starting from Talien Bay for Yungcheng. The operation, never intended to be more than a diversion, was altogether insignificant, but the details here given are worth recording, because the missionaries in Tungchow have formulated a complaint that the Japanese wantonly bombarded a peaceable town. The official report, from which the above facts are taken, shows that the Japanese ships did not train a gun in the direction of the town until they were cannonaded from a battery in front of the eastern gate. Under any circumstances, a walled city with artillery mounted on its ramparts scarcely falls within the

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category of non-combatant places, nor can it be justly affirmed that strategical necessities should be subserved to such shadowy distinctions.

We are specially surprised to find that the *North China Daily News*, which, as noted above, told its readers some time ago of the recent strengthening of the Tungchow armament by four 21-centimetre and six 15-centimetre KRUPP guns, as well as by three quick-firing pieces, should now speak of the place as having only "one solitary modern gun," and as being "incapable of offering more opposition to attack than the native city of Shanghai." Possibly our contemporary's previous information was incorrect. However, the point is not of much importance. It should not be forgotten, however, that this question of the treatment afforded to fortified towns on the coasts of a belligerent constitutes a very troublesome problem, and that an example of its difficulty may be found even in the history of our own modern relations with Japan, for a British Squadron's fire reduced the whole town of Kagoshima to ruins in 1863. At all events, a distinction must be drawn between the conduct of a fleet which deliberately trains its guns on a town inhabited by non-combatants, and that of a fleet some of whose shells, directed against a hostile battery, happen to fall within a town. The latter appears to have been the case at Tungchow, and truly, remembering the annals of our own naval warfare, it seems to us extravagant to infer from such an incident that "the Japanese have not entirely discarded the barbarities of an Oriental nation, and do not know how it conform to the usages of civilized warfare." Another accusation is founded, we observe, on the fact that the Japanese naval commanders paid no attention to a small boat flying an American and a white flag, and containing a missionary who put off from the town to "try and induce the ships to refrain from cruel and wanton destruction of innocent lives and of property." We cannot determine whether that accusation is seriously preferred. The Japanese ships were under weigh the whole time and were actually receiving the fire of the Chinese fort and battery when the Rev. Mr. HAYES came out with his American flag. Commander SAMESHIMA'S report shows that the Japanese naval officers did not suspect the occupant of the boat of any desire to parley. Why should they indeed? They were fighting the Chinese, and so long as the latter kept up their cannonade the white flag in the American's boat could not be supposed to have any reference to warlike operations. Had the advent of the little boat been preluded by a cessation of the Chinese fire, the situation would have been different, but under the circumstances we venture to say that no naval commander would have stopped his ship for the purpose of receiving such a messenger. The Japanese supposed that he had come out to see the fight, and they left him to his own devices. Certainly, even if he had been received on board, his representations would not have been likely to produce much effect. The feigned attack on Tungchow was an essential feature in a large belligerent undertaking, and if a few shells found undesigned billets in the course of the operation, we see no reason for excited protest. This thing called "civilized warfare" is receiving, at the hands of Japan's local critics, a strongly unpractical definition.

CONFLICTING STORIES.

FROM Chinese sources come reports averring that marked success attended the Middle Kingdom in the recent fight at Weihaiwei. Such stories are habitual. We can not greatly wonder that they should be invented and circulated. Any unfortunate Chinese commander who fails to make out a good case for himself, who does not succeed in showing that his path to complete collapse was brightened by some displays of courage and skill, must anticipate being handed over to the Board of Punishments, if not to the executioner. Therefore it is natural that one of the occupations of Chinese Generals and Admirals should be to manufacture saving clauses out of whole cloth. But what is not natural, what is distinctly unnatural and astonishing, is that foreign journals should lend ready credence to these stories without any attempt to analyse their inherent probability. Such has been the uniform rule ever since the war began. At Yashan (Asan) General YEH fought a fierce fight with a Japanese army forty miles distant at the time, and successfully rid himself of its presence after an engagement of several hours. That tale was promptly credited, though a moment's reflection must have shown that unless Major-General OSHIMA'S force had travelled on wings or moved on bicycles, it could not have been near the Chinese at the time alleged. Then followed YEH'S "masterly retreat," with the dramatic incident of two Japanese detachments storming a deserted camp from opposite directions and slaying each other by mistake to the tune of five hundred. Next we had the miraculous operation at Phyŏngyang, which city was recaptured by the Chinese from themselves after they had been in occupation of it for several days. The Wiju romance ensued. The Japanese, in order to attack that town, crossed the Yalu into Manchuria and then re-crossed the same river to get back to Wiju. Yet even that fiction was gravely republished by foreign journals. So it has been in every case. Coming down to Weihaiwei, we were informed that the Japanese, landing at Ninghai, had attacked the westerly forts on the 26th of January and been repulsed with great slaughter, whereas every one knows that the Japanese, on the 26th of January, commenced their westward march from Yungcheng against the eastern forts of Weihaiwei, then 25 miles distant. Finally, we have an account of an attempt made against Weihaiwei on the 1st of February, when three of the Japanese ships were "well battered," and two, "the *Yoshino* and *Fuso*, were badly disabled," "three torpedo boats being destroyed and two disabled." But it is known that owing to the tempestuous weather on the 31st January and the 1st of February no naval operations were undertaken by the Japanese. There is always just this element of cleverness in the stories from Chinese sources: they refer to periods when no Japanese having been upon the scene, the Celestial *raconteurs* "have the floor" entirely to themselves. So far as Weihaiwei is concerned, they might let facts speak for themselves without attempting to embellish the truth. All the forts on the mainland with the entrenchments fell ignominiously. In short, everything that could be easily reached by the Japanese succumbed without much more than a semblance of struggle. The Chinese entrenched positions in rear of the eastern forts were naturally of great strength, being on elevated ground and well entrenched. But the capture of these and of the four heavily armed littoral forts at Pohchihyaisu seems to have cost the Japanese not more than 206 casualties, killed and wounded. Only once were they obliged to give ground. It was when the right wing of the Second Division, pursuing the enemy whom it had driven from one of the entrenched positions, emerged upon the coast and occupied a fort from which it was subsequently forced to retire by the fire of the Chinese fleet. This incident, described by the war correspondent of the *Jiji Shimpo*, has been confirmed by reports from H.M.S. *Centurion* and *Œolus*. Otherwise the Japanese were uniformly successful. But there is an element of immense difficulty at Weihaiwei, namely, the island forts. These are skilfully masked from ships attacking in front, and are not within effective range of any of the littoral forts except those on west, the armament of which was destroyed by the Chinese before retreating. The Bay itself has two avenues of access, one on the east of the island of Liukung; the other on the west. The eastern entrance is too shallow to be navigable by ships of any size. Moreover, the Chinese protected it by laying heavy booms and strewing the place with torpedoes. The western entrance is also protected by torpedoes. Hence it is scarcely possible to get at the Chinese ships inside without reducing the island forts. To that task the Japanese were devoting themselves when the latest news was despatched. Instead of running away, or surrendering the island forts and the ships, the Chinese are defending them vigorously. There is honour enough in these facts without supplementing them by stories of fictitious successes.

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THE SURRENDER AT WEIHAIWEI.

DURING several days past the situation at Weihaiwei has been desperate for the Chinese remaining there. The forts still in their possession were only temporarily defensible. Zhih Island was within reasonable range of the guns mounted in the eastern forts on the mainland, and although the Liukung Island forts could not be effectively bombarded either from the eastern batteries or from the fleet outside, their immunity was only ephemeral, for so soon as the Japanese could mount serviceable ordnance on the western mainland fortifications, the whole Bay and its islands would be brought within the zone of fatal fire. There appears to have been some plan on the part of the Chinese to dismantle all the mainland forts in the event of being obliged to evacuate them. But an operation of the kind, undertaken in the immediate sequel of an unsuccessful defence, requires an exercise of disciplined coolness beyond the capacities of Chinese soldiers as at present organized. Hence, though mines were sprung in the eastern forts at the moment of their occupation, little injury to life or material resulted, and a large proportion of the ordnance mounted there remained fit to be turned immediately against its original proprietors. In the case of the west forts, however, the Chinese had plenty of leisure. Two days separated the Japanese capture of the eastern defences from their attack on the western, and during those two days the Chinese spiked or otherwise injured the guns and effected their own escape in a leisurely manner. Had they left the armament of the western forts intact, as they did that of the eastern, Liukung Island would have been altogether compromised, and in no part of the Bay could the Chinese fleet have found cover from heavy artillery on the shore. However, with the western forts dismantled, with the two entrances to the Bay sealed by means of booms and torpedoes, with a powerful garrison in Liukung Island, manning forts fully 5 miles from the eastern batteries and masked from sea-attack, and with climatic conditions that well nigh crippled ships operating outside the shelter of the Bay, the Chinese had an outlook not without temporary hope. Moreover, they had the courage of desperation. There remained no chance of running away. Surrender or death were the only alternatives. It is true that the Squadron might have attempted a rush. Out of two ironclads, six cruisers, eleven torpedo-craft, and six gun-boats, some could probably have run the gauntlet of the Japanese fleet. But if mere escape were the Squadron's purpose, it ought to have left the Bay long previously. The stories of the Japanese having laid down contact torpedoes so as to bar all exit, turns out to have less [illegible] we surmised at the time. Both the entrances were open for Chinese vessels. The Squadron could have put to sea at any moment, and had it chosen its time well, it might have reached Woosung untouched. It stayed to assist in the defence, however, and had it fled before the island forts were reduced, the nation would have execrated it. At first, things went well for the intrepid remnants of the garrison and the fleet. On three consecutive nights the great strength of the booms at the eastern channel defied the attempts of the Japanese torpedo-boats to get through, and to enter from the west, creeping among torpedoes under the guns of forts and ships at short range, would have been a reckless undertaking. But at last the torpedo-boats found entry, and then took place two deadly assaults in the pitchy darkness of a winter's night after moon-set. Three of the finest Chinese men-of-war and a gun-boat were sent to the bottom. A day's respite succeeded, preluding an hour's fierce bombardment from sea and shore simultaneously, with the result that yet another powerful ship on the Chinese side was sunk, and a fort on one of the islands was silenced. Then the Chinese Torpedo Flotilla attempted to fly to Chefoo, and the whole 13 boats were either captured or destroyed. Admiral TING now found himself with only 4 ships and 5 gun-boats out of a Squadron previously totalling 25. Moreover, one of his island bulwarks was gone. The life of his remaining ships and men could, therefore, be numbered by days. The Japanese, completely masters of the situation, did not make a violent sacrifice to precipitate the *dénouement*. But at any moment the deadly torpedo-boats might again make their appearance, or heavy artillery might be mounted in the western forts. Perhaps, too, the ships' ammunition was exhausted. Perhaps the troops on the island were without food or fuel. TING resolved to capitulate. We hold it to have been the bravest act of his life. Upon his shoulders alone will fall the responsibility. Public disgrace, possibly death, await him if he returns to China, where the desperate exigencies of his situation will be neither recognised not acknowledged by the nation, and where it will be said that he ought at any rate to have blown up his ships or burnt them before making act of surrender. So indeed he ought. We can not question that. But apart from details it was his plain duty to save the lives of his men by capitulation, since further resistance could only involve their hopeless sacrifice. He conformed with the usages of civilized warfare. Moreover, he showed his trust in the Japanese, and it should be their business to contrive, as far as possible, that he is guaranteed against the blind anger of Pekin.

Many persons will deem it not extravagant to hope that this act may prove the [illegible] tragedy. The series of crushing blows that China has received during the past thirteen weeks—the loss of three first-class fortresses and of the whole Peiyang Squadron—should render her sensible of her weakness. We believe that she is really desirous of peace. To ignorance, not to design, must be attributed the insufficient character of the credentials give to her recent envoys. She has now re-written the credentials in accordance with unimpeachable formula. It only remains to be determined who shall carry the corrected documents. Plainly Messrs. CHANG and SHAO are no longer suitable. They never were particularly suitable, and they are now fatally discredited, having been chief actors in a fiasco that rudimentary diplomatic knowledge would have averted. The more prominent the statesmen sent by China the easier will they find Japan to placate. But we can not, for our own part, express much confidence that bloodshed is at an end. That terrible dilatoriness of China's has to be reckoned with. If she chooses she can have an embassy here in a fortnight. Yet a month would be quick for her, and if she yields at all to her habitually large trust in time's chances, the end of March may see negotiations only just commencing. But Japan can not halt. The financial strain forces her forward no less than the attitude of Western nations. She must strike unceasing blows, and she has wisdom to strike them while her enemy is at her feet. Hence we fear that Weihaiwei closes a chapter only, not the volume, of the war.

THE PRESS LAW.

THE attitude of the Lower House toward the Press Law is emphatically unpractical. The members profess intense anxiety to secure freedom of speech. But they display little of the deliberation essential to sound legislation. Not one of them is understood to deny that the restrictions imposed by the Press Law now in force were at one time necessary, nor does any one of them pretend, so far as we can perceive, that the press of Japan has attained a standard qualifying it for complete independence. They derive their arguments rather from abstract principles and inveigh with much semblance of justice against the unconstitutionality of investing the Executive with power to arbitrarily suspend a newspaper. Such procedure, they say, is contrary to the fundamental rule that no Japanese subject may be punished without due process of law. They also assert that the suspension of a newspaper can never efface the effects of the writing on account of which it is suspended, a plea specious enough in its way, but easily met by the plain consideration that, in the great majority of cases, the mischief done by a newspaper is cumulative. One particular article may be offensive or inflammatory, but its capacity for evil is trifling compared with that of a series

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of such articles. Modern newspapers thoroughly understand that fact. In America, for example, where the mischievous capacities of the press are perhaps more highly developed than in any other country, a favourite device is to print the same series of assertions, again and again, in prominent parts of leading columns, the consequences of such iteration being well appreciated. It has indeed been said that no man's reputation is safe against journalistic persecution, and that by harping uniformly on the same string a newspaper can produce discord in any society. To contend, therefore, that a journal ought never to be checked because of the tendency of its writings, is a most short-sighted position. In dealing with the press, preventive measures are far more important than punitive, the only trouble being that to exercise the power of suspension in that sense is to introduce an arbitrary and variable element, namely, individual judgment. One official may detect dangerous eventualities in a course of writing that seems harmless to another, and the law may thus be discredited by apparent inequalities in the manner of applying it. Nevertheless, the position of the Government is perfectly intelligible. It admits that there are happily many journals standing in no need of restraint, but it claims—and who can possibly pretend to deny the fact?—that there are also many journals quite unfit to be trusted with full liberty of speech. Newspapers of the former class are in no respect embarrassed by the existing press law, but newspapers of the latter continually incur its pains and penalties. Hence it becomes necessary to conclude either that there is just occasion for the suspensions still so frequently imposed, or that the Government practises a vexatious and wholly superfluous tyranny. Which of these alternatives the House of Representatives adopts, we cannot tell. One imagines that the issue ought to have been presented plainly for the choice of the members long ago. But it has not. They have been allowed to play with the pretty principles of freedom of speech and rights of the subject that have furnished a theme for so many philosophic essays in foreign lands, and they have never been required to say plainly whether all the sentences of suspension pronounced, month in, month out, by the Executive are, or are not, wantonly despotic. Without entering further, however, into the rights or wrongs of the question, what astonishes us is the unpractical stubbornness of the Lower House. The members must know perfectly well that the passage to entire freedom of speech to be safe ought to be gradual. Yet they insist on achieving it at one leap. The Peers, on the other hand, while willing to work for the end desired by the Representatives, wish to advance by progressive stages. Obviously under these circumstances, a compromise is not only possible, but even essential in the eyes of really earnest men. Yet the Lower House will not compromise. Some time ago it passed a Bill abolishing the power of suspension *in toto*, as well as the provision that security money must be lodged by would-be publishers of newspapers. The Upper House amended the Bill in the sense of restricting the period of suspension to one week and requiring that every sentence of suspension must be accompanied by an explicit statement of reasons. It also restored the clause of the present law relating to security money. That was surely a large step, considering that at present a newspaper may be suspended for an indefinite period without any statement of reasons whatever. According to Japanese parliamentary law, when one House amends a Bill sent to it by the other, Managers have to be appointed by each House to confer the possibility of finding a *viâ media*. The Conference in the present case, by a majority of one, revived the Lower House's Bill and rejected the Peers' amendments. The next step was to submit the decision of the Conference for the approval of each House. The Lower House approved, and the Upper House, equally as a matter of course, declined to approve. The result is that the existing law continues in force without any amendment whatever. Such unreasoning stubbornness on the part of the Lower House almost makes us doubt whether the members are really in earnest. If they were, surely some progress toward freedom of speech would be preferred by them to unchanged prolongation of the present system. The Government is willing, but the House of Representatives is resolved to cross the chasm at one leap or not to cross it at all. It seems to us that the responsibility of the deadlock rests now entirely with the Lower House.

FAMILIAR METHODS.

A PROCESS with which long experience has made us very familiar is being again resorted to by our local contemporaries. It is their constant habit to attribute to us statements that we never made and positions that we never assumed, by which device they are often enabled to revile us with apparent success. Whenever they write about Treaty Revision, for example, they do not fail to represent the *Japan Mail* as having predicted large material advantages to foreigners from the opening of the country. The *Japan Mail* has never done anything of the kind. On the contrary, it has again and again disclaimed such a theory. It has even pointed out that for many of the practical purposes of commerce the country is already opened. That no beneficial results whatever will ensue from removing all the present restrictions upon travel, residence, and trade, is a monstrous proposition, not to be admitted for a moment, in our opinion. We do not charge our opponents with the silliness of endorsing such a view, however exaggerated may be the attitude they attribute to us in the opposite sense. But neither do we suggest that the opening of the interior will give access to any El Dorado, or produce any immediately marked change of commercial conditions. We know well that our just and accurate critics will not pay the slightest attention to this disclaimer. They will go on, as of old, putting into our mouth sentiments of their own invention. That is their plan, as honest as it is courteous. Still we repeat our disclaimer. So, too, they are now preparing to place us on a convenient pedestal with respect to the Port Arthur excesses. Already they depict us as denying that there were any excesses at all. It does not matter to them, we are aware, whether in truth we have denied or affirmed the excesses. They want their readers to believe that we have denied them, and the wish is sufficient incentive to the falsehood. But since they are perfectly well aware that we have never denied the fact of great excesses having been perpetrated; since they know certainly that the *Japan Mail* was the first newspaper in this country to describe and condemn the excesses according to the evidence then procurable, their attempt to class us with persons professing to doubt the accuracy of the stories altogether, is an evidence of veracity from which we can not withhold our tribute of admiration. With men like Mr. JAMES CREELMAN, who seek to make selfish capital for themselves out of a nation's disgrace; who stick at no exaggeration that serves their purpose, and who pass from wholesale partisanship at one moment to uncompromising denunciation the next, we have no manner of sympathy. But neither have we any sympathy with the Japanese soldiers and coolies that marred the Army's fair record at Port Arthur, and detracted more from their country's fame than a dozen victories could add to it.

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE WAR.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

Dear SIR,—Since writing on the 8th inst. there has been a considerable amount of excitement in the native town and also in the various villages outside the walls. The following information was given to our senior by a cavalry officer who was under Colonel Lee in the fight at Kaichow. On the evening of the 12th moon 14th day (9th Jan.) news reached us that a part of the Japanese army, numbering some 5,000 strong, was on the way to Kaichow from Suen Yang. A good look-out was kept and at daybreak the sentries on duty saw 16 mounted Japanese in the distance. The General held a consultation with Colonels Yang and Lee, after which we were marched out of the South Gate of Kaichow with orders capture the 16 scouts. On nearing Shao Mi Tsai, a distance of above 4 *li* (1⅓ miles) south of Kaichow, we saw the full force of our opponents in front of us, they at the time being at least 6 *li* (2 miles) off. The order was passed to fire our field-pieces.

But after the first shot the Japanese opened out in small batches of ten and twenty; our guns did good service for a time and as it was getting far Colonel Yang

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remarked to the General that he thought it advisable to retreat; the General said "push forward." The words had scarcely passed his lips when Colonel Yang was shot through the neck, death being instantaneous. Fighting continued from daybreak till noon, and we were driven back to Kaichow, and on entering the East gate Colonel Lee received a bullet behind the left shoulder. Out of 4,000 of our men, 900 were killed and 300 wounded, the Japanese loss was, I think, about 650 all told.

Kaichow is now in the hands of the Japanese; Colonel Lee's wound proved fatal and he died here in an inn.

We are, dear Sirs, yours faithfully,

BUSH BROS.

Newchwang, 15th January, 1895.

THE PEACE ENVOYS.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—My attention has been called to a telegram in your yesterday's issue based upon an alleged telegram from Hiroshima appearing in some of the Japanese newspapers, to the effect that the Minister for Foreign Affairs "has been soliciting the opinion of various Foreign Representatives with regard to the position taken by the Government upon the Chinese Peace Envoy's credentials."

The statements contained in the alleged telegram are without foundation, and the Japanese papers concerned have been required to withdraw the false reports. I trust you will also give publicity to the denial of the Imperial Government.

I am, Sir, yours respectfully,

HAYASHI TADASU,

H.I.M.'s Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs.

The Gnaimusho, February 8th, 1895.

CHARITY SCHOOL.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—Will you kindly let your readers know that the dedication performance of a newly built Charity School (Jōkōgakko) was held in the compound of the German Evangelical Mission in Tokyo, Koishikawa, Kamitomisaka-cho, on the 11th inst. There was a fairly good attendance both of foreigners and Japanese. There are now nearly 60 poor children who receive free education at the school, under two very able teachers. The building, which seemed to please everyone of the visitors, was constructed out of the receipts of the Charity Concert held in May last year at the Rokumeikwan under the patronage of H.E. the German Minister, Baron von Gutschmid, with the kind help of Mrs. Sannomiya. The members of the German Mission desire to express, on this occasion, their hearty thanks to all those who by their kind support enabled them to do this modest but useful work.

Yours very sincerely, C. MUNZINGER.

Tokyo, February 12th, 1895.

THE JAPANESE ARMY.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—There is a statement in Tuesday's issue of your valuable paper regarding the Christian work among the soldiers at Hiroshima and elsewhere, which perhaps needs a little explanation. It is true that the Doshi Kwai is a Japanese organization so far as its existance in Tokyo is concerned, but the Doshi Kwai has been and is still working in close connection with a large Central Committee at Hiroshima, and it has been largely through this Committee, composed of Foreigners as well as natives, that this aggressive work among the soldiers has been carried on. It was this Committee and not the Doshi Kwai which applied for and obtained permission to send Christian workers to China, and it is this Committee which is now seeking to raise the funds necessary to the speedy prosecution of this work. This Central Committee at Hiroshima, with Rt. Rev. Bishop Evington as its Chairman, has nominated Sub-Committees in various places to co-operate in raising subscriptions, offering suggestions, &c.

The following gentlemen have been named as the Tokyo Committee: Rev. Drs. Verbeck, Green, Wier, and Revs. Tyng, White, Cate, Christlieb, and Wadman. We met yesterday at the Rev. T. S. Tyng's residence and proceeded to organize for immediate effort. Dr. Verbeck was chosen Chairman, and the undersigned Secretary and Treasurer. In a day or two the Committee will issue a circular and call for private subscriptions, and we trust that there will be a ready and generous response from all the friends interested in this good work. The Central Committee finds that it will need at least one thousand *yen* to carry forward its plans. One of the Japanese workers chosen to go to the front has already gone, and Rev. Y. Honda leaves this week. The Rev. W. A. Wilson, the Secretary and Treasurer of the Central Committee, earnestly requests financial help as soon as possible. The undersigned will gladly forward all subscriptions sent him to Mr. Wilson and make suitable acknowlegment of the same through the columns of the *Japan Mail*, or otherwise.

Yours respectfully,

J. WEBSTER WADMAN.

15, Tsukiji, Tokyo, Feb. 13th, 1895.

MONEY AND PRICES.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—On page 43 of your issue of January 12th (which I have but now had opportunity to read) you quote Lord Farrer as saying, in effect, with reference to the quantitative theory of money and prices, that although coined money is still the nominal medium of exchange, and actually in some cases given in exchange, prices of all articles no longer depend on the quantity of coined money available for the purpose,—*i.e.*, on the demand for and supply of standard coin,—because the great bulk of sales and purchases are now carried on without any coin at all, and the trade of a country may be doubled without the need of an additional sovereign.

The fallacy underlying this assertion is its ignoring the fact that standard coins are used not only as a medium of exchange, but also as the standard and measure of value. In the former capacity the increased use of credit money during the present century has lessened their importance, but as the measure of value their power is unchanged, because credit moneys are simply promises to pay standard coins. So far as this increased use of credit money has lessened the demand for standard coins in their capacity as a medium of exchange, in so *far* it must necessarily have lessened the value of the coin; but that value is still the measure of value by which the prices of all articles are governed.

The enormously increased demand since 1873 for gold coin, without a compensating increase in the supply of gold or in the use of credit money, has necessarily increased the value of gold coin, and has therefore necessarily enabled a smaller quantity of it to purchase the former equivalent in exchange value. In other words, it has necessarily in so far lowered gold prices of all articles exchanged either for gold coin or for a price measured in promises to pay gold coin.

These gold prices are, however, the resultant of two factors, not one alone; not only the value in exchange of the gold coin, but also the value in exchange of the article itself. Changes in the demand for and supply of the articles thus exchanged or measured, that have affected their cost, would therefore have also affected prices; and the net result might even, in isolated instances, have been a higher instead of a lower price.

From the frequency of late of the monometallist attacks on the quantitative theory it may perhaps be considered a question of the moment, which will, I hope, seem to you to justify the publication of this letter.

Yours truly,

FRANCIS E. WOODRUFF.

Nagasaki, February 7th, 1895.

UNION CHURCH.

The annual meeting of the congregation and members of this Church was held at Van Schaick Hall on Monday night. The attendance was small and Mr. A. J. Wilkin was elected Chairman.

After an opening prayer by the Rev. J. H. Ballagh, the minutes of last meeting as well as the Treasurer's Report and Statement of Accounts were taken as read, the Chairman remarking with regard to the latter that they showed a small deficit.

Treasurer's Report.

The year was commenced with a balance in hand of $100.84, and closes with a deficit of $18.56. Pew-rents again show a falling off, being $85.00 less than the preceding year. However, in this respect, prospects for the coming 12 months are brighter, as sittings have recently been taken to the value of $100.00, and the loss through departures will be small, so far as can be seen at present.

The Church Collections exceed those of any previous year, and the income from this source must be regarded as most satisfactory. This increase, with the liberal donations of a few friends, makes the position much better than was anticipated in September last, and the present deficit of $18.56 is not a formidable figure to deal with.

The sum of $50.00, specially donated by Mr. Willis Payne, of New York, for the renewal of the platform carpet, has been expended in the manner desired.

L. Pollard, Hon. Treasurer

Union Church, Yokohama, in Account with the Honorary Treasurer. Year ending 31st January, 1895.

Dr.		
To Pastor's Salary, 12 months at $225 per month		$1,500.00
Pastor's Rent, 12 months at $40 per month		480.00
Deficit in amount collected for Pastor's additional salary		33.00
Tuning and Repairing Organ		75.00
Electric Lighting		28.54
Sundry Printing and Advertising		9.60
Sundries		13.47
arpet, for the Church Platform		50.00
Monmuya Fire Relief Fund, Cheque handed to Mr. Bramhall		62.21
Fire Insurance Premium and Policy Fee		20.50
Rent of Union Church for 12 months		300.00
Rent of Van Schaick Hall for 12 months		60.00
		$3,634.82
Cr.		
By Balance from last Account		$ 200.84
Collections, Union Church		1,324.80
Collections, Van Schaick Hall		43.50
Pew Rents, 1st half-year		470.00
Pew Rents, 2nd half-year		439.50
Sale of Hymn Books		4.00
Donations to General Funds:—		
Mr. G. Sale ... $75	Mr. C. V. Sale ... $20	
Mr. T. Rose ... 25	Mrs. T. Rose ... 25	
Mrs. MacArthur 25	Mrs. Brower... ... 100	
Mrs. Swain ... 10	Mr. Edwards ... 25	
	Mr. Staniland ... 5	300.00
Balance Deficit		18.56
		$3,634.82

L. Pollard, Hon. Treasurer.

Examined with vouchers and found correct.

Eugene S. Booth.

Comparative Statement of Income for the Years 1891 to 1894.

	1891.	1892.	1893.	1894.
Pew Rents	$2,085 00...	985.00...	927.50...	833 50
Offertories, &c.	2,257.49...2,200 01	...2,403.50	...1,379.12	
Donations	332.85...	309.00...	430 00...	300.00
Bazaar Fund	259.23...	— ...	— ...	—
Kettledrum	— ...	— ...	405.38...	—
	$4,934.57...2,494 02	. 2,736.38...3,504.62		

The Pastor then read his report, which showed that the Church membership now consisted of 78, an increase of 6. He regretted the Sunday evening services were not better attended: and suggested a revision of the Constitution of the Church as there were many things unprovided for in the present Constitution.

Rev. Mr. Ballagh agreed to this, and suggested that the necessary changes be made and reported to the next annual meeting.

Mr. Pollard thought twelve months too long an interval; could not the Constitution be revised and a meeting held afterwards.

Miss Crosby did not see the necessity of a revision; it was only a few years ago that some changes had been made.

The Pastor said there were many things requiring revision for the better working of the Church.

It was then proposed and seconded that the Elders make a draft to be confirmed at the next general meeting. This was carried.

Mr. Pollard said, in regard to the Chinese mission, that it had been closed and they had to dispense with the services of their missionary owing to the lack of funds and the Chinese going home in consequence of the war.

In reference to the Christian Endeavour movement, Rev. Mr. Booth said that its membership had been curtailed by the withdrawal of members. Many had gone home while others had gone to other parts of Japan. He recommended this Society to the members of the Church.

Mr. Wilkin then read the Report of the Sunday School, as follows:—

Union Church Sunday School.

Our School meets on Sunday afternoons at 3 o'clock for one hour. The attendance varying a good deal with the weather, has averaged 40 since the commencement of the year, a little increase on the first half of last year. The exercises are of the usual kind:—singing and prayer, precede the teaching, and it is closed by the same, from time to time we have short addresses after the teaching.

There are 6 classes conducted by Miss Moulton, Miss Simms, Messrs. Sale, Thompson, Griffin, and Mr. Staniland as an occasional teacher. The constant change of residence as regard both teachers and scholars is prejudicial.

At Christmas we gave an Entertainment to the Scholars: the cost of which was provided by a generous collection, $44, at Union Church, and $6 contributed privately.

Although the attendance is encouraging, we still feel that there are many children who go to no Sunday School and whom we should be glad to welcome.

We make a weekly collection and have undertaken to contribute monthly $2.50 to the support of an orphan

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UNION CHURCH SUNDAY SCHOOL, STATEMENT FOR 1894 OF CASH.

1894.		Dr.	
Jan.	1.	To Balance brot forward	$ 2.50
		Returned unexpended Christmas Tree 1893	7.55
Jan.	16.	Refunded by Union Church, cost of Lesson Papers, etc. for 1894	20.92
Dec.	31.	Collected at School for 12 months	37.54½
Dec.	29.	Collection Union Church for Christmas Tree	44.00
		Donation, Mrs. Scott, Christmas Tree ...	2.00
		Donation, Mr. Straubli, Christmas Tree.	5.00
			$122.31
		Cr.	
		By Printing Reading Papers, 12 months ...	$ 11.00
		Remitted to Mr. Ishii for the year (for O Koto-san) 2 yen per month and for Nov.-Dec., 2.50	25.25
Oct.		Printing 75 copies, Hymns	10.00
Oct.		Miss Sada, MS. music for do.	8.00
		Labels 14 and Postages 20...	.34
Dec.		Christmas Tree presents part	36.75
Dec.	31.	Balance carried down	29 99
			$ 122.31
1895.			
Jan.	2.	To Balance brought down	$ 29.99
Jan.	4.	Printing Christmas Carols...	4.00
		Printing Reading Papers, Jan.	.80
Jan.	10.	Rev. E. S. Booth, cost Christmas Tree...	2.00

A. J. WILKIN, Superintendent.

Yokohama, January 11th, 1895.

The officers elected for the current year were practically those who had served during the last.

ELDERS—Rev. E. S. Booth, Mr. A. T. Wilkin, and Rev. Dr. Cleveland.

TRUSTEES—Messrs. C. V. Sale, T. Rose, J. T. Griffin, L. Pollard, W. F. Page, H. MacArthur, and Capt. Lee. Mr. Unite was also included on the proposition of Mr. Booth, seconded by Mr. Ballagh.

DEACONS—Messrs. W. Young and G. Booth, in place of Mr. W. D. S. Edwards who had gone away.

DEACONESSES—Miss Crosby, Mrs. Loomis, and Mrs. Geo. Sale, *vice* Mrs. Bognall and Miss Roe.

SUNDAY SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT—Mr. A. J. Wilkin.

TREASURER and SECRETARY—Mr. L. Pollard, who declined to serve. It was decided to leave the matter in the hands of the Trustees.

USHERS—Messrs. T. Carst, Robert Sale, and Frank Booth.

Some discussion then took place as to the publication of sermons on special subjects in the local papers, after which the meeting resolved itself into a social gathering.

INTERPORT FOOTBALL MATCH.

A DRAWN GAME.

Another interport match between Yokohama and Kobe has passed into the realm of history, and with it will go a good many memories, some of which may be indifferently pleasant. The weather on Tuesday was all that could be desired, a balmy breeze of never sufficient strength to at any time interfere with the ball, a bright flood of sunshine—though this was more agreeable to spectators than to the players—and a deep blue sky: climatic conditions all very different to the outlook the previous day when the order for postponement was issued. All things considered the ground was in excellent order, save for the centre—the cricket pitch—which heavy dews and heavier rains, combined, no doubt, with the frosts, have rendered rather swampy. This portion of the Cricket ground, as we mentioned a day or two ago, has caused the Committee some amount of anxiety, and will continue to do so we are afraid. Comparing the match on Tuesday with the game played on the same ground two years ago, some falling off is apparent. Neither team was at its best, on this occasion, and combination play was frequently at a discount for long intervals of time, though by this we do not wish to be understood as implying selfishness on the part of any of the men. Perhaps it was the over anxiety always attendant upon a match of this description which caused the players to appear only at their second best. Whatever the cause, it is to be regretted, as we are convinced that both teams could give a much better account of themselves. The visitors undoubtedly had the heavier team; their forwards were very fast and ran clean through the home eleven time and again. To these impetuous rushes are due, to some extent, the many appeals to "off-side," which spoiled the game for players and spectators alike, and through which Kobe lost two splendid chances of scoring. The Kobe team had also a tendency to charge their opponents somewhat over much, but then Yokohama players are proverbially backward intackling their men, so this failing of the visitors was apparently unduly emphasised. It was gratifying as a sign of the strict impartiality which prevailed among the spectators, to hear the loud and hearty cheers which greeted Kobe's first successful attempt at goal. Fair play for all, and let the best side win was, undoubtedly, the sentiment which actuated every onlooker.

Kobe, having won the toss, elected to play from the Pavilion end. Moss, for Yokohama, set the ball rolling a few minutes after three o'clock, and soon the leather was travelling down into Kobe's territory. Then the visitors forwards rushed it down the ground, only to be met by Lias. With one of his wonderful kicks he sent the ball back to the centre, and soon after Kobe obtained a free kick from goal. For the first ten or fifteen minutes the game was very tame, and the passing of both teams beneath contempt. A determined rush of the home forwards was stopped by Tate, who was playing in his accustomed wary style. Within a few minutes "off side" was given against Lucas, but nothing resulted. Yokohama made several shots at goal in rapid succession after this which resulted in the ball going behind; Libeaud, Crawford, and Morriss all having a try at it. From a bit of a scrimmage in the Kobe half, Pearson landed the ball right in the mouth of his opponents' goal, but Tate cleverly saved. The visitors pulled together a bit after this and Edwards rushed the leather down and made a hot shot at goal: Kenny barely cleared his line. Then the ball was slowly worked down into Kobe's quarters again and there it remained for some while, changing rapidly from wing to wing. Some pretty play by Mair and Libeaud about this time elicited warm shouts of approval. Soon after half-past three o'clock a cry of "hands" was raised by Kobe, but was not allowed, and the ball being played on to Morriss he sent it clean through the posts—one goal for Yokohama. It was now 3.35 p.m. From then till half-time a good deal of give-and-take play ensued, in the course of which Wilkinson made one of the prettiest runs of the afternoon. On changing ends, Kobe made determined efforts to score, but the shooting was rather wild. At three minutes past four Edwards and Lucas secured the ball near the centre, and dribbling it swiftly down the latter shot at the goal. He was, however, "offside," and Pearson appealing the goal was disallowed. A question of "fouling" got mixed with "offside" in the minds of many spectators in regard to this affair, but the umpire's decision on the point rested solely on the Kobe player being "offside." Hatton, the next man to put the leather through the posts, was also given "offside," and within a minute of this the appeal of "offside" was again raised and allowed against Kobe. It was very annoying to all concerned, but Kobe nothing daunted made another rush, and in the sequel Edwards receiving the ball from Wilkinson, secured Kobe's first goal. The cheering at this success of the visitors was loud and long. One goal to each. In the course of the subsequent play Lucas got cramp in one of his legs, but he continued on the field to the end, which was now very near. When the whistle blew the ball was in dangerous proximity to the Yokohama goal. Teams:—

Yokohama.		Kobe.
Mr. Kenny.	Goal	Mr. Tate.
Mr. Pearson.	Backs	Mr. W. Braess.
Mr. Lias.		Mr. Lightfoot.
Mr. Hall.	Half Backs	Mr. Geen.
Mr. Pinckney.		Mr. Kerr.
Mr. G. Braess.		Mr. Smith.
Mr. Mair.	Right Wing	Mr. Hatton.
Mr. Libeaud.		Mr. Lucas.
Mr. Moss.	Centre	Mr. Edwards.
Mr. Crawford.	Left Wing	Mr. Wilkinson.
Mr. E. Morriss.		Mr. Franklin.

Mr. F. Gillett was referee: Linesmen, Mr. D. McNeill and Mr. W. Sutter. The home backs were, as usual, in splendid form. Hall and Pinckney, at half back put in some very nice play at times, though a trifle slow in getting on to the ball. For the visitors, Lightfoot worked very hard, and Lucas also deserves praise. Edwards we have seen to better advantage. Franklin we regret to hear, hurt one of the tendons of his leg shortly before half time.

THE KEIOGIJUKU UNIVERSITY.

AN ADDRESS MADE TO THE GRADUATING CLASS OF THE KEIOGIJUKU UNIVERSITY, ON FRIDAY, JANUARY 25TH, BY GARRETT DROPPERS.

GENTLEMEN,—Your graduating exercises take place at a momentous period in your national life. Though you are all peacefully pursuing your path in much the same way as before, yet many of your countrymen are far away carrying on war with a nation larger and, in some respects, more powerful than Japan. The forces set in motion by this war will influence you in some way for the rest of your lives, and indeed the lives of your successors for many generations. I hold it an auspicious omen that you are graduating at a time when the arms of Japan are successful both by land and by sea, and I trust that you and your country will prosper together in an equal degree and in the truest sense of the word. The great German poet, Goethe, somewhere says that life is like a game of cards: fate deals the cards, but it depends upon ourselves how to use them. So Japan to-day is playing the cards that fate has dealt her—do we not all hope that she will play them well, with injustice toward none, with charity toward all?

If you will permit me I will take the liberty of using the present crisis in the affairs of Japan as a text for a little sermon. A writer of this nineteenth century of ours, who, in spite of certain eccentricities which perhaps no one would be more willing to acknowledge than himself, has more insight into the right relations of human life in my opinion than any other man, propounds this question: Why is it that in spite of the immense advances of industry and commerce during this century, an advance not paralleled in any other century in the history of the world, why is it that we still, instinctively and involuntarily, admire the character of the soldier more than we do the manufacturer or the business man. Even in the least military nations like England and the United States, we yield an unquestioning homage to the general, more than we do to the most successful merchant or manufacturer, and we do this quite contrary to the avowed theory of the age. This writer answers this question by saying that we all recognize that the soldier or general—however dissipated or extravagant he may be at times—yet has this great virtue, that he is willing at the supreme moment to yield up his life for others, that is, his country, and that this single act of self-sacrifice wipes out a multitude of minor deficiences—while, on the contrary, the ordinary business man, however morally and dutifully he may conduct himself in ordinary life, yet at a crisis looks out for his own interests instead of others. The soldier at the supreme moment is found facing the enemy and turning his back upon all considerations of self, while the business man at the time of danger prudently secures himself from harm.

Now if this statement is true, and I certainly believe it contains a solid germ of truth, is there anything in it that we can apply to our own life? I need not tell you that in all civilized countries of the world there is much that is disquieting. Only the other day while reading an address of Prof. Huxley, who, you all know, has no particular sympathy with radical measures, I found these words: "Even the best of modern civilizations appears to me to exhibit a condition of mankind which neither embodies any worthy ideal, nor even possesses the merit of stability. I do not hesitate to express the opinion that if there is no hope of a large improvement of the condition of the greater part of the human family—if it is true that the increase of knowledge, the winning a greater domain over nature which is its consequence, and the wealth which follows upon that domain are to make no difference in the extent and in the intensity of want with its concomitant physical and moral degradation amongst the mass of the people, I should hail the advent of some kindly comet which would sweep the whole affair away, as a desirable consummation." Now these words of Professor Huxley are hardly reassuring. Here is a man of trained intellect, of lifelong devotion to the great elucidation of truth, stating that he finds the present condition of the world so hopeless that he would think it a boon to have it swept away if no amelioration of its conditions can be found. It seems to me that these words are indicative of much. They seem to me to prove that whereas science may be sufficient for an individual man, here and there, to guide his way through life, it can never, while the human heart is what it is, or human relations are what they are, keep life sweet, or stimulate humanity to take pleasure in its lot. And I do not hesitate to say that at the present time we, as human beings, cannot be saved merely by science, or yet by the accumulation of wealth, and least of all by engaging in the thoughtless struggle of existence as we see it to-day.

Fifty years ago the spirit of the age was quite different from what it is at present, both in Europe and in America. Then it was generally believed that the industrial age would result in a radical transformation of society. It was a conviction that wars would speedily cease, that soldiers would quickly disappear, and that an age of contentment—mankind "lapt in universal law"—would follow. But these hopes have not been realized. The extension of commerce, the increase of machinery, have not satisfied a fraction of the hopes placed in them. On the contrary, the armies of European nations are to-day greater than ever before, and a moralist with the keenest insight into man's life dares to say that we, in spite of ourselves, honour the soldier more than we do the business man.

Is this merely a reaction against the earlier

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ideals, a mere return to the old forms of belief? I do not think so. It is a proof, I believe, that we cannot live upon a mere mechanism, by an increase of material exchanges, as it were, or by extra-human relations. We admire the soldier not because he deals in destruction, or because he engages in the most hateful of all work, that of killing his fellow beings, but because he has an element of ideality in his labour and that in the end he follows his ideal to the bitter end. To-day we are beginning to see that our great commerce lacks this ideal and human relation, it is based on self and ends in self, and no matter where the progress of commerce may extend itself, yet it can never rid itself of this, until its aims are changed. For a long time it has been the fashion of certain writers to assert that the old military warfare which existed between nations had transformed itself into an industrial warfare, that the arms were changed; that instead of guns and cannon, we were to have steam and machinery, and instead of crushing neighbouring countries with bullets we would down them with cheap goods, and tribute would be paid in interest instead of war indemnities. It is wonderful that this condition of things could ever have been attractive enough to anybody to put it into print, and yet it has been written again and again and has even found its devotees. But you have already seen how this state of society has effected Prof. Huxley, and I venture to say it will never acquire a deep hold upon the thinking community. For if we are to have war let us have honest war, sword to sword or gun to gun, with all the virtues of the soldier as a pleasant back ground, rather than a make-believe war with no compensating qualities.

It is not then that the soldier should turn into a business man that we *hope* for a better state of of things—but that the business man should, on the contrary, become a soldier. The very address of Professor Huxley, from which I have already quoted, contains a nucleus of the same idea that I wish to express in its title. It is called *Anarchy or Regimentation*, that is, he thinks, either society will end in anarchy or it will end in a kind of military organization. Now I venture to answer this by saying that you will never save society by merely turning it into a military camp. System and order, that is, the outward form of society, can do much; they can do nearly as much for society as good earth and sunlight can do for the tree or plant. Under a bad system, any institution will decay, no matter what its motion is; but system and mechanism cannot do impossibilities. In the very core of every army must be the valiant soldier's heart, the brave, unselfish, loyal devotion, and without this even the best organized army will accomplish nothing. And so, if society is to be turned into a regimentation, if we are to have the military forms in society in order to save it from worse dangers, then let us also by all means have the soldier's character, the willingness to work for the wealth and welfare of our country, at a crisis at least, just as the soldier does. Let us hold forth the same ideal for the classes that produce wealth as for those who given us defence. Do you not think that then the business man would be admired just as much as the military man? Do you not think that society would really and truly honour the banker, or the merchant, or the farmer, just as it really and truly honours the loyal soldier? And if this ideal should be accepted, do you think that we should then have to hail the advent of some "kindly comet that would sweep the whole affair away as a desirable consummation?"

For one, I should like to see the experiment tried. I should like to see the doctrine preached as a practicable measure, that we are all a kind of soldier in our spirit and aim, working together for the good of all, first and foremost—and for ourselves too, but only in a subordinate and secondary sense, just as the soldier does. And if you, gentlemen, were to think over this opinion and finally accept it as a true conviction, you would become the centres of a new influence which I am firmly persuaded would, in the end, save society from many of those evils which even the soberest sometimes fear are inevitable. The idea may seem simple enough, but carry it about with you in your minds, apply it to the various issues of life, and you will by degrees perceive how it will transform the whole scene of humanity, making those phases which now seem almost hopeless filled with a new spirit and purpose; and I firmly believe that a society united by this sentiment would be as powerful for doing good in the world, would be as invincible in its relation to other countries, as the united and unified army of Japan is now against the disorganized individualistic army of China.

U.S. CONSULAR-GENERAL COURT.

Before N. W. McIvor, Esq., Judge, sitting with Associates.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 8TH.

ALLEGED BREACH OF CONTRACT.

This was a claim brought by Kobayashi Beika (J. E. de Becker) against the American Trading Company, for breach of contract.

Mr. J. F. Lowder appeared for the defendant Company: Mr. Kobayashi Beika appeared for himself.

Upon the case being called by the Clerk of the Court, the names of four gentlemen were drawn for Associates and alternatives. They were Mr. J. Mendelson and Mr. A. O. Gay, Associates, and Mr. C. F. Pope and Mr. E. W. Tilden, alternatives.

No objection being taken, the four were subpœnaed and the Court adjourned till 2 o'clock.

On the Court reassembling, Mr. A. O. Gay was excused from serving as an Associate on the score of ill-health. Mr. J. Mendelson and Mr. C. F. Pope were then sworn as Associates and took seats upon the Bench. Mr. Simpson was sworn in as the Court reporter.

Plaintiff then opened the case on his own behalf. He said the claim was instituted by himself against the American Trading Company of Yokohama for the recovery of *yen* 2,250, as damages for breach of contract. He then read the petition as follows:—

The petition of the above named Plaintiff respectfully shows:—

1.—That the Plaintiff is a Japanese subject, residing at Yokohama, Japan.

2.—That the Defendant is a corporation of the United States of America, duly incorporated and carrying on the business of merchants at No. 28, in the Foreign Settlement of Yokohama, Japan.

3.—That, under a written contract between the Plaintiff and the Defendant, the Plaintiff, on the first day of June, 1894, entered into the Defendant's employ as general export man and employed for the term of one year from said date, the Defendant, in consideration thereof, agreeing to employ the Plaintiff during said term and to pay him therefore at the rate of two hundred and fifty *yen* per month as salary.

4.—That the Plaintiff continued in said employ until the first day of September, 1894, when the Defendant unlawfully and without reasonable cause discharged the Plaintiff therefrom, and although the Plaintiff was ready and willing and has ever since been willing to continue to serve the Defendant as aforesaid for the remainder of said term, the Defendant refused to suffer the Plaintiff to continue in said employ, and has thenceforward refused to employ the Plaintiff for the remainder of said term.

5.—That the Plaintiff has thereby lost the salary which he otherwise would have obtained from said employ, and has become unemployed and is likely so to continue, to his damage, which he has suffered by reason of the breach of contract by the said Defendant in the sum of two thousand two hundred and fifty *yen*, which sum Plaintiff otherwise would have received as salary under his said contract with Defendant.

The Plaintiff, therefore, prays:—

1.—That he may have judgment against the Defendant for the sum of two thousand two hundred and fifty *yen* and for the costs and disbursements of Plaintiff in this action.

2.—That the Plaintiff may have such further or other relief as the nature of this case requires.

The following is the answer of the above named defendant to the petition of the plaintiff:—

In answer to the petition the defendant company say as follows:—

1.—The allegation contained in the second paragraph of the petition is admitted, the remaining allegations of the petition are not, except as hereinafter appears.

2.—The defendant Company admit that they entered into an agreement to employ the plaintiff for one year from the 1st day of June, 1894, but they say that they were induced to make the said agreement by the fraud of the plaintiff.

3.—On discovering the said fraud, the defendant company rescinded the said agreement as they lawfully might.

There was also a motion put in by myself asking the defendent to deposit security for costs, but this has been withdrawn and marked by me "withdrawn without prejudice."

His Honour said that all such motions must be put in writing before the Court could entertain them.

Mr. Lowder—Might I ask what meaning plaintiff attaches to "without prejudice?"

His Honour—He means without preventing himself, as plaintiff from pleading further in the matter.

Plaintiff proceeding, said that the defendant's answer admitted the contract; but it also alleged fraud on his part; now he called upon them to withdraw that allegation. He denied that there had been any fraud. He would therefore ask the Court to order the defendant to prove the allegation of fraud. He would put that request as a formal motion.

His Honour—The Court does not entertain a motion of that description. We have no right to point out the line of defence or otherwise indicate how the case should proceed, but I would point out to plaintiff for his information that we are here to decide upon the issue of this action.

Plaintiff—In that case, I will go on further with my case.

His Honour—Yes, unless the defence has a statement to make.

Plaintiff—That is quite open to them. I think I will now relate how this claim arose. About the beginning of March, 1894, I heard from an outside source that the American Trading Company required an export man for an export department which they were establishing or were about to establish in connection with their business. I have had about 10 years experience of the export business in Japan; in addition to which I am a pretty fluent speaker of Japanese. I believed that they wanted a man to attend to export work in connection with Japanese, and I wrote a letter to the President of the American Trading Company, Mr. Morse, asking for a position in the company. I received no reply to that letter, but a day or two afterwards I received a note telling me that Mr. Stone would like to speak with me. I had one or two interviews with Mr. Stone after this, most of which were spent in bargaining as to terms. I first of all asked for a salary of $200 (gold) per month, but Mr. Stone said the Company would not make any more agreements *in* gold. I then asked for 400 *yen* a month, which Mr. Stone did not think excessive.

His Honour—Is this your opening statement or something you wish to give as evidence?

Plaintiff—It is not evidence. On the 21st April, Mr. Stone wrote me a letter offering me a salary of 250 *yen* with a rise of 50 *yen* per month *in* the next year, the agreement to run for one year.

Mr. Lowder—Is this pertinent?

His Honour—It is the opening statement of plaintiff, and is leading up to the evidence which he wishes to give.

Mr. Lowder—But it is not evidence upon any point raised in the pleadings.

Plaintiff—It is not evidence.

His Honour—I disagree with you both. I think it is evidence. The defence raises the question as to what lead to the making of the contract, and that, I take it, is the principal point at issue in this trial. I think it is in order, because that point is raised in the pleadings.

Plaintiff resuming—Mr. Stone led me to believe that I was not an ordinary employé of the American Trading Company. I entered into the employ of the American Trading Company on the 1st June, 1894. From that time everything went sailing along smoothly. I have no intention of setting myself up as a model *employé* or to brag about myself, but I think I can say that I did my duty to the firm so far as I could. On the 23rd of August, after tiffin, Mr. Stone called me up to his private room. He told me that he had seen Mr. Strome, of Yokohama, and had looked at some of Mr. Strome's books. From what he had seen in the books he had come to the conclusion that he could have no confidence in me, and that he would dispense with my services from the end of the current month. He gave me the option of resigning or of receiving a formal notice of discharge from the firm. On the 24th August, Mr. Stone asked me whether I was going to resign or whether he should send me an official letter. I replied that I should certainly not resign, because if I did it would look as though I was in the wrong. On the 25th August I received a letter from Mr. Stone at my house in a registered envelope; I took no notice of it. On the 1st of Sept. being ready and desirous of going on with my duty, I went to the office and asked Mr. Stone if he refused to allow me to go on with my work. Mr. Stone refused to let me go on with my work. I then sent him a lawyer's letter asking that the balance of the wages due me under my agreement should be paid me. In answer, I received a letter from the American Trading Company that they did cancel my agreement, and that they would not pay my claim. The matter was then left in abeyance for a time. I did my best to obtain another situation, but failed, and on the 6th December I wrote to the American Trading Company repeating my demand for payment.

His Honour reminded the plaintiff that he had gone beyond the question in dispute. He had entered a field which was not in issue.

Plaintiff—I merely wish to put the Court in possession of the facts leading up to the instituting of this case. I finally notified the Company that owing to their action I was compelled to move the Court to obtain payment of my claim. Now the question before the Court is this, the defendant say that owing to my fraud they were induced to [illegible] agreement with me.

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Mr. Lowder—Pardon me, we say in our answer that it was obtained by fraud.

Plaintiff—Defendant alleges fraud, but I do not admit the allegation, and I am prepared to prove that I did not obtain this situation by fraud. I have my proofs at hand, and will call one witness.

His Honour said that before calling witnesses perhaps the defence might wish to make a statement.

Mr. Lowder said he would prefer to defer his opening statement until the plaintiff had lead the evidence which he said would substantiate his claim.

Plaintiff—Then I will first put in a letter written to me by Mr. Stone.

Mr. Lowder—I do not admit it. Witness must be sworn, and the letter sworn to.

His Honour—The Court can not recognise handwriting, the letter must be sworn to.

Plaintiff—If the letters are not admitted they will have no value.

His Honour—I do not see their pertinency. The defendant has admitted the agreement.

Mr. Lowder suggested for plaintiff's own benefit that unless the letters were put in he could not establish his case.

Plaintiff—Then must I put Mr. Stone on oath?

His Honour—The Court can not suggest who you should call.

Plaintiff—Then I will go into the witness-box.

Plaintiff was then sworn, and said—I entered into an agreement to serve the American Trading Company, and was engaged by means of a letter written by Mr. Stone on the 27th April, 1894. This letter I hand to the Court. It contains the proposition that I should enter the service of the American Trading Company. The next letter is my acceptance of the offer in the letter just mentioned.

Mr. Lowder objected to press-copies being put in, and on being asked produced the original.

Other letters relating to the terms of the service were next handed in and marked, also the letter of August 25th from the American Trading Company dismissing plaintiff from their service. Next, a letter from Mr. Scidmore written under plaintiff's instructions demanding from the American Trading Company payment of plaintiff's claim. The Company's letter in reply declining to meet the claim was next sworn to and handed in. Then a letter from plaintiff, of December 6th, 1894, intimating his intention, unless his demand was acceded to, of instituting a case in court.

Plaintiff then continued—At the time Mr. Stone refused to allow me to continue my duties, I jotted down a memorandum of what took place, and the words used. I went to the office that morning, September 1st, about 8.30 o'clock. I went up to Mr. Stone's room and asked if I might have a few moments conversation with him. We went downstairs to a room that was for the moment unoccupied, and Mr. Stone, seating himself at the desk, said:—"What is it?" I said I had come there perfectly willing to carry out my agreement, did he, or did he not, forbid me? He said:—I think the American Trading Company have indicated by what has been said and by what is contained in the letter, what they mean. We cannot go back on our official letter." "You absolutely refuse to let me go on," I said. He said, "We refuse to carry out the agreement any further." Then I said that I would put it in the hands of the lawyers.

His Honour—All this is admitted.

Plaintiff—I now contend that the letters put in prove that I had an agreement, and I now ask the defence to prove the fraud which they allege on my part.

Mr. Lowder—One moment, I wish to cross-examine plaintiff. (To plaintiff)—By whom were those exhibits (letters from the American Trading Company) signed?—I can tell that they are signed W. J. Stone.

Are you sure?—Yes, I am prepared to swear to it.

Why did you doubt the signature of one of them just now?—I know the signature perfectly well. The initials only are written badly, but I am prepared to swear to Stone. I have no copy of the letter written by me asking for employment with the American Trading Company. I certainly asked them for employment. I can recollect the conversation I had with Mr. Stone on the 21st April very well.

Mr. Lowder—Prior to your entering the service of the American Trading Company, you were in partnership with Mr. Strome, of Yokohama, and trading under the firm name of Strome & Co., were you not?

Plaintiff—No, sir.

Mr. Lowder—Not at any time?

Plaintiff—No, sir.

Mr. Lowder—Not in 1893?

Plaintiff—No, sir.

Mr. Lowder—I produce a deed of partnership dated the 19th March, 1893, purporting to be entered into between Charles John Strome and Kobayashi Beika, whilom Joseph Ernest de Becker, do you know whether it bears the signatures and seals of the parties mentioned therein?

Plaintiff—I know the deed, it bears our two signatures. But this document has not been admitted as evidence.

Mr. Lowder—It was drawn up by yourself?

Plaintiff—Yes, it was.

Mr. Lowder—And was drawn up in accordance with your knowledge as a lawyer?

Plaintiff—Not as a lawyer, but as one knowing law.

Mr. Lowder—But it was sufficient for your purpose?

Plaintiff—Yes.

Mr. Lowder—As showing your partnership with Mr. Strome?

Plaintiff—No, it was not a deed of partnership in that sense. There are other papers showing that it was not so.

Mr. Lowder—But this is a deed of partnership, is it not?

Plaintiff—No, it was a manufactured deed made for the purpose of showing to certain persons. There were other deeds drawn up which I will produce at the proper time.

His Honour—I should like you to repeat your answer. You say that this deed was manufactured for the purpose of showing to certain persons?

Plaintiff—Yes, I repeat it.

His Honour—Am I to infer then, that it was to convey to certain persons an inference that was contrary to the true situation?

Plaintiff—Yes; I own it is not a nice thing to say.

Mr. Lowder—Do you mean that it was used for the purpose of deceiving third parties?

Plaintiff—No, but it was made to show to certain people.

Mr. Lowder—For what reason?

Plaintiff—I refuse to say for what particular reason.

His Honour—What particular reason is a question that has not been asked.

Mr. Lowder—You have been asked whether you manufactured the deed with the intention and purpose in your mind of eventually using it for the purpose of deceiving third parties?

Plaintiff—Yes, that reason was known to both parties.

Mr. Lowder—Never mind the other parties, I ask you questions in regard to yourself.

His Honour—The last part of that answer is to be expunged as not relevant.

Mr. Lowder—That intention of deceiving third parties does not appear in the body of the deed, does it?

Plaintiff—No, it should not.

Mr. Lowder—Answer me, yes or no. I will read you the deed if you wish to have your memory refreshed.

Plaintiff—You need not, I know the deed all by heart.

Mr. Lowder—Well then, answer my question.

Plaintiff—No, sir.

Mr. Lowder—The deed purports to be drawn up between Mr. Strome and yourself to carry on business as merchants in the trade of leather paper exporters and manufacturers; and that Mr. Strome was to have two thirds and yourself one-third of the profits?

Plaintiff—Yes.

Mr. Lowder—And the books of Strome & Co. were kept in accordance with the purport of that deed?

Plaintiff—Yes.

Mr. Lowder—Now, will you tell me whom you intended, or wished, to deceive with the deed that you drew up?

Plaintiff—That is a matter upon which I can make no answer, for I did not know whom at the time.

Mr. Lowder—Then am I to take it that it might deceive any person whom you might wish at any time to deceive, and not any specific person?

Plaintiff—Yes, I suppose it is so.

The deed was then handed in.

Mr. Lowder—Now we return to the question I put you at the opening of my cross-examination: I asked you whether, before entering the service of the American Trading Company, you had been in partnership with Mr. Strome and traded under the firm name of Messrs. Strome & Co., and you said you had not?

Plaintiff—You never asked me that question.

The original question and answer, was then read from the official stenographic record of the Court.

Mr. Lowder—Now, do you say that your answer to the question was true?

Plaintiff—Yes, I had not been in partnership with Mr. Strome. I had been carrying on business as Strome & Co.

Mr. Lowder—Is that the distinction which you wish to make?

Plaintiff—Yes.

Mr. Lowder—In future it will be as well to distinguish when I put a question which you divide into two parts: it will probably enable us to avoid misunderstanding. Now, do you remember during your first conversation with Mr. Stone whether he did not ask you the question:—Did you leave Mr. Strome with a clear record?

Plaintiff—He did not.

Mr. Lowder—You have a clear recollection that he did not?

Plaintiff—No question of that sort was asked. There was no reason to ask such a question.

Mr. Lowder—You are sure?

Plaintiff—I have a good memory as memories go, and I don't think it has failed me on that point.

Mr. Lowder—Then you have no recollection of Mr. Stone putting such a question to you?

Plaintiff—I do not recollect such a question being put to me.

Mr. Lowder—Do you recollect him asking you whether there was any ill-feeling between yourself and Mr. Strome?

Plaintiff—No, sir, he did not ask me such a question.

Mr. Lowder—He will testify that he did.

Plaintiff—He may testify what he likes. I say he didn't.

Mr. Lowder—I suggest that he did put such questions to you, and your reply was that your record with Messrs. Strome & Co. was clear, and that there was no ill-feeling between you and Mr. Strome?

Plaintiff—I made no such reply or statement.

Mr. Lowder then elicited the fact that Mr. Strome left Japan for home in March, 1893, and then asked Plaintiff—I believe you were left in charge of the business here of Messrs. Strome & Co.?

Plaintiff—I had charge of the business, because I was the firm of Strome & Co.

Mr. Lowder—You supervised the books?

Plaintiff—Yes.

Mr. Lowder—When you answered my former question did you mean it to be pregnant?

Plaintiff—I don't know what you mean.

Mr. Lowder—Your answer was, I was the firm of Strome & Co. Now, were you a partner in charge?

Plaintiff—I was not the partner in charge. I was Strome & Co.

Mr. Lowder—Will you be good enough to explain that answer?

Plaintiff—In what way do you wish it explained? I don't know how far you want me to go in an explanation.

His Honour—It is necessary to secure from you some explanation of a very manifest inconsistency in the answers you have made to the two last questions.

Plaintiff—It is very easily explained. I was trading under the name of Strome & Co. myself. I was registered as the proprietor of the firm of Strome & Co., and was the only partner in the business.

His Honour—Were you sole partner?

Plaintiff—Yes, I was the sole partner.

Mr. Lowder—Is that statement borne out by the books of Strome & Co.?

Plaintiff—Yes, it is borne out in the books of Strome & Co.

Mr. Lowder—Do you wish me to understand that Mr. Strome, in spite of that deed of partnership, was not a partner with you in the business of Strome & Co.?

Plaintiff—He was not a partner.

Mr. Lowder—Do you wish the Court to understand that he was not in partnership with you?

Plaintiff—No, sir, he never was: not in the sense you put it.

His Honour—Answer that question without reservation.

Plaintiff—He was not a partner with me.

Mr. Lowder—He never was your partner?

Plaintiff—He never was.

Mr. Lowder—Do you recollect a letter written by you on the 26th March to Mr. Morse, of the American Trading Company, in which these words occur:—

"Owing to the long spell of bad trade we have experienced in Yokohama during the past year, it is almost out of the question for Mr. Strome and myself to work together as the business is not at present profitable enough to yield a decent living for two men. Under these circumstances we have decided to part company as soon as I can fix up some position for myself outside."

—Do you recollect that letter?

Plaintiff—Yes.

Mr. Lowder—And do you still say that Mr. Strome was not in partnership with you, in the face of that letter and that deed?

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Plaintiff—Yes.

Mr. Lowder then read the deed again, and at its conclusion,

Plaintiff said—I still deny that I was in partnership with Mr. Strome.

Mr. Lowder then produced a cheque drawn on the 4th March, 1893, on the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation by Messrs Strome & Co., for the sum of $3,000 in favour of a Japanese firm. This Plaintiff acknowledged was in his handwriting. It was drawn to repay a loan obtained by plaintiff for his private use from the manager of the Japanese firm.

Plaintiff then objected to the line of cross-examination, urging that it was going into the accounts of Messrs. Stome & Co., who had nothing to do with the present case which dealt solely with himself and the American Trading Company.

His *Honour* said that the questions had an important relation with the case. Plaintiff had twice contradicted himself on the question of his relations with the firm of Strome & Co., and it was doubtless to clarify these inconsistencies that the defence followed their present line of cross-examination.

Mr. Lowder; resuming—This loan from the Japanese, then, was a personal loan to yourself?

Plaintiff—Yes.

Mr. Lowder—Then what right had you to borrow money for your personal needs in the name of the firm?

Plaintiff—Right? What right? It was my own firm.

Mr. Lowder—You have no further explanation to make.

Plaintiff—I will do so when the proper time comes.

Mr. Lowder thought that the Court might ask for a further explanation, as plaintiff's answers to questions seemed very pregnant, a term which the Court would understand.

His Honour thought that the Court could not compel witness to go further.

In answer to further questions by Mr. Lowder, Plaintiff said he refused point blank to explain the *reason for* drawing the cheque in the firm name. Strome & Co.'s bankers were the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, and the arrangement entered into between them was made by Mr. Strome and himself on the one part and the Bank on the other.

Mr. Lowder—Then the Bank would think that the liability for the amount of this cheque was borne by you as well as Mr. Strome?

Plaintiff—Yes. That's how it would be.

Mr. Lowder—Were your bankers the class of persons which the deed of partnership was intended to deceive?

Plaintiff—No, sir, certainly not.

Did your bankers know that you and Mr. Strome were not in partnership, and that you alone were the firm of Strome & Co.?

Plaintiff—No, sir.

Others questions as to the manner of drawing cheques being answered,

Mr. Lowder said—Do you still assert that your record with Messrs. Strome & Co. was perfectly clean.

Plaintiff—Yes, sir.

Mr. Lowder—And that you were dealing honestly by your bankers?

Plaintiff—Yes, sir.

Mr. Lowder—Referring to the conversation with Mr. Stone in August, did he not tell you that he had been looking at the books of Messrs. Strome & Co., and that he had seen two entries relating to two cheques, the one for this $3,000 and the other for $600 odd, which he said looked as though they had been made to cover payments on your private account by the firm?

Plaintiff—He did not say that.

Mr. Lowder—He asked you to explain an item?

Plaintiff?—What item?

Mr. Lowder—He said that unless that item was explained things would look very bad?

Plaintiff—Yes.

Mr. Lowder—What did you understand by that, bad against you?

Plaintiff—Yes, bad against me.

Mr. Lowder—He asked you to explain this?

Plaintiff—He did, and my reply was that I should n't explain it. I said that they could be explained.

Mr. Lowder—Not they they could n't?

Plaintiff—I think I told him that without explanation they would look black.

Mr. Lowder—And then he told you that without that explanation it was impossible for you to remain in the service of the American Trading Company, did he not?

Plaintiff—I think he said something to that effect. I replied that it would be rather hard to be thrown out in that way, and I asked him to reconsider. He then said he would give me the option of resigning my position.

Mr. Lowder—Upon which you said that the idea was a good one?

Plaintiff—I did not.

Mr. Lowder—After which you asked him if he could not pay you one month's salary?

Plaintiff—No.

Mr. Lowder—I suggest that you did, and that he refused your request?

Plaintiff—I reply that he did not.

Mr. Lowder—There is a clause in the deed just mentioned, restricting the drawing by either of the partners, of only such money as was required for household expenses?

Plaintiff—Yes, I drew various sums just as I wanted them.

Mr. Lowder—Would it surprise you that during the whole of 1893, you drew monthly nearer $700 than $600?

Plaintiff—No, I would not be surprised at all.

Mr. Lowder—Assuming that deed of partnership was correct an proper—

Plaintiff—But I can't assume that.

Mr. Lowder—Well, can you explain why it was not?

Plaintiff—Yes, I can very briefly. I wanted to start in business for myself in Yokohama, so I made an arrangement with Mr. Strome for the use of his name. I used it as Strome and Company. I was registered in the City office in Yokohama as an independent trader. I am going to put in various documents afterwards to prove this. Two of them are petitions to allow me to carry on business at No. 62, and afterwards at No. 12. Then I will put in two powers of attorney, showing I was an independent trader. Mr. Strome took my power of attorney home, and through it he did business. When he returned he found that his powers were not sufficient and I gave him another. If he had been my partner there would have been no need for these powers-of-attorney.

Mr. Lowder thought the explanation did not give much help to the Court. Did plaintiff put in any deed dissolving the partnership set out in the deed now before the Court?

Plaintiff—I have a deed transferring property.

Mr. Lowder—Please answer my question.

Plaintiff—There was no need for a dissolution of partnership as the deed was merely a dummy agreement.

Mr. Lowder—But your books and accounts were kept in consonance with it?

Plaintiff—Yes.

Mr. Lowder—So that all the world by looking at your books would be under the impression that you and Mr. Strome were in partnership?

Plaintiff—Yes, but it would be erroneous.

Several questions were put as to plaintiff's business relations with the manager of the Japanese firm who had lent him money, and plaintiff finally objected on the ground of irrelevancy. The Court overruled the objection, and the cross-examination proceeded. Plaintiff then acknowledged that the $3,000 cheque was entered in the books of Strome & Co., as if it had been drawn against goods purchased for that amount, instead of in repayment of a loan on his private account. The entry was a debit to goods account. It was not in plaintiff's handwriting, but in that of a Mr. Edwards formerly in his employ. He did not wish to say that the entry was a mistake, but again objected to the line of cross examination.

His Honour—Fraud is alleged as the issue in this case, and in cross-examination Counsel is allowed a wider range than in the examination-in-chief. I overrule the objection.

Mr. Lowder—Here is an entry in the books of Strome & Co., a fraudulent entry, for you acknowledge that it purports to be for goods that you never bought, and that the money there set down you applied for your personal use.

Plaintiff—I don't see what you are driving at. Is it fraud against myself?

In answer to further questions, plaintiff said that he had initialled the entry of $3,000 in the journal. Edwards must have made the entry upon his instructions, but he could not say whether the amount was carried to capital or suspense account. He could not say when the item was interpolated, whether in June or December. It was his business, and he refused to answer any further questions as to whether it was still placed to his debit in the books of the firm.

Mr. Lowder—Might I suggest that you bought a piece of ground with the money?

Plaintiff—I do not deny nor do I affirm it.

Mr. Lowder—You have refused to pay this and other amounts to Messrs. Strome & Co.

Plaintiff—Yes, because I don't owe it.

Mr. Lowder then suggested that the Court should adjourn for the day.

Mr. Shand, who had been in attendance all the afternoon, asked that his evidence might be taken first, to which the Court acceded. Being sworn he said—I remember a conversation with Mr. Stone regarding you (plaintiff) in April, 1893. He asked me as to your qualifications as a Japanese scholar. I replied that you were quite competent. He also asked me as to your character. I replied that I thought it was good.

Cross-examined—I have had no business dealings with plaintiff outside ordinary insurance agent's work.

Plaintiff asked the Court if the adjournment might be for a longer time than till to-morrow morning. He had been taken by surprise at the line of defence adopted, and would like outside legal advice upon the points raised.

Mr. Lowder said that plaintiff had had since December to take legal advice on all matters connected with the case.

The Court then adjourned till 10 o'clock to-morrow.

SATURDAY, February 9th.

A claim brought by Kobayashi Beika (J. E. de Becker) against the American Trading Company, for breach of contract.

On the Court reassembling this morning, Mr. Uchiyama Rosseisu said he appeared for the plaintiff, Mr. Kobayashi Beika. Mr. J. E. Lowder again represented the defendant company, and continued his cross examination of the plaintiff.

Plaintiff in answer to questions said—The journal of Messrs. Strome & Co. contains on page 143, an entry for $694.35, debited against a Japanese named Hasegawa for goods. I do not find this entry in the Dealer's journal book but I find that some figures to that amount have been erased. I supposed the supposition would be that the figures were erased by penknife. I did not erase them. I cannot account for a cheque drawn for $694.35 in favour of Hasegawa on the 19th September. Why it was drawn I cannot tell now. It was drawn by me and the cheque bears my signature. The entry in the Dealer's journal book was made some time between July and August. Hasegawa's account was square without the addition of this $694.35. I do not know why it should be entered in the books of Messrs. Strome & Co., as a debit to Hasegawa. I drew a good many cheques about that time, and I could not explain why each and all were drawn unless I saw the books. This cheque has been endorsed by a Japanese in Bentten-dori. [The cheque was then handed in and marked.] I do not know who the Japanese is who endorsed the cheque. I have not the remotest idea whether such a number as 35, Bentendori, Gochome, exists. I suppose the cheque was given for goods. I did not strike out the entry from the Dealer's book, and I acknowledge that Hasegawa's account balances without it. I cannot accept the suggestion that the cheque was not drawn against goods. My bankers would not necessarily infer that the cheque was drawn against goods purchased. The goods might be merely in godown, or I might have had a credit balance at the time. When the entry was erased from the Dealer's book I do not know where it would have gone, supposing that it was wrongly entered. Pressed by Counsel, plaintiff said he supposed the amount should have gone into the ledger. At that time he was not keeping the books of the firm.

Mr. Lowder—But you were supposed to be supervising them?

Plaintiff—I was supposed to be, but at that time I left everything to my man, and did not pay much attention to the books. If this amount was not paid for goods it should have been corrected; but I think it appears to have been paid for goods.

Mr. Lowder—Would it surprise you to learn that that cheque was never given to Hasegawa at all?

Plaintiff—Yes, it would, for the cheque was drawn for him. In December, 1893, I took stock, and entered the value of it at $10,693.85. That amount is entered in the books by myself. If this cheque of $694.35 was not paid for goods the value of the stock should have stood at $9,999 50. I suppose I entered the value of the stock at $10,693.85 from the figures given me. When Mr. Stone asked me to explain this item last August I replied that I would not explain it.

Mr. Lowder—You would not explain, not you could not?

Plaintiff—I would not explain.

Mr. Lowder—Then, in the absence of any explanation on your part, would not Mr. Stone be justified in coming to the conclusion that your record with Messrs. Strome & Co., was not clean?

Plaintiff—He would not, because those who accept themselves accept themselves.

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Mr. Lowder—And in the face of these entries you still persist in saying that your record with Messrs. Strome & Co. was clean?

Plaintiff—I am not only prepared to say it again, but I am prepared to prove it.

Mr. Lowder then drew attention to the Journal for 1893, and asked plaintiff if it did not appear on page 208, under the heading of "Kobayashi Beika private account," that his debit balance was then $2,214.49.

Plaintiff—Yes. Another entry in the books showed that the profit and loss account was debited and my private account credited with that amount. I can only say in explanation that I did not make those entries, they are not in my hand-writing. I really can't tell why a balance was struck in March, 1893. The books appear to have been kept anyhow. In January I drew $398.71, in February $300.03, and in March $397.00, in the year 1893. I can not assume that this was the amount I was entitled to draw per month under the deed of partnership, because that deed of partnership did not really exist. Assuming that the deed of partnership did exist, I presume that was the amount I should have been entitled to draw. In April, after Mr. Strome's departure, I drew $1,055.45, but I should have drawn that amount even if he had not gone away. His presence or absence did not affect me one rap.

Mr. Lowder—By I suggest that up till the time of Mr. Strome's departure you drew $300 a month, an amount to which you were entitled, and that it was not till after his departure that your drawings were very considerably increased.

Plaintiff—You may suggest what you like. In May I drew $847.66: in June $3,411.72; in August $564.13; in Nov. $1,154 89. My drawings on private account during 1893 were about $6,818. On the assumption that the deed of agreement existed I was only entitled to draw money for household expenses. I cannot say whether I was dealing honestly with my partner in drawing on an average over $600 a month, because I had no partner. The business might have been good enough to sustain these drawings, but I can't say. In the Journal there is an entry to "capital account $3,000, B. Kobayashi." It was made in December, 1893, and is in my hand writing. This entry does not call to my mind that the interpolated entry mentioned yesterday was made about the same time, though professing to be made between June and September. I cannot explain at this time why this item was carried to Capital Account. I may have the opportunity later on of explaining it to the Court. I refuse to answer the question why the two amounts we have been discussing are carried to two separate accounts, one to Capital and are to Profit and Loss. I can not explain them, and refuse to answer.

His Honour said witness must conform to the rules of evidence. There had been too much discussion on his part as to what questions he should or should not answer. He was now represented in Court by an attorney, and as no objection was made by him, the question must be answered.

Mr. Lowder—Will you now explain why the $3,000 was carried to the capital account, and the $2,214 49 carried to profit and loss, although both had been drawn by you for your private account?

Plaintiff—Well, I can't explain. Anyone looking at the books would suppose that my debit balance was $5,544.69, instead of being $10,359.18. I refuse to accept your suggestion that these amounts were entered in the books to hide the fact that I had been drawing so much money from the firm. No entries were made for that purpose. But the effect on any one looking at the books would be that that person would imagine that my debit was only $5,544.69.

Mr. Lowder—You are a law agent, I believe.

Plaintiff—Yes, something of that sort.—(Laughter.)

Re-examined—I know that Mr. Stone went to several persons to inquire into my character before I was engaged by the American Trading Company, I know this personally through a communication I received from Mr. Shand, and also from Mr. Stone. I was not the party who desired to benefit from the "dummy" deed of partnership. It was drawn up at Mr. Strome's request, and was not intended really to deceive any one. It was drawn up simply for the purpose of preventing outsiders from knowing my private affairs. There was no intention to defraud anyone by or through it. As a Japanese subject, it is absolutely necessary to get a license to carry on a trade, and also another license to carry on that trade in the foreign settlement. I made application for these two licenses.

Mr. Lowder objected to this line of re-examination as it did not arise out of the cross-examination.

Mr. Uchiyama said that yesterday the plaintiff had stated that the deed of partnership was merely a "dummy," and he now wished to prove that this was so; and also that plaintiff had given powers-of-attorney to Strome proving him (plaintiff) to be sole proprietor of the firm of Strome & Co. He also wished to prove that he alone had a right to do what he liked with the books of Strome & Co.

His Honour allowed the re-examination to proceed.

Plaintiff, continuing, swore to the translations of Japanese petitions addressed by him to the Authorities.

His Honour did not see the necessity for these documents.

Mr. Uchiyama—Fraud has been alleged, and I wish to prove that plaintiff had a perfect right, as sole proprietor of the firm of Strome & Co., to do just what he did.

Plaintiff then swore to another petition to the Japanese Authorities for permission to trade at No. 12, after the supposed deed of partnership had been drawn up.

Mr. Lowder objected; this document could not contradict the sealed deed; none of the Japanese could do that.

His Honour, after reading the translation—The objection is sustained.

Mr. Uchiyama wished to put in a certificate obtained by plaintiff for the purpose of this case from the City Authorities showing that plaintiff was the sole proprietor of the firm of Strome & Co.

Mr. Lowder objected, and the Court sustained him, as the document might only show that the Authorities were lead to believe that plaintiff was the sole partner in the firm.

Plaintiff, resuming, said—Up to 1891, I was, and had been for seven years, in the employ of Messrs. Rottmann, Strome, & Co. Mr. Strome had been a partner in the firm, and I knew him perfectly well. The firm of Rottmann, Strome, & Co. was dissolved in August, 1891. Mr. Strome came out to Japan in the September of that year. I was still in the employ of Messrs. Rottmann, Strome & Co., as manager. Mr. Strome asked me, as he was very low down, in low water, whether I would help him to carry on business. I said I was in a good situation, and did not like to throw it up, but he put it to me strongly, as he had certain liabilities contingent upon the old firm, and he wished to protect himself in such a way as to enable him to carry on business for himself. So he proposed that I should go into business as Strome & Co., and that he would work for me, and act as my employé. That was the arrangement between us. First of all I engaged to pay him a certain salary.

Mr. Lowder asked if this agreement was to be put in?

Mr. Uchiyama said that he had no desire to go into that now. (To plaintiff)—Mr. Strome, you said, came to you because he was very hard pressed, is that not so?

Mr. Lowder objected to the question.

His Honour—I think that the question is objectionable for several reasons. The objection is sustained.

Plaintiff then swore to another Japanese document, which was about to be handed in, when

Mr. Lowder rose and said that his objection to the admission of these documents was this: that they were inadmissible for the reason that they were put in with the intention of contradicting a deed which had been sealed, and unless a deed of equivalent weight and equal authority contradicting that sealed deed was put in, these other documents must be rejected.

Plaintiff continuing—I did start in business for myself and carried it on as Strome & Company in my own name. In the first place, as an inducement, Mr. Strome showed me a list of a lot of customers and connections in Europe and America which he promised to obtain for me.

His Honour thought the recital of these statements was taking up the time of the Court uselessly.

Mr. Uchiyama proposed next to introduce the powers of attorney.

Mr. Lowder objected on the ground that they not been executed by either party with the purpose of cancelling the sealed deed of partnership already in evidence.

The objection was held in abeyance, until be documents could be translated.

Plaintiff, in answer to further questions, said that he was introduced to the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank by Mr. Strome. They would naturally believe that all cheques drawn by Strome & Co. were jointly borne by himself and Mr. Strome. But the deed of partnership was not intended to deceive them. There was no intent to deceive.

Mr. Uchiyama—No, you only wanted to deceive them in an ordinary way.—(Laughter.)—I mean there is a difference between deceiving and deceiving.—(Renewed laughter.)

Plaintiff—I did not intend to deceive them; there is a difference between misleading and deceiving.

Asked why he did not give Mr. Stone the explanations demanded, plaintiff said that he could not have done so unless he had gone into all particulars from the very beginning—had explained all the details of his signing away the business of Strome &, Co.

On the application of Mr. Uchiyama, the Court then adjourned till Tuesday morning at 10 o'clock.

TUESDAY, February 12th.

The Court resumed at 10 o'clock this morning. The parties were represented by the same Counsel as before.

Plaintiff again took the witness stand, and in answer to Mr. Uchiyama Rossettsu, he said—I meant when I said that my record with Messrs. Strome and Co. was clean, that it was clean with myself, with the bank, with the Customs, with my employés. There would be no necessity for me to inquire into any endorsement that the Japanese might put on the back of a cheque drawn by me. I told Mr. Stone in August that the items he spoke of could be explained, and explained satisfactorily. On the 11th January, 1893, I gave a power-of-attorney to Mr. Strome to act on behalf of the firm in Europe and America. This deed was signed and sworn to by myself and Mr. Strome before a notary-public.

Mr. Lowder objected to the power-of-attorney being put in unless he had the opportunity of re-opening his cross examination upon the document, because it sought to contradict the deed of partnership already put in. It was understood that the Court would accede to this request, when he put certain questions to the plaintiff on the opening day. He had no desire to thwart the plaintiff in his endeavour to prove his contention that he was sole partner in the firm of Strome & Co.

The other side raising no objection to the cross-examination being reopened on the document, the Court allowed the point.

Plaintiff resuming—In the power-of-attorney there is a clause giving Mr. Strome powers as if he was a partner in the firm. In May of the same year, I gave Mr. Strome another power-of-attorney. The document now handed in is a certified copy of this power-of-attorney. It is dated 31st May, 1893. In September, 1893, I hypothecated to Mr. Oscar Kiel, the moveable property, effects, and the business of the firm of Messrs. Strome & Co. The deed of hypothecation was drawn up in legal form and registered in this Consulate. It is dated the 8th day of September, 1893. Mr. Strome was not a party to this deed. He was absent when it was made out. It hypothecated the goodwill of the business as well as the effects of Messrs. Strome & Co. Mr. Strome on his return could have made no objection to the deed. In the deed I am described as Kobayashi Beika trading as Strome & Co. I severed my connection, practically, with the firm in December, 1893; but I went on really till March, 1894, when I assigned to Mr. Strome the business of Strome and Co., in a deed duly and legally drawn up. The document put in is a certified copy of the deed. In Article 7 of the deed it is said that the business liabilities of Charles J. Strome were shown in the books of Strome and Co. on the 31st December, 1893. The assignment took place in March, 1894, and during that time he had every opportunity of examining the books. Mr. Strome has never proceeded against me in any way in the Japanese Courts.

Mr. Lowder—What has this to do with the case?

His Honour—It has nothing to do with the case, so far as I can see.

Mr. Uchiyama—Fraud has been alleged.

His Honour—A great deal of latitude has been allowed in this examination, and I shall be obliged if you will confine yourself to issues before the Court.

Mr. Uchiyama—Of course it would only be presumptive evidence.

Plaintiff, continuing—I have never received a formal discharge from Mr. Strome. While in the employ of the defendant company I never heard that they were dissatisfied with my services. Since my discharge by them, I have endeavoured to obtain employment and failed. I am at present only doing a small business; it is very irregular.

His Honour thought that this was introducing fresh matter, and Mr. Lowder making formal objection, he was sustained.

Plaintiff continuing—Mr. Stone did not ask me any questions when he engaged me, touching my moral conduct.

The re-examination then closed.

Plaintiff then stepped down to the Barristers' table and spoke to Mr. Uchiyama.

Mr. Lowder objected to such a proceeding.

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Witness could not leave the witness-stand before his examination was closed.

His Honour—Yes, it is most reprehensible, I am surprised that witness and counsel should indulge in such a course.

Mr. Uchiyama—I did not call the witness.

In answer to Mr. Lowder, Plaintiff said that he had not possession of the deed that purported to prove that Mr. Strome was his employé, and which further purported to cancel the deed in Court. He believed Mr. Strome had possession of the second deed. He had himself no memorandum by which he could refresh his memory about it. He could not tell how long it was in existence. It only existed for a very short time. It was drawn up by a practising barrister, an Englishman in Yokohama, at the request of Mr. Strome. At the time Mr. Strome was in some difficulty with a former partner, Mr. Rottmann. He anticipated further trouble with Mr. Rottmann, and he mentioned the fact to me. I went and saw Counsel on the subject, and the deed was afterwards drawn up according to suggestions received. It was not drawn up with the object of protecting the interests of the firm of Strome and Co., against Messrs Rottmann, Strome and Co. It purported that Mr. Strome was an employé of the firm. Mr. Strome came to me a few days after it was drawn up and said that he would like a new deed drawn up. He did not say that he did not like the first deed because it did not represent the true state of the matter. I drew up the deed now in Court, though Mr. Strome had suggested that Mr. Litchfield should do so. This deed is not cancelled, except by the documents put in this morning, because it was never binding. Letters were then put in written to the H. & S. Bank and the Shokin Ginko, Yokohama, stating that Mr. Kobayashi Beika was authorised to sign the firm name of Strome & Co. These were written by Mr. Strome and plaintiff. Other letters to the Mitsui Bank, the Chartered Bank, and the National Bank of China, all in plaintiff's handwriting and signed by him as well as by Mr. Strome were put in. Letters to the same banks appearing in the press-copy-book of Strome and Co., of a date two years subsequent were then put in. They were dated in January of this year and announced that Mr. Kobayashi's interest in Messrs. Strome and Co. had ceased and that Mr. Strome was the sole proprietor of the firm of Strome & Co.

Plaintiff recognised the signature as that of Mr. Strome. He could not deny that such a letter to the Banks had been written, nor would he affirm them.

Plaintiff, continuing—During the whole time between the dates of these two series of letters I did nothing to disabuse the Banks of the idea that Mr. Strome and myself were in partnership. I do not wish to lead the court to understand that Mr. Strome and myself conspired to mislead the Banks. The explanation is that Mr. Strome in order to protect his own name and credit suggested that this plan should be adopted, and I, seeing no objection, acceded to his request.

Mr. Lowder—But do you not perceive that by not disabusing the Banks of the idea that you and Mr. Strome were in partnership, you were obtaining money under false pretences?

Plaintiff—I do not admit the fraud.

Mr. Lowder then read the following letter:—

DEAR Mr. KIEL,—As you have been so kind as to very materially assist us by guarantering our account with the National Bank of China, Ltd., we beg to inform you that the only liabilities we now have *vis-à-vis* that institution is a sum of £1471.19s. 7d. (roughly $10,000) for bills outstanding, against which we have deposited the sum of $5,000 in cash, so that the total liability at the moment is represented by about $5,000 net, and when this balance is paid we shall inform you and request the Bank to release your guarantee, as we believe we can now manage to scrape along independently, and we do not wish to impose on your goodness longer than we can possibly help.

With regard to our English trade we are sorry to say that the past six months have not been so good as anticipated, owing to a general slackness in the wall-paper business, so our people in London have not been able to effect large sales and have had difficulty in making both ends meet. For a few months we propose to send them but very little stuff in order to give them a fair chance of clearing off stock, and we have arranged to supply some of the existing London stock to a certain firm on the continent at a moderate figure to ease our finances a little.

At all events, during the present year, we shall come out well we hope, because we are beginning to receive good orders from London and no doubt but that trade is improving.

As to business generally, we have had no reason to complain, as our nett profits for the past half year come to $13,133.28, and as we spent for living expenses, &c., only $5,273.07 from this amount we have been enabled to add $7,860.21 to the capital account as per copies of account enclosed.

Thanking you for all your kindness to us and trusting that you will continue to assist us in future.

We, are, dear Mr. Kiel, Yours very sincerely
STROME & Co. STROME & Co.

January 18th, 1893.

Plaintiff admitted the letter and the enclosures, an extract from the ledger of Strome & Co. showing accounts up to the 31st December, 1893, and a distribution of profits. In these accounts Mr. Strome appears as interested in two-thirds and myself as in one-third profits.

Mr. Lowder—That is so, is it *not*?

Plaintiff—Exactly so. Mr. Kiel guaranteed the account of Strome & Co., with the National Bank of China. I have no copy of the guarantee. I don't think that it would be in the possession of Strome & Co. This guarantee is the same as the guarantee mentioned in Article 1 in the mortgage deed given by myself to Mr. Oscar Kiel, dated 8th Sept., 1893. In the deed the guarantee is said to relate to the accounts of Mr. Kobayashi trading as Strome & Co., but in the letter it is said that the accounts are those of Kobayashi Beika and C. J. Strome. The discrepancy is accounted for in this way, that Mr. Kiel understood that Mr. Strome was working with me in the business.

Mr. Lowder—Was Mr. Kiel one of the persons whom you intended to deceive?

Plaintiff—I did not intend to deceive anybody.

Mr. Lowder—Perhaps you would prefer the word mislead, as the person who is conducting the case for you, endeavoured to suggest the other day?

Plaintiff—I should prefer to say that I wished to keep my affairs private.

Mr. Uchiyama—Your Honour, one moment; Mr. Lowder has just called me a "person."

His Honour—I was listening to the witness and did not hear the expression.

Mr. Lowder (to plaintiff)—You are a Japanese subject are you not?

Plaintiff—Yes.

Mr. Lowder—As a Japanese subject you are not allowed to enter into business with an alien?

Plaintiff—That is so.

Mr. Lowder—Then I suggest that the phrase "Kobayashi Beika, trading as Strome and Company," was introduced to conceal the fact from the Japanese authorities that you were trading in partnership with Mr. Strome?

Plaintiff—No.

Mr. Lowder—As a matter of fact, did Mr. Kiel guarantee the account at the National Bank of China for "Kobayashi Beika trading as Strome & Co."?

Plaintiff—Yes.

Mr. Lowder—In those words?

Plaintiff—That I could not say.

Mr. Lowder—Then why were these words "Kobayashi Beika, trading as," introduced in the deed?

Plaintiff—I surely can not say.

Mr. Lowder—The documents put in this morning were put in by you in order to pursuade the Court that you were the sole partner of Strome & Co., and that Mr. Strome was not in partnership with you?

Plaintiff—Yes.

Mr. Lowder—Now, in the deed of partnership Mr. Kiel guarantees the account of Kobayashi Beika trading as Messrs. Strome and Co., does he not?

Plaintiff—I think he guaranteed the account of Messrs. Strome and Co., without the words, "Kobayashi Beika trading as."

Mr. Lowder—Then why were those words falsely cited in the deed?

Plaintiff—There was no falsity in the matter. I was Strome & Co. I understand the question you last put to me; I being Strome & Co., there could be no false citing.

Mr. Lowder then read the following extract from a letter written by plaintiff to Mr. Strome, who was then in London, under date the 8th Sept. 1893. It ran:—

With regard to Yamaji's matter, in order to make everything safe and secure, I have entered into an agreement with Kiel before a Notary Public in exact accordance with copy herewith, which you will understand on reading. This has been done for purpose of mutual safe-guard, and of course you will understand is only in case any trouble should arise. This agreement has been registered in the American Consulate, and is therefore a thoroughly legalized document. I hope you will approve of this in our mutual interests.

Mr. Lowder—Will you explain why you use the words "our mutual interests," when Mr. Strome was not a partner with you, and also why you sought his approval?

Plaintiff—Mr. Strome was naturally interested with me in the business. He was frightened lest he should be legally attacked by certain persons and his interests would suffer here, so this deed was drawn up. I also was frightened lest my own interests would suffer through being mixed up in the business with him.

Mr. Lowder—Of course I must take your answer. But I should like to know how you reconcile the discrepancy. Did you pay Mr. Strome any salary while he was your employé?

Plaintiff—I paid him nothing.

Mr. Lowder—Nothing at all?

Plaintiff—I paid him profits of course.

Mr. Lhwder—How much?

Plaintiff—Two-thirds.

Mr. Lowder—And you were content with one-third yourself.

Plaintiff—Yes.

Mr. Lowder—And in the face of Mr. Kiel's guarantee, the letter to Mr. Kiel, and the letter to Mr. Strome in London, you still maintain that you were not in partnership with Mr. Strome?

Plaintiff—Exactly so.

Mr. Lowder—In all those letters the tone adopted by you in writing to Mr. Strome, was that of one partner writing to another?

Plaintiff—Yes: *in* our mutual interest I wrote that way.

Mr. Lowder—And there is nothing in the books of Strome & Co., nothing in the letters passing between you and Mr. Strome, to prove or show that you were not partners?

Plaintiff—No.

Mr. Lowder—There was nothing directly or indirectly contradicting that deed of partnership now before the Court?

Plaintiff—No, nothing except that deed of assignment which will be produced.

Mr. Lowder—And this deed of assignment was drawn up in March of last year?

Plaintiff—Exactly so.

Mr. Lowder—There was everything to show, in fact, that you were partners?

Plaintiff—That is a matter of opinion.

Mr. Lowder—It is not a matter of opinion; answer me, yes or no?

Plaintiff—Well, no.

Mr. Lowder—I will tender the whole of the books of Strome & Co., also all the letters in the private press copy-book of the firm to prove that there was nothing to prove that there was no partnership between the two men; that in fact they all go to prove that a partnership did exist.

Mr. Uchiyama—It is admitted that the books show that.

His Honour—Yes, that has been admitted by the witness, I think; he did not properly understand your last question.

Plaintiff, continuing—I gave Mr. Kiel the deed of mortgage in the name of Strome & Co., not as Kobayashi trading as Strome & Co.

Mr. Lowder—Then those words are falsely cited in the deed of partnership?

Plaintiff—The expression falsely cited is very objectionable. I am a Japanese subject, and I must make out all documents before a notary public in accordance with the Japanese law.

Mr. Lowder—Then does it follow that because you are a Japanese subject you put *into* a legal document a statement that is not correct?

Plaintiff—I can't see that it was not correct.

Mr. Lowder—I suggest that it was a false citation.

Plaintiff—I don't recognise that it was false in any way. Continuing, plaintiff said that goods hypothecated to the H. & S. Bank were not hypothecated by Kobayashi Beika trading as Strome & Co., but by Strome & Co. The reason he had used the phrase "Kobayashi Beika trading as Strome & Co.," was because such a form of words was necessary in a Japanese deed made before a notary public. It was made to satisfy the requirements of Japanese law. He had never made any allusion to the phrase when speaking or writing to Mr. Strome. Mr. Strome did not object to the phrase when he signed the deed of assignment on the 28th March, 1894.

Mr. Lowder—My suggestion is that you are endeavouring to take advantage of a form of phraseology required by Japanese law in order to induce this Court to believe that you were the sole proprietor of the firm of Messrs. Strome & Co.

Plaintiff—I positively refuse to take your suggestion, because it was not so.

The Court then adjourned till 2 o'clock.

On reassembling,

Mr. Lowder asked that the plaintiff be required to secure the Court costs, in the event of the defence being able to prove their case. The plaintiff was a Japanese subject, and in the event of the defence being successful it might possibly arise that he would have to be pursued in the Japanese Courts to recover payment of the costs. He therefore asked that the Court require plaintiff to deposit security for costs.

Mr. Uchiyama—I think this demand should have been made before. I do not think it is now in order.

His Honour—Our doors are always open for the Court

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to hear a motion for the deposit of additional costs. It had been agreed between the parties at the beginning of the case that the reporter's costs should be secured. He would like to know what amount of security the plaintiff had already deposited.

The Clerk of the Court—Twenty *yen*.

His Honour opined that this amount was already consumed.

Mr. Uchiyama did not make any objection to the motion. He only put it to the Court that Mr. Kobayashi was not in a position to find the money at that moment, and he therefore asked the Court to make the security as light as possible.

His Honour said that this was a matter that lay within the discretion of the Court. The motion was in order.

Mr. Uchiyama—I have no objection to urge.

His Honour—In regard to the defendant Company, it must be borne in mind that its entire property is within the jurisdiction of the Court and could be attached to satisfy the costs in the possibilities of the case, but it is different in the case of the plaintiff who is a Japanese subject. The defence is acting quite right in seeking to protect itself.

Mr. Lowder—I am given to understand that the costs may amount to *yen* 200 or *yen* 250.

His Honour thought that they might not be so much as that. There were no attorney's fees allowed.

Mr. Lowder—I am only thinking of the Assessors, clerks,' etc., fees.

His Honour—Our costs are in gold.

Mr. Lowder—Yes, and if the case goes on for five days, the costs will be considerably more than the amount already deposited.

Mr. Uchiyama thought that he could undertake that the case would not go on for so long.

His Honour—The Court orders that the security to be deposited must be 150 *yen* in cash or bond.

Mr. Uchiyama said that as the proceedings were now stopped until security was deposited an adjournment must take place. Mr. Kobayashi had not the money with him.

Mr. Lowder—From what the person who is representing the plaintiff—

Mr. Uchiyama—I appeal to the court. I object to Mr. Lowder calling me a "person." He has done it twice to-day.

Mr. Lowder—I am not used to being interrupted in this fashion.

Mr. Uchiyama—I do not object to Mr. Lowder's manner: its the word I don't like.

His Honour could not interfere.

Mr. Uchiyama—Then I shall call Mr. Lowder a "person." Mr. Lowder is a "person" if I am.

Mr. Lowder—I have not the slightest objection to you saying so; not the slightest.

The Plaintiff undertook to provide the security by to-morrow.

His Honour—I should like the case to be finished shortly; it is taking up a great deal of the assessors' time.

Mr. Lowder hoped to be able to conclude to-morrow, a hope in which Mr. Uchiyama shared.

The Court then adjourned till 9.30 to-morrow morning.

WEDNESDAY, February 13th.

The Court resumed at 9.50 this morning.

Mr. Lowder announced that he had no further questions to put to plaintiff as witness.

In answer to Mr. Uchiyama, plaintiff said the reason why Mr. Strome received two-thirds profits and himself only one-third, could be explained in this way:—Mr. Strome brought all the business to the firm. He could not possibly have started in business for himself had not Mr. Strome brought his business connections to him.

This closed the examination of the witness.

Mr. Lowder said the case for the defence was a very short one. Plaintiff had proved that an agreement had been entered into between himself and the defendant company, which agreement had been rescinded. The answer to this was that the agreement was rescinded through the fraud of the plaintiff. It has been proved that Mr. Stone before engaging the plaintiff went to Mr. Shand to inquire into plaintiff's attainments as a Japanese scholar. He also asked Mr. Shand if he knew whether plaintiff's character was good, yet notwithstanding the information he received—that Mr. Stand believed Mr. Kobayashi's character to be good—he was not satisfied with the result of his inquiries, and he therefore put the question direct to plaintiff himself:—Is your record with Messrs. Strome and Company perfectly clean? That question was answered by the plaintiff in the affirmative, and it was this affirmative answer which induced the contract between the parties. But Mr. Stone was still not sufficiently satisfied, and he therefore asked for and obtained permission to look through the books of Strome & Co. In those books he found matter which led him to form the supposition that plaintiff's record with the firm of Messrs. Strome & Co., was not clean. On returning to the office he informed him of the result of his investigation. He told him that there were two suspicious entries relating to cheques for $3,000 and $609; and he asked him for an explanation. Mr. Stone will tell you that plaintiff could not give an explanation and admitted that they could not be satisfactorily explained. Plaintiff said in evidence that he refused to give an explanation, and I shall submit evidence to prove that the defendant company were justified, in the absence of any explanation, in assuming that his record was not perfectly clean. I shall now proceed to call evidence.

Charles John Strome, sworn, deposed—I recognise the plaintiff, Kobayashi Beika. I have read the reports of the case in the daily press, and in consequence of those reports I have put forward a request to be called to give evidence in the case. The deed of partnership dated the 18th March, 1893, was in force from the date of its being drawn up till plaintiff and I dissolved partnership. It was not drawn up with the intention of deceiving third parties. It was not a dummy deed, but was always fully in operation between us. The deed of assignment drawn up in March, 1894, contains the phrase "Kobayashi Beika trading as Strome & Co." This phrase did not state the correct composition of the firm. I referred in conversation with Mr. Kobayashi to this phrase and objected to it, and he explained to me that the phrase was necessary owing to the requirements of Japanese law. It was not till he gave me this explanation that I signed the deed.

Cross-examined—I did not sign the deed until Mr. Kobayashi gave me the explanation. After that explanation I did not look upon the phrase as a falsehood, because I believed his explanation.

W. S. Stone was then sworn—I recollect having a conversation with plaintiff in April, 1894, with reference to taking plaintiff into the employ of the American Trading Company. On the 21st April I had a long conversation with him about the various requirements desired of him. I had made, about this time, some inquiries of Mr. Shand with reference to plaintiff's character. Mr. Shand said that he considered plaintiff a very good Japanese scholar. He also said that he had had no business relations with plaintiff, with the exception of insurance agent's work. After this I asked plaintiff if while with Strome & Co. his record with them had been clean and his relations pleasant. He said that his relations with Mr. Strome had been pleasant. Had he not given me this answer I should not have engaged him. Some time in August I obtained permission to investigate the books of Strome & Co. I communicated the result of this investigation to Mr. Kobayashi. I told him that I had seen the accounts of Messrs. Strome & Co., and from what I had seen there I required explanation from him of certain items, and unless he could give me those explanations I did not care to continue to employ him. He did not give me the explanation I asked. He said he had no recollection of any cheques for $3,000 and $609. I expressed surprise, and he said that he knew nothing about them. I said that he must be a man of great wealth, if such amounts should have slipped his memory. His manner to me confirmed my suspicions that his record with Strome and Co. was not clean. I then offered him the opportunity to send in his resignation. He asked me to modify my decision, but I refused. He then asked me, as the notice was so short, that I would give him a month's salary. I refused, and he asked me if I would see Mr. Morse about the matter. Mr. Morse said that he did not see that plaintiff should receive another month's salary. This I reported to plaintiff. The reason for Mr. Kobayashi's dismissal was not his conduct with Messrs. Strome & Co., but because he practised a deception upon me.

Cross-examined—I don't recollect seeing anyone beside Mr. Shand about the plaintiff's character. I have known Kobayashi since 1890, I think. I did not see Mr. Strome about Mr. Kobayashi's character. I had no idea that Mr. Kobayashi was anything but what he represented himself to be. I was principally interested in his attainments as a scholar and a business man. I don't know that it is a usual question to ask, whether a man's record is clean. Anyhow, I did not think it necessary at the time to go and see Mr. Strome in reference to Mr. Kobayashi's character.

This concluded the evidence on both sides.

Mr. Lowder then rose to address the Court. He thanked the Court for the patient hearing given to the case, which had extended over a considerable length of time. Still he thought that the importance of the case justified the time which had been spent in elucidating the issues involved. The issues were only two. The first was, did the plaintiff make to the manager of the defendant company a material representation to the effect that his dealings with the firm of Strome & Co., had all been straightforward, and that his record with that firm was clean. And the second was, was that representation false? Now the first issue was a mere matter of fact, and the Court's decision upon it must rest on the credit attached on the one hand to the evidence given by the plaintiff, or on the other hand to the evidence given by Mr. Stone. Mr. Stone asserts and the plaintiff denies that the question regarding the plaintiff's connection with the firm of Strome & Co. was put, and that the answer to it was that plaintiff's record with that firm was clean. Now with regard to the amount of credibility attaching to the evidence given by the plaintiff, it seems to me that plaintiff is in this predicament. If he was in partnership with Mr. Strome he has been perjuring himself before this honorable Court for the whole of the two days during which this case has been before it; while if he was not in partnership with Mr. Strome, as he has so frequently asserted before this Court, then he has been, for the space of two years, living a continuous lie. He has been for that space of time obtaining from his bankers and Mr. Keil both money and credit under false pretences. And here I beg leave to digress for a moment to make an explanation of a personal kind in regard to an incident arising in the course of this present case. It has always been my custom in the Courts to behave courteously to every advocate appearing for the party to whom I am opposed. Yesterday I had occasion to refer to the person who is conducting the case for the plaintiff, and I did so in language and tone which he resented. I owe him no explanation, for what I am now saying is addressed to the Court. I was not prepared to call this person learned, because he lays no claim and has no pretence to the learning of the profession. I should perhaps, when speaking of him, have called him the counsel for the plaintiff, but for the fact that he had the effrontery to stand up in this Court and suggest to his client, while in the witness-box, in reference to the charge of having, in the face of the whole business community of Yokohama, acted a lie for two years and obtained money under false pretences, that it was an ordinary deceit which he had been practicing and not a fraudulent deceit. After that it was impossible to designate this person—I should have been prostituting the phrase—by the phrase with which we designate the members of an honourable profession. I shall therefore, in the course of this case, if it is necessary, continue to designate him as the person appearing for plaintiff. But to return to argument. If plaintiff is in the predicament of have perjured himself for two days before this court, or in the alternative has been living for two years one continuous lie and obtained money and credit under false pretences, then I contend that he can not be believed on oath. This is established beyond contention, and as it establishes my first point, I will leave the matter in the hands of the Court, and pass on. My second point is that plaintiff made a representation to the manager of the defendant company and that that representation was false. I think, after carefully examining the evidence just laid before it, and which I need not recapitulate now, that the Court can come to no other conclusion but that the representation which plaintiff made was false. That a partnership did exist between plaintiff and Mr. Strome has been abundantly proved. It has been proved in the evidence that plaintiff had no right to draw $3,000 in the name of the firm and appropriate it to his own private use. Both these points have been established beyond question. There is now only the question of damages which the plaintiff has raised in his pleadings. It will be said on his behalf that if he had an agreement with the firm and the Court finds that he was wrongfully dismissed, then he ought to be awarded damages in compensation. But it does not follow that because he claims $2,250, the value of his salary at $250 per month, that he is entitled to receive that; all that he is entitled to receive would be the difference between that sum and the amount that he can make by the exercise of those extraordinary abilities which he has spoken of and explained before this Court. There are certain points of law which it will be necessary for me to refer to. In the first place I will endeavour to put before the Court, for the benefit of the Associates, an idea of what is intended by lawyers when they use the word fraud. This will be found in *Carr on Fraud* page 12, under the heading, Misrepresentation [Counsel then read extracts from this work, also from Stephens' in his *General View of the Law of England*; *Pollock on Contracts*, etc.]. A question had been asked in the cross-examination of Mr. Stone as to what steps he had taken for ascer-

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taining the moral character of the plaintiff before the agreement was made, and whether the manager of the defendant company relied on his own knowledge of the character of the plaintiff, supplemented by what he had heard from Mr. Shand. The answer to the suggestion that the manager of the defendant company was satisfied with merely this, is, that notwithstanding the information obtained from Mr. Shand, Mr. Stone was not satisfied without first putting the question direct to the plaintiff as to whether his record was clean with the firm of Strome & Co. There is no law in regard to the putting of such a question, but the defendant company had every right to put it to plaintiff. It is established in the evidence that they did put it; and it is further established that the defendant company were induced by the representation then made to them to enter into an agreement with the plaintiff. It has been further established in evidence that this representation was false, and I contend that the defendant company is justified, having the right by law, to rescind the contract. With these words I leave the case in the hands of the Court.

Mr. Uchiyama—I will divide my summing up on behalf of the plaintiff into three issues. The first is, that even assuming Mr. Kobayashi to have been in partnership with Mr. Strome there is no proof that he acted fraudulently. The second issue is this. It has been established by the evidence of the plaintiff that there was no such partnership but that Mr. Strome merely had an interest as an employé in the firm, consequently plaintiff could not have been acting fraudulently, because he would have had to defraud himself. Thirdly, even assuming that there was a partnership between plaintiff and Strome and that he did commit some fraudulent act against his partner—an assumption on the part of the defence entirely—I submit, and intend to show that the defendant company had no right to dismiss him from their service as they did. My first point is that the books do not prove fraud. The books of the firm were open and lay in the offices of Strome & Co., and Mr. Strome had every access to them. That the accounts do not appear to show that Mr. Kobayashi was the sole proprietor is, I take it, no evidence that he was not. Mr. Strome, it has been established by evidence, was only interested in the firm by receiving a certain bonus from the business done. True, there is a deed of partnership in which it is stated that Kobayashi Beika was one of the partners; but this deed of partnership was drawn up for a certain purpose, which purpose plaintiff has explained. But the defendant states that Mr. Kobayashi Beika has been acting a lie for two years. This I deny. They claim that he has been obtaining money and credit on false pretences. This is untrue. His bankers were entirely protected. It has been shown that Strome asked Kobayashi to start in business and take him on as an employé. Strome did this to protect himself from being sued by certain persons to whom he was under financial obligations. Plaintiff was a young man, with no capital and no connections, but Strome had connections, and these connections he promised to bring to him if he started in business. Mr. Strome had the deed of partnership drawn up, I suggest, so that it might not appear that he, an older man, was no longer concerned as a partner in a firm in which he had been a partner for some years. If there was a deception, then it was an innocent deception in which no swindle was concerned. The courteous counsel for the defence has put a very hard construction on a particularly innocent transaction. It is clear to me from the evidence given in this case, that there was only one partner in the business, and he was Kobayashi Beika, the plaintiff in this case. The fact that Mr. Strome was not a partner is very plain: it is borne out by the power-of-attorney which Kobayashi gave to Strome, under which the latter was empowered to act in the interests of the firm in Europe and other countries of the world. If Mr. Strome had been a partner there would have been no occasion for this power-of-attorney, it would have been very unnecessary. The deeds sworn to before the notary-public go further than this, however. They show that not only was Mr. Kobayashi the sole partner in the firm of Strome & Co., but that he was the sole registered partner. This is also shown in the deed by which Mr. Kobayashi hypothecated the goodwill and business of Strome & Co. to Mr. Oscar Keil. Mr. Strome's name was not mentioned personally in the whole of that document, neither did Mr. Kobayashi produce a power-of-attorney from Mr. Strome empowering him to hypothecate the business. But Mr. Keil signed the deed of hypothecation. He is not a man to sign his name to a lie. I could not think, I dare not think, this of him. Mr. Keil is well known [illegible] city to the business community of Yokohama and [illegible] would not attach his signature to anything that was untrue. He signed this document which contained the phrase, "Kobayashi Beika trading as Strome & Co." Now he would not have done so if it was incorrect. Then, in further proof of the statement that Mr. Kobayashi was the sole partner in the firm, we have the final deed of assignment which he gave to Mr. Strome in the March of 1894. That deed of assignment is signed by Mr. Keil and Mr. Strome. That deed of assignment again contains the phrase "Kobayashi Beika trading as Strome & Co." Mr. Strome has given evidence that that was so. If he was a partner with Mr. Kobayashi he must have known that it was wrong. Yet, although he says it was wrong, he signed the deed. If that is so, he was signing to a falsehood. But it must be borne in mind that the oral testimony of Mr. Strome has no weight against a document signed and sealed by both parties, and which had been admitted by the Court. Sufficient evidence was before the Court to prove that Mr. Strome was not a partner, but that Mr. Kobayashi was the sole partner in the firm of Strome and Co., and that established the second point at issue. For the third point, taking everything that the other side alleged to be correct, that plaintiff did falsify the books, that he did take money from the firm to put to his own uses, and thereby defrauded his own partner, I shall contend that even if this should be the case, the defendant had no right to discharge him from their service as had been done. (Mr. Uchiyama then quoted extracts from the works of *Storey* and *Pollock* in support of this contention.) Continuing he said:—I submit that the representation alleged to have been given by the plaintiff in the interview with Mr. Stone before the agreement was made, was never sought and never given. I leave it to the Court to decide whether it was a usual question to address a man whom a firm were desirous of taking into their service—is your record clean? They might ask him for references as to his character; but to ask such a question was, on the face of it, absurd and out of the question. I contend that it was never asked. Turning to the question of damages, Mr. Uchiyama contended that they should be awarded his client in full. The sudden dismissal from the American Trading Company's service, not to mention the bringing of the case in Court, had done the plaintiff serious injury. He had stated in Court that he was only gaining a precarious business, living from hand to mouth.

Mr. Lowder thought this had not been stated in evidence.

Mr. Uchiyama—He stated in evidence that he only had work brought to him now and again. That is a precarious kind of living, I imagine. I will not go further into the matter, but will ask the Court, that as my client was dismissed without cause and for no misbehaviour towards the American Trading Company, full damages be awarded him.

The Court then took a recess to consider its finding, and returned at 11.30 a.m.

His Honour said—The Court has arrived at a decision in the case of Kobayashi Beika versus the American Trading Company, now before the Court, and I am glad to be able to state that the Associates are in full accord with the decision of the Court. In the first place it has found that a contract was entered into between the plaintiff and the defendant company on the 25th April, 1894, as stated in the petition. The questions presented by the evidence, and the issues raised by the pleadings may be shortly summed up under three headings, admitting the existence of the contract. The first is, did the manager of the defendant company ask a question of the plaintiff with reference to the conduct of the plaintiff while with the firm of Strome and Co. The second is, did the plaintiff reply that his record was good, and that all relations between himself and Mr. Strome were satisfactory, and if so did such reply constitute a fraudulent act. Thirdly, did the manager of the defendant company act upon the representation and upon it conclude the contract with the plaintiff. Under the first head, the evidence is very conflicting. The statements made on the one side by the plaintiff show that no question was asked in connection with his record with the firm of Strome & Co. On the other hand, by the defence a direct counter statement is made. The Court has no evidence before it in regard to this matter, save the sworn statements of the two persons, Kobayashi Beika, the plaintiff, and W. S. Stone, the manager in Yokohama of the American Trading Company, the defendant company. It is contended on behalf of the plaintiff that in all probability such a question was not asked. That, in fact, it was unreasonable to put such a question to plaintiff. We think not, when all the circumstances surrounding the case are taken into consideration. The [illegible] foreign nation. He has stated that these deeds and experiences of business life lead us to [illegible] an end to for any other cause than the death of one of the parties or effluxion of time, that something has induced or led up to it. A presumption is raised—probably incorrect—that something has gone wrong in the firm, that something is unsatisfactory to one or other of the parties. So it would seem only natural that the manager of the American Trading Company when approached by a party who was but recently a partner in a firm carrying on business in this town, that he should seek for information which should settle any lingering ground for suspecting that some dissatisfaction, or probably something worse, had led to the dissolution of the partnership of the two men once carrying on the business of the firm of Strome & Co., a business which it was known the plaintiff had been interested in for some years. Under these circumstances, the Court holds that it was perfectly natural that something like this should appeal to Mr. Stone, and that he should seek for the information from other parties, before entering into any arrangement with plaintiff. It has been suggested that he should have appealed also to Mr. Strome, one of the parties to the former arrangement. That is not a necessary conclusion. Here was a young man applying to be engaged by a certain corporation: the partnership in which he had been interested had only recently been dissolved under circumstances which raised the presumption that something had gone wrong—possibly not fraud—but something which would raise the reasonable business presumption that all had not worked smoothly between the partners—this young man, is in private conference with the manager of a trading company in the same town. Might it not be only reasonable to suppose that the manager thought it would be unfair to that young man to approach the other partner in the late partnership for the purpose of getting a knowledge of his character, might he not suppose that the unpleasantness, which he presumed had led to the dissolution of the partnership, would hardly enable that other partner to give a fair and accurate description of the young man's character. So it seems to the Court only natural that he (the manager) should ask the man himself (the plaintiff) whether there had been any cause of complaint against him when he left Strome and Co., on the dissolution of the partnership. The question at that time did not have the wide range which these proceedings have given it. It did not refer to plaintiff's moral record with the business community, but to his connection with the late firm. Testimony given before the Court showed that plaintiff's interest with the firm of Strome & Co., really ceased in December of 1893, though practically not till March, 1894. So the question aimed at his association and connection with Strome & Co. and not at his general good character. Therefore, the Court finds that the asking of the question was reasonable, and could reasonably have been expected. And we find that the information was sought of plaintiff by the manager of the defendant company before the contract between them was closed. On the second head, did the plaintiff reply that all was good and satisfactory, and did his answer amount to a fraudulent misrepresentation of fact?—on that point there is much evidence. I suppose, if the question was asked, that it was important enough,—and the supposition is fair I think—in the event of plaintiff answering in the negative to prevent the contract from being closed. Now the question raised is this—was the answer which the plaintiff returned a fraudulent misrepresentation of fact? That depends upon the result of a laborious examination of the books of Messrs. Strome & Co., an examination which has dragged its weary length along for the best part of three days. The case, indeed, turns almost alone upon this point. It is claimed that exhibit B.—the sealed deed of partnership put in by Mr. Lowder—was cancelled by certain other deeds executed in accordance with the principles of Japanese law. Of course this Court takes as valid, and as representing the true state of affairs between the parties, the sealed deed which purports to have been duly drawn up with the full intent of both parties—and the Court starts off with the presumption that the partnership deed was executed in good faith. Now, as to whether this deed was cancelled by other deeds of later date, must be determined by the evidence before the Court. The testimony of the plaintiff himself shows, conclusively—I will use the very words which he made use of in a statement given during his cross-examination—that these deeds were drawn up in a certain form,—a form of phraseology such as is used in Japanese instruments of this kind being specially inserted by him—to satisfy the requirements of the Japanese law, which forbade him entering into business partnership with an alien, the subject or citizen of [illegible] He has stated that these deeds [illegible] that when a partnership between two parties is put [illegible] And certainly these documents do not in

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any way specifically cancel the first sealed instrument—the deed of partnership. It became necessary, the plaintiff tells us, to execute these deeds in order to satisfy the requirements of Japanese law, and that it is owing to these requirements that these papers are executed in this way; and although a certain form of language is used that is not an exact statement of the facts as shown in the original document, yet they did not contradict that document or vary its terms—they were simply drawn up in accordance with the requirements of Japanese law. These papers were now presented to the Court to show that the original contract contained in the first deed was broken. We do not hold that they prove this satisfactorily. We think that they show that they did not cancel it. The Court has, in fact, arrived at the conclusion that the original deed of partnership, if it existed at all, existed in good faith all through. The examination of the books of the firm also show that the distribution of the profits was in accordance with the agreement, that they were two-thirds for Strome, and one third for plaintiff, all which goes to prove that the agreement was in force; but from entries in the books we find that certain sums were drawn by plaintiff and applied in a manner not provided for in the agreement. In order to conceal the fact certain unwarrantable changes in the entries were made. We therefore find that it was a fraudulent statement of fact for plaintiff to say that his record with Strome and Co., was clean and his relations with his partner good. And now we come to the third point. Did the manager of the defendant Company act upon the representation made to him? Business experience teaches us to attribute certain acts on our part to the operation of certain notions which we have received—that we put into operation a certain thing from a determination we have formed behind it. It being admitted that the question was put to the plaintiff regarding his record with Messrs. Strome & Co. being clean, I think it may be taken to follow that if the answer given had been in the negative—that some trouble had occurred between him and his late partner—then Mr. Stone would have made further inquiries into the cause of such unpleasantness before engaging the services of plaintiff. In other words, he would have asked to be allowed to look into the books of Strome & Co., to satisfy himself that this trouble did not arise from anything which would give cause for suspicion. For if it appeared that the man was charged with fraud, it was in accordance with busines experience, that the reputation of the man would reflect upon the company of which he was an important and trusted officer. The Court arrived at the conclusion from these reasons, that had the plaintiff given an answer in the negative to Mr. Stone no contract would have been entered into on the 25th April, 1894, or any other time, between the plaintiff and the defendant company. The conclusion of the Court is, that judgment be entered in favour of the defendant, the costs of the proceedings to be taxed on the plaintiff.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[REUTER "SPECIAL" TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

London, February 13.

On the 12th February, Mr. Redmond's amendment praying for a dissolution of the House for the purpose of submitting the question of Home Rule to the country was rejected by a majority of twenty. Mr. Balfour supported the amendment solely because he desired a dissolution.

London, February 14.

The Times publishes a private telegram which states that the Indian Government proposes to increase the duties on imported silver.

The House of Representatives of the United States has declined the proposal to substitute the Three per cent. Gold Bonds for the Thirty-year Four per cent. Bonds payable in coin, recently announced in the President's message.

London, February 6.

Lord Rosebery has declined to introduce a resolution dealing with the House of Lords forthwith, because a dissolution of Parliament must immediately follow.

The Times publishes a letter from Sir Cecil Clementi Smith, recently Governor of the Straits Settlements, which warmly protests against a letter by Mr. W. Rathbone, M.P., which declared that the protected Malay States ought to directly share in the military contribution.

London, January 7.

Mr. C. E. Howard Vincent, M.P. for Central Sheffield, has withdrawn his amendment in favour of a Customs Union throughout the Empire.

Sir Sydney Buxton, Parliamentary Colonial Secretary, is promising a Bill to enable Australia to enter into fiscal relations with other Colonies.

The debate on the Address to the Queen's Speech continues.

There is intense cold in England, and in many places the thermometer registers a temperature below zero, and a terrific snowstorm has taken place in Scotland.

A crowded meeting has been held at Blackburn to protest against the cotton duties.—*N.-C. Daily News.*

CHESS.

(All Communications to be addressed to the CHESS EDITOR.)

The Yokohama Chess Club meets at the Club Hotel, No. 5, Bund, on Monday and Thursday in each week from 5 to 11 p.m.

The Tokyo Chess Club meets at the Tokyo Hotel every Friday from 1 to 7 p.m.

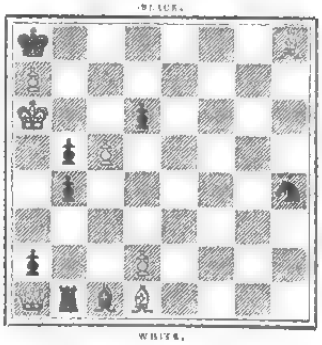
SOLUTION TO PROBLEM No 163.

WHITE.	BLACK.
1—Q to Kt sq.	1—Any
2—Mates accordingly.	

Correct solutions received from Digamma, Omega, W.H.S., Kr., Shogi, J.D., J.M.G., and E. J. King.

PROBLEM No. 165.

By VALENTIN MARIN.



BLACK.

WHITE.

White to play and mate in three moves.

PROBLEM SOLUTION TOURNEY.

The following is the result of our Problem Solution Tourney for 1894.

J.D.	51 Points.
W.H.S.	50 Points.
Omega	48 Points.
Digamma	39 Points.
Shogi	23 Points.
Ating	17 Points.
Kr.	10 Points.
E.D.	6 Points.
O.B.	4 Points.
Dr. Hispanus	4 Points.
E. J. King	3 Points.
P.E.F.S.	2 Points.
J.W.E.	2 Points.
Blanco	1 Point.
M.M.K.	1 Point.

GAME No. 218.

SHOWALTER WINS HIS MATCH.

The battle is fought and won, and J. W. Showalter is the victor in the struggle with Adolph Albin, who was defeated, but, as the saying goes, not disgraced. Appended is the score of the twenty-fifth, and, as it proved, the last, game of the match:—

TWENTY-FFITH GAME—CENTRE GAMBIT.

WHITE. Albin.	BLACK. Showalter.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—P to Q 4	2—P takes P
3—Q takes P	3—Kt to Q B 3
4—Q to K 3	4—Kt to B 3
5—P to K 5	5—Kt to Q 4
6—Q to K 4	6—K Kt to K 2
7—B to K B 4	7—Kt to Kt 3
8—B to Kt 3	8—Q to K 2
9—Kt to Q B 3	9—Q to Kt 5
10—Q takes Q	10—B takes Q
11—K to Q 2	11—Castles
12—P to B 4	12—P to Q 4
13—P to Q R 3	13—B takes Kt ch.
14—P takes ■	14—P to B 3
15—B to Q 3	15—P takes P
16—B takes Kt	16—P takes P
17—B takes P ch.	17—K takes B
18—B to B 2	18—Kt to K 4
19—R to K sq.	19—Kt to B 5 ch.
20—K to ■ sq.	20—P to Q Kt 3
21—R to K 7	21—P to B 4
22—Kt to B 3	22—B to B 4
23—P to Kt 4	23—B to Kt 3
24—Kt to Kt 5 ch.	24—K to R 3
25—P to K R 4	25—Q R to K sq.
26—K R to K sq.	26—R takes R
27—R takes R	27—R to K sq.
28—Kt to B 7 ch.	28—B takes Kt
29—R takes B	29—R to K 7
30—R takes ■ P	30—Kt takes P
31—K to Q sq.	31—R takes P
32—B to K 3	32—K to R 2
33—B to Q 2	33—R to R 7
34—R to B 7	34—Kt to B 5
35—B to B 4	35—P to R 4
36—P to R 5	36—K to Kt sq.
37—R to B 5	37—R to K B 7
38—K to K sq.	38—R to B 6
39—K to K 2	39—R takes P
40—P to Kt 5	40—R to B 7 ch.
41—K to Q 3	41—R to B 7
42—P to Kt 6	42—P to R 5
43—P to R 6	43—P takes P
44—P to Kt 7	44—Kt to Kt 7 ch.
45—K to K 3	45—Kt to Q 8 ch.
46—K to Q 3	46—P to R 6
47—R to B 8 ch.	47—K takes P
48—B takes P ch.	48—K to R 2
49—R to Q Kt 8	49—P to R 7
50—R to Kt 7 ch.	50—K to Kt 3
51—Resigns.	

Appended is the summary of the whole match:

Games.	Openings.	No. of moves.	Results.
1	Ruy Lopez	51	Albin won.
2	Ponziani	63	Showalter won.
3	Giuoco Piano	30	Albin won.
4	Ponziani	46	Showalter won.
5	Zukertort	65	Showalter won.
6	Ponziani	39	Showalter won.
7	Giuoco Piano	42	Showalter won.
8	French Defence	61	Showalter won.
9	Giuoco Piano	49	Drawn.
10	French Defence	29	Albin won.
11	Ruy Lopez	59	Albin won.
12	French Defence	57	Drawn.
13	Ruy Lopez	51	Drawn.
14	French Defence	35	Showalter won.
15	Ruy Lopez	65	Showalter won.
16	French Defence	61	Drawn.
17	Ruy Lopez	85	Drawn.
18	French Defence	45	Albin won.
19	Ruy Lopez	62	Drawn.
20	French Defence	60	Albin won.
21	Ruy Lopez	59	Drawn.
22	French Defence	47	Drawn.
23	Ruy Lopez	28	Albin won.
24	French Defence	49	Showalter won.
25	Centre Gambit	50	Showalter won.

GAME No. 219.

A pretty game, played recently in a tournament in Prague. Herr Jan Kotte is the celebrated Bohemian problemist:—

RUY LOPEZ.

WHITE. Kaminek.	BLACK. Kotre.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—Kt to K B 3	2—Kt to Q B 3
3—B to Kt 5	3—Kt to K B 3
4—P to Q 4	4—Kt takes K P
5—Castles (a)	5—B to K 2 (b)
6—Q to K 2 (c)	6—Kt to Q 3
7—B takes Q Kt	7—Kt P takes B (d)
8—P takes P	8—Kt to K 2 (e)
9—P to B 4	9—Castles
10—Kt to B 3	10—P to K B 3
11—Kt to K 4	11—Kt to B 4
12—P takes P	12—P takes P (f)
13—Kt to Q 4	13—P to K B 4
14—Kt to K Kt 3	14—P to B 5
15—Q to Kt 4 ch.	15—K to R sq.
16—B takes P	16—P to Q 3
17—Kt (Kt 3) to B 5	17—R to K Kt sq.
18—Q to K 2	18—B to B 3
19—Kt takes Q ■ P (g)	19—B to Q Kt 2
20—Kt takes Q	20—R takes P ch.
21—K to R sq.	21—R takes Kt
22—K R to K sq.	22—R (Q sq.) to K Kt sq.
23—K B	23—R takes Q
24—R takes R	24—B takes P ch.
25—R to Kt	

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26—K to Kt sq.	26—B to Kt 5 dis. ch.
27—Kt to Kt 3	27—B to Q ch.
28—K to B sq.	28—R to R B sq and wins.

(a) In all these well worn versions of the Ruy Lopez the pawn ran of course easily be regained. Hence White usually gets early into safety with the King.

(b) A most important element in the defence.

(c) This must be pronounced strong. It allows of R to Q sq. later.

(d) Q P takes B is not so satisfactory on account of P takes ■ followed, as, see previous note, by R to Q sq.

(e) See move 21, when, after a long journey, this Kt gains a fairly commanding position at B 4.

(f) It was not good to take with the Bishop or to play first Kt takes Kt, as a cursory glance will disclose.

(g) White is rather too anxious to pick up the stray pawns; but he could hardly have been expected to notice the crushing reply of Black which renders the rest of the game exceptionally remarkable. Q R to Q sq. was safer as it turned out.

Game No. 220.

Played recently between two Russian experts:—

PONZIANI'S OPENING.

WHITE. A. Popov.	BLACK. K. Sipujewski.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—Kt to K B 3	2—Kt to Q B 3
3—P to B 3	3—Kt to K B 3
4—Q to R 4 (a)	4—B to B 4
5—B to Kt 5	5—Q to K 2 (b)
6—Castles	6—Castles
7—P to Q 4	7—P takes P
8—P takes P	8—B to Kt 3
9—P to Kt 5	9—Kt to K sq.
10—Kt to Q B 3	10—Q to Q sq.
11—Kt to Q 5	11—P to K R 3
12—B to K 3	12—Kt to K 2
13—Kt to B 4	13—P to Q B 3
14—B to Q 3	14—P to Q 4 (c)
15—Q to B 2	15—Kt to Q B 2 (d)
16—Kt to K R 4 (e)	16—P to K Kt 4
17—Kt to R 5	17—P takes Kt
18—B takes R P	18—Kt to K 3 (f)
19—B to B 5	19—K to R sq.
20—Q R to Q sq.	20—R to K Kt sq.
21—B to R 7	21—R to Kt 3 (g)
22—B takes ■	22—Kt takes B
23—B to K 3	23—Kt to Kt 2
24—Kt to B 6	24—B to K B 4
25—Q to K 2	25—Q to Q B sq.
26—B to B sq (h)	26—B to Q sq.
27—P to K Kt 4	27—P takes P e.p.
28—B P takes P	28—B to R 6
29—Q to K 3	29—B takes Kt
30—Q to R 6 ch.	30—K to Kt sq.
31—P takes ■	31—Kt to K sq.
32—Q R to K sq. (i)	32—B to K 3
33—P to K R 4	33—Q to B 2
34—K to R 2	34—Kt to B sq.
35—R to K B 4	35—Q to Q 2
36—P to R 5 (j)	36—Kt to R 2
37—R to Kt 4 ch. (k)	37—K to R sq.
38—B to B 4	38—P to Q B 4
39—R to Kt 7	39—Kt (K sq.) takes P
40—B to K 5 and wins (l)	

(a) This strikes out an original line, as well as immediately protecting the K P. The Q, however, had to retire to B 2 later, and might probably have been as effectually played to that sq. at once.

(b) The same remark as in preceding note applies here. The Q has to retire (see move 10), and should have been left at Q sq.

(c) Which frees Black's game. Hitherto he has been terribly confined.

(d) Here we suggest P to K B 4 as shutting off the attack whether or not White capture the pawn en passant.

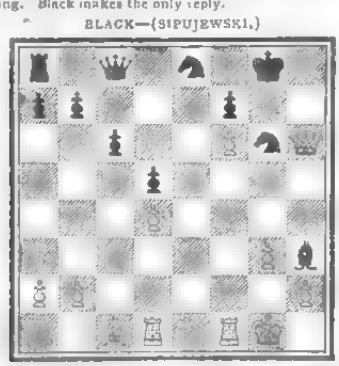
(e) It seems clear that the sacrifice of the Kt is intentional. It is well conceived.

(f) To prevent the mate threatened by B to R 7 ch. and B to Kt 7 following.

(g) The best way of sacrificing the exchange, which White could in any case win easily.

(h) This makes way for the Queen to play to K 3, threatening afterwards Q to R 6 ch. The play is altogether original and charming. Black makes the only reply.

BLACK—(SIPUJEWSKI.)



WHITE—(POPOV.)

Position at move 32—White to play.

(i) It was tempting to threaten R to Kt ch. and mate at Kt 7. Here, however, White misses the following pretty variation, which must, we think, easily win:—32, QxKt ch, PxQ; 33, P to B 7 ch., K to B sq; 34, PxKt (Q), dis. ch., RxQ; 35, Q to K sq. ch., if to K 3 (best, or mate follows if K moves), 36, R to B 6, K to K 2; 37, B to Kt 5 and wins.

(j) To prevent the interposition of the Kt while R to Kt 4 (h).

(k) Of course if 38 R the mate loses by 39 Kt to K 7 ch.

(l) This game may well rank among the finest examples of modern chess, and is a worthy companion to our No. 219.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From America	per P. M. Co.	Thursday, Feb. 21st.*
From Canada, &c.	per C. P. R. Co.	Monday, Feb. 18th †
From Europe, viâ Hongkong	per M. M. Co.	Sunday, Feb. 17th.‡
From America	per O. & O. Co.	Sunday, Mar. 3rd.§
From Europe, viâ Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd	Wed'day, Feb. 20th.
From Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Sunday, Feb. 24th.
From Hongkong	per C. P. R. Co.	Thursday, Feb. 28th.

* *Peru* left San Francisco on February 2nd. † *Empress of Japan* left Vancouver on February 5th. ‡ *Saghalien* left Kobe on February 16th. § *Oceanic* left San Francisco via Honolulu on February 12th. The English mail is on board the steamer *Gerda*.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For America	per P. M. Co.	Saturday, Feb. 16th.
For Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Sunday, Feb. 17th.
For Hongkong	per C. P. R. Co.	Monday, Feb. 18th.
For Europe, viâ Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd	Friday, Feb. 22nd.
For Europe, viâ Shanghai	per M. M. Co.	Saturday, Feb. 23rd.
For Canada, &c.	per C. P. R. Co.	Friday, Mar. 1st.
For America	per O. & O. Co.	Saturday, Mar. 9th.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Hyenik, Korean steamer, 444, C. J. Benzinius, 9th February,—Kobe 8th February, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Independent, German steamer, 841, Ahrenkiel, 9th February,—Kuchinotz, Coal.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Victoria, Norwegian steamer, 582, Neilsen, 9th February,—Kobe 8th February, General.—Nada Kogio Kabushiki Kaisha.

Cam, British steamer, 1,630, Mathias, 10th February,—Otaru viâ ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Doris, German steamer, 771, Petersen, 10th February,—Taiwanfoo, Sugar.—Flint, Kilby & Co.

Planet Venus, British steamer, 2,379, J. W. Kelly, 10th February,—New York, Petroleum.—Standard Oil Co.

Fuyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 875, Eden, 10th February,—Moji, Coal.—Mitsu Bishi Sha.

Pyrrhus, British steamer, 2,299, Batt, 10th February,—Liverpool viâ ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Verona, British steamer, 1,878, C. H. S. Tocque, 10th February,—Hongkong 1st, Nagasaki 6th, and Kobe 9th February, Mails and General.—P. ■ O. S.N. Co.

Strathdon, British steamer, 1,720, Johnston, 11th February,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Abergeldie, British steamer, 2,260, P. K. Barnet, 11th February,—London viâ ports, General.—Japanese Government.

Alexandrine (18), German cruiser, Captain von Frantzius, 11th February,—A cruise.

Hertha, German steamer, 1,642, 12th February,—Hamburg viâ ports, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Oolong, British steamer, 1,970, Allen, 12th February,—London viâ ports, General.—W. M. Strachan & Co.

Cassius, German steamer, 1,830, Unruh, 12th February,—Otaru, Coal.—Hokkaido Tanko Tetsudo Kaisha.

Willard Ainsworth, American schooner, 40, F. Crockett, 12th February,—Seattle, Wash., passage, 47 days, Sealing Gear.—A. O. Decker.

Angel Head, British steamer, 1,826, Motyer, 13th February,—Yokkaichi 12th February, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Belgic, British steamer, 2,695, W. H. Walker, 13th February,—San Francisco 24th January, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

City of Peking, American steamer, 3,128, Wm. Ward, 13th February,—Hongkong viâ ports, 6th February, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Mount Lebanon, British steamer, 1,555, Chas. Hendry, 14th February,—Kobe 13th February, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Bentala, British steamer, 1,767, Filmer, 14th February,—Honolulu, Ballast.—Japanese.

Amaranth, British steamer, 1,753, Cliff, 15th February,—Kobe 14th February, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

DEPARTURES.

Tenedos, British steamer, 1,975, Robertson, 9th February,—Kobe, General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Victoria, Norwegian steamer, 582, Neilsen, 9th February,—Shinagawa, General.—Nada Kogio Kabushiki Kaisha.

Hyenik, Korean steamer, 444, C. J. Benzinius, 10th February,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Vorwaerts, German steamer, 756, Bruhn, 10th February,—Moji, Ballast.—Japanese.

Yeijo Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,643, Barstow, 10th February,—Ujina, Coal.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Benmohr, British steamer, 1,935, Taylor, 11th February,—Hongkong viâ ports, General.—Cornes & Co.

Alexandrine (18), German cruiser, Captain von Frantzius, 11th February,—A cruise.

Esmeralda, British schooner, 130, J. T. Harrison, 11th February,—Guam, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Abergeldie, British steamer, 2,160, P. K. Barnet, 11th February,—Yokosuka, General.—Japanese Government.

Else, German steamer, 747, Christiansen, 12th February,—Bonin Islands, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Worcester, British steamer, 1,894, Morice, 12th February,—West Coast, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Fuyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 875, Eden, 13th February,—Moji, Ballast.—Mitsu Bishi Sha.

Strathdon, British steamer, 1,720, C. Johnston, 13th February,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Belgic, British steamer, 2,695, Wm. H. Walker, 14th February,—Hongkong viâ Nagasaki, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Anger Head, British steamer, 1,826, Motyer, 14th February,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Cam, British steamer, 1,630, Mathias, 14th February,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Doris, German steamer, 771, Petersen, 14th February,—Kobe, Sugar.—H. Granert.

Hongay, Japanese steamer, 860, 14th February,—Yokosuka, Ballast.—Japanese.

Independent, German steamer, 841, Ahrenkiel, 14th February,—Kuchinotz, Ballast.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Oolong, British steamer, 1,970, Allen, 14th February,—Hongkong viâ ports, General.—W. M. Strachan & Co.

Pyrrhus, British steamer, 2,299, Batt, 14th February,—London viâ ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per British steamer *Verona*, from Hongkong viâ ports:—Mrs. Isutala, Mrs. Idoreki, Mrs. Biyamjee, Baron d'Anethan, Messrs. E. Potter, J. C. Budd, F. Hill, J. Demster, C. Lee, and C. Miller in cabin, and one Chinese in steerage.

Per British steamer *Belgic*, from San Francisco:—Colonel J. A. Cockerill, Mr. B. Guggenheim, and Mrs. M. S. Cano in cabin, and Messrs. J. Coleman, G. Van Huylten, and G. Remschun in second class.

Per American steamer *City of Peking*, from Hongkong viâ ports:—Mrs. Goodwin, Mrs. Laurence, Mrs. Green, Miss Gracy Stevens, Mr. Heinlein, Mr. Reiffinger, and Mr. E. V. Thorn in cabin, and Mr. Geo. Lewis in European steerage. For San Francisco:—Mrs. Dearborn, Miss Doberck, Miss Hawkins, and Miss Reynolds in cabin, and Mr. Geo. Olsen in European steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per British steamer *Belgic*, for Hongkong viâ Nagasaki:—Mr. C. A. Tomes and family, Mr. E. J. Bates, Captain Kynch, Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Mitchell, Mr. H. Teffler, Mr. C. F. Butler, Mr. D. McPher, Mr. R. Hodgson, and Mr. D. Mackintosh in cabin.

REPORTS.

The British steamer *Belgic*, Captain Walker, reports:—Left San Francisco the 24th January. Arrived at Yokohama the 13th February at 5.40 a.m. Passage, 18 days, 20 hours, 27 minutes.

SHIPPING IN YOKOHAMA.

STEAMERS.

Hertha, German steamer, 1,642, 12th February,—Hamburg viâ ports, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Planet Venus, British steamer, 2,379, J. W. Kelly, 10th February,—New York, Petroleum.—Standard Oil Co.

Verona, British steamer, 1,878, C. H. S. Tocque, 10th February,—Hongkong 1st, Nagasaki 6th, and Kobe 9th February, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

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SAILING VESSELS.

Anaconda, American schooner, 41, A. Lawson, 22nd September,—North Pacific, 71 Seals.—Captain.

Arctic, British schooner, 40, J. H. Pyne, 3rd July,—North Pacific, 261 Seals.—Captain.

Com. T. N. Allen, American ship, 2,271, R. L. Merriman, 5th February,—New York 16th August, Petroleum.—Standard Oil Co.

Diana, American schooner, 74, Petersen, 5th October,—North Pacific, 50 otters and 5 seals.—Captain.

Golden Fleece, American schooner, 131, J. B. Laurie, 2nd August,—Ruk Island, Wood and Cocoanuts.—Captain.

Josephine, American schooner, 16, Geo. W. Gale, 11th September,—North Pacific, 29 Seals.—Captain.

Mattie T. Dyer, American schooner, 103, C. E. Mockler, 20th September,—North Pacific, Sealing Gear.—Captain.

Mount Washington, American bark, 1,217, Rose, 23rd May,—Kuchinotsu, Coal.—Mitsu Bishi Sha.

Retriever, American schooner, 75, H. J. Snow, 16th October,—North Pacific, 1,099 Seal Skins.—T. M. Laffin.

Saipan, British schooner, 75, J. T. Blanchfield, 23rd December,—Guam, Copra.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

W. P. Hall, British schooner, 98, J. P. Brown, 12th October,—North Pacific, 240 Seals.—Captain.

Willard Ainsworth, American schooner, 40, E. Crockett, 12th February,—Seattle, Wash., Sealing Gear.—A. O. Decker.

MEN-OF-WAR.

Admiral Kornilow (18), Russian cruiser, Captain Elchaninoff, 21st January,—Nagasaki.

Alexandrine (28), German cruiser, Captain von Frantzius, 11th February,—A cruise.

Plover (6), gunboat, Lieut. F. C. B. Addington, 29th November,—Nagasaki.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

Generally dull. Yarn—A little more enquiry but dealers and importers cannot agree about price. Shirtings—Some little business at unchanged rates. T.-Reds and Victoria Lawns have sold to some extent but other Cottons appear lifeless. Woollens—Italian Cloth and Blankets move a bit, other sorts stagnant.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE.	
Grey Shirtings—8½lb, 38½ yds, 39 inches	$2.25	to 2.90
Grey Shirtings—9lb, 38½ yds. 45 inches	2.50	to 3.25
T. Cloth—7lb, 24 yards, 32 inches	1.65	to 2.00
Indigo Shirtings—12 yards, 44 inches	1.70	to 2.35
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches	2.00	to 3.75
	PER YARD.	
Cotton—Italians and Satteens Black, 32 inches	0 16	to 0 22
	PER PIECE.	
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	7.25	to 9.50
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches	0.85	to 1.00
Turkey Reds—2.0 to 2.4lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.65	to 1.75
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1 85	to 2.05
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.30	to 2.60
Turkey Reds—4.8 to 5lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2 80	to 3.10

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.	
Flannel	$0.30	to 0.50
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches best	0.32½	to 0.37½
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Medium	0 27½	to 0.30
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Common	0 20	to 0.25
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.15	to 0 22½
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches	0.35	to 0.50
Cloths—Presidents, 54 @ 56 inches	0.60	to 0.65
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0.40	to 0.70
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 5lb. per lb	0 60	to 0 75

COTTON YARNS.

	PER PICUL.	
Nos. 16/24, Ordinary	—	
Nos. 16/24, Medium	$34.50	to 35.00
Nos. 16/24, Good to Best	35.50	to 36.50
Nos. 16/24, Reverse	—	
Nos. 28/32, Ordinary	—	
Nos. 28/32, Medium	36 00	to 36.50
Nos. 28/32, Good to Best	37.00	to 38.00
Nos. 38/42, Medium to Best	42.00	to 43.00
No. 32s, Two-fold	40 00	to 42.00
No. 42s, Two-fold	43.00	to 46.00
	PER BALE.	
No. 20s, Bombay	—	
No. 16s, Bombay	—	

METALS.

No change in quotations and market quiet. Not much trade doing to test values, but in view of low exchange holders will not reduce their asking prices at present.

	PER PICUL.	
Flat Bars, ½ inch	$3.60	to 3.70
Flat Bars, ¼ inch	3 70	to 3 80
Round and square up to ¾ inch	3.60	to 3.80
Iron Plates, assorted	3.70	to 3.85
Sheet Iron	4.90	to 5.10
Galvanized Iron sheets	8.50	to 9.00
Wire Nails, assorted	6.00	to 6.25
Tin Plates, per box	6.00	to 6.25
Pig Iron, No. 3	1.70	to 1.72½

KEROSENE.

Reported sales are small, while recent arrivals from America swell the stock. Deliveries continue on a fair scale and holders profess to be strong at quotations.

Chester	$1.82½ to 1.85
Comet	1.80 to 1.82½
Devoe	—
Russian Anchor / Russian Moon	1.85 to 1.87½

SUGAR.

Brown—Fair arrivals and some sales. Prices, however, are not strong. Dealers look for a turn in their favour and refuse to make offers ahead for Formosa kinds. White—Market quiet at late rates, with only a moderate amount of business.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Takao	$4.05 to 4.10
Brown Manila	4.70 to 4.80
Brown Daitong (New)	3.50 to 3.55
Brown Canton	3.70 to 4.00
White Java and Penang	6.50 to 6.60
White Refined	6.40 to 8.90

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Demand has fallen away to insignificant proportions and the stock on offer is about 7,000 piculs. Holders persist in keeping up quotations and buyers hold off accordingly. All values nominal.

QUOTATIONS.—(NEW SILK.)

Hanks—No. 1	—
Hanks—No. 2 (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 2 (Joshu)	—
Hanks—No. 2½ (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 2½ (Joshu)	—
Hanks—No. 2½ to 3	—
Hanks—No. 3	—
Hanks—No. 3½	—
Filatures—Extra 10/12 deniers	Nom.
Filatures—Extra 13/15 deniers	Nom.
Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers	$870 to 890
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den	830 to 840
Filatures—No. 1½, 10/14 deniers	830 to 840
Filatures—No. 1½, 13/16, 14/17 den	800 to 820
Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers	780 to 810
Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	770 to 780
Filatures—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	—
Re-reels—Extra	—
Re-reels—(Oshu) Best No. 1	—
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 deniers	810 to 820
Re-reels—No. 1½, 13/16, 14/17 deniers	780 to 790
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	740 to 760
Re-reels—No. 2½, 14/18 deniers	720 to 730
Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	700 to 710
Kakedas—Extra	—
Kakedas—No. 1	790 to 800
Kakedas—No. 1½	760 to 770
Kakedas—No. 2	720 to 730
Kakedas—No. 2½	—
Kakedas—No. 3	—
Kakedas—No. 3½	—
Kakedas—No. 4	—
Oshu Sendai—No. 1½	—
Hanatsuki—No. 1, 2	—
Hanatsuki—No. 3, 4	—
Sodai—No. 2½	—

WASTE SILK.

A fair daily business at unchanged rates. Stock is in the neighbourhood of 15,000 piculs, and in face of this there does not seem much chance of higher values.

QUOTATIONS.—(NEW WASTE.)

Pierced Cocoons—Good to Best	—
Noshi-ito—Filature, Best	$130 to 135
Noshi-ito—Filature, Good	120 to 125
Noshi-ito—Filature, Medium	110 to 115
Noshi-ito—Oshu, Good to Best	120 to 130
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Best	—
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Good	80 to 90
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Medium	—
Noshi-ito—Hushu, Good to Best	100 to 125
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Best	—
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Good	70 to 75
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Ordinary	60 to 65
Kibiso—Filature, Best selected	100 to 110
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds	90 to 95
Kibiso—Oshu, Good to Best	—
Kibiso—Shinshu, Best	—
Kibiso—Shinshu, Seconds	—
Kibiso—Joshu, Good to Fair	30 to 27½
Kibiso—Joshu, Middling to Common	25 to 22½
Kibiso—Hachoji, Good to Fair	25 to 23
Kibiso—Hachoji, Medium to Low	22 to 20
Kibiso—Neri, Good to Common	12 to 8
Mawata—Good to Best	—

EXCHANGE.

Slight fluctuations have again occurred in exchange, but rates remain low.

Sterling—Bank T.T.	1/11½
— — Bills on demand	1/11½
— — 4 months' sight	1/11½
— Private 4 months' sight	1/11½
— — 6 months' sight	2/0
On Paris—Bank sight	2.44
On Lyons—Private 4 months' sight	2.51
On Hongkong—Bank sight	1 % p.
— Private 10 days' sight.	Par.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	71½
— Private 10 days' sight.	72½
On India—Bank sight	184½
— Private 30 days' sight	187
On America—Bank Bills on demand.	47
— Private 30 days' sight	48½
— — 4 months' sight	49½
On Germany—Bank sight	1.97
— Private 4 months' sight	2.04
Bar Silver (London)	37 5/16

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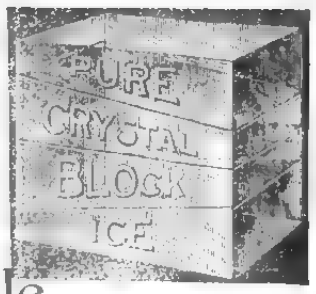
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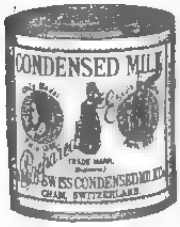
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N.B.—ASK FOR DINNEFORD'S MAGNESIA.

January 1, 1894.

Printed and Published for the PROPRIETOR by H. HALL, Esq., C.S.I., retired, by JAMES ELCOTA TEALE, of No. 58, Bluff, Yokohama.—SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 1895.

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The Japan Weekly Mail:

A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

No. 8.] REGISTERED AT THE G.P.O. AS A NEWSPAPER. YOKOHAMA, FEBRUARY 23RD, 1895. 明治二十八年二月二十三日郵便物認可 VOL. XXII.

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, FEB. 23RD, 1895.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

THE Masonic Ball given on Friday evening in Yokohama was a great success.

MESSRS. NORTH & RAE, Limited, declare a dividend of ten per cent. for the year.

THE establishment of an agricultural experiment station has been sanctioned in Korea.

MR. SOYESHIMA MICHIDATE has been appointed Chamberlain to H.I.H. the Crown Prince.

ADMIRAL TING and his principal officers committed suicide after the surrender at Weihaiwei.

THE Bank of Japan, after declaring a dividend of 15 per cent., carry forward *yen* 186,175.532.

MR. BOISSONADE is being generally fêted in Tokyo by all classes and sections of the capital.

MR. OGAWA, Governor of Prisons in Kanagawa Prefecture, has been placed on the Retired List.

THE Empress and the Prince Imperial visited the temporary military hospital in Tokyo last Saturday.

PUBLIC subscriptions contributed to the Naval Department, up to the 15th inst., reached *yen* 505,852.946.

COUNT ITO addressed the Lower House of the Diet on Wednesday, making known proposals for the raising of further War funds.

THE British fleet in far Eastern waters has been dispersed, the *Centurion* and others going south to Hongkong, while the *Gibraltar* and *Undaunted* are coming to Yokohama.

REAR-ADMIRAL AIURA has been promoted to the rank of Vice-Admiral, and Captain Togo to that of Rear-Admiral.

IT is reported that the Viceroy Li has handed over the seals of the Viceroyalty of Chili and gone up to Pekin.

THE ceiling of the constables' room in the House of Representatives fell on the 18th inst., and a constable was slightly injured.

THE journalists of Tokyo propose presenting M. Boissonade with a gold medal, commemorative of his services to Japan.

SMALL-POX is said to be very prevalent in Fusan among the Koreans. Some five or six cases are reported in the Japanese settlement.

COUNT HIGASHIKUZE has been elected President of the Nobles' Club. He obtained 126 votes against Marquis Hachisuka's 101.

IT is estimated that the value of the Chinese war-ships which fell into Japanese hands at Weihaiwei in not less than thirty million *yen*.

THE old Committee of seat-holders and subscribers to Christ Church has been re-elected. The balance in hand this year is about $45.

MR. OTANI KAHEI, the well-known tea-merchant, has been elected President of the urban divisions of the Kanagawa Prefectural Assembly.

MRS. OKAMURA IKO-KO, having obtained permission to start a silk filature on one of Boku's estates in Korea, is engaging 500 female workers in Japan.

THE Japan Tea Co., Yokohama, decided at its recent general meeting to establish a large tea-firing factory in this town at an estimated cost of ten thousand *yen*.

THE Japanese Naval Authorities have formally taken possession of Liukung Island, its forts and stores. The captured Chinese vessels are now on their way to Japan.

SOME members of Parliament have been conferring upon the advisability of closing the present session of the Diet, as there is now no important bill to discuss.

UYEDA MIYOJI, who forged and circulated a number of 5 *yen* notes, has been sentenced to thirteen year's hard labour, and six of his accomplices to hard labour for six years.

THE trouble in the Kanagawa Local Assembly over the Prison Expenditures Bill still continues, despite the endeavours of the local M.P.'s, who have tried to arrange matters.

THE foreign trade of Japan during January last amounted to *yen* 22,566.879.67 in value, of which *yen* 12,704,459.99 were exports, and *yen* 9,862,419.68 imports, an excess of *yen* 2,842,040.31 in exports.

THE Japanese captain of the *No. 3 Masayoshi Maru*, Mr. Onishi Shunichiro, who was in charge of the vessel when she collided with a British steamer off Mutsureto on September 9th last, has had his certificate suspended for three months.

MESSRS. MATSUDA MASAHISA, KONO HIRONAKA, Hoshi Toru, and Ishida Kannosuke, managers of the Radical Party, have resigned on the ground that the presentation of the resignation of Count Itagaki, President of that Party, in connection with the Bank Bill, was due to their careless management.

PROFESSOR JOHN MILNE lost his valuable library, manuscripts, and collection of scientific books by fire on Sunday last through the burning of his house in Tokyo.

IT is stated that Rear-Admiral Tanaka Tsunatsune, who is on the Reserve List, will shortly proceed to China, where he will be appointed Chief of the Administrative Office to be opened in the districts newly occupied by the Japanese.

HIS HIGHNESS THE DUKE OF MECKLENBURG who has been staying in the capital for some time, returned to the *Alexandrine*, at Yokohama, on the 20th inst. Baron von Gutschmid, the German Minister, Mr. Sannomiya, Vice-Grand Master of the Board of Ceremonies, and others accompanied him to the ship. The departure of the *Alexandrine* is arranged for the 25th inst.

AN official report from Miyagi Prefecture states that on the 15th inst. muddy water was seen in the Shiraishi-gawa and Matsu-kawa, which have their source on Karita-dake. Officials of the Shibata and Karita Districts were at once dispatched to inquire into its cause, and although they were unable to approach the spot owing to the great depth of snow, they saw some dark smoke issuing from the old crater of Kumano-dake, one of the ranges of the Karita-dake, and ashes on the trees and grass. On the 19th, the water in Nukegamidzu on Karita-dake was twice the usual depth.

REUTER telegraphs:—A strong bimetallic movement has taken place in Germany, and the Reichstag has passed a resolution calling upon the Government to convene an inter-state monetary conference, which Prince Hohenlohe is disposed to consider, and upon which Herr Posadowski made a strong bimetallic speech. The decision caused a rise in all silver securities. The Address in reply to the Queen's Speech has been voted. H.M.S. *Mercury* has been ordered to Formosa, a Consul there having strongly urged the necessity for some protection for foreigners. An American Four per Cent. Loan has been issued in London and New York for $62,000,000, the interest to be payable in either gold or silver.

THERE is very little to be said about the Import trade, as no revival has taken place and money continues to be tight. This condition of affairs makes dealers apathetic, and buyers have not gone beyond the purchase of a few absolute necessaries, consequently Manchester goods and Metals are very much neglected. Nothing important can be reported in the Kerosene trade, buyers still waiting, apparently, for the turn of prices in their favour, while holders are very stiff and stand out for their own terms. Distribution of previous settlements continues fair, and, in regard to stock, while that of Russian is falling low, American Oil is in ample supply. There has been a moderate enquiry in the Sugar market and a few sales, but holders are firm and decline offers. The usual forward business for Takao Sugar has not yet been started, consequently quotations for that sort are more or less nominal. There has been some enquiry for Raw Silk, but not much business, and prices are about the same. A fair quantity of Waste Silk has passed the scales at recent rates, but the stock is still large. Exchange has been fairly steady, but a slight rise in silver has [illegible] for

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THE SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS DURING THE WEEK.

The new War Budget of 100 million *yen* receives some attention from the vernacular Press. Without casting a shadow of doubt on the Diet's readiness to accord full-hearted approval, the ***Kokumin*** submits the following points for the consideration of the public, with regard to the ways of floating the loan:—Of the first War Loan there remains 50 million *yen* to be raised, and of the 80 millions already floated a considerable sum has still to be paid up. The sensitive money market, however, already shows symptoms of suffering from these War Loans. Hence the question of a foreign loan, which was likely to have come forward, even though the new War Budget had not been proposed, is now expected to be mooted again with redoubled vigour. The advocates of a foreign loan say that the Japanese money market is so tight at present that it keenly feels the land tax, when the payment of the latter falls due. In their opinion a foreign loan lies unmistakably in Japan's path after the war. Otherwise, they think, she will not be able to act up to her new rôle. In view of that necessity, which they take for granted, they urge the advisability of raising a loan abroad now, so as to avert serious economic and financial contingencies. Of course they see nothing formidable in a foreign loan for a progressive State, as Japan is. On the other hand, the opponents of that view deem it derogatory to Japan's credit, as a great Power, to resort to such means. Building large hopes upon the indemnity to be received from China, they tell the Japanese bankers and merchants to endure resignedly any difficulties that crop up during the continuance of the war. The ***Kokumin*** entertains little doubt that the Government has already evolved a method of raising the new Loan and will soon make it publicly known. Other papers that have touched the problem do not go beyond the ***Kokumin's*** writing. It does not seem worth while to reproduce their comments.

* * *

The *Shogyo Shimpo* mentions the following obligations and liabilities borne by the Bank of Japan, and combats the idea of taxing that institution:—

1.—The Bank of Japan has advanced to the Government a sum of 22 million *yen* to form a fund for the redemption of Government notes. This sum is to be repaid in the 45th year of *Meiji* (1912), *i.e.* the year in which the term of the Bank's charter expires, and is not to bear any interest.

2.—The Bank of Japan has yearly to spend a considerable sum on discharging the duties undertaken by it for the State Treasury.

3.—The Bank of Japan bears on its shoulders the great burden of maintaining and improving the system of convertible notes.

4.—The Bank of Japan has had to advance 10 million *yen* to the Specie Bank, to enable the latter to purchase foreign bills of exchange to see foreign specie imported into this country.

5.—The convertible notes issued by the Bank on the basis of specie, and therefore fully representing specie, amount to more than 80 million *yen*. But the Bank, while not reaping any direct profit from this issue, has to pay the cost of the manufacture of the notes.

6.—The Bank of Japan has to manage affairs relating to the redemption not merely of the Government notes, but also of the paper currency issued by all the National Banks in the Empire, and it receives no fees for the task.

7.—As matters stand now, on the expiration of the National Banks' charters, it is more than probable that the Bank of Japan will have to advance fully 5½ million *yen*, free of interest, for the redemption of National Bank notes then remaining in circulation.

8.—The Bank of Japan has at times to lend money to the Government at low rates of interest. It also rests with the Bank to provide for the war expenditures.

9.—The Bank has to preserve tranquillity in the monetary circles of this country, and to prevent the occurrence of panics. It has also to encourage foreign trade so as to draw specie from markets abroad. For these purposes it has to keep always on hand an immense sum of money, without getting any interest for it.

The *Fiji Shimpo* touches upon the same problem and approves of the scheme of taxing the Bank. It entertains a very broad view on the subject and urges the advisability of removing all the special privileges and obligations of the Bank in its relations with the Government, and thus placing it on a footing in all respects similar to an ordinary money-making firm. Such a highly privileged institution as the present Bank of Japan, is not allowable in a constitutional country.

* * *

While fully sympathizing with the warm sentiment of gratitude shown toward M. Boissonade by so many Japanese officials and others, the *Nichi Nichi* writes a lengthened review of the life of Herr Roesler, to prove that he is entitled to as large a share of Japanese public esteem. Our contemporary does not seek to depreciate the merits of the French jurisconsult, but simply to place another foreign benefactor of Japan before the eyes of her people, most of whom are ignorant of even the name of the German savant.

* * *

The Japanese political world, writes the *Choya*, has bid farewell to disputes about the retrenchment of government expenditures and about a strong policy toward foreign states. Wild and clamorous as these disputes were, they are now all quelled in view of the Chinese war. Our contemporary thinks that the next great controversy likely to arise among Japanese statesmen out of office will be concerning commercial and industrial questions, especially the question of the disposal of the National Banks.

* * *

The *Yomiuri* warmly urges the Government to decide upon the Korean national loan question with the utmost possible speed. After the formation of the New Cabinet in Sōul, writes the Progressionist organ, Korean politics seemed to have entered the smooth path to improvement. Nobody expected to hear of the Ministers' resignation at so early a date. The cause of the deplorable event is as yet unknown, but all persons familiar with Korean affairs ascribe it to differences of opinion among the holders of portfolios, especially between Boku Eiko and Gyo Inchu. Whatever may have been the cause, nothing of the kind would have occurred had the Korean Government been furnished earlier with funds to carry out the various reforms in contemplation. It indicates blindness to the needs of the crisis on the part of the Japanese Government to waste precious time endeavouring to persuade bankers like Iwasaki, Mitsui, and Shibusawa, who are far too prudent to risk their money even in such a great cause as the rescue of a State from sure destruction. The Progressionist organ protests against the Bank of Japan for not promptly accepting the proposal of the Korean Government, which is under the guidance of the great Count Inouye, and concludes by advising the Government to lend part of the war fund it has raised to the Peninsular Government, if it fail to make the Nippon Ginko quickly consent to the Korean loan. The Diet will willingly give its consent to such a step. A delay of one day in sending money to Korea may undo all that Count Inouye and his assistants have done for the Peninsular Kingdom.

* * *

Many other topics have been discussed by the vernacular Press during the past week. To the more important of them we proceed to make brief reference. The ***Kokumin*** and some other Tokyo journals protest in indignant language against certain Japanese merchants that are said to sell horse-flesh in lieu of beef to the military Authorities. It is so angry with those rascals that it calls them savages on account of their indifference to the health and lives of Japan's soldiers in the field. The *Nippon*, the *Niroku*, and many other Metropolitan papers write much against the foreign military employés who were in Liukung. The *Nippon* calls them mere seekers of filthy lucre and base strangers to military etiquette and the spirit of chivalry. As one of the best means of promoting reforms in the Peninsular Kingdom, the ***Kokumin*** advises the Authorities and people of Japan to take early steps to have a considerable number of their nationals proceed to Korea and there establish themselves in the capacity of merchants, carpenters, doctors, teachers, mechanics, hotel-keepers, and what not. Mr. Shimomura Fusajiro, who, if we remember rightly, was once a teacher in the Post and Telegraph School under the Department of Communications, has sent to the *Nichi Nichi* a long article, in which he heaps reason upon reason to prove that the telephone service must not be transferred to private hands. Such a transfer is being talked about. The *Nichi Nichi* warmly advises the Authorities and the Houses to take steps to have improved Water-works constructed, at the earliest possible date, in Kobe, Hiroshima, and Ujina. It urges the Government and the Diet not to neglect these engineering works because of the war. If constructed now, they may do much to prevent the spread of evil diseases among the precious sons of the Rising Sun in their next expedition westward. Dark clouds, writes the ***Kokumin***, float over the political world of Eastern Europe in consequence of the Armenian massacre. The British Government is said to have advised the Porte to reform the administration of Armenia, to show more leniency toward religious discussions, and to understand distinctly that it must not count on British assistance, should Russia send an army to deliver an attack upon Constantinople in the sequel of the massacres. The British Government seems to have abandoned its old policy of restraining Russia in favour of the "Sick Man."

EDITORIAL NOTES.

THE MEDICAL CORPS AND THE BATTLE OF KANGWASAI.

THE *Yomiuri's* war correspondent in Kaicheng gives the following account of the work done by the Medical Corps after the battle of Kangwasai. The consequences of the fight were the most terrible witnessed by the Japanese medical men since the commencement of the war. The Corps attached to that Division of the First Army that took part in the battle consisted of a staff of surgeons, necessary subordinates, and two companies of stretcher-bearers. They began their duties at 6.10 p.m., the fight being over by then and darkness having set in. They were at once taken to the battle-field and the work of carrying away the dead and the wounded was commenced. Feeble cries for stretchers were heard from different places from wounded soldiers lying in the snow, and so large was the number of those conveyances required that their bearers were found insufficient and the men employed for carrying ammunition and for leading horses had to be called out to assist in bringing the wounded soldiers away. That was found to be no easy task for the ground was slippery and the cold intense. Fortunately, a small deserted house was found close by a cemetery situated in the middle of the battle-field. Into this house the wounded were brought and in it they were treated by the surgeons. They presented a piteous sight, their garments and shoes and stockings being frozen to their bodies. It was found necessary to thaw the ice before the foot-gear could be taken off, while the clothes had to be cut away. The washing of the wounds was an equally difficult task as the water in the instruments froze constantly. The treatment of the wounded men was in consequence much slower than it would have been under ordinary circumstances. The surgeons worked all through the night, but it was not till well on in the following day that all the wounds were dressed. Fortunately, owing to the snow that lay on the battle-field, the wounds were all clean and free from dirt, thus making their healing a quicker matter than it would ordinarily have been. The highest rate of casualties in a battle is, according to a modern military theory, 1 for every 10, and this rate was almost reached in the fight at Kangwasai. The total number of men engaged in it on the Japanese side was 4,537, and of these 407 were killed or wounded, in other casualties occurred

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in every 100 soldiers, a number never yet reached in modern warfare. In the latter part of his letter the *Yomiuri's* correspondent writes about the prevalence of small-pox in the vicinity of Haicheng and about the number of Japanese that have suffered from frost-bite in that district. It appears that, owing to small-pox having broken out among the natives, the Medical Corps, by way of guarding against the spread of the epidemic to the Japanese, has sent to this country for vaccine which, when it arrives, will be inoculated into calves and when a sufficient quanlity has been thus procured all the officers, soldiers, and other Japanese in Haicheng will be vaccinated. The statistics of sufferers from frost-bite in the Japanese Army in Haicheng since last fall are said to be as follow:—

Dates on which Patients were counted.	Grave Cases.	Lesser Cases.
December 22nd	593	523
December 31st	461	259
January 2nd	443	332
January 5th	397	341
January 12th	348	331

The gradual decrease in the number of patients is owing to the experience that the Japanese have gained in protecting themselves from the cold.

ANOTHER MILITARY TRAVELLER.

It appears, according to the *Hochi*, that another Japanese officer has made the journey across the continents of Europe and Asia on horseback, namely, Lieut.-Colonel Oseko Naomichi, who is now at the seat of war. He was a graduate of the Military College and distinguished himself in scientific accomplishments. While still a captain he was selected from among his comrades and ordered to proceed to Germany for the purpose of prosecuting his studies. Two years later, he was promoted to the rank of Major. Usually promotion while studying abroad is followed by a recall to Japan, but as Lieut.-Colonel Fukushima left Berlin at that time on an extensive tour, Oseko was ordered to succeed him in the German capital. When he heard of Lieut.-Colonel Fukushima's arduous but successful journey, he concived a desire to undertake a similar expedition, but chose a different route, riding through Central Asia and passing more than a year in strange countries. He then went to Singapore and reached home last March. Lieut.-Colonel Oseko kept his journey secret, so that his return was not even noticed by the public, a fact that strikes one forcibly when it is remembered what an enthusiastic welcome was accorded to Lieut.-Colonel Fukushima. After his return, Oseko was appointed a professor of the Military College, and was then given the command of the 3rd battalion of Field Artillery. When the present war broke out he was made staff-officer of the 3rd Division forming half of the First Army. He is the youngest of three brothers, the eldest being Major-General Oseko, Commander of the 5th Brigade, and the next Lieut.-Colonel Sakomizu. They all occupy important positions in the First Army in Manchuria.

THE WAR AND COMMERCE.

A GENTLEMAN recently returned from the Liaotung peninsula says, according to the *Nichi Nichi*, that subsidiary silver and copper coins are very scarce in the vicinity of Talien, Liutsien, and Port Arthur, and that great inconvenience is therefore experienced in daily transactions. He has a curious piece of information to give in that connection. It seems that the Chinamen are so fond of copper coins that they are willing to pay 2½ *rin* for a 1 *rin* old copper coin. In other words, 100 *yen* in 1 *rin* coins are worth 250 *yen* in that part of China. The gentleman therefore advises anyone intending to go to the districts now occupied by Japan, to carry with him as large a supply of 1 *rin* coins as possible. Strange to say, the Chinamen, though usually so shrewd in money matters, do not distinguish between the ordinary 1 *rin* and the 1½ and 2 *rin* pieces. They are all taken at the rate of 2½ *rin*. The *Nichi Nichi* observes elsewhere that though the Chinese military and naval strength has been well nigh broken by the Japanese, no such statement applies to the peaceful warfare of commerce. In that field Japan appears to be sustaining defeat. There are at present about 600 men that intend starting for the regions occupied by the Japanese Army for the purpose of engaging in some business or other. They are, however, mere moneyless adventurers who seem to think that fortune is certain to favour them if only they can get across to China. Yet another batch, consisting of 300 men, have applied for permission to go over to China for a similar purpose, but they are little better than the above-mentioned fortune-seekers in point of means. The Chinese merchants are on the other hand doing well. Quite a number have already returned to Ninsen and are actively engaged selling cotton shirtings cheap to the natives and buying river gold from them. This state of affairs causes great alarm to certain influential Japanese, for they rightly think that unless the victories achieved by their soldiers be supplemented by similar successes in commerce, the national fame will be marred. After due deliberation they have come to the conclusion that the best way to cope with the problem is to organize an export company and to send goods to Korea and China. They are of opinion that though the Chinese may surpass the Japanese in patience, contentment with low wages, and even in physical strength, they can be easily conquered when science is brought into the field. A careful selection of the kinds of merchandise to be shipped is now being made, but outsiders doubt the successful accomplishment of the plan. The *Nippon's* Chinchow correspondent has something to say on the matter. He strongly advocates that Japanese merchants be allowed to go freely to the districts now occupied by the Japanese troops. At present only the natives and a limited number of Japanese merchants sell food to the invading Army, and the excess of the demand over the supply necessarily enhances the price of the articles. The Chinese of the lower classes are making money in a way they have never hitherto dreamed of. Indolence begets many evils, and the troops and coolies now quartered in Chinchow have taken to gambling, especially the coolies, of whom 51 were arrested for gambling by gendarmes in the space of one month ending with the 25th ult., while 3 soldiers were taken up on the same charge. The natives dwelling in places occupied by the Japanese Army are exempted from the land tax for one year, but it is said that the Occupation Authorities intend levying the business and house taxes. Chinchow has not yet got back all its inhabitants. Its total population is now exactly 7,000. The first ordinary cargo steamer —the *Higo Maru*—entered Talien on the 29th ult., and Japanese living in the peninsula will now enjoy greater convenience in receiving supplies of goods.

A CURIOUS APPETITE.

SOME twenty or thirty years ago a good many of the lower class Japanese believed that the semi-fluid nicotine found in native pipes that had not been cleaned for a long time, was a a specific for intestinal worms in young children, who were encouraged to swallow minute doses of the nauseating mess. Some children actually contracted a strange liking for this stuff, a habit that was invariably hard to break. The *Miyako Shimbun* narrates that cases have been known and are recorded of children greedily eating incense-sticks, the daub plastered on Japanese walls, and even candles: all these being morbid and unnatural tastes. But now our contemporary has a still more remarkable instance of such perverted appetite to note. In Fukushima Prefecture there lives a little girl of thirteen years, the daughter of respectable parents, who is a petroleum drinker. She will imbibe large quantities until drowsiness supervenes, so that her parents have the greatest difficulty in keeping her from indulging this strange habit to excess. No amount of exhortation or chastisement has hitherto succeeded in breaking her of the craving. If unable to get any of the fluid itself, she will eagerly suck any old rag that has been soaked in it; and enforced abstinence for three days invariably results in total loss of appetite and persistent insomnia. If the facts, really are as the *Miyako Shimbun* has stated, the girl is simply phenomenal. But we hae our doots.

COOLIES FROM THE SEATS OF WAR.

THE *Mainichi's* correspondent gives a doleful account of a batch of 300 military coolies that have lately been relieved of their service and have returned to Ujina. The correspondent does not know to what guild those coolies belonged, but they must have been in the Chinchow peninsula, as they started originally from Talien and were taken by the *No. 1 Taiko Maru* from Ninsen. They were, it is said, enlisted at Osaka and were subsequently discharged on account of frost-bite and consequent inability to attend to their work. The men were in a sad plight. Some of them had lost their toes and others half of their fingers. They were miserably dressed, for which fact they accounted by saying that the garments given to them by the Government had been confiscated by their inspectors, and that they had been suffered to keep the clothes they then wore by paying at the rate of 3 *yen* for an upper garment, the same for a pair of trousers, and from 2 to 3 *yen* for a shirt. They could not complain to the superintending officers about their condition as that was not entirely the fault of the coolie-inspectors. It was also due to their own bad habits. The way in which they indulged in gambling is evident from their manner of conducting themselves while on the ship. It is said that although returning home disabled, they played away what paltry sums they had left. A far greater number of coolies than the above, discharged for similar reasons, are waiting at Ninsen to be shipped back to Japan. It is a pitiful state of affairs, and though the Government cannot exactly be held responsible for it, the *Mainichi's* correspondent thinks that something ought to be done to remedy it.

THE BANQUET AT THE GERMAN LEGATION.

WE have to correct an omission in our report of the Banquet at the Imperial German Legation in honour of His Highness the Duke of Mecklenburg and His Imperial Highness Prince Kitashirakawa. In replying to the toast proposed by H.H. the Duke of Mecklenburg, H.I.H. Prince Kitashirakawa, who spoke in German, proposed the healths of Their Imperial Majesties the Emperor and Empress of Germany, His Royal Highness the Grand Duke of Mecklenburg, and of His Highness the Duke of Mecklenburg.

MILITARY COOLIES RELIEF SOCIETY.

THE project conceived by eminent physicians like Nagayo, Kitazato, Aoyama, Koganei, Miyamoto, and so forth, of extending medical aid to military coolies is, now fairly *en route* to successful accomplishment. The undertaking is not only philanthropic but also necessary for the welfare of the public at large. It is true that coolies that fall ill at the seat of war are sent back to Ujina, and then, when the cases are of an epidemic nature, as typhus or dysentery, they are treated in the military hospital of Hiroshima, at Government expense. But when the maladies are malarial fevers, *kakke*, and so forth, the men are left to their own resources as soon as they reach Ujina. Some of the coolie-contractors are kind enough to give travelling expenses sufficient to take the men back to the places where they were first enrolled. But whether set free at Ujina or carried to their native places, they are equally abandoned to their fate, however serious their illness may be. Thus their plight is very pitiable. That coolies enlisted for service at the seat of war, not simply as a matter of self interest, but also for the sake of contributing according to their capacity, to the

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success of the Japanese arms, should, after having suffered indescribable privations, be deprived of the benefit of Government medical aid, simply because their illness happens not to be epidemic, is a merciless system. To provide medical aid for those unfortunate men, the above eminent physicians and their equally interested friends set themselves to raise the necessary funds, and the total has already reached the sum of about 8,000 *yen*. That amount, however, is considered insufficient for the purpose. Quite a large number of coolies suffering from various diseases, are waiting beyond the sea to be sent back to Japan as soon as facilities of transport become easier, and it is extremely likely that such patients will increase at the change of the seasons. There is therefore absolute necessity to enlarge the scope of the charitable effort with a view to that time. As a preliminary measure, Prince Konoye has been entrusted with the Office of President, Dr. Nagayo with that of Vice-President, and Mr. Goto Shimpei, with that of Chief Manager. It has been further decided to ask Princes Komatsu and Kitashirakawa, various Ministers of State, and the Presidents of the two Houses of Parliament, to become special supporters of the Society. Moreover, in order to facilitate the raising of contributions, the proprietors and editors of all the vernacular press have been asked to become councillors of the Society. The projectors intend to launch the scheme before the general meeting of the Red Cross Association, what is held on the 25th instant.

THE COURT AND THE PRESERVATION OF NATIONAL TREASURES.

THE Imperial Household Department has taken a most commendable step. It has issued a notification to the effect that the treasures of Shrines and Temples shall be kept in trust in the Imperial museums of Kyoto and Nara. The object of this new measure is to ensure the better preservation of those treasures. The notification announces that the said museums shall be responsible for the charge of packing, and transporting the treasures, and also for the repair of the latter when necessary after they have been sent to the museums. The receipts on tickets sold by the museums shall be apportioned, after the payment of miscellaneous expenses, among the Shrines and Temples to which the treasures in trust belong. If this sum does not reach 1,000 *yen* for each museum, the deficit shall be made good out of the museum fund. The apportionment shall be according to the following rates. An article for which a certificate of first merit has been awarded by the Temporary Treasures Investigation Bureau shall be considered equivalent to 3 articles of ordinary merit; an article securing a certificate of second merit shall correspond to 2 of ordinary merit, and an article entered by the said Bureau on the Treasures Reference Record shall only be counted as one.

THE PURCHASE OF WATER-PIPES.

THE Tokyo City Assembly held a meeting on the evening of the 12th instant for the purpose of deciding about the purchase of iron-pipes required for the Water-works of the city. The Bill submitted by the Committee on the subject was as follows:—Tenders having been called for in accordance with the resolution of the Assembly and having been received from various quarters, it was found that the one submitted by A. J. Favre-Brandt & Co., agent for the Liège Water-Pipe Casting Company, was most advantageous for the city, and it was considered therefore that the contract should be given to that Company. When the Bill was going through its Second Reading, Mr. Nakashima Matagoro stood up and inquired of the Committee what reasons had led them to accept Favre-Brandt's tender. Mr. Takao Takuma, on behalf of the Committee, made the following reply:—He observed that the Committee had carried out what they considered to be most satisfactory investigations in connection with the tenders submitted by the firms of Favre-Brandt and Norris, and after having carefully compared the two, had decided to give preference to the tender of the former firm. The total estimate of the Norris Firm was, it is true, 635,861.734 *yen*, but as its pipes are somewhat shorter than those to be supplied by the other firm, an additional sum of 2,302.33 *yen* would be required to cover the joining expenses, thus bringing the total up to 638,164.07 *yen*. The Firm of Favre-Brandt undertook to supply the given quantity of pipes for 636,374,157 *yen*, or for 1,799.913 *yen* less than would have been required in the case of the Norris Firm, and its estimate for bent pipes was also cheaper. As regards total tonnage, the pipes of the Norris Firm being somewhat thicker than those of the other Company, weigh heavier, thus making the latter, if the relative weight be calculated, 22,837.87 *yen* cheaper. If the order were given to the Norris Firm there would, however, be grave inconvenience as it would be necessary to despatch a representative from Tokyo to Harrison & Co. in America for the purpose of contracting with them. Mr. Nakajima asked other questions, and said that when he had been a member of the previous Committee, he had found the estimate of the Norris Firm cheaper by 6 *yen* per ton. He accused the present Committee of having drawn up an inaccurate report, and proposed that the order for the pipes should therefore be given to the Norris Firm, agents, for Harrison and Co., of America. Mr. Nakajima's motion was seconded by several members, but when the closure was put and carried and votes were taken, it was found that only 9 members supported Mr. Nakajima's proposal. The Committee's Bill was carried by a large majority.

* * *

Some alteration was made in the period prescribed for the construction of the Water-works. It had at first been proposed by the Council and the engineers to whom the work has been entrusted, that the time of completion be deferred till June, 1898. The Standing Committee of the City Assembly, after enquiry into the matter, reported that, should the estimated expense and the number of men employed be increased somewhat, it would be possible to finish the works by September, 1897. One of the members moved at the last meeting of the Assembly that the committee's suggestion be adopted. His motion was carried.

THE DANGEROUS TELEPHONE.

A CERTAIN Igaku Hakase, or Professor of Medicine, resident in Tokyo, has been making a series of experiments on the telephone as a transmitter not of sound but of various diseases. He has arrived at the conclusion, according to a metropolitan contemporary, that the greatest precautions should be observed in using the instrument, such as regularly disinfecting and carefully wiping out the mouthpiece or receiver. On analysing dust and other extraneous matter in the mouthpiece of a much-used instrument, he found the bacilli of several kinds of diseases, notably of consumption, and all virulently alive. The tuberculosis bacilli are, he states, unusually tenacious of life, and may lie hidden in the recesses of a telephone for days without losing their poisonous qualification. A very slight amount of moisture will suffice to keep them alive for a long period. It is therefore of prime importance, in the case of a telephone about which one knows little or nothing, to keep the mouth as far as possible from the receiver and not to breathe in while holding the mouth anywhere near the opening.

REMOVAL OF THE GENERAL HEAD-QUARTERS.

THE advisability of raising the Imperial Standard in Chinchow on account of the gradual advance of the line of military operations, is now being much talked of, says the *Kokkai*. All the sections of the Strict Foreign Policy Party are very eager for the adoption of that course, as are also most of the members of the Lower House. It is thought, however, that it would be hardly proper to address the Throne on the subject, as such matters as the removal of the General Head-quarters are within the prerogative of the Emperor. Not a few of the Representatives conscientiously adhere to that theory, and it is on that account that the question has not yet been definitely settled. The *Kokkai* says that two schemes are now afloat in the Lower House, one being to make a Representation to the Government in connection with Korean reforms, and the other, to address the Throne about the removal of the General Head-quarters. As both these matters have hitherto been arranged by the Government, it is thought that the idea of calling its attention to them is due to party spirit seeking for popular favour. The *Kokkai*, however, does not pretend to know whether that notion exists in the present case.

THE CHINESE ENVOYS AND THEIR SUITE.

A CORRESPONDENT of the *Miyako Shimbun* gives some interesting and rather amusing data concerning the Chinese Envoys and their suite. In the first place, he stigmatizes them as being essentially uncleanly in their habits. They spit on the floors of the houses where they put up, and no amount of gentle hints in the shape of cuspidores suffice to break them of this unpleasant habit; besides, they do not use much water, their ablutions being decidedly perfunctory and superficial. Two of the suite speak Japanese brokenly, in the manner characterized in Germany as *Kauderwälsch*; but two others, although invariably silent or apparently ignorant of Japanese, are able to read the vernacular papers with ease. They make long excerpts daily from the Tokyo and Osaka papers, and inform their superiors of what is being written about the Mission. One and all appear perfectly at their ease; they take things calmly and with admirable *sang froid*, although they do a lot of cipher-telegraphing daily. The news from Weihaiwei even has failed to disturb their outward equanimity, though the report of the sinking of the *Ting-yuen* and *Chen-yuen* did bring a tinge of colour to their sallow cheeks.

JAPANESE PATRIOTISM.

As an instance of the universal feeling existing among the Japanese people with regard to the Chinese war, we may mention a recent case that has been communicated to us, of a Japanese named Sawada Tarasuke, formerly a waiter at the Tokyo Hotel, who has been four years in Australia in the employ of a gentleman in New South Wales, and who, on reading of the many contributions toward the War Fund by his compatriots at home and abroad, forwarded to the Army Department, through the agency of the *Fiji Shimpo*, the sum of one hundred *yen* out of his hard-earned savings in a foreign land. While the Japanese people remain so united in their devotion to their country, it is little wonder that they are successful in their undertakings.

JAPANESE RAW SILK IN THE UNITED STATES.

JUDGING from certain indications, says the *America Silk Journal*, we shall absorb considerably more Japans than Europe, unless Italians should come down again, which is not very likely. Canton and China filatures are making progress, too: as soon as their sizes and cleanliness become equal to those of Japans and Italians, the competition to the last-named silks will be more formidable, checking at the same time their course to a marked extent. Through our imports of late the assortment here is very good, with the exception of re-reeled Japans. As they fetch high prices at Yokohama—higher than filatures in proportion—the industrious natives will not fail to furnish the foreigners very soon with all the re-reels they may need.

JAPAN'S EXPORT OF SILK GOODS.

SPEAKING of Japan, says the *American Silk Journal* of December, it is worthy of note that not only is the quantity of her exports of silk goods increasing with amazing rapidity, but the character thereof is undergoing a marvellous change in the direction of more elaborate fabrics. Japanese goods are no longer limited to what may properly be termed plain goods, as formerly was, but comprise a vast variety of weaves and styles. Soon those "Yankees

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of the East" will make everything now produced by their European and American competitors. Judging by the Japanese silk goods exports for the first half of the year, the aggregate for 1894 will reach some 400,000 pieces (of which about 300,000 came to America), and 1,500,000 dozens of handkerchiefs, of which fully 1,000,000 dozens will find their way to our market to compete with our home product in this line, which has been vanishing year by year for some time past.

RIOTOUS COOLIES IN KOBE.

THE war celebrations in Kobe on Saturday night were attended by a good deal of disorder. A Chinese tailor's house in Division Street was stoned, and upon the man seeking refuge in the Seamen's Home, opposite, he was followed by the mob. The intruders were ejected from the premises. A furious mob then beset the Home and stones were flung at the windows. The street was eventually cleared and the police placed in charge. Some of the leaders of the procession afterwards apologised for the behaviour at the Seamen's Home.

FUNERAL.

ANOTHER imposing funeral of a local soldier took place in Yokohama on Sunday. The deceased, whose name was Arai Tokujiro, lived at Matsukagecho, and he died after one of the fights at Kaiping. The interment took place at the Myokoji, Kitagata, and the procession, which was composed of thousands of the townsfolk, included representatives from all the public Japanese associations and schools in Yokohama.

JAPAN'S FOREIGN COMMERCE.

The *Shogyo Shimpo* writes about special export harbours and similar matters considered by it to be advantageous to the promotion of Japan's foreign commerce. The Government has in many ways shown its desire to extend the export of Japanese products. One of the best proofs of that wish is the establishment of so-called special export harbours, where the Japanese are allowed to export such commodities as rice, barley, flour, coal, and sulphur. There are at present eleven of these harbours, namely, Yokkaichi, Moji, Misumi, Shimonoseki, Hakata, Karatsu, Fushiki, Otaru, Kushiro, and Mororan. It goes without saying that the prime object of the establishment of the special harbours was to facilitate foreign commerce, till then limited to Treaty Ports, and to enlarge its scope. The *Shogyo* regrets to find that the original object has not been carried out, for in none of the special harbours is foreign commerce carried on with any activity. In its opinion this is due to the limited number of articles exported. There are many other commodities in which transactions could be carried on, as, for instance, coke, charcoal, rape-seed, and so forth. But the system will not be complete as long as commerce is confined to exportation only, importation must also take place. A country that commands skilled labour at low wages, that is rich in coal and in water motors, and that is moreover surrounded by wealthy neighbours—such a country is perfectly fitted to carry on manufactures, and such a country is Japan. Therefore, while exportation is facilitated imports should also be encouraged, so as to avail of the country's manufacturing ability. The commodities to be imported should be carefully selected. Rails, machinery, and such articles which cannot be made here, and which are at the same time of great importance for the development of national industry, should be chosen. Importation being at present confined to Treaty Ports, all foreign articles must first be discharged at one of those ports and then conveyed to their destination, thus causing great waste of time and expense as well as damage to the goods. As a natural consequence, raw material becomes costly on account of this roundabout way of transportation, and industrial enterprise is depressed. The *Shogyo* hopes that the Government and Diet will remove all such obstacles and take steps for facilitating the development of industry in this country.

BURNING OF PROFESSOR MILNE'S HOUSE.

The numerous friends of Professor John Milne, F.R.S., will be sincerely sorry to learn that his residence was burned to the ground on Sunday the 17th instant. The flames broke out, we believe, at about 6.35 a.m., in a shed where fire-wood was stored. The shed was on the north of the house, and as a strong northerly wind was blowing, the whole building burst into a blaze almost immediately. It proved quite impossible to save anything, even wearing apparel. There was no insurance. Professor Milne lost the whole of his library of old and new books, together with a number of valuable scientific instruments. It is a most lamentable affair. The widest sympathy will be evoked.

AKKAD, ASSYRIA, AND JAPAN.

(COMMUNICATED.)

The brief essay of Dr. EDKINS, which appeared in a recent issue of the *Japan Mail*, is replete with food for thought. We fail to follow the intrepid philologist in several points, and it is certainly undeniable that some of his linguistic parallels are of a very daring nature, to say the least; still the learned writer plainly shows that Japanese has congeners in the West of Asia; that it belongs not vaguely to the Turanian group of languages, but is part and parcel of many tongues that either used to be or still are spoken in China and westward of the Empire.

But more particularly in the following would we attempt a comparison, however broken and incomplete, between Japanese and the tongues of Akkad and Assyria; that of the former ancient kingdom being Turanian of a high type, while the tongue of Assyria was, of course, Semitic, and hence totally dissimilar in etymology, grammar, and syntax. At first sight it may appear hazardous to note any resemblances between Japanese and a Semitic tongue; yet there are too many striking phenomena, particularly in etymology, to conclude that each and every similarity is merely a linguistic coincidence, without further import. The following, chosen at random from several scores of words, speak for themselves:—

Hebrew (Semitic)	Japanese.
damam, "to be silent."	*damaru*, same signification.
anih, "a ship."	*fune*, same signification.
harar, "to swell."	*hara*, "the abdomen," *haremu*, "to swell."
kat, "the hand," "arm."	*kata*, the shoulder."

Semitic root KUR or QUR, "to roll," Japanese *kuruma*, *guruguru* (onomatope expressing a rolling sound) *kuru*; Semitic root KAR, "to cut," Japanese *kiru*, *karu*. And so on through a large number of other roots.

As for the Assyrian language, though purely Semitic, it unquestionably derived a large number of words from the Turanian speech of Akkad, in conquering whose land the Assyrians adopted the graphic they there found in a state of high development. More than this, it is quite easy to trace the adoption of thorough Akkadian words into other Semitic tongues, of course through the medium of the dominant Assyrians, who, for so many centuries, were the undisputed potentates of the vast territory between the Euphrates and the Mediterranean, Lake Van, and the Persian Gulf. Take, for example, the Akkadian root ID or ED, meaning originally a "limb," the "body," and finally the "hand." With the same sense we find *id* in Assyrian, the Hebrew *yad*, Syriac *yad*, Ethiopic *ad*, *Arabic yad*. But the same ideograph, ID or ED, is found with the signification of "one," as in *edu*, "one," "by oneself;" *edu*, "first;" and the adverb *edis*. Is it not close at hand to compare with this the Chinese *yat*, "one," *it*; Sinico-Japanese *ichi*; Japanese *hito*? The feminine of another word for "one" in Assyrian is almost identical with the Japanese *ihit*, *ihtu*, and *ihitu*. Take again the Akkad *ishtu*, in the sense of "before," "in the presence of." From this comes indubitably the Semitic root *mahr*, *mhr*; Assyrian *mahru*, "first;" *mahrit*, "former" (feminine), *mahar*, "presence;" *adi mahriya*, "to my presence;" *mahar-su*, "before him." Here we have a most forcible parallel in the Japanese *mae*, originally *mahe*, and still so written in *kana*. Again there is the numeral "*three*," which offers some striking parallelisms. In all Semitic languages we find some form of an original *sal*, or *sa-al*, which, according to Prof. Sayce, is connected with a root *sa-al* in the sense of "what comes after." But as, according to the Assyrian linguistic laws, *s* before *t* became *l*, and *l* frequently is replaced by the nasal liquid *n*, we find such expressions as *sanitu salsi*, "thrice;" compare Chinese and Sinico-Japanese *san*. *Sal* replaced *san* at a comparatively late period, or underwent such changes that it is difficult to detect in some dialects: Aramaeic *talath*, Sabaean *salas*, Arabic *thalath*. But in Ethiopic *sala*, Egyptian *khemet*, Coptic, *shomt*, Toureg *kerad*, and Beni Mzab dialect *shared*.

Parallelisms of a similar nature might be multiplied to a very great extent. There is, ethnologically speaking, no reason why the Akkadians and Proto-Assyrians should not have had direct connection with the Japanese in their then continental home. For the time we are speaking of is nearly a thousand years before the date ascribed to the first semi-mythical sovereign of the Japanese, Jimmu Tenno.

HORSES FOR THE JAPANESE ARMY.

The *Mainichi* gives an interesting account of the mounting of the Japanese Army, supplied by an officer directly connected with that branch of military affairs. The War Department has at present four horse-breeding centres in the country, from which 1,000 horses are bought every year. The total number kept in these four places is 2,800. The strongest animals are chosen for military purposes. Eight thousand horses are now wanted by the Japanese Army, but it is no easy thing to procure that number of good ones. Eight or nine years ago it was possible to purchase 1,000 horses nearly 14 hands high, but the standard is now lowered to a little over 13 hands. Even in time of peace considerable difficulty is experienced in procuring the required number of horses, and that difficulty is of course greatly augmented at present. The total number of horses purchased by the War Department from the outbreak of the war to the end of last year in 30,000. They are almost all of the third or even the fourth rank. Connoisseurs appointed to select them found only 13 horses of the fourth grade out of 3,800 in Ibaraki Prefecture, and in Nagano Prefecture 21 of the same grade were purchased out of 600 or so. Such horses can usually be bought for about 30 *yen* a head, but the connoisseurs were obliged to pay as much as 75 *yen*. The total number of horses reared in Japan is 1½ million a year. The improvement of horse-breeding is of urgent importance, and it is on that account that the War Department upon conference with the Department of Agricultural and Commerce has this year asked the Diet to consent to the appropriation of a sum of about 12,000 *yen* as expenses for carrying on investigations in connection with the improvement of horse-breeding. The latter should not be undertaken by the Government alone, but the general public should be equally interested in the work. It has often been said that Westerners are fond of horse exercise and the Japanese of domestic repose, and the saying very true. A large number of horses have been taken as prizes in the present war, but unfortunately they are not found suitable for the Japanese. The Chinese horses have been well trained in straight motions, but not at all in side motions. They are therefore only used for the purposes of the Land Transport Train.

F. L. Wilkins has sailed an ice-boat a mile and the circuit from a minute and a half on Shell Lake, Wis.

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IMPERIAL DIET.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 14TH.

HOUSE OF PEERS.

The House met at 10.50 a.m. the Order of the Day being :—

1.—Bill relating to the Control of Pawnbrokers (sent up from the Lower House).
2.—Representation relating to the Export of Table-salt to China.

Count Ogasawara, on behalf of the Special Committee, reported in favour of the first Bill on the Order, with certain amendments.

Mr. Tsuzuki, Government Delegate, said that the Government approved of the Bill, with the exception of one of the proposed amendments.

After various questions and comments, the House voted for the Second Reading but refused to proceed with it at once.

Mr. Takeguchi Kichiro, introducing the Representation relating to the Export of Table-salt to China, spoke a few words in support of the advisability of utilizing all commercial opportunities arising in the sequel of the present war. The Representation was as follows :—

REPRESENTATION RELATING TO THE EXPORT OF TABLE SALT TO CHINA.

The abundance of marine products in Japan is equalled in few countries. Japan's marine products are destined indeed to become in future a staple of foreign commerce. Especially is this the case with table-salt which, being a natural source of wealth, would greatly conduce to promote the welfare of the nation should its export be once fairly inaugurated. It is a matter for regret that, thus far, though salt-manufacturers have deliberated for many years as to the best manner of achieving that object, they could not succeed in their project, and the channel for the disposal of salt remains as limited as ever. The production of table-salt is extremely small in China; the demand always exceeds the supply, so that the people cannot eat salt to their contentment, and are frequently obliged to cook their food without it. Now the Imperial arms are victorious everywhere, and it is extremely likely that the perverse ignorance of the Chinese people will be so far corrected as to bring about the dawn of a new era for their country. If this rare opportunity be taken advantage of, and measures be adopted to open a channel for the export of table salt to to that country, it is certain that the article will become a staple of Japanese foreign commerce. This House suggests that the Government, avail itself of the opportunity, should inquire into the conditions of the consumption of table-salt in China, with the view of opening a channel for its export.

Presented by Mr. MURATA TAMOTSU and 7 others.
Supported by Prince TOKUGAWA IYESATO and 74 others.

Mr. Murakami Kinsaku strongly opposed the Representation. It encroached upon the domain of commercial treaty making, and was therefore an improper subject to be dealt with by the House.

Mr. Murata Tamotsu denied that the Representation had any such bearing. It merely aimed at making preparations that might prove valuable to the country.

Baron Watanabe was surprised to observe that the Japanese people, while perpetually declaiming against official interference with trade, were always ready to run to the Government for assistance in every matter of commerce. Were not the subjects of the empire free to do as they thought fit? If they considered that the Chinese were likely to become good customers for table-salt, let them send the article to the districts in China already in Japanese occupation. No Government investigation or interference was needed.

The closure was put and carried, and the House voted in favour of the Representation.

The House rose at 12.25 p.m.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The House met at 1.20 p.m. the Order of the Day being :—

1.—Bill relating to the Capture of Seals and Sea-otters.
2.—Bill for amending the Local Government Regulations.
3.—Representation relating to the Export of Table-salt to China.

Viscount Enomoto, Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce, introduced the first Bill. He explained that while numbers of foreign vessels visited Japanese waters and obtained large profits by capturing seals and sea-otters, only three Japanese schooners were engaged in the trade, with financial results altogether petty. A principal reason of such a state of affairs was the imperfection of the present law, which the Bill was intended to correct.

Mr. Fujita, Government Delegate, in answer to a question, said that it was impossible by law to restrain foreign vessels sealing outside the three-mile limit of Japanese territorial waters. The only plan of preventing them from carrying off profits that might be reaped by Japan, was to encourage the Japanese themselves to such a display of exercise that it would no longer be worth the while of foreign vessels to visit these waters.

Mr. Doi Koka pressed for a statement of the steps possible in checking foreign poachers.

Viscount Enomoto explained that so long as Extraterritorial Jurisdiction existed, it was not in Japan's power to confiscate ships or punish foreigners found poaching in her territorial water. She could only hand them over to the consuls of their respective nationalities. When, by the operation of revised treaties, her judicial autonomy was recovered, her competence would be different.

The Bill was entrusted to a Special Committee.

The next Bill on the Order was thrown out after a brief discussion.

Mr. Kamada Katsutaro, introducing the Representation relating to the Export of Table-salt to Japan, said that whereas in China salt was produced in greatly insufficient quantities and of very poor quality, the consumers also being heavily taxed, in Japan 20 million *koku* were produced against a consumption of 6 millions, and the quality was good. Could the remaining 15 million *koku* find a market in China, the country would be a large gainer, as also would the Chinese people. Therefore the Representation urged that the subject be taken up officially.

A brief discussion ensued, and the House passed the Representation in the same form as that adopted by the Upper House.

The House rose at 3.05 p.m.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 15TH.

HOUSE OF PEERS.

The House met at 10.55 a.m. the Order of the Day being :—

1.—Bill for amending the Savings Bank Regulations (sent up from the Lower House).
2.—Bill for amending the City Government System.
3.—Bill for amending the Urban and Rural District System.

On the motion of Viscount Tani, the Order was changed to discuss the Lower House's amendments of the Game Law.

Viscount Tani, on behalf of the Special Committee, reported that the Committee could not recommend the adoption of the amendments inserted by the Lower House. The amendments were not numerous, and in view of the importance of legislating on the subject, the Committee would have been disposed to advise every possible concession, but the changes made by the Representatives were fundamental.

The House, without discussion, voted unanimously against the amendments.

On the motion of Viscount Okabe, it was decided that the number of Managers to confer with the Lower House should be 10, and that they should be chosen at the close of the days' proceedings.

The Government Delegate, in answer to a question, said that as the object of the next Bill —for amending the Savings Bank Regulations —was to encourage and develop the system, the Government did not offer any general objection, though it could not entirely approve of some of the details.

The Bill was entrusted to a Special Committee.

Marquis Kuroda, on behalf of the Special Committee, reported in favour of the next Bill, and the House passed the Second and Third Readings at once.

The last Bill was similarly passed without discussion.

On the motion of Viscount Soga, the proceedings were continued for the purpose of taking the Second Reading of the Bill for amending the Penal Code. The Viscount explained that the proposed amendments were numerous, but the principal related to the punishment of deserters, as explained by the Government Delegate when the Bill was introduced. The Special Committee entirely approved of the amendments and recommended their adoption. The Bill was passed through its Second and Third Readings without discussion.

The House rose at 11.55 a.m.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

1.—Bill for amending the Conscription Regulations (Second Reading).
2.—Bill for the Control of Dealers in Second-hand Goods (sent down amended from the Upper House).
3.—Bill for opening the port of Awomori in Mutsu to ships trading with Vladivostock and Siberia.
4.—Bill for opening Shimonoseki in Nagato and Moji in Buzen to ships trading with Korea, China, India, and Russia.
5.—Bill for amending Law No. 26 of the 22nd year of *Meiji*.
6.—Representation relating to the Prevention of Inundations.

Mr. Ebara Soroku, on behalf of the Special Committee, reported that the amendment proposed in the Conscription Regulations seemed a great improvement on the existing law and they recommended their adoption with some trifling amendments.

The House, without debate, voted to carry the Bill to a Second Reading and to proceed with the Reading at once.

All the clauses were voted as amended, and the Third Reading was passed.

The House, without debate, agreed to accept the Peers' amendments of the Bill for the Control of Dealers in Second-hand Goods.

Mr. Minamoto Akira, introducing the Bill for opening the port of Awomori, dwelt on the geographical position of the port, and pointed out that, owing to its proximity to Hakodate, there would be no occasion to establish a special custom house.

Mr. Sato Tadayoshi opposed the Bill. Treaty Revision being now in process of negotiation, the time was unsuited for such a step as that proposed by the framers of the Bill. Besides, they must remember that, according to the newly revised treaty with England, any privileges granted in the sense of the Bill, would have to be extended to British ships also. Finally, it was understood that Russia did not allow foreign trade with the parts of her dominions indicated. What, then, would be the use of opening a port for the purpose of trading with places where trade was impossible? The House had already rejected a Bill for opening several ports, and the measure now before them was in effect, a revival of that Bill.

The Bill was handed to the Special Committee already charged with the duty of reporting upon the Bill for opening Tsuruga port.

Mr. Fukuye Kakutaro introduced the next Bill, using arguments similar to those advanced by the introducers of the last measure.

After same questions, the Bill was handed to the some Committee.

Mr. Komuro Shigehiro, introducing the next Bill, explained that its object was to put an end to the compounding and sale of medicines by physicians. He thought that all must agree as to the greater safety of entrusting to pharmaceutists only the work of compounding, and limiting the functions of physicians to diagnosing illness and prescribing remedies. Some persons opposed the change on the ground that the present system was cheaper, but, in point of fact, physicians habitually charged for medicines compounded by them twenty or thirty times the cost of the drugs. In that respect there would be a great saving were the work limited to pharmaceutists, and correspondingly larger fees might be paid to physicians.

Mr. Wakizaka Giyozo opposed the Bill for several reasons, but chiefly because, if a law were passed forbidding the compounding of medicine by physicians, the 27,000 doctors of the Chinese school now practising in Japan, would be compelled to abandon their profession since no pharmaceutists existed capable of compounding the medicines prescribed by them.

After some further discussion, an open ballot was taken, when 95 voted against the Second Reading and 72 in favour of it.

Mr. Komuro Shigero, introducing the last Representation, said that during the ten-year period from 1885 to 1891, inclusive, the number of lives lost by inundations in Japan had been

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6,689, and the losses of property had aggregated 133,882,492 *yen*. It was perfectly evident that some preventive measures were needed, and the best plan at present available seemed to be the French device of telegraphing from the source of a river when an inundation was imminent, so that the people living along its banks might be prepared to escape themselves, and also take means to avert serious catastrophe. Such a system had been used in parts of Japan in early times.

Mr. Konishi Jinnosuke approved the principle of the Representation but thought that it should be embodied in a Bill.

Mr. Sakurai Tsutomu strongly supported the Representation. Not only had the advantages of the proposed system been proved by 30 years' experience in France, but its use in the Prefectures of Nagano and Niigata had been attended with excellent results.

The House adopted the Representation, and rose at 4.40 p.m.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 16TH.

The Houses did not meet.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 18TH.

HOUSE OF PEERS.

The House met at 10.42 a.m., the Order of the Day being :—

1.—Report of the Chairman of the Petitions Committee.
2.—Bill for amending the Conscript Regulations (sent up from Lower House.)
3.—Bill relating to the carrying forward of the Expenditures for building the Diet, repairing the banks of the Chikugo River, etc. (sent up from Lower House).
4.—Bill relating to a Provisional Naval Court (sent up from Lower House).
5.—Bill relating to the Control of Pawnbrokers (sent up from Lower House).
6.—Bills for amending the Railway Construction (sent up from Lower House).
7.—Petitions.

Prince Tokugawa, Chairman of the Petitions Committee, reported that since presenting the Committee's last report, 52 petitions had been received and examined, of which the Committee recommended two for adoption and presentation.

Mr. Takenouchi, Government Delegate, introduced the Bill for amending the Conscript Regulations, and it was entrusted to a Special Committee nominated by the President.

Viscount Yuri, on behalf of the Special Committee, reported in favour of the Bill relating to the carrying forward of certain expenditures. He explained that the measure was unavoidable owing to delay in the completion of the works concerned.

The House passed the Second and Third Readings at once.

Viscount Soga, on behalf of the Special Committee, reported in favour of the Bill for establishing a Provisional Naval Court, as a measure essential to the time.

After a brief discussion, the Bill was passed through both its readings.

The Second Reading of the Bill relating to the Control of Pawnbrokers was then taken, and the Second and Third Readings were passed, the Special Committee's amendments being adopted in every case.

Prince Konoye, on behalf of the Special Committee, said that the Committee saw no objection to the amendments proposed by the Lower House in the Railway Construction Law, and the House passed the Second and Third Readings of both Bills.

Prince Tokugawa, Chairman of the Petitions Committee, briefly recommended the adoption of four petitions, one relating to the restoration of ranks and pensions in the case of certain *shizoku*; a second relating to the Hii River; a third for the quartering of a corps of gendarmes in Sado, and a fourth for amending a portion of the Commercial Code.

The House adopted the petitions for presentation without question or discussion.

The President announced that as Marquis Tokugawa was about to proceed to China, as the Peers' Representative, to convey congratulations to the troops, he desired leave for 30 days.

The House agreed and rose at 2.45 p.m.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The House met at two p.m. the Order of the Day being :—

1.—Bill for taxing the Bank of Japan (Second Reading).
2.—Bill for amending the Bank for Japan Regulations (Second Reading).
3.—Bill for amending the Saké Tax Regulations (Second Reading).
4.—Bill for preventing the Import of Diseased Cattle (Second Reading).
5.—Bill for amending the Post Office Regulations (Second Reading).
6.—Regulation relating to the Sale of State Forest Lands.
7.—Representation relating to Sericultural Schools.

The President announced that the House of Peers having appointed 10 Managers to confer with the Lower House as to the amendments introduced in the Game Law Bill, it became necessary to choose Managers from the Lower House also.

The House entrusted the task to the President.

Mr. Abe Okito, Chairman of the Special Committee, reported that 5 of the Committee voted against the Bill for taxing the Bank of Japan. He gave figures showing that the profits of the Bank did not exceed those of other successful institutions of the time, and he explained that in view of the important public functions performed by the Bank, the idea of taxing it did not command approval. He spoke at great length in opposition to the Bill, contending that the influence of the Bank in extending the credit system and preventing crises in the money market was of greatest value.

Many questions were asked, and after a discussion of considerable length, a closed Ballot was taken, when 158 voted for the Second Reading and 59 against. The Third Reading was dispensed with and the Bill passed at once.

Mr. Abe Okito, on behalf of the Special Committee, reported that the Committee, by a vote of 5 to 3, recommended the rejection of the Bill for amending the Regulations of the Bank of Japan, in the sense of increasing the Reserve. The Bill was a corollary to that just passed.

Mr. Ito Tokutaro, on behalf of the minority of the Committee, reported in the opposite sense, and the House voted for the Second Reading, dispensing with the Third.

The Bill for changing the time of paying the Saké Tax was carried to a Second Reading, and the Third Reading was dispensed with, although the Government Delegate pointed out that the proposed change would have the effect of transferring a sum of 3,300,000 *yen* to next year's account.

Mr. Ohara Kiuji, on behalf of the Special Committee, reported that having received from the Government Delegate assurances that the Government intended to introduce a more complete and effective project of law for preventing the import of diseased cattle, the Committee recommended the rejection of the Bill entrusted to it.

Mr. Motoda Hajime thought that, in view of the importance of the subject and the probability that, under existing circumstances, large imports of cattle from China and Korea might take place, the Government's exact intention as to the time of introducing the project of law in question should be ascertained. He moved that the discussion of the Bill be deferred for two or three days until some assurance could be obtained.

The House agreed.

The Bill for amending the Post Office Regulations in the sense of granting additional facilities for the carriage of agricultural seeds by post, was then passed without debate.

The Special Committee reported in favour of the Representation for the Sale of State Forests. The Government Delegate had objected on two grounds, first, that sufficient surveys and investigations had not been made, and secondly that great difficulties and dissensions would assuredly be caused, but the Committee did not attach much importance to such objections.

After a brief discussion, the House voted against the Second Reading.

The House rose at 5.25 p.m.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 19TH.

HOUSE OF PEERS.

The House did not meet.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The House met at 1.15 p.m., the Order of the Day being :—

1.—Bill (Second Reading) for amending Law No. 29 of the 23rd year of *Meiji*.
2.—Bill for amending the Limits of Jurisdiction of Certain Law Courts.
3.—Representation for the Establishment of Sericultural Schools.
4.—Petitions.

Mr. Nakamura Yaroku said that the Answers given by the Government to Questions preferred by members on the subject of the management of State Forests, being very unsatisfactory, he wished to present three Questions :—First, what measures did the Government adopt for carrying out its alleged principle that trees should be planted for every tree cut; secondly, why one-half of the monies acquired from State Forests had to be devoted to the payment of officials, and why no steps were taken to make the property more valuable; thirdly, what the Government had been doing since the Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce issued instructions forbidding the sale of timber.

Mr. Suyehiro Shigeyasu, not having obtained a satisfactory answer to his Question about the pay of soldiers, desired that the Government Delegate should attend for the purpose of replying.

Mr. Konishi Jinnosuke, on behalf of the Special Committee charged with the duty of reporting on the first Bill—namely, that providing for the redemption of notes issued by National Banks and remaining in circulation when the latter were closed—said that the Committee had found itself in an embarrassing position. The Bill was in fact a corollary to the Government measure for dealing with the Banks, which measure the House had rejected. On the other hand, the Peers had thrown out the House's substitute for that measure, and the House itself had voted against Mr. Motoda's Bill, which might have supplied a compromise. Thus the Bill providing for the redemption of the Banks' paper ceased to have any *raison d'être*. Considered on its own merits, however, it was a proper and indispensable piece of legislation. Hence the Committee had felt bound to recommend its adoption.

The House passed the Bill without discussion and dispensed with the Third Reading.

Mr. Yoshimoto Yoshitaro introduced the next Bill. Its object was to make Hiroshima, instead of Osaka, the court of appeal for litigants in Iyo province. The change would confer great convenience on the people of Iyo, and there were no arguments against it. In fact, the system now in vogue seemed to have been instituted in error.

There being other Bills of a similar character to be considered, the House decided to entrust this measure to a Special Committee.

Mr. Asakura Chikatane, on behalf of the Special Committee, reported in favour of the Representation for establishing Sericultural Schools in Tokyo and Kyoto. There was already a school in Tokyo at Nishigahara, which only needed development, but one would have to be established in Kyoto *de novo*. The cost would be only thirty-five or thirty-six thousand *yen* annually.

The House adopted the Representation without debate or dissent.

A motion was made to postpone the consideration of the next two items on the Order—4 petitions relating to the restoration of rank and revenue to *shizoku* of the former Kanazawa clan and Ayabe Clan—until all cognate petitions and the Representation relating to them could be debated and adopted together.

The House rejected the motion, and rejected the first petition by a vote of 53 to 52. On coming to the second, the House was counted out at 4.20 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 20TH.

HOUSE OF PEERS.

The House did not meet.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The House met at 1.15 p.m., the Order of the Day being :—

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1.—Bill relating to the Capture of Seals and Sea-otters.
2.—Bill relating to the Management of State Property.
3.—Bill for amending the District Local Government System.
4.—Bill for amending the Finance Law.
5.—Bill relating to Buddhist and Shinto Sects.
6.—Representation relating to Railway Construction.

Mr. Doi, on behalf of the Special Committee, said that the Bill relating to the capture of seals and sea-otters bore a relation to the due exercise of the nation's rights, and, though presented by the Government, had in reality emanated from the House itself, since the subject had been mooted every session in the form of Questions or Representations. The Committee, therefore, recommended the passing of the Bill without any change in the text as transmitted from the Upper House. A few trifling amendments seemed desirable, but were scarcely worthy the delay that their introduction would involve.

The Bill was passed at once without debate.

Mr. Miyazaki Yeiji, on behalf of the Special Committee, reported that the Committee, by a vote of 6 to 2, had decided to recommend the rejection of the second Bill on the Order. The scope of the Bill was very large. It aimed at deciding the direct management of all objects of public property, at determining the conditions under which they might be let or sold, at fixing the limits of parliamentary control with regard to them, and so forth. Such a measure required the most through investigation and careful compilation, and the Bill did not seem to have been preceded by the former or to have received the latter. On the other hand, the Government had been directing close attention to the matter for several years, and would be in a position to submit a properly drafted and well digested measure next session. The Committee recommended the postponement of the matter until then, more especially as the Government Delegate declared that if the proposed Bill became Law many executive difficulties would arise.

The House voted against the Second Reading of the Bill.

At this stage of the proceedings, the Minister President of State, followed by the others Members of the Cabinet, entered the House, and the Minister President addressed the House as follows:—

GENTLEMEN,—My temporary return to Tokyo having become necessary in connection with various Affairs of State, I came back on the 16th instant by Imperial Command. It affords me much pleasure to be present in this House to-day, and to take part in your important deliberations regarding high matters of State.

Doubtless the condition of the war and the news of the victories conveyed hither from the battle-fields are already familiar to you, and call for no recital on my part. But I must say a word about the present attitude of China toward Japan in connection with the questions pending between the two empires. She recently despatched a peace mission, and two conferences were held at Hiroshima in the beginning of the present month. But her disposition lacking earnestness, we could not consider that she sincerely sought to restore peace, and we were consequently compelled to refuse to treat with her Plenipotentiaries. The general facts of the case, I think, are clearly known to you from the report made by the Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs in your House some time ago.

In view of the fact that the war still continues, we cannot easily decide when China will be prepared in good faith to sue for peace.

Under the circumstances, it becomes impossible to give any assurance that no apprehensions need be entertained of a deficiency in the war funds. Consequently, in obedience to the Imperial Command, I have this day presented to your House the second extraordinary budget for war expenses.

Gentlemen, you have, from the first shown complete accord with the wise policy of His Majesty in respect of this great war—a war affecting the general interests of the nation, a war affecting the honour and safety of the two countries. Above all, in your capacity as representing the will of the nation, you voted by acclamation, in the Extraordinary Session of October last, a large sum for the prosecution of the war. What I now earnestly desire of Your House is that you will speedily respond to this second call for war appropriations, essential at the present stage of the campaign, in the same manner as you did last year.

To-day, when the Government and people are united in their resolve to promote the general interests of the nation, I confidently believe that what I have said was already in your minds, and I sincerely trust that you will pass this budget at once.

The Special Committee's report on the Bill for amending the District Local Government System was presented, showing the advisability of certain amendments. The chief change contemplated by the Bill was that Heads of Districts should be elected by the people instead of being nominated officially, and that the large landlord system should be abolished.

The House voted for the Second Reading of the Bill.

Mr. Motoda Hajime, introducing the next Bill, said that its object was to append a clause to Article 6 of the Law of Finance for the purpose of imposing a check, as far as possible, on expenditures over and above the appropriations in the Budget.

After a brief discussion, in the course of which it was pointed out that the proposal touched an important Constitutional question, the Bill was entrusted to a Special Committee.

Mr. Hyakuman Umeji, introducing the next Bill, explained briefly that its object was to put an end to Administrative interference in matters of religion.

Mr. Matsuoka, Government Delegate, said that the introducer of the Bill claimed for it the advantage of preventing Administrative interference in religious affairs, yet the 5th article invested the Minister of State for Home Affairs with authority to suspend the Superintendent of a Sect, and even to dissolve the Sect itself, the only recourse for the Superintendent or the Sect being an appeal to an Administrative Court, as provided by the 6th article. He failed to perceive how such a measure could be held to check Administrative interference. As to the allegation that such interference was now unduly exercised, he explained that the sole object of the Government, apart from the question of public tranquillity, was to protect Buddhism and Shinto against the decay that threatened them if left entirely to their own resources. It was benevolent not vexatious interference.

The House refused to hand the Bill to a Special Committee and voted against the Second Reading.

Mr. Yoshitomi Kanichi introduced the Representation relating to railway construction. Its object was to provide for the speedy extension of the Sanyo Railway from Hiroshima to Akamagaseki in Yamaguchi Prefecture, a distance of 140 miles. The importance of such a line had been amply demonstrated by recent experience.

The Representation was adopted without debate or dissent.

The House rose at 4.15 p.m.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 21ST.

HOUSE OF PEERS.

The House met at 10.45 a.m., the Order of the Day being:—

1.—Bill relating to Grants of Land to Local Militia.
2.—Bill relating to the Handing over, Pledging, and Mortgaging of Buildings belonging to Local Militia.
3.—Bill for taxing the Bank of Japan (sent up from Lower House).
4.—Bill for amending the Bank of Japan Regulations (sent up from Lower House).
5.—Bill for amending the Saké-brewing Tax Regulations (sent up from the Lower House).
6.—Bill for establishing Silk-conditioning Houses (sent up from Lower House).
7. Motion for amending Art. 285 of the Standing Order of the House of Peers).

The Government's Reply to Mr. Ando Sokumei's Question was read. It said, first, that the document submitted to the Lower House last session by the Government Delegate as a copy of Mr. Ando's offer to resign the post of Chief of Police, was actually a copy of the original in the Government's possession, and not an interpolation; and secondly, that such being the case, Mr. Ando's further questions required no answer.

Mr. Ando declared that the document was nevertheless a forgery, and that he had evidence to prove the truth of his assertion. He trusted that the Government would re-investigate the subject and answer more explicitly.

Mr. Takenouchi, Government Delegate, said that at present no provision of law existed for confiscating land granted to Local Militiamen, or taking their arms from them, in the event of their failing to perform their allotted duty or violating the regulations under which they were enlisted. The first Bill on the Order was intended to remedy the deficiency.

The Bill was entrusted to a Special Committee.

The same Delegate, explaining the Second Bill, said that while regulations existed interdicting the sale or mortgaging of land held by Local Militiamen during the period of their service, no similar veto of law existed with regard to buildings and horses. The Second Bill was to supply such a veto.

The Bill was handed to the same Committee as the last.

In answer to a question, Mr. Watanabe, Minister of State for Finance, said that the Government opposed the Bill for taxing the Bank of Japan. The Bank was not a mere business enterprise. It had important functions to perform toward the State and toward the public. It constituted an integral part of the machinery of finance that the Government was trying to build up. The proper time to meddle with that machinery was certainly not the moment when the country was plunged in the disturbances connected with a serious foreign war. It seemed surprising that the Lower House should have chosen such a time to vote for the imposition of a tax on the Bank. The revenue obtained would only be a paltry 200,000 to 300,000 *yen*, and the House had simultaneously passed a Bill for amending the Brewing Tax Regulations that involved a loss of 3½ million *yen* for the year. Such methods of financing did not seem suited to a season when the country's needs in connection with the prosecution of the War might reach very large figures. The Government had been obliged to present a second War budget of 100 million *yen* to the Lower House the preceding day. In financing the War immense service was rendered by the Bank of Japan. It was always prepared to advance sums of a million or so, and, in point of fact, it had advanced from 25 to 30 millions at 5 per cent. since the beginning of the war. The victories won by Japan's arms were due, in the first place, to the loyalty and valour of the troops, but in the second, to the uninterrupted supply of munitions and weapons, which supply would have been impossible without an unbroken system of finance. Again, the fact that subscriptions aggregating 80 million *yen* had been offered when a war loan of 50 millions was floated, though due primarily to the patriotism of the public, had been also due largely to the clever management of the Bank of Japan. It was precisely because of the usefulness of the Bank in such times of emergency and also in averting monetary crises, that the privilege of issuing convertible notes was conferred on it, and the Government most emphatically opposed the idea of selecting such a time as the present to impose a tax upon an institution that deserved so well of the State and of the public.

The Bill was entrusted to a Special Committee, as was also the next Bill, without debate or question.

The Government Delegate having spoken against the next Bill as creating a temporary deficiency of revenue amounting to 3½ million *yen*, for meeting which no means had been provided, the Bill was handed to a Special Committee.

Marquis Daigo, on behalf of the Special Committee, reported that, while approving of the project of establishing Silk-conditioning Houses, the Committeee agreed with the Government Delegate's objection that such a matter should be arranged by Departmental regulation, and did not constitute a proper subject for legislation. The Committee hoped, however, that the Government would lose no time in making arrangements for establishing such institutions.

Mr. Fujita, Government Delegate, explained that the Government did not in truth consider the subject unsuited for legislation, and did not, on the other hand, think that the necessary funds could not be found without legislation. But the measure seemed difficult to

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An open ballot being taken, 56 voted for and 46 against the Second Reading of the Bill, and passed it immediately.

Marquis Nakanomikado, introducing the last motion, explained that its object was to provide that Managers for a conference of the two Houses should always be elected by open ballot, which seemed a much better system for such a purpose than the Sectional Elections now resorted to.

After some discussion, the motion was rejected.

The House rose at 2.30 p.m.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The House met at 1.14 p.m., the Order of the Day being :—

1.—Bill for amending the Naval Criminal Code.
2.—Bill relating to the Control of Pawnbrokers.
3.—Bill for amending the Mining Regulations.
4.—Bill for opening the port of Hakata to ships trading with Korea, China, or Vladivostock.
5.—Petitions.

Mr. Hamada Giichiro presented a question with regard to the Yokohama Harbour Works. He understood that considerable damage had been done to the works by the earthquake of the 18th ultimo. Was that the case? If so, what steps had been taken to repair it? Finally, what policy did the Government intend to pursue henceforth with regard to these works? The earthquake in question had not been so severe. It should not have caused any special damage. It appeared that the procedure and control of the Authorities in respect of so important a public work were very defective.

Rear-Admiral Ito having explained the first Bill in the same terms as those employed when introducing it in the Upper House, it was handed to a Special Committee.

The Managers appointed to confer with the Upper House having reported their approval of the amendments made by the Peers in the Pawnbrokers' Control Bill, it was adopted by the House.

In the absence of Mr. Nakamura Yaroku, who was to have introduced the next Bill, it was handed at once to a Special Committee.

The next Bill was handed, without comment, to the Special Committee already charged with the duty of reporting on similar Bills.

Mr. Yamada Taizo opposed the Petition for restoring their pensions to certain *shisotsu* of the former Ayabe Clan, and the House rejected it.

A petition for placing to the charges of the Treasury certain expenditures incurred in surveying public lands in Kagoshima Prefecture, which expenditures had been improperly levied upon the local taxes, led to some discussion, and was finally rejected.

The House rose at 2.45 p.m.

WAR NEWS.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 16TH.

On Friday evening news was received in Tokyo that Admiral Ting has committed suicide. The telegram is not official. It comes from Shanghai, and there is a hope that it may prove incorrect. But we greatly fear that such has been the end. After his surrender no peace remained for the Admiral on this side of the grave. In China he would have been regarded as a traitor. An exile in Japan, the world would have condemned him. For he fell short of his duty. That he was bound to surrender instead of uselessly sacrificing the lives of his men, admits of no question. But his surrender should have been preceded by the destruction of every ship, every weapon, and every article of warlike material entrusted to his charge. To preserve anything for transfer to the Japanese was to wreck his own reputation. The verdict of the public in such matters is easy to foresee. Doubtless Admiral Ting foresaw it. Possibly he could not induce his men to blow up the ships and dismantle the forts. The ignorant soldiers and sailors may have imagined that such a step, by way of preliminary to surrender, would seal their own fate. We can not but think that hypothesis very likely. The war has furnished abundant experience of the conduct of Chinese troops where flight is possible. Weihaiwei was the first instance where they had to choose between death or capitulation. Their idea of what is meant by capitulation is not our idea. Admiral Ting himself did not understand the matter, since he made his surrender conditional on an engagement absolutely binding, whether expressed or understood. The misapprehension suggested by the terms of his message to Admiral Ito probably existed in a large and more imperative shape in the minds of his men. If that be so, he was the victim of unhappy circumstances. If it be not so, his final choice was the sole method of saving his memory from execration. He was a brave, clever, genial, kindly man. To say that China has not many such would be to recant our unchanged faith in the capacities of an individually great nation. But no country can lose men of his stamp without mourning.

The telegraph says that the Viceroy Li has been appointed Peace Plenipotentiary to Japan, all his honours being restored. The message, too, is not official, but we are disposed to believe it. When the news reached Pekin that the Chang mission failed because of the Envoy's defective credentials, steps were immediately taken to prepare a document in strict accord with the most approved form. At first the idea was to telegraph amended powers to Chang at Nagasaki, with an engagement to forward the necessary documents immediately. But the telegraph was evidently useless in such a case, and Chang and Shao could no longer be worthily entrusted with a mission the original failure of which had demonstrated their own ignorance of diplomatic etiquette not less than their Government's imprudent self-sufficiency. Moreover, their continued stay in Japanese territory would have been a solecism as glaring as the character of their credentials. Hence they were ordered to proceed to Shanghai—an unavoidable and natural step which nevertheless suggested the silliest conceivable interpretations to giddy journalists. The Pekin Government then began to talk of sending one of the Princes, but ultimately their choice seems to have fallen on the Viceroy Li. We say "seems to have fallen," for we beg our readers to understand clearly that we do not vouch for the correctness of the news. If Li comes, he will succeed. China could not possibly send a better representative to Japan. His high position will take the place of a material concession; his progressive reputation will give weight to all his pleas. There is only one difficulty. It is a matter of no small moment for Li Chung-tang to quit China. He holds so many threads of statecraft in his hands that to let them go, even for a month, may involve hopeless entanglement. Yet, that he should move expeditiously is essential. His arrival in Japan within a fortnight would save the situation. Postponement for a month or six weeks would develop phases doubly troublesome to deal with. Mr. Foster is in Shanghai. If Pigeon Bay be still free from ice the journey from Tientsin to Hiroshima need not be a matter of more than ten days.

It is reported that the man Howie is among the foreigners taken prisoner at Weihaiwei, and that the Japanese military authorities gave a special guarantee with regard to him. He was not worth it.

The *Jiji Shimpo* writes a kind of obituary notice about the celebrated Peiyang Squadron. We need not re-produce the details of the epitaph. Its broad facts are that including gunboats and three ships originally belonging to the Southern Fleet, the Peiyang Squadron, at the commencement of the war, consisted of 27 ships and 10 torpedo-boats. These have fared as follows: 1 sunk and 1 captured in the Phyong-do engagement; 5 lost in the Yalu battle; 5 sunk and 12 taken (1 iron-clad, 3 cruisers, and 8 gun-boats) at Weihaiwei; and 10 torpedo-boats captured or destroyed on the 7th instant. Thus 24 ships out of the 27, and 34 out of the total Squadron of 37, have been lost by China. On the other hand, Japan has not lost a single ship. That is a remarkable record.

The *Nippon* thinks that the Chinese loss on the 30th ultimo was 1,000 killed, of whom 300 were drowned in attempting to escape. We do not think so. Perhaps the total casualties, including the wounded, may be put at that number. Our contemporary adds that 5,000 bags of hulled and 1,000 of unhulled rice, each bag containing 6 *to*, 10,000 stand of small arms and an immense quantity of ammunition fell into the hands of the Japanese on that day.

The *Jiji Shimpo* says that probably 8 gunboats were captured in Weihaiwei, of which 6 are of steel, 440 tons each, one of wood, 950 tons, and one, also of wood, 1,300 tons, a kind of training ship. On that hypothesis the total tonnage of the ships captured, irrespective of the torpedo-boats, is 16,495, representing a value of 10 million *yen*, at a low calculation. The *Kokkai*, however, puts the number of the surrendered vessels at 11 only, and estimates their total crews at 1,500 men. As yet no trustworthy statement is published about the number of troops on the islands of Zhih, Hwang, and Liukung.

MONDAY FEBRUARY, 18HT.

It will have been observed that for several days we have remained absolutely without intelligence from the seat of war in Manchuria. Possibly the stirring character of events at Weihaiwei may have occupied public attention to the exclusion of other matters, but it was certain that important news might at any moment be expected from the Kaiping-Haicheng line. Day after day telegrams had come to Japan all in the same strain: announcing a gradual increase of the Chinese forces in the neighbourhood of Yingkow and Newchwang proper. The last message from the Head-quarters Staff of the First Army, dated the 9th instant, indicated the exact number of the Chinese troops stationed here and there throughout Shinking, the total being 90,000 in round numbers. It must not be supposed, however, that the whole of that great army was available for active operations against Haicheng or Kaiping. On the contrary, three bodies, totalling 29,600, formed the forces distributed along the Mukden-Zenghwan line; that is to say, the forces guarding the approaches to the capital of Manchuria *viâ* Chiulien, Fenghwan, and the Motien Pass. These troops being far away in the east of Shinking, and being also confronted by Major-General Tatsumi and the greater part of the Fifth Division, could not be employed against Lieut.-General Katsura's Division in Haicheng, or Major-General Nogi's Brigade in Kaiping. There were further two bodies, aggregating 7,000 men, at places 20 miles to the east, and 25 miles to the north, of Suiyen. These constituted a sort of central force not directly connected with the defence of either the easterly or the westerly route of approach to Mukden, and not likely to be included in any army moving against Haicheng. Thus it resulted, finally, that the Chinese forces in the west of Shinking totalled 53,500, approximately, and of these 34,000 had their headquarters at Yingkow and Tienchwangtai, and 19,500 at Laoyang. Of the Laoyang Army some 15,000 had been moved down to the north-west of Haicheng, and had made two abortive attempts to recover that place, on the 17th January and the 22nd of January. These assaults were easily repulsed, but their invertebrate character did not involve any heavy loss to the assailants, nor was any radical efforts made by Katsura to disperse the Chinese Army. The latter did not retreat, therefore, to a great distance, but located itself at places within a radius of 15 or 20 miles on the west and north of Haicheng. Thenceforth, reinforcements from Shanhaikwan were gradually moved over to swell the Yingkow-Tienchwangtai Army under Sung, until, on February 9th, it had reached a strength of 34,000 men, and was under the immediate orders of Liu Kwan-yi, the newly appointed Generalissimo of the Chinese Metropolitan and Manchurian Forces.

For the sake of readers not sufficiently patient to follow the above details, it may be convenient to re-state the position briefly as it was when we last heard (Feb. 9th) from Chinchow and Suiyen, the Head Quarters of the First and Third Divi-

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sions, respectively. Major-General Nogi was then in Kaiping with a combative force of some 8,000 of all arms. Confronting him at Yingkow and in its vicinity were Generals Liu and Sung, with 34,000 men, the tendency of the Chinese being gradually to push forward toward Kaiping, and even to thrust themselves between that place and Haicheng. Lieut.-General Katsura was at Haicheng, with a force of some 16,000 of all arms, and confronting him on the west and north were about an equal number of Chinese, under Su, Chang, Han, and I, who had been twice defeated in attempts to recover Haicheng three weeks previously.

The general belief then was that Liu and Sung, marching northward from Yingkow, would deliver an attack in great force against Haicheng, Su and I moving simultaneously against the place from the north and west. That was a reversal of the sequence of events anticipated when Nogi captured Kaiping. What seemed most probable then was that Katsura from Haicheng and Nogi from Kaiping would combine forces for an attack on Sung's army at Yingkow and Tienchwangtai. (If our readers will consult the map issued by us some time ago, showing the military position in south-western Shinking, they will easily follow what we write here.) It certainly does not consist with the rôle of an invading army to sit down quietly in any positions, however, important, and await the enemy's attack, or allow him to mass his forces with the object of opposing the invaders' further advdnce. On the other hand, an invader's movements must be determined by the immediate object in view. Katsura and Nogi could only have one of two purposes in advancing westward from Haicheng and Kaiping respectively. They might desire, in the first place, to occupy Yingkow and thus obtain possession of the mouth of the Liao River. The ultimate aim of such an operation would be to get command of the water-way to Mukden. But at present, that water-way is not available, being closed by ice, and Yingkow itself has neither strategical nor material importance, nor is an immediate advance against Mukden contemplated. In the second place, they might wish to crush Sung's army. The direct purpose of that enterprise would be to open the coast-wise route to Chinchow and Shanhaikwan. But if, as is not improbable, an expedition is to proceed against Shanhaikwan, the long and arduous over-land road would assuredly not be chosen, when the whole coast of the Gulf of Pechili lies at Japan's mercy, and when she possesses a fine flotilla of transports to carry her troops over-sea. Apart from these purposes, there is no visible reason for pushing westward of the Kaiping-Haicheng-Laoyang line. In the district lying between it and the Mukden-Shanhaikwan highway, there are no places of any importance, and until Mukden itself is reduced and the forces massed about it are dispersed, a prolongation of the already lengthy Japanese line of communications from the Yalu *vid* Suiyen would be highly inconvenient and imprudent. This analysis does not exhaust the case. Assuming that there is any intention of striking at Shanhaikwan over-sea, it becomes an evident object to draw from the garrison at that place as large as possible a contingent for service in Shinking. So long as the Chinese choose to mass large armies at such places as Tienchwangtai, Yinkow, and Newchwang, three weeks' march from the gate to Pechili, they are playing the Japanese game. Nearly a month ago, when certain war correspondents would have pushed up the Liaotung peninsula to Kaiping and Haicheng, they were warned that nothing specially worth reporting need be expected there. Thenceforth it became a fair inference that any operations undertaken from Haicheng and Kaiping in the near future would be coördinated with, or subordinated to, some large and important enterprise, not directly concerning Manchuria. The inactivity of Katsura and Nogi consequently ceased to be surprising, nor did it suggest any of the disquieting contingencies that have been freely predicted by superficial critics.

From the 12th instant an interval without [illegible] intelligence ensued, owing apparently to interruptions of telegraphic communication. One occurred between Chinchow and Port Arthur, and on the next day another break between Pitszwo and Liangchiatien, these accidents being attributed to violent storms and heavy snow. But on the 15th the line was re-opened, and we are now in receipt of intelligence that, on the 16th instant, the Chinese made a third attempt to recover Haicheng. The official telegram on the subject, from Lieut.-General Nozu, is brief :—

To-day (16th), the enemy advanced from three directions, Laoyang, Newchwang, and Yingkow against Haicheng. At about noon they attacked Tangwangshan (a hill some 3,000 metres from Haicheng) and were driven back with great loss, but the number of their casualties is not yet ascertained. Another body attacked at Sanriyoshan (a hill on the N.E. of Haicheng, 3,000 metres distant) and was driven back at 1 p.m. They fled in a northerly direction, leaving about 100 dead. The remainder of the enemy's force did not come into action. It advanced along the Newchwang road, but halted about 7½ miles away on the north-west. Our casualties were 3 killed and 10 wounded, the latter including 1 officer. The Chinese forces engaged to-day were those of Su, Chang, and I. They numbered some 15,000 and had 12 guns.

It would appear from the fact of a part of the assaulting forces having come by the Yingkow road, that the Southern Army of Liu and Sung cöoperated in the affair. On the other hand, the Generals mentioned—Su, Chang, and I—all belong to the Laoyang Army. Moreover, had the Southern Army participated, it is probable that the forces employed in the enterprise would have exceeded 15,000. Possibly General Nozu's estimate is exclusive of the contingent that halted on the Newchwang road and did not come into action. At all events, the affair was another fiasco. An army of 15,000 men marches to recover a position of the utmost strategical importance, and retires after killing 3 of the garrison and wounding 10. However, it is evident that the Chinese appreciate the value of Haicheng. They have now made three attempts to recover it.

The *Kokkai* gives a somewhat more detailed account of the above, but we learn nothing more than that the Japanese reserved their fire until the enemy came within easy range, and then poured in such a storm of bullets that the Chinese were at once demoralized. The *Kokkai* estimates the total Chinese loss at 150 killed and an unknown number of wounded, but the official telegram speaks of 100 killed at one point, and a heavy loss at another, from which we deduce a longer list than 150.

There is unhappily no doubt about the suicide of Admiral Ting. The following official telegram from Marshal Oyama, *per* Captain Harada, has been received :—

February 14th.

At 8.30 a.m. on the 12th instant, an envoy came from the enemy to the Flag-ship *Matsushima*, with a message to the effect that they were prepared to surrender their ships, forts, and material of war, provided that we promised to spare the lives of all their naval and military men and provided that we gave a guarantee to that effect through the British Admiral. On the 13th instant at 5.30 p.m., an agreement was come to in that sense, excepting the condition with regard to the British Admiral. That same night Admiral Ting, Commodore Lin Pushan, and General Chang Wansuen, committed suicide, having addressed a letter entrusting matters to us. From to-day (14th) we shall take over the garrison of Liukung Island, and to-morrow, conducting them beyond our lines, will liberate them. A similar step will subquently be taken in the case of the sailors and marines. As for the officers and the foreigners, I have not yet definitely decided, but they will probably be carried over-sea to some convenient place and set free.

OYAMA,
(Signed) Commander-in Chief of the Second Army.

Were confirmation of the above needed, it would be furnished by the following from Captain Harada, dated 7 p.m., 13th instant, from Lungshin Bay :—

Yesterday the Naval Commander-in-chief informed the enemy's delegate that the Field Marshal was prepared to comply with the terms of peace and that the Chinese Commander-in-Chief should open the port and send word to that effect by 10 a.m. the following day. This morning, before the appointed time, a messenger arrived, reporting that Admiral Ting, Commodore Liu, and General Chang had committed sfficide during the night, entrusting the subsequent management of everything to an Englishman named McClure, with whom Admiral Ito is now in communication.

A telegram despatched from Port Arthur at 6 p.m. on the 13th instant, and apparently delayed owing to a break in the line, says :—

Yesterday (12th) at 9 a.m., a detached troop of cavalry belonging to the Second Division occupied Ninghai (30 miles from Weihaiwei on the coast toward Chefoo) without any resistance from the enemy. The officer in command reports that no signs of the enemy are observable to the east of Kwanchia tien. The people of the district allege that on the 8th and 9th instant, the enemy's forces at Kwanchia tien, divided into two bodies, the larger of which retired to Fushan (a fortified town, 10 miles south of Chefoo), and the smaller to Yentai. The people of Ninghai and district show no hostility toward us, but are rather disposed to welcome our troops.

Ninghai is about half-way between Weihaiwei and Chefoo.

We learn that, according to a telegram from Shanghai, the Foreign Ministers have ordered the guards of Marines from Tientsin to Pekin. It is difficult to credit this in view of the positive assertion recently made that, in deference to the assurances of the Chinese Government, all idea of getting foreign guards for the Legations had been abandoned. Besides, had such a step been taken, we imagine that some official intelligence would have reached Tokyo by telegram, but such is not the case. We may mention here that the statement published by certain vernacular newspapers, to the effect that a telegram had been received at the British Legation in Tokyo, announcing the appointment of Prince Kung and the Viceroy Li as Peace Envoys to Japan, is entirely baseless.

A telegram from Pekin, for the credibility of which we do not vouch, says that a difficulty has arisen about the payment of the military expenses incurred by General von Hanneken. The German Representative is alleged to have interviewed the Ministers of the Tsung-li Yamên on the subject—we really do not see how the German Minister could properly interfere in such a matter—but the Chinese Government deny General von Hanneken's authority.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 19TH.

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* publishes a conversation that took place between an officer of one of the Chinese torpedo-boats, taken prisoner on the 7th instant, and the captain of one of the Japanese torpedo-boats. The Chinese officer seems to have been an excellent speaker of English.

How long have you been in the service?

For the last six years. I have served in the *Ting-yuen* and the *Wei-yuen*.

What ship were you in at the time of the attack on Port Arthur?

I was in a torpedo-boat in Weihaiwei.

Who is now in command of the garrison at Liukung Island?

General Cheng Wansuen.

What has become of General Liu Chao-pei?

He is on Liukung island, having been wounded on the 5th instant (old reckoning).

And General Tai Tsing-chien?

He poisoned himself with opium two or three days ago.

Where is Admiral Ting at present?

He is on the *Chen-yuen*.

Is the *Chen-yuen* serviceable?

She ran on a sunken rock some time ago but is serviceable now.

How many torpedo-boats are now in Weihaiwei harbour?

Twelve.

What did the torpedo-boats do to-day when our fleet attacked the forts?

They all went out of the port. So far as I saw, six of them, pursued by the *Yoshino*, scattered in all directions.

How many men-of-war are now in Weihaiwei? Tell me their names and those of their commanders.

The *Chen-yuen*, Captain Yang; the *Ching-yuen*, Captain Yeu Tau kwei; the *Ping-yuen*; the *Ting-yuen*, Captain Lai; the *Kwang ping*, Captain Tei He kei; the *Zi yuen*, Captain Liu Kwo-sing; and

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What force is there now in Liukung Island?

I do not know exactly, but I think two or three thousand.

What provisions are there in Liukung?

Provisions for four months.

What ammunition is there in the Liukung forts and in the ships?

I am not certain, but I think that each gun has from three to five hundred rounds.

What duty was assigned to your torpedo-boats when the Japanese squadrons blockaded Weihaiwei?

To act on the defensive.

Was there no idea on the part of the fleet or the torpedo-boats to leave the port at this juncture?

There was.

With what motive were all the junks burned along the shore when our troops took possession of Weihaiwei on the 2nd instant?

I don't know. I suppose it was done by Admiral Ting's orders.

After the destruction of three of your vessels by our torpedoes the night before last, what duty was assigned to your torpedo-boats?

A defensive junction, as before.

What order did your torpedo flotilla act upon when it came out of port this morning during the attack?

We were ordered by Admiral Ting to go out and destroy as many of the Japanese ships as we could.

Then why did you run away if you had orders to attack?

It is true that we had orders to attack, but the *Yoshino* sighted us, and we were unable to achieve our purpose.

Was it the original intention that you should return to Weihaiwei?

Our torpedo-boats could steam only 18 knots and were consequently quite inferior to your ships in point of speed. We did not hope to get back to Weihaiwai. But the *Feilung* having had her screw broken by the *Yoshino*, was disabled, and I had to run her ashore, and she was captured by a party of your troops.

Is there no intention of surrendering?

Why should there be? The land forces owe their repeated defeats to their failure to work together, but there is no such defect on the part of the navy.

What then is the present spirit of the navy?

To fight daily, if need be.

Then are Admiral Ting and the rest resolved to fight till they fall?

Yes. If they had not intended to fight on they would have beat a retreat long ago.

Where is Admiral Ting now?

In the *Chen yuen*.

Are the defeats of the land forces due to their failure to render each other mutual support? Is there no other reason?

Defective preparations in time of peace and hasty organization in time of emergency are additional causes.

Was there no intention of marching forces from Yentai to recover Weihaiwei?

I have not heard that such was the case.

How many foreigners are there now in Liukung Island?

Seven or eight.

Can you tell me their names and occupations?

There is an English doctor named Kirk; an engineer named Hoare (?); and a German gunnery instructor, Schone (?). These three are old employés and are usually in Liukung. Then there are three Englishmen, Thomas, Mayers (?) and Machure, and an American, Harvey (?). These four were recently engaged, and are in the ships, changing from one ship to another occasionally. I do not know the names of any others.

Where did you learn English?

I was in America for 9 years, from 1873 to 1881.

Were you set free would you rejoin the torpedo flotilla and fight against us?

Yes, I should.

Did Admiral Ting receive a letter from the Japanese Navy?

Yes, he did. After reading it, he paused for a time and said:—

"From the point of view of comradeship I admire the sentiments expressed, but I owe a duty to my country that can not be neglected. I can die but once."

Do your people suppose that if they surrendered to the Japanese they would be killed?

Yes. They have heard that all the soldiers surrendering to the Japanese at Port Arthur were killed.

That is not so. It is the opposite of the truth. When men surrender to our army they receive proper treatment, according to their military rank. Of the Chinese troops, on the contrary, it may be affirmed that they treat our people with shocking cruelty. Is not that so?

It may be that some of the land forces are guilty of such acts through ignorance, but there is nothing of the kind on the part of the navy.

What was the number of your torpedo-boats?

The Right and Left Squadrons consisted of 3 boats each; then there was one from the Fuchien fleet; two from Port Arthur; and four attached to the *Ting-yuen* and *Chen-yuen*, making 13 in all. The whole of these left the harbour on the 7th instant.

Where is Captain Machure?

With Admiral Ting.

And Powiss (?) and the rest?

He was killed at the battle of Haiyang. Presmy (?), Squire, Nelson, and Johnstone all went to Chefoo when they heard that the Japanese had landed at Yungcheng.

What foreigners remain?

Dr. Kirk is at the hospital in Liukung Island. Howard is at the Liukung Arsenal, and Thomas at the mainland forts? The rest having been recently engaged, I do not know their names. Probably there is a foreign gunnery instructor in each of the cruisers.

Our information is that there are three regiments under Chang, namely, 1,500 men, in Liukung Island. Is not your estimate of two or three thousand too high?

Yes, but I am told that two regiments crossed over from Weihaiwei on the 1st instant. If so there should be from two to three thousand.

When the troops retired from the western forts of Weihaiwei, did they dismantle them?

No. They left them as they were. Admiral Ting landed sailors and caused them to be dismantled.

The *Official Gazette* contains the following:—

Hiroshima, February 17th, 8.28 p.m.

To the Naval Department.

At 11 p.m. last night (February 16th) the *Yayeyama Kan*, which had left Yinshankow towing two torpedo-boats taken from the enemy, brought the following report from Rear-Admiral Tsuboi.

Vice-Admiral Ito telegraphs as follows under date of the 13th instant:—

Yesterday, the 12th, in the forenoon, a Chinese gunboat, the *Chanpoh*, flying a white flag and under the command of (name illegible), came carrying a letter from Admiral Ting, the purport of which was that, having fought resolutely and had his ships destroyed and his men decimated, he purposed to cease fighting, and now desired only to save the lives of his men. He would, therefore, hand over all the ships, forts, and weapons of war, provided that we undertook to spare the lives of his officers, men and others, foreigners included, and to allow them all to return to their native places. If this condition were accepted, he desired that the Commander-in-Chief of the British Navy should be made guarantor. I replied thus:—"I agree to your proposal, and shall be ready to receive the men-of-war and other things to-morrow. The time and arrangements shall be matters for future discussion. Our ships will carry your men to some convenient place. It is unnecessary, however, that the British Admiral should act as guarantor. I shall expect a definite reply to this letter by 10 a.m. to-morrow." I further recommended that, so far as concerned Admiral Ting himself, the best plan for him would be to remain in Japan until the war was over. To-day, at 8.30 a.m., the messenger of yesterday came again, with a letter from Admiral Ting, saying:—"I am deeply gratified for the sake of my people that you have accepted my proposal. But as there are many preparations to be made with regard to the men's packing, I should wish that the transfer of everything might be deferred until after the 16th instant." The messenger informs me that after he had finished writing the above letter, Admiral Ting said:—"It is all over with me," and killed himself. The Captain of the *Ting yuen* and the Commander-in Chief of the land forces on Liukung Island also committed suicide. I appreciate the fact that they have many preparations to make and consider that their request for delay until the 16th is reasonable. I have therefore consented, but have instructed them that a responsible Chinese officer, not a foreigner, must come to my ship by 6 p.m. on the appointed day to make the necessary arrangements.

The sequel of the above is contained in a telegram from Shanghai which says that the Japanese occupied Liukung Island on the 15th instant; that the garrison and the foreigners were allowed to depart with their belongings unmolested, except Mr. Howie, who is retained for trial by court martial. The foreigners are said to have gone on board H.M.S. *Severn*, and were expected soon in Shanghai. The *Chen-yuen* and six gunboats—the telegram goes on to say,—were taken over by the Japanese, and they expect to float the other iron-clad, *Ting-yuen*.

With regard to Howie, he is one of the men formerly arrested on board the French steamer *Sydney* and liberated on parole. He gave a written undertaking not to fight against the Japanese during the present war, and he received a sum of money to carry him back to America. It will be remembered that a recent telegram was interpreted to mean that a special engagement was given by the Japanese with regard to Howie, but it now appears that the telegram's real signification was that Howie was excepted from the general engagement. The court-martial will doubtless condemn him to be shot, and he thoroughly deserves that fate. But of course it will end in his being sent about his business.

News comes from Shanghai that 4,000 Japanese troops are at Ninghai, and that Japanese scouts are reported to be within 7 miles fo Chefoo.

The *Asahi* gives the following list of casualties on board the Japanese ships at the bombardments of Zhih, Liukung, &c.

	Killed.	Wounded.
Matsushima..	0	1 Navigating Commander.
		1 Navigating Sub-Lieutenant.
Tsukushi	1 Sub-officer.	1 Midshipman.
	2 Marines (1st class).	1 Marine (1st class).
		1 Cook.
		1 Marine (2nd class).
Yoshino.....	2 Marines (1st class).	1 Marine (1st class).
		2 Marines (2nd class).
		1 Blue-jacket (2nd class).
Akitsushima.	0	1 Marine (1st class).
		1 do (2nd class).
Fuso	1 Marine (2nd class).	8 Marines (2nd class).
		1 Marine (3rd class).
		1 Blue-jacket (1st class).
		1 Blue-jacket (2nd class).
		1 Cook (3rd class).
Total.....	6	18

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 20TH.

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* gives the total number of Japanese naval officers and men killed or wounded during the operations at Weihaiwei. The figures are: killed 27, including 2 officers and 2 petty-officers; wounded, 38, including 1 Commander, 3 officers, 2 probationaries, and 32 seamen. The grand total therefore is 65.

With reference to this the *Jiji Shimpo* makes an interesting comparison. It says that the performances of the torpedo-boats at Weihaiwei may well be placed on a level with the doings of the fleet at the battle of September 17th in the Yellow Sea. On the latter occasion 11 Japanese ships-of-war encountered 14 Chinese with 6 torpedo-boats. The fight lasted 4 hours, and the enemy had 5 ships burned or sunk, the two iron-clads, *Ting-yuen* and *Chen-yuen* being also considerably damaged. On the Japanese side the *Matsushima*, *Hiyei*, *Akagi*, *Naniwa*, *Chiyoda*, *Itsukushima* and *Hashidate* were all more or less injured, but not one was incapacitated for more than a very brief interval. The Japanese list of casualties was 69 killed and 160 wounded. *Per contra*, in the torpedo attacks at Weihaiwei, one of the enemy's iron-clads and four other vessels of his were sunk, whereas the Japanese lost only one or two torpedo-boats, and had but 9 killed on the spot, and 31 wounded, of whom 2 died afterwards and 5 were drowned, the indirect result of the operation being the surrender of the remnant of the enemy's squadron.

The most detailed account hitherto published of the torpedo attack at Weihaiwei is given by the war correspondent of the *Kokkai*. He writes: On the 5th instant, the commanders of the torpedo-boats were assembled in the

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the flotilla, No. 22, and were informed that it had been definitely decided to deliver a torpedo attack that night at 2 a.m., and that they were to hold themselves in readiness. At 1 a.m. the First and Second Squadrons left Yinshankow and proceeded to the eastern entrance of the Bay. About 2 hours after their departure two flashes were seen inside the Bay and loud reports were heard, from which we concluded that the attack had commenced. At dawn the torpedo-boats came back. The first to arrive was No. 19; she had 4 men wounded on board. Her story was this:—Having crossed the boom with great difficulty she proceeded in the direction of the enemy's fleet, and on the way met one of our torpedo-boats, from which she learned that No. 9, after getting safely through the boom, had steamed on amid pitchy darkness, taking a little light ahead as a guide, until she arrived in the neighbourhood of Liukung Island. There she put her engines at full speed, and suddenly saw, looming above her like a mountain a big ship at which she discharged torpedoes from all her tubes. The enemy, roused to the fact that they were being attacked, at once opened a heavy fire with rifles and cannon. The torpedo-boat thereupon changed her course, and delivered another discharge, but almost immediately she received a shell in her boiler, 4 of her men being scalded to death, 3 seriously burned, and 1 slightly wounded. Moreover, the steam began to escape and the boat lost her power of motion at a distance of only 200 or 300 metres from the enemy's squadron. The crew had nothing for it but to wait, prepared to be sent to the bottom at dawn of day. But at that moment No. 19 came upon the scene, and taking the disabled boat in tow, pulled it to the shore. The remaining boats then gradually came back, but it was found that No. 22 was missing. Inquiries showed that she had run on a rock when steaming back, and that her commander, lieutenant, and six or seven of her men had probably been killed. This boat, No. 22, had led the attack and been fortunate enough to descry the enemy, bearing down and discharging her torpedoes. But, while she was on her way back a shot smashed her steering gear, and she became unmanageable and ran on a rock. Her crew set themselves to get ashore three or four at a time in a small boat, but on the second journey the boat was upset and became unavailable to take off the six men remaining on board. Day now broke, whereupon the *Tsiyuen* and two other ships of the enemy with 5 or 6 torpedo-boats came and opened fire on No. 22 as she lay on the rock. It was supposed that they had all been killed, including Lieutenant Fukushima, a total of 7 men, but at noon on the 5th (the day of the attack) signs of life were observed on board, and a boat putting off, found the commanding officer and four men safe, sub-lieutenant Suzuki and a seaman having been killed. These two had been knocked overboard by a shot from the enemy and had tried to make the shore by swimming, but their feet and hands becoming helpless from cold, they had been frozen to death. Two other men also had been frozen to death at the time of the upsetting of the boat. All the rest of the torpedo-boats had been in more or less peril, but No. 22 and No. 9 fared worst. The others were able to steam back. On the night following (the 5th), the First Torpedo Squadron went into the Bay and repeated the attack, but all the boats composing it came back safely on the morning of the 6th. Examining the state of the harbour on the 6th, it was seen that the *Ting-yuen* was down by the stern and seemed about to sink. The *Lai-yuen* was lying on her side, showing her bottom, and the *Wei-yuen* and a gunboat had sunk altogether. Such were the results of the torpedo squadrons' attacks on the 5th and 6th. Thenceforth the enemy's fighting capacity seemed to be at an end. Their ships were incapable of bombarding our forts. It was resolved to canonnade the island forts from 7 a.m. on the 7th instant, the ships of our fleet and the eastern forts co-operating. The Principal Squadron, and the First, Second, Third, and Fourth Flying Squadrons assembled at the eastern entrance for the purpose, when a cloud of smoke was observed at the western entrance. Thinking that the Chinese ships were about to attempt an escape, the Principal and First Flying Squadron at once went in pursuit, and found that the enemy's torpedo flotilla was trying to get away. It was pursued, and 11 torpedo-boats were taken or run ashore. Meanwhile, the Second, Third, and Fourth Flying Squadrons, in conjunction with the eastern forts, among which the fort of Chaopoh-tsui was used that day for the first time, the damage caused by the explosion of the magazine at the time of the enemy's flight having been repaired, began a bombardment. The Chinese replied from Zhih and Liukung islands. It was a tremendous cannonade. One of our shells struck the powder-magazine on Zhih island and blew it up."

His Majesty the Emperor has addressed messages of approval to the Army and Navy in connection with the capture of Weihaiwei. The message to the Army runs thus:—

Weihaiwei and Port Arthur were the gate of China. When you passed through the latter, you opened one leaf of the gate. By your capture of the former, you have now completely broken down the gate. We strongly applaud your conduct.

The message to the Navy is as follows:—

Weihaiwei is a cardinal position of command in respect of the Yellow Sea and the Gulf of Pechili, in addition to being the enemy's naval base of operations. You have well protected the landing of the Army; have completed the capture of the rear fortifications of the place; have broken down its powerful defences; have sunk the enemy's strong ships, and have destroyed the Peiyang Squadron.

We strongly applaud your conduct.

Her Majesty the Empress has also conveyed the following through Viscount Kagawa, Grand Chamberlain:—

Her Majesty the Empress, learning that the Second Army has captured Weihaiwei and broken open the gate of the enemy's country, has directed Viscount Kagawa, Grand Chamberlain, to convey to the officers and men Her Majesty's deep satisfaction and profound appreciation of their loyalty and courage.

The corpses of Admiral Ting and other high officers that died with him arrived at Chefoo on the 18th instant on board the *Kangchi*. The Japanese ships saluted as the vessel was steaming out of Weihaiwei, and the Japanese officers paid to the Admiral's memory a touching tribute that is said to have produced a deep impression on foreigners and Chinese alike.

A telegram from Shanghai yesterday says that the Viceroy Li has handed over the seals of his Viceroyalty, and is to start for Pekin on the 21st in order to have audience with the Emperor on the 24th. The telegram adds that Mr. Foster is to go north to meet the Viceroy.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 21TH.

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun's* War correspondents sends to that journal a long letter, written on board the *Takachiho Kan*. After referring very briefly to the movements of the troops on the 26th ultimo and following days, he says:—"On the morning of the 30th at 6 a.m. our ships steamed towards the entrance to the harbour. Looking shoreward, we saw the smoke of big guns everywhere and heard the perpetual roar of cannon. It was evident that a heavy engagement was in progress. The *Chen-yuen* lay motionless near the eastern entrance as if she was ashore. Our Third and Fourth Flying Squadrons, consisting of the *Tsukushi*, the *Akagi*, the *Maya*, the *Katsuragi*, the *Famato*, and the *Musashi*, had received orders to cooperate with the land forces in the attack on Pohchihyai, and they accordingly steamed along in front of Liukung Island, accompanied by the *Centurion* and two other British ships, and by one French vessel. Altogether there was a fleet of some 30 ships, large a small, assembled near the eastern and western entrances. At 10 a.m. another British ship steamed up, but headed direct for Chefoo without joining the assemblage. The enemy in mistake fired at her, but their shells fell a good distance off, and she steamed away at full speed. At a little after noon, looking toward the eastern entrance, we observed a puff of smoke rise on the left of Liukung Island, apparently from the seal We supposed at first that it was caused by the firing of the 30-centimetre gun in Lingman-tsui fort, but the great volume of smoke, and the fact that it was followed at 12.30 p.m. by a similar explosion, indicated that the enemy were firing their own powder-magazines and retreating. At 2 p.m. the *Tsukushi*, *Akagi*, *Chokai*, *Maya*, *Yamato*, and *Katsuragi*, hoisting their flags for action, steamed along Liukung Island, the forts of which made no special effort to cannonade them, sending only 5 or 6 shells into the neighbourhood of the *Tsukushi*. At 3 p.m., when the ships were in the vicinity of Pohchihyai, the flag-ships ran up a signal that the army had capturned the forts there. We then observed a big ship, evidently the *Ting-yuen*, on the east of Liukung, and on the West the *Ping-yuen*, *Tsi-yuen*, and *Chen-yuen*, together with two gunboats. The Second Flying Squadron now steamed toward Zhih Island, and the *Fuso* fired a shell from her 20-cent. gun. While we were watching to see where it fell, a puff of smoke rose over the Zhih fort, and we observed that the enemy had opened fire. The three ships of the squadron fired one or two shells each, but the range was too great: the missiles from both sides fell short, and the *Fuso*, seeing the uselessness of the proceeding, put out to sea. · · At sunset the English and French ships went away to Yungcheng Bay, and the Principal Squadron, with the Second Flying Squadron, lay off the eastern entrance to prevent the enemy's exit; the First Flying Squadron taking up a position about twenty miles away; and the Third and Fourth Squadrons lying near Chiwu Island. The Torpedo Flotilla divided into three Squadrons, of which the First guarded the western entrance, while the two others entered the harbour from the east. · · · From that night forward, one fourth of the crew of each ship was kept constantly on watch lest the enemy should attempt to escape · · · On the 2nd instant, the *Fuso*, *Hiyei*, *Kongo*, and *Takao* engaged the forts on the east and south of the island at a range of from 4,000 to 5,000 metres. The enemy's aim was not bad, but they failed to get the range. Many of our shells fell near the shore and burst without doing any damage. · · · Mutual cannonading was ultimately in progress at five different places. · · · Of the enemy's ships, the *Lai-yuen* fought best that day. She showed no fear of the shells directed against her from the forts, but bombarded them stoutly. The *Ting-yuen* also fired many rounds, the shells from her 31½-cent. guns carrying a great distance, and of the *Ching-yuen*, *Tsi-yuen*, *Ping-yuen*, and *Kwang-ping*, some fired one or two rounds each and some did not fire at all. Five British and one French ship watched these operations most of the time, but the *Centurion* and the French ship steamed away unobserved, and only four foreign vessels remained. Every night the First Flying Squadron kept ward at the Western entrance, the Princial Squadron at the Eastern, and the Second, Third, and Fourth Flying Squadrons remained off the coast. At 11 a.m. on the 4th the Flagship ran up a signal that with the exception of Liukung and Zhih islands all the forts on the mainland were taken. The enemy's ships were now like fish in a net. They had completely blocked their own exit on the east, and to get out on the west they would have to pass under the guns of our forts at a range of 2,000 metres. They could not continue for ever lying under the shadow of the island. Presently a big flag was run up on the peak of Liukung Island and the ships inside the harbour responded by hoisting large ensigns. Strong as the Peiyang Squadron was we imagined that, after the fall of all the main-land forts, it was now going to surrender, but, on the contrary, at 4 p.m., the *Lai-yuen* and the *Ting-yuen* again steamed out from Liukung and fired two or three shells at our forts. We could not but admire their pluck in fighting under such circumstances.

Admiral Ito reports from Weihaiwei, under date of the 17th instant:—"Our whole fleet entered Weihaiwei harbour this morning. We took delivery of the *Chen-yuen* (iron-clad), the *Tsi-yuen*, the *Ping-yuen*, and the *Kwang-ping* (cruisers), and the *Chen-pien*, *Chen-chung*,

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Chen-poh, *Chen-nan*, *Chen-pia*, and *Chen-tung* (gun-boats), as well as of the island forts, the torpedo station, and other buildings. Crews were sent on board the *Chen-yuen*, *Tsi-yuen*, and *Kwang-ping*. So soon as the necessary preparations are completed, the *Chen-yuen* will be temporarily sent to Port Arthur; the rest will go to Japan. The forts and torpedo stations are now in charge of marines from Port Arthur. The *Kwan-chi* had her armament removed and was given to the Chinese to convey the remains of Admiral Ting.

Another attempt against the Japanese positions in Shinking has been made by the Chinese. This time the object of their attack was Tomucheng, which lies, as our readers doubtless remember, about 18 miles from Haicheng on the south-east. It was at Tomucheng that the Chinese first concentrated their forces to resist Lieut.-General Katsura's advance on December 9th from Suiyen against Haicheng. The place consequently lies on the direct line of communication from Haicheng to Suiyen, where the Head-quarters of the First Army now are. On the morning of the 17th instant the enemy, to the number of about 1,000, attacked the place, but were easily repulsed by its garrison, a battalion under Colonel Hayashi. There were no casualties on the Japanese side. The Chinese, left 30 dead on the field: the number of their wounded is unknown. Prisoners taken in the fight said that the assaulting force, 1,000 infantry and 30 cavalry, was the van of an army of 3,000 infantry and 100 cavalry with [redacted] guns, despatched from Laoyang under General Sheung to try and recover Tomucheng.

Lieut.-General Katsura, telegraphing from Haicheng at 11 a.m. on the 17th, says that the enemy's forces on the Newchwang road retained their previous position, but that those on the Laoyang road had again commenced to advance, and that, consequently, all the troops were in position. It would seem that another abortive attempt is to be made against Haicheng.

From China come various stories, mostly of the canard type. One is that Li Hung-chang is openly charged with traitorous intentions. Another says that a Palace revolution is apprehended in Pekin. Yet another, probably true in fact but false in suggestion, recounts that Li, in consequence of peremptory orders from the Throne, handed over the seals of office to the new Viceroy, Wang Wenchow, on the morning of the 20th, and announced his intention of leaving for Pekin in the afternoon.

A telegram sent from Hongkong to Shanghai, dated the 19th instant, says that six Japanese warships were sighted off the Pescadores (near Formosa) and one off Breaker Point (near Swatow). That may be true.

There is a rumour that a powder-magazine at Takow has been accidentally blown up, involving the death of 2,000 soldiers—an obvious exaggeration.

Friday, February 22nd.

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* publishes the correspondence between Admiral Ting and Admiral Ito with reference to the surrender at Weihaiwei. The gist of the letters have already been made known to the public, but as the documents will occupy a place in history, we think it desirable to re-produce them in full:—

Letter No. 1.—From Admiral Ito to Admiral Ting.

I have the honour to address this letter to your Excellency. The vicissitudes of the time have made us enemies. It is a misfortune. Yet it is our countries that are at war. There need be no hostility between individuals. The friendship that formerly existed between you and me is as warm as ever to-day. Let it not be supposed that in writing this letter I am actuated by any idle purpose of urging you to surrender. The actors in great affairs often err; the onlookers see the truth. Instead of calmly deliberating what course of procedure of his own part is best for his country, best for himself, a man sometimes allows himself to be swayed by the task in which he is actually engaged and takes a mistaken view. Is it not then the duty of his friends to advise him and turn his thoughts into the right channel? I address myself to you from motives of pure friendship, and I pray you to appreciate them. What is the origin of the repeated disasters that have befallen the Chinese arms? There is, I think, little difficulty in discovering the true reason if one look for it calmly and intelligently. Your discernment has doubtless shown you the cause. It is not the fault of one man that has brought China into the position she now occupies. The blame rests with the errors of the Government that has long administered her affairs. She selects her servants by competitive examination, and literary attainments are the test. Thus it results that her officials, the repositories of administrative power, are all literati, and literature is honoured above everything. Her practice in this respect is as uniform to-day as it was a thousand years ago. It is not necessarily a defective system, nor does it necessarily produce a bad government. But a country can never preserve its independence in practice by such means. For you know well what troubles Japan had to encounter thirty years ago, what perils she had to surmount. She owes her preservation and her integrity to-day wholly to the fact that she then broke away from the old and attached herself to the new. In the case of your country also that must be the cardinal course at present. If you adopt it, I venture to say that you are safe. If you reject it, you can not escape destruction. In a contest with Japan it has long been fated that you should witness results such as are now before you. Can it be the duty of faithful subjects of the empire, men really solicitous for its welfare, to swim idly with the tide now sweeping over the country by the decree of an ancient fate, making no effort to stem it? A country with a history running back thousands of years, and territories stretching tens of thousands of miles, the oldest empire in the world—can it be an easy task to accomplish for such a country a work of restoration re-placing its foundation on a permanently solid basis? A single pillar can not prevent the fall of a great edifice. Is there any latitude for choice between the impossible and the disadvantageous? To hand over squadron to the foe, to surrender a whole army to an enemy—these are mere bagatelles compared with the fate of a country. By whatever reputation a Japanese soldier possesses the eyes of the world, I vow that I believe your wisest course is to come to Japan and wait there until the fortunes of your country are again in the ascendant, and until the time arrives when your services will be again needed. Hear these words of your true friend. Need I remind you that the annals of your country contain many names of men who have removed a stain from their names and lived to perform great deeds? MacMahon, of France, having surrendered and passed over into the enemy's country, came back after a time and assisted in reforming the French Administration, the French not only forgetting his disgrace but even elevating him to the post of President. Similarly Osman Pasha, after losing the fortifications at Plevna and being himself captured, came home to Turkey, where he rose to be Minister of War, and acquired a high reputation in connection with his military reforms. If you come to Japan, I can assure you of the good treatment you will receive and of the Emperor's favour. Not alone has His Majesty pardoned subjects of his own that raised the standard of rebellion, but has rewarded their talents by elevating them to positions of high trust, as in the case of Admiral Yenomoto, now a member of the Cabinet, and Otori Keisuke, a Councillor of State. There are many such instances. In the case of men of note that are not his Majesty's subjects, his magnanimous treatment of them would certainly be even more marked. The great question that you have now to determine is whether you will throw in your lot with a country that you see falling to ruin, and be involved in a result inevitable under unchanged administrative circumstances, or whether you will preserve the strength that remains to you and evolve another plan hereafter. It has generally been the habit of warriors of your country to use haughty and rough language in addressing their foes, but I address this letter to you from motives of pure friendship, and I entreat you to credit my sincerity. If happily, reading these words, you accept my counsel, I will with your permission address some further remarks to you on the subject of giving practical effect to the idea.

(Signed) Ito Yuko, &c.

Letter No. 1—From Admiral Ting to Admiral Ito.

I received the letter of suggestions addressed to me by the officer in command at Saseho (evidently a mistake for the officer commanding the united squadrons) but did not reply because our countries were at war. Now, however, having fought resolutely, having had my ships sunk and my men decimated, I am minded to give up the contest, and to ask for a cessation of hostilities in order to save the lives of my people. I will surrender to Japan the ships of war now in Weihaiwei harbour, together with the Liukung Island forts and the armament, provided that my request be complied with, namely, that the lives of all persons connected with the army and navy, Chinese and foreign, be uninjured, and that they be allowed to return to their homes. If this be acceded to, the Commander-in-Chief of the British Naval Squadron will become guarantor. I submit this proposal, and shall be glad to have a speedy reply.

(Signed) Ting Zhuchang, *Tituh* of the Peiyang Fleet.

(Dated) 18th day of the 1st month of the 22nd year of Kwang-su. (February 12th, 1895).

To His Excellency Ito, Commander-in Chief of the Squadron.

Letter No. 2—From Admiral Ito to Admiral Ting.

I have received your letter and noted its contents. To-morrow I am prepared to take over the ships, forts, and all the other material of war in your possession. With regard to the hour and other particulars, I shall be glad to consult with you when I receive a definite reply to this communication. When the transfer of everything has been concluded, I shall detail one of our ships of war to escort all the persons indicated in your despatch to a place convenient to both parties. But I desire to offer an expression of opinion on one point. As I had the honour to advise in my recent communications, I venture to think that for the sake of your own security and in the future interests of your country, it would be best that you should come to Japan and remain there until this war is over. If you decide to adopt that course, I offer you the strongest assurance that you shall be treated with every consideration and shall receive the fullest protection. But if you prefer to return to your own country, your wishes shall be respected. With reference to the suggestion that the British Naval Commander-in-chief will act as guarantor of this arrangement, I think such a precaution wholly unnecessary. I place implicit reliance on your assurances as an officer. I trust that I shall receive a reply to this letter by 10 o'clock to-morrow morning.

(Signed) Ito Yuko; Commander-in-Chief of the Squadron.

On board H.I.J.M.S. *Matsushima*.

(Dated) February 12th.

To H E. Ting Zhuchang, Commander-in-Chief on the Peiyang Squadron.

Letter No. 2.—From Admiral Ting to Admiral Ito.

Your answer, just received, gives me much satisfaction on account of the lives of my men. I have also to express gratitude for the things you have sent me, but as the state of war existing between our countries makes it difficult for me to receive them, I beg to return them herewith, though I thank you for the thought. Your letter states that the arms, forts, and ships should be handed over to-morrow, but that leaves us a very brief interval at our disposal. Some time is needed for the military and naval folk to exchange their uniforms for travelling garments, and it would be difficult to conform with the date named by you. I therefore beg that you will extend the period, and enter the harbour from the 22nd day of this month, according to the Chinese calendar (16th of February), appointing a day for taking over the Liukung forts, the armament, and the ships now remaining. I pledge my good faith in the matter.

(Signed) Ting Zhuchang.

18th day of the 1st month (Feb. 12th).

To H.E. Ito, Commander-in-Chief, &c.

Returned with the above three parcels of articles.

Letter No. 5.—From Admiral Ito to the Officer Commanding the Peiyang Squadron.

On receipt of Admiral Ting Zhuchang's despatch, dated the 18th day of the 1st month, Chinese calender (12th of February) I learned verbally from its bearer that Admiral Ting had killed himself. The information has caused me profound pain. With regard to the transfer of the ships, forts, and armament, the late Admiral's request that the date be deferred until the 22nd of the 1st Chinese month (the 16th of February), is consented to on the following conditions, namely, [illegible] Chinese officer come to my flag-ship by 6 p.m. to-day (February [illegible] for the

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purpose of entering into a definite agreement as to the handing over of the above ships, forts, and weapons of war, and the release of the Chinese and foreigners in Weihaiwei. In my last letter to the late Admiral Ting, I expressed a wish to meet him, on the following day, and consult about the hour of the transfer and other details. I now desire to settle these points in conference with some Chinese officer duly authorized, but I wish to state distinctly that the officer coming to my ship for the purpose must be a Chinese officer, not a foreigner. If he be a Chinese officer, he may count on being heartily welcomed.

(Signed) Ito Yuko, Commander-in-Chief, &c.
(Dated) February 13th.

To H.E. the Officer in immediate Command of Peiyang Squadron.

The operation of taking over the ships, forts, and military weapons at Weihaiwei was completed on the 17th. We read in the vernacular press that the *Naniwa* and *Takachiho* were posted at the western entrance where they passed out, after due examination, 700 sailors and non-combatants in 9 small steamers, all of which headed for Chefoo. The troops on Liukung island were carried over to the mainland, and there released, but Messrs. Howie and Wilde, who after giving their parole not to serve against Japan, were found at the forts, did not receive their freedom; they were carried prisoners on board the fleet. On the forenoon of the 17th, over twenty Japanese men-of-war, headed by the *Yamato*, together with a number of transports, entered Weihaiwei harbour from the West and anchored. On the Liukung forts and the 10 captured Chinese ships the Japanese flag was hoisted, and at 1 p.m. the crews of all the vessels, by preconcorted arrangement, gave three cheers for the Emperor. The *Kwang-chi* alone continued to fly the Chinese flag. She had on board the Chinese officers, who were soon to proceed in her to some convenient place. The *Chen-yuen* is to go first to Port Arthur, and the *Ping-yuen*, *Tsi-yuen*, and *Kwang-ping* to Saseho. The destination of the rest is not certain. The *Chen-yuen* has many marks of Japanese shot—26 on her funnel alone. On deck she had more than a hundred sand-bags to keep off shells. Five of the enemy's ships are sunk in the harbour. Near the eastern entrance is the *Ting-yuen*, her funnel smashed completely, and only her deck and 2 masts above water. Of the *Wei-yuen* her three masts alone can be seen. In front of her lies the *Lai-yuen*, turned upside down, a portion of her keel being above water. In the middle of the harbour the two funnels and two masts of the *Tsi-yuen* are visible above the water, but the gun-boat sunk can not be seen at all. The Japanese torpedo-boat that was lost lies close to the shore off Liukung Island. She is the celebrated No. 9. At 4 p.m. when the place was entirely in Japanese occupation, the ships of the First Flying Squadron raised their anchors, and left the fort. The crews of the rest set themselves to make repairs and preparations for some other big enterprise.

On the 11th instant, says the *Nichi Nichi*, during the bombardment of Liukung, the *Tenriyu* was struck on her starboard bulwarks, and her second in command, Lieutenant Nakano, was knocked overboard and killed on the spot. Secretary Kono also received a wound in the eye, and four other men were wounded. The *Katsuragi* had 1 man killed and 6 wounded. The *Chiyoda* effected the capture of one of the torpedo-boats attempting to escape.

According to the *Shogyo Shimpo*, the number of Chinese sailors taken prisoner at Weihaiwei was 2,000, and that of land forces 2,000. They were all escorted beyond the lines and released. The same paper says that Ting, Liu, and Chang committed suicide by eating opium. The killed and wounded on the Chinese side aggregated over 500 during the bombardment, and 200 more were drowned when the *Lai-yuen* sunk.

The *Nichi Nichi* says that the *Ting-yuen*, after being torpedoed by the Japanese, seems to have been still further blown-up by the Chinese on the 12th instant, but the nature of her injuries is not yet clear.

A GERMAN EVENING IN TOKYO.

A most enjoyable evening was given by the German community of Tokyo on the 16th inst. Some years ago a series of such entertainments—commencing with a concert and concluding with a dance—were organized in the capital, but to the great regret of all nationalities, they were not repeated in ensuing years, doubtless owing to the diminished, and steadily diminishing numbers of the hospitable hosts. The Germans are always exceptionally rich in musical talent, and just now they possess in Herr von Koeber a pianist of such ability that to hear one morsel performed by him is a concert in itself. Madame Grasmann's beautiful soprano, the fine voices of several lesser stars, and the admirable performance of the Imperial Guard's Band, supplied materials, on the 16th, for a delightful concert in the rooms of the German Asiatic Society, and the dance that followed was not less pleasant after its kind. We append the programme of the concert:—

I. Theil.

1.—Hochzeitsmarsch.....F. Mendelsohn.
2.—Ouverture z. Op. "Stradella"...F. v. Flotow.
3.—Zwei Lieder für Sopran
a. Der Nussbaum .....R. Schumann.
b. Vergebliches Ständchen.....J. Brahms.
Frau A. Grasmann.
4.—Capriccio brillante für Piano u. Orchester Op. 22. .....F. Mendelsohn.
5.—Gavotte. Dansée à la cour de Louis XIV. .....Componist unbekannt.

II. Theil.

1.—Zwei Lieder für Männerchor
a. "Ade du lieber Tannenwald"...H. Esser.
b. Schifferlied. "Wo die Woge braust".....C. Eckert.
2.—Pastorale. Piano Solo D. Scarlatti-Tausig.
3.—"Des deutschen Kriegers Traum vor der Schlacht." Fantaise für Streichinstrumente .....E. Eulb.
4.—Fantaise a.d. Op. "Troubadour"...G. Verdi.

BANQUET AT THE GERMAN LEGATION.

A banquet was given at the Imperial German Legation in Tokyo on the 18th inst. in honour of His Highness the Duke of Mecklenburg and His Imperial Highness Prince Kitashirakawa. Among those present were their Excellencies the Minister of State for Foreign Affairs and Viscountess Mutsu, the Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce, the Minister of State for Education, the Belgian Minister and Madame la Baronne d'Anethan, Viscount Kagawa, Grand Master of Ceremonies to H.I.M. the Empress, Marquis Hachisuka, President of the House of Peers, and Major-General Kodama, Vice-Minister of State for War, Mr. and Mrs. Sannomiya, Count Hisamatsu, Aide-de-Camp to H.I.H. Prince Kitashirakawa, Mr. Ito Yukichi, Captain Schmidt, several officers of the German cruiser *Alexandrine*, and a number of gentlemen and ladies of the German community. His Imperial Highness Prince Kitashirakawa and the Japanese dignitaries wore their German decorations, and His Highness the Duke of Mecklenburg appeared with the Insignia of the Paullownia Order. The Duke, in proposing the healths of Their Imperial Majesties the Emperor and Empress of Japan and of the Imperial Family, took occasion to express his sincere thanks for the gracious and kindly reception he had found at the Imperial Japanese Court. H.I.H. Prince Kitashirakawa, in reply, proposed the healths of His Royal Highness the Grand Duke of Mecklenburg and of His Highness the Duke; after which H.E. Baron Gutschmid proposed the health of His Majesty the King of the Belgians. During the drinking of the various toasts, the appropriate national anthems were played by the Imperial String Bank, the performances of which during the banquet as well at the *Soirée* afterwards were much applauded.

LETTER FROM LWANKOCHWANG.

(From our own Correspondent.)

January 29th, 1895.

On January 27th, the Field-Marshal and Staff, after a stay of two days at Yungcheng, moved on to Tsiliutsun, a flourishing village, some 8 miles west of the above mentioned prefectural town. It was about ten when we bade farewell to our quarters. The sky was overcast, snow was falling, and a strong wind from the north-west made the morning rather cold. About half-a-mile from Yungcheng the route began to ascend a range of bleak and naked hills, thinly covered with snow. The road, originally not bad, had been cut up and rendered in places extremely arduous for horses and carts by the continuous passage of heavily laden vehicles and men for the past week or so. Its condition became worse and worse with the melting of the ice and snow. Cultivated fields, planted mostly with wheat, on both sides of the road afforded in many places excellent footing for pedestrians, but people adopting that route were constantly subjected to the necessity of making detours to circumvent deep gorges and ravines. As had been the case between the landing place and Yungcheng, the road was one long line of men, horses, donkeys, carts, et cetera, so closely continuous that it was often impossible to cross from one side to the other. Matters were made worse by the passage in the opposite direction of some of the Sixth Division's carts and coolies, sent by mistake along the wrong road. As we struggled onward, reports of guns reached our ears now and then, most probably from Weihaiwei. We made our lunch by the roadside. Our rice sandwiches were nearly frozen, but I ate them with eagerness and relish such as I have seldom experienced. Cold water or snow was our only drink. One of the party set fire to a thick growth of dry grass, and while he was feeding it with fuel of the same kind collected here and there, the mass broke so suddenly into a blaze that he had his eye-brows and eye-lids badly burned. After absorbng a little caloric in this way, we resumed our journey and reached Tsiliutsun, the resting place of the staff for the night. It is a very prosperous village of more than 200 families; the houses generally well built and large. A little after our arrival there, a crowd was observed collecting not far from our quarters. On repairing thither, we found a corpulent couple arrested by the gendarmes. The man was about fifty and his wife forty. They had resisted the appropriation of a part of their house for the use of the troops, and their united strength had been unpleasantly felt by two or three Japanese soldiers. The woman was soon released, but her husband had to spend some hours at the gendarmes' quarters. With this single exception, the villagers willingly submitted to the orders of the army. Not a single family had fled. The place being located among hills, there was no difficulty in procuring pure water from the brooks. We also found a plentiful store of very good sweet potatoes, and one of the first things that we did on arrival was to buy a large quantity of them from the master of the house where we were quartered. We at once set about steaming them. For 20 *sen* we got so many that fourteen stalwart men, two coolies, and ourselves could not consume them. Having received orders to leave the place early next morning, we resorted to our apologies for beds at a timely hour. But sleep was for some time impossible on account of the noise made by carts and coolies continually passing until long after midnight.

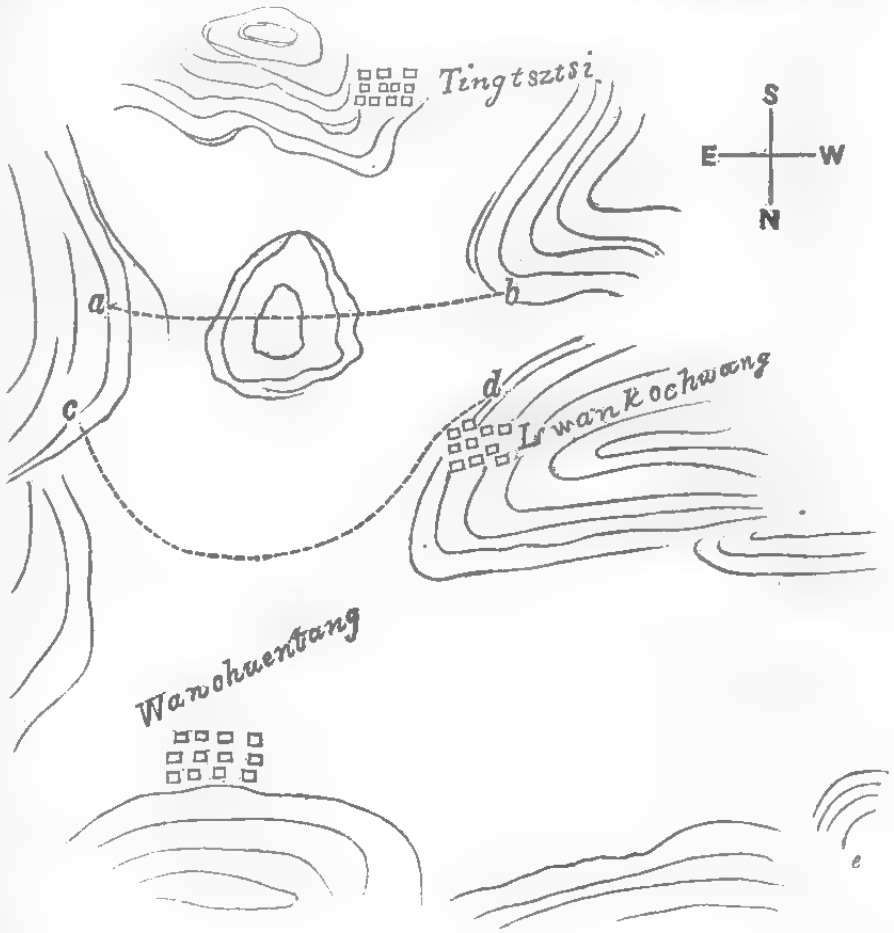
On the following day (28th) we rose early and made a start at about 8 a.m. It was very cold, a strong wind blowing from the north. The road was better than on the preceding day and the aspect of the country seemed to improve as we penetrated further into the interior. There were more trees on the hills and about the villages than had been the case nearer the coast. The soil also appeared to become richer and richer as we proceeded on. Indeed, judging by what we have thus far seen, it would seem that this re-

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gion is one of the most wealthy in the Middle Kingdom. Even small hamlets by the roadside are composed entirely of well built edifices, and, so far as we could see, there seemed to be no destitution. We had quite a commodious place to take our tiffin that day, compared with our previous experience. At the village of Yakochuang, we found an empty house, where, building a large fire with plenty of charcoal, we made ourselves supremely happy with boiled rice and roast beef. We discovered that this was not the only deserted house: a few other families also had absconded. Probably an explanation is to be found in the fact that in this neighbourhood a pretty severe collision had taken place between a Japanese scouting party and a strong Chinese force. It appears that several families in the village were so much alarmed by the affair that they fled with their valuables to seek refuge in a quieter region. Early in the afternoon, we reached our destination for that day, namely the village of Chiaotentsi. Our march had been about 12 miles. Chiaotentsi is a larger and apparently richer place than even the village at which we had stopped the preceding night. Exactly how many inhabitants it contains, I could not learn, but they must be not less than three thousand. The house appointed for our quarters was well constructed and spacious, consisting of three separate buildings in rows parallel with the street. The edifice farthest from the street was reserved for the family (9 persons in all), the two other buildings being placed at our disposal. The furniture and everything else in the house betokened the wealth of the family. We were very glad to get such a billet, for it was understood that the head-quarters of the army would remain ■ the village for perhaps two days. When we arrived there, the staff of the Second Division had just begun to move forward, and there was much noise and confusion in the place. On this day, too, reports of cannon were heard from the direction of Weihaiwei, and from what I observed in the movements of the troops, it was apparant that the general attack on the fortress was not far distant.

Contrary to what we had learned previously, it was now announced, a little before noon, that the head-quarters of the army were to move to Mangchiachwang, two miles northward, and that we were to follow in the afternoon. Reports of guns being continually heard from the front, I was most anxious to get forward, and started alone a little after 1 p.m. Arriving at Mangchiachwang, I ascertained that there was fighting going on several miles to the north-west, so I at once pushed to the front, leaving my baggage with my coolies at the staff quarters. When I had procceded somewhat more than a mile, I came upon a large body of troops taking a rest in a narrow valley between two ranges of hills. A little further on, I overtook a long train of horses carrying ammunition. About four miles from Mangchiachwang, there is a small village where I saw about a regiment of troops waiting for orders. After passing through the village, the road began to ascend a pretty steep mountain, and on both sides of the ascent I found artillery and cavalry, some going forward, others resting. The number of troops increased after getting over the pass. At one place there was stationed ■ force of artillery with a large number of mountain guns. Just as I reached the spot, they received orders to move forward. The manner in which they packed the guns and carriages on horse-back was simple and expeditious. The gun was put upon one horse, which had harness specially made for the purpose; the wheels and the trail were packed upon another animal. In less than three minutes from the time of receiving the order, the whole body was ready to advance. Troops were now found almost everywhere, here on a hill, there in a valley, and further ■ in villages. About two miles and a half from the pass, I came to the spot where the fighting had taken place some hours previously. Very fortunately I discovered that the battalion that had been engaged with the enemy was commanded by a friend, Major Kani of the 16th Regiment. While I was looking for him, Mr. Cowen of *The Times*, and Mr. Smith, of the *San Francisco Chronicle* came up, and as the three of us were walking over a hill in the direction of ■ crowd of officers, who were inspecting the topography of the valley beyond, shells began to be fired from a Chinese battery on a low hill about 2,500 metres to our left. Five or six missiles came in quick succession, but they all went over our heads and did no damage. I now found my friend, Major Kani. He willingly consented to take me to his quarters near by, as I was too far away from the head-quarters of the Army to go back. It was fast becoming dark. Mr. Cowen and Mr. Smith went back to the head-quarters of the Second Division about a mile in the rear.

I proceed to briefly describe this morning's battle from the account given me by my host and the officers under him. On the preceding day, the battalion that fought the Chinese on the 29th, had been stationed in a village called Tingtsztsi. It formed the van of the Second Division. That night the line of outposts extended from a ridge of hills on the right to one on the left marked *a*.....*b* in the following rough



sketch. It was the object of the Japanese forces not to advance any further until the mountainous pass in the rear could be repaired, and until field-pieces came up. But on the morning of the 29th, a body of Chinese troops, numbering from eight hundred to a thousand, appeared a little lower down the valley and forming in line, indicated by *c*.....*d*, at once commenced to attack the Japanese. Accepting the challenge, the latter immediately took up a position along the line of outposts, dividing themselves into three bodies, one on the central hill, and the two other on the slopes of the hills to the right and left, the principal force being on the central hill. The line extended about 2,000 metres. The enemy had two powerful mountain pieces, and to add to the disadvantage of the Japanese, a strong northerly gale was blowing in their faces. The engagement commenced at 9.30 a.m., and ended at 12.30 p.m. The Japanese, forced to fight fully exposed to the enemy's guns, we remained unexpectedly, had not time to throw up shelter trenches, and the sloping hills on which they had taken up their positions exposed them to the full play of the Chinese rifles and cannon. But despite these disadvantages, Major Kani's battalion held its ground, and the Chinese had eventually to draw off. The casualties on the enemy's side are not known, but the Japanese had three killed and ten wounded. The road being impracticable for field guns, mountain pieces were hurried up, but before they arrived the enemy had retired to the hills on the north.

On the night of the 29th, I slept, as I have already stated, in Major Kani's head-quarters in the village of Lwankochwang. The enemy being close at hand, a night attack was apprehended, and a few companies were posted in the open at the outskirts of the village. While we were making our supper of rice and fowl (it was about 9 o'clock), the enemy sent several shells into the village, but fortunately no casualties resulted. The part of the battalion quartered in the village slept with their boots on so as to be able to turn out at a moment's notice. No fire was allowed to be built except within doors. Captain Katayama, in command of one of the companies stationed as outposts, having come to the major's quarters to receive orders, I accompanied him to his station. It was a little past midnight, and a strong cold wind was blowing from the south-west. Climbing over snow and bushes, we soon arrived at the place where my conductor's company was bivouacking. It was in a sort of hollow behind the brow of a hill, completely screened from the Chinese battery, and therefore nothing prevented the building of fires. The soldiers were grouped round some six or seven big blazes. After chatting with the officers for a while, I set out under the guidance of a petty officer to see how matters were along the line of sentinels beyond the brow of the hill. We were stopped several times by the cry of *dare da?* but a word from my guide sufficed to satisfy the sentries, and standing in a place screened from the wind but

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for about ten minutes, talking with a sub-officer (in whispers of course) about the engagement of the preceding morning. The guns, which had been firing every now and then, were silent all this while. We retraced our steps and rejoined the bivouacking party. I asked to be allowed to go with a scouting party, but these having already been despatched, I was denied the privilege of approaching the enemy's camp. When I went back to my kind host's quarters; the Chinese fired two shells. It is now 2 a.m., and I am about to lie down on the floor with nothing for covering but straw! To-morrow I shall see real fighting. But I must not lay down my pencil yet, without relating a very interesting story that I heard this evening.

While I was talking with Major Kani beside the fire in the evening, there came in a young Chinese. He sat down by my side in a rather unceremonious way, and I was about to give him some friendly advice when my host, rightly guessing my intention, told me in a whisper that the young chap was a Japanese, and that he was allowed special privileges. The major afterwards put me in possession of the story about the youth. He was born in Kobe, and at the age of six was sold to a Chinese, by whom he was taken to Shanghai. After a few years of bondage, he somehow obtained his liberty, but having been brought up as a Chinese boy, he still continued to wear Chinese garments and to earn his living as a Chinese. Being in Shanghai, he came in contact with Japanese, and was at one time in the service of some Japanese merchants there. In this way he did not forget his mother tongue. Subsequently he was employed as a servant on one of the Chinese men-of-war. An officer took much interest in the youth, and advanced him a sum of money to buy a ferry boat. He worked hard and lived frugally, and was soon able to repay the loan. Afterwards he plied his boat on the coast in the vicinity of Yungcheng, but shortly before the arrival of the Japanese army, one of the passengers in his boat lost something and he was arrested on suspicion of theft and imprisoned in Yungcheng. The Japanese officer who, immediately after the fall of that place, visited the prefectural dungeon, was surprised to find himself accosted in Japanese by a young prisoner who thanked him for his unexpected release. The youth, now nineteen years old, has since been taken into the service of the Japanese. He is rendering invaluable service to the advance guard. His name is Imai Tetsunosuke. He remembers his mother, but has no recollection of his father.

THE WEIHAIWEI CAMPAIGN.

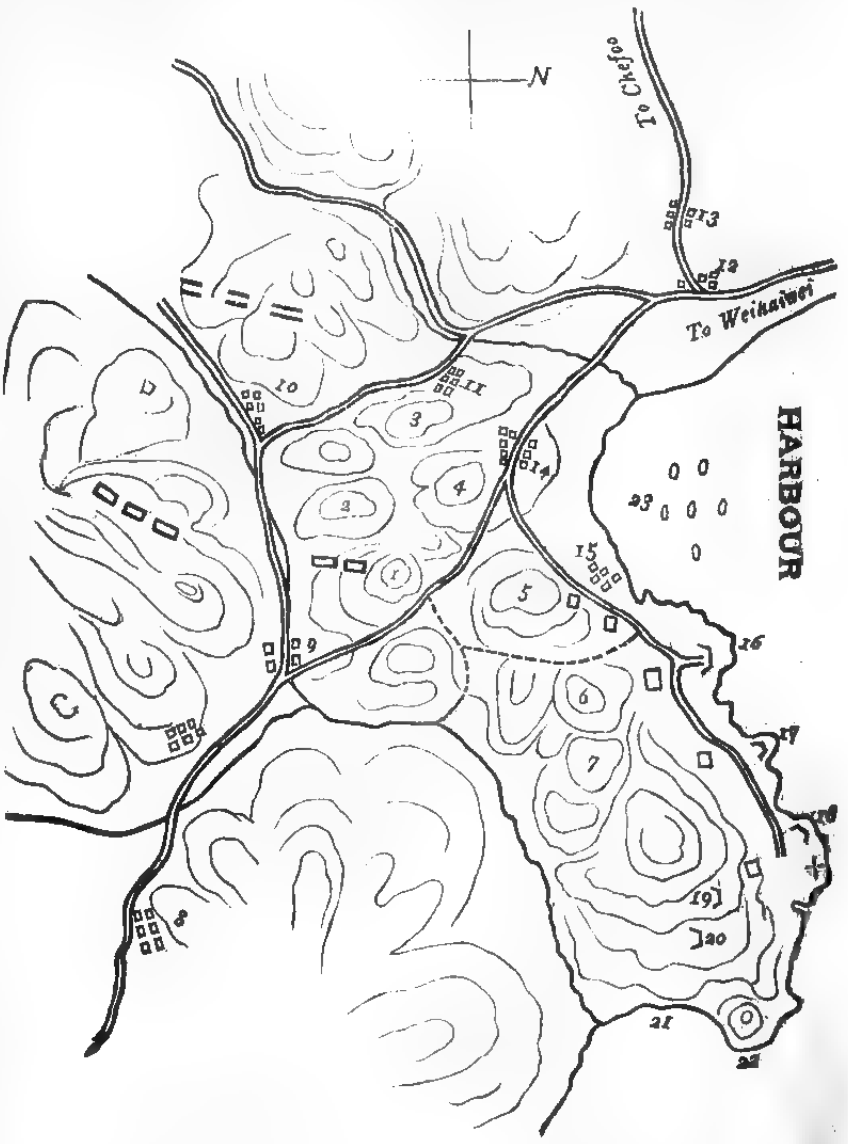
(From our Special Correspondent with the Army.)

Lingmantsui Fort, January 31st, 1895.

On the morning of the 30th, we were up at four, the instructions being that the troops should move forward at half-past five. Every body, officer and man alike, was to take with him provisions for three meals. I was stiff and cold when I emerged from my straw bed, but my spirits were soon revived by the thought that I was that day to witness real fighting. The officers and men received instructions to attire themselves as lightly as possible, discarding garments that might encumber their movements. Every one consequently anticipated a very busy day. By the appointed time, the troops, under Major Kani, and those belonging to other commands, had all assembled in a field adjacent to the village. The plan of action was to take possession of the land and sea forts on the eastern coast of the port of Weihaiwei. The division under Lieutenant-General Sakuma, that had marched along the inland road, was divided into right and left wings, commanded respectively by Major-General Yamaguchi and H.I.H. Prince Fushimi. The Prince's brigade was to march along the most westerly road, while Major-General Yamaguchi's was over a mountain pass a little to the eastward. The ground still further to the east along the sea shore was to be covered by a Brigade from the Sixth (Kumamoto) Division under Major-General Odera.

On the preceding night, the head-quarters of the Second Division were at the village of Changchiakowtsz, about a mile in rear of the place where I had stayed. The head-quarters of the Kumamoto Brigade were in the same district, and the Army head-quarters at Mangchiachang, about seven or eight miles in rear of the Second Division. Thus the bulk of the Army had been collected, by the night of the 29th, within a mile or two of the stream that runs through the centre of the valley, as shown in the accompanying sketch. The army was consequently ready to cross the hills and pour down into the valleys bordering the harbour of Weihaiwei.

After the troops that were to form the advance guard that day and the artillery corps (mountain guns) had passed, I moved forward in company with Major-General Yamaguchi and some staff officers. Day was now dawning. After about a quarter of a mile, we descended to a plain four or five hundred yards wide, which was exposed to the fire of one of the enemy's batteries about a mile and a half up the valley. When we were half way across this open space, the battery saluted us with a shell that passed overhead and plunged into the snow fifty yards off. The next whistled very close to our heads and burst about 10 yards off. Two more shells came whizzing by, but none of them did any injury. By the time we reached the hillside above the village of Wanchuentang, the Japanese mountain pieces on the hills, as marked on the sketch, opened fire upon the Chinese, and shrapnell shell were soon bursting right over the Chinese batteries. We got upon the top of the hill marked (1) in the sketch. There we could see the whole valley from the mountain ranges at the back of the Chinese batteries on



1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 Hills occupied during the Battle of the 30th ult.
8 Changchiakowtsz.
9 Wonchuentang.
10 Hushan.
11 Pingchiawo.
12 Changfangsai.
13 Changfang.
14 Fanglintsi.
15 Yangchiatien.
16 Lingmantsui Fort.
17 Luchiutsui Fort.
18 Chaopohtsui Fort.
19 Tifangling Entrenchment.
20 Sieshosu Entrenchment.
21 Yinshankow.
22 Sanfangchue.
23 Peiyang Squadron.
= Chinese Mountain Guns.
□ Japanese Mountain Guns.
] Fort or Entrenchment.
□ Barracks.
Village.
Road.
River.
Path.

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the left as far as the sea on the right. By this time, about half-past seven, the fight was raging on all sides; but as yet it was a duel of artillery only. On the hill-tops in front of us, marked 3, 4, 5, 6, and 7, there were seen here and there groups of Chinese troops. It is a noticeable fact that, unlike their compatriots at other places—Phyông-yang, Port Arthur, and so forth—the Chinese troops on the present occasion did not make any display of banners and pennons. They had a few of these encumbrances with them, but they moved about without any large number, contrary to their custom on previous occasions. Other circumstances also proved that they meant business in grim earnest. Presently a battery planted on the side of a high hill (5) opened fire against the Japanese right wing. It was, however, silenced without much difficulty by mountain guns from the hill marked 2 in the sketch. At the same time, a detachment of Japanese infantry rapidly climbed to the top of the hill (3), and marching along the ridge, drove the enemy from one hill to another. Meanwhile, a strong body of Japanese troops crossed a precipitous and rocky pass between the hills (5) and (6). Thus attacked from all sides, the Chinese beat a hasty retreat, leaving their guns behind them, and all the hills as far as our eyes could reach were soon in full possession of the Japanese.

It was now about 10 a.m. Shortly before this, turning my glass toward the sea on the right, I saw the columns of the Kumamoto Brigade steadily pressing forward along the beach so as to cross the stream a little above its mouth. On the left the sound of firing had ceased some time since, and it was evident that the left wing had already reached the valley opening on to the harbour of Weihaiwei.

Accompanying Major-General Yamaguchi and his staff, I now left the splendid post of observation I had hitherto occupied, and striking across the valley below, soon emerged upon the pass lying between the hills (4) and (5). In the valley, we passed through a village where a house had been set on fire by a shell from the Chinese battery on an adjacent hill. The villagers of both sexes and of all ages came out to see the Japanese troops, a large body of whom were just then pressing forward. Major-General Yamaguchi assured the people, through his interpreters, of their perfect safety, and told them to pursue their avocations as usual. A spy was apprehended here, but what became of him I have not yet been able to ascertain. At the foot of the ascent, we came across the dead body of a Chinese soldier. From the inscription on his coat, it was found that he belonged to the Kung army. Most of the dead braves whose corpses we subsequently saw, bore the same inscription. Crossing the pass and winding to the right round the side of hill (5), we came in sight of the magnificent harbour of Weihaiwei. A number of Chinese men-of-war were cruising in a circle and successively firing shorewards. A ridge of hills just in front of us (not represented on the map) screened the shore from our sight, and we were in considerable suspense, which was not relieved when, immediately afterwards, we saw a large number of Japanese troops rapidly retiring over the plain to our left. Presently the British and American military attachés joined us from the hill in front. From them we learned that a body of Japanese troops, descending over the rugged pass between hills (5) and (6), had been fired at by the enemy's war ships as soon as they showed themselves on the shore. The Chinese shells, we were told, had wrought terrible havoc. The military attachés advised Major-General Yamaguchi not to show himself on the seaward side of the hill. But what the General had heard only made him quicken his pace thither. On the brow of the hill, we saw a number of dead Chinese soldiers. By this time the Japanese troops had all left the exposed ground on the shore, and the Chinese ships immediately greeted us with a number of shells, which, however, did not injure any of the party. Far to our left, we could see a large force, evidently belonging to the left wing, slowly marching back and keeping at a respectable distance from the shore. They had no doubt learned by the sanguinary experience of a part of the right wing that it was unsafe to venture too near the shore. Collecting a large force behind the hill we were then occupying, the Major-General quietly awaited developments farther to the east along the shore where the Kumamoto Brigade was advancing. We sat down not far from the dead bodies of the Chinese and made our tiffin there.

It was not long before the Major-General received tidings of the Kumamoto Brigade, which by that time—a little past twelve—had carried most of the forts on the eastern shore of the harbour of Weihaiwei. He decided to mass his troops somewhere on the top of the mountainous pass marked by dotted lines. The Major-General and his staff, who had hitherto walked, now trotted off in advance of us pedestrians. Retracing our steps over the road we had advanced by, and winding round hill (5), we soon got on the top of the pass, where a large number of troops had been mustered. Some of them had already descended the undulating slope to fire upon the enemy flying along the shore from the forts stormed by the Kumamoto Brigade. Other parties were soon sent down to storm and take possession of the barracks some way below us. These were carried without any serious resistance.

I have not yet been able to obtain full reports about the operations of the Kumamoto Brigade to-day. But there is little doubt that the hardest fighting of the day fell to the lot of the brave "Kiushiu lads." So far as I have been able to learn, the Brigade, driving the enemy before it, carried the most eastern land fort by storm at 11 a.m. While attacking the fort of Tifanfing, and just when, after considerable difficulty, it was on the point of falling into Japanese hands, Major-General Odera was mortally wounded by fragments of a shell that burst close by. He died two hours afterwards. He was a great loss to Japan. At the time when the war broke out he was in Europe on a tour of inspection. Hurrying back at once, he obtained promotion to the rank of Major-General and was given command of a Brigade of the Sixth Division. Comparatively young, he was one of the most promising of Japan's Generals, and his untimely death is deeply lamented by the Army, especially by the officers and men that were under his command. By the same shell that caused the Major-General's death, the correspondent of the *Niroku Shimpo* of Tokyo was killed. Of the sea forts the most westerly, namely, Lingman-tsui, was carried first. The officer commanding the company that took it, told me that, when he approached the fort, a white flag was hoisted. He of course ordered his men to cease firing, but so soon as they drew nearer to the fort, the treacherous Chinese suddenly re-opened fire. A charge was at once made, and the Chinese fled without offering any effective resistance. The other forts to the east shortly afterwards fell in a similar manner. Several hundreds of Chinese flying from the eastern forts were attacked by the party that had carried the fort of Lingman-tsui, and most of them were either shot or cut down. The fort of Lingman-tsui, after its capture, was given over to a party of marines who had marched with the Kumamoto Brigade. They at once set the guns in order and opened fire against the fort on a little island called Zhih. The guns of the other forts were worked by the infantry soldiers that had carried them.

By about 3.30 p.m. all the forts and barracks on the eastern shore of the harbour had fallen into Japanese hands. The exact strength of the Chinese force has not yet been ascertained. It is, however, known to have been commanded by General Liu, and probably its strength did not exceed five or six thousand. The loss on the Japanese side was 142 officers and men, including 38 killed. A number of the wounded have since died. The casualties on the Chinese side are not known definitely. Some people put the killed alone at 1,000, but, in my opinion, it would be nearer the mark to estimate both the killed and wounded at that number. The officers fled by boats that had been moored close to the sea forts, but the men escaped along the shore.

That night I was again the guest of Major Kani, whose battalion was quartered in the village of Yangchiutung on the sea shore, right under the guns of the Chinese warships. In addition to the fear of being shelled by the ships at midnight, there was danger of the village being surprised by the defeated Chinese troops, a large number of whom were known to be lurking in the hills and even in the village itself. More than ten were discovered hiding in the village. In order to prevent the enemy's warships training their guns on us, no fire was allowed to be built out of doors. We slept with weapons ready to be used at any moment. But happily our fears proved groundless. I date this letter from the Lingman-tsui fort, for reasons that I shall explain in my next.

Lingman-tsui Fort, February 4th, 1895.

The anxious night of the 30th ultimo passed away without any noteworthy incident, except the capture of some ten prisoners and the shooting down of several others who offered resistance. One of the prisoners brought to the Major's head-quarters early in the evening, a tall resolute-looking young chap, carried a Japanese sword of tolerably good quality. Presumably he had taken it from a Japanese killed in the fighting that day. He was at once sent to the head-quarters of the regiment. Reports of rifles were heard the whole night. The beaten Chinese were turning up every now and then. They showed great obstinacy. Instead of surrendering and throwing down their arms, they invariably aimed their rifles at the Japanese sentinels and scouts.

Early on the morning of the 31st, I accompanied the battalion of which I had been the guest for the past two days, on its march upon Weihaiwei proper, by a circuitous route behind the mountains bordering the harbour. But Major-General Yamaguchi, observing me, came up and kindly informed me that I could spend the day better in one of the forts instead of going with the troops. He gave me to understand that the army would not proceed at once to Weihaiwei, but that the day would be devoted to elaborating measures preparatory to that step, and that the fleet would endeavour to cut its way into the harbour and annihilate the Chinese war-ships lying there. So long as the remnants of the Peiyang Squadron remained in the Bay, it would be impossible to march the troops along the good road toward Weihaiwei proper and the western forts. Turning back, I wended my way in the direction of the sea-forts on the eastern coast of the harbour. When I came out on the beach at the western end of the village where I had passed a sleepless night, I met a suspicious-looking Chinese. Apparently very anxious to avoid me, he crossed over to the other side of the road and when I followed his example, he came back to the original side. On approaching nearer, I observed traces of blood on his face and neck. I stopped him, and pulling off his coat, found a slight rifle wound on his shoulder, but he carried no arms. He wore, however, a military cartridge-belt round his waist. Though empty, it indisputably proved him to be a fugitive soldier. As he seemed an innocent-looking sort of fellow, I suffered him to go his way without any further molestation. As I passed in front of the barracks in the vicinity of the village, I saw a number of villagers, young and old, carrying away furniture and other articles from the public buildings. On perceiving my approach, they instantly dispersed, leaving their prizes behind them. Entering one of the barracks, I found the interior completely denuded: almost everything of the least value had been taken away by the people of the neighbourhood. Doubtless the devastation caused by these thievish villagers will some day be laid at the door of the Japanese troops. The weather which had been damp and cloudy now grew

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decidedly thick with rain and snow. As I came nearer to the fort where I am now writing—Lingman-tsui—the corpses of Chinese killed in the battle of the preceding day increased in number. I noticed that a few of them were completely stripped of clothes and burned black. I afterwards learned that these charred, or more correctly, smoked, corpses were results of terrible explosions of powder magazines that had taken place in some of the forts the preceding day.

At this fort I was courteously received by Captain Muramatsu of the Siege Train. While I was talking with him, Lieutenant-Colonel Teshima came in, the officer in command of the sea forts. He is one of the earliest as well as the ablest graduates of the Military College in Tokyo. Presently a note arrived from the Japanese fleet, announcing that, shortly after dark, a Squadron of torpedo boats would approach the eastern entrance of the harbour and destroy the boom constructed of huge blocks of wood connected by big chains and kept in place by steel-wire cables at short intervals. It completely obstructs the channel. The letter added that upon the destruction of the above mentioned obstacle, a number of torpedo craft would enter the harbour and blow up the Chinese men-of-war, between the hours of one and four in the morning. Made acquainted with this information, I was delighted at the thought that I should be the only newspaper correspondent to witness one of the most novel and interesting incidents of the present war. I asked Lieut.-Colonel Teshima for lodging for the night, and he most good-naturedly asked me to be his guest as long as I wished to stay. Captain Muramatsu and Lieutenant Fukuda, too, were very kind, and expressed regret that they could not treat me ■ sumptuously as they wished.

A party of foreign military attachés, attended by Major Sekiya and Captain Muraoka, having arrived to see the forts, I accompanied them under the guidance of my host, Lieut.-Colonel Teshima. Captain Muraoka was good enough to explain everything. In this fort there are two 21-centimetre guns and two 15-centimetre. The former and one of the latter were then in condition to be immediately serviceable. In fact, they had been used against the Chinese ships and the fort on Zhih Island on the preceding afternoon, so soon as the place had fallen into Japanese hands. It is a noteworthy fact that these guns were on that occasion manipulated by a party of infantry. The enemy, on evacuating this fort, as well as the rest, destroyed some of the important parts and took away several of the necessary appliances, so that there was great difficulty in utilizing the guns immediately upon occupation. This fort was bombarded by ships of the Peiyang Squadron, but sustained no serious injury. We next visited the fort of Luchintsui, about half a mile to the east. There we found the party of marines that had accompanied the Kumamoto Brigade. One of the naval officers who showed us over the place, told me that when the marines arrived there, a joss-stick attached to a fuse connected with the powder magazine had burnt away to less than an inch. Had their coming been a few minutes later, they would have been blown to pieces. A description of this fort will suffice for the rest, as the three sea forts at this side of the defences are constructed on the same model. The guns, all Krupps, of calibres varying from 28 to 15 centimetres, are mounted behind a thick parapet, with stone backing. Behind the parapet, and at a considerable distance below it, are a series of compartments with vaulted roofs, intended as powder magazines, officers' quarters, workshops, and so forth. The shells are conveyed to the guns by rail. According to the opinion of the officers who acted as our guides, the forts, though on the whole well constructed, show that they were not designed by men of practical experience in this branch of fortification. One of the defects is the absence of range-finders. Another, and the greatest, is the fact that none of the forts is provided with conning towers. Defects are not confined to the forts or to the buildings. On the sea-side it is only protected by a high and thick bank of earth. The outer yard gives upon the sea through an opening in the wall, and thence juts out an iron pier with a powerful crane at its extremity. In the stores, I found a supply of torpedoes and various necessary appliances, which my ignorance of the subject forbids me to describe. In one of the offices, I saw many books in English, mostly devoted to mathematical subjects. Searching among them I found a volume of Edward Thornton's "History of the British Empire in India," with the signature in lead pencil of Y. K. Li, and a line elsewhere saying that it was given by Captain Rogers. In another apartment where were many desks and benches, evidently a lecture room, I saw on a slate the following lines:—

(On one side)

"Please pass on the following to *Ting-yuen*.

"To Admiral Ting:—

"Please send a boat over to Ling Mantsui fort. Walpole and Thomas will explain matters on arrival."

(On the other side)

"Captain Shin:—Please come to Torpedo Depôt as I am a prisoner. H. Thomas."

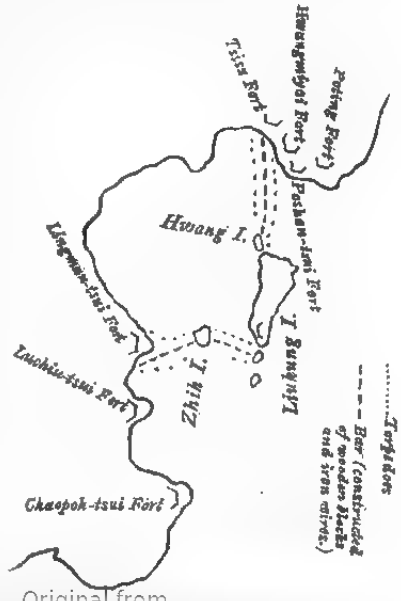
These lines do not seem to have been written merely by way of exercise. It is probable that they relate to an incident connected with the present war.

While waiting for a naval engagement, let me briefly describe the booms that the Chinese have constructed at both entrances of the harbour. The method of construction is reported to be different at the two channels, the boom connecting the western end of Liukung Island with the mainland near Tsisz fort being very much stronger than that obstructing the other entrance. Three strong steel-wire cables, 3-4 centimetres in diameter, are stretched across the whole distance in parallel rows, about 2½ metres apart. Across these wires and above them, huge blocks of wood nearly 40 centimetres thick, are firmly bound at short intervals, something in the following manner:—



To add to the solidity of the frame, it is secured in place by strong cables with anchors at their ends. This is a general description of the boom connecting Zhih Island, on the one side with the eastern extremity of Liukung Island, and on the other, with the mainland at a point between Lingman-tsui and Luchiu-tsui forts. As to the boom at the western entrance, wooden blocks are said to be fixed to the steel-wire cable in larger quantity, and the whole structure is stouter.

Torpedoes were sunk in the vicinity of the booms as marked in the accompanying sketch.



So far as those at the eastern entrance are con-

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30th ultimo immediately upon the occupation of the Torpedo Depôt, where a diagram showing the working of the whole arrangement was discovered by the Japanese. It is said that there still remain two torpedoes not connected with any electric battery on shore, but arranged so as to explode independently. The present letter having already swelled to lengthy dimensions, I shall conclude here, reserving for my next an account of the attempts made by the torpedo-boats to destroy the boom, and of the mutual bombardment that took place yesterday between the forts and ships on both sides.

LETTER FROM HUSHAN.

(From our Special Correspondent with the Army.)

Hushan, February 5, 1895.

After finishing my last letter, I took leave of my kind hosts at the Lingman-tsui fort, and arrived here late yesterday afternoon. This is a small, straggling hamlet on the southern slope of a hill range separating the valley from the harbour of Weihaiwei. Thus, screened from the shells of the enemy's ships in the harbour, it is for the present the seat of the Head-quarters of the Army. While I was in the front with Major Kani's battalion and afterwards at the fort of Lingman-tsui, I had not an opportunity to communicate with my colleagues, who, consequently entertained great fears about my safety. When it was reported that a correspondent had been killed on the 30th ultimo near one of the land forts, they concluded that he must be that of the *Japan Mail*. They were, therefore, sincerely glad to welcome me back into their family once more safe and sound.

Since my arrival here, I have been placed in possession of reliable information about the operations of the Kumamoto troops on the 30th ultimo, and some other important matters. But I must first dispose of my experience at the Lingman-tsui fort.

It being still stormy, we were talking together over a fire in my host's room on the morning of the 2nd instant, when there arrived Captain Ishii, of the Imperial Artillery, and a naval officer. From the latter, I learned that, on the evening of the 30th, a number of Japanese torpedo boats approached the bar very close to the fort of Luchiu-tsui, when they were mistaken for the enemy's torpedo vessels by the garrison of the fort and fired at by them; and they had, consequently, turned back without accomplishing their object. From the same officer I also heard that, in landing from the torpedo-boats lying at anchor in Yinshan-kow during the storm, it was necessary to wade across water almost knee deep. But in spite of this and other difficulties incidental to the roughness of the sea, the naval officers and marines are constantly coming ashore through tempest and snow to keep up connection with the land forces.

Captain Ishii told a characteristic story about a Chinese prisoner. On the 30th ultimo, the narrator was riding with three troopers in the neighbourhood of the forts, when, perceiving four Chinese fugitives, he took them prisoners. They were kept that night in one of the forts without any restraint. Next morning, Captain Ishii found that his watch was missing. Inquiries were made among the coolies, but none of them knew anything about it. Afterwards, when the prisoners were examined, the missing watch dropped from the clothes of one of them. Such is Chinese character. The opportunity had been too tempting.

The storm that had raged for the past three days began to abate in force by the afternoon of the 2nd. Late that evening an arrangement was made between the Japanese fleet—which had by that time come back to the neighbourhood of Yinshan-kow—and the sea forts in Japanese occupation, to make a general attack the following day upon the Chinese fleet and the forts of Zhih and Liukung. Every body in the fort, from the commanding officer down to the lowest private, had been impatiently looking forward to an opportunity of engaging the enemy, and there was universal satisfaction.

The 3rd of February dawned calm and clear. The fighting was to be opened by the fleet, and we were all expectancy and impatience in the fort. It was not until a quarter before 11 that fire was commenced by two or three of the Japanese war-vessels against the forts of Zhih and Liukung islands. Almost simultaneously this and the next forts directed their guns against the Chinese vessels. One of the latter, the *Lai-yuen*, separating from the rest, began to steer to the left of our fort. A shell from the 15-centimetre gun under the command of Lieutenant Suzuki struck her deck aft. At the same time a shell from one of the 21-centimetre guns commanded by Lieutenant Fukuda dropped in the sea very close to the ship. She at once turned about and rejoined the others. The Chinese ships being too far away, the forts then directed their fire against Zhih Island. Two shells from the fort in which I was, struck the platform, sending up a cloud of dust, but they did not seem to cause any serious damage. Meanwhile, our war-vessels had drawn off to Yinshan-kow, and firing ceased for the time at noon. During the fighting in the forenoon, two shells from the fort on Zhih Island struck the terrace of our fort, and one of them covered us with a shower of earth. A broken piece of the capsule thrown into the air fell on the platform within 20 feet of the stone staircase where I was then standing. I picked it up and, with the permission of the commanding officer, carried it away in memory of the day. While we were taking our tiffin, a marine came in from the fort of Luchiu-tsui, where Lieutenant-Colonel Teshima commanded, and reported that in that fort two men had been mortally wounded, one of them being a petty officer. In our fort, a slight injury was inflicted on the ear of a private by a flying piece of earth, when a shell burst on the terrace.

After tiffin, firing was resumed at 1 p.m., but the Japanese fleet did not take part. After an exchange of shots lasting for about half an hour between our fort and Zhih Island, five of the Chinese war-ships, including the *Ting-yuen* and *Lai-yuen*, which had hitherto kept aloof, came out and, steering to the left of us, commenced to send us a shower of shells at such an angle that our guns, in order to get at our assailants, would have had to trained in one and the same line one over the other. It being impossible to return their fire at such an angle, we all went down into the apartments below, where, eating sweat potatoes, we talked over the events of the day. The enemy's war vessels steadily approached our fort, until they got within 1,000 metres of the pier by the side of the Torpedo Depôt. Two of their shells, breaking through the roof of one of the buildings of the Depot, burst over an outhouse in the inner yard of our fort, a place, appropriated for the use of coolies. Fortunately, no casuality took place. Another shell passed over the fort and burst in the village beyond, killing one petty officer and wounding three privates belonging to a company of infantry quartered there for the protection of the forts. After cannonading our fort for about an hour, the Chinese war-vessels turned their fire against the fort of Luchiu-tsui, which, we were informed in the evening, received serious damage, though no injury to life or limb resulted.

It is not necessary to refer to the bravery of the Japanese officers and men. Their utter disregard for life is almost proverbial. Even the coolies showed great eagerness to see the fighting. In spite of the repeated orders of the officers to the contrary, the coolies constantly came up to the platform, and even went on the terrace. When shells struck the terrace or passed close over their heads, they seemed to regard it as capital fun, and did not apparently realise the danger of their position.

In the evening, about 8 o'clock, a naval officer came on shore and reported that two Japanese torpedo-boats had approached the bar, but had been perceived by the Chinese torpedo-boats, which at once gave the alarm to the war vessels lying behind Zhih. He consequently asked the commanding officer of our fort to fire in the direction of Zhih and the Chinese fleet, so that, taking advantage of the confusion, the Japanese torpedo boats might approach the bar and effect an opening in it. We at once went up to the platform, and the 15-centimetre gun under Lieutenant Suzuki opened fire in the desired direction. Fire was returned by the fort of Zhih and the Chinese fleet, but no shell reached the fort. Turning our glasses to the right in the pale moonlight, we could discern two torpedo boats slowly making towards the bar. Soon they were again discovered by the enemy, when a signal rocket was shot up by a Chinese war-vessel, which, as we learned afterward, was the *Ting-yuen*. At the signal, volleys of rifles and Gatlings were discharged in the direction of the Japanese torpedo-boats. It had been arranged that, at the report of an explosion in the direction of the bar, firing should be stopped at our fort. In about an hour we thought that we heard the report of an explosion, and the firing was at once given up.

While the cannonading was still going on, a messenger from the company of infantry quartered in the neighbouring village gave notice that, according to information obtained from a reliable source, the enemy intended to effect a landing in the vicinity of our fort that evening. On receipt of the news, the soldiers in the fort, numbering in all only about 40, evinced great delight at the prospect of having an opportunity to fight with the enemy hand to hand. Lieutenant Fukuda issued orders to the soldiers to lie down in their boots with rifles by their side, so that at the first signal they might be able to assemble in the centre of the yard. I slept with my pistol belt round my waist. The enemy, however, did not attempt to land, and we do not know whether he had really entertained such a design.

I had now been several days away from the head-quarters of the army, and I thought it advisable to go back there and get my letters posted. So, taking leave of my obliging hosts, as I stated in my last letter, I come back here yesterday evening.

REGULAR MEETING OF THE NIPPON GINKO.

The Nippon Ginko held its regular meeting on the 10th inst. in the hall of the Bank. Thirty-four shareholders and Messrs. Tajiri, Vice-Minister of the Treasury, and Matsuo, Chief of the Account Bureau, were present. The President of the Bank being absent, Mr. Yokura, one of the Managers, took the chair. A clerk read the President's speech, and also the report on the settled account, for the half-year. The profit loss account was as follows:—

	YEN.
Profit	1,480,175·532
Regular 6 per cent. dividend for the total paid-up shares	300,000.000
Balance	1,180,175·532
To Reserve	300,000.000
Rewards and Allowances	94,000.000
Repayment of New Building Expenses	150,000.000
Balance	636,175·532
Second Dividend (9 per cent. per annum)	450,000.000
Balance, carried forward to the next account	186,175 532

The President's speech was to the following effect:—Last year having been most eventful, both internally and externally, the economic world was influenced in no small degree. To begin with, there was the gradual tightening of the money market that set in during the latter half and culminated at the end of last year. The Bank was consequently obliged to reclaim the loans advanced by it. Then again, foreign commerce showed an unfavourable aspect at the beginning of last year, resulting in the exodus of specie, while on the other hand, owing to the fall of exchange, the price of commodities rose. Moreover, many companies established in the preceding year when the money market was in a dull state had shares to be paid in. All those circumstances forced the Bank to be always on the alert. The effect of the war upon the

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Japanese market was dwelt on at some length. The outbreak of the war was followed by a fall in bonds and shares and a rise in market prices. Added to this, the requisition by the Government of a large number of steamers and of railways impeded transportation. The conveyance of commodities and the smooth circulation of money largely obstructed, the public began to entertain grave doubts about the future. The responsibilities of the Bank became unusually great, for while supplying the War Fund, it was obliged to contrive the smooth operation of the money market. The conversion system being in a very sound state, the Bank did not agitate itself about the matter, but simply waited for the quieting of the disturbances that had arisen. Other banks were equally composed, and even when shares fell, producing a deficit in the value of securities, they withheld demands for additional securities as much as possible. Projectors of various enterprises also conducted their affairs with caution and endeavoured to arrange them prudently. The capacity of the nation to subscribe to the War Fund grew gradually, so that although the total contributions to the Second War Loan reached the sum of 80 million *yen*, no deficiency was experienced in the circulation of currency. Any large amount needed for the war before the periods of paying up the subscriptions had, however, to be met by the Nippon Ginko which, partly on that account and partly owing to the increased demand for money in the market was obliged, subsequently to December 29th, to issue notes beyond the usual legalized bounds. The facts that the two War Loans have been so successfully subscribed to was not only due to the patriotism of the people, but was also ascribable to the satisfactory condition of the circulation of money, for the sum spent on the prosecution of the war was nearly all received by Japanese merchants, only a small portion going to Korea whence, however it is gradually returning. It is undeniable that the money market has become considerably swollen as is shown by the fact that the total circulating currency in the four months since September last was 26,500,000 odd *yen* more than the amount for the corresponding period of the preceding year. Consequently the floating of the War Loan was as if money going out of the Treasury fell into the hands of the public and was subsequently again drawn into the Treasury. It is most probable that as long as commerce keeps its normal condition without causing an out flow of specie and without affecting the active operation of the mechanism of monetary circulation, the circulation of currency will maintain the above-mentioned state and money will not be lacking for the War Loans. The unusual events of last year and subsequent appearance of unwonted phenomena in the economic world made many fear that progress would be impeded. That, however, proved itself to be an unnecessary apprehension, for a considerable rate of advance has to be noted. Looking at the condition of credit transactions, the total of the bills and cheques discounted by the Bank amounted to 112,460,000 *yen* approximately, which, compared with 77,840,000 *yen*, the figure for the preceding year, was an increase of no less than 40 per cent. Similarly, in the Tokyo Clearance Office, 185,590,000 *yen* worth of bills were handled, that is to say, an increase of above 20 per cent. over the total of the previous year. Nor was the state of foreign commerce less satisfactory. The total export was 113,240,000 odd *yen* against 89,710,000 *yen* for the former year, an increase of more than 20 per cent., while imports reached the sum of 117,480,000 *yen* against 88,250,000 *yen* of the preceding year, or an increase of above 30 per cent. It is true this increase was more or less attributable to the fall in exchange and a consequent inflation in the apparent silver value of the imports. But quantitative investigations show conclusively that marked expansion of the country's foreign commerce took place during the year. With regard to the balance of trade alone, the result was not quite satisfactory, for imports exceeded exports by 4,240,000 *yen*, and in specie the outflow exceeded the inflow by 7,590,000 *yen*. That, however, was principally due to the purchase of ships and articles required for the purposes of the war; it does not indicate any retrogression in the export of ordinary commodities as compared with their import. If, despite of the fact that greater or less obstacles were encountered in the Japan-China commerce owing to the war, such an increase was developed in the country's foreign commerce, we are entitled to regard the result as very significant. Such economical progress while the country is engaged in war with its neighbour is a matter of sincere congratulation. The President then touched upon the internal condition of the Bank and the progress of its new scheme of organization to be completed with in the year. He concluded his speech by saying that, being obliged to devote its chief strength to replenishing the War Chest and checking the disturbance caused in the money market by the war, the Bank could not turn its attention as much as was desirable to other matters, nor could there be much hope of a change in that respect so long as the war lasted.

KOREAN NEWS.

The latest occurrence in the Korean Court, transmitted by wire to Tokyo a few days ago, namely, the resignation of all the Ministers of State in a body, must have been a sudden affair, for no indications of such a contingency can be gathered from the letters recently sent by Sōul correspondents to several Tokyo papers. The cause of the trouble is said to have been a hopeless divergence of opinion among the Cabinet Ministers. Doubtless the particulars will soon be forthcoming. In the meanwhile, we cull some news from the letters of Sōul correspondents to Tokyo papers. In Yuretsu, who proved himself unsuited to hold the Chief Commissionership of Police by arbitrarily confining his subordinates, has been relieved of that post and made an official in the Privy Council. His successor is Li Inyo, one of the sons-in-law of the Tai Wōn-kun, though not on good terms with that magnate. The Japanese advisers of the Korean Cabinet are busily engaged drafting the constitution of the Central Government and the Royal House Law. It is confidently believed that both will be promulgated within this month (Feb.) at latest. The exact amount of the debt owed by the Korean Government to China is said to be 1,200,000 *yen*, of which 800,000 *yen* was obtained direct from the Chinese Government and the remainder from the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank. The sum in which Korea stands indebted to the Chinese Government direct will, it is believed, be deducted from the indemnity that Japan is to exact from China, and in that way Korea's debt to the Middle Kingdom will be reduced to 400,000 *yen*. Thus if the sum borrowed from Japan be 5 million *yen*, the amount available for domestic use by the Korean Government will be 4,600,000 *yen*. On the other hand, the total that Korea owes Japan will increase to 5,800,000 *yen*. The reason why with an area and a population equal to about one-half of those of Japan, the Korean Treasury is so miserably impecunious, is notorious, namely, the ruinous habit of official peculation. How far that vice undermines the prosperity of the country may be readily inferred from the fact that even without effecting any general reform, a sum of 20 million *yen* could be easily obtained were a tolerably strict system of control enforced with regard to the collection of the land tax alone. It is said that more than four-tenths of the land of Korea has no existence in the books of the Central Government, the revenue derived from that portion being secretly pocketed by Government officials, from the highest dignitaries of State to the pettiest village functionaries. Then, another two-tenths being the property of the father of the reigning Emperor (the Tai Wōn-kun) and of the Queen, yields no revenue to the State. Yet another two-tenths is similarly unproductive to the State Treasury, being so-called "Crown Land." There is in Korea an abundance of crown land. It is in the proportion of about one square mile in every twenty-five. On this land horses for presentation to the Court and the Government are bred. Thus the net result is that eight-tenths of the land in the peninsula yields no revenue whatever to the Treasury, and as the income derived from the remaining two-tenths is paid very irregularly, there can be no wonder that the Treasury is in such a miserable condition. Even if the property of the Tai Wōn-kun and the Queen be left intact and six-tenths of the land be made productive of State revenue, it would be very easy to obtain an additional 20 million *yen* of income out of the land tax alone. The *Yomiuri's* correspondent tells a curious piece of news. He says that there is not one perfect ink-stone in all the offices of the Korean Administration, and he attributes the fact to the petty meanness of the Korean officials. Whenever a good stone is bought for a Government office, the head of the office takes it away, bringing from his own house as substitute a broken stone. His subordinates do the same thing in succession, so that in the end the office fares badly. That is a trifling matter, but it suffices to indicate the methods of Korean public servants.

In order to educate capable officials, the Korean Government has decided to assemble 160 youths from various localities, that is, 20 from each province. Out of these a certain proportion, having been selected by examination, will be sent for study in Japan. Quite a large number have applied for examination, and the competition is said to be very keen. On the whole, the youth of Korea exhibit great earnestness for the regeneration of their country, in striking contrast to the apathy or obstruction offered by their elders. The other day two students of the Korean Japanese School were sent to the Kyushu Gakuin of Kumamoto in compliance with a request from the latter institution, which intends to add a course of Korean language to its curriculum. So strong was the competition among the Korean youths for this position, that those failing the distinction manifested the most sincere regret and earnestly appealed to their instructors to be sent to Japan in any capacity. Indeed, writes the correspondent of the *Nichi Nichi*, a wide gulf is set between unmarried and married Koreans of the same age. The habitual indolence and apathy of the latter are a striking proof of the evils of premature marriage. The Koreans have stuff in them if only it be brought out by proper education.

CHINESE NEWS.

It appears to be supposed that as the loss of Port Arthur did not rouse Pekin to the realities of the situation, neither will that of Weihaiwei. But we are inclined to think that the state of the official mind in Pekin is as little understood by foreigners undertaking to interpret it as are the designs of Japan. At all events, it is plain that the correspondent speaking thus of the Pekin Government knows very little about the progress of the war. Writing on January 23rd, he says that the Japanese on the shore of the Gulf of Liaotung had felt the cold so severely that their southward movement had probably been caused by their sufferings on that account. But the Japanese have not moved southward, unless, indeed, the despatch of an expedition to Shantung be regarded in that light. The same writer says that "in the spring Japan may once more attempt an attack on Pekin," which reads as though an attempt of the kind had been already made. But we do not think that when she makes up her mind to go to Pekin there will be many "attempts."

As to the numerical strength of the Chinese forces at Shanhaikwan, a correspondent of the *North China Daily News* says that it has been placed, on good authority, at between 80,000 and 70,000. "But upon still better authority—viz, that of two eye-witnesses, one foreigner and one Chinese—the force there did not exceed 6,000 until a very short time ago,

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when the arrival of recruits brought the figure up to 10,000." There is nothing surprising in the tendency of the Chinese to exaggerate their numerical strength. That is one of their sole resources. But it is a noteworthy fact that never once since this war began have they actually managed to put more than 20,000 men into line of battle. That was the number they amassed for their second attack (January 17th) on Haicheng. Their last attack, on the 16th instant, should have been an affair on a very large scale. Not only the Laoyang Army of 19,500 men, but also the Yingkow army of 34,000, might have combined to march against the place. Yet the number assembled for the assault was only 15,000. It seems to be a fair inference that although the Chinese Generals manage to bring together a considerable number of men, they are unable to employ more than a fraction of them, owing to defective equipment or insufficient training. The army of 34,000 men said to be assembled at Tingkow and Tienchwangtai under Liu Kun-yi and Sung, probably labours under both of these difficulties. Otherwise it is inconceivable that a larger portion of it would not have been sent to cooperate in the attack upon Haicheng.

Speaking of numbers, it must have occurred to many that the Japanese Generals have never over-estimated the forces opposed to them. As a rule, commanding officers accept an enemy's statement of his own numbers. But the Japanese never do that where the Chinese are concerned. The official reports sent by them are always based upon the best information procurable on the spot, and the figures they give are uniformly below Chinese statements.

As might have been expected, the extraordinary fiasco on January 17th has been converted by the Chinese into a brilliant victory. On that occasion 14,000 Chinese troops made a pretence of assaulting Haicheng from half-past eight in the morning until dusk, and retired *re infectâ*, having inflicted upon the enemy a loss of 1 killed and 40 wounded. Yet they had the admirable assurance to assert that they had re-captured Haicheng. The Newchwang correspondent of the *North-China Daily News*, referring to this, writes:—"As far as we can discover, the truth is that there has been heavy fighting north and east of Haicheng, and that the Japanese voluntarily evacuated the town, but still hold the hills surrounding, which, as I reported before, are strongly fortified." That is one of the most curious compromises between rumour and reality that we have ever seen. The Japanese evacuating a walled town, yet holding the heights surrounding it! What in the name of all reason should induce them to adopt such strategy? But all these stories are gravely reproduced by the foreign press at the treaty ports, no attempt being made to apply present knowledge to past canards. If the Chinese recovered Haicheng on January 17th, why did they attack it again on January 22nd? And why, yet again, on February 16th? They are apparently repeating the Phyongyang manœuvre—driving themselves out of coveted strongholds.

The *North China Daily News* has arrived at the conclusion that Japan's design in undertaking the present war was nothing short of the absorption of the Chinese empire, and that she ought not to be allowed to carry out such a design. The only bases that our contemporary seems to possess for this strange assertion are that Japan continues to be steadily victorious wherever she meets the Chinese, and that the Chinese masses show extraordinary willingness to conciliate and even welcome their victors. But, after all, it can scarcely be argued that Japan is responsible for the continuance of the war so long as China does not sue for peace in a proper manner. We think it would be more prudent to abstain from sweeping interpretations of Japan's motives until she has been convicted of wantonly rejecting reasonable overtures for peace. Meanwhile, her plain duty is to fight with all her ability and strength.

Of the climatic difficulties that the Japanese had to encounter in their operations against Weihaiwei, the following extract from the *Chefoo Express* of the 4th instant gives some idea:—

The harbour and the East Beach have presented a very unusual appearance during the last few days owing to the arctic weather which has prevailed. Communication with the ships has been well nigh impossible and it has been a strange sight to see small boys running out on the ice as far out as the *Pioneer*. Walking along the East Beach it was difficult to see where dry land ended and frozen sea began. On Friday 1st Feb. a boat from the U.S.S. *Baltimore* on its way on shore ran on to the low lying rocks opposite the Savage Club which have only quite recently formed the subject of a 'Harbour Notification' issued by the Imperial Maritime Customs. The endeavours of the crew only resulted in the boat settling more and more on to the rocks and eventually the task of getting her off was given up. In the meantime, the American guard on shore had been communicated with and many willing volunteers came to the rescue of their comrades. A canoe belonging to a resident was procured and, two by two, the officers and crew were pulled on shore in it. It was a cold day for such exposure. Earlier in the day the *Severn* in attempting to land men for letters, etc., had a boat damaged and hauled up on the beach outside the Savage Club. It will take a southerly wind to clear away the ice. On Saturday evening a Russian and a German boat communicated with the shore, effecting a landing on the rocks below Mr. Pym's house, after much difficulty.

A Chinese correspondent of the *North China Daily News*, writing from Pekin, gives some information that seems explanatory of many things hitherto inexplicable:—

The base stuff, unfit even for fire crackers, designed as an apology for gunpowder, stored up in the arsenals before the war by unprincipled ordnance officials and unblushingly supplied by them to the Chinese armies in Manchuria and elsewhere since the war began, has undoubtedly been one of the chief causes which has made our soldiery appear ridiculous in the eyes of the world. Furthermore, it has so far disgusted our Generals and their soldiers, who decline to be slaughtered at will by the greatly superior ammunition of the Japanese, that there is small wonder at the former looking down upon the Mausers, Martinis, Winchesters, etc., with which they have been armed and which they have been taught to consider invincible. The powder in the cartridges has been found either as not carrying far enough in nine cases out of ten or not even to explode! This sad state of affairs has been the principal cause of the hitherto astonishing panics of the Chinese soldiery whenever they were confronted by the Japanese. The latter pour in their fire as rapidly as their arms permit, without any hitch; but when the Chinese attempt to reply with their breech-loaders they can scarcely count upon two cartridges out of ten going off when fired. With jingal and muzzle-loaders the soldiers can see for himself whether the powder he uses is of good colour, clean or not, which cannot be done in the case of cartridges for breech-loaders. Hence there has been a clamour for a return to the "good old times," and the matter has been laid before the Throne asking for its consent. These advocates of the old *régime* claim that with the long two-men jingals, and with ordinary gunpowder of native manufacture, they can hit and kill at 1,000 yards with ease, which cannot be said of the modern weapons that have been given the soldiers in Manchuria, which, it is asserted, cannot carry further than 100 yards with the wretched cartridges. The cry has reached Pekin in the shape of a memorial from Li Pei-yuan, the Civil Governor of Moukden, to the Emperor asking that the manufacture of the large-sized jingals be recommenced throughout the empire—which had been stopped owing to the introduction of modern weapons of precision—and that each province be commanded to turn out a certain number of long two-men jingals within a specified time together with the native gunpowder and percussion caps necessary to go with these jingals. In this way it is hoped that some 50,000 large jingals can be made ready by the end of March. The intention is to arm 200 men out of every 500 men in a battalion, that is to say each battalion is to have 100 of these jingals, the other 300 to be armed as usual with breech-loaders, if his Majesty should think fit. But according to the memorialist's humble opinion they should be armed with weapons to which they have been accustomed for years, and these are muzzle-loading Enfields or the like.

These jingals are a little over ten (Chinese) feet long and are of large bore. When ready to be fired the front rank man grasps hold of the middle of the barrel as it rests in the hollow of his right shoulder, maintaining a slightly bending position, while the rear man takes aim and draws the trigger. Formerly the flash-pan was used, but with the introduction of percussion caps the jingals have been fitted with nipples. These weapons are claimed to have conquered China, being introduced by the Manchus when they invaded the empire of the Ming dynasty, and with jingals Chinese Turkestan was conquered by the Emperor Chien-lung's armies in the 17th century. The ordinary charge for a jingal of this sort is a good "handful" of gunpowder with a two-and-half ounce bullet. Sometimes on the battle field the jingals are loaded with an extra allowance of gunpowder and three bullets—often four—are rammed in to create as much destruction as possible.

With reference to this memorial, the Emperor has not yet given his decision, but doubtless the matter will be discussed in the Grand Council; the funds to lay aside for such an object being, under present circumstances, the most important matter for consideration.

Li Hung-chang is now referred to in Imperial Decrees as "the degraded Viceroy of Chihli." Poor Li! China's best servant, who would have saved her had he been permitted.

The Censor is a wonderful institution in China, and An Wei-chün is one of the most remarkable specimens of his class. In a memorial recently sent by him to the Emperor, he denounced the Empress Dowager thus:—

"Her Majesty has always been making unwarranted interference with State affairs; how will she be able in this way to answer for her conduct to the Imperial Ancestors and to the confidence and loyalty of the whole nation?" That was a little too much even in China. An Wei-chün was cashiered and banished into penal servitude on the Mongolian post roads. Of course he will not actually go to break stones and shovel clay. If all the folks condemned to work on the Mongolian post roads went there, the humblest homestead in that remote district would have an *vid Appia* for its avenue. But An will have to pay a round fine for his "audacity and disrespect."

Dr. Daly of Newchwang, who is in charge of the Red Cross Hospital there, and is seeking subscriptions to further the good work, writes that there are already 200 wounded Chinese soldiers under treatment and that many more are expected. "It is a great comfort,' he says "to get hold of the wounded so soon after the battle, which was fought on Thursday last, 25 miles from here. We expect a great battle to take place to-morrow, the 16th, at Kaokan, which is 13 miles east by north of us. The regiment from which our wounded have mostly come made a brave stand at Kaichow and lost their General (Yang) and about 600 men. It is simply a case of good guns, good ammunition, good officers and well drilled men against the exact opposite. One cannot help heartily sympathising with them. The more we see of them, the more we like them. We find them very grateful and easily managed and they seem to thoroughly appreciate our efforts to relieve their sufferings. Well led and well armed, they would make excellent soldiers. Dr. Christie is my chief colleague and Drs. Arnold (*Petrel*), Penney (*Firebrand*), and Greig, Gray, Gordon and Brander are all working hard. Some of the missionaries are also giving us valuable help."

Governor Li of Shantung has "denounced the cowardly conduct of Colonel Yen and four of the military officers to whom the safety of Yungcheng was entrusted." They are to lose their buttons. What a farce the whole thing is! The person really to blame is Governor Li himself, who, knowing well that Yungcheng Bay was likely to be the landing place of the Japanese expeditionary force, put two or three hundred soldiers with a few ineffective guns to guard it. And now he denounces them for cowardice because they did not stand to be slaughtered. It was this same Governor Li who recently denounced Admiral Ting for "running away in the face of the enemy." He will be presently denounced himself, no doubt, for total incapacity in defending Shantung. If the Chinese officials expended upon practical patriotism the force they waste upon mutual recrimination, their country would be safe against foreign invasion.

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THE PAY OF THE FOREIGN EMPLOYÉS.

THE passage of the Budget through the House of Peers enables us to speak with certainty of an important concession made by the Japanese Government to some of its foreign *employés*. The latter, with exceptions so rare as to be undeserving of notice, are paid in the coin of the realm, that is to say, silver *yen* at a fixed monthly rate. From Japan's point of view such a method is perfectly just. To her a silver *yen* is always a silver *yen*. No matter to what extent gold may appreciate, her own State income in silver *yen* remains unchanged, which is another way of saying that the resources available for paying her officials and *employés* are independent of exchange fluctuations. But from the foreign *employés*' point of view the silver price of gold enters largely into his estimate of the amount of his remuneration. It is true that he receives an unvarying number of silver *yen* every month, but it is not less true that the original basis on which he pledged his services to Japan was not silver *yen*, but gold sovereigns. Take, for example, the case of a man who has been serving this country faithfully for, say, fifteen years, and who came here originally on a salary that presented itself to himself and his friends as £600 annually, or 250 *yen* a month, the gold price of the *yen* being then 4 shillings. Six hundred pounds a year was probably more, much more, than he could have obtained at that time in his own country. But it was not more, was indeed considerably less, than he might reasonably have looked forward to obtaining at the end of fifteen years' service. What is the sterling position of such a man in Japan to-day? He continues to receive—if he has been fortunate—the same 250 *yen* a month, but now, instead of representing £50, it represents only £25, so that his salary in sovereigns is exactly one-half of what it was fifteen years ago. It may be urged that Japan has nothing to do with all that; that, being a silver using country, she is under no obligation to concern herself about the effects produced by the appreciation of gold upon her foreign *employés* whose own Governments, not hers, are responsible for the phenomenon. But that is a very partial view. The relations between Japan and her foreign *employés* ought not to be reduced to a matter of hard arithmetic. It is certain, in the first place, that many of the best men in her service would never have consented to come here for the sterling equivalent of the number of *yen* they are now drawing. Owing to causes entirely beyond their control or prescience, the gold value of their emoluments has steadily fallen, and fallen by a process so gradual and under conditions so uncertain that there was always h[illegible] of a change in the other direction. [illegible] men found in Japan a career such as their attainments and abilities would guarantee to them elsewhere; if they obtained preferment and earned a place in public esteem; if they could foresee that duty earnestly and ably performed would bring commensurate reward, they might regard Japan as a home and remain comparatively indifferent to the arithmetic of exchange. But unhappily that is not the case. There is no career, in the true sense of the term, for the foreign *employé* in Japan. No intellectual effort can raise him much above the level on which he was placed at the outset. The utmost that he can hope for is not to sink below that level. Before him there stretches only a dead monotony of so many hundred *yen* monthly. Instead of looking forward with hope, he has only to look back with regret. The goal of such a man is, by frugality and self-denial, to amass a competence sufficient to secure him against want when he returns to his own country. What can be more terribly disheartening to him than to find that the value of his savings for the sole purpose of his life is now only one half of what it was when he commenced his career with youth in his favour and unbroken hope to sustain him? There is, too, another line of consideration. The foreign *employé* remains always a foreigner. He lives for the most part in foreign style, and having to purchase many of the necessaries of life at prices fixed on a gold basis, he finds that his expenditure is increased some 50 per cent. as compared with the days when his income in gold was 100 per cent. greater. All these things could not be ignored by even the most callous employer, and the Japanese Government has never shown itself in that character. Articles of foreign merchandise cannot be purchased nowadays without a much larger outlay of silver than their acquisition involved a dozen years ago. Neither can foreign brains and scientific attainments. In that respect men that have served her long and faithfully ought not to be placed by Japan on a lower level than men of certainly not superior qualifications whom she engages now. Urged by all these considerations, the Government, in preparing the Budget for the incoming fiscal year, elaborated a method of compromise to which happily both Houses of the Diet have given their assent. It is that while one half of the salaries of the foreign *employés* continues to be paid in a fixed number of silver *yen*, as before, the other half will be paid at the rate of three shillings to the *yen*. That means a net increase of 25 per cent. of the whole salary. It is an act of spontaneous justice that does honour to the Japanese Government and to the Japanese Diet, and that will be very heartily welcomed by the foreign *employés*.

JAPAN AND AUSTRALIA.

THERE can be very little doubt, we think, that an important trade will one day be established between Japan and Australia. Each country has many articles that it can advantageously sell to the other. What those articles are it would be almost an impertinence on our part to attempt to enumerate, since the merchants already engaged in, or thinking of taking part in, the trade have doubtless devoted ample attention to the subject, and are thoroughly competent to understand it. Most people, however, are by this time agreed that Japan will one day be a great manufacturing country, and already it has been proved by experiment that for some at any rate of her manufactures Australia offers an excellent market. Even among her raw products there are a few that could certainly be sold at a fine profit in the great British Colony were better maritime carrying facilities available. Australia, on her side, can send to Japan a good deal that is needed here. This part of the problem has been invested with some ridicule owing to a curious statement published originally, we believe, by *The Times*, and afterwards given full credence in Australia, namely, that the Japanese are fonder of mutton than probably any other nation. Of course, precisely the opposite is the truth. The Japanese hate mutton: it offends their olefactory nerves much as their pickled *daikon* offends ours. But they do not hate beef. On the contrary, they are rapidly developing a taste for that article of diet, and economical obstacles alone stand in the way of its consumption on a large scale. Choice beef from Australia can probably be carried to Japan in a frozen state and sold here at less than one half of the price paid for Japanese beef at present. In the same refrigerators used for packing the beef on the outward voyage, Japanese fish can be stored for the homeward trip, the Australian markets being ill-supplied with that important food staple. Wool is another article that Australia will certainly send to Japan in large quantities sooner or later, for that Japan is destined one day to manufacture her own woollens may be taken for granted. We remember well the time when the cotton-spinning industry was started in this country. Perceiving, as could easily be perceived, that the facilities enjoyed by the Japanese for work of that nature were much greater than those enjoyed by Englishmen in the days of HARGREAVES and ARKWRIGHT, it was not difficult to predict that the enterprise would succeed. Yet, our writing in that sense was openly ridiculed at the time by journalists who not only laughed at the notion of Japan's developing ability to compete in such an industry, but absurdly undertook to demonstrate by arithmetic that her efforts must end in

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failure. Our readers know what the result has been. It will be the same in the case of woollens. At the outset England's command of the finest wool naturally attracted her attention to its manufacture. But owing to subsequent changes in the character of the home-grown fleeces, the English manufacturer became, to a large extent, dependent upon foreign wool, obtained originally from Spain, but now furnished chiefly by the Australian and South African colonies, the South American States and the East Indies. Japan is excellently situated for obtaining wool from Australia, and her imports of woollen manufactures now aggregate some seven million *yen* annually. She will inevitably make these articles for herself by-and-by. Her genius for commercial development is all in the direction of manufacturing industries. How far the foreign middleman will be suffered to share in that development, is a subject perhaps better left undiscussed. We have repeatedly pointed out that Japan could not possibly find a better agent than the foreign merchant at the open ports, who purchases her goods from her with ready money, and takes upon his own shoulders all risks connected with their exportation and sale abroad. On the other hand, we thoroughly appreciate the spirit that impels the Japanese to manage their own commercial affairs without foreign intervention. Every nation ought to be imbrued with that spirit. Certainly Englishmen are imbrued with it, and have no hesitation in recognising its propriety in others. What may reasonably be desired, however, is that the inevitable competition of different nationalities should be carried on without embittering recriminations. It is extravagant and obviously untrue to assert, as has been more than once asserted in this context, that there are no Japanese merchants worthy of confidence; no men with whom foreign firms beyond the sea could safely enter into business relations. Insulting and unwarranted allegations of that nature serve solely to hasten the end they are intended to defer; for if the Japanese have any self-respect, they must be anxious to practically vindicate their reputation against such aspersions. In point of fact, the very merchant that has taken up this question of Australian trade, and already elaborated measures for its conduct, is a man of national standing in Japan, deservedly enjoying the widest confidence. The real difficulty still awaiting solution is transport. Steam communication with Australia is too infrequent and freights are too high, at present, to permit successful trade. But that is only a question of time. Already, we understand, preliminaries for establishing a regular service of steamers have been carried out by the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, even to the point of designating the ships to be employed—fine, swift vessels, offering excellent passenger accommodation as well as possessing large freight capacity. It has been understood for some time that one of the earliest issues of this war would be a large extension of Japanese maritime enterprise. The Australian route will probably be exploited first, and afterwards we shall see Japanese steamers running to America and London, the former being vessels of Atlantic-liner type, so swift that New York will be brought within 15 or 16 days of Yokohama. It will be better to move with the times than to stand still and revile their motion.

KOREAN REFORMS.

BISHOP CORFE of Korea writes in a peculiar strain about Korean reforms. The good prelate is in the habit of contributing a monthly letter to the *Morning Calm*, and his latest contribution betrays a spirit of marked discontent. There is no doubt about his bias. "The country being free," he writes, "from Chinese soldiers, the Japanese have no one to fight against, but the people whom they wish Europe to believe welcomed their coming and welcomed their reforms." The tone of that sentence places us at once *en rapport* with the Bishop's sentiments. He is displeased that there should be fighting; displeased that the peace should be broken under any pretext or for any purpose. Therefore his antipathy is stirred against the Power proximately responsible, in his eyes, for the outbreak of hostilities. Perhaps such a frame of mind befits a propagandist of Christianity. Justice at the expense of human suffering, progress at the cost of strife and slaughter—these are consummations that do not appeal to the disciples of the Narzarene's gentle charity. But from a man in Bishop CORFE'S position we expect more than mere aversion to war; we expect strict accuracy. Have the Japanese ever sought to persuade the world that the people of Korea welcomed their coming and welcomed their reforms? We do not think so. We are not cognisant that any such pretence has been advanced by them. The Japanese must have known very well that they were unpopular in Korea; unpopular with the upper classes because these always associated them with an attempt to overthrow systems admirably convenient for official and aristocratic peculation and extortion; unpopular with the lower classes because the individual Japanese, in his intercourse with the Koreans, exhibited masterful and harsh traits that could not fail to provoke dislike. Why attempt to write deceptive comments in the margin of this important page of Eastery history? The Japanese did not send troops to Korea in obedience to a purely humanitarian impulse. They did not take up arms because they thought that the spirit of progress had delegated to them the mission of civilizing the peninsula. They simply obeyed the instinct of self-preservation. Korea for him. Will any one venture to under the nominal guardianship of a decrepit Power, and herself reduced to a state of impotence by abuses that derived their vitality from that Power's interference, was a constant menace to Japan's security. Superficial critics may pen condemnations of Japan's resolute action, may pronounce her guilty of disturbing the peace because she refused to acquiesce any longer in a state of affairs that perpetually menaced war. But if ever the *lex suprema* conferred upon any Power the right of interesting itself in the circumstances of a neighbour so puny and helpless as to offer a standing invitation to foreign aggression, Japan possessed that right in Korea's case. It is palpably unjust to denounce her for doing what all nations have done since the science of statecraft began to govern the management of international affairs. Japan's statesmen saw that China's arm, though strong enough to check the growth of Korea's capacity for self-defence, was not strong enough to protect her against the feeblest of Western aggressors. If they interfered to avert the disaster that such conditions threatened, they did no more than statesmen of ordinary prudence have done in all eras and in all countries. Their conviction is that in Western civilization a nation finds the best means of developing its material and moral resources, and therefore its self-defensive competence. Hence they are determined that Korea shall accept Western civilization, but if they have ever pretended that they expected her to welcome it, Bishop CORFE alone has become cognizant of their simulation.

Nothing is more foreign to the spirit of honest controversy than the imputation of motives. We shall not attribute motives to Bishop CORFE. But it is exceedingly difficult to avoid the conviction that one of his chief objections to the programme of Japanese reform in Korea is set forth in the following complaint:—

> By Korean law, Buddhist priests and monks were forbidden to set foot within the walled towns. They were relegated to their mountain monasteries. Is there another capital in heathendom besides Sŏul in which temples and an organized priesthood are not to be found? One of the first steps which the Japanese made Korea take in the path of "progress" was to rescind this law. There will probably be no recrudescence of Buddhism just yet, for in popular estimation the monk in Korea ranks below a slave. But if Buddhism does not avail itself of this liberty, it will not be due to the Japanese.

Freedom of conscience, then, is not, in Bishop CORFE'S opinion, an essential element of civilized government. We observe, too, that he is one of those in whose eyes all non-Christian countries belong to the pale of "heathendom." Frankly speaking, we are constrained to say that the civilization Japan is introducing in Korea seems to us to be of a higher type than Bishop CORFE'S. In very ancient times in Japan the priest had no social status. If he was not a serf in the eyes of the law, that was all that could be said

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pretend that if the propagandists of Buddhism had remained under such a disability, Japanese civilization would have attained the high standard reached by it? Buddhism has conferred incalculable benefits on mankind. It has been for many centuries a great civilizing and humanizing influence. That Christians should believe in the superiority of their own creed is natural and proper, but that they should advocate the permanence of a law forbidding Buddhist priests and monks to set foot within the precincts of a country's capital, where assuredly no better, or even comparable, form of religious belief has any appreciable existence, is the blindest bigotry. We do not share Bishop CORFE'S dread of what he calls a "recrudescence of Buddhism" in Korea. On the contrary, we should welcome such a result, for, after Christianity, we count Buddhism the highest form of religious belief known to man. Under any circumstances, Japan would be untrue to the first principles of her civilizing mission did she refuse to the Koreans the freedom of conscience guaranteed by her own constitution, and did she endorse a tyrannical attempt to crush Buddhism by means of restrictive legislation.

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE WOMAN QUESTION.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Correspondence in your paper of January 26th, signed Will Pattillo, leads me to made several mental comments, which, if I may, I will make "out loud." Your correspondent is not up to date: his ideas are those of the anti-woman's suffragist of twenty or thirty years ago.

I wish to touch only one or two points, and that, from the standpoint of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union, many of whose members, though not all, are woman suffragists.

First in regard to the "troublesome amount of affection in woman's composition," which it is thought she wishes to be rid of as a serious barrier to the goal of her ambition."

It is because of the depth of affection for loved ones in her make-up that she consents to come out of her precious seclusion. Because she holds them dearer than life itself, because she sees gigantic octopus like evils dragging them down away from her, greed, passion, selfishness, which are embodied in the liquor and opium traffic, in laws for the "legalization of impure living," which strive to make it safe and easy to sin: striking at the very centre of the home, of all that is holy and precious there; evils which pollute and vitiate the very fountain of childhood which has the innate right to be born free from the taint of alcohol and impurity. It is because she, with many men, sees with clear true vision that these evils strike at the heart of all that is worth living for, whether for the individual, the home, or the nation, that woman has come to desire to strike out straight from the shoulder at these evils: because with many machinations and excuses they have increased year after year, until in the United States alone an army of young men go down to death because of alcohol equal in number to those slain in any year of the War of the Rebellion. People are shocked at war which takes off the flower of the land, but the majority as indicated by voted laws and licenses—with greed of gain—sit by and smile as this slaughter goes on, while woman is grieving over the loss of manhood, of all that is noble in her loved ones. When the "oak to which the ivy is clinging for support" is rotten at the core, where then shall the ivy go? It is then not "a troublesome amount of affection in woman's composition," that she wishes to be rid of, but that affection lies crushed and bleeding, draggled on the ground.

All men are not blind to these things, as women have not their eyes open to them. The Woman's Christian Temperance Union is pre-eminently "organized mother love;" it is because it is so, because they wish to save their loved ones, that some women wish to lift up their voices and emphasize it with a vote against that evil which is a source of all other evils and of eight-tenths of all crime. Murder and stealing are not (ordinarily) given legal sanction, though they are often secondary sins, while drunkeness, source of all evil, is virtually given such sanction. As woman can not yet emphasize her voice with a vote, she is doing somewhat by other means. It is not too much to say that the strong temperance sentiment which has sprung up in the last twenty-five years in America and England is due to woman. On 15th of February the Polyglot Petition, as it is called, with thousands and thousands of names will be presented to the United States government, by the hands of Frances E. Willard, President of the U.S. National, and the World's Woman's Christian Temperance Union, and Lady Henry Somerset, President of the British Woman's Temperance Association and Vice-President of the World's W.C.T.U.

This is the beginning of the circuit which they are to make with it around the globe presenting it to the governments of the world. That of Japan being one of them, will probably be reached within the year. The petition reads as follows:—

POLYGLOT PETITION.

Honoured Rulers, Representatives, and Brothers:

We, your petitioners, although belonging to the physically weaker six, are strong of heart to love our homes, our native land, and the world's family of nations.

We know that clear brains and pure hearts make honest lives and happy homes, and that by these the nations prosper, and the time is brought nearer when the world shall be ■ peace.

We know that indulgence in Alcohol and Opium and in other vices which disgrace our social life, makes misery for all the world, and most of all for us and for our children.

We know that stimulants and opiates are sold under legal guarantees which make the Governments partners in the traffic, by accepting as revenue a portion of the profits, and we know with shame that they are often forced by treaty upon populations, either ignorant or unwilling.

We know that the law might do much, now left undone, to raise the moral tone of society, and render vice difficult.

We have no power to prevent these great iniquities beneath which the whole world groans, but you have power to redeem the honour of the nations from an indefensible complicity.

We therefore come to you with the united voices of representative women of every land, beseechi ■ you to raise the standard of the law to that of Christian morals, to strip away the safeguards and sanction of the State from the drink traffic and the opium trade, and to protect our homes by the total prohibition of these curses of civilization throughout all the territory over which your Government extends.

I close with the remark that there are some heretofore unusual things in the line of progress and the coming of the Kingdom of Righteousness that are bound to come let who will help or hinder. It *may* be that the woman's vote is one of them.

Yours, &c., FRANCES.

February 2, 1895.

THE INCANDESCENT GAS-LIGHT FOR PHOTOGRAPHIC PORTRAITURE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—In your report of the experiments of Members of the Photographic Society of Japan in the use of the Incandescent Gas Light for Portraiture, you publish my opinion of the light expressed to the audience at Keil's Halk. As printed, this opinion is less favourable than it should be. Doubtless this is my own fault, not that of your reporter, but I should be sorry, more especially after the kindness of Mr. Janni in putting the light at our disposal, that it should appear that I can only faintly praise it as a luminant for photography. I therefore ask you to print here what I intended, and ought, to have said.

The success of our experiments with the incandescent gas light for a luminant in portraiture was most marked, although the lights were not specially arranged for photographic work—were, indeed, arranged in a way the reverse of favourable. The lighting was soft, the results indistinguishable from those that would be got in a good studio with "North light," and the exposures, though for the most part made with landscape lenses, were moderate. Without going into complete details, I may say that I am confident that, with portrait lenses, very rapid plates, and 20 burners specially arranged for photography, the exposure would not have to be more than a fraction of a second.

It would be too much to express the opinion that the incandescent gas light is better in all respects for photography than the arc electric light, but it possesses certain advantages of its own. The most obvious is, of course, that it is available where gas can be got, electricity only being required to work the blower. Another is that it lends itself better than the arc light to modification of lighting, by altering the grouping of the burners.

The incandescent electric light is scarcely worth considering in connection with photographic portraiture, the actinism is so slight. True, it is possible to get an actinic light by "forcing" the lamps by increasing electrical pressure, but this is at the cost of their rapid destruction.

Finally, I express my opinion of the relative advantages of the Incandescent Gas Light, and of the Electric Arc Light, by stating that, were I setting up as a professional photographer, with the intention of doing evening portraiture, the district being one where electricity and gas were equally available, I would find it hard to decide which light to select.

I remain, Sir, yours, &c.,

W. K. BURTON.

February 17th, 1895.

A DISCLAIMER.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Recently one of my friends showed me the *Japan Daily Mail* of November 23rd, 1894, that contained, among the editorial notes, a few remarks on my address at the meeting of the Bukkyo Seinen Kwai, held on the 18th of the same month. I was utterly surprised to read the note, since it misrepresented my address in every way. Your criticism was abusing rather than effective. And I doubt that if the reporter whose correspondence you must have depended upon was personally present at the meeting and listened to my address. But if he was, I must say he was not qualified to understand the whole course of the address. Indeed I would have a long time before repudiated such an unfair criticism if I had only known it. Now the interval is rather too long to dispute over the matter. But still it is my duty to justify myself before the public, and I hope that you will allow me to do so by publishing this letter in your paper.

In the first place, it is stated that "Christianity, said the lecturer, was at a very low ebb in the United States," I am, Sir, modest enough not to make such a sweeping statement, and I can hardly find in my lecture notes even an approximately resembling phrase. At the opening of the address I said, "though we hear America as a Christendom it must not be understood that every inhabitant of the country is Christian. Perhaps one third of the population or even more are non-Christians, if we include the nominal followers under the negative term." But does this directly or indirectly convey the idea that "Christianity is at a very low ebb"?

You farther stated as my words "only the lowest grade of people professed the tenets of the Roman Catholic or Greek Catholic Churches." But "the lowest grade of people" *in what*, did I say? You omitted the qualifying phrase which was vitally essential. Besides, I never mentioned the Greek Catholics through my address since I doubted the Greek Catholics were playing any important part among the religions of the United States.

It was farther stated as my words "those who had *any* degree of education or scientific attainment were either Universalists or Unitarians." This was again exaggerated. The term "any" was unjustly added. I esteem the creed of the Unitarians, yet I could not say all the educated Americans were the Unitarians. To reproduce here what I said, "if I am allowed to classify the Christian sects in the United States according to the development of *the ideal thought*, the creed of the Roman Catholic is the lowest and those of the Universalists and the Unitarians are the highest, and those of the Methodist, the Presbyterian, and the Baptist stand between the two." This statement I have made in accordance with my own judgment, and if any body desires to discuss the subject with me, I am always willing to do so.

Still gross is the misrepresentation when you stated "he did not believe that in the whole nation there were thirty thousand true believers in Christianity." I am, Sir, sensible enough not to reduce the number of the Christian followers in the United States to such a low figure as thirty thousand. What I said was "if the population of the United States amounted to sixty milions, the true believers in Christianity could not exceed much over the one half of the population, that is, thirty on thirty-five millions."

It was further mentioned as my own words. "A wave of materialism had swept across the country, ...Christianity, as such, was now openly professed only by ignorant men and women." This is perhaps the misrepresentation of my statement, "Christianity, which believes in a personal God who created the world in six days and rested on the seventh, has been swept away by the development of scientific thought.

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A man who was properly educated and could be called a scholar would hardly believe such a personal God with flesh and blood."

The last of all, I have not received Ph. D. degree from *Michigan College*, nor the gentleman who introduced me at the meeting did not, as far as I was aware, put a wrong Alma-mater on my name.

To be short, every statement of yours seems to contain some exaggerating words, and indeed, Sir, I feel greatly wronged by your concluding criticisms. Please allow me, Sir, to have justice.

Very respectfully, R. WATANABE.

Kosei-kwan, Kobikicho, Kiobashiku.
February 17th, 1895.

[This is simply a case of a speaker who intended to say a certain thing and has been understood as saying something different. As to Dr. Watanabe's doubt whether our reporter was present, we assure him that we had the account of his lecture not from one but from two persons present; and as to their not being "qualified to understand the whole course of the address," they are highly educated Japanese and good English scholars. We have submitted Dr. Watanabe's letter to them, and they utterly repudiate the notion that they misrepresented him. They assert, first, that the lecturer used the words "*dan dan otoroyuta ira*" (is gradually decaying) with regard to Christianity; that he did mention the Roman and Greek Catholic Churches, using the English name of each; that, so far as they can remember, he denied that *chishiki no aru hito* (men of ability) believed in either creed; that he employed the words "*tacha no kyoiku*," which certainly corresponds to the English "those who have any degree of education," that as for the phrase that he now claims to have used, "if I am allowed to classify," etc, they do not remember to have heard anything of the kind; that, with regard to the number of true Christians in the United States they positively remember the unit employed to have been "thousands," not millions; that they doubtless were mistaken as to Mr. Watanabe's relationship to Michigan College, and so forth. However, the point of prime importance is, not that our reporters' accuracy should be vindicated, but that Mr. Watanabe's real sentiments should be known. Doubtless his letter will correct any false impressions that have been created as to the intended character of his address.—ED. *T.M.*]

MESSRS. NORTH AND RAE, LIMITED.

The following Report and Accounts were passed at a meeting of shareholders in this Company, held on Tuesday afternoon. Mr. H. C. Litchfield being in the chair.

REPORT.

The Profit and Loss Account and Statement of Assets and Liabilities for the year ended 31st December, 1894, are presented with this Report.

The accounts show a profit on the year's working of $4,088.59, including a balance of $747.19 carried forward from 1893.

After providing for payment of Auditor's Fee and Bonus to Directors and employés of the Company, there remain $3,163.39 for distribution.

The Directors recommend a Dividend of Ten per cent. per annum, which will absorb $2,500 00 of this amount, leaving $863.59 to be carried to new account.

Messrs. LITCHFIELD and JOHNSTONE retire from the Directorate by rotation, but they are eligible for reelection.

HENRY LITCHFIELD, Chairman of Directors.
Yokohama, February 8th, 1895.

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES ON DECEMBER 31ST, 1894.

LIABILITIES.

To Capital, 250 Shares at $100		$25,000.00
To Debentures		7,000.00
To Mortgage on Property		9,000.00
To Interest on Debentures		183.75
To Interest on Mortgage		180.00
To Sundry Creditors		2,630.13
		$43,913.88
Balance, Profit and Loss Account		4,088.59
		$48,002.47

ASSETS.

By Cash		$ 179.69
By Chartered Bank of I. A. & C.		618.81
By Stock as per Inventory:		
Drugs, Chemicals, and Sundries	$18,786.29	
Aerated Waters, Plant and Machinery..	2,319.81	
		21,106.00
By Property		20,500 00
By Unexpired Insurances		235.00
By Fixtures and Furniture		2,500.00
By Sundry Debtors		3,681.96
		$48,002.47

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.

To Salaries		$ 6,593.93
To General Expenses		3,023.00
To Interest		2,219.67
To Insurance		454.75
To Depreciation of Property		517.78
To Depreciation of Fixtures and Furniture		205.14
To Bad and Doubtful Debts		250.00
		13,264.33
To Balance available for division	$4,088.59	
To be dealt with as follows:—		
Dividend at the rate of 10%	$2,500.00	
Bonus to Assistants, Directors' and Auditor's Fees	725.00	
Carried forward to new a/c	863.59	
		4,088.59
		$16,852.92
By Balance from 1893		$ 747.19
By Rent Account		480 00
By Gross Profit on year's working		15,625.73
		$16,852.92

Yokohama, December 31st, 1894.
ROBERT W. BORTHWICK, Manager and Secretary.

HENRY C. LITCHFIELD, S. D. HEPBURN, } Directors.

I have examined the foregoing accounts, and compared them with the vouchers of the Company, and certify them to be correct.
Yokohama, February 26th, 1895.

Messrs. Litchfield and Johnstone were re-elected directors: and Mr. Keil was re-appointed auditor.

Votes of thanks to the Chairman, Board of Directors, and officers of the Company concluded the business.

CHRIST CHURCH, YOKOHAMA.

The annual meeting of the seatholders and trustees of Christ Church, Yokohama, was held in Kiel's Building on Tuesday afternoon. There were present Mr. J. Rickett, Chairman, Messrs. J. P. Mollison, E. Whittall, E. J. Moss, J. Dodds, J. P. Reid, and J. A. Fraser.

The minutes of the last meeting having been read, the following report and accounts were taken as read:—

REPORT FOR YEAR, 1894.

The accounts for the year 1894, as given below, show a balance in the hands of the Hon. Treasurer on the 31st December of $15.06, against $463.81 at the end of 1893.

This result is attributable to very heavy repairs having been executed during the year, notably on account of damage done by earthquakes.

The fencing round the Church was is such a rotten condition that it fell down in many places, and an entirely new railing had to be put up.

The Parsonage also required some repairs, and to cover all these repairs an appeal had to be made to the Public, which was very liberally responded to, and the sum of $1,307.00 was subscribed.

This assistance enabled the Committee to pay the increased stipend to the Incumbent throughout the year, as mentioned in the concluding paragraph of last year's report.

There will be no necessity for undertaking any extensive repairs during the current year, but as the buildings are very old, there must always be a certain outlay in keeping them in proper and necessary repair.

The Lighting of the Church with gas, mentioned in the last year's report, has been effected at a cost of $184.33.

The total amount collected for Pew rents shows an increase of $138.92 over that of last year, and the Offertories also show an increase of $67.80, and it is satisfactory to note that almost every available sitting is let.

In addition to the Offertories shown in the Accounts, the collections on the first Sundays in the month, aggregating for the year $106.79, were handed to the Rev. E. C. Irwine for the relief of the poor, and were distributed among poor people in the shape of food, medicine, clothing, &c.

The Committee would here mention that donations of old clothing would be very thankfully received by the Rev. E. C. Irwine for the poor.

During the year there have been 11 Baptisms, 8 Marriages, and 11 Funerals conducted in Christ Church, and 52 Celebrations of Holy Communion to 711 Communicants on Sundays, besides those on Easter and Christmas days when 80 persons communicated; and 248 Services were held in the Church.

The Committee desire to record in this Report their sincere thanks to Mrs. Till and the other Ladies who kindly presented the new Altar Cloth to the Church.

The thanks of the Committee and Congregation are also due to the Hon. Organists, Mr. H. I Chope and Miss Leach, and to Mrs. McNeill and Miss Killerby, and those Ladies and Gentlemen who assisted in the Choir, for their services.

The Congregation is also indebted to Mr. W. B. Walter and Mr. James Walter for the new Commandment Tablets.

J. RICKETT, Chairman.
E. WHITTALL,
J. A. FRASER,
JAMES WALTER,
JAS. DODDS,
E. J. MOSS,
} Committee.

Cr.

January 1st, 1894.		
To Balance 31st December, 1893		$ 463.81
December 31st.		
Collected for Pew Rents for 1894		2,658.50
Offertories 1894		762.29
Donations for Earthquake Repairs as per List		1,307.39
Bank Interest		3 64
		$5,196.24

Dr.

By Incumbent's Stipend for 11 months	3,000.00	
Ground Rent	180.29	
Mombari's Wages and Sundries including fuel, &c.	199.95	
Decorations for Church at Easter and Christmas	54.17	
Sundries as per Vouchers, including Sacramental Wine	80.85	
Repairs to Church and Parsonage	1,053.31	
Fire Insurance Premiums	232.27	
Advertising	26.00	
Gas for Church, Rent of metre and street assessments	59.80	
Gas fittings and placing Gas in Church	184.33	
Interest on private loan	120.00	
Balance on 31st Dec., 1894	45.06	
	5,196.24	

E. & O. E.
Yokohama, December 31st, 1894.

E. WHITTALL,
Hon. Treasurer.

I have examined the Accounts with Vouchers and found the same correct.
H. KEIL, Auditor.

Mr. J. P. MOLLISON proposed and Mr. REID seconded the adoption of the report and accounts.—Carried.

Mr. REID had much pleasure in proposing that the old Committee, Messrs. J. Rickett, E. Whittall, J. A. Fraser, James Walter, Jas. Dodds and E. J. Moss be re-elected.

Mr. MOLLISON seconded.—Carried.

The CHAIRMAN tendered the thanks of the Committee for the honour paid them.

This concluded the business.

LETTER FROM KOREA.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Söul, February 9th, 1895.

The official news of the capture of Weihaiwei reached Söul last evening, and the officers, soldiers, and civilians, all heartily encouraged by Count Inouye, began to make preparations for a "grand celebration" this afternoon at two o'clock. The day was favourable, as this is the 15th of the 1st, Moon a great holiday with the Koreans. Hence the haste in preparations. All night long work went on. The spur of the South Mountain near the Legation was selected for the celebration. "Hiroshima," with Court officers and the Declaration of War against China, were represented at one place; at another a monument in honour of the brave soldiers who fell at Weihaiwei, of the flag-ship *Ting yuen* was built—I don't think this one weighed 8,000 tons—a dragon crawling up a tree and beset by a huge mosquito, the head bloody, as if the mosquito was getting the best of it. Various other scenes, the meaning of which I did not know, were represented on other parts of the spur.

At two o'clock a vast throng of Koreans and Japanese assembled. His Excellency Count Inouye, as well as other officers, were in a happy frame of mind. The Cabinet Ministers were nearly all present, His Royal Highness Prince Wi-Hwa and other dignitaries. Representatives of the Treaty Powers were not present, and of course could not be expected to be.

The band played; Count Inouye made a speech of congratulation which was received with cheers from the hearers, the company fired the national salute, after which various sports, wrestling, dancing, fencing by soldiers blind-folded and so forth, were indulged in. The Flag-ship *Ting-yuen* was fired upon but soon caught fire after returning a few feeble shots, and burned "to the water's edge" to the great interest and amusement of the spectators. As an impromptu celebration it was a success. I have no doubt every man from Dai Nippon understood what he was celebrating, but it is an open question whether the average Korean knew what the salute and cheers were for. On my way home I met a Korean, a man of some intelligence, and he inquired what the condition or status of China was, and whether there was not a country (and he lowered his voice as he said England) that would come to the help of China. Koreans associate the two nations, and the appearance of several English men-of-war in the harbour of Chemulpo seems to be the signal for rumours of the landing of Chinese in Korea.

The festivities usual at the Korean New Year were less extensive this year than in other years. Koreans are not in a very joyous mood. They are awaiting with much interest the outcome of the reforms promised them. They are not sure that all that glitters is gold, but they hope so. It seems from present indications that an honest and fearless attempt to carry out the new laws will have the final approval of the common people, just as the new coin has already won its way and driven the old cash from the market.

Japanese merchants and traders are coming to Söul in large numbers. Chong Dong, the district where most of the foreigners live, has three stores already. The famine that threatened us last summer and fall will be looked after by these enterprising firms.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[REUTER "SPECIAL" TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

London, February 17.

A strong bimetallic movement has taken place in Germany, and the Reichstag has passed a resolution calling upon the Government to convene an inter-state monetary conference, which Prince Hohenlohe is disposed to consider, and upon which Herr Posadowski made a strong bimetallic speech. The decision caused a rise in [illegible]

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London, February 18.

The Address in reply to the Queen's Speech has been voted.

H.M.S. *Mercury* has been ordered to Formosa, a Consul there having strongly urged the necessity for some protection for foreigners.

London, February 19.

An American Four per Cent. Loan has been issued in London and New York for $62,000,000, the interest to be payable in either gold or silver.

["SPECIAL" TELEGRAMS TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

Nagasaki, February 20, 5.05 p.m.

The Japanese men-of-war *Naniwa*, *Yoshino*, and *Akitsushima* have arrived here, and it is reported that they will remain for a fortnight, but the reason is unknown.

CHESS.

(All Communications to be addressed to the CHESS EDITOR.)

The Yokohama Chess Club meets at the Club Hotel, No. 5, Bund, on Monday and Thursday in each week from 5 to 11 p.m.

The Tokyo Chess Club meets at the Tokyo Hotel every Friday from 1 to 7 p.m.

SOLUTION TO PROBLEM NO. 164.

WHITE.	BLACK.
1—R to Q B 4	1—K × P
2—K to K 4	2—K to K 7
3—R to B 2, mate	
	1—K to Q 6
2—Q to Kt 2	2—K × R
3—Q to Q 5, mate	
	1—K to B 6
2—R to B sq.	2—K to K 7
3—Q to K 3, mate.	

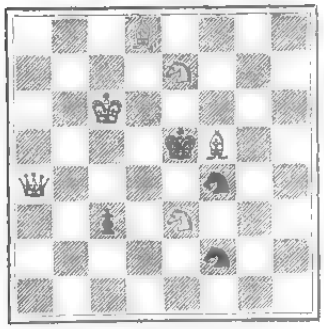
Correct solutions received from Omega, Shogi, E.J. King, W.H.S., Kr., and J.D.

CHANG (Hakodate).—We cannot undertake to clear up your difficulties by post. Any book on Chess dealing with problem construction will give you all the information desired.

PROBLEM NO. 166.

By A. P. SILVERA.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in two moves.

GAME NO. 221.

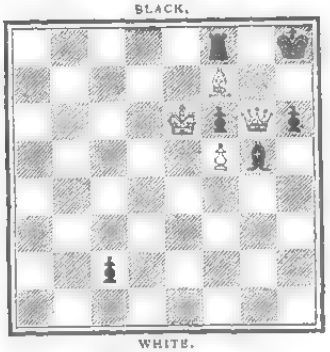
One of the greatest of chess masterpieces, with a grand finale—Berlin Tournament, 1881 (French Defence):—.

WHITE. J. H. Blackburne.	BLACK. Herr Schwarz.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 3
2—P to Q 4	2—P to Q 4
3—Kt to Q B 3	3—Kt to K B 3
4—P takes P	4—P takes P
5—Kt to B 3	5—B to Q 3
6—B to Q 3	6—P to B 3
7—Castles	7—Castles
8—Kt to K 2	8—B to K Kt 5
9—Kt to Kt 3	9—Q to B 2
10—B to K 3	10—Q Kt to Q 2
11—Q to Q 2	11—K R to K sq.
12—Q R to K sq.	12—Kt to K 5
13—Q to B sq.	13—B takes K Kt
14—P takes B	14—Kt takes Kt
15—R P takes Kt	15—B takes P
16—K to Kt 2	16—B to Q 3
17—R to R sq.	17—Kt to B sq.
18—R to R 3	18—P to K Kt 3
19—Q R to R sq.	19—Q R to Q sq.
20—B to K Kt 5	20—R to Q 2
21—P to Q B 4	21—P takes P
22—B takes P	22—K to R sq.
23—R to R 4	23—P to Kt 4
24—B to Kt 3	24—Kt to K 3
25—B to B 6	25—Kt to B 5 ch.
26—Q takes Kt	26—B takes Q
27—R takes P	27—P takes R
28—R takes P	28—Resigns.

END GAME NO. 23.

Apparently hopeless position by Dr. Lasker.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White wins as follows:—

WHITE.	BLACK.
1—B to K Kt 8	1—R takes B
2—K to K B 7	2—R takes Q
3—P takes R	3—P to K R 4
4—P to K Kt 7 ch.	4—K to R 2
5—P to K Kt ■ (Q) ch.	5—K to R 3
6—Q mates at Kt 6 or R 8.	

GAME NO. 222.

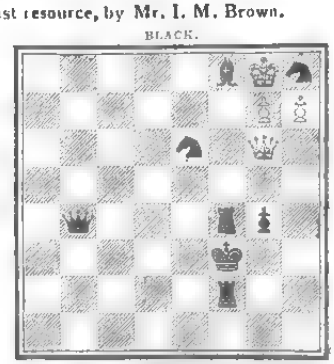
One of Steinitz's good wins at the New York Tournament.

WHITE. Steinitz.	BLACK. Showalter.
1—P to Q 4	1—P to Q 4
2—P to Q B 4	2—P to K 3
3—Kt to Q B 3	3—Kt to K B 3
4—B to Kt 5	4—B to K 2
5—P to K 3	5—Q Kt to Q 2
6—R to B sq.	6—Castles
7—Kt to B 3	7—P to B 3
8—B to Q 3	8—P to K R 3
9—B to R 4	9—P takes P
10—B takes P	10—Kt to Q 4
11—B to K Kt 3	11—Q Kt to Kt 3
12—B to Q 3	12—Kt takes Kt
13—P takes Kt	13—B to R 6
14—R to B 2	14—B to Q 2
15—Kt to K 5	15—B to R sq.
16—Q to B 3	16—P to K B 4
17—Castles	17—Kt to Q 4
18—R to Q Kt sq.	18—P to Q Kt 4
19—P to B 4	19—Kt to Kt 5
20—R takes Kt	20—B takes R
21—Kt takes B P	21—B takes Kt
22—Q takes B	22—Q to Kt 3
23—P takes P	23—Q takes Q
24—P takes Q	24—P to R 3
25—P to B 7	25—K R to Q B sq.
26—R to B 6	26—B to R 4
27—B to B 4	27—K to ■ sq.
28—B takes K P	28—K to K 2
29—B takes P	29—Resigns.

END-GAME NO. 24.

Last resource, by Mr. I. M. Brown.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White draws as follows:—

WHITE.	BLACK.
1—Q to Q 3 ch.	1—K to Kt 7
2—Q to K Kt 3 ch.	2—K to B 8
3—Q to K Kt sq. ch.	3—K to K 7
4—Q to Q sq. ch.	4—K to K 6
5—Q to Q 3 ch.	5—K takes Q
6—P takes Kt and becomes a Rook,	

And no matter what may be Black's reply, White is stale-mated.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IN DUE

From America	per P. M. Co.	Saturday, Feb. 23rd.*
From America	per O. & O. Co.	Sunday, Mar. 3rd.†
From Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Sunday, Feb. 24th.‡
From Europe, viâ Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd	Thursday, Feb. 21st.§
From Hongkong	per P. M. Co.	Wed'day, Feb. 27th.‖
From Hongkong	per C. P. R. Co.	Thursday, Feb. 28th.¶
From Europe, viâ Hongkong	per M. M. Co.	Sunday, Mar. 3rd.**
From Canada, &c.....	per C. P. R. Co.	Monday, Mar. 18th.

* *Peru* left San Francisco on February 2nd. † *Oceanic* left San Francisco via Honolulu on February 12th. ‡ *Arcona* left Nagasaki on February 20th. § *Nürnberg* left Hongkong on February 16th. ‖ *China* left Hongkong on February 20th. ¶ *Empress of India* left Hongkong on February 20th. ** *Sydney* (with French mail) left Hongkong on February 22nd.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For Europe, viâ Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd	Sunday, Feb. 24th.
For Victoria, B.C., & Tacoma, Wash.....	per N. P. Co.	Thursday, Feb. 28th.
For America	per P. M. Co.	Friday, Mar. 1st.
For Canada, &c.	per C. P. R. Co.	Friday, Mar. 1st.
For Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Saturday, Mar. 2nd
For Europe, viâ Shanghai	per M. M. Co.	Saturday, Mar. 9th.
For America	per O. & O. Co.	Saturday, Mar. 9th.
For Hongkong	per C. P. R. Co.	Monday, Mar. 18th.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Elax, British tank-steamer, 2,321, Daniel, 16th February,—Batoum, Oil.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Felbridge, British steamer, 1,517, Stokes, 16th February,—London viâ ports, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Glenearn, British steamer, 1,409, Murray, 17th February,—London viâ ports, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Saghalien, French steamer, 2,580, Chevalier, 17th February,—Marseilles 6th January, Hongkong 8th February, Shanghai 11th, and Kobe 16th, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

Empress of Japan, British steamer, 3,003, G. A. Lee, R.N.R., 18th February,—Vancouver, B.C., 5th February, Mails and General.—Frazar & Co.

Omba, British steamer, 1,907, Munroe, 18th February,—Antwerp viâ ports, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Gibraltar (20), cruiser, Captain A. MacLeod, 20th February,—Hongkong viâ ports.

Gerda, German steamer, 1,243, 21st February,—Hamburg viâ ports, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Angers, British steamer, 2,076, Bannister, 22nd February,—Bombay viâ ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Myrmidon, British steamer, 1,815, Brown, 22nd February,—Liverpool viâ ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Ping Suey, British steamer, 1,988, Davis, 22nd February,—London viâ ports, General.—W. M. Strachan & Co.

Tenasserim, British steamer, 1,975, Robertson, 22nd February,—Kobe 20th February, Ballast.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Sikh, British steamer, 2,735, J. Rowley, 22nd February,—Tacoma, Wash., viâ Victoria, B.C., 6th February, Mails and General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

DEPARTURES.

City of Peking, American steamer, 3,128, Wm. Ward, 16th February,—San Francisco, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Hertha, German steamer, 1,642, F. von Binzer, 16th February,—Hamburg viâ ports, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Verona, British steamer, 1,878, C. H. S. Tocque, 17th February,—Hongkong viâ Kobe and Nagasaki, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Empress of Japan, British steamer, 3,003, G. A. Lee, R.N.R., 19th February,—Hongkong viâ ports, Mails and General.—Frazar & Co.

Plover (6), gunboat, Lieut. F. C. B. Addington, 21st February,—Shanghai.

Elax, British steamer, 2,321, Daniel, 22nd February,—Kobe, Oil.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Saghalien, French steamer, 2,580, Chevalier, 23rd February,—Shanghai viâ ports, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per French steamer *Saghalien*, from Marseilles viâ ports:—Mr. L. Broner, Captain Forrest, Mr. Henry Mathieu, Mr. and Mrs. Schadler, Mr. G. S. Arnholt, Mr. H. Heckert, Mr. B. A. Munster, Mr. G. Stewart, Mrs. Lyons, and Mr. A. Michel in cabin, and 3 seamen and 2 Chinese in steerage.

Per steamer *Empress of Japan*, from Vancouver, B.C.:—Mr. J. O. Averill, Miss L.

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M. Baugh, Mr. and Mrs. A. Barnes, Mr. J. E. Evans, Mr. Geo. Flood, Miss S. A. Henry, Mr. L. S. J. Hunt, Mr. and Mrs. B. Matsuki, Captain and Mrs. McKenzie and daughter, Mr. Jas. McKie, Mr. Arthur Ory, Mr. Solomon P. Stratton, Mr. and Mrs. R. J. Umbstaetter, and Rev. W. R. Weakly in cabin; 4 passengers in second class, and 8 Japanese and 57 Chinese in steerage.

Per British steamer *Sikh*, from Tacoma, Wash., viâ Victoria, B.C.:—Mr. Adolph Rose in cabin, and 8 Japanese in steerage. For Hongkong:—3 Chinese in steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per American steamer *City of Peking*, for San Francisco:—Mr. W. W. Kimball, Nawab Nawoz Zung and wife, Mr. W. W. Lowe, Mr. Ralph Lowe, Mr. Lee Edwards, Mrs. H. C. Dearborn, Mrs. Kullman, Mr. Fred. Sime, Mrs. Doebeck, Miss Hawkins, and Miss Reynolds in cabin.

Per British steamer *Verona*, for Hongkong viâ ports:—Mr. and Mrs. Madison, Mr. McGarrow, Mr. B. F. Coulter, Mr. L. D. Sale, Mrs. R. M. Varnum, Mr. Y. Soughionra, Mr. T. Hara, Mr. and Mrs. E. C. Pauling, Mr. McConnell, Mr. E. C. Potter, Mr. W. Kerr, Mr. C. H. Lightfoot, Mr. E. H. Tate, Mr. A. Woodward, and Captain Leigh, officers, and crew of steamer *Assam* in cabin.

Per British steamer *Empress of Japan*, for Hongkong viâ ports:—Mr. F. Koop, Rev. Mr. Freese, Mr. C. R. Clow, Mr. and Mrs. Goldman, child, and amah, Mr. Denbigh, Mr. A. Denbigh, Mr. Bollman, Mr. R. F. Lambe, Dr. Horsey, Mr. Bokow, Captain Crawford, Mr. Lehman, and Mrs. Hama in cabin, and Messrs. Hammond, Allen, Kane, Dent, Guiman, Williams, Bergman, Murphy, Jones, Barren, and Valentine in second class.

Per French steamer *Saghalien*, for Shanghai viâ ports:—Mr. Solomon P. Stratton, Mr. H. M. Roberts, Mr. E. H. Tuska, Mr. and Mrs. Young, Mr. J. Upton, Mr. D. Vaparinnal, Commander F. M. Barber, Miss Darioloff, Rev. C. E. Garst, Mr. Chaimsolin, Mr. Wong Chung, Mr. Thomas Leigh, Mr. K. Yamada, Mr. K. Moriyama, Capt. Forrest, Mr. and Mrs. Inouye Nobukichi, Mr. J. Allen, Mr. and Mrs. Dubuffet and child, Mr. Mabien, Mr. Durbier, Mr. Juan P. Carrasco, Mr. Pedro Roduguez, Mr. N. Faurie, Mr. José A. Vasquez, and Mr. Baudista R. Hermandz in cabin.

CARGOES.

Per American steamer *City of Peking*, for San Francisco:—

TEA.

	SAN FRANCISCO.	NEW YORK.	CHICAGO.	MONTREAL.	OTHER CITIES.	TOTAL.
Shanghai	481	—	—	—	—	481
Hyogo	25	—	—	—	—	25
Yokohama ...	387	—	652	—	—	1,039
Hongkong.....	56	—	—	—	—	56
Total... ..	949	—	652	—	—	1,601

SILK.

	SAN FRANCISCO.	NEW YORK.	HARTFORD.	TOTAL.
Shanghai	—	7	—	7
Hongkong	—	20	—	20
Yokohama	—	181	—	181
Total	—	208	—	208

Per British steamer *Verona*, for Hongkong viâ ports:—Silk, 26 bales; Waste Silk, 108 bales.

Per French steamer *Saghalien*, for Shanghai viâ ports:—Raw Silk for Europe, 97 bales; Waste Silk for Europe, 183 bales.

REPORTS.

The British steamer *Sikh*, Captain J. Rowley, reports:—Left Tacoma, Wash., the 6th February at 6 a.m.; had moderate and fine weather until 12th when strong westerly winds and snow squalls were met with lasting until morning of 17th; wind then suddenly shifted to S.E. and blew very hard for twelve hours, then again veered suddenly to N.W. increasing to a gale accompanied by hard frost and frequent snow showers, changed on 19th at S.S.E. and blowing with unabated force. From 20th until arrival very strong westerly winds and head sea were encountered.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

Nothing good or bright in prospect. Money is reported to be tight in Japanese commercial circles and dealers are very apathetic about making purchases of goods. A few indispensable necessaries move slowly, but there is no life or good feeling in the trade.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirtings—5¼ lb., 38½ yds. 39 inches	$2.25 to 2.90
Grey Shirtings—9lb., 38½ yds. 45 inches	2.50 to 3.25
T. Cloth—7lb., 24 yards, 32 inches	1.45 to 2.00
Indigo Shirtings—12 yards, 11 inches	1.70 to 2.35
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards 26 inches	2.50 to 3.75
Cotton—Italians and Satteens Black, 30 inches	PER YARD. 0.16 to 0.22
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	PER PIECE. 7.25 to 9.50
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches	0.85 to 1.00
Turkey Reds—2.0 to 2.4lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.65 to 1.75
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.85 to 2.05
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.30 to 2.60
Turkey Reds—4.8 to 5lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.80 to 3.10

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.
Flannel	$0.30 to 0.50
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches best	0.32½ to 0.37½
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Medium	0.27½ to 0.30
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Common	0.20 to 0.25
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 21 yards, 31 inches	0.15 to 0.22½
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches	0.35 to 0.50
Cloths—Presidents, 54 @ 56 inches	0.60 to 0.65
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0.40 to 0.70
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 5lb, per lb	0.60 to 0.75

COTTON YARNS.

	PER PICUL.
Nos. 16/21, Ordinary	—
Nos. 16/21, Medium	$34.50 to 35.00
Nos. 16/21, Good to Best	35.50 to 36.50
Nos. 16/21, Reverse	—
Nos. 28/32, Ordinary	—
Nos. 28/32, Medium	36.00 to 36.50
Nos. 28/32, Good to Best	37.00 to 38.00
Nos. 38/42, Medium to Best	42.00 to 43.00
No. 42s, Two-fold	40.00 to 42.00
No. 42s, Two-fold	43.00 to 46.00
	PER BALE.
No. 10s, Bombay	—
No. 16s, Bombay	—

METALS.

Not much doing in current business. The steamer *Omba* has arrived with plenty of Iron from Middlesbro', but most of her cargo is said to be "contracts" or "indents." Prices nominally unchanged.

	PER PICUL.
Flat Bars, ½ inch	$3.60 to 3.70
Flat Bars, ¼ inch	3.70 to 3.80
Round and square up to ½ inch	3.60 to 3.80
Iron Plates, assorted	3.70 to 3.85
Sheet Iron	4.90 to 5.10
Galvanized Iron sheets	8.50 to 9.00
Wire Nails, assorted	6.00 to 6.25
Tin Plates, per box	6.00 to 6.25
Pig Iron, No. 3	1.70 to 1.72½

KEROSENE.

Nothing very special or important in this market. Dealers hope for some slight turn in their favour, if silver improves in value, but holders are inclined to stand out for full prices. Distribution is fair, and the stock of Russian is low while that of American is ample.

Chester	$1.82½ to 1.85
Comet	1.80 to 1.82½
Devoe	—
Russian Anchor / Russian Moon	1.85 to 1.87½

SUGAR.

Brown—Moderate demand with some few sales. But the dealers do not take hold with a will, and the trade seems to languish. The usual forward business in Takao sorts does not seem to be forthcoming this year. White—No change, market quiet.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Takao	$4.05 to 4.10
Brown Manila	4.70 to 4.80
Brown Daitong (New)	3.50 to 3.55
Brown Canton	3.70 to 4.00
White Java and Penang	6.50 to 6.60
White Refined	6.40 to 8.90

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Rather more enquiry, but no business of any account. The large trade done here and in Shanghai last month seems to have filled European buyers for the present. We leave quotations unchanged, there being very little to test them at the moment.

QUOTATIONS.—(NEW SILK.)

Hanks—No. 1½	—
Hanks—No. 2 (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 2 (Joshu)	—
Hanks—No. 2½ (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 2½ (Joshu)	—
Hanks—No. 2½ to 3	—
Hanks—No. 3	—
Hanks—No. 3½	—
Filatures—Extra 10/13 deniers	Nom. —
Filatures—Extra 13/15 deniers	Nom. —
Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers	$870 to 890
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den	830 to 840
Filatures—No. 1½, 10/14 deniers	830 to 840
Filatures—No. 1½, 13/16, 14/17 den	800 to 820
Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers	780 to 810
Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	770 to 780
Filatures—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	—
Re-reels—Extra	—
Re-reels—(Oshu) Best No. 1	—
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 deniers	810 to 820
Re-reels—No. 1½, 13/16, 14/17 deniers	780 to 790
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	740 to 760
Re-reels—No. 2½, 14/18 deniers	720 to 730
Re-reels—No. 3, 18/20 deniers	700 to 710
Kakedas—Extra	—
Kakedas—No. 1	790 to 800
Kakedas—No. 1½	760 to 770
Kakedas—No. 2	720 to 730
Kakedas—No. 2½	—
Kakedas—No. 3	—
Kakedas—No. 3½	—
Kakedas—No. 4	—
Oshu Sendai—No. 2½	—
Hamatsuki—No. 1, 2	—
Hamatsuki—No. 3, 4	—
Sodai—No. 2½	—

WASTE SILK.

A fair steady trade at former values. Stock remains ample for all present requirements.

QUOTATIONS.—(NEW WASTE.)

Pierced Cocoons—Good to Best	—
Noshi-ito—Filature, Best	$130 to 135
Noshi-ito—Filature, Good	120 to 125
Noshi-ito—Filature, Medium	110 to 115
Noshi-ito—Oshu, Good to Best	120 to 130
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Best	—
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Good	80 to 90
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Medium	—
Noshi-ito—Bushu, Good to Best	100 to 125
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Best	—
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Good	70 to 75
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Ordinary	60 to 65
Kibiso—Filature, Best selected	100 to 110
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds	90 to 95
Kibiso—Oshu, Good to Best	—
Kibiso—Shinshu, Best	—
Kibiso—Shinshu, Seconds	—
Kibiso—Joshu, Good to Fair	30 to 27½
Kibiso—Joshu, Middlingto Common	25 to 22½
Kibiso—Hachoji, Good to Fair	25 to 23
Kibiso—Hachoji, Medium to Low	22 to 20
Kibiso—Neri, Good to Common	12 to 8
Mawata—Good to Best	—

EXCHANGE.

Exchange has been fairly steady, though a slight rise in silver towards the end of the week has not yet had the effect of raising rates.

Sterling—Bank T.T.	1/11½
— — Bills on demand	1/11½
— — 4 months' sight	1/11½
— Private 4 months' sight	2/0
— — 6 months' sight	2/0½
On Paris—Bank sight	2.45
On Lyons—Private 4 months' sight	2.52
On Hongkong—Bank sight	1 % p.
— Private 10 days'sight.	Par.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	71½
— Private 10 days' sight.	72½
On India—Bank sight	184½
— Private 30 days' sight	187
On America—Bank Bills on demand.	47½
— Private 30 days' sight..	48½
— — 4 months' sight	49½
On Germany—Bank sight	1.98
— Private 4 months' sight	2.05
Bar Silver (London)	27½

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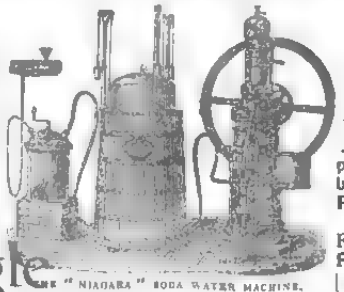
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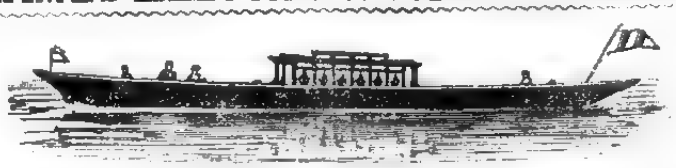
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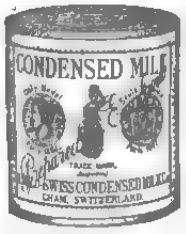
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The Japan Weekly Mail:

A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

No. 9.] REGISTERED AT THE G.P.O. AS A NEWSPAPER. YOKOHAMA, MARCH 2ND, 1895. 明治二十八年三月二日發行 Vol. XXII.

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same: and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, MARCH 2ND, 1895.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

M. BOISSONADE is still being "dined and wined" in the capital.

TWENTY-ONE houses were destroyed by fire at Omori on the 23rd inst.

OVER two hundred and fifty houses were burnt in Tokyo on Wednesday.

THE Chinese have made another unsuccessful attempt to capture Haicheng.

LI HUNG-CHANG is to come to Japan on a Mission of Peace armed with full powers.

THE Chevalier de Martino and family left Japan, by the N.D.L. steamer *Nuernberg* this week.

A CONCERT is being organised on behalf of the funds of the Convent, and promises to be a success.

SEVERAL of the captured Chinese war-ships are expected to reach Japan in the course of the coming week.

WAR rejoicings were held in Hiroshima on the 23rd February. The Emperor detailed his Band to attend.

EVERYTHING points to a strong revival of athletics, cricket, rowing, and other sports in Yokohama during the coming year.

THE Choral Society's Concert at Yokohama was a great success in so far as the Philharmonic Society and the performers in the second half of the programme were concerned. "The Revenge" was disappointingly rendered.

A NUMBER of Court Ladies have contributed a thousand *yen* to afford comforts to the Japanese soldiers afield.

HEAVY snowstorms have occurred in the North of Japan causing a temporary break down in the railway service.

THE total foreign population of Tokyo is placed at 619, of which 183 live in the Settlement at Tsukiji, and 426 outside.

TEN thousand *yen* worth of damage was done to the Osaka Weaving Company's offices at Kawasaki-mura, on the 24th February.

THE fishermen belonging to Hiroshima Prefecture have applied to the Governor for permission to fish in the sea off Talien, China.

THE Yokohama water police have made arrangements to inspect all vessels coming from Bangkok, to prevent the introduction of cholera.

A YOUNG Japanese girl committed suicide in the Creek, Yokohama, on Tuesday night. A quarrel with her relatives is assigned as the cause.

LIEUTENANT NAKANO, of the *Tenriu Kan*, who was killed during the attack on Liukung Island, was a relative of the Governor of Kanagawa.

SEVERAL sailors and hunters of the *W. P. Hall* have made good their claims for wages and immediate discharge in the British Court this week.

THE members of both Houses of the Imperial Diet will give a farewell entertainment to M. Boissonade on the 5th instant at the Imperial Hotel.

PROFESSOR GARRETT DROPPERS delivered a lecture on "Monetary Standards in relation to Japan," in the smaller Public Hall on Wednesday evening.

THE Yokohama Cricket and Athletic Club have reëlected Mr. J. P. Mollison President, and Mr. A. B. Walford, Vice-President and Captain of Cricket.

THE gale on Sunday did extensive damage in Tokyo and Yokohama. The *Sikh* was blown on shore, and H.M.S. *Gibraltar* and the *Myrmidon* dragged their anchors.

THE Authorities propose to construct a railway between certain important places occupied by the Japanese Armies in China, and surveyors will shortly leave to survey the route.

THE Superintendents of the Seven Buddhist Sects held a religious service on the 24th inst. in the military grave yard at Hiroshima in commemoration of the Japanese soldiers who lost their lives in the war.

SAITO SHINTARO, Postmaster at Iwatsuki, Saitama Prefecture, was arrested by the police in Tokyo on the 25th inst. for having embezzled during the past few months over *yen* 4,030 deposited at his office.

Mr. HENNINGSEN, the Chief Director, and other officers of the Great Northern Telegraph Office in Denmark, have telegraphed to the Red Cross Society of Japan intimating their intention of contributing $500 to the Society.

JUDGMENT in the case of the Nagoya local officials charged with irregularities in connection with the earthquake disaster fund was given by the Nagoya Local Court on the 26th ult. Matsuno Genroku was sentenced to major confinement for three years and police supervision for six months and fined thirty *yen*, while Funahashi Honshin was given one year's major confinement, and police supervision for six months, and fined ten *yen*.

Mr. OHAWA, Governor of Prisons in Kanagawa Prefecture, who was lately placed on the Retired List, has been ordered by the Government to represent Japan at the Fifth Prisons Convention to be held at Paris.

THE eighty-eighth birthday of the father of Prince Konoye was celebrated on the 27th Feb. Valuable presents have been given by Their Majesties the Emperor, Empress, and Empress Dowager, and His Highness the Crown Prince.

ACCORDING to the seventh report of the postal savings banks at the seat of war, the number of orders issued was 5,695, the amount of money remitted being *yen* 144,037.141, making a total of 20,009 orders, valued at *yen* 510,769.192, since the establishment of the system.

THE U. S. Consul-General Court has ordered the executors of the estate of the late J. E. Collyer, to account for the simple interest at 7 per cent. per annum for four years and a half, upon the sum of $1,500, the value of the good-will of the business.

REUTER telegraphs:—The Newmarket Bench has dismissed the summons against the Jockey Club and has refused to grant permission to appeal. February 18th was the twenty-seventh day of continued frost in England. The extreme cold has resulted a in the London Coroners holding scores of inquests daily. The cold is intense and distress prevails. The Russian Squadron in the Mediterranean has been ordered to the Pacific. The influenza is again raging in Great Britain. The Earl of Rosebery is suffering from a chill and extreme insomnia. A motion has been brought forward by Mr. Robert Lacey Everett and passed by the House of Commons for a Bimetallic Conference. Sir W. Harcourt, who doubted its utility, accepted the motion, though not in the sense as pledging the Government to bimetallism. *The Times* regrets the diminishing objection to bimetallism.

THERE is very little to be said about the Import trade, business all round being very slack. Only a few small sales have been made in Yarns, prices being weak for all counts. A few Shirtings have been taken, both heavy and light, but there is nothing like animation in the trade, and Fancy Cottons are entirely neglected, the same remark applying to Woollens. Very small transactions in the Metal market, which is principally distinguished by weak prices. There is nothing to report in Kerosene as to sales, though notwithstanding the heavy stock holders are firm. There has been little done in Sugar, but prices were lower for the small lots taken, and both Browns and Whites have a further downward tendency. There has been some enquiry in the Silk market, but this has not ended in any considerable transactions, most of the parcels moved off the market having been taken for home consumption, and holders of good quality and full size are firm, though inclined to give way for other sorts. In Waste Silk there has been little done, a great gap separating buyers and sellers as to value, and the stock is still heavy. Reports from several Tea districts indicate that early samples will be brought to market, though the quality of the crop will largely depend on the weather during the next two month. Exchange has been steady.

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THE SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS DURING THE WEEK.

Li Hung-chang, the famous Chinese Viceroy, is just now the "observed" of all Japan. The vernacular Press gives an almost exhaustive account of his past career. As for the mission on which he is alleged to be coming to Japan, the comments of the Tokyo journalists are curt and rough. At the present stage of the war, writes the *Mainichi*, it is quite natural that China should be desirous of concluding peace with her stronger foe. Should the Viceroy Li come fully accredited, negotiations will doubtless be duly opened. It is, however, more than probable that the great statesman will not be able to achieve any better success than fell to the lot of his predecessors, Detring, Chang, and Shao. He will find the terms proposed by the Japanese Commissioners far beyond those contemplated by himself and his Sovereign. Possibly he is doomed to the bitter experience of learning that the Flag of the Rising Sun is floating over the walls of Pekin while he is praying the Japanese Plenipotentiaries to take pity on his grey hairs. The *Shogyo Shimpo* does not doubt that Li Hung-chang will come furnished with full credentials, if he comes at all. It then proceeds to urge that the Japanese Authorities require the new Embassy, to prove, at the outset, by means of material guarantees, China's earnestness in suing for peace. The principal guarantee suggested is the cessation on China's part of all defensive preparations. Should she continue to fortify Shanhaikwan, Taku, Tientsien, Pekin, and other places, it cannot be supposed that she is solicitous for peace in real earnest. "Hasenshi," writing in the *Asahi*, attaches very little importance to the new Chinese Peace Mission. Founding his views on the broad bases of humanity, civilization, and the permanent peace of the East, he comes to the conclusion that the treaty terminating the present war must be signed nowhere else than in Pekin. By not a few metropolitan papers, the question of European intervention is brought forward in connection with the Viceroy Li's mission. They all warmly tell their Government and the Japanese people at large not to be afraid of any such conjuncture, standing as they do on right and justice.

* * *

The new War Budget still continues to receive some attention. The *Shogyo Shimpo* gives an elaborate account of the French Government Loans after the Treaty of Paris, and advises the Japanese Government to float the new Loans in the shape of bonds of small denominations. Our contemporary is of opinion that the issue of such bonds would prove highly beneficial to the State by establishing and consolidating habits of frugality and saving among men of small fortunes. The *Choya*, writing on the same subject, tells the Minister for Finance not to issue the new bonds at a discount but to leave them entirely to the valuation set on them in the open market. He will probably find them readily accepted at least at their face value. The Japanese money-market is not in such an embarrassed condition as his Excellency seems to have supposed on the occasion of floating the last loans. The *Kokkai* shares the opinion of the *Choya* about the advisability of issuing the bonds at their face value. It asserts, in lofty tones, that the War Loans have to be addressed to the patriotic sentiments of the people and not to their money-making instincts. The concluding remarks of our contemporary amount to this, that Japanese patriotism is ready and able to subscribe the War Loans already proposed or to be hereafter proposed, at no reduced value and at the ordinary market rates of interest.

* * *

As regards the advance of three millions to the Korean Government, the *Mainichi* writes that the Government has acted in entire conformity with its wishes. The Progressionist organ praises this procedure of the Japanese Cabinet as proper and wise for the following reasons:—

1.—Japan, in order to prove herself true to her [illegible] Emperor's Declaration of War, must leave nothing undone for the consolidation of the new Korean Government.

2.—The Korean Loan, if advanced by Japanese bankers, would have to be issued at such a discount and such a high rate of interest as to throw the poor Kingdom into fresh pecuniary troubles in the near future.

3.—Had the Korean Loan been raised in such an improvident manner, it might have tended to depreciate the Japanese War bonds considerably. The *Mainichi* takes it for granted that not even thousands, still less millions, of *yen* would be advanced to the Korean Government by anybody in Japan, except under a guarantee from the Japanese Government.

4.—A marked fall in the price of Japanese war bonds, should it occur, would entail great loss on their present holders, whose interests deserve consideration.

It it good and well, writes the *Jiji* on the same subject, that the Japanese Government should advance money to Korea. But to lend money to the Korean Government, as it is organised now, would be as imprudent as to put coins into the hands of a club of idiots and imbeciles. When the debt falls due, the lender will only have to repent his own imprudence and foolish indulgence. The *Jiji* is said by its Japanese contemporaries to have the faculty of prudence much more highly developed than any other virtue. It advises the Japanese Government to see that all the important administrative posts in the Peninsula are filled by able Japanese functionaries, before enlarging its pecuniary aid.

* * *

The *Nippon*, heading one of its leaders "Fallacy of a Material Standard," writes to the following effect:—"The strength of a country is usually estimated by its material resources. Before the present war, China, in the eyes of the world, was a strong Power, while Japan was relegated to a fourth or fifth degree. But Japan has falsified the estimated of the West by winning signal victories over China, an empire forty times larger than herself in extent of territory and population, and very greatly superior in respect of naval and military preparations. It is evidently a grave error to estimate a country's strength solely by its territory, population, and warlike equipments."

* * *

The *Yomiuri*, as if angry with its contemporaries' indifference toward an opinion formerly advanced in its columns, re-states it at greater length and in warmer language. That opinion in that, having regard to the present crisis, it is necessary for the Houses of Parliament to leave Continuing Committees for the purpose of examining various administrative Bills after the close of the present session. The Progressionist organ vaguely states that there will arise, in the sequel of the War, much demanding the examination of the Committees whose election it advocates.

* * *

"A telegram of a startling nature," writes the *Mainichi*, "has come from Paris stating that France, Russia, England, and America have agreed to prevent Japan from annexing any part of the Chinese Continent. It surprises, nay astonishes, one to hear of such a message being wired from the French capital. If from London there would be no occasion for wonder. It is a reasonable hypothesis that the message was framed in London, but purposely wired from Paris, so as to lay the responsibility on the shoulders of France. As to the reality of such a programme, we simply call it an impossibility. Japan's objects for wishing to annex some part of Chinese territory being, firstly, to secure the integrity and independence of Korea, secondly, to maintain a long peace in the East, and thirdly, and lastly, to chastise the barbarous Celestial Government and incapacitate it from standing forth again as Japan's enemy, we do not see any reasons entitling Western Powers to intervene. The telegram cannot be anything more than a mere canard, invented by some Englishmen for putting Japanese courage to the test." The Progressionist organ concludes by urging its nationals to stand by right and justice whatever, and not to be frightened by such a message as the one in question, and also not to be appalled even though all the Western Powers formed a combination against a cause representing right, justice, and reason.

* * *

As to the other topics treated by the metropolitan journals during the week, brief reference will suffice. The *Kokumin* regrets that the Houses have not sufficiently endeavoured to benefit the people by adopting their petitions. Very few of the numerous petitions presented have been sent forward to the Cabinet. It may be that many of the petitions were unworthy of notice. There is difficulty, however, in believing that the Houses' treatment of them has been altogether blameless. The same paper advises its nationals to seek new homes abroad. "Let Japanese spirit, character, and civilization be known all over the world. The Authorities should see that it be made easier for honest seekers of fortune abroad to sail out of Japanese ports, while rendering it impossible for women to go abroad for the purpose of selling their honour and disgracing their country." The *Mainichi* clamorously states the language Count Ito used in introducting, the Bill for the Korean Loan in the Lower House, must be either fully explained or corrected. The Progressionist organ endeavours to construe one of the expressions used by the Premier into a statement that would read in English, "I appear here to-day as the representative of His Majesty the Emperor," and demands a correction from Count Ito.

* * *

Our readers probably know that some Japanese entertain great fear lest numerous and violent internal commotions should arise in China before the present war is brought to a termination. The *Jiji* refers to the subject and says that no Chinese could be found at present spirited enough to attempt any large rebellion. The Chinese Government, whether alone or aided by foreign Cabinets or soldiers of forture, is able to crush at a blow any rebeliion that might now arise. In that respect China fortunately compares most favourably with the poor Peninsular Kingdom. The *Nichi Nichi* laughs at some Members of the Lower House, who are alleged to be contemplating a Committee for Coast Defence, its members to consist of Generals, Admirals, Cabinet Ministers, and Members of both Houses. Our contemporary sees no reason why any administrative officials or non-combatants, other than the War and Naval Ministers should belong to the *personnel* of such a Committee. As the *Jiyu* is not published at present for its own convenience, the scheme of taxing the Bank of Japan, finds no vehement supporter among the Metropolitan papers, except the *Jiji*. The general sentiment is against the project, the main journalistic reason being that it is to Japan's economic advantage to have the Central Bank indebted to the State in some substantial way. The *Jiji* stands a solitary supporter of the scheme, being uniformly opposed to any sort of privileges in matters of finance or industry. Its motto is "Money-making is money-making. It must be kept apart in all cases from administrative interference."

EDITORIAL NOTES.

COLONEL SATO'S LETTER.

THE following is an extract from a letter sent by Colonel Sato to a friend in Hiroshima and published in the vernacular papers. On the 19th ult. (January) when the Japanese fought 10,000 Chinese under General Sung in the vicinity of Haicheng, two companies of one of the battalions of our regiment (the Toyohashi Regiment of the Nagoya Division) charged a detachment of Chinese engaged in throwing up defensive works. Snow lay on the ground more than a foot deep and it was no easy work getting through it. In spite of this, however, the two companies moved at the double and routed the Chinese at one onset. A bugler, Shimoyama Gonkichi by name, received a rifle shot in the breast while blowing the charge, and fell. Lieut.

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Omura was also wounded in his right arm. When the latter was on his way back after the defeat of the enemy, he happened to pass by the side of the dying bugler. Seeing him approach, the poor soldier said in a feeble voice:—"Honourable Lieutenant Omura, what has become of the enemy?" The officer told him that the Chinese had been miserably routed, upon which the face of the dying man brightened and murmuring "Long live the Emperor," he expired. Instances of the kind are not at all rare. It will thus be seen that the soldiers led by the Colonel are doing credit to the much honoured name "Mikawa Bushi." Nor are their families and the inhabitants of their villages less warm in their martial ardour. On the contrary, they do their best to stir the spirit of their sons and brothers fighting for the Emperor and the country. District chiefs and heads of villages send letters to those under them who are about to start for the seat of war, saying that as their families will be well cared for, they should discharge their duty free from any anxiety about their homes. Some time ago the Colonel asked his soldiers to show him letters received from home if they had no objection to doing so, and at once a pile of letters from parents, brothers, and other relatives was brought in. Each one was full of patriotism and exhorted the recipient to serve his country fearlessly. So earnest were many of them that the Colonel was moved to tears. He received a letter from the father of one of the men of his regiment which commenced with praise of the officer's valour. In the latter part a Japanese poem was written with a request that it should be conveyed to the son of the sender. The latter further asked that should his son ever prove cowardly on the battle-field, he should at once be put to death. The Colonel thinks that, judging by the composition and penmanship of the letter, the writer is only a common farmer, and yet the spirit embodied in it would do credit to any officer. The poem was to this effect:—"You were brought up for the sake of the country; discharge the duties you owe to it, therefore, till death relieves you of that obligation."

DELICACIES OF THE SEASON.

THE *Miyako Shimbun* has a curious paragraph on the subject of the dietary of the Chinese at Weihaiwei. It appears that the Shantung people are fond of strange and bizarre dishes that would require a more than usually hearty appetite to be able to eat in safety, at least in so far as Europeans are concerned. One of the great dainties is a stew, of the hoofs of pigs and the toe-nails of chickens. These quaint articles of food are boiled until they become gelatinous, and are then dished up with soy and questionable cabbage, of that fragrant kind so familiar to China residents. Our contemporary gives a list of several other dishes, but these need not be specified.

FAREWELL DINNER TO M. BOISSONADE.

THE members of the Tokyo Press entertained M. Boissonade at a farewell dinner at the Maple Club on the afternoon of the 17th instant. Thirty-seven gentlemen were present. When the guest and his hosts were seated, Mr. Ooka Ikuzo, ex-M.P. and proprietor of the *Chuo Shimbun*, stood up and read a farewell letter on behalf of his *confrères*. M. Boissonade, after having made a suitable reply, proposed in Japanese the healths of Their Imperial Majesties the Emperor and Empress of Japan and His Imperial Highness the Crown Prince. This was heartily responded to by all present, and the health of the guest of the day was next proposed. Mr. Shimada Saburo, Vice-President of the House of Representatives, made a short speech on points not touched upon in the farewell letter. He dwelt on the fact that the abolition of torture in the Japanese courts of law was chiefly due to M. Boissonade's influence. He also referred to the resemblance between the characters of the French and the Japanese, and hoped that the guest would speak about the matter to his countrymen. M. Boissonade stated the particulars of the abolition of torture and agreed that the French and the Japanese possess certain essential traits in common. He said that the present expedition undertaken by Japan against China, which had its origin in a friendly desire on the part of the former country to preserve Korea's independence, might be compared with the war carried on by France for Italy's sake. Japan and France, he continued, have common interests, while that is not the case with France and China. In short, M. Boissonade earnestly hoped that the relations between Japan and his country would become more intimate, and declared that so far as it lay in his power he would endeavour to bring about that desirable state of affairs. The party broke up at about 4 p.m. It was decided that a gold medal be presented to M. Boissonade.

FIELD-MARSHAL COUNT YAMAGATA INTERVIEWED.

THE following remarks are said, according to the *Mainichi*, to have been addressed by Count Yamagata to Messrs. Hatoyama and Takata, both members of the Diet, who were despatched to Hiroshima by the *Kaishin-to* when the Chinese Peace Envoys came to Japan. The two gentlemen had been apprehensive about the Field-Marshal's health before they saw him, but were afterwards struck with surprise by the energy shown by him. When the conversation turned on the question of peace negotiations, the Marshal observed that although the public might consider the Government inclined to make peace, he himself was firm in his ideas on the subject. He was of opinion that Japan should not discontinue the present war until her troops had entered the Gulf of Pechili. The Count next observed with a smile that he ought to be sincerely grateful to the Diet in connection with the present affair. Hitherto, when any grave trouble had arisen between Japan and China or Korea, he had believed that the time for displaying this country's glory had arrived, and as a soldier, he had always maintained that decisive steps should be taken. The reply had invariably been that though it would be well to adopt a firm policy, the necessary funds were not available. In the present anti-Chinese expedition, however, that obstacle had been entirely removed to the immense satisfaction of himself and others holding the same views. The surplus of 20 million *yen* in the Treasury enabled Japan to send her first batches of troops, and as that surplus was altogether due to the retrenchment of official expenses brought about by the Diet, the Field-Marshal considered that he owed it great gratitude.

THE WEALTH OF THE ROTHSCHILDS.

A JAPANESE contemporary, of a speculative turn of mind, indulges in some interesting reflections on the wealth of the Rothschilds. Although taken as individuals there are far richer people in England, France, Germany, and America than any one Rothschild, yet as a family they are undoubtedly the most opulent of all. A fair computation puts their total wealth at present at two hundred millions of dollars, gold, the tenth part of this great sum being in the hands of the French branch of the family. According to careful calculations, the wealth of the Rothschilds was just half this amount a little more than than eighteen years ago, or in other words, it has doubled in that time. At that rate the family ought to have six billions (6,000,000,000) of gold dollars in 1965, the interest of which sum alone would easily suffice to feed thirty-seven million people, or the whole population of France. Or if the interest were brought to Japan and reduced to a silver standard it would supply food, clothing, and shelter for every unit of the people, buy up all the railways, and supply an equipage with two horses to every third man in the Empire!

THE THREE JAPANESE SPIES.

OF the three Japanese spies killed by the Chinese in Chinchow while that place was still in Chinese possession no trustworthy particulars could be obtained for a long while. Nor were their remains found. But at last the corpses were discovered by a Chinaman now in the employ of the Head-quarters of the First Division at Chinchow. They had been buried at a spot about 300 metres from the western gate of Chinchow on the right side of the road leading to Port Arthur. An officer, a surgeon, and an intimate friend of the unfortunate sufferers, proceeding to the place, were barely able to indentify the corpses, these being already in a state of partial decay. By certain marks, however, the remains were indisputably proved to be those of Yamazaki Yozaburo, Kanezaki Saburo, and Fujizaki Suguru. Steps were at once taken to give proper burial to the bodies. The three unfortunate men had not been spies of the ordinary type. At least one of the three had enjoyed the honour of a special audience with the Emperor, an extraordinary occurrence, when the strict usages of the Japanese Court are remembered. On the occasion of the Second Army's landing at Kwayuenkow in October last, six spies were sent toward Chinchow to ascertain the condition of the enemy. Of these four were arrested in one place or other. One of them succeeded in bribing the guards entrusted with the duty of escorting him to Chinchow and in that way escaped the terrible fate that overtook his three comrades. After the three men reached Chinchow, they were treated in a most cruel manner, and were subjected to torture. They declared themselves Japanese and asked to be instantly put to death. Nothing more could the Chinese extort from them. Finally, they were brought out for execution on the evening of October 3rd (old calender) in front of the western gate of the castle. When they were about to be executed, the executioners bade them face the south-west, as being customary in China to make criminals turn in that direction at the supreme moment. The three, however, would not obey. They declared that as the east was the direction in which their native country lay and their gracious Sovereign lived, they would die facing the east and in no other way. The Chinese soldiers, highly exasperated at what they considered the perverse obstinacy of the condemned, endeavoured to make them turn to the south-west, and a strugge ensued between the prisoners and their executioners. Sword marks seen on the faces of one of the three disinterred bodies were inflicted in this struggle by an excited Chinese soldier. The three were finally beheaded, refusing to the last to turn as they were bid. The disinterred remains were cremated and the ashes sent in part to the families of the dead, the other part being reserved for a funeral ceremony performed at Chinchow on the 9th inst. Nearly all the influential Japanese, civil or military, then in Chinchow, attended the obsequies.

INCIDENTS IN THE FIGHT OF POHCHIHYAISU.

THE following two incidents, according to letters from war correspondents of vernacular papers, are said to have happened on the 30th ult., when the Japanese troops assaulted and took possession of the eastern forts of Weihaiwei. As the Japanese rushed into the fort of Pohchihyaisu, a beautiful girl of about twenty-one or twenty-two, ran out of a house in the premises of the fort, and attempted to pass through the ranks of the assailants. A certain Major took pity on her, the more so as, judged by her noble mien and fine dress, she was apparently the wife of one of the Chinese officers that had defended the place, and any mischance that might befall her would greatly impair the reputation of the Japanese troops. The Major, therefore, approached the lady with all courtesy, and though it was impossible to exchange any conversation with her, as neither knew the language of the other, it was apparent that in addition to being terribly frightened by the battle she had some other cause of trouble. However, since there was no possibility in the hurry of the fight to obtain any detailed statement, the Major caused one of his men to escort the lady to a village a short distance from the fort, and to place her in the hands of any trustworthy old villager that the soldier might find. Nothing was subsequently heard of her. On the same occasion, a certain Captain led one of the companies of

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the Major's battalion by another road. The captain advanced on foot at the head of his men, beating back the Chinese that attempted to oppose him. While the struggle was going on, he saw what seemed to be a nurse carrying a baby and showing signs of the utmost trepidation. She was at first seen to run hither and thither, but at last the din of rifles and cannon and the sight of the ghastly remains of her countrymen became too much for her. She forgot everything but her own safety, and ran away leaving her little charge on the road side. When the captain advanced a few steps further along the mountain road, he saw a little boy of apparently three years of age, tottering forward in the direction taken by his flying nurse. Being a man of much kindliness, he took pity on the deserted child and, despite the hurry of the moment, raised it from the ground. It was a chubby urchin of decidedly sunny disposition, for it did not show any sign of fright at being held by a stranger, but made itself at home at once with the Captain. Meanwhile, the defeated Chinese rallied and renewed their attack upon the Japanese with loud war cries. The Captain could not leave the child, for that would probably have involved its death. Holding it, therefore, on his left arm while he grasped his sabre with the right hand, he commanded his company and again scattered the Chinese. That accomplished, he selected one of the prisoners who seemed to be of a benevolent cast of countenance, and though the child struggled not to part with its protector, it was entrusted to the prisoner to be conveyed to the house of a native in the neighbourhood, the prisoner receiving his freedom by way of reward. It was afterwards conjectured that the lady saved by the Major may have been the mother of this child, the garments worn by the latter proving him to be the son of a man of condition.

FANFARE.

That the war and its attendant triumphs should have an inspiring effect on the younger portion of Japan's populace, is nothing more than natural. Still it is often amusing to see to what extent this martial enthusiasm is carried and how immediately it affects the home circle. A roaring trade is now done, for example, in imitation military *shakos*, plume and gold-thread complete. These are destined to deck the head-pieces not of the warriors afield but of the miniature heroes of the nursey and the play-room. Sabres and dirks of all sizes and descriptions, ranging in value from one *sen* to one *yen* and over are in great demand, while flags of every conceivable size and material, from the tiny paper banners of the *ameya* and *karintoya* to great silken sheets, heavy with gold embroidery, find eager purchasers. All this is natural and not otherwise calculated to disturb the public tranquillity; but the inventor of the tin bugle—an instrument the exact counterpart of the real bugle, only made of baser metal—deserves a niche in the lowest inferno. These instruments of torture range in price from 18 *sen* to something like half a *yen*. The difference is external only, the music (?) producible being identical in all cases. In the hands of an efficient performer they might bring forth a less hideous sound, but when firmly glued to the pouted lips and swollen cheeks of musicians of less than ten summers the result is simply appalling. It is, apparently, the chief aim in life of Young Japan to possess one of these bugles, and there is not a street in the metropolis at present whence braying discords do not proceed until long after nightfall. The *c* and *e* in soprano are easy for beginners, but when misled by enthusiasm the youthful blower attempts the *g* in alt, a most lamentable, worm-eaten sound is produced that can only have its counterpart in the nether regions. Bands of boys sometimes parade the streets playing on these evidences of misapplied inventive genius, particularly whenever a primary school takes an outing. The vicinity of every barracks is crowded with similar youthful buglers, for reasons [illegible] whom the pessimist can but wish a rapid translation like that of Shimamura Genjiro. The Japanese themselves appear deaf to the wondrous burst of sound, or else smile proudly at the sight of the soldiers in miniature. But to foreigners' tympanitis it is the least of the ills to be dreaded from such a course of music, not to speak of the intense provocation to indulge in profane language when surrounded by a crowd of such youthful enthusiasts.

"THE TRUTH ABOUT PORT ARTHUR."

Some days ago a teacher of English in a private school in Tokyo gave the above item to his pupils—all of a somewhat advanced grade—as the subject of the next English composition. Two or three score of essays were thereafter handed in, all being more or less personal and virulent attacks on the correspondent of the New York *World*, as might indeed have been expected. The following, which has been placed at our disposal, received the highest number of marks, and we quote it without changing a word as indicative of the opinions of Young Japan on the subject:—"There is no more despicable fellow on earth than the one who sacrifices even justice for the sake of his momentry passion. James Creelman, unfortunately an American, is the most miserable minded specimen of such humanity. The information he sent to the *N. Y. World*, about the fall of Port Arthur, is nothing but falsehood. What strikes us, however, is the brutality of the words employed. One passage runs thus: It is no longer a conflict between civilisation and barbarism. Japan has discarded her mask, and for the last four days has trampled civilisation under the feet of her conquering army. The work of butchering the unarmed and unresisting inhabitants has been continued day after day, until the streets are choked up with mutilated corpses." But a majority or almost all of the so-called citizens said to have been killed in such a way were really soldiers who had discarded their uniforms. Most of the unarmed citizens, as is proved by Chinese captives, had previously fled. Fortunately there are many other honest correspondents who were also in Port Arthur, and they have denied Creelman's lie-reports. And now his mendacious purpose is known to the world. He received money from the Chinese for expenses, a sum which he is to pay back when he is rich. The correspondent of the Paris *Temps* saw him take a cheque from the Chinese authorities. Oh miserable fellow! it is he who has discarded his mask. It is useless to dwell further on the matter."

ASIATIC SOCIETY OF JAPAN.

A very interesting paper upon "Monetary Standards in relation to Japan," was read in the smaller Public Hall on Wednesday evening, by Prof. Garrett Droppers, the occasion being a Yokohama meeting of the Asiatic Society of Japan. There was a very small attendance, barely twenty-five in all. Mr. James Troup, occupied the chair. The lecturer reviewed the history of monetary standards during the last fifty years, and after pointing out the various fluctuations in values, &c., held that Japan would do well to stick to silver and leave the gold standard alone. It was the use of the gold standard that led to the financial crises in England and other gold-using countries. A discussion arose after the lecture, in which Mr. Walford, Mr. Wilkin, and the Chairman took part, after which a vote of thanks was cordially awarded the lecturer.

HOW TO COMMEMORATE JAPAN'S TRIUMPHS.

Mr. Kubota Beisen, a famous Japanese painter, discusses the above subject from an artist's point of view in the columns of the *Kokumin*. He suggests the construction of the most magnificent memorial that can be produced by the highest efforts of the present generation. His plan is that a most elaborate shrine be erected. The present Yasukuni Shrine in Kudan may be re-constructed for the purpose or a new one built on some suitable site. The [illegible] a shrine for the purpose of commemorating a triumph is an old practice in Japan. The great Shrine at Atsuta was constructed a little less than two thousand years ago when Prince Yamatodake subjugated the "Eastern Savages;" the Shrine of Sumiyoshi was built at the command the Empress-Dowager Jingo on her return home after having successfully subdued Korea; the triumph of Tamuramaru over the "Eastern Savages" was commemorated by the erection of the Kiyomizu temple, and after the successful expedition of Minamoto Yoriyoshi against the rebels of Oshiu the Hachiman Shrine at Tsurugaoka was constructed. Nor was the practice confined to ancient times. On the consummation of the Restoration, the Yasukuni Shrine was built, and the erection of the Daibutsu at Higashiyama by the *Taiko* and of the elaborate temples of Nikko by the Tokugawa Shogunate, are other examples of the kind. Mr. Kubota is not satisfied with the idea of building a shrine only: he suggests the erection of a triumphal arch as well. He proposes that the latter be constructed in a spot where it is most likely to attract the notice, not only of the Japanese, but also of foreigners. He considers therefore Shimbashi the most suitable situation and proposes that the arch be erected in such a position that every one coming out of the railway terminus will be obliged to pass under it.

THE NEW WAR LOAN.

The first War Fund for which the Government has obtained the Diet's consent was 150 million *yen*, writes the *Shogyo*. Twenty-six million *yen* of that amount having been appropriated from the Surplus Revenue, the sum that the Government had to procure either by issuing bonds or by having recourse to some other form of loan, was 124 million *yen*. In September last the first War Loan of 30 million *yen* was floated, and three months later the second Loan for a sum of 50 million *yen* was issued. Both are still in process of being collected, only 27 million *yen* having been actually paid by the subscribers. The remainder is to be paid up by next June. The Government has now sought the consent of the Diet for an additional War Fund of 100 million *yen*, at an interest of less than 6 per cent. per annum. The *Shogyo* thinks that the reason for the step is that the termination of the war is still far off, and as the House of Representatives declared unanimously on the 1st instant that it would give its consent to any reasonable demand made to it by the Government in connection with the War Fund, there never was any doubt that the second application would be carried through the Diet without dissent. The new Loan added to the one still to be raised, is a grave economic problem, and although the money market does not seem to have suffered as yet, no one will venture to say that the additional burden of 100 million *yen* may not prove a source of embarrassment. It is quite likely, therefore, concludes the *Shogyo*, that the Government may be obliged to resort to a foreign loan.

THE TAXING OF THE BANK OF JAPAN.

The Bill for taxing the Bank of Japan has been carried through the House of Representatives by a large majority. It is true, says the Domestic and Foreign News Agency, that the passage of the Bill by such an overwhelming majority as 158 to 59 was due to the fact that the House considered the Bill reasonable, but it is equally true that sentiment played a large part in the matter. With the exception of those members of the House identified with the National Unionist Party who, with two or three members each from the Radicals and the Progressionists, decided to vote against the Bill, the majority of the members that had formerly voted for the Renewal of Charters Bill thought that, as the latter had been rejected by the House of Peers, and as the Bank of Japan would be enabled to enjoy great benefits on account of the necessary re-organization of the National Banks, it would be quite just to levy a certain duty upon the former. Those that had at first voted against the Renewal Bill were actuated by a similar sentiment when they supported the Taxing Bill. They considered that now

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that the Renewal Bill was doomed to nullification and the interests of the Nippon Ginko were thus assured, to confer upon the Bank yet another benefit would be unjust, and that therefore a certain duty should be levied upon the issue of notes by the Bank. What attitude the Upper House will take in the matter is of course uncertain, but it is not likely that the Bill in question will share the treatment of the Renewal Bill. It is said that Prince Konoye and Viscount Tani, who were the principal supporters of the Re-organization Bill, have declared the imposition of duty on the Bank unavoidable. It is therefore not unlikely that the Bill will meet with a favourable reception from the House of Peers. The Government's position remains to be seen. It does not appear to be particularly opposed to this scheme, although it persistently upheld the Re-organization Bill. It would not agitate in any way about the matter did not a private relation exist between it and the Bank. Not only is it indebted to the latter for the War Fund, but it also relies upon it to help to raise the Korean Loan. It is conjectured, therefore, in a certain quarter that when the question of the taxing comes before the House of Peers, both the Minister and Vice-Minister of the Treasury and other officials holding seats in the House will occupy them on that occasion and vote against the Bill.

ADVANCE OF THREE MILLION YEN TO KOREA.

When the Korean Government asked Japan through Count Inouye for a loan of 5 million *yen*, write the metropoliton papers, the Treasury entered into negotiations with the Bank of Japan, and the latter privately consented to furnish the amount. The principal political parties, such as the *Jiyu-to*, the *Kokumin Kyokai*, the *Kaishin-to*, and others decided recently to ascertain how the matter stood and chose delegates for the purpose. The latter called on the Premier on the 19th and 20th instant and were informed that in consequence of various drawbacks the loan had not yet been advanced to Korea. They then represented to the Count that as had been set forth in the Imperial Declaration, the present war had originated with Korea's trouble and that as Japan was bound, so to say, to extend help to the peninsular kingdom as much as possible, she should comply with the request for a loan. The Premier agreed with that suggestion and promised to settle the question on further deliberation with the delegates. On the 21st inst., he intimated to them that he was desirous of seeing them and they met consequently in a lobby of one of the Houses. The result of the conference was that though the Nippon Ginko had undertaken to provide the loan for Korea, the sum should be temporarily advanced to that country by the Japanese Government so as to relieve its urgent need, and that Korea should repay the money by raising a loan. Three million *yen* are to be appropriated out of the surplus of 26 million *yen* reserved for the War Fund from the items of the Ordinary Revenue; the interest on the amount is to be 5 per cent. per annum, and the Diet pledged its prompt consent when the Government introduced the Supplementary Budget for the purpose.

MIT DEN WÖLPEN MUSS MAN HEULEN.

A curious story is narrated in the columns of several metropolitan contemporaries, concerning the amazing adventure of a certain coolie, named Yoshimi Kotaro, who is attached to the Second Army. He is a tall, well built man, quite a mimic in his way, but has the misfortune to possess a very lax lower jaw, for temporary dislocation of which he is said to have been under treatment no less than twenty-seven times. Shortly after the fall of Port Arthur, the story runs, this man happened, in some unexplained manner, to get separated from his companions, to rejoin whom he was forced to pass, after nightfall, through a deserted and dismantled village. He was quite unarmed but felt no anxiety on that score. Hardly had he reached the hamlet, however, when his footsteps aroused a pack of lurking half-starved dogs, of that wolfish breed common in Northern China. In another minute twenty or thirty of these animals had surrounded him, snarling and barking and evidently with the most unfriendly intentions, Japanese coolie *à la tartare* being apparently a dish for which their souls yearned. Shouting and stone-throwing having not the slightest effect on the rapidly narrowing circle of his enemies, the man bethought him of his powers as a mimic, as well as of a tale once told of how an old relative of his had once succeded in extricating himself from a like perilous situation. Dropping on all-fours and advancing in this way resolutely towards the hungry pack, Kotaro began snapping, barking, and growling with the best of them, in exact imitation of the dogs themselves. This ruse took his foes completely by surprise; and after a few minutes of indecision they all turned tail and ran off, leaving the pseudo-canine with a fresh dislocation of the jaw and a throat so raw and sore that he was thereafter forced to submit to medical treatment. He states that it was fully half an hour that he kept up his barking and growling until he finally saw the welcome lights of the Japanese encampment before him. But this is not the first instance of people in great peril having been rescued by a bark.

THE PORT ARTHUR AFFAIR.

The London *Spectator* seems to us to take the most practical view among all the home journals of the Port Arthur affair. Instead of talking of what is virtually out of the question —investigation *in loco*, the punishment of soldiers, the degradation of Generals, and so forth—it writes:—

> Is there any remedy or preventive against such scenes? There may be, we will continue to hope there is, but there is only one. Those suggested by some of our contemporaries, in their instinctive horror, are, we fear, nearly hopeless of realisation. The notion of an elaborate inquiry ordered by the Mikado, and a punishment of the guilty only, is practically utopian. You cannot punish an army for things it does in the field, or distinguish in any but the rarest cases between the acts of one soldier and another. The Mikado can, if he pleases, remove Marshal Oyama because such an atrocity occurred within the limits of his command, and if he did, that would be a warning to future Generals; but he might be doing an injustice, and would certainly induce the whole Japanese people to declare the Government guilty of ingratitude. They look upon the Marshal, quite justly, as a man who has won a Waterloo for Japan, and they do not at heart care how much their enemies suffer while the Waterloo is winning. It is possible, however, that the Japanese statesmen may recognise the two immense dangers involved in such butcheries, and may, for purely intellectual reasons, prohibit them in future in the way in which they prohibit acts of treason, in the way, in fact, which no General or officer, great or small, will think of disobeying. The Japanese statesmen are able men, and may see that such scenes involve two consequences: one, that all Chinamen who fight at all will fight as men with a halter round their necks; and the other that Europe, dismayed as well as disgusted, may decide that Japan shall not be permitted to become a first-class Power. The Governments of Europe, divided though they are, are uneasy already; and if their peoples were once thoroughly shocked, a menace might be addressed to Japan backed by force which her able rulers, elated though they are, would know to be too great for any single Power to resist. This hope rests upon a solid ground,—the certainty that is not the interest of Japan either to protect Chinese resistance, or to make future alliance with China impossible, or to drive Europe into a confederation for the maintenance of a civilised policy within the Far East. This, however, is the only hope, and it may yet fail us, and Englishmen be condemned to witness in Asia scenes such as have not occurred even there since the Generals of Jenghis Khan formally debated whether it would not be wise to massacre the whole Chinese race, and turn their beautiful provinces into a wide pasture-ground, on which tribes of horsemen could live for generations in ease and plenty. The end is not yet, and Japan may yet give satisfaction to the outraged conscience of the world; though we do not think it will, but the storm of Port Arthur deepens the doubt which we have felt from the first, whether the sudden uprising of a Mongolian Power armed with the science as well as the discipline of the West, is not a portent threatening mighty evils as well as mighty changes in the immediate future.

THE "TAIHIN KYOKAI."

With a view to ensuring convenience and comfort to strangers visiting Kyoto during the Anniversary and the period in which the Exhibition will be open, the above society has been established in the southern capital. It is, according to the *Yomiuri*, not an entirely private affair, but is of a semi-official character. On the 11th instant the Committee nominated by the Governor of Kyoto held a meeting for the purpose of drawing up a manifesto and bye-laws and for deliberating on the estimated expenses of the Society. The manifesto is of considerable length, and is to the effect that as the coming combination of Exhibition and Anniversary should be availed of as much as possible for the development of the industry of the country, and as the cordial reception of foreign visitors who will come in unusually large numbers on account of the victories achieved by the Japanese, is of paramount importance for the attainment of that object, it has been decided to establish a Society for the purpose. Some of the provisions of the bye-laws are as follow: In order to afford convenience to foreigners visiting Kyoto on the occasion of the Anniversary and the 4th Domestic exhibition, brief descriptions of the two undertakings and information with reference to hotels, conveyances, and such matters likely to prove useful, will be printed and widely distributed. Special convenience will be afforded to foreigners wishing to visit places of scenic beauty, workshops, schools, and so forth, and the Society will endeavour to introduce foreigners to Japanese when desired. They will further act as a medium for commercial transactions between foreigners and Japanese; will aid strangers in the purchase of wares; will establish a Club where foreign visitors and Japanese may meet and will procure suitable guides for the former. The Society will be located for some time at the Myoman Temple, Teramachi, Kyoto.

THE ITALIAN SOCIETY AND H.E. THE CHEVALIER DE MARTINO.

The Italian Society of Japan has presented to His Excellency the Chevalier de Martino a very beautiful gold medal. It measures 8 inches in circumference and is a quarter of an inch thick. On the face, in relief, are the flags of Italy and Japan, crossed, and encircling them is a leaf scroll broken by the inscription "Societa Italo-Giapponese," below, with the Japanese equivalent above. On the reverse the centre is occupied by the words "A S.E. Il Cav. Renato de Martino," and the border has a similarly disposed scroll with the date of the Society's formation in Italian and Japanese.

A MURDEROUS-MINDED GUNNER.

Warriam Singh, a gunner in the Hongkong Artillery, is charged with having attempted to murder Surmukh Singh, another gunner, at the Lyee-moon Fort on the 14th February. It is alleged that the accused attacked Surmukh Singh with a hatchet and inflicted serious injuries about the head which necessitated his removal to the Wellington Barracks Hospital. It is supposed that the injured man, who was a noted wrestler and had the reputation of being a bully, had been tormenting the accused, and that this was the cause of the quarrel.

GREAT FIRE IN TOKYO.

The *Nichi Nichi* states that a destructive fire broke out on the 27th ult., at 7.40 p.m. in an outhouse at Umamichi, Asakusa, Tokyo, belonging to Ota Kyushichi. Fanned by a strong breeze the flames quickly spread, and before the firemen left the scene two hundred and six houses were consumed, twenty others being damaged. Fifteen firemen were more or less severely injured. The fire is said to have originated among some embers left in the shed.

SUICIDE.

The body of a Japanese woman about twenty-one years of age was found floating in the Creek near Nishinohashi on Wednesday forenoon. She is said to be the neice of the *momban* at No. 119, Settlement, and only came to Yokohama on Sunday last from the opposite side of the bay. Trouble with her family is assigned as the cause of the rash act; she had money in a pocket-book when picked up and was well dressed.

M. DE LANNESSAN.

It is said by the *Daily Press* that the real reason for the recall of M. de Lanessan from the office of Governor-General of Indo-China was not, as alleged, the communication of certain state papers to parties not authorised to receive them, but that he had in his private correspondence spoken of some of the Ministers as imbeciles, idiots, and beasts.

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IMPERIAL DIET.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 22ND.

HOUSE OF PEERS.

The House met at 10.50 a.m., the Order of the Day being :—

1.—Report of the Petitions Committee.
2.—Bill for supplementing Law No. 15 of the 23rd year of *Meiji* (sent up from the Lower House).
3.—Bill for amending the Postal Regulations (sent up from the Lower House).
4.—Bill relating to the Examination of Silk-worm's Eggs.
5.—Petitions.

Viscount Soga alluded in feeling terms to the death of Major-General Odera on the field of battle, and moved that a message of condolence be sent by the House on the occasion of the gallant officer's funeral on the 24th instant.

The House agreed by acclaim.

Prince Tokugawa, on behalf of the Petitions Committee, reported that the Committee, at its meeting on the 20th instant, had decided to recommend 21 petitions to the House's notice and had rejected 11. There were still 146 under consideration.

Mr. Soyeda, Government Delegate, introduced the next Bill. He explained that while satisfactory regulations existed for dealing with the paper issues of Banks closed by Government order, there were no proper regulations applicable to the case of Banks closed under ordinary circumstances. The Bill was intended to remedy that defect.

The Bill was entrusted to a Special Committee.

The next Bill was similarly treated, after the Government Delegate had stated that the Government offered no objection.

Viscount Okabe moved that, as the Conference of the Houses had concluded its investigation of the Game Law Bill, the Order of the Day be changed to finally vote upon the matter.

The House assented, and Viscount Okabe having explained that the Managers of the Lower House had accepted the Upper House's amendments, and that Managers of the Upper had accepted some of the Lower House's, the Bill was finally passed.

Viscount Sakai, as behalf of the Special Committee, reported in favour of the Bill for the Examination of Silk Worm's eggs with certain amendments. The expense involved would be about 150,000 yearly.

Mr. Kaneko, Government Delegate, explained that while paying all respect to the representations of practical men like those from whom the Bill emanated, the Government felt that it belonged to the class of measures excluded from immediate adoption by the exigencies of the war. He also pointed out that this business of examination devolved properly on those engaged in the trade and ought not to be made an official function. Further, from a practical point of view, the inspection, to be thorough and trustworthy, ought to be performed in the case of every egg-card, and that would require a large staff of inspectors, would require proportionally heavy outlay, and would be more than likely to prove obstructive to the sericultural enterprise. Further, the probable cost would be a quarter million *yen* annually.

After some further debate, Mr. Mayeda Masana asked leave to withdraw the Bill, as the financial circumstances of the time evidently did not permit it. He, however, scouted the idea that a small expenditure should be shrunk from when its result would be largely productive.

Five petitions were then adopted for presentation, without debate.

The House rose at 2.50 p.m.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The House met at 1.20 p.m. the Order of the Day being :—

1.—Bill for amending the Naval Criminal Code.
2.—War Budget.
3.—Bill for the Conservation of Forests.
4.—Bill for amending the Telegraph Regulations.
5.—Representation relating to Cotton Culture.
6.—Petitions.

The first Bill, after a brief explanation from the Government Delegate, was handed to a Special Committee.

The War Budget, for an additional grant of 100 mill[illegible] was entrusted to a Special Committee consisting of Messrs. Suyeshiro Shigeyasu [illegible] Comm[illegible]

ing that the Committee be of that size in view of the importance of the measure.

Mr. Shiba Shiro, having obtained permission to change the Order of the Day, reported that the Conference of the two Houses had come to a compromise over the Game Law Bill, and that it seemed desirable to finally pass the Bill as now amended.

The House passed the Bill as follows :—

CHAPTER I.—HUNTING IMPLEMENTS AND METHOD OF HUNTING.

Art. I.—The term "hunting" used in the present law, means to capture birds or animals by the agency of fire-arms, nets of any kind, falcons, ropes or poles armed with bird lime, or ropes, or traps (*kago*).

The exact nature of the implements mentioned in the foregoing clause shall be determined by the Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce.

Art. II.—To capture birds or animals by the agency of explosives, gun-traps, or dangerous gyns or pit-falls, shall not be lawful.

With respect to any hunting implement or method of hunting not enumerated in the foregoing clauses, local Governors may enact regulations for control and superintendence by permission of the Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce.

Art. III.—Before sunrise, after sunset, in a street, or within range of any thickly populated locality, or place where a crowd is assembled, or of any building, ship, or train, hunting is interdicted.

Art. IV—In the following places no hunting shall be allowed :—

1. Imperial Preserves.
2. Places where notifications prohibiting hunting are posted.
3. Public roads.
4. Public parks.
5. Grounds reserved for Shrines and Temples.
6. Cemeteries.
7. Private grounds, fenced, or enclosed, or in which any agricultural product is cultivated, *or common hunting grounds for which a license has been obtained by others.* Provided that this prohibition shall not apply if permission of the owner or superintendent of such land shall have been obtained.

Art. V.—Local Governors may, in accordance with an application of a landowner, or for any other reasons which they deem sufficient, issue a notification prohibiting the pursuit of game.

CHAPTER II.—HUNTING LICENSES.

Art. VI.—Any persons desiring to pursue game must obtain a hunting license by applying to the Local Governor. Provided that the pursuit of game within fenced or enclosed private grounds without the use of fire-arms shall be exempted from this provision.

Any person against whom the penal provisions of Art. XXI. have been enforced, shall not be competent to apply for a license before a period of one year has elapsed.

Art. VII.—Persons who, in accordance with the usage of a district, purpose pursuing game in union, within a certain limit of ground, may apply for a license to the Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce through the medium of the Local Governor.

Provided that rules pertaining to the operation of this Article shall be determined by the Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce.

Art. VIII.—Hunting licenses shall be divided into two kinds.

Licenses of class A. shall be granted to any person who pursues game without fire-arms, and those of class B. to any person who employs fire-arms.

Art. IX.—The following fees shall be paid for licenses according to the kind :—

1st Class.	Any persons who pay income tax of above 15 *yen* or pay land-tax of above 20 *yen*	Class A. *yen*	5.00
		Class B. *yen*	10.00
2nd Class.	Any persons who pay income tax of above 3 *yen*. or pay land-tax of 40 *yen*; or any member of a family the head of which comes under 1st Class	Class A. *yen*	1.50
		Class B. *yen*	3.00
3rd Class.—Any persons who are outside the pale of classes 1st and 2nd		Class A. *yen*	.50
		Class B. *yen*	1.00

Art. X.—The period covered by a license of class A. shall be one full year, from the 15th day of the 10th month (October 15th); and that for a license of class B. shall be from the 15th day of the 10th month to the 15th day of the 4th month of the following year.

Local Governors shall have competence, subject the sanction of the Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce, to shorten the foregoing period by 30 days at most.

Art. XI.—A license can be used only by the person to whom it is granted. Provided that in a mode of hunting which requires the use of assistants the holder of a license may be accompanied by one or more persons not possessing licenses.

Art. XII.—A pursuer of game must carry his license with him when he goes out in pursuit of game.

Police, gendarmes, forestry officials, or Headmen of *shi*, *cho*, and *son* are competent to call for the production of a license.

In the above cases, no pursuer of game can refuse to produce his license for inspection.

Art. XIII.—If a license is lost, the fact must be notified to the Police Station of the district, and to the office where the license was originally obtained.

When a license is lost or destroyed, its holder may apply for a new license. In such case a fee of 25 *sen* shall be paid.

Art. XIV.—No person under 16 years of age shall receive a license of class B.

Art. XV.—Within 30 days after the expiration of the period covered by a license it shall be returned to the office where it was originally received.

Art. XVI.—Any foreigner subject to the limitations fixed by Treaty who applies for a license may, by paying a fee of 5 *yen* for a license of Class A, or 10 *yen* for a license of Class B, pursue game within the said limitations, but in the event of his pursuing game beyond those limitations, his license shall thenceforth become invalid.

CHAPTER III.—PROTECTION OF BIRDS AND ANIMALS.

Art. XVII.—It shall be unlawful to capture or sell birds and animals the protection of which is deemed essential. Provided that the birds and animals captured previous to the prohibition or suspension of their capture may be sold within a space of two weeks calculated from the day on which such prohibition or suspension has been carried into effect.

Even after the limit of time specified in the preceding clause, protected birds and animals artificially kept may be sold in accordance with the rules determined by the Minister of State for agriculture and Commerce. The kind of birds and animals the capture of which is to be forbidden or suspended, and the duration of the period thereof, shall be determined by the Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce.

Art. XVIII.—It is prohibited to take or sell the eggs or young of the birds and animals the capture of which is forbidden under the provisions of the preceding Article.

Art. XIX.—Even in the case of birds and animals the capture of which is forbidden, should it be considered that their removal or capture is conducive to the pursuit of scientific research, or to other purposes, the local Governor shall have competence to sanction such removal or capture.

If it be considered necessary to remove noxious birds or beasts, the Local Governor may grant a permit for the purpose.

CHAPTER IV.—PUNISHMENTS.

Art. XX.—Any person who pursues game in contravention of Art. VI., Clause 1, or who obtains a license of class B. in violation of the provisions of Art. XIV., shall be subject to a fine of not less than 3 *yen* and not more than 30 *yen*. When a license is obtained in violation of the provisions of Art. IX., a fine of not less than 7 *yen* and not more than 70 *yen* shall be imposed.

Art. XXI.—Any person who violates the provisions of Art. VI., Clause 1 of Art. III., or of Art. IV., Clauses 1 to 6; shall be subject to a fine of not less than 5 *yen* and not more than 50 *yen*.

The license of a person fined under the foregoing Articles shall thereafter become invalid.

Art. XXII.—Any person who violates the provisions of Art. IV., Clause 7; Art. XII., Clause 3; Art. XVII., Clause 1; or Art. XVIII., shall be subject to a fine of not less than 2 *yen* and not more than 20 *yen*. Provided that, with respect to violations of Art. IV. Clause 7, the penalty shall not be imposed unless the landowner or the person who has charge of the land takes legal proceedings.

Art. XXIII.—Any person who violates Art. XII., Clause 1; Art. XIII. Clause 1; or Art. XV., shall be subject to a fine of not less than 1 *yen* and not more than 1.95 *yen*.

XXIV.—ADDITIONAL PROVISIONS.

Art. XXIV.—Old Regulations relating to the [illegible] pursuit of game shall be abolished from the day on which the present Law is put into force.

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Game preserves, for the establishment of which licenses were issued prior to the enforcement of present Law, shall continue to have efficacy during the period covered by such license.

Art. XXV.—Persons who have obtained licenses prior to the enforcement of the present Law may pursue game without applying for fresh licenses.

The Second Reading of the Bill for the Conservation of forests was then passed, and the Third Reading was dispensed with.

Mr. Sasaki Shoho briefly introduced the next Bill, its object being the transfer of the telegraphs from Government to private hands.

The Bill was entrusted to a Special Committee.

Mr. Ebara Soroku asked to have the Order changed for the purpose of voting a message of condolence in connection with the death of that brave and loyal soldier, Major-General Odera.

The House agreed by acclaim.

The President announced that the Government had presented a Budget providing for a loan of three million *yen* to Korea.

Mr. Kitagawa Kokei introduced the Representation relating to cotton culture. The object was to check the decadence of cotton growing in Japan and render the country independent of imported cotton. For that purpose it was proposed to procure and distribute large quantities of American cotton seed, experiments having proved its suitability to the soil of Japan.

H.E. the Minister President of State then addressed the House on the subject of the proposed loan to Korea, as follows:—

GENTLEMEN:—I have presented a special Budget to the House. Its object is to lend money to Korea, which step is temporarily necessitated by the present financial difficulties of that country. As to the condition of Korea since last year, you are well aware that the Tonghak rebellion, which commenced early last summer, was followed by a failure of the harvest, and then came the war between Japan and China. Korea has ever since stood as our ally, and being still to-day in the midst of the war, our Government cannot remain unconcerned, and is therefore brought under the necessity of making a loan to Korea. You are also aware that even to-day there are still some remnants of the Tonghak rebels; but the King and the Government of Korea, acting upon the advice of our Government, are desirous to enforce reforms without delay. With regard to the Korean reforms, our Government proposed, in June last year, to the Chinese Government, that Japan and China should jointly carry them out, with the object of maintaining Korea's independence. But the refusal of China in this matter led at length to the present great war. Since then, our country has lent its aid to Korea to maintain her independence by our own power and out of pity for her isolation and weakness, and now she having fallen into her present difficulties, we cannot avoid the necessity of giving her temporary assistance. The Korean Government is planning to raise a loan sooner or later to meet the various national expenditures; and as soon as the plan is matured, we intend to require the repayment of our own loan. Such being the unavoidable circumstances, I desire that you will, after full discussion, give your speedy consent to the Budget. If there are questions to be put regarding details, it is the intention of the Government to send a delegate conversant with the matter to give explanations at the meeting of the Special Committee. Further, as I shortly leave the Capital and return to the Head-quarters, I do not think I shall have an opportunity of meeting you, Gentlemen, again this session. I also express my desire that a decision on the Supplementary Budget of War Expenditures will be quickly given.

In reply to Mr. Haseba Sumitaka, who desired to know the general policy of the Government with regard to the internal administration of Korea and the attitude of Foreign Powers toward that policy, the Minister President said:—

I do not think that the policy of our Government towards Korea has once changed since the opening of relations with that country. China regarding her as a tributary State, and we considering her an independent Power, our views have clashed from the outset. Though it need hardly be said that there are at times changes of circumstances more or less marked in one Power's relations with another, still I can say confidently that the general policy of our country towards Korea has run on to to-day, without change. [illegible] state that while China, declaring the autonomy of Korea, generally evaded responsibility for that country's foreign relations, she attempted to interfere forcibly in her internal administration. Now there is no nation that has closer and more intimate relations with Korea than ours, and therefore Chinese interference became a constant obstruction to the friendly relations between the two countries. In matters of small importance we could not go on removing that obstruction perpetually. I do not know if you, gentlemen, have cause to condemn the policy of our Government since the despatch of our embassy to Korea in 1876 and the conclusion of a commercial treaty, but leaving that apart as an unimportant branch of the history of the past, and coming down to the events of the last year, we have at length clear evidence from China's making the Tonghak rebellion a pretext; from the internal condition of Korea before the outbreak of the rebellion, and from the action and behaviour of the officials despatched from China, that efforts were made to sever the relations between our country and Korea. There also exists conclusive evidence that on the King of Korea's appealing, or rather being compelled to appeal, to China for the despatch of troops, China intended by using the suppression of the Tonghak rebellion as a pretext to destroy the independence of Korea and make her in reality a tributary State. Thereupon, our country was obliged to wage war; for though I have always firmly believed that war is not only a matter of the greatest national importance, but also that a nation as such should not lightly wage it, yet if we had borne the matter in silence and remained passive to the known designs of China, our attitude would have affected not only our interests, but our honour as well, or rather the maintenance of our national dignity, and we were therefore compelled as a result to carry out the general policy to which we have consistently adhered since the conclusion of the treaty of 1876.—(Hear, hear.) But, as all the world knows, Korea is a truly poor and weak country. Though I do not think that the Kingdom is wanting in natural resources, still there exists as yet not the least means or method of exploiting such resources. And the nation also is content with inaction and temporizing methods, and does little more than pass the day without effort of any kind. Both high and low live in a state of indolence. I believe this arises from absolute ignorance of the present condition of the world; and as the necessity of making such a nation independent not only concerns Korea but has also a great bearing on our empire, which is separated from Korea by a narrow strip of water, I am confident that the maintenance of her independence has also a most important relation to the position of our Empire as a nation. And, therefore, though we had hoped, by effecting reforms in Korea, to maintain her independence in conjunction with China, our Government, through China's intention being, as I have already stated, different from ours, assumed alone this responsibility. As to the question, then, of the interference of other Powers, I firmly believe that there is no reason for any Power to object to *our* sympathy with the isolated and weak or to our extending aid to others to maintain their independence.—(Hear, hear.) To realise and preserve such independence in the case of Korea appears to be a most difficult undertaking, but we cannot escape from the duty imposed upon us. The necessity, as I stated at the outset, now causes us to lend to Korea 3,000,000 *yen*; and on enquiring into the reforms contemplated, I do not think that Korea can rise alone by a mere change of officials at Sōul, or by the suppression of the Tonghaks. Therefore, when the Korean rebellion is suppressed, the provincial Government must be reorganised, access to national resources must be provided for by the improvement of the means of transportation, and while the country may be unable to maintain a large army, still sufficient provision must be made to guarantee peace throughout the Kingdom. Before rapid progress can be made in these directions, the extent of Korea's national resources must be fully investigated. Though, of course, our principal object is to make the Koreans themselves maintain their own independence, it is necessary for us to give them aid for that purpose. I need not point out that there is naturally a distinction between principal and accessory.—(Hear, hear.) Though there may be in the details of the reforms some matters not yet definitely determined, and others that are already determined, I do not think there is any necessity to make special mention of either. Our Government has not in the least mistaken this policy. Indeed, there are, I believe, reasons that effectively obviate any mistake in policy. Is the general outline I have given sufficient?

On Mr. Haseba's again rising and expressing his hope that the Minister President would remain firm in his determination that nothing can triumph over reason, Count Ito replied:—

I have already replied to the interrogation arising out of the Korean question. Being in a position of responsibility for the present great affair, I cannot offer any undertaking for the future. That must depend upon the August will of His gracious Majesty, as will be clear to you if you consider the facts. Again, there was a slight misapprehension in Mr. Haseba's speech just now. With regard to the maintenance by Japan of Korean independence and sympathy with her isolation and weakness, and the determination to assist her to the last in her efforts to assume a sovereign position, I did not say that no one would interfere, neither did I declare that no one would object. I said that I believed every one would agree. Again, what has happened up to to-day since the outbreak of affairs last year? In regard to diplomatic matters, such as the relations between different Powers, for instance, between Japan and Korea, other Powers and Korea, Japan and China, or other Powers and China, these things constitute, in my opinion, quite a different question. But I make this one statement: I am here to-day as a representative of His Gracious Majesty's Government and am charged with important affairs affecting the well-being of this empire of Japan. Therefore I must be careful not only not to utter a single irresponsible word, but I must also not violate what should be inviolable. That much I must state to the House.—(Cheers)

The House rose at 4.10 p.m., having agreed, on the motion of Mr. Yoshimoto Yeikichi, to postpone the consideration of the two petitions appearing on the Order.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 23RD.

HOUSE OF PEERS.

The House did not meet.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The House met at 1.15 p.m., the Order of the Day being:—

1—Supplementary Budget of Military Expenditures.
2—Bill relating to the Issue of War Bonds.
3—Bill for amending the Law of the Houses.
4—Bill for amending the District Local Government System.
5—Bill for encouraging the Direct Export of Silk.

Mr. Taketomi Tokitoshi, on behalf of the Budget Committee, reported that the Committee unanimously recommended the passing of the Supplementary War Budget of 100 million *yen*. Questions addressed to the Government Delegates in connection with the Budget had elicited the fact that the Government was prosecuting the war on no superficial basis, but with the fixed determination to bring it to such a conclusion as should secure the permanent peace of the Orient. That was the House's wish also. Already they had unanimously passed a resolution undertaking that, for the purpose of attaining a thoroughly satisfactory issue of the War, the House was prepared to grant any appropriations, however great. That resolution expressed not merely the sentiment of the House, but also the sentiment of the whole nation, which was absolutely a unit in this matter. The Committee, therefore, confidently trusted, that the Supplementary Budget would be passed by acclaim.

The President said that as no member had given any notice of an intention to speak, he should at once submit the Budget to the vote.

The whole House rose, and the Budget was declared unanimously passed, amid loud applause.

Mr. Suyehiro Shigeyasu, on behalf of the Special Committee, reported that the Committee, had voted unanimously in favour of the second Bill, authorizing the floating of a War Loan of 100 million *yen* by issuing Bonds, or by some other process of borrowing. The Committee, however, had decided, *nem. con.*, that the Bonds should be issued at their face value of 100 *yen*, and the Government Delegate had gladly endorsed the insertion of words amending the Bill in that sense. The House would understand that this Bill was merely a corollary of the Budget just passed, and would doubtless treat it with similar unanimity.

The House passed the Second Reading of the Bill, as amended by the Committee, without [illegible] voice, and dispensed with the Third Reading.

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The Order of the Day having been changed in order to debate the Supplementary Budget providing for a loan of three million *yen* to Korea, Mr. Taketomi Tokitoshi reported that the Special Committee, after addressing various questions to the Government Delegates, had come to the conclusion that the loan was necessary for the preservation of Korea's independence, and therefore unanimously recommended its passage.

Mr. Haseba Junko said that while fully approving of the Bill, he deemed it advisable to obtain definite information on one point before the House proceeded to vote. The prime object of the present war had been to establish Korean independence. Japan had assumed the responsibility of leading Korea into the path of modern civilization, and of promoting such a development of her resources as should give her competence to defence herself against foreign aggression. In pursuit of that programme it was essential that some pecuniary assistance should be given to the peninsular Kingdom. They were invited to vote the present loan for that, and for no other reason. Why then had not the matter been brought before the House at an earlier date? It was commonly alleged that the Government had wasted much time in the endeavour to induce private capitalists to advance the money required, and had subsequently applied to the Bank of Japan, which institution had declined to have anything to say to the loan at a lower rate of interest than 8 per cent. It seemed most desirable for obvious reasons that the doubts entertained by the public on these points should be cleared up before the House voted the appropriation.

Mr. Watanabe, Minister of State for Finance, said, that the Government had from the first foreseen that in providing for the indepenennce of an impecunious country like Korea, some financial assistance would have to be given by Japan. The urgency of the matter had necessitated application to the House. As for the question of the Bank of Japan and the rate of interest, that could not be decided, of course, pending the issue of bonds.

The Bill was then put to the vote and passed unanimously.

Mr. Ozaki Yukio desired to say a few words, but not of such a character as to involve any change of the Order. He wished to refer to an expression used by the Minister President of State in his speech the previous day. At the moment when the speech was delivered he had doubted the evidence of his own ears, but reference subsequently to the stenographic record showed that he had heard correctly. The Minister President had stated that he appeared before the House as the representative of His Majesty the Emperor. Such an expression did not seem proper. It might possibly have been a mistake for "representative of His Majesty's Government." If that were so, the Minister President should have no hesitation in correcting it. Were the formula allowed to stand as it now stood in the record, a very bad precedent would be established.

Mr. Suyematsu Kencho, Government Delegate, said that although he had not been present when Count Ito delivered his speech the preceding day, he could explain that the expression in question had reference simply to the fact that the Bill before the House had been submitted to the Emperor and had received His Majesty's approval. Consequently, the Minister President, in submitting it, acted in the capacity of the Sovereign's representative.

Mr. Ozaki Yukio did not consider that answer sufficient to dispose of so important a question. The matter should be treated with greater gravity and explicitness in view of its evident serious bearing.

Mr. Suyematsu had not intended for a moment to make light of the affair. His answer had been conceived in a spirit consistent with the remarks made by the speaker. But he might add that the counsel tendered by Mr. Ozaki was appreciated and would be accepted.

Mr. [illegible] Sanaye, on behalf of the Special Committee, reported that several changes were recommended in the Bill for amending the Law of the Houses.

The House voted to carry the Bill to a Second Reading.

The Second Reading of the Bill for amending the District Local Government System was taken, and the various clauses were voted with slight amendments.

On the motion of Mr. Yoshimoto Yeikichi, the House proceeded to the Third Reading at once, as the great length of the Bill made it advisable to transmit it as speedily as possible to the Upper House.

The Third Reading was passed without opposition.

The discussion of the Bill for encouraging the Direct Export of Silk was deferred.

The House rose at 3.10 p.m.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 25TH.

HOUSE OF PEERS.

The House met at 11 a.m., the Order of the Day being :—

1.—Motion relating to the Supplementary Budget of War Expenses.
2.—Motion relating to the Supplementary Budget of the 27th year of *Meiji*.
3.—Bill relating to Forged Money.
4.—Bill for amending the Conscription Regulations.
5.—Bill relating to the Conservation of Forests.

The President said that the Minister President of State had come to Tokyo expressly for the purpose of submitting to the two Houses of the Diet a statement of the reasons for seeking additional appropriations on account of War expenditures and a loan to Korea. Owing, however, to the House's not having met for two days consecutively, Count Ito had missed the opportunity of offering the proposed explanation, and meanwhile his own presence at Headquarters had become imperatively necessary. He had therefore commissioned the President to convey his sincere regerts to the members.

Viscount Soga introduced the first motion, namely, that the Budget Committee be instructed to report within the course of the following day on the Supplementary Budget of War Expenses. He said that there could be no question about the passing of the Bill, and consequently there need be no elaborate examination by the Committee.

Mr. Tajiri, Vice-Minister of State for Finance, said that the Minister of State for Finance would have appeared in person to introduce the first two Bills, but he had been sick for two days, and had therefore begged the speaker to make his apologies.

The House agreed to Viscount Soga's motion without dissent.

Viscount Soga introduced the same motion with regard to the Supplementary Budget for the 27th year of *Meiji*, and it was passed with similar unanimity.

The President asked the House's permission to change the Order for the purpose of introducing the Bill relating to the issue of additional War Bonds, the Bill being a corollary to the Supplementary War Budget.

The House agreed, and decided that the Bill be entrusted to a Special Committee with instructions to report in the course of the next day.

Mr. Tajiri, Government Delegate, introducing the next Bill, explained that the crime of forgery having become comparatively common of late owing in part to the deficiency of the laws, and in part to the opportunities offered for uttering forged money in Korea, much trouble had ensued, and the Bill now submitted to the House was an absolute necessity.

The Bill was handed to a Special Committee.

Viscount Tani, on behalf of the Special Committee, reported in favour of the Bill for amending the Conscription Regulations.

The House voted to carry the Bill to a Second Reading.

The next Bill was the subject of several questions, evoking from the Government Delegate a statement that the Government disapproved of making the conservation of forests an independent piece of legislation, and that a measure having due regard to collateral subjects was now in course of official preparation.

On the motion of Viscount Tani the Order of the Day was changed in order to debate the Supplementary Budget providing for a loan of three million *yen* to Korea, Mr. Taketomi Tokitoshi reported that the Special Committee, after addressing various questions to the Government Delegates, had come to the conclusion that the loan was necessary for the preservation of Korea's independence, and therefore unanimously recommended its passage.

Mr. Haseba Junko said that while fully approving of the Bill, he deemed it advisable to obtain definite information on one point before the House proceeded to vote. The prime object of the present war had been to establish Korean independence. Japan had assumed the responsibility of leading Korea into the path of modern civilization, and of promoting such a development of her resources as should give her competence to defence herself against foreign aggression. In pursuit of that programme it was essential that some pecuniary assistance should be given to the peninsular Kingdom. They were invited to vote the present loan for that, and for no other reason. Why then had not the matter been brought before the House at an earlier date? It was commonly alleged that the Government had wasted much time in the endeavour to induce private capitalists to advance the money required, and had subsequently applied to the Bank of Japan, which institution had declined to have anything to say to the loan at a lower rate of interest than 8 per cent. It seemed most desirable for obvious reasons that the doubts entertained by the public on these points should be cleared up before the House voted the appropriation.

Mr. Watanabe, Minister of State for Finance, said, that the Government had from the first foreseen that in providing for the indepenennce of an impecunious country like Korea, some financial assistance would have to be given by Japan. The urgency of the matter had necessitated application to the House. As for the question of the Bank of Japan and the rate of interest, that could not be decided, of course, pending the issue of bonds.

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Mr. [illegible] Sanaye, on behalf of the Special Committee, reported that several changes were recommended in the Bill for amending the Law of the Houses.

The House voted to carry the Bill to a Second Reading.

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On the motion of Mr. Yoshimoto Yeikichi, the House proceeded to the Third Reading at once, as the great length of the Bill made it advisable to transmit it as speedily as possible to the Upper House.

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The President asked the House's permission to change the Order for the purpose of introducing the Bill relating to the issue of additional War Bonds, the Bill being a corollary to the Supplementary War Budget.

The House agreed, and decided that the Bill be entrusted to a Special Committee with instructions to report in the course of the next day.

Mr. Tajiri, Government Delegate, introducing the next Bill, explained that the crime of forgery having become comparatively common of late owing in part to the deficiency of the laws, and in part to the opportunities offered for uttering forged money in Korea, much trouble had ensued, and the Bill now submitted to the House was an absolute necessity.

The Bill was handed to a Special Committee.

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The House voted to carry the Bill to a Second Reading.

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Mr. Suyematsu had not intended for a moment to make light of the affair. His answer had been conceived in a spirit consistent with the remarks made by the speaker. But he might add that the counsel tendered by Mr. Ozaki was appreciated and would be accepted.

Mr. [illegible] Sanaye, on behalf of the Special Committee, reported that several changes were recommended in the Bill for amending the Law of the Houses.

The House voted to carry the Bill to a Second Reading.

The Second Reading of the Bill for amending the District Local Government System was taken, and the various clauses were voted with slight amendments.

On the motion of Mr. Yoshimoto Yeikichi, the House proceeded to the Third Reading at once, as the great length of the Bill made it advisable to transmit it as speedily as possible to the Upper House.

The Third Reading was passed without opposition.

The discussion of the Bill for encouraging the Direct Export of Silk was deferred.

The House rose at 3.10 p.m.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 25TH.

HOUSE OF PEERS.

The House met at 11 a.m., the Order of the Day being :—

1.—Motion relating to the Supplementary Budget of War Expenses.
2.—Motion relating to the Supplementary Budget of the 27th year of *Meiji*.
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4.—Bill for amending the Conscription Regulations.
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The President said that the Minister President of State had come to Tokyo expressly for the purpose of submitting to the two Houses of the Diet a statement of the reasons for seeking additional appropriations on account of War expenditures and a loan to Korea. Owing, however, to the House's not having met for two days consecutively, Count Ito had missed the opportunity of offering the proposed explanation, and meanwhile his own presence at Headquarters had become imperatively necessary. He had therefore commissioned the President to convey his sincere regerts to the members.

Viscount Soga introduced the first motion, namely, that the Budget Committee be instructed to report within the course of the following day on the Supplementary Budget of War Expenses. He said that there could be no question about the passing of the Bill, and consequently there need be no elaborate examination by the Committee.

Mr. Tajiri, Vice-Minister of State for Finance, said that the Minister of State for Finance would have appeared in person to introduce the first two Bills, but he had been sick for two days, and had therefore begged the speaker to make his apologies.

The House agreed to Viscount Soga's motion without dissent.

Viscount Soga introduced the same motion with regard to the Supplementary Budget for the 27th year of *Meiji*, and it was passed with similar unanimity.

The President asked the House's permission to change the Order for the purpose of introducing the Bill relating to the issue of additional War Bonds, the Bill being a corollary to the Supplementary War Budget.

The House agreed, and decided that the Bill be entrusted to a Special Committee with instructions to report in the course of the next day.

Mr. Tajiri, Government Delegate, introducing the next Bill, explained that the crime of forgery having become comparatively common of late owing in part to the deficiency of the laws, and in part to the opportunities offered for uttering forged money in Korea, much trouble had ensued, and the Bill now submitted to the House was an absolute necessity.

The Bill was handed to a Special Committee.

Viscount Tani, on behalf of the Special Committee, reported in favour of the Bill for amending the Conscription Regulations.

The House voted to carry the Bill to a Second Reading.

The next Bill was the subject of several questions, evoking from the Government Delegate a statement that the Government disapproved of making the conservation of forests an independent piece of legislation, and that a measure having due regard to collateral subjects was now in course of official preparation.

The Bill was entrusted to a Special Committee.

The House rose at noon.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The House did not meet.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 27TH.

HOUSE OF PEERS.

The House met at 10.50 p.m., the Order of the Day being :—

1.—Bill relating to the issue of War Loan Bonds.
2.—Supplementary Budget of War Expenditures.
3.—Supplementary Budget for the 27th year of *Meiji*.

Prince Konoye, on behalf of the Special Committee, made a powerful speech in support of the Bill for the Issue of War Bonds. He said that in subjecting the country to heavy expenditures the House had always to consider whether it was acting in accordance with the will of the people. In this case there could be no doubt. In the last Diet the so-called "Strong Foreign Policy Party" had possessed an unquestionable majority, and after the dissolution of the Lower House, the constituencies had returned a still larger proportion of members holding that view. It was, therefore, abundantly plain that the country approved of a strong policy in foreign affairs. Moreover, they had witnessed the phenomenon of all the old and perpetual disputes between the Government and the people, being completely stilled at the first symptom of war with a foreign country. The whole country thenceforth had become actuated by only one thought, that of vindicating Japan's honour. Were this a mere question of winning battles from a solitary Power like China, the case might be different. But it was not. It was a question of raising Japan to the position of the leading State in the Orient and already they might fairly hope that the route to that consummation had been entered. The absolute unanimity with which the Diet, in the recent Special Session at Hiroshima, had voted a War Budget of 150 million *yen*, was doubtless due in great part to the fact that the Sovereign had declared war and that his august will was law to the nation. But it was also due in no small degree to the consciousness of the Diet that the country was with it, and that not a single man in Japan would hesitate to strain every nerve in the cause of victory. They were now asked to vote an additional sum of 100 million *yen* for the purpose of continuing the war. That was natural and unavoidable. He was sure that he expressed the sentiment of his hearers and of the nation at large when he declared that they were prepared to make any sacrifice, however painful, in order to carry the war to a successful termination. He therefore called upon the House to vote the Bill relating to War Bonds without the slightest shadow of dissent.

The Bill was passed unanimously, without question or comment, and was carried at once through all its readings.

Viscount Soga, Chairman of the Budget Committee, reported that the Committee unanimously recommended the passing of the Supplementary Budget for 100 million *yen*. The Committee had received full explanations from the Government Delegates, but unfortunately he was not permitted to repeat them in open House. It was, however, certain that every man in Japan would make any sacrifice to prosecute the war successfully, and no words of his were needed to recommend the Budget to their favorable notice.

The Budget was unanimously voted without debate.

Viscount Soga, on behalf of the Budget Committee, reported in favour of the third Budget for granting a loan of 3 million *yen* to Korea. He spoke at some length in support of the measure, dwelling on the necessity and the obligation devolving on Japan to remove the financial difficulties that prevented Korea from following the path of reform to lead her into which had been the prime purpose of the war.

The House voted the Budget unanimously without debate.

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was changed for the purpose of reading for the second time the Bill for amending the Conscription Regulations.

The Bill was passed with a few amendments, the Third Reading also being voted at once.

The House rose at 12.20 p.m.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 28TH.

HOUSE OF PEERS.

The House met at 10.50 a.m., the Order of the Day being :—

1.—Bill for amending the Chamber of Commerce Regulations.
2.—Bill for amending the Brewing Tax Regulations.

Viscount Hayashi, on behalf of the Special Committee, reported in favour of the first Bill, as amended by the Lower House.

The House voted to carry the Bill to a Second Reading.

Marquis Kuroda, on behalf of the Committee, reported with reference to the Bill for amending the Brewing Tax Regulations, that the proposal involved the transfer of a sum of 3½ million *yen* from the income for next fiscal year, the programme of the Bill being to change the time of paying the Brewing Tax so as to suit the convenience of Brewers. Just at present it seemed most unwise to subject the Treasury to such strains. Some argued that the difficulty could easily be overcome by issuing Exchequer Bills, but the amount of Exchequer Bills issuable was limited by the Budget, and in order to meet this case, it would be necessary to change the Budget. On the whole, therefore, the Committee recommended the rejection of the Bill.

Mr. Hayashi Soyemon urged the passing of the Bill, as the change proposed was distinctly for the convenience of the Brewing industry. It would be easy, when reading the Bill a second time, to amend it in the sense of deferring its operation until 1896.

The House rejected the Second Reading, and rose at 11.50 a.m.

WAR NEWS.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 23RD.

Lieut.-General Katsura's official report of the attack made upon Tomucheng by the Chinese on the 17th instant, simply repeats what we have already heard. The assailants numbered over a thousand; they advanced under about 100 banners; Major Hayashi, who commanded the Japanese Garrison, allowed them to come within four or five hundred metres before opening fire; by 9.15 they were in flight, leaving 30 dead, one large flag, 10 small banners, 30 lances and 7 rifles; the Japanese had no casualties. It appears that these Chinese formed a part of the Laoyang Army.

A telegram from Fusan, dated 8.50 p.m. on the 18th instant, says that it having been ascertained that the section of the enemy coming from Newchwang (proper) to take part in the attack on Haicheng on the 16th instant, were encamped at Antsupaotsz, a force of infantry and artillery was despatched from Haicheng to clear them out of that place. The Chinese were easily routed, and in the afternoon Antsupaotsz was occupied by the Japanese. Thirteen arquebusses, seven rifles, and a number of flags were left upon the field.

The *Nichi Nichi* publishes a telegram from Marshal Oyama, saying that the ships surrendered to the Japanese at Weihaiwei numbered 18, including 7 gun-boats and 7 torpedo-boats. One of the gun-boats, the *Kang-tsi*, was given back, for the purpose of carrying away Admiral Ting's body. The number of ships sunk was 5, including one gun-boat.

The *Yiji* gives a statement about the defences at Shaihaikwan. There are 6 forts, we read. The first, or Minghai-tingyuen fort has 11 guns; partly Krupps and party old-fashioned pieces; the second, or Chenyuen fort, has 10 guns; the third, or Chingyuen fort, has 6 guns; the fourth, or Weiyuen fort, has 9 guns; the fifth, or Wayuen fort, has 12 guns, and the sixth, or Piananyang fort, has 12 guns. Fifty of the above are modern breech-loading guns, of small calibre, and there are, in addition, 53 muzzle-loading. Thus the total armament is 132 pieces of ordnance.

The *Yomiuri* justly reminds its readers that although China has lost her northern fleet, she has still a considerable force of fighting ships, namely :—

Name.	Speed.	Tonnage.
SOUTHERN SQUADRON.		
Kaitsi	15 knots	2,200
Nanshui	15 knots	2,200
Nanchan	15 knots	2,200
Paomin	10 knots	1,477
Chengching	15 knots	2,700
Hwantai	15 knots	2,700
Pangyingchow	uncertain	1,258
Tiao po	uncertain	uncertain
Chinlu	12.5 knots	195
Weiching	12.5 knots	1,100
Lungsiang	9 knots	319
Huwei	9 knots	319
Tsohai	12.5 knots	700
Tsing-yuen	10 knots	578
Tsotien	9 knots	400
Feling	9 knots	400
FOOCHOW SQUADRON.		
Changhang	9 knots	1,450
Fuching	17 knots	1,000
Fupo	10 knots	1,260
Isin	10 knots	240
Chaowu	10 knots	1,209
Changshang	10 knots	195
Yuenkai	10 knots	1,285
KWANGTUNG SQUADRON.		
Antan	7 knots	450
Chentao	7 knots	450
Kwangkang	11 knots	400
Kwangshu	10 knots	400
Kwangchi	10 knots	400
Kwangchin	12 knots	600
Kwangyu	12 knots	600
Kwangyuen	10 knots	uncertain
Kwangchan	10 knots	uncertain
Kwanghan	9 knots	uncertain
Kwangli	9 knots	uncertain
Kwangtoh	uncertain	uncertain
Kwangching	uncertain	uncertain
Haichingtsi	uncertain	450
Hoitunghung	8 knots	390
Haichangtsing	uncertain	320
Rhpia	uncertain	320
Lienpia	uncertain	200
Chantung	uncertain	100
Kwangan	uncertain	150
Chanpo	uncertain	150
Tsingan	uncertain	150
Shanchi	uncertain	uncertain
Tsing-po	uncertain	uncertain
Pangchiuhai	uncertain	uncertain
Chihchung	uncertain	uncertain

Numerically the above is a respectable list—50 ships—but the whole fleet seems to be worth very little.

The effects of the shell that struck the *Tsukushi* in the attack on the island forts of Weihaiwei, are described by the *Yiji Shimpo*. The *Tsukushi* led the attacking squadrons. She was not touched by the Zhih forts, but a shell from the most easterly of the Liukung forts struck her on the starboard bulwark and passed out on the port side. A sailor standing in the path of the missile had his stomach torn open and the intestines scattered. The shell then cut an iron stanchion, 3 inches in diameter, and passing between two sailors that stood on the right and left of the stanchion, tore its way through the port bulwark and dropped into the sea. The two sailors had their legs and arms torn off and driven up into the air, lodged in buckets, or dashed against planks. It was a terrible sight. Persons in the neighbourhood of the shell's course were also injured, the total casualties caused by it being 4 killed and 4 wounded.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 25TH.

We are virtually without intelligence from the seat of war either in Manchuria or in Shantung. There are, indeed, no military movements of importance to be expected immediately in either place, so that the absence of news is natural.

It seems very doubtful whether the *Ting-yuen* can be floated and repaired. The general rumour now is that after she was struck by Japanese torpedoes, her own people blew up her magazine, injuring her so severely that her condition is irreparable.

Readers of the correspondence between Admirals Ito and Ting doubtless have observed that reference was made to certain presents sent by the Japanese Commander-in-Chief to the Chinese and returned by the latter. The articles are now said to have been some cases of champagne and claret, and some packets of dried Hiroshima oysters.

The *Kokkai* tells a strange and scarcely credible story. It says that Motien-ling, like the celebrated pass of the same name in Manchuria, was the key of the position on the east of Weihaiwei. The Japanese troops had to take it in order to reach the forts from behind. Twelve entrenchments had been constructed and 64 guns placed in position by the Chinese, and the approaches commanded by this formidable array of artillery and by the rifles of the infantry, were so steep that troops climbing them had to remain a long time under fire. Nevertheless, the Japanese rushed the position without a check, though the operation took six hours. Thence, pushing on, they captured two of the sea-side forts. Just then two men-of-war flying the Japanese flag, approached the forts, and suddenly, when within easy range, ran up the Chinese ensign and opened fire. The guns in the forts were serviceable, but the Japanese infantry did not know how to serve them. A happy thought occurred to one of the officers. Six Chinese prisoners had been captured. Inquiries were quickly addressed to these men with regard to their ability to serve the guns, and as they replied in the negative, they were immediately set to the task, which they performed with such vigour that the two ships beat a retreat. Chinese gunners firing with Chinese guns at Chinese ships from Chinese forts under Japanese direction is a quaint episode.

The terrible effects of modern naval artillery are illustrated by the accounts that reach the vernacular journals from the scene of war. In the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* we find some suggestive details. On the 11th instant, the Third Flying Squadron, consisting of four ships, the *Katsuragi*, the *Yamato*, the *Musashi*, and the *Tenryu*, bombarded the Liukung forts from the south-east at comparatively short range. The Chinese, after so many days' practice, had become much more skilful than they showed themselves at the outset, and as the four ships steamed along, the shells from the forts fell all about them. One struck the *Katsuragi* near the revolving gun forward, and the splinters killed the No. 1 of the gun on the spot. When the men came to carry him away, they found that the whole of his head above the jaw had been blown off, and that his leg and arm on one side were torn to fragments. Six other men had been struck by splinters of the same shell, but their hurts were not serious. Another shell hit the *Tenryu*. Her second-in-command was in the conning tower at the time, giving his orders. His body was swept into the sea, one of his legs remaining on the bridge. A boat was immediately lowered, but nothing except his head could be found floating in the water. Immediately after the shell struck the ship, a tornado of iron and wood splinters blew into the engine room, wounding five men. The *Yamato* also was struck, and one of her machine guns was rendered unserviceable. Altogether, the Third Flying Squadron fared badly on that occasion. On the 7th instant, the *Yoshino* had 2 men killed and 5 wounded by one shell, and the *Akitsushima* had 2 wounded. The *Naniwa* was more fortunate in respect of casualties to life and limb, for though twice struck none of her people suffered.

The *Hochi* thinks that the origin of the disturbance reported to have taken place among the troops in Formosa was irregularity in the issue of their pay. In the closing months of last year there were supposed to be thirty thousand troops in the island, and a revolt broke out because two months' salary, amounting to 240,000 or 250,000 *yen*, was not forthcoming. On that occasion Shao, the Governor—the same that lately came to Japan with Chang, in the capacity of associate envoy—proposed to resolve the situation by obtaining a foreign loan on the security of the Customs. Subsequently

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the garrison in the island was increased to 50,000, and calculating at the former rate, the sum required for their monthly pay and sustenance must be 200,000 *yen* at present—an amount probably far in excess of the available funds. No wonder the soldiers are discontented if they receive no pay.

Letters published by the *Kokkai* and other Tokyo journals from their correspondents with the navy, give some details worth reproducing:—At 8.20 a.m. on the 12th instant the Chinese gun-boat *Chen-peh*, flying a white flag, came to the place where the Japanese Fleet was lying and cast anchor close by the flag-ship *Matsushima*. Presently, Chang Pi-kwang, captain of the *Kwang-ping*, came on board the *Matsushima*, and asked to see Vice-Admiral Ito, Commander-in-Chief of the Japanese Fleet, to whom he presented a letter that had been entrusted to him by Admiral Ting. It was the first letter relating to the surrender of the ships and forts. A council of the principal officers of the Japanese Navy was held at once to discuss the reply that ought to be given to the messenge. It was suggested by some that the principal officers of the Chinese Navy should first come on board the Japanese men-of-war and be kept there, pending the final arrangement of details. On further deliberation, however, it was decided to agree to the request of the Chinese Admiral and to set free all the officers, civilians, foreign employés, and so forth in Weihaiwei, retaining only the remaining ships and other material of war. At the same time, the proposal of Ting to ask the Admiral of the British Eastern Fleet to act as guarantor of Chinese good faith, was decided to be unnecessary. A reply to that effect was then written in English and handed to the messenger. Admiral Ito also wrote in his individual capacity to the Chinese Admiral, sending him, at the same time, some bottles of of champagne and other delicacies. The messenger at once returned to the gun-boat and the latter weighed anchor and steamed for the harbour at 3 p.m. the same day. The First Flying Squadron and the two war ships, *Itsukushima* and *Hashidate*, were now set to guard the exit from the Harbour in order to provide against the escape of the enemy's ships during the night, should anything of the kind be attempted. The messenger, a native of Canton, having studied for years in America was very proficient in English. When he came on board the Japanese flag-ship he wore the uniform of a naval commander and carried a long sabre. While waiting in another cabin during Admiral Ito's conference with his officers, his looks were complacent, and he chatted frankly with the Japanese officers. He told the latter that Admiral Ting being unwell, was confined to bed in a cabin of the *Chen-yuen*, and that Captain Lin was in good health and at his post. With regard to provisions, he said that rice, turnips, and cabbages were still abundant, but that as the water in island the wells in Liukung was not palatable, the garrison drank distilled water. When asked why Captain Fong, who fought stoutly in the encounter off Phungdo as captain of the *Chi-yuen*, was put to death, Chang answered that Admiral Ting had endeavored to save his life, but had failed. Fong had been executed by the stern order of the Government. Chang was evidently much ashamed when the Japanese officers spoke strongly against the barbarous acts perperated by the Chinese troops. He admitted that he had heard of cruelties inflicted upon Japanese spies whenever they fell into the hands of Chinese troops about whose utter want of sensibility and of shame he declared himself extremly troubled. The defence of Weihaiwei, he continued, had proved ineffective because of want of cordial cōoperation between the land forces and the fleet. He highly lamented the lack of any fixed policy or orderly procedure on the part of the Tsung-li Yamên, where, more than anywhere else, drastic reform was needed. He thought that the prolongation of the war could not bring any benefit to China, but would only end in further destruction of her defences. He appeared to be [illegible] of the [illegible] of the Peace Mission, for he betrayed much eagerness to know its results. Altogether he showed much frankness, readily answering any question put to him. For example, he told his interrogators what kind of torpedoes were laid in the Harbour; stated that the death of the Empress last year was a fact, and explained that while the families of officers and the inhabitants of means had fled from Liukung, the poorer folks were still in the island and were suffering terribly from the shells of the Japanese. On the 13th instant, the *Yoshino* and other ships returned to Yinshankow, whither, at a little after 6 p.m., another Chinese gun-boat arrived in accordance with promise. She had her flag half-masted, a procedure the meaning of which was soon made clear. When the same messenger came on board the *Matsushima* his dejected demeanour was in marked contrast with his aspect on the preceding day. He even shed tears and the by-standers though they did not yet know the cause of his grief, were not a little moved. He told Admiral Ito that when he carried the replies to Admiral Ting and reported the particulars of this mission, Ting had been sensibly affected, especially when he read the private letter from Admiral Ito, promising that he should be received as a friend. He evinced great satisfaction at the promise of the Japanese Admiral that all the military and naval men, civilians, and foreign employés of China in Weihaiwei should be set free. He then proceeded to write another letter, and having finished it declared that all was over with him, entered his cabin, and killed himself by taking a large dose of opium. Captain Liu and General Chang followed his example. All the responsible leaders having thus perished, those left behind did not know what to do. They decided, however, to carry out the surrender. Commander Chang said that there were on the island about 6,000 men, troops and sailors combined. Among the men of the fleet the majority were from Canton and Foochow, whereas the Army was composed chiefly of men from Shantung and Pechili. The natives of Shantung wished to be landed in the town of Weihaiwei, but the rest desired to be transported to Chefoo. There were about 70 patients in the hospital on Liukung island, and it was arranged that they should be conveyed to Japan on board the floating hospital *Kobe Maru*. The forts on the island were to be taken possession of by marines from the Third and Fourth Squadrons, while the men-of-war were to be received by the *Matsushima*, the *Chiyoda*, and others. The Chinese were directed to remove the torpedoes in the harbour by the 16th instant, so that the ships might find safe passage. It was agreed that Taotai Nio should act as representative of the Chinese Army and Fleet and should surrender the forts and the ships to the victors. In a letter sent from the seat of war to the *Nichi Nichi*, we find the following account of the death of General Tai, the commander of the land forts of Weihaiwei:—When Tai fled alone to Liukung island after being signally defeated by the Japanese on the 30th ult., Admiral Ting, highly incensed, upraided him so severely for his cowardice and incompetence, that, craven as the man had showed himself in the face of the enemy, he had sufficient manliness to hide his shame by committing snicide. According to the letter of another correspondent received by a different paper, when the Captain of the *Kwangping* was asked why, on learning of the landing of the Japanese troops at Yungcheng, the Chinese fleet had not come out to prevent the operation, he replied that the Fleet received orders to do so, but since such an attempt would have been as futile as battering a rock with eggs, and since it was certain that any Chinese ships undertaking the task would be destroyed, the rash scheme was abandoned.

In the *Jiji Shimpo* we find notes of a conversation said to have taken place between an officer of the Japanese torpedo flotilla and Captain Tsai Tingkan, who commanded one of the Chinese torpedo-boats captured by the Japanese on the 7th inst. The following is the conversation, as opened by the Japanese officer:—

Are you not one of a batch of 160 students sent to America for purpose of study by the Viceroy Li?

Yes. How do you happen to know about that.

During a residence of 10 years in China I had several conversations with the Viceroy. His Excellency used to say that if one half, or two thirds of the batch of 160 came back having accomplished the purpose of their journey, he should be contented. How many of the number have fulfilled his expectations and are now serving in the navy?

Only a little over 40. The rest abandoned the combatant branch and became interpreters or secretaries. It is greatly to be regretted. But I am surprised to find you so familiar with our affairs.

How is that you let your ship be captured?

When we left the Bay and headed for Chefoo, we were seven torpedo-boats, and mine, from choice, brought up the rear. We soon saw that we were pursued by your cruiser, the *Yoshino*. Our idea was that as her speed was 21 knots and ours 17, and as our distance from the shore was less than our distance from the *Yoshino*, we might make the coast and save ourselves. We therefore headed shorewards. But it turned out that the *Yoshino* steamed 22 knots, and moreover the place where we sought to land was so blocked with ice that progress became impossible. I therefore jumped into the sea and attempted to struggle to the land, slipping and falling over the blocks of ice, the bullets of the *Yoshino's* Hotchkiss guns flying over my head all the while. Presently a marine of the *Yoshino* came up to me and was about to cut me down when an officer prevented him and I was taken prisoner.

And how are your feet now? (referring to the fact that both of the fugitive's feet had been badly cut by the ice).

They were greatly cut by contact with the ice, but to my great delight the surgeon with the Red Cross on his arm came and dressed them.

Why were you pleased to see the Red Cross?

I thought it an honour to be treated by one of the physicians carrying that badge.

Then do your people know the Red Cross?

Yes, they do. I learned all about it during my 9 years in America. Besides, there is a Red Cross physician, Dr. Kirke, in the island of Liukung. The flag of the Red Cross is actually flying there. (Observing that the other showed signs of doubt, Tsai continued.) The other day, when your torpedo-boats made an attack on our ships, and the next day we found four dead men on board one of the torpedo-boat's that had run ashore, we buried them decorously and erected at their grave a wooden tablet which you can see on the island if you go there.

Are there no Japanese prisoners?

It is quite impossible to take any of your people alive.

Doubtless if any of us were taken prisoners we should be subjected to most cruel treatment.

The land forces being recruited from all ranks are often without law, immoral and brutal. But our naval folks treat people kindly, and are not guilty of any cruelties whatever.

What does your Squadron, what does Admiral Ting, intend to do?

If our land forces had been courageous and fought stoutly, Weihaiwei would not be as it is to day. It is a most unhappy business. But our Squadron can hold out for another half year at Liukung. They will fight bravely and seek no quarter. Admiral Ting's great regret is, not that the ships should be destroyed, but that officers upon whose education so much time has been spent, should be killed.

What should you do if you were released and allowed to go about your business?

If you let me go I should return to Liukung and fight against you under Admiral Ting's orders.

What orders had you about leaving the Bay?

We had no orders. We were simply in a difficulty and planned to get away. I can not say any more.

I find it singular that while you profess to desire to return to the island you were nevertheless taken prisoner attempting to escape from it. It seems to me that you had some secret orders from Admiral Ting and that you were engaged in some military manœuvre. Probably the idea was that out of so many torpedo-boats a few would certainly escape.

The Commander-in-Chief of the land and sea forces at Weihaiwei, General Chao Peilien, was wounded and is said to have killed himself by taking opium on the 5th instant. The Taotai Tai Tsungchien, also, who wanted to fight to the end, was so chagrined by the flight of the troops that he too took opium and died.

Wanhien is one of the walled towns of Shan-

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18 south of Weihaiwei. It appears that Japanese troops are in that district, for the *Yomiuri Shimbun* reports that on the 8th inst. 200 Chinese soldiers attempted to surprise a scouting party of 50 Japanese in Tulichiachawang near Wantien. The lieutenant in command of the Japanese had all his dispositions made, and though the attack took place in the night, he easily drove back his assailants, killing 7 of them, and having no casualties except one slight wound on his own side.

The Chief of the Staff in Chinchow, telegraphing at 11 p.m. on the 20th inst., says:—A report has just been received from Lieutenant-General Katsura to the effect that the enemy at Kangwassi retired last night (9th instant) to Newchwang proper. There are 100 men at Pakensz (?), a place 10 miles west of Haicheng; 3,000 at Liukungtao with 7 guns; 1,000 infantry, 560 cavalry and 5 guns at Sztaitsz; 1,000 at Siaomatere; and 3,000 at Kansienpao. On the 19th instant, about 1,000 troops were seen at Nganshanchan. The forces of Wu Chincha and Lao Siangyei are near Newchwang, Wu's command numbering about 4,000. Wu himself is in Newchwang.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 26TH.

Another attack was made on Haicheng on the 18th instant. The enemy's force is not stated in Lieut.-General Nodzu's telegram, but the assault took place from three directions, Tangwang-shan, where 4 guns were placed in position, Liaoyang, where the Chinese had 6 guns, and Antsun where they had 10. The fighting commenced at 8 a.m. and by 3 p.m. the enemy were in full retreat. Their casualties are not accurately ascertained, but they left over 100 dead at the Tangwang-shan side. According to statements made by the prisoners, this essay was directed by Wu Ta-cheng, who is now quartered in Newchwang proper. The Japanese killed and wounded were 6 in all, among them being an officer slightly wounded.

In the *Official Gazette* we find a telegram from Captain Dewa reporting that of the 11 foreigners found in Liukung Island, 10 were set free after due examination. But one proved to be George Howie, the man who was taken off the *Sydney* in Kobe and released on condition that he swore not to fight against Japan during the present war. He has been detained for further process of law. The telegram adds that the four Japanese who lost their lives in No. 9 torpedo-boat, were found to have been buried with all decorum by order of Admiral Ting. What a bright spot, truly, in the annals of the Chinese fighting.

The *Katsuragi Kan* seems to have covered herself with glory at the bombardment of Liukung. Alone she received the fire of four forts, suffering terribly, but fighting her guns stoutly and skilfully throughout.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 27TH.

That the Viceroy Li has been appointed Peace Plenipotentiary is beyond question. He was received in audience by the Emperor of China on the 24th instant and it was expected that he would leave Pekin on the 27th, and get away from Tientsin on his mission to Japan on the 3rd of March. By the close of this month the Peiho is usually open. The Viceroy can, therefore, travel to Tongku by train, and embark at Taku, whence the journey to Hiroshima is an affair of only five or six days. Thus he may easily be in Hiroshima by the 10th proximo. It is inferred that the Peace Party is in the ascendant, but a later telegram from Pekin throws some doubt on the fact. It says that at a meeting of the Grand Council, held on the 24th instant, the Emperor is reported to have announced his intention of putting the question of prolonged war or of peace to the Provincial High Authorities, from the First to the Third rank inclusive. In order to save time, the memorials of the various high officials are to be telegraphed to Pekin, and His Majesty's future course will apparently be guided by the views of the majority. If that be really the programme, it is evident that the Viceroy Li's coming may be greatly delayed, if, indeed, he comes at all.

Yet another attack has been made by the Chinese against Haicheng. On the 21st instant, at 8 a.m., they marched to the assault, in number about 17,000. Made cautious by their defeat on the 18th instant, however, they opened fire from a long range with 20 guns. The Japanese replied with artillery, and when the enemy's guns were nearly silenced, Colonel Sato's brigade appeared upon their right rear, whereupon they beat a hasty retreat, leaving more than 100 dead on the field. The casualties on the Japanese side were 2 killed and 6 wounded. Two Chinese were taken prisoners, and some trifling spoils fell into the Japanese hands.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 28TH.

According to the *Chiuo Shimbun* the total casualties in the Navy during the fighting at Weihaiwei were 65; namely, 29 killed, including 2 officers, and 36 wounded. Seven of the Japanese ships were struck, namely, the *Matsushima*, *Fuso*, *Naniwa*, *Yoshino*, *Tenriu*, *Katsuragi*, and *Tsukushi*. The *Matsushima* as usual was the greatest sufferer. It is evidently Admiral Ito's idiosyncracy to take his flagship into the most dangerous situations. She had 18 men wounded and 5 killed. The *Katsuragi* had 7 wounded, and one of her 15-centimetre guns broken in two.

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* published the replies addressed by Marshal Oyama and Vice-Admiral Ito to the gracious messages of the Emperor and Empress relating to the taking of Weihaiwei and the capture or destruction of the enemy's fleet. We need not translate these documents. Our readers are already familiar with the type.

The *Nichi Nichi* gives a brief statement by a Naval officer of the bombardment of Weihaiwei on the 3rd instant:—"On the 3rd of February in the morning four ships, the *Tsukushi* the *Yamato*, the *Katsuragi*, and the *Musashi*, left Yungcheng Bay and proceeded to Yingshaukow, on the south-east of Pohchihyai. At 12.30 p.m. they commenced to bombard the forts on Zhih and Liukung islands. The Chinese gunners, having had many day's practice, fired with remarkable precision. The *Tsukushi* led the way, and having steamed steadily up to within 4,000 metres of Zhih Island, steered to the right, until she got within, 3,500 metres of Tungchue fort on Liukung, and was able to see the enemy's guns and gunners. From that point she fired several rounds from her 10-inch guns, and then, turning again to the right, was about to proceed seaward, when the enemy, taking advantage of a momentary pause in her motion, struck her with a 24-centimetre shell below the funnel. The missile pierced the casing, and smashing through the upper deck on the port side, knocked a boat to pieces, and punching for itself a hole six feet every way, passed through the ship's side into the sea. There was no perceptible shock and no sound louder than a slight clashing of metal, yet 3 men were killed and 5 wounded. The bodies of the killed were a terrible sight. Pieces of flesh were carried to a distance of 30 or 40 yards and limbs were wrenched off like twigs torn from a tree. The funnel was so much injured that the ship's steaming was interfered with, and she had to put back to Yinshankow. None of the other ships were touched, though they steamed round once more, bombarding the forts.

Commander Nakao of the *Takachiho*, which lately returned to Japan, gives an interesting account of the torpedo attacks at Weihaiwei. He says justly that the work done by the torpedo-boats was the great feature of the affair. The bombardment of the forts by the ships was not a very serious business, but the torpedo-boats sunk 4 vessels, an ironclad, two cruisers, and a gunboat. On the second occasion of the attack by torpedo-boats, about 15 or 16 torpedoes were discharged, and three of the enemy's vessels were sent to the bottom. During the attack on the night of the 4th inst., the *Ting-yuen* was supposed to have been certainly hit, and when she was observed the next day moving about the Bay as usual and firing, there was a general feeling that torpedoes had been greatly over-rated, and that their real capacity for injuring a powerful ship was very small. By-and-by, however, their reputation was restored, for the big iron-clad began gradually to settle down in the water and finally sank near the shore. The original order of advance was arranged to be in echelon, but in consequence of the difficulties presented by the passage of the boom and by the sunken rocks with which the eastern entrance abounds, that order had to be abandoned and the boats pushed on as best they could. The best range for torpedo practice is from 200 to 300 metres. At a distance of 50 metres or thereabouts the result is likely to be of the nature of the experience that the *Saikyo Maru* had in the battle of Haiyang, when the *Fulung* torpedo-boat, firing at her from a position too close, sent a missile diving under her keel without hurting her. When the Japanese torpedo-boats entered Weihaiwei, it was their intention to fire from a distance of 200 or 300 metres, but the darkness was intense and the position of the Chinese ships was not accurately known. They had nothing for it but to steer for a lamp-light in the distant town of Weihaiwei, knowing that the Peiyang Squadron would thus be brought into their line of advance. In that way they advanced stealthily, not under steam but impelled by big sculls working on well-oiled tholes and handled with the utmost care. Suddenly light streaming from the cabin window of the *Ting-yuen* flashed on the deck of the leading boat, and the position became at once definite. The torpedoes were discharged and the *Ting-yuen* received her death blow. She did not move. All the other vessels, struck on the following night, changed their places more or less, but the iron-clad accepted the stroke stolidly. The place where she finally sunk was not deep enough to cover her. The same was the case with the *Ching-yuen*, sent to the bottom by two shots from the eastern forts. The injury done to the *Ting-yuen* was in the form of a hole, 36 square feet in superficies. The water gradually found its way in and sank her. There is no reason to suppose that any of her people were lost. Her deck remained over water and they had plenty of time to escape. The *Lai-yuen*, on the contrary, turned right over, and sank so that the red paint on her bottom emerged from the sea. About 30 of her crew were drowned. The *Wei-yuen* and the gunboat *Paohwa* were at the wharf when they were struck. Only 6 lives were lost. As for the *Ching-yuen*, it is to be remarked that in general when vessels-of-war are sunk in fight, fire is the proximate cause. A shell explodes in the engine room and the ship breaks into flame, or the shell itself sets up combustion in the woodwork of the vessel. But in the case of the *Ching-yuen*, the forts had her within fair range and by very skilful laying of the guns, were able to hit her twice just below the water line, so that she went under rapidly. All the other ships sunk were able to haul down their flags before they went under, but the *Ching-yuen* had not time. Not only was the Yellow Dragon floating from her mast-head as her hull disappeared, but the flags of the signal she was engaged in making at the moment remained fluttering in their place. Her consorts, however, sent boats so rapidly to her assistance that no lives were lost. No. 22 torpedo-boat, which ran aground on her way back from the attack on the 4th instant, became the mark for innumerable missiles after daylight. Cannon balls and rifle shots fell about her like rain. Her commander, Lieutenant Fukushima, and his men, entertaining not the slightest hope of escaping, simply lay down in the cabin, sipping brandy to keep themselves warm. The enemy, seeing no sign of life, concluded that all the crew were dead. So the men lay throughout the whole of the 5th. Not until another torpedo-boat came to look at the unfortunate boat did they show themselves. The same officer adds a word about affairs at the time of taking over the forts and ships. All the men were required to land from the ships on Liukung Island, except a very few whose presence was necessary for the purpose of taking

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delivery. There were 2,300 troops and 4,000 sailors. Of these about one-half, according to their own request, were landed and released near Weihaiwei; the rest were sent by sea to Chefoo. The former were put ashore near Chu Island; the latter were placed in junks and in the *Kangchi*, which had been given for the purpose of conveying Admiral Ting's corpse.

The most important news of the day comes from Pekin. A telegram dated the 25th inst. says that the Viceroy Li Hung-chang, since his arrival in the capital, has had audience on two occasions with the Emperor in the Grand Council Chamber, and has had several interviews of an unceremonious nature with the Empress Dowager, in which the Emperor also took part. The conversations were strictly private; all the eunuchs and ladies-in-waiting upon the Empress being ordered to keep out of hearing. The outcome of these interviews will be made apparent within a few days.

Another telegram from Pekin, dated the 26th instant, refers to the steps that the Emperor was reported to have decided upon taking, in order to determine the opinions of the Provincial High Officials on the advisability of concluding peace or continuing the war. The telegram says that so far, five out of eight Viceroys, seven out of the sixteen Governors, six out of twenty-one treasurers, and three out of the twenty Judges, of China proper, including Formosa and Kashgaria, have already sent in their memorials upon the present crisis. More than two-thirds of the memorials advocate peace, if Japan desires an indemnity only, however large the amount may be, but declare for war to the bitter end if the enemy desires to keep any of the conquered territory, on the ground that the Emperor's prerogative does not include the giving away of land obtained by his ancestors at the cost of so much bloodshed. Several Manchu Tartar Generals and two or three of the Provincial Commanders-in-Chief have also telegraphed their ideas on the subject, but it is not known as yet what they propose. If the above be correct, it is plain that the question of peace or war hangs in the balance. And what are we to say of the sincerity of the recent peace embassy? If the Emperor of China is only beginning to determine whether he will fight on or sheathe the sword, how can we suppose that he had come to a definite resolve on the subject when he despatched Messrs. Chang and Shao two months ago?

A telegram dated the 26th instant, says that, according to news from Chefoo, the Japanese at Ninghai have ordered all the inhabitants of the district to evacuate the vicinity within a radius of 20 miles, so as to make way for a large force expected to land within a short time at Ninghai. It is apprehended that the Japanese probably intend this new force for the nearest route to the Grand Canal.

There is a rumour that the Chinese forces at Shanhaikwan have deserted in such numbers that only six thousand remain there.

Friday, March 1st.

The Japanese troops in Shinking are evidently making occasional expeditions against the enemy's positions. A few days ago we heard of a body of men from Haicheng moving out and breaking up a force stationed on the Newchwang road. We have now a telegram from the Staff of the First Army, dated 9 a.m. on the 26th instant, saying that the van of a battalion attacked the enemy near Sanchiatsz, a place about 18 miles to the north-east of Tomucheng, on the 24th instant, and defeated them. They numbered some 1,500 and they left 13 dead on the field. Their line of retreat was northward, No mention is made of Japanese casualties. The same telegram adds that the position of the Chinese in the neighbourhood of Haicheng remains unaltered.

With the regard to the troops in Haicheng and Kaiping, the *Chuo Shimbun* publishes a telegram from Bakan (Shimonoseki) dated 2.07 p.m. on the 27th instant. It says:—"The troops of the enemy on the west and south of Haicheng are behind Newchwang proper and Yingkow. It was arranged that on the 26th instant a combined attack should be made against them from three directions, namely, by the Third Division from Haicheng, the Fifth Division from a place the name of which we can not identify, and the First Division from Kaiping. We presume, if that news be correct, that the Japanese Generals think that the time has come for a forward movement, though their immediate object is not evident.

The *Kokkai* writes that according to intelligence from Talien the gendarmes with the Weihaiwei Expedition are now engaged burying the Chinese. On the first day of their search they found the corpses of 50 men in one place, 60 in another, and so on, among the hills. There were no bullet marks, and the supposition is that these men had fled away recklessly, and losing their way, had died of hunger and exposure. In the valleys also great numbers of corpses were found. These seemed to be the bodies of wounded men who, having no hope of medical aid, had crept away to die.

The Chinese prisoners, says the *Kokkai*, taken in the various fights from Yashan to Weihaiwei, and sent to Japan, were distributed at eight places, as follow:—

Hiroshima	84
Matsuyama	97
Osaka	232
Otsu	100
Nagoya	100
Toyohashi	100
Tokyo	179
Sakura	73
	965

Out of this total 31 have died, so that there now remain 934.

Commander Shimamura, of the Naval Staff on the *Matsushima*, says the *Jiji Shimpo*, invited the various newspaper correspondents with the fleet to visit him on board the flag-ship on the morning of the 14th instant, and after giving them an account of the assault on Weihaiwei, said:—"There is no disadvantage in fighting against forts with ships. After all the mainland forts had fallen and those of Liukung Island alone remained to be attacked, our squadron undertook the duty with the result that nearly all our best ships were more or less injured—the *Matsushima*, the *Yoshino*, the *Naniwa*, *Akitsushima*, the *Fuso*, the *Tenriu*, the *Katsuragi*, and the *Tsukushi*: guns destroyed, bridges broken, even the decks pierced, and 48 men killed or wounded. Yet, as the enemy still held out, nothing remained but to continue the attack. We resolved to do so, by night and by day alike. Thus, on the 12th instant at 3 a.m. the *Naniwa* and the *Akitsushima* opened a strong cannonade against the forts at the Western entrance, and at 8 p.m. the enemy sent a ship with a white flag to propose terms of surrender. Thus it is plain that ships are at no disadvantage in attacking forts. Just when we were debating whether it would not be necessary either to land troops on the island or to enter the Bay in full force, the enemy surrended. It was more than we expected. Our labours, watching morning and evening without rest, braving all kinds of weather to prevent the enemy's escape, attacking him perpetually with ships and torpedo-boats, all these efforts have resulted in the signal success of to-day. They knew that escape was hopeless, and so they surrendered."

LETTER FROM HUSHAN.

(From our Special Correspondent with the Army.)

Hushan, February 7, 1895.

You have already been apprised by telegram of the principal features of the operations of the Kumamoto Brigade in the battle on the 30th ultimo. The Brigade was divided into three columns of unequal strength, the right, the left, and the reserve, under the command respectively of Major Watanabe, Major-General Odera, and Lieutenant-General Kurogi. These forces were collected at a hill west of Poochia, and began their march at 3.30 a.m. The right wing moved along the sea shore, and the left by the way of Kushankow. The latter force was the first to come in sight of the enemy. It was about seven in the morning. Fire was opened against a fort on the extreme right of the enemy's position. The fort was carried in a short time, and the assailants next turned their attention to the entrenchments on Motien-ling. There they found the enemy very strongly posted behind a continuous line of stockades, connecting the above mentioned entrenchment and that of Pohchihyaisu, or, as it is also called, Siechiasu. Both wings of the Brigade were combined to assail this formidable line of works. The united operations from the front producing little impression upon the enemy, Major-General Odera led part of his troops by a circuitous route to a position in rear of the Chinese stockades. This manœuvre decided the issue. The entrenchment of Motien-ling and the stockades fell into Japanese hands a little past ten o'clock. At the same time the enemy evacuated the fort of Pohchihyaisu, after setting fire to the gunpowder magazine. Meanwhile, the Japanese fleet off the coast was bombarding the sea forts and some of those on shore. Tifangling was the next point of attack. It was there that Major-General Odera received his mortal wound. The hardest work of the day was now over, and the rest of the forts on that side of the coast were all occupied without much difficulty by about two o'clock in the afternoon. The enemy fled along the sea shore towards Weihaiwei. Most of the officers of the sea forts, however, escaped by steam launches and small junks. In one of the forts the Japanese troops discovered a young Chinese lady of exceptional attractions. The officer in command of the party showed her all the respect and consideration due to her sex, and had her safely conducted to a neighbouring village, where she was received by her fellow-countrymen. In another fort a child of three or four years was found. It was a remarkably docile little lad, becoming friendly at once with the Japanese commanding officer who took it in his arms and petted it while the fight was in full progress. Afterwards, when the officer, having set free the most benevolent looking of the prisoners for the express purpose of entrusting him with the little boy, it clung to its protector and refused with go with the ex-prisoner.

To summarize the events on land since the 30th, a battalion of the 2nd Division was sent to Liutaokow on the west coast. It was snowing heavily at the time. Arrived within a short distance of their destination, the Japanese were suddenly fired upon by the enemy, afterwards found to have been from 3,000 to 4,000 strong. The attack was entirely unexpected, but the Japanese were equal to the occasion and soon put their assailants to the rout with a loss on the Japanese side of 3 killed and more than 20 wounded. On the 2nd a part of the 2nd Division entered Weihaiwei, which had been evacuated on the 31st ultimo. The force with which the Japanese came in collision, as stated above, on the 1st instant, was probably part of the Chinese troops flying from Weihaiwei. The forts to the northeast of Weihaiwei were all occupied before the evening of the 2nd. In those on the west, the guns were so damaged as to be unfit for use.

Thus all the defence on the mainland round about Weihaiwei has broken down and the flags of the Rising Sun are flying from every fort on the shore of the harbour. The work of the land forces has been accomplished: what remained to be done was the destruction of the Chinese fleet in the harbour and the reduction of the island forts. The latter result will inevitably follow the attainment of the former, which is now in progress.

The first step to be taken was the removal of the booms at the entrance of the harbour. On the night of the 3rd, the Japanese torpedo-boats failed in an attempt to effect an opening in the booms. On the following evening, another attempt was made, this time attended with success. On the preceding occasion, it had been the object of the Japanese naval officers to break the steel-wire hawsers by means of dynamite. But finding that impracticable, they then turned their attention to

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widening the open space at the extremity of the booms between the forts of Lingmantsui and Luchutsui. In this they succeded on the evening of the 4th. They widened the space by bending the booms. Late on the same night, two squadrons of torpedo boats entered the harbour. One of these squadrons consisted of Nos. 21, 8, 14, 19, and 9, under Commander Fujita; and the other of Nos. 22, 5, 6, 10, and 22, under Lieutenant Iwai. The *Ting-yuen* was the common object of attack of all these torpedo boats. Nos. 8 and 14 unfortunately could not discharge their missiles on account of the tubes being frozen. No. 6 succeeded in striking the iron-clad, but had her boiler destroyed and 5 of her people killed by a shell from one of the enemy's ships. No. 19 came to the rescue, and taking on board all the survivors, steamed out of the harbour, leaving the injured boat and the dead crew behind. No. 22 also hit the mark, but subsequently ran ashore. Two of her crew were wounded, and one of her officers, Lieutenant Suzuki—a young man of great promise—was knocked into the sea and frozen to death. The survivors were rescued on the following morning by canvass boats from one of the sea forts in Japanese possession. Another boat, No. 10, also planted a torpedo in the hull of the *Ting-yuen*. When the boats entered the harbour they were exposed to a heavy fire from the Chinese warships and torpedo-boats. How hot a fire it was may be guessed from the fact that torpedo-boat No. 6 showed 46 marks of shots from rifles and Gatlings. Most of the Chinese torpedo-boats, after some resistance, retired to a safe distance further back. When the Japanese boats approached within working distance of the enemy's ships, the firing from the latter had almost entirely ceased.

It was naturally expected that the *Ting-yuen* would have sunk by the morning of the 5th, but the Japanese were disappointed to see her still floating. From about noon on that day, however, she began to settle down slowly, until Admiral Ting had to leave her and get on board the *Chen-yuen*. The *Ting-yuen* did not sink altogether: she is lying half-submerged behind Zhih Island near the coast of Liukung.

On the night of the 5th, another squadron of torpedo-boats entered the port. It consisted of the *Takao*, and Nos. 23, 13, 7, and 11, under Commander Mochibara. On this occasion, the torpedo-boats made their way in without any great difficulty, for the enemy's ships did not fire so hotly as on the preceding night. Nos. 7 and 13 could not get within striking distance of the Chinese ships, their screws becoming fouled in some way or other. Altogether seven missiles were discharged. The *Lai-yuen*, which during the battle on the 30th ultimo had wrought such havoc among a battalion of the 16th Regiment, was one of the victims; she did not sink, but careened over on one side. A gunboat was also destroyed, and another victim was the *Wei-yuen*. By mistake one of the Japanese torpedo-boats aimed at the *Chen-yuen*, but the missile did not take effect. That ship being already disabled, it had been arranged not to attack her, there being no occasion to do so.

The Chinese fleet having thus been weakened, it was decided to make a general attack upon it as well as upon the island forts. To-day, the 7th, was appointed for the affair. We were on the top of the highest hill at the back of the village of Hushan, commanding a splendid view of the harbour and the coast as far as Yu-shan-kow. The Field-Marshal Count Oyama and his Staff, as well as the foreign military attachés soon joined us. The weather was fine, calm, and warm; a splendid day for seeing a naval engagement from such a position as ours—the top of a hill at a safe a distance from the scene of action. Fire was opened by the Japanese war-vessels at a little past 7 a.m. The programme was that the principal squadron and the first flying squadron should direct their fire against the eastern fort of Liukung from the north, the second and third flying squadrons, working at the east entrance of the harbour, against Zhih Island, and the eastern fort of Liukung. The three forts of Lingmantsui, Luchiu-tsui and Chaopoh-tsui, trained their guns principally on Zhih Island but sometimes on the eastern fort of Liukung. A number of torpedo boats were stationed outside the western entrance of the harbour, to prevent the escape of the Chinese war-ships. Some of the Japanese men-of-war were detailed to attack the enemy's ships should they emerge. But it will be seen from the above plan of operations that the principal objects of attack were the island forts.

The firing from the Japanese fleet was the signal for a general cannonade. It lasted about half an hour, at the end of which time the Japanese squadrons slowly drew off. But firing still continued between the sea forts on the eastern coast and those of Zhih and Liukung. A little past 8 a.m., an explosion took place in the fort of Zhih, but the consequent fire was soon extinguished. Later in the morning, thirteen Chinese torpedo-boats managed to elude the vigilance of the Japanese and escape out of the western entrance in the direction of Chefoo. They were at once pursued by two Japanese war-vessels, the names of which have not yet transpired. Reports of guns were soon heard from beyond the hill ranges separating the harbour from the sea on the west. As I am writing this, information is brought to me that none of these torpedo boats succeeded in reaching Chefoo. A few, stranding, were taken by parties of Japanese infantry on the Chefoo road, while the rest were either sunk or taken captive by the Japanese men-of-war. While the cannonade was going on in the morning, the *Lai-yuen* was observed to hoist a white flag, but it was immediately taken down. Firing ceased by noon. Subsequently shells were sent from the Chinese forts at irregular intervals, but they were not returned by the Japanese.

ON THE ROAD TO HAICHENG.

Wednesday, January 31st.

We made a very late start, as Tamura did not get over to Kaiping till 11 o'clock, and then, by various delays, we were detained till after twelve. It was a bitter day, with a strong wind and drifting snow, and after half an hour in the saddle I had to walk to keep myself warm. When I got tired of this, and it is tiring to struggle against a wind through ankle-deep snow, I thought I would take to the cart. It was a covered cart to-day, so that the only place to sit on was on a package that projected from the back, on which Takeguchi had been sitting with a rope to tie him on. Tamura was standing on the shafts in front, with his back to the wind. Takeguchi broke the rope as he got down to give us his place, and I found the seat too perilous without it. The cover of the cart was curved, like the top of an old English carrier's cart, and the edge of this was also an insecure seat, but I found that by climbing right on to the top I could, with my long legs, get a good grip, though it was about twice as wide as a horse's back. So with my face to the tail of the cart and my back to the wind I went along very comfortably for a mile or two, when to my disgust I had to climb down because the snow drifts were deepening and the cart had to be lightened. I wish I could have had a photograph taken of myself and Tamura riding on the cart in the way I have described. It was evidently an amusing spectacle, for it moved even the stolid Chinese peasants to a smile.

There was nothing for it but to take to the mule again, and I could not very well avoid the wind by riding him with my face to the tail; but I had not to endure it long, for it was evidently impossible to make the distance we had proposed before nightfall: we should probably have had an accident had we gone on after dark over the slippery roads, so we stayed for the night at what should have been our mid-day halting place, Pu-ra-bo.

The head-quarters here are in a very fine house, entered through an arched stone gateway. The owner, a pawn-broker, is exceedingly friendly to the Japanese. The friendliness of the natives, indeed, is more than ever striking in this district; the commanding officer here, who was at Port Arthur, then at Kinchow, and who marched along the road I have just been traversing, makes the same observation. He attributes it to the fact that disorder and rebellion have been frequent in this district, and that not merely is it a surprise to the natives to find men bearing arms orderly and peaceable, but that they hope that a new era of good government will begin with the Japanese occupation.

The friendliness of the owner of the house procured me the best dinner I have eaten since I left Tokyo, and the taste of good roast mutton (cold, unfortunately) for the first time for three years. I have occasionally eaten what was called mutton at the foreign hotels in Japan, but it was always wretched stuff with nothing but the name to recommend it. The dinner provided by the pawnbroker's cook was my first experience of Chinese food, and judging by that I like Chinese food much better than Japanese. The Chinese methods of cooking seem to differ less widely from our own than those of Japan; though in some minor points of uncleanliness, such as that of all the company dipping their chopsticks into the same dish, the Chinese custom is disagreeable.

Thursday, February 1st.

The cold becomes severe as we strike inland, and was intense to-day though there was hardly any wind. Unless I am extremely careful I shall return home without a nose. Mine this morning, which had been paining me a good deal with the cold, quite suddenly became free from pain. This suspicious circumstance led me to glance at it with the tail of my eye, and I saw it was a quite white. By rubbing I restored the circulation—and the pain. The top of my ears was just touched by the frost yesterday, though well protected by my huge fur cap, so I am evidently very susceptible to frost bite, and shall have to be most careful. It is well known, and has been frequently observed among the Japanese soldiers in this campaign, individual susceptibility to frost bite varies greatly and some are affected on very slight provocations; the ears, fingers, and feet, are comparatively easy to protect; but it is difficult to keep the nose covered.

The village at which we stopped for our midday meal is the farthest outpost of the Second Army in the direction of Haicheng, and from here on we enter the bounds of the First Army. We made a very long stay, for just as we were about to start with an escort provided from the garrison at our halting place, some travellers arrived from the place to which we were bound that afternoon, and as their escort was to return to their own quarters before night there was no need to send another body of men with us. But we had to wait till the soldiers had had their dinner, and that protracted our stay considerably. The men they had escorted were four in number—a Japanese official with two attendants and the correspondent of the *Miyako Shimbun*, all returning to Japan by the route we have just passed over.

The station at which we spent this night is the most lonely and the most poorly furnished we have get seen, but all discomforts were atoned for by the hospitality with which we were received. Tamura and I shared the room of the two resident officers. The sleeping part of the Chinese room is, as I have already said, only about five feet wide, and I usually lay my six feet along the length of the platform. Under the circumstances, however, this was impossible, so I petitioned for the end at which a large cupboard stood against the platform, and served to keep my head from falling over the edge. The night before, the four travellers we met during the day and the two officers had all slept on this platform, but I don't known how they managed it, for four seemed to me a rather tight fit.

Friday, February 2nd.

My nose is a nuisance—I don't say more trouble than it is worth, for I value it highly ("a poor thing, my lord, but mine own"), and I should be sorry to part company with it. But

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it is certainly provoking to have to watch it anxiously all the morning and to have to thaw it three separate times. Moreover, it becomes rather sore after a time. I shall evidently have to submit to being stifled by a handkerchief over my nose if I wish to bring the wretched organ back to Japan.

Our progress to-day was slow and painful, as we are now in the region of deep snow, and our heavily laden cart was drawn with difficulty by three mules and a pony. Fortunately we had five *ri* only to traverse, and so we reached Hai-ching early in the afternoon. We were soon allotted a room, and I spent the rest of the day in trying to get warm, with but ill success, as wood is scarce and charcoal is scarcer. Paraffin candles, I am glad to say, have recently arrived in considerable quantities, so discomfort from cold is not aggravated by the darkness shed by a tallow-dip. General Katsura himself is away at Suiyen, but will be back in a day or two. In the meantime, I have been received with the usual courtesy and kindness by his subordinates, and have had the best of everything placed at my disposal. To-morrow I shall see the town and gather all the information I can about the disposition of the Chinese forces in the neighbourhood.

WITH THE FIRST ARMY.

Hai-cheng, February 3rd.

In the morning, as soon as possible after breakfast, I went to call on Colonel Kiyoshi, the chief of General Katsura's staff. General Katsura himself is at present absent from Hai-cheng, but is expected to return on the 6th. I saw also Colonel Muraki, the Provisional Governor of Hai-cheng, who was in France for three or four years and returned to Japan only just before the outbreak of the war. With him, therefore, I could converse without the medium of an interpreter. Colonel Kiyoshi has been is Germany and speaks German, but prefers, generally, to make use of Tamura in conversing with me.

After dinner these two officers walked out with me to a low elevation that rises from the plain about a mile north of Hai-cheng, and here Colonel Kiyoshi gave me a graphic demonstration of the recent movement made by the Chinese in their attempts to recover the town, and of the measures taken by the Japanese to repulse them.

The cold to-day was not so severe as during the last two days, and there was, fortunately, not a breath of wind. Colonel Muraki informed me that the temperature has recently ranged from minus 20° F. at night to minus 10° F. in the day-time.

Monday, February 4th.

After breakfast, I had just settled down to my letters when I was interrupted by a call from two Japanese newspaper correspondents, one representing the *Hochi Shimbun* of Tokyo, the other the *Toyo Shimbun*, a provincial paper. They came with an eye to business, and, after the polite formalities with which conversation invariably begins in Japan, they asked to be favoured with some information as to the views held in England about the China-Japan war. What I said somewhat surprised them, I think, for the general belief among Japanese seems to be that English opinion is strongly adverse to Japan.

There are, I am told, ten Japanese newspaper correspondents in Hai-cheng. I wish they would all come at once, for I shall probably be expected to favour them all impartially with the same information, and I shall myself become somewhat weary of it by constant repetition. I have already given it twice to Japanese officers who were interested in the matter.

Oh! my prophetic soul! I had hardly finished the last paragraph when the correspondent of the Osaka *Mainichi Shimbun* appeared on the scene and "wanted to know, you know." I said I really couldn't go through it all again this morning, but that if he would gather together all the remaining newspaper correspondents and bring them to me at nine to-morrow morning, I would answer any questions they might like to ask. He grinned and departed, with an assurance that they would all come without fail, as they are wofully short of "copy." I don't quite see how I am to accommodate eight newspaper correspondents in my little room. Tamura and I and the table quite fill the brick platform, while the floor is crowded with luggage and accommodates three chairs only. I shall certainly have early in the proceedings to exhibit a notice "Standing Room Only."

Late in the afternoon Tamura and I went for a walk round the town. It is built after the pattern of all the Chinese fortified towns I have yet seen, with walls that "stand four-square to all the winds that blow." The population, Colonel Muraki informed me yesterday, is about 15,000; but of these only about 3,000 remained in the town when the army took possession. It would be difficult for them to come back at present, as the town is overfilled with soldiers and coolies.

We went first to the North Gate, which, like the gates of all these towns, is a three storeyed structure, affording a look-out over the town, the walls, and the surrounding country. The walls, fifteen feet thick, are falling in ruins. The main thickness of the wall rises to a height of about 20 feet from the ground, and the outer edge of this is surmounted by a breastwork about six feet high, with embrasures every few feet for the discharge of missiles by the defenders. In many of these Chinese towns the gateway after traversing the thickness of the wall beneath the tower, has to turn round an elbow of masonry resembling those found in so many of the old gates of Tokyo. The gates of Hai-cheng are devoid of this, but even without it would form an exceedingly awkward entry in the face of a strong defending force. But no enemy provided with modern artillery would think of entering by the gate in the face of any active resistance. He would simply reduce a section of the wall to powder with his guns and march in over the rubble. But in the days when scaling ladders were part of the ordinary apparatus of a siege, and boiling-oil was the favourite means of defence, Hai-cheng was no doubt a formidable stronghold.

In one respect, besides its larger size, Hai-cheng differs from the other towns we have passed through. They were all perfectly flat, but Hai-cheng contains near the South-east corner a small elevation surmounted by a castle, into the history of which I must enquire to-morrow.

Tuesday, February 5th.

I am glad to say that the other Japanese newspaper correspondents did not arrive this morning in such number as the correspondent of the *Mainichi Shimbun* had anticipated. In fact he succeeded in finding one only besides himself, the correspondent of the *Hokumon*, eager to hear words of wisdom from my lips, and I spent more than an hour this morning in giving the two my opinion on the China-Japan War—for, for the sake of variety for myself and Tamura, I gave my own opinions to-day, instead of a summary of English opinions in general.

News has reached us of the fall of Wei-hai-wei. Details are lacking, but it appears that there was no serious resistance. Does this signify, I wonder, that the Chinese are now going to abandon all serious attempt to carry on a losing fight, and are about to make genuine overtures for peace?

In the afternoon Tamura and I, with an escort of two soldiers, climbed a small hill to the south-eastward of the town. Here are buried the Japanese soldiers that have fallen in the battles around Haicheng. The graves are on the summit of the hill, and the names of those buried beneath are written on wooden staves that stand upright in the ground. It was not, however, to visit the graves that I climbed the hill, but to find a good view of the town. From this spot, by the morning light, I think a good photograph can be taken, and I shall try if we stay here long enough.

The cold has been less severe for the last two days, though still more than sufficiently bitter, and my poor nose, which is of a hideous copper colour with the skin flaking off here and there, has not been exposed to any farther serious peril. There are greater dangers to be faced by a war correspondent than those from a Chinese bullet and even than those from frost-bite—namely those of contusions and broken bones from a fall on the glassy streets. The frozen snow is battered into slides every few feet, and it is necessary to walk with short, carefully chosen steps, and even then it is hardly possible to avoid a slip now and again, particularly where the roadway is inclined. The mule remains inactive in the stable, in spite of Takeguchi's protestations that he will become "too strong" if I do not ride him; for apart from the fact that it is impossible to keep warm crawling along on horseback, I do not care to risk the legs of an animal I should probably not be able to replace.

I have a camp-bed with me, but cannot use it till the weather gets a little warmer. Lying on the heated bricks at night, under a fur-rug (sleeping, of course, in one's clothes) one becomes really warm; and I willingly sacrifice the ease of a bed for warmth. But bricks with a covering of a thin straw mat and one *futon* do not make a soft couch, and my luxurious bones suffer many aches. I change sides six or eight times every night, and dream I am walking many weary leagues with my stiff limbs. The hips are the worst points in one's anatomy under such circumstances, and certainly ought not to project as far as they do. Travellers who have to sleep on the bare ground are, we are told, accustomed to dig a little hole in the ground to accommodate the prominence of the hip—but I cannot dig a hole in my brick platform. I find an air pillow under the hip a fair substitute, however, and do not suffer from want of sleep to any serious extent. In a ten or eleven hours' night one can afford a few wakings.

The problem of cold bed or warm bricks is decided at once and without difficulty in favour of the bricks. During the daytime I have a less easy alternative, that between a warm seat on the floor with a severe ache in my back and a cold, but otherwise tolerably comfortable, seat in a camp-chair. In this respect I gravitate between two attractions when the cold stiffens my fingers so that I can no longer write I am driven for a while to the floor; when the ache in my back becomes unendurable (and this is soon, for my stubborn western legs will not bend and my unaccommodating back cries loudly for a slanting support) I seek once more the repose of my chair. But, all things considered, I am, thanks largely to the kindness of my Japanese hosts, really surprisingly comfortable, and I expect to have much more serious hardships to face later in the campaign.

Wednesday, February 6th.

In the morning we went to see the hospital here. It is dispersed through various buildings, no one building available being large enough for the purpose. Only the slighter cases of wounds have been kept in Hai-cheng; of the more severe cases, the survivors have been sent to Taku-shan, to be shipped to Japan as soon as the ice thaws. Many of the men wounded in the fights of the 17th and the 22nd of last month are again on duty, and those that remain in hospital here are all doing well.

Of the hundred and forty-three patients now under treatment the greater number are cases of frost-bite. The feet are more often affected than the hands; in minor cases the tip of the great toe only, in more severe cases several or all the toes. The ears also are sometimes affected; but the surgeons here had not yet seen a case of frost bite of the nose. My nose, as they said, when I pointed to the injured member, is much "higher" (*takai*) than that possessed by the Japanese, and therefore more liable to attack.

Most of the cases of frost bite of the feet occur in connexion with battle, when snow gets into the boots, and fatigue also aggravates the effects of exposure. A slight frost-bite usually disables a man for three or four weeks.

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treatment of the wounds is as simple
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nfection.

nen lie on Chinese beds into a descrip-
hich I need not enter for every one is
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to cold weather, there is happy absence
nic scourges—4 cases of typhoid. The
n condensed milk, soup, and rice-water
be sent to Japan when well enough.

aving the hospital, we went to examine
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previously attracted my attention, one
w imposing buildings in Hai-cheng.
court we found it to consist of a
buildings, with red lacquer pillars
roof, erected on terraces cut from
f the elevation that, as I have pre-
ntioned, occupies this portion of the
one of the edifices is the highest
nd the care-taker (and his mother,
oman I have seen since I left Japan),
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plained to us that the building was
ity (Shin-tong) of Hai-cheng, erected
ati of the city ten years ago. The
ontains also a temple dedicated to

ternoon we took a "constitutional"
ity, walking a large part of the way
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fresh Chinese movement. General
returned and will see me to-morrow

AND MANCHURIA IN ANCIENT TIMES.

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ter had been established on
ple, remembering how inti-
intercourse with Japan had been and knowing the benefits of exchanging products produced in their colder region with those of the warmer country, sent an embassy composed of twenty-four men to Japan in December of the 4th year of Jinki (727 A.D.). The ship carrying them missed its proper destination and came to Yezo, where sixteen of the party were murdered by the aborigines. The eight survivors succeeded in escaping to Dewa, however, and from thence they were escorted to Kyoto. In December of the following year Hikida Mushimaro was sent to Pohhai as an act of international courtesy, and he returned thence in August, 730 A.D. From that time the old intimate relations between the two countries were re-established and uninterrupted communication was carried on. Ships from Pohhai came to the coast of Japan facing the Japan Sea and called at the Districts lying along Sanindo and Hokurikudo. Sado, Dewa, Noto, Echizen, Oki, Tajima, Nagato, Kaga, and Izumo were the provinces touched at by them. Mr. Adachi enumerates no less than 20 embassies despatched to Japan from Pohhai between 752 and 930. The embassy was generally composed of about 100 men including the suite, but on one occasion it numbered as many as 359. The friendly intercourse that Pohhai endeavoured to maintain with Japan was due to commercial and political considerations. The articles presented to the Court of Kyoto by the Pohhai embassies were furs of various kinds, ginseng, honey, and so forth, while the Japanese embassies carried with them textile fabrics. That Pohhai regarded Japan as a sort of suzerain is evident. In December, 752, an embassy came from Pohhai to Japan without bringing any letter from the King of the former acknowledging homage to the ruler of the latter, then the Empress Koken, upon which the Court of Kyoto is said to have rebuked the embassy and sent it back. Pohhai seems, however, to have despatched defective embassies several times subsequently. They were all treated in the same unceremonious way, and at last in 795, during the reign of the Emperor Kwammu, an embassy was sent by Pohhai bearing the due letter of homage. It appears that the Japanese Court objected to these embassies being accompanied by a numerous suite, for in the letter brought to the Emperor Kwammu it was specified that in future the train would not exceed 20 persons and that an embassy would be despatched every other year. As regards the latter point, the Emperor replied that once in six years would be sufficient, but as Pohhai protested against the length of the interval the matter was ultimately left to the convenience of that country. That was only for a short time, however, for the policy of extending hospitality to a country over which a sort of suzerainty was exercised impaired the finance of Japan considerably and the Central Treasury experienced serious troubles. At last, though exactly when, is not given, the Court of Kyoto decided that embassies should only be despatched from Pohhai once in 12 years. The courtiers and wealthy people secretly longed, however, for the arrival of men from over the sea as, in all probability, judging from the numerous suites accompanying each embassies, enterprising merchants took the opportunity of coming and exposing their commodities. It appears therefore that, although formal embassies did not come as frequently as before, those merchants continued their visits as usual and further exchanges of goods were made between Manchurian and Japanese merchants. The last embassy from Pohhai arrived in 920, during the reign of the Emperor Daigo. Six years later Pohhai was destroyed by a tribe that possessed great influence at that time and all communication between Japan and Manchuria ceased. The writer considers it a curious coincidence that the Japanese troops now occupy the region that, more than a thousand years, ago, was in a state of vassalage to this country.

KOREAN NEWS.

Sôul correspondents of Tokyo papers send particulars of the recent crisis in the Korean Government, namely, in the attempted resignation of the members of the Korean Cabinet *en masse*. All the letters agree in referring the occurrence to a conflict of ideas between the old Ministers, among whom Gyo Inchu, Minister of Finance, stands prominent, and the new members led by Boku Yeiko, Minister of Home Affairs. But, as seems to be the case with all troubles in the Sôul Cabinet, mutual suspicion and petty plotting were at the bottom of the present affair. Contrary to general expectation, however, the conduct of the Minister of Home Affairs appears to have been chiefly reprehensible. The old Ministers, of course, were not well disposed towards Boku and his confrères, though, in consequence of the strong remonstrances of the Japanese Envoy, they were obliged, against their will, to consent to sit with their former enemies at the same board. In truth the hostile attitude entertained by each party toward the other, far from being moderated since the two came to take part in State affairs was only accentuated by contact During this interval of armed neutrality the old members thought that they discovered in the proceedings of Boku many suspicious indications, for example his closer relations with the Royal couple, or, more properly with the crafty Queen. The Queen thought that Boku, backed as he apparently is by the Japanese Government, would become the most influential man in Korea, and her busy brain at once counselled her to conciliate him and flatter his pride. His visit to the Court and to the inner chamber of the Queen's household became more and more frequent. Whether her feelings toward the ex-exile had really changed was, however, extremely doubtful. Indeed, according to the correspondent of the *Nichi Nichi*, Her Majesty appears to be simply playing with Boku, according to her wonted craft, and to be using him simply as a tool for the purpose of recovering her political influence. Boku, on the other hand, is said to be simple enough to ignore altogether the real motives of the Queen. Nay, even his head is turned by her favour so that he has become gradually haughty toward his old colleagues in the Cabinet, priding himself partly on the influence that he thinks he possesses over the Court and partly on his greater stock of progressive knowledge. The old Ministers, and particularly the strong-minded Minister of the Treasury, have become alarmed at the apparent alliance between Boku and the Queen. They fear lest another Bin Yeishun may be seen in the Minister of Home Affairs. Some say, though this does not appear to be well founded, that the Minister of the Treasury, in order to strengthen himself against the rising influence of Boku, secretly visited the inveterate enemy of the Queen, the Tai Wôn-kun, and consulted with him as to the best means of curbing the power of their common enemies, the Queen and Boku. While the Cabinet is shaken by such dissensions, satisfactory progress in State affairs is out of the question, and for some time administrative business has been at a standstill. Count Inouye quickly discovered what was going on and strongly rebuked both parties. That, however, only hastened the impending catastrophe. On the 11th instant, when a Cabinet Council was held, Boku spoke out. He said that during nine months since the programme of Korean reform had been initiated in June last, nothing of particular importance had been accomplished by the Cabinet. Its members, therefore, could not avoid the imputation of want of capacity. They were inexcusable not only toward their King but also toward Japan, the closest friend of Korea. He then proposed that, in order to discharge the responsibility owed by them to the King and the country, they and the Vice-Ministers of State should resign. The Premier and the Minister of the Treasury were opposed to this suggestion. They said that though they admitted the failure of the Cabinet to accom-

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plish any special reform, they saw no necessity to resign, and were inclined to adopt the moderate policy of endeavouring to bring about a more cordial union among the members of the Cabinet so that State affairs might become the object of harmonious official exertions. Boku was much incensed by this suggestion. He declared that he should resign alone if his advice were disregarded by his colleagues. The latter then held a long deliberation and at last decided to adopt the proposal of Boku and tender their resignations next day. Greatly surprised by that intelligence, the King at once sent for Count Inouye, who came next day and earnestly advised the Sovereign to reject such an unreasonable resignation. The members of the Cabinet were therefore rebuked by both the King and the Count for their hasty conduct and were obliged to withdraw their resignations. Alone the strong-minded Minister of the Treasury could not be so easily pacified. He persisted in his resolve to be relieved from his present post, and submitted his resignation on the day following the combined rebukes from the King and the Count. It is not thought probable, however, that his wish will be granted. Thus has ended, for the time at least, the latest crisis in the Korean Cabinet. Boku appears to have been solely responsible for the incident. It was owing to the machinations of the faction led by him, with the view of ousting their rivals and taking upon themselves the control of the administration of the country, for they knew well enough that any cabinet formed after the dissolution of that now in office could be constructed only out of material such as would enable them to secure all the important administrative posts for their own adherents. It was an old-fashioned and contemptible artifice, and the rumour subsequently circulated about a contemplated attempt on the life of Boku was worthy of a place in the general programme. On the evening of the 12th instant, Sōul was startled by a story that a plot had been set on foot against the life of Boku, that it had been detected through the confession of one of the accomplices, and that two of the conspirators had been arrested. All the correspondents of the Tokyo papers agree in regarding the rumour as a fabrication of Boku's faction, which sought by that unmanly artifice, to discredit the rival party and enlist popular favour on their own behalf. The resolution of the Minister of the Treasury to resign his seat is ascribable to a creditable motive. His post is the most onerous of all at present, for entrusted with the key of the empty money box of the Korean Government, he is constantly harassed by unjust demands from his colleagues, especially Boku and his followers, to disburse outlays necessary for the prosecution of reforms in the various Departments of State. No wonder that he is bitter against his enemies. He used to be commonly regarded as a sort of incorrigible conservative, but that is no longer true of him. His views have become greatly enlightened, and he now represents exactly the type of man requisite for the welfare of Korea. Made of sterling stuff, when once the rust is polished away from his mind Boku and all his followers can not hold their ground against him for even a day. He is such a conspicuous figure in the Cabinet of Sōul, that his services can not be dispensed with. It now rests with Count Inouye to settle the affair, and he has already applied himself to do so. He has sternly repressed the disreputable confusion in the Cabinet, but the result is simply patch-work. Some radical measures must be employed to root out the prime cause of these incessant troubles. Thinking that to hear from each Minister independently what he has to say will not lay bare the root of the matter, the Count has decided to invite all the Cabinet Ministers to the Legation and request them to state their opinions in one another's presence, after which a decisive step will be taken. The discussion was to commence on the afternoon of the 15th instant. Something must therefore have been accomplished by this time. Count Inouye is the iron band that holds Korean politics together. Without him disintegration would soon ensue.

COUNT OKUMA ON THE FINANCIAL PROBLEM OF THE DAY.

The vernacular press gives a long account of certain remarks said to have been made by Count Okuma the other day to visitors that questioned him on the financial problem of the day. It is needless to say, the "Oracle of Waseda" observed, that though the Government has obtained authority to raise a War Fund of 150 million *yen*, an additional loan will have to be similarly floated should the prolongation of the war dictate such a step. Moreover, the money that will be required subsequently to the termination of the war for purposes of defence, of administration, and of various industrial or commercial enterprises, must be immense. The Count does not share the opinion advanced by many persons that the territorial acquisitions resulting from the war will be self-supporting, at least for a considerable time. There will be many costly undertakings that Japan must put her hand to for the defence and development of these new regions. Formosa, perhaps, supposing the island to be ceded to Japan, may yield revenue sufficient to cover the expenses connected with it, but that can not be said of the far colder districts of Manchuria. Japan must therefore be prepared to defray in future more than 30 to 40 million *yen* a year out of the Treasury. This additional outlay may be procured either by levying new taxes or increasing the rate of the old taxes. Various considerations, however, indicate that, even if fresh burdens have to be imposed upon the people on that account, they will not last long. In the first place, there is an indemnity to be exacted from China. Little as she seems to appreciate the responsibilities of war, she must at least be prepared to pay a certain sum by way of war indemnity, and that sum naturally becomes larger in proportion as victory is added to victory. Count Okuma considers that it will not be unreasonable to demand an indemnity of a thousand million *yen* should the closing scene of the war be the capture of Peking. Of course it would be impossible for China to pay at once an amount exceeding, say, 100 million *yen*. The remaining 900 millions will have to be received in the form of yearly installments. In the meanwhile, interest at the rate of at least 5 per cent. should be levied upon the unpaid amount. Thus the Japanese Government will be in a position to receive the sum of 45 million *yen* every year by way of interest on the war indemnity. Naturally, in order to secure the regular payment of that sum, Japan must demand suitable guarantees of good faith, as, for instance, the Mint and the Customs. These may already be hypothecated to other countries, but they can be used for purposes of further hypothecation. Such an arrangement having been effected, China's energies would be entirely absorbed in the effort of paying the annual interest of 45 million *yen*. She would have no surplus resources to pay the principal or to develop her military equipment, so that she would be reduced to a sort of vassal of Japan offering annual tribute of 45 million *yen*. It will thus be seen that even if the whole amount of the indemnity can not be obtained at once from China, the interest that she must pay would be sufficient to cover the increased outlay imposed upon the Treasury in the sequel of the war. Yet another important resource has to be taken into consideration in this context. It is the increased receipts of the Japanese Customs. Count Okuma is of opinion that, partly by raising the rates of duties, and partly by the development of new resources both in the acquired territories and in the old, the Customs receipts, now amounting to 7 million *yen* a year, may be increased to as much as 30 or 40 millions at no distant date. Hence he concludes that the future of the country is as bright as possible, that the war must be prosecuted with vigour, and that the original purpose of chastising the arrogant and supercilious attitude of China must be accomplished promptly. The funds necessary for achieving that object must be at once obtained, by the process either of a domestic or of a foreign loan. Energy and vigour are all the more necessary inasmuch as the diplomatic intervention of foreign Powers may be provoked at any moment.

THE METHODS OF THE CHINESE ENVOYS.

When the Chinese Envoys, after the Japanese Plenipotentiaries' formal refusal to continue the negotiation, attempted to obtain the reception of another despatch and had it returned to them forthwith, the bearer was Mr. Nakada, Private Secretary of the Minister of State for Foreign Affairs. He was instructed to hand to the Envoys the following note :—

I have the honour to state that the ambassadorial capacity of their Excellencies Chang Yin Wan and Shao Yiulian having ceased to be recognisable simultaneously with the breaking off of the negotiation, their Excellencies Count Ito and Viscount Mutsu are precluded from holding any communication with their Excellencies Chang and Shao. I am therefore instructed by their Excellencies the Minister President of State and the Minister of State for Foreign Affairs to return the accompanying despatch to their Excellencies Chang and Shao.

(Signed) NAKADA KEIJI, &c.

To Their Excellencies, &c.

Now when the Chinese published a part of the official correspondence, the despatch returned to them by Mr. Nakada, why did they not publish the above letter? If the former belonged properly to the correspondence, so did the latter. We can only say that the conduct of the Envoys in this matter indicates that the Japanese were well advised when they treated them with the utmost circumspection.

DEPARTURE OF THE ITALIAN MINISTER.

His Excellency the Italian Minister and Madame and Mademoiselle de Martino left Tokyo yesterday by the 9.55 train. Their departure had been originally fixed for the 25th at 11.45 a.m., but owing to a change in the sailing of the *Nürnberg*, in which they embark at Kobe, their start from Tokyo was suddenly altered to the night of the 24th. Despite this unexpected change of plan, which must have remained unknown to many, the station was crowded with people to say farewell. Representatives of the Emperor and Empress, nearly all the Ministers of State present in Tokyo, several Vice-Ministers, Viscountess Mutsu, Countess Kuroda, Viscountess Hijikata, Ladies of the Court, the foreign Representatives, the majority of the foreign residents of Tokyo, and a large number of Japanese, official and private, assembled and took leave of the departing Minister and his family with genuine expressions of sorrow. They were accompanied to Kyoto by H.E.M. Hitrovo, the Russian Representative, by Count Quadt, Secretary of the German Legation, who goes to Europe on four months' leave, and by Mr. Braccialini. The party will spend two days in Kyoto. The great popularity of the departing Minister and his family was shown by the size of the gathering and the genuinely cordial character of the farewells.

THE "SIKH" AGROUND.

The Northern Pacific steamer *Sikh*, Captain Rowley, drifted ashore on the Kanagawa side of the Harbour on Sunday during the heavy W.S.W. gale. The steamer was about leaving for Kobe when the accident occurred. It appears that orders were given from the bridge to weigh anchor between 5 and 6 o'clock, at a time when the gale was blowing its hardest. The crew broke the port anchor, and 90 fathoms of the starboard chain were let out. Just then a gust caught the vessel and she drifted towards the mud. Within a minute the *Sikh's* heel touched the ground and the vessel swung further on with every succeeding blast. At 7.30 this morning the *Sikh* was still aground despite the exertions of Captain Martin and the N.Y.K. people, who worked hard yesterday to float her. She is fortunately on soft mud and no damage to the vessel need be feared.

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SOME POINTS IN THE STORY OF TREATY REVISION.

THE publication of the Blue Book containing the history of the Treaty Revision negotiations between Great Britain and Japan ought to suggest to some of the new Treaty's most violent critics that their position would now be better had they exercised a little more caution, or possessed a little more knowledge, before setting out to denounce the statesmen that negotiated the arrangement. The great majority of the foreign residents in Japan being Conservatives, their sympathy may always be counted on when an assault is made upon the Liberals. It was a Liberal Cabinet that concluded the Treaty, and thus a doubly denounceable result was achieved, the so-called "surrender of British rights" having been made by the cordially hated Radicals. There arose, therefore, a perfect storm of invective against the ill-fated Premier and Foreign Secretary. Lords ROSEBERY and KIMBERLEY were written of as though they lacked the very elements of statesmanship, and had betrayed their country in a manner painfully suggestive of national decadence and humiliation. Every penny-a-liner became entitled to point his shaft at these wretched incompetents, and a general sigh went up for the strong-backed Conservative Ministers, in whose hands the interests of the "*civis Romanus*" would never have been so shamefully sacrificed. But now comes inexorable history in the form of a Blue Book—the Blue Book that never lies—and it tells us that this abominable surrender of our rights, this heartless transfer of our persons and properties to the care of a nation with intolerable pretensions, was not, after all, the work of their Lordships ROSEBERY and KIMBERLEY, but the contrivance of the great Marquis of SALISBURY. The Liberal Cabinet of Lord ROSEBERY merely took up the question as it had been left by the Conservative Cabinet of Lord SALISBURY. There is nothing obscure about the history of the sequence of events. After the abrupt termination of the negotiations with Great Britain at the close of 1889—when Count OKUMA nearly lost his life at the hands of an assassin—it was by the Government of HER MAJESTY that the desirability of pushing on the matter was urged. Mr. FRASER, writing to the Marquis of SALISBURY on December 28th, 1890, said:—"Having received two telegraphic despatches from your Lordship since Count OKUMA'S disablement, evincing a desire that I should hasten the conclusion of the revised Convention with Japan, I thought it right * * * to apply to Prince SANJO, the Prime Minister, for an interview." The interview did not take place owing to Prince SANJO'S resignation, but, three days later, Mr. FRASER met the new Minister for Foreign Affairs, Viscount AOKI, and learned from him that the course of events in Japan had compelled the Japanese Government to ask for certain amendments of the proposals previously submitted by them. These amendments were of such a character that Mr. FRASER felt compelled to submit them for the consideration of the British Government, together with an expression of the Japanese Government's "anxious desire to preserve what had already been accomplished in the direction of Treaty Revision at the cost of so much time and enlightened labour." Lord SALISBURY, in his reply, dated June 5th, 1890, said:—

> Her Majesty's Government agree with the Japanese Government in deprecating the abandonment or indefinite postponement of the results which have been obtained by the negotiations of the past year, and they see no reason for such a sacrifice. They would propose that a Treaty should at once be signed, containing all those provisions on which the British and Japanese negotiators have already been able to come to an agreement, and that by a Protocol to be signed at the same time, the extension of Japanese jurisdiction over British subjects, and all those concessions which the Japanese Government make dependent upon it, should be postponed for a period of not less than five years, and until the new Courts and Codes have been in operation for at least twelve months, the Japanese Government engaging in the meanwhile to give full facilities to British subjects to travel in the interior with passports, but not to reside or trade there.

Here, then, suggested by the Marquis of SALISBURY himself, is the very arrangement that formed the basis of the recently concluded Treaty. His Excellency, simultaneously with the sending of the despatch from which the above extract is taken, forwarded a draft of the Treaty proposed by him. We take from the Protocol the clause relating to Jurisdiction:—

> It is agreed between the two Governments that the Consular Jurisdiction exercised by Great Britain over her subjects in Japan shall continue to be exercised for a minimum period of five years; that if, at the expiration of that period, the Japanese Codes and Laws now in process of elaboration, shall have been promulgated and shall have been in actual operation for a continuous term of twelve months, the Consular Jurisdiction of Great Britain in Japan shall thereupon cease to be exercised, but that otherwise the said jurisdiction shall continue until the aforesaid continuous term of twelve months during which the Codes shall have been in actual operation shall have elapsed.

It should be noted, to avoid all misconception, that while the draft was *en route* for Japan by the ordinary mail steamers, Lord SALISBURY telegraphically directed Mr. FRASER to alter the language of the above protocol so as to read, "have been in actual and satisfactory operation for a continuous term of twelve months." Evidently, however, the word "satisfactory" could never have been retained, nor could its retention ever have been seriously contemplated, since it would have appointed the British Government sole and perpetual arbiter of the situation. Japan, in fact, had she accepted such a condition, would have conventionally invested Great Britain with absolute and interminable power to maintain or abolish Consular Jurisdiction at will. Lord SALISBURY certainly did not intend anything of that kind. His proposal was, in effect, precisely the basis of the Treaty concluded four years later by Lord ROSEBERY. The denouncers of the British negotiators thus find that their sweeping condemnations apply to all the statesmen of their country, without distinction of political party or creed.

Another point is brought into prominent notice at this stage of the record. Lord SALISBURY'S draft Treaty, received in Japan on July 14th, 1890, was at once submitted by Mr. FRASER to the Japanese Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, Viscount AOKI. But "the summer vacation was then just about to begin"—we quote from Mr. FRASER'S despatch to Lord SALISBURY—"and, therefore, Viscount AOKI, both on this account and because of the delay likely to result from the necessity of translating the papers and bringing all of his colleagues into agreement upon every point, explained that some time must inevitably elapse before he could give an official reply from the Government collectively." Some time—two months—did in fact elapse, for not until September 12th did Viscount AOKI address to Mr. FRASER a despatch in definite reply to the latter's communication of July 15th. The despatch said:—"I hastened to lay your Excellency's note, and its accompaniments, namely, the copy of a despatch from the Marquis of SALISBURY to your Excellency, and its inclosures, a draft Treaty and a draft Protocol, before the Government of HIS MAJESTY the EMPEROR; and I am happy to be able to acquaint your Excellency that the Imperial Government, without pausing to discuss antecedent negotiations, accept as a basis for future negotiations the proposals of HER BRITANNIC MAJESTY'S Government embodied in the two drafts above alluded to. The Imperial Government, however, find it necessary to ask for the introduction into the scheme of a few modifications, but considering the unimportant nature of nearly all the desired changes, I cannot permit myself to believe that the suggestions of HIS IMPERIAL MAJESTY'S Government will in the least interfere with the speedy and satisfactory adjustment of the question."

Thus, on September 12th, 1890, the situation was this:—The Japanese Government had declared its readiness to accept as a basis of negotiation a Treaty drafted by the British Foreign Office in June, which draft Treaty provided, with regard to jurisdiction, that the Consular system should continue in force for at least five years, and should not be abolished until the whole of the new Japanese codes and laws had been in actual and satisfactory operation for a continuous term of twelve months; and that, pending its abolition, and the simultaneous opening of the country, the passport system should be extended so as to allow British subjects to visit any part of the country for a period not exceeding 12 months.

Now, on September 6th, there was circulated in Yokohama a notice inviting

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the foreign residents to attend a meeting for the purpose of considering the question of Treaty Revision, and at that meeting, held on September 11th, the chief mover in the whole affair was put up to explain why the meeting had been convened. This is what he said :—

You will recollect that in the year 1887 the first proposals came forward from the Japanese Government in regard to treaty revision, and it was then suggested that a large number of foreign experts should be added to the Japanese Bench in order to protect our interests. I am sorry myself that those negotiations proved a failure. In 1889 the question was again taken up and the proposal then was to appoint only four foreign judges in the Court of Appeal. These propositions found favour with certain of the Treaty Powers, but it was always understood—I think it may be said to be a fact—that our representative at home, Lord Salisbury, Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, was of opinion, which opinion he expressed to the Japanese Government through the proper channels, that he did not consider that to be a sufficient safeguard for the protection of our interests. For that reason it is that the British portion of the community, at all events, has hitherto maintained a distinct silence, because up to the present moment we have always been of opinion—and I think with great reason—that our interests were being protected in the manner in which we wished them to be protected. Lately, however, it has come to the knowledge of some of us that there is imminent danger of that policy being reversed—in other words, that the proposals now put forward by the Japanese Government are to this effect: that outside what are known as treaty limits foreigners shall immediately become subject to the jurisdiction of the Japanese tribunals, and that after a period of five years all foreigners, whether within what are known as the Concessions or whether in the interior, shall become subject to Japanese jurisdiction, and that without any conditions at all. It is that information—the origin of which, as you have already heard, may not be divulged, but which comes, I may inform you, from a source which convinces my mind of the truth of the fact that there is danger, and imminent danger, of these proposals being agreed to—it is this that called the British section of the community together and gave rise to the advertisement you have seen in the newspapers.

Thus the community of Yokohama now learns, on the authority of official documents, that the demonstration made by it on the 11th of September, 1890, was initiated and instigated by men utterly ignorant of the facts of the situation. It was initiated and instigated, and the resolutions submitted for its adoption were based, on the explicit grounds that the Japanese Government had put forward proposals, first, that all foreigners outside Treaty Limits should at once become subject to the jurisdiction of Japanese tribunals; and secondly, that after the expiration of five years foreigners in Japan, whether inside or outside the Concessions, should become subject to Japanese jurisdiction, without any conditions at all; and that there was imminent danger of the British Government's reversing their policy and agreeing to these proposals. But the truth was that the idea of immediately bringing under Japanese Jurisdiction foreigners outside Treaty Limits did not find any place in the basis submitted by the British Government, and then on the eve of endorsement by the Japanese that, so far from the British Government's being on the point of reversing their policy and accepting the proposals of Japan, they were actually waiting for Japan to accept or reject, as a basis of negotiation, proposals drafted by Lord SALISBURY himself, and that those proposals, so far from contemplating the transfer of British subjects to Japanese jurisdiction at the expiration of 5 years, without any conditions at all, were framed in the sense of preserving Consular Jurisdiction for at least five years, and not abolishing it until an important condition had been satisfied, namely, the actual and satisfactory operation of all the Japanese Codes during a continuous period of twelve months previously.

Having seen how grossly and unfortunately the foreign community was misled on that occasion, we next turn to the question, what influence did the meeting of September 11th exercise in deferring Treaty Revision. Throughout the whole of the Blue Book now before us there is not a solitary reference to the meeting. On July 15th, as we have seen, Lord SALISBURY'S proposals were submitted to the Japanese Foreign Office. On September 11th, the Yokohama meeting was held. On September 12th, Viscount AOKI intimated Japan's acceptance of Lord SALISBURY'S proposals as a basis. On November 10th, Mr. FRASER reported that delay was caused on the Japanese side by the necessity of "collecting opinions not only from the members of the Cabinet, but also from persons of influence outside it." On November 21st, Mr. FRASER again reported that, having waited on Viscount AOKI "in order to ask when I might look for an invitation on the part of the Japanese Plenipotentiaries to meet them and begin the negotiation," he was told that the Japanese Cabinet "thought it would be unwise to begin to negotiate until the meeting of Parliament took place and the Minister for Foreign Affairs had had time to make a statement to the Diet on the subject." On January 28th, 1891, Mr. FRASER reported that, "a few days previously, he pressed Viscount AOKI to begin the formal conference as soon as possible." On May 4th, he reported that "a Cabinet crisis had been brought about chiefly, if not entirely, by the appearance of fresh difficulties in the matter of Treaty Revision." On June 9th, after a change of Cabinet, he reported:—"Your Lordship's proposals have been formally accepted once as a basis of negotiation, and it rests with the Japanese Ministers to take the next step at their leisure." On January 20th, 1892, he reported that, the then Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, having again re-opened the question, "I assured his Excellency of my own entire willingness to proceed at once with the negotiation on such lines as had been prescribed to me." It was thus all through. From the beginning of 1890 until the final re-opening of negotiations in London at the close of 1893, the British Government, through its Representative in Tokyo, were constantly intimating their readiness to proceed and even urging the Japanese Government to go on, whereas the latter, for reasons of domestic policy, were holding back. Not for so much as a day was the course of events impeded by the Yokohama meeting of September 11th, 1890. The fact is interesting, in view of the frequently advanced assertions that the negotiations were suspended in consequence of that meeting. Still more interesting is the question, why did the meeting prove so signally abortive? The answer, we think, is plain. There were two reasons: first, because it was evident that the meeting had been got up by agitators entirely ignorant of the subject, and that its procedure had been dictated by their misconceptions; secondly, because its resolutions, based on ignorance, were so clumsily framed that to endorse them was to banish Treaty Revision for an indefinite period from the field of practical politics. Naturally the disposition of the HER MAJESTY'S Government would be to attach great weight to a protest formulated soberly, framed intelligently, indicating a due acquaintance with facts, and unanimously voted. But to a protest founded on ignorance, instigated by misapprehension, and framed so as to be irrationally obstructive, no British Government would be likely to attach any moment.

DEPARTURE OF THE ITALIAN REPRESENTATIVE.

DURING the past three weeks, Tokyo Society has devoted itself to the unwelcome task of saying farewell to his Excellency the Chevalier DE MARTINO and his family. Throughout a residence of ten years' duration in Japan, M. DE MARTINO has shown himself uniformly sympathetic with the aspirations of this empire, and his estimate of the qualities of the Japanese nation, maintained steadily through good report and evil report, has been amply justified by events. Italy's material interests in Japan are not large, but owing to the very exceptional ability and tact of such a Representative, her influence has always been great, and we can say with assurance that its exercise in M. DE MARTINO'S hands has invariably been regulated by the highest principles of justice and friendship. The departing Minister is not only a diplomatist of long experience and perfect skill, but also a jurisconsult of high training and keen insight. His conception of the functions devolving upon a Minister charged with the guardianship of his nationals' interests, has not been confined within the narrow limits of protest or demand, but has extended to the cultivation of such genuinely friendly relations with the Power to which he was accredited that a favourable reception was always secured for his representations. Throughout the long and tedious progress of the Treaty Revision negotiations, with their many baffling and unlooked for developments,

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the Italian Minister's attitude remained uniformly sagacious and temperate, and we shall certainly not be over-stating the fact if we say that his counsels possessed the high value at which they were esteemed by the Japanese Government. His departure from Japan is understood to be an incident of the scheme of financial retrenchment imposed upon Italy by the weight of her military burdens. Whatever be the amount of the economy effected, thoughtful persons can scarcely endorse the wisdom of removing from the East, at such a crisis as the present, a man of M. DE MARTINO'S proved ability and established influence. Speaking in a private capacity, we may be permitted to say that all nationalities in Tokyo will keenly feel the loss of one so genial and so gifted, and that society can not hope to find anything to replace the delightful companionship and graceful hospitality of Madame and Mademoiselle DE MARTINO.

ANOTHER DOCUMENT RELATING TO THE PEACE NEGOTIATIONS.

THE Chinese Envoys recently accredited to Japan to sue for peace, have caused to be published in Shanghai a document purporting to have been omitted from the official communications that passed between the Plenipotentiaries of the two Powers in Hiroshima. Here is the document :—

TO THE PLENIPOTENTIARIES OF HIS MAJESTY THE EMPEROR OF JAPAN:

EXCELLENCIES,—In the conference held with Your Excellencies to day, after listening to the speech of His Excellency Count Ito, of which a copy was handed to us and a memorandum setting forth the reasons why negotiations for peace were terminated, Your Excellencies took leave of us, with the information that arrangement would be made for our early transportation from your country.

Before our departure we deem it our duty to our Government and to ourselves that we should leave with Your Excellencies the following statement. The commission which we handed you in our conference of yesterday, as we have fully explained, does confer upon us full powers to negotiate a treaty, and we have stated to Your Excellencies that we were prepared to sign with you a treaty of peace, if our negotiations should reach a satisfactory conclusion. This is confirmed in the most solemn and authoritative manner in the letter of our August Sovereign addressed to His Imperial Majesty the Emperor of Japan, which we exhibited to you in our first conference and which we solicited the privilege of delivering to His Imperial Majesty, but which request Your Excellencies declined to grant. A translation of that letter accompanies this communication.

We cannot agree with Your Excellencies that the instructions in our commission to wire for Imperial sanction the result of our negotiation in any way impairs or modifies our powers to sign a treaty. As we have already stated to you, its object was to insure the more prompt ratification and execution of the treaty when signed.

That our interpretation of our power is supported by our Government is proved by the fact that at the request of your Government the United States Minister at Peking received from the Tsung-li Yamên an assurance that we were clothed with full powers to negotiate and sign a treaty of peace. Besides, we offered in our conference to-day to have any technical defects which you thought existed in our commission corrected by telegraph.

The commission which we submitted to you is similar in form to those with which His Imperial Majesty the Emperor of China has been accustomed to invest His Penipotentiaries when despatched to other lands for the negotiation of treaties, and so far as we are aware this is the first instance such credentials have been rejected.

Ours is a mission of peace and it does not become us at this time to discuss the unfriendly allusions contained in the speech respecting the Government of China. We need only express our deep regret that the earnest efforts which we have put forth to carry out the wishes of our August Sovereign for a speedy and satisfactory termination of the war which now distracts the two neighbouring nations have proven fruitless.

We cannot, however, close this communication without expressing our surprise at the manner in which we have been deprived of the customary privileges of Plenipotentiaries on a mission of peace. We have been informed by Count Ito that telegraphic communications in cipher with our Government would not be permitted, and we have been notified by an official of the Japanese Foreign Office that a cipher telegram addressed to us has been received but that it could not be delivered until we furnish the private code of our Government for its translation. Before our departure from Peking we were assured by the Minister of the United States in that capital that we would be permitted in accordance with international practice, to freely communicate in cipher with our Government by telegraph.

We conclude with the expression of our thanks for the trouble the Japanese Government has taken in bringing us to this city and for its hospitable entertainment while here, and with assurances to Your Excellencies of our distinguished consideration.

(Signed.) { CHANG. SHAO.

The above is undoubtedly a despatch of considerable importance. Had it, as alleged, formed a part of the official correspondence between the Plenipotentiaries of the two Powers, then the failure of the Japanese Government to include it among the documents submitted to the Imperial Diet and purporting to represent that correspondence, would have been emphatically an act of bad faith. It is not at all probable that any thoughtful person will be disposed to suspect the Japanese Government of such insincerity —clumsy insincerity we may add, for assuredly the despatch, though suppressed at this end, must very speedily have found its way to the public through Chinese channels. Still since the Chinese Envoys have caused the document to be published, our readers will doubtless be interested to learn the facts of the case.

The conference held at Hiroshima came definitely to an end on February 2nd. The Japanese Plenipotentiaries, having explained that the insufficiency of the powers carried by the Chinese, made it impossible to discuss terms of peace with them, then made this formal declaration :—

Under these circumstances, it only remains for the Plenipotentiaries of His Majesty the Emperor of Japan, to declare the present negotiation at an end.

Thus the negotiation was formally concluded, and all further interchange of communications became impossible. Nevertheless, on the 3rd of February—that is to say, on the day after official termination of the negotiations—the Chinese Envoys addressed to the Japanese Plenipontiaries the despatch reproduced above. It was immediately returned with an explanation that the negotiation having been publicly and finally closed owing to the incapacity of the Chinese Envoys, no communication could be received from them. Obviously the Japanese Plenipotentiaries, having found that the Chinese Envoys were not properly accredited, and having, on that ground, refused to confer with them, were effectually precluded from receiving their despatches. Yet the Chinese Envoys have published the despatch thus returned to them; have pretended that it formed part of the official correspondence; have made no allusion whatever to the fact of its immediate return, and have inferentially accused the Japanese Government of repressing it, with intent to mislead the public. We presume that the only comment necessary is, these are Chinese methods.

Since, however, the despatch has appeared and been commented on after the invariable fashion of the local foreign press, that is to say, in a sense strongly unfavourable to Japan and palpably unjust, a few remarks on its contents may be advisable.

The first allegation contained in the despatch is that the commission carried by the Chinese Envoys "did confer on them full powers to negotiate a treaty." As to that, discussion is unnecessary. A copy of the commission has been published and not so much as one jurisconsult or diplomatist has been found to assert its sufficiency. It delegated to the Envoys the functions of mere telegraphic clerks, unauthorized to conclude any treaty. They allege, however, that such a form of commission has been habitually employed by the Emperor of CHINA, and that they knew of no instance in which it had been rejected as insufficient. Their ignorance of their own country's history is remarkable. In 1858 the Emperor of CHINA appointed a Commissioner to treat with Lord ELGIN. Here is the first paragraph of a despatch addressed by Lord ELGIN to the Commissioner, under date of May 6th, 1858 :—

The Undersigned has already apprised the Imperial Commissioner Tau that the letter addressed by him to the Undersigned on the 30th of April was entirely unsatisfactory. Holding, as he does, from Her Majesty the Queen of Great Britain Plenipotentiary Powers, he cannot consent to treat with a Representative of the Emperor of China who is only authorized "to enter on negotiations to report to the Throne, and to request instructions as to the course he is to pursue."

The above case is precisely parallel with that of the recent Envoys. The Commission said :—"You will, however, telegraph to the Tsung-li Yamên for the purpose of obtaining Our commands by which you will abide." Lord ELGIN, then, encountered precisely the same difficulty and dealt with it in precisely the same manner as did the Japanese Plenipotentiaries at Hiroshima.

It is not even correct to say, as the Chinese Envoys say, that their defective Commission was of the form customarily employed by Chinese EMPEROR. For in 1858 Lord ELGIN was able to inform Commissioner TAU that he "allowed him six days to procure from Pekin powers exactly similar to those granted by the late Emperor [illegible] to

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KIYING and ILIPOO, when they negotiated a treaty with a Sir H. POTTINGER in 1842." Fifty-three years ago the Chinese Government knew what full powers signified and were not unwilling to confer them. Thirty-seven years ago they failed to induce a British Plenipotentiary to negotiate with their Envoy because his commission was couched in language precisely similar to that of the Envoys recently sent to Hiroshima. Yet these Envoys now gravely affirm that such a commission as they carried was of the habitual form, conferred full powers, and had never been rejected on any previous occasion.

A further claim made by them is that they offered to have any technical defects in their Commission corrected by telegraph. Such an offer was sufficient to stamp the farcical charcter of their procedure. No Government in the world would recognise telegraphic credentials under such circumstances, and no competent plenipotentiaries would seriously make such a proposal.

Yet another agument employed by them to bolster up their strange case is that, at the request of the Japanese Government, "the United States Minister in Pekin received from the Tsung-li Yamên an assurance that they were clothed with full powers to negotiate and sign a treaty of peace." The United States Minister in Pekin, if he received any such assurance, accepted it in the belief that the Envoy's Commission had been drafted in accordance with a proper form then in the possession of the Yamên. But no such form was used. Unfortunately for China, her reputation in these matters is very bad. Japan herself has had costly experience of her-ill faith in the matter of credentials. No Government is less qualified than that of Pekin to invite confidence by vicarious guarantees, or to ask for international trust on the strength of a telegram.

The despatch contains a complaint that the Envoys were not permitted to hand to the Emperor of JAPAN an autograph letter from their own SOVEREIGN. Such a complaint serves merely to betray their ignorance of international usages. Audience in granted by a SOVEREIGN to the representative of a friendly Power in times of peace. It is not granted to the envoys of a hostile Power in time of war.

In one point only the Chinese Envoys have apparent cause for complaint: the telegraph was closed to them for cipher messages. But that prohibition was limited to the period pending their recognition as duly accredited Plenipotentiaries. Had their credentials been found satisfactory, and had the negotiation commenced, they would have been free to employ the telegraph for the transmission of messages in any form. We ourselves think that the privilege might have been safely granted from the very outset. But the Japanese thought differently, and it must be remembered that before the Envoys reached Hiroshima, the signally inadequate nature of their credentials was known to the Japanese Government. That fact, supplemented by the dilatory method of their procedure, deprived their mission of any semblance of earnestness. Hence the refusal to let them send cipher messages over the wires until the *bonâ fides* of their mission was established.

THE HEIRLOOMS OF THE TEMPLES AND SHRINES.

THE step just taken by the Imperial Household Department with regard to the conservation of the various art objects kept in the Temples and Shrines has often been urged in these columns, and is to be regarded, we think, with approval. It used always to be the custom in Japan for noble families to present rich and valuable objects, from time to time, to the temples and shrines where their burying places existed, and in that way great quantities of art treasures came into the keeping of the religious fraternities. No temple, however humble, was without its "*Homotsu*," and by degrees it became customary to exhibit these to the gaze of worshippers on fête days, a habit that naturally tended to increase the store by provoking emulation among the donors. Partly in accordance with certain rules of distribution, and partly owing to specification made by the givers, a distinction existed as to the ownership of these objects, some being regarded as the property of the temples and some as that of the priests themselves. We speak here of temples, that is to say, of Buddhist edifices of worship, because, owing to the gorgeousness of its ceremonies and paraphernalia as well as to the refinement and learning of its priests, Buddhism in Japan has always been intimately associated with the development of science and art, whereas Shinto has been a mere cult, never identifying itself with intellectual progress. Hence the Buddhist temples became the chief repositories of the art objects now occupying our attention, only a comparatively insignificant portion falling to the share of the Shinto shrines. These various places of worship were richly endowed with lands in feudal times, but at the Restoration the Government resumed possession of all domains lying outside the actual enclosures of the temples and shrines, so that there remained on the religious establishment a total of only some 2 million acres of land. Deprived thus suddenly of one of their principal sources of revenue, the priests resorted largely to the expedient of selling the objects of art in their keeping. Not always restricting themselves to articles of personal property, which, of course, they were entitled to deal with at pleasure, they made incursions into the treasures of the temples also. It is impossible to form a definite conjecture as to the quantity of heirlooms thus disposed of, but as the greater part of them went abroad, the loss to Japan was irreparable. After some years the Government was induced to interfere. A Committee of experts was appointed to visit the temples, make careful inspection of their heirlooms, and compile a descriptive catalogue. The theory set up was that every article included in the catalogue must be recognized as State property, held by the temples on trust, and never sold or otherwise alienated. But the efficiency of such a system obviously depended on the possibility of afterwards identifying the objects catalogued. "Landscape by SESSHIU," "Rishi by CHODENSU," "Writing Box by HARITSU," "Vase by NINSEI"—these, though sufficiently explicit entries from the art cataloguer's point of view, were plainly insufficient to enable a subsequent inspector, unless he were an expert, to determine whether certain objects shown to him as the originals of the catalogue were really the originals or merely copies made to replace them. In many cases, it is said, the priests took advantage of the opportunity thus offered. The tale of catalogued articles remained always complete, but the articles themselves gradually underwent transformation, skilful but valueless forgeries being substituted for valuable originals. The Government, of course, understood before long that frauds of that kind were being perpetrated. But how to stop them? Evidently the most efficacious plan would be to collect all the temple treasure into a State museum. In favour of such a project there was the obvious consideration that, so long on these treasures remained scattered in petty groups among a multitude of temples and shrines throughout the country, they were practically inaccessible to artists, students, and virtuosi, for though periodically exhibited to public gaze, and generally visible to visitors prepared to pay for the privilege of seeing them, they existed in a sort of clandestine manner and could never be comprehensively studied. Japan, too, was without any national museum. She had acquired a high artistic reputation in Europe and America, but in order to obtain a general idea of the products of her celebrated art, it was necessary to go to London, Paris, or New York, where fine public and private collections existed. Tourists visiting Japan itself, were astonished to find that they could see there nothing comparable with the specimens by which their fancy had been captivated at home. That anomalous state of affairs could best be remedied by bringing together the temple treasures into one or two museums. A difficulty had to be overcome, however. The temples were no longer allowed, it is true, to sell the art objects in their keeping, but they were allowed to exhibit them, and to deprive them of that privilege would be to reduce their already [illegible] of income. The

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thorities are said to have now surunted that objection by providing that net takings of the museums shall be ided over to the temples and shrines, ccordance with a proportion fixed by sifying the articles in order of merit. museums chosen as repositories of treasures are Kyoto and Nara—why yo is omitted we can not tell—and it rranged that a minimum annual sum ,000 *yen* shall be available from each sum for distribution among the temples which the objects are sent, the nt, if any, by which the receipts fall of that sum being made up from the s of the museums. There are 193,242 es and 72,154 temples in Japan, but many of them are in a position to ibute objects of art for exhibition ses, we have no information. Under ircumstances, however, it seems that generous terms might have been ged. There can scarcely be any doubt he net receipts from the sale of s at the two museum will exceed *yen* annually. The museums, therefill incur no outlay. On the consince their running expenses are deducted from the receipts before anything to the temples, and since ssession of the latter's treasures ure a large access of visitors, the ll be all on the side of the museums, would seem fairer that not only the ings from the sale of tickets but independent annual allowance e made to the temples from the funds. However, the main point ow, at last, the art treasures scatroughout the empire and virtually ible, are to be brought together, anged, and disposed so as to e collections really illustrative istory of Japan's art. It is a r sincere congratulation.

CORRESPONDENCE.

must distinctly understand that we are in on sible for the sentients or opinions of our corre- for the accuracy of their assertions, or for the hey may choose to draw therefrom.]

CHRISTIAN WORKERS FOR THE ARMY.

T EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

ave received a circular this morning nations to further the work "of a Japanese evangelists who go to the ristian workers for the Army." I t it is assumed that all those to whom is sent will consider that the work will inure to the benefit of those who ithin its influence, and that therefore tribute to the fund desired to be spent ention thereof. That the amount l be forthcoming there is no doubt. ho think there is but one road in the hereafter, among the many ays that are pointed out to men the many sects of religionists who y one of them, to know that the vel is the only one that leads direct of that paradise that they picture to the end and be all of existence, will ir mite. The Christian missionary enthusiast gives over the souls of all do not embrace and profess the belief ist is the only mediator between God and mankind to eternal torment in the Christian's hell; that is their occupation, they boost into heaven and they thrust into hell as men come up to their dogmas of Christian faith. They are the self-constituted saviours of men's souls. The men who are now fighting the battle that is advancing and uplifting the glory of the Empire of Japan are following the teachings of those whom their fathers followed. They are imbued with the faith that the countless millions who have preceded them to the unknown realms to which the dead may go, held while yet they lived and walked the earth; they are on the road their fathers and mothers trod; they are possessed of a loyalty and devotion to their country and its institutions of the most lofty character; they have as much morality in their everyday life as the Christian has developed, virtue for virtue, vice for vice,—the armies of Christian nations have no premium for the former and carry with them in equal colouring the latter that may be discovered in the Japanese armies.

With the Christian's faith in Jesus Christ the Japanese soldier could not fight his country's battles better than he has been doing; his thirst for victory would not be more keen; his love for his home and his dear ones would not be at all augmented; his devotion to his Emperor would not be heightened in the least; his reliance upon the good that time may bring and the happiness of his destiny hereafter cannot be improved by change of base in religious speculations. This is just the time for Christian workers to keep away from the camps of the Armies at the front; they cannot inculcate higher motives of patriotism or devotion to country than the soldier now has; these workers can only sow the seeds of doubt in the breasts of men who now have the faith that their Emperor, together with the men who have control of affairs and who have the destiny of the empire in their keeping, are what men in exalted places should be. These workers and the men behind them should consider that the Armies at the front were not sent thither to study theology or consider religious dogma; to fight the Chinese is what they are there for, to give their live for their country's cause if fate so will it. It is not exactly a fitting place in which to determine the subtle points of faith and doctrine presented by Christian workers where men are full of thought of battle, on the march, in bivouac, or in the excitement of victory or amid the carnage of the battle field. If men pray at all at such times it is better and conducive to more consolation to use the prayers the child has learned and to cling to the faith in which the man has lived his life. It is a meddlesome piece of business these men have undertaken. The souls they would save are in as good keeping in the custody of their own gods as they could be if transferred to the care of the God of these Christian workers. This would is full of cant and humbug, this present circular is a case in point.

Yours truly,
X.

Yokohama, February 22nd, 1895.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Let "X." enquire earnestly of God whether he has pleased Him by contributing his letter of to-day, and he will receive his answer.

Yours, etc.,
C.

Yokohama, February 23rd, 1895.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—It is not usually worth while to reply to attacks made by anonymous writers in the public press upon Christian teaching and Christian work, but as the letter of "X." in your issue of to-day relates to a project on behalf of which a public appeal has been made, and as "X.'s" receipt of a copy of the circular asking for contributions in some sort entitles him to a hearing, it is perhaps well that it should not pass without notice. As a member of the committee which sent out this appeal, therefore, I beg the favour of so much of your space as is necessary for a brief reply, though, as I write without having had time for consultation with my colleagues in the committee, I write simply as an individual.

"X." gives us a dogmatic statement of what he supposes the teaching and temper of Christianity to be. The statement is in no way in accord with the only original authority upon Christianity; Him who said "Many shall come from the East and from the West, and shall sit down with Abraham, and Isaac, and Jacob, in the Kingdom of heaven; but the children of the Kingdom shall be cast out into outer darkness." Nor is it in accord with the teaching of missionaries in Japan as I know them, for in 16 years of service here I have never, so far as I can remember, heard any missionary express such views as "X." attributes to us. But I need not dwell upon this, for "X." could hardly have seriously expected his statement to be assented to by those of whom it is made.

"X." is equally dogmatic in asserting that it is quite impossible that faith in Christ could make the Japanese soldier in any way more patriotic or efficient than he already is. He must mean either that every Japanese soldier is already so good a soldier and patriot that it is impossible he should be more so, or else that Christianity has no tendency to make men better patriots and soldiers. If the former is what he means, "X.," though he appears to be a friend of the Japanese soldier, is not a very wise friend, for one can hardly do a worse service to any man than to persuade him that he has "already attained," that there are no ideal heights beyond of which he should attempt the ascent. He seems also to forget that even the best of soldiers may sometimes need stimulus and encouragement, a fact which the Japanese military authorities quite clearly recognised when they gave these chaplains the title of *imonshi*, "comforters."

If on the other hand, "X." means that Christianity has no power to make a good soldier or a good patriot, there he runs fairly in the face of experience and history. Has "X." never heard of Cromwell's Ironsides?

The military authorities of the Empire, at least, do not seem to share "X.'s" views as to what Christianity can do for the Japanese soldier, for they not only give official recognition and appointment to these chaplains (and, I believe, transportation and rations also), but they have also sanctioned, and in some cases themselves undertaken, the distribution of a copy of one of the Gospels, or of a New Testament, to every officer and private in the army and navy. Some 70,000 of these have been already distributed, and seem generally, so far as I can learn, to have been received very gladly by those to whom they were given.

One or two facts in addition to those already mentioned may help to dispose still more effectually (if that be possible), of "X.'s" charge that this undertaking is "meddlesome."

In the first place, the chaplains who have been appointed are Japanese going to their own people. It is quite uncertain whether any foreigners will go. If they do, it can only be with the express sanction of the Japanese Government.

In the next place, there is the fact, which seems not to have occurred to "X.," that there are a number of Christians in the army, probably several hundred in all. The first errand of the chaplains is to these, and in any case, only to those soldiers and officers who themselves wish for their services. Knowing personally three of the men appointed in this service, I can assure "X." that it is to the last degree improbable that they would think for a moment of forcing themselves upon persons unwilling to receive them.

In conclusion, allow me to add to the facts mentioned above one matter of opinion. It is thought by some persons that the cordiality with which the Japanese military authorities have welcomed Christian work among the soldiers and sailors is due to careful examination of the record of Christian men who have been and are now in the services, and the discovery that they are above the average standard in faithfulness and efficiency. This, as I have said, is only an opinion. But it seems to me to be the most probable explanation of the attitude of the authorities. "X.," I am quite sure, would find it difficult to show that it is improbable, and still more difficult to prove that it is untrue.

I am, Sir, yours very truly,

THEODOSIUS S. TYNG.

Tokyo, February 23rd, 1895.

[We remember once hearing a very prominent Japanese statesman asked whether he favoured the spread of Christianity. His answer was:—"The Christian subjects of Japan are conspicuous for orderly conduct and faithful discharge of obligations." In the British army it is an old saying, "the better the Christian the better the soldier."—ED. *J.M.*]

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Will you kindly allow me space as the Secretary of the foreign portion of the Committee which is collecting money to pay the expenses of Christian preachers sent to do Christian work among the soldiers of the First and Second Armies in the field, to make a brief statement for the purpose of clearing away some misunderstandings which seem to have arisen. In the first place, let me ask our friends in general not to assign too much importance to any statements with regard to our purpose and methods except those which emanate from some member of the committee itself. Though written with the best of motives such a letter may as likely as not represent the personal opinions of the writer only.

As to the motive and purpose we have in sending these Christian missionaries (native and foreign) to the front, it certainly is not necessary to say much. We feel that the Lord has guided us in the matter. A grand opportunity is given

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do a work which is peculiarly Christian in the devotion and self denial necessary to carry it out. The aim we have and the purpose for which these brethren go is to preach the gospel to the soldiers and incidentially to do those acts of love and brotherhood characteristic of our blessed religion. The men who have gone,—Revs. Miyagawa, Terata, Houda, Aoki, and Yamanaka, the first two to the Second Army and the other three to the First Army—are men so well known for their thorough evangelical spirit and devoted piety that it is enough to give their names. I would like to say further, however, that they have given every evidence of full consecration to this work and have all had to make more or less personal sacrifices in order to be able to go. It is their purpose and expectation to remain until the end, and we hope to make it possible for them to do so. As to the foreign missionaries who expect to go, Dr. Hail and Dr. Gordon have been selected and have consented to go. It seems to me that two better men could not very well have been selected. Veteran missionaries of the Cross in Japan, they are likewise veteran soldiers of their native land; both having served for more than the full term of three years in the army of the United States during her great Civil War. They are therefore peculiarly well fitted to do the work which they feel called to do. The necessary application has been put in, and in a short time we hope to announce that it has been granted and that they have gone to the front.

As to the method we have pursued in arranging this matter and collecting the necessary funds to carry it out, we are doing the best we can, all things being considered. We have planned to cover the expenses of at least three months. We estimated that this would require about 1,000 *yen*. It seems likely now to reach 1,100 *yen*. Of this amount more than 600 has been subscribed. For the expenditure of every *sen* of this money we have properly rendered accounts. These expenditures have been under three general heads. First, as these men have to go to a locality with a far more rigorous climate than Japan it has been necessary to furnish each with an outfit. This was done after careful enquiry as to what was necessary to constitute such an outfit. In every case I believe these outfits cost more than 100 *yen*, but the amount given in each case by the Committee was 90 *yen*. In the second place, an average of 30 *yen* per man was expended for a variety of little articles, such as soldiers situated as those operating in Manchuria are, would be likely to need and yet find it difficult to obtain. These are expected to be given to them. The motive in this is, in the first instance, one of pure benevolence and in the second to assist in introducing them and their work. The value of this feature may be the subject of doubt to some, but after carefully considering the matter it was thought wise to adopt it. Finally, the Committee gave each man 100 *yen* to take with him. These men serve in this cause without salary, but we guarantee to them their expenses. It has proved a very difficult matter to determine just what their expenses would be. We are in hopes that this sum will cover them for a period of three months.

It will be seen from this statement that the money we are collecting is to be used for the support of the Japanese brethren only. It is expected that their respective Missions will support the foreign missionaries who go.

The foreign committee in charge of this work consists of the Rt. Rev. Bishop Evington, Revs. A. A. Bennett, A. D. Hail, J. H. Pettee, A. V. Bryan, W. A. Wilson, Treasurer, and J. W. Doughty, Secretary. The latter three are the members in Hiroshima and have the immediate oversight of the work. This committee is in active and harmonious cōoperation with an earnest committee of Japanese brethren. This movement meets with an enthusiastic reception so far as we have been able to hear throughout the Christian Church in Japan, but the interest and influence that it is likely to exert is not confined to the Christian Church by any means. It is our hope and prayer that this influence may redound to the glory and advance the cause of the Christian faith. As in all such movements, so in this, those must give most who have most to give. In other words, for the financial support of this movement we must look for the most part to the foreign Christian public. Where specially large sums of money were promised by committees of our native brethren [your readers may have heard of such] it has turned out that they were expecting to raise these sums among their foreign as well as their Japanese friends. As the former could not well contribute to two committees for the same object, these sums have failed to materialize. There is no room for anything but praise, however, for the zeal and enthusiasm which the Christian Church is displaying in this matter.

My object in writing this letter has been to explain matters and so relieve those who have not yet contributed, of the doubts and misunderstandings which may have prevented them from giving us their help. I hope I have made it plain that we have a definite and organized method of procedure, and are calling for a sum of money in behalf of a cause that we have ourselves have so much faith in that we have made ourselves responsible for expenses to the extent of 1,100 *yen*, though we had less than half of it in hand. I shall be glad to furnish further information to any who may desire.

Very sincerely yours,

JAS. W. DOUGHTY.

Hiroshima, February 23rd.

THE PORT ARTHUR MASSACRE.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—The constant harping on the outrages committed at Port Arthur, and the illogical inferences drawn from the unfortunate but undeniable facts, are becoming rather tiresome. The worst that can be said is no proof that the entire Japanese nation is still absolutely barbarous, as some would have us think. In view of the outrages committed by the Chinese, it is certainly reasonable to praise the discipline and self-control of the Japanese soldiery. To have repressed so long and so often the spirit of revenge is more a reason for commendation than one sin is an occasion for wholesale condemnation.

Yesterday a lady remarked somewhat sneeringly: "It will take a good many Red Cross hospitals to wipe out the stain of the massacres at Port Arthur." True enough; but it is yet more certain that it "will take a good many Port Arthur massacres to wipe out the glory of the Red Cross hospitals." The massacre, truly horrible and regrettable (and sincerely regretted), represents only a temporary lapse under severe provocation in time of war; while the hospitals represent the abiding spirit of mercy in all times, especially in time of war. Let us be both reasonable and kind in our criticism of errors and sins, and let us be no more willing to count up and advertise the demerits than the merits.

Yours, &c., E.W.C.

Tokyo, February 22nd, 1895.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—The alleged atrocities at Port Arthur still continuing to be a current topic, I may be allowed to say a few words about a particular point in the report of *The Times* special war correspondent, Mr. Cowen, whom I happened to meet at Hiroshima after his return from Port Arthur.

Mr. Cowen's report in *The Times* weekly edition of January 11th begins with the following statement:—"What happened after Port Arthur fell into Japanese hands it would have been impossible and even dangerous to report while on the spot. At the earliest moment every foreign correspondent escaped from the horrified scene to a spot where freedom of speech would be safe." From this it would appear that the foreign war correspondents were horrified by the proceedings of the troops and even thought it dangerous to remain with the army, so barbarous was the Japanese soldiery. But Mr. Cowen told me at Hiroshima that he came back from Port Arthur, not because he was horrified or felt himself in danger, but because he thought there would be no more important operations in that quarter, and afterwards he went to Wei-hai-wei with the Japanese army. It is quite possible that even at Hiroshima Mr. Cowen did not venture to speak his feelings frankly. But, after sending out his report from Kobe, why did he go with the very same second army, with which he thought that freedom of speech was not safe? It is not my object to touch other points in Mr. Cowen's report; but we must infer from the above, that his story is at least an exaggeration to large degree.

I am, Sir, yours sincerely. W. Y.

February 27th, 1898.

MASONIC BALL IN YOKOHAMA.

The Ball given in the Public Hall on Friday evening by the Masonic fraternity of Yokohama and Tokyo, was very largely attended. Over seven hundred and fifty invitations were issued, of which more than six hundred were accepted, and during the evening hosts and guests present must have numbered fully five hundred. The Floor Committee made the best of the limited space at their disposal, and only the first few dances suffered inconvenience through the crush. The decorations of the building were of a strongly Masonic character. Passing from the Ladies' cloak-room—arranged in the small hall—the eye first encountered on the wall of the vestibule the motto "Brotherly Love," with floral squares and compasses on either side. Over the window on the stair-way leading to the gentlemen's cloak and card rooms, was another motto, "Refreshment after Labour"—most *apropos* for such a position. But the chief labours of the Decoration Committee, of whom Bros. H. J. Sharp and H. W. Lea were the executive chiefs, had been bestowed upon the Hall itself. Over the stage was suspended a huge scroll bearing the word "Fidelity," done in white upon a background of evergreen, while above the doors leading off from the hall to the green-room were suspended shields upon which were emblazoned the Arms of the District Grand Lodge of Japan; and the Grand Lodge of Scotland, while other shields bearing Masonic emblems were hung at a lower level to the right and left. Around the hall were placed the charters and warrants of the various Masonic organizations in Yokohama, interspersed with Chapter banners and bannerettes, while over the side doors and windows Masonic symbols in flowers and evergreens were placed. In two corners of the room stood pillars surmounted by terrestrial globes, and round them were grouped palms and foliage plants. A portrait of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, the Grand Master of English Free Masons, was hung on the West wall surmounted by the emblazoned shield of the Grand Lodge of England. On each side of the portrait was ranged a pillar bearing a globe, and underneath was placed a Warden's pedestal bearing working tools and the perfect ashlar. On either side of this were suspended portraits of Gen. George Washington, and Gen. Albert Pike, both of undying fame. A block of rough ashlar was placed on a pedestal on one side of the hall, along with some other emblematic implements of the Craft, and on the opposite side was a similar pedestal. Tracing boards, gavels, tools, and floral symbolic set-pieces were suspended from other points of vantage, the whole effect being extremely pleasing. Immediately in front of the stage was stretched a tesselated pavement. The space on the stage in view of the numbers expected, had been greatly enlarged and made into a cosy drawing-room, strewn with rugs and set with comfortable lounges, while various emblems were hung here and there upon the supporting walls amid feathery bamboos and graceful palms. Another drawing-room was arranged in the smaller hall and this was largely availed of during the evening.

The guests began to assemble shortly after nine o'clock. After crossing the vestibule they passed under an Arch of Steel made by the uplifted swords of Masons belonging to various orders of Masonic Knighthood. In the hall they were received by the Right Worshipful the District Grand Master of Japan, Bro. W. H. Stone, who was supported by Wor. Bros. C. D. Moss and R. N. St. John. During the reception the Yokohama Town Band played "God Bless the Prince of Wales," arranged as a march. Among the guests we noticed the British Minister, the Hon. P. le Poer Trench, Mr. and Mrs. Klobukowski, the officers of H.M.S. *Gibraltar*, and several visitors from Tokyo. Lieutenant von Meyerinck of S.M.S. *Alexandrine* attended as the representative of the Duke of Mecklenberg-Schwerin, who sent his regrets at being unable to be present at the Ball, owing to his many engagements in Tokyo. All the Brethren present wore full regalia, their collars of office and jewels of various degrees; thus making, with the lovely costumes worn by the ladies, a splendid spectacle seldom seen at a Yokohama public ball. By half-past nine the dancing commenced upon a capital floor, and continued till the small hours of the morning. The following was the dance programme:

March, "God bless the Prince of Wales."

1.	Waltz—*Carmen*.	10.	Waltz—Dawn of Day.
2.	Waltz—See-Saw.	11.	Lancers—Latann.
3.	Lancers—Patience.	12.	Waltz—Thine Alone.
4.	Barn Dance.	13.	Barn Dance.
5.	Waltz—The Mikado.	14.	Polka—Vettchen.
6.	Polka—Rival.	15.	Waltz—Tanz Brenden.
7.	Original Caledonians.	16.	Waltz—Golden Beauty.
8.	Waltz—Mignonne.	17.	Barn Dance.
9.	Barn Dance.	18.	Waltz and Gallop—Capricious Waltz (The Crimson Scarf Galop).
Supper	I. Waltz—Blue Violet. II. Waltz—White Rose		

Supper was well served by the Club Hotel in the Green-room behind the stage.

The arrangements were in the hands of the following Committee and Stewards: R.W. D.G.M. Bro. W. H. Stone, President; Wor. Bros. C. D. Moss, and R. N. St. John, Vice Presidents; Wor. Bro. H. J. Sharp, Treasurer; Bro. H. I. Chope, M.C.; Wor. Bros. E. Flint Kilby, R. Home Cook, W. K. Burton, G. Booth, A. T. Watson, G. Hodges, Stuart Eldridge, T. E. Beatty, Fr. Retz; Bros. H. W. Lea, W. Tucker, R. P. Pallister, J. B. M. Barrett, S. E. Unite, S. Dick, H. G. Parlett, E. L. James, W. S. Stone, and A. B. Brown, Secretary.

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ITEMS IN THE BUDGET THAT WERE AMENDED BY THE DIET.

ORDINARY REVENUE.

	As introduced by the Government.	As amended by the Diet.
II.—Fees and Licenses	2,540,381.499	2,434,329.830
Total of Ordinary Revenue	87,633,926.283	87,527,874,614
Grand total of Ordinary Revenue	90,300,709.453	90,194,657.784

ORDINARY EXPENDITURES.

Department of Home Affairs.

III.—Department proper	255,078.497	249,378.497
7. Miscellaneous Salaries and Expenses	36,230.342	30,530.342
VII.—Metropolitan Police Board	254,482.921	250,482.921
10. Secret Service Fund	13,000.000	9,000.000
XI.—Fu and Ken	4,637,161.757	4,617,161.757
19. Secret Service Fund	77,250 000	57,250,000
Total	7,578,792.947	7,549,092.947

Department of Finance.

IV.—Cabinet	182,434.275	172,434.275
9. Secret Service Fund	40,000.000	30,000.000
XIII.—Civil Service Examination Expenses	4,750.104	2,750.104
3. Miscellaneous Salaries and Expenses	3,735.340	1,735.340
XVI.—Reserves	2,500,000.000	2,000,000.000
2. Second Reserve	1,500,000.000	1,000,000 000
Total	32,648,122.222	32,136,122.222

Department of Agriculture and Commerce.

V.—Fishery Investigation Office	33,920.000	31,820.000
7. Miscellaneous Salaries and Expenses	13,627.100	12,527.100
Total	917,508.247	915,408.247

Department of Communications.

I.—Department proper	191,924.831	187,824.831
8. Miscellaneous Salaries and Expenses	31,642.608	27,542.608
Total	6,372,994.847	6,368,894.867
Grand total of Ordinary Expenditures	74,764,332.058	74,216,432.058

EXTRAORDINARY EXPENDITURES.

Department of Home Affairs.

VII.—Repairs and Construction	61,907.340	60,593.640
2. New Construction	44,648.782	43,335.382
Total	1,921,601.985	1,920,588.585

Department of Agriculture and Commerce.

I.—Forests and Fields Investigation Expenses	39,151.500	14,067.273
1. Office Expenses	6,712.800	Not Allowed
2. Travelling Expenses	19,996.300	10,318.030
3. Miscellaneous Salaries and Expenses	12,442 400	3,749.243
III.—Iron Foundry Works Investigation Expenses	39,945.000	39,345.000
3. Miscellaneous Salaries and Expenses	11,650.000	11,050.000
IV.—Horse Investigation Expenses.	12,631.090	10,631.750
3. Miscellaneous Salaries and Expenses	7,554.750	5,554.750
Total	187,204 762	161,520.535
Total of Extraordinary Expenditures	14,993,083.672	14,964,086.045
Grand Total of Expenditures	89,757,415.730	89,180,518.103

YOKOHAMA CRICKET AND ATHLETIC CLUB.

The annual general meeting of members of the Yokohama Cricket and Athletic Club was held on Wednesday afternoon in Kiel's Building. The President, Mr. J. P. Mollison, occupied the Chair, and there were present, Messrs. A. B. Walford, D. McNeill, K. F. Crawford, E. B. S. Edwards, W. Sutter, F. S. Morse, L. J. Healing, F. L. Elliott, N. Walter, A. C. Read, Dr. Todd, J. F. Lowder, E. Flint Kilby, Jas. Stewart, W. H. R. Carew, A. H. Dare, Rev. T. S. Tyng, H. R. Campbell, Rev. E. C. Irwine, E. B. Morriss, H. V. Dickinson, W. H. Brackenbury, F. G. White, B. Hyde Pearson, H. R. Mair, M. Schellenberg, F. H. Hooper, V. Blad, E. J. Lias, W. J. S. Shand, and E. O. Kenyon, Hon. Sec.

The minutes have been taken as read, the Chairman suggested that the report and accounts be treated in a similiar manner. This being acceded to,

The Chairman said that the report and accounts were very satisfactory. The popularity of the Club had never been greater than at present, and from by every point of view he could not see any reason why the Club such not continue along the path of prosperity and success. As they had doubtless noticed, the report which accompanied the accounts this year was much longer and more interesting than formerly. This was entirely due to their energetic secretary, Mr. Kenyon, who had initiated the change, and carried it out in its present manner. The account showed a most satisfactory position of affairs. The receipts for entrance fees during the last year had been $180 against $145 for the previous season; the subscribers were about the same. Since the accounts had been printed, the Secretary had informed him that seven new members had joined the Club, so everything promised a good season for 1895. It must not be forgotton that this year Kobe came up here for the Interport Cricket match. The Club had lost the services of W. D. S. Edwards, and they must expect to find him playing against them in the autumn. It therefore behoved them to set their best foot forward if they wished to retain their laurels gained in previous years. In all probability too, a team from Shanghai might come up here, as well as a team from Hongkong, and even in the event of the two places joining to make a team, the Club might, he thought, look forward to a pleasant cricket week in the Autumn.—(Hear, hear.) He was sorry to say that Mr. Dickinson, who had been their Treasurer for the last two years, had asked to be relieved; although they could not afford to lose the services of such a good man, still the Club must look around for a successor as Mr. Dickinson's decision was final. He proposed that the Club pass a hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Dickinson for his services to the Club.—(Applause.) In regard to football, the Club were under very great obligations to Mr. Pearson for the manner in which he had attended to the interests of the game. In regard to the Athletic meeting of the Autumn also, Mr. Pearson had rendered great services, which he (the Chairman) thought should be recognised by a vote of thanks.—(Hear, hear, and applause.)—With these few remarks he proposed that the report and accounts be adopted.

Mr. J. F. Lowder seconded, and the motion on being put to the meeting was carried unanimously.

SEASON 1894—1895.

Gentlemen,—In presenting a report of the season, the Committee have to congratulate members upon the prosperous state of the club, both from an athletic and financial point of view.

Accounts.—The Committee have the pleasure to lay before members a statement of accounts for the past year showing a credit Balance of $158 59 to be carried forward to the next account. Besides this Balance, there is a sum of $300 placed on Fixed Deposit with the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank as a Reserve Fund against Extraordinary Expenses that it is anticipated will have to be met sooner or later. The Club therefore begins its New Year with a credit Balance of $358.59 as against $58 67 brought forward from the old account, a result due chiefly to an increased membership and also to the satisfactory working of the New Rules made at the last General Meeting with regard to visitors.

The Ground at the commencement of the season was again in a bad state and it was impossible to get a really true wicket. In the latter half, the wickets were first class owing to the great care taken of the ground during the hot weather, and many good pitches over and above those required could have been obtained. Top dressing has been put on the centre of the ground some months earlier than usual and should bear a good result. A hose has been purchased, and the pitch can now be watered with little labour during the hottest weather. A good deal in the way of repairs both to the fence and pavilion will be necessary during the ensuing season.

Cricket.—The Club again won all their matches, and record a successful season despite occasional difficulties with the weather and frequent perversity of the mails. In ways pleased to see them at all their matches in the Autumn the rapidly failing light robbed many games of much of their interest.

Mr. White is for the second time the holder of the Kirin Cup with an average of 32.4. Behind him are Mr. Edwards 49.4, Mr. Crawford 43.9, Mr. Dickinson 40.3, Mr. Walford 39.9, and Mr. E. Morriss 29.4. Mr. Dickinson made the highest score of the season (169 not out). The five leading batsmen all scored their century, and Messrs. White and Edwards on two occasions. Of those who played under 8 innings, Mr. Barton has an average of 36.2 and Dr. Wheeler 26.

In bowling, Mr. Edwards, who is more independent of his field than any other bowler, has a very good average, having taken 50 wickets at a cost of only 5.42 runs apiece. Next to him comes Mr. Braess, who only joined the Club in the second and lower scoring half of the season and has an average of 10.26 for 19 wickets. Both these bowlers did good work in the Interport Match. The other bowlers are far behind.

The fielding prize kindly presented by a lady, was awarded to Mr. Dickinson, the wicket keeper of the team. Fielding has been a weak point, and to mistakes in that department must be attributed in great measure the unusual number of high scores and the unsatisfactory figures in the bowling analyses.

Football.—Although club games were regularly played, it was often found impossible to get two full teams together. To some extent this could be put down to numerous postponements caused by bad weather and frost. A match was played against H.M.S. *Plover* and resulted in an easy win for the Club. On February 12th a match was played against Kobe, which ended in a draw (one goal each) after a hard and fast game.

Athletics.—A welcome feature at the close of the year was the revival of interest in Athletics. Thanks to the energy of Mr. Pearson and a hard working Subcommittee, a very satisfactory meeting was held in December.

Owing to the liberality of subscribers and patrons the prizes were unusually good, and amongst them were a purse kindly presented by the ladies and special *objets d'art* given by Messrs A. C. Read, D. Jackson, J. R. Morse, A. H. Dare, and J. W. Copmann. The Community also subscribed handsomely, and at the close of the meeting there was a good balance in the hands of the Hon. Treasurer.

The times and jumps made were not as good as previous records but this may be attributed to the cold weather and strong northerly wind.

Lawn Tennis.—The courts were, as usual, much patronized by members throughout the season. The purchase of a small mowing-machine by the Club, and the new arrangements in regard to water supply will, it is hoped, result next summer in great improvement of the turf. The Annual Handicap was commenced in May, but the final tie between Messrs. Page and Forman was postponed, owing to the absence of the latter in Kobe, until October, when it was won by Mr. Page, to whom a silver cup was presented.

Baseball.—There was no play until the Autumn. In October a game between the *Charleston* nine and the Club (with a borrowed catcher) resulted in a close game in which the shore team were finally victorious by only one run. Later on there were two very pleasant games against players chosen from the Sealing Vessels in port. The cricketers who played rendered very material assistance.

E. O. Kenyon, Hon. Secretary.

The Honorary Treasurer in Account with the Y.C. & A.C., Statement of Accounts, Season 1894-5.

1894.	Receipts:		
Jan. 31.	To Balance Brought Forward		$ 98 67
	Entrance Fees		180.00
	Subscriptions 1st Half of Season	$630	
	Subscriptions and Half of Season	720	
	Subscriptions Tokyo Members	90	
	Subscriptions Visitors and Fleet	134	2,534.00
	Gear Account:—Sale of Bats, &c.		22.26
	Fire Insurance Account:—Return premium		3.06
	Athletic Meeting:—Entrance Fees and Subscriptions		392.00
	Band Subscription Account:—Subscribed by Members		37.00
	Interest Account:—Interest on C/A at H. & S. B. C.		7.23
			$3,274.32

1894.	Expenditure.		
By	Working Expenses:—Wages to Mombun and Coolies. Weeding, Turfing, Water Rate, and Sundries		$ 807.33
	Match Expenses		53.51
	Gear Account:—Purchase of Cricket, Lawn Tennis, Baseball Gear, &c.		283.36
	Fire Insurance Account		14.58
	Stationery Account		12.15
	Ground Rent		328.32
	Band Subscription Account:—Paid to Town Band.		25.00
	Photographs Account		2.35
	Athletic Meeting:—Prizes and Sundry Expenses		390.23
	Reserve Fund:—Placed on F/Dep. H. & S. B. C.		300.00
	Balance, in C/A H. & S. B. C.		158.59
1895.			$3,274.32
Jan. 31.	To Balance carried Forward		$ 158.59

H. V. Dickinson, Hon. Treasurer.

Examined with Vouchers and found correct.

H. Pinckney, E. B. Morriss, } Auditors.

Messrs. Sutter and Edwards were then appointed scrutineers of the ballot for officers and committee. During the casting of the votes,

Mr. A. C. Read asked permission to make a few remarks. During the last season he had frequently noticed the large attendance in the Pavilion of gentlemen who appeared to be deeply interested in the cricket matches, but who were not members of the Club. In alluding to non-members he wished to be understood that he made no ref[erence] to members of the Press. The Club was

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sports, and every facility should be given them. But he could not help feeling that it was not right that when he, who had been a member of the Club for 15 years, went down to the Cricket Pavilion he should not be able to find a seat by reason of the benches, both front and back, being occupied by gentlemen who had never contributed anything to the Club's funds. He had often been obliged to take a seat on the gravel outside the Pavilion in consequence of this state of things. He did not mean to make these remarks a personal matter, however, but simply in the interests of the members, several of whom had asked him to bring the thing forward. He therefore threw them out as a suggestion to the incoming Committee in the hope that something might done in the matter for next season.—(Applause.)

The CHAIRMAN said the matter referred to by Mr. Read had engaged the attention of the Committee on many occasions, and at last it was determined to put up the boards, which all present had doubtless seen, "Members only admitted." The Committee thought that this was a sufficiently a delicate hint, and he was glad to say that the measure had been attended by some success.—(Applause.)

The result of the election of President of the Club was then announced, the choice having fallen on Mr. Mollison.

The CHAIRMAN, in acknowledging the compliment, said that he placed his services at the disposal of the members of the Yokohama Cricket and Athletic Club with which he had been connected for so many years.—(Applause.)

Mr. WALFORD was unanimously re-elected Vice-President and Captain of Cricket.

The CHAIRMAN announced that Mr. Dickinson though retiring from the post of Treasurer was willing to serve on the Committee if elected, and that Mr. E. R. Morriss had offered to serve as Treasurer if elected.

While the votes were being taken,

The CHAIRMAN proposed a vote of thanks to the lady who had presented the fielding prize.—(Loud applause.) It was an evidence of the great interest which was taken in cricket by the ladies.—(Hear, hear.) In reference to prizes, he might remark that Mr. White was again the winner of the Kirin Cup, as the leading bat. A vote of thanks should be accorded to the donors of the valuable and handsome trophies offered at the Athletic meeting.—(Applause.)

Mr. READ said that in connection with the last remarks which had fallen from the chair, he was glad to say that Mr. David Jackson and himself would be pleased to present a similiar prize for the 100 yards' race should the Athletic sports be continued.—(Hear, hear.)

The Committee were then announced—Messrs. E. R. Morriss, E. O. Kenyon, F. E. White, K. F. Crawford, W. S. Stone, H. V. Dickinson, and D. McNeill.—(Applause.)

The CHAIRMAN announced that this closed the ordinary business of the meeting, unless any member present had any remarks to make for the better working of the Club.

Mr. A. H. DARE said he had two remarks to make, one pleasant and the other, he regretted to say, unpleasant. As an old athlete he wished to express the pleasure it gave him to see the athletic sports revived, and should the Committee decide to continue the meetings, he should offer a championship prize to be run for, the race to be one mile.—(Hear, hear.) This disposed of his pleasant remarks, and now he would come to the unpleasant. He had been present at the late Interport football match, and had watched it with interest. It had been a hard and well-fought game, in his opinion, and therefore he would like to hear what was the opinion of the Club in regard to some remarks which had appeard upon the game in the *Kobe Herald* of Feb. 16th. The writer lead one to infer that Kobe had not been properly treated up here. In one paragraph something was said about the referee's whistle not being handy. From what he had seen of the game, the referee's whistle was very handy, it was necessary that it should be. But the most serious of the inferences was contained in the paragraph which concluded with words to the effect that the game had really resulted in Kobe's favour by three goals to one. He would like to get the opinion of the meeting upon this matter, because he held that such writing might affect the cordial relations now existing between the members of the two Clubs.—(Hear, hear.) It might even lead to the abandonment of the interport matches, a thing which they all would greatly regret. At any rate some ill-feeling might be engendered when remarks were made that the game had been unfair, and that the referee's decisions were unjust. In his opinion the game had been most fair to all appearances, and the referee's decisions just. The newspaper's remarks had therefore occasioned him some grief.

Mr. LIAS—I don't think that our relations with Kobe will be disturbed by anything which chuckle-headed persons may send in to the press.—(Laughter and applause.)

The CHAIRMAN said that he was disposed to agree with Mr. Lias. If they were to take notice of everything which appeared in the papers in regard to sports and games, they would always be in hot water. He was not a football player himself, but he had gone down to see this match, and had derived a great deal of pleasure in watching it, and he was certainly in accord with Mr. Dare in thinking that it had been played as fairly as ever a game of football could be played.—(Hear, hear.) The judgments of the referee were all that they should have been. They all knew that he was a fair-minded man, and had given all his decisions with great fairness on all and every occasion.—(Hear, hear.) In regard to Mr. Dare's remarks about the athletic sports, he could say that the committee had decided to hold a meeting in the spring, when the weather was more genial for training, and the nights drew out. The last meeting was held too late in the year, and a bitterly cold day had attended them. All that was wanted to contribute to the success of their sports was for the young men to come out and go into training for the various competitions. If the young men would give their support, there was no reason why the Club should not organize two meetings a year.

Mr. DARE said that, as an old athlete of former years, the experience of the Club had been that the spring was the best time for holding the sports. Times made were better then, for the men were in better condition for training at the close of winter than after the hot summer months.

Mr. READ in proposing a vote of thanks to the outgoing Committee, made special reference to Mr. Hyde Pearson, who that year withdrew from the body. He did not know of another man who had worked so hard and so well on a Committee of this sort in Yokohama.—(Hear, hear.) The best thanks of the Club were due to him for his many good services in the interest of sport and athletics.—(Loud applause.)

A vote of thanks to the Chair, proposed by Mr. DARE, brought the proceedings to a close.

THE WEIHAIWEI EXPEDITION.

Yungcheng, end of January, 1895.

It was just noon when, under the guidance of the excellent Captain Murata, a gentleman of the utmost courtesy, I set out for the castle-town of Yungcheng, from which the bay where the Japanese forces disembarked takes its name. The road which we had to follow for the next three interminable hours was in a most pitiable condition; China, it is quite evident, has a lack of "road-agents." At home, any self-respecting village would blush to own such a highway, to which the style of "military roadway" is here pompously given. It was quite impossible to proceed two abreast, and so we were compelled to follow one another in Indian file. The artillery with its heavy gun-waggons had given the finishing stroke to this wretched road, making fearful ruts and huge gaps everywhere. Our mounts managed to crawl along with the utmost difficulty, and, as if to cap the climax, I had been unable to lay hands on a European saddle when we started, and so was reduced to straddling a Chinese makeshift, than which nothing could have been more uncomfortable. To ride on horseback under such circumstances is a pleasure of a unique type! After forcing one's nag along for one kilometre the back and loins lose all sensation, and the regularly succeeding stumbles finally bring the rider to a most harrassed state of mind and body. Rocky Russia wasn't a patch on this!

But would the surrounding country in any way indemnify us for the irksomeness of the road? Whatever pleasing illusions I might have on this score soon vanished at the touch of stern reality. All that I saw in Shinking I find again in this province of Shanting. As far as the eye can reach one sees nothing but a uniform stretch of territory composed of vast steppes, with occasional frozen water-courses, bounded on one side by the sea and on the other by naked mountains whose sharp peaks stand out with marvellous distinctness. Certain parts of Algeria and Kabylia bear a strong resemblance to these savage wilds. But there the resemblance stops, for that alas! is all that China, in this province, has in common with our beautiful Savoy, where life is so gentle and hospitality so boundless.

Hospitality is an idle term in such a place as this. The miserable condition of the country-side is visible at every step. We have just passed through three hamlets, lying side by side. Everywhere the same filth disclosing the same degree of abject poverty! Just this moment we came upon a whole village holding high carnival. Women, aged people of both sexes, children—all were collected rounded a dead horse—a reminder of the army on the march—which a big fellow, with a truly demoniac cast of countenance, was engaged in skinning. The joy visible in the faces of the onlookers was plainly indicative of the fact that every hovel would, that evening, have a potful of food.

A friend noticing that I grew ever graver and more reflective, kindly took pity on me and told me the amusing story of how the first Japanese had set foot on this enchanted ground. It happened just eight days ago. Four naval officers, disguised as civilians and having the appearance and general make-up of well-to-do merchants, landed in the bay of Yungcheng, then defended by a garrison of some five hundred men. The new-comers were at once surrounded and subjected to the regulation interrogations. "Whence have you come? What are you doing here? What do you want, anyway?" sternly demanded the military mandarin into whose presence they were conducted. Foreseeing this mandarinian curiosity, the Japanese were well-prepared with their replies. "We are," they answered, "European traders, and being desirous of opening up relations with the local market we have come to find out what may be the needs of the inhabitants and to offer you our services. This is all there is about it." The Chinaman may possibly have had his doubts as to the nationality of these strange guests, but a few dollars judiciously distributed at once dissipated whatever suspicions he may have entertained. The Japanese thereupon grew cynical. "By-the-bye, Sir Mandarin, what was that we heard about China being at war? Are you really fighting with Japan?" "What, don't you know all about the war?" "This is the first news we have had of it." "Is it possible!" "And, we suppose, you are about giving them a thorough whipping?" "You may well say so! Owing to the cowardice of one of our generals, Port Arthur was permitted to fall into the hands of those Japanese barbarians. According to the latest news it seems they actually have the audacity to think of attacking Weihaiwei: the idiots! But wait a bit; come with me and I'll show you the way I've made ready to receive them." And with these words the mandarin showed them the cannon trained along the forts. "If you're not in too great a hurry," continued the worthy official, "just step around to my house. I'll show you how we're going to put those wretches in the soup!" This invitation was accepted, though with some outward show of reluctance. One hour later they took their leave of their Chinese host, having thoroughly reconnoitred the cauldron that was to contain the soup in which the Japanese army should be boiled. Down to the very last cannon they were entirely acquainted with their enemies' means of defence, and had even got possession of several important secrets, for the mandarin, a most comic military official in sooth, had, in the pride and innocence of his heart, let them see a number of telegrams that had that morning been exchanged with Head-quarters at Weihaiwei!

This little narrative, which is such an admirable comment on the military genius of the Chinese of to-day, put us all in a good humour. The story ended just as we were entering the town of Yungcheng, whose high, crenelated walls give it at a distance the appearance of an excellently fortified place. Yungcheng, however, is nothing of the sort. The town is a burg of some two thousand inhabitants, and is traversed by narrow streets bounded on either side by heaps of human and animal filth. All these Chinese villages are very similar to each other, and their people are equally repulsive. In Shinking at all events the natives had the good taste to keep out of sight. They invariably fled at the approach of the Japanese troops. But nothing of the kind took place here. The word has been given and, knowing that they will not be disturbed, the inhabitants quietly stay where they are. For these reasons it was a most difficult undertaking to find a lodging for ourselves. On arriving, I called at once upon Marshal Oyama, who is justly famed, if I may judge by his cook, as one of the best livers in Japan. He is at home in a house which might well pass for a second-class restaurant. This is the Hotel of the Commander-in-Chief. My present dwelling is not any more sumptuous. I am the guest of a baker afflicted with a numerous family, all very ugly and dirty. Not the least hope from this quarter! In the room next to mine, separated only by the oven of the proprietor, [illegible] and a corporal are billeted. The

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corporal, immediately upon my arrival, presented me with his visiting card. Touched by this bit of courtesy, I made haste to become better acquainted with this amiable neighbour. We are now fast friends for life. I let some small silver slip into his hand, but he at once gave me to understand that he was not of mercenary instincts and that he would see that I wanted for nothing. No sooner was I regularly installed in my quarters than he started a rousing fire with one of the proprietor's chests of drawers; an instant later, followed by his three men, he brought me in his forage-cap a lot of assorted sweet-meats. This corporal is in truth a generous foster-parent! I always say that these little Japanese soldiers, so valiant and brave, have the knack of completely transporting one to other scenes. What do you think of these troopers, for example, who kill the time between two watches—like pretty women between two visits—by munching burnt almonds?

FURIU-SON.

All night long we heard the thunder of the cannonade of the distant forts at Weihaiwei. I am already quite accustomed to such musical serenades. As I had feared, it was quite impossible to close one's eyes in the wretched barracks assigned to me, where the wind whistled through gaping rents in the walls. Irony of language! There was a huge Chinese inscription, in red letters, on the door of my domicile. I was curious enough to have the ideographs translated; the legend ran: "May the breeze of Spring ever accompany thee!" These good Chinese, who are fond of poetic maxims and mottos that they write them on every door and wall, indulge occasionally in pleasantry of a cruel description. I shall long remember the sweetness of that vernal breeze, for I am indebted to it for having awakened me morning with the tip of my nose thoroughly frozen.

A most amusing incident occurred last night that helped to make the slow hours pass in that terrible hovel. During the course of the evening my servant of one of our comrades was awakened by prolonged and steady creaks which appeared to come directly from a large closet standing in a corner of the room. He listened for a while and then fell asleep again. An hour later the same strange sounds coming from the same quarter had aroused him from his slumbers. He had raised himself and listened attentively this time. No doubt about it! There was some animal shut up in the closet—a sheep, calf, or pig—confined there by the distrustful proprietor. The cries of the animal, whatever it was, could be heard distinctly. Miné, for so the servant was called, jumped up in a fright and informed his master of the discovery. All of us, grouped together, approached the mysterious closet, which was, by the way, locked and bolted. Each of us began listening breathlessly for the sounds heard by Miné; when the latter approached with a heavy hammer and broke open the lock with a great crash. Oh, what a surprise! An apparition such as is seen in fairy tales only, sent us into ecstasies of admiration. There before us, huddled into a corner and shivering with fright, was a most pretty little girl of sixteen, who cast supplicating looks on the crowd of intruders. In reply to the questions of the interpreter, she said that when her father had been compelled to give up his house to the new occupants and seek an asylum with a friend at the other end of the town, he had locked her up in the closet to keep her from the indiscreetly admiring glances of the Japanese soldiery. "And now that you have discovered my hiding place," she added, "I beg you to let me rejoin my father. Touch you, Sir, do me no harm." We were, believe you, far from having any such idea, but it was almost impossible to make this young girl, mad with terror, understand the nature of our views and intentions. The oldest of us was ordered to take the child back to her father, and for the first time in my life, perhaps, I regretted not to have a white beard or at least a few bald spots in my head.

Everybody was up this morning with the glimpse of dawn. So soon as we set out it was seen that the march would be replete with disagreeable surprises for us. Our horses, slipping at each step on the frozen road, every now and then positively refused to go on. For a distance of twelve miles the narrow route which we pursued was blocked with coolies carrying or hauling the baggage of the main army on little wooden carts. With their heavy vehicles constantly falling over or sinking into some deep rut, it was really painful to see these unhappy porters, so superhuman were the efforts sometimes appear. During all this time we followed close on their heels, experiencing the greatest difficulty in keeping ourselves in the saddle. Two of our comrades were dismounted. The country through which we had to pass was of a singular formation. We climbed laboriously the so-called To-sheng. Everybody dismounts, and out of a ravine to find a hill before us, and on getting over this found ourselves in a plain strewn with huge erratic blocks. And during all this long and wearisome journey there was not one village to be seen, not a soul to be met with. It is nothing but desert, with all its wildness and desolation! In a little while a furious snowstorm set in, covering us with icy particles from head to foot. The men swore, while the horses neighed piteously and throughout the whole column in march there was a feeling of revolt against the disturbed elements, which, in this accursed country, appear decidedly to have declared in favour of the Chinese. At last a thick cloud of smoke, through which tall black chimneys could be dimly seen, announced that we had reached the so-impatiently awaited halting-place. We are now in the village of Jun-in-ton—sweetly pretty, is it not? the euphony of these Chinese names—which contains perhaps five hundred houses. Here we are to spend the night, shut up in the same stables with the soldiers, our servants, and our cattle. Chance has, this time, given me four troopers for room mates, all of whom snore like thunder. Doubtless, the regimental trumpeters.

After the evening meal, we sit down all together around a large fire, which it is the duty of each one present to keep alive, in accordance with his tastes and habits. Every soldier in the village is soon following our example, so that the whole place is speedily one great brazier, flames of which, wafted by the wind, rise high in air like infernal torches suddenly appearing above the ground. The scene is very picturesque and our night-encampment has this time a most imposing look. At a late hour I enter my cabin and, ensconced behind a tall poplar, one of the many trees that stand sentinel wise about our bivouac, I write these lines as my knees, in front of a canteen. For sleep will certainly not come to soothe us in this demon's cave of a place.

CHAO-LOH.

I did not have the trouble to get up at the appointed hour for our departure this morning—seven o'clock. The varied incidents of a most restless night left no time for sleep. Let me tell you the chief cause of my enforced wakefulness. The country being very unsafe, I had four guards given me, who rolled themselves upon the ground, close to my barn of a room. Believing me to be slumbering, these fellows, rendered sleepless by the bitter cold, built a large fire in the very centre of the house. The flames of this impromptu bonfire, darting out towards the heaps of rice-straw in every corner, soon did more than had been expected of them and the house caught fire. I had just closed my eyes from sheer fatigue when I found that I should have to act as an improvised fireman. In about one hour we had succeeded in extinguishing the flames; but my guards, fearing a severe reprimand, had taken to flight and I was left alone to pass the time as well as I might in the midst of the smoking embers. What snatches of sleep I got, under such circumstances, could not be otherwise than troubled. In the saddle again it was my ill fate to make acquaintance with fresh enemies. In this wretched country, man's worst foe, after the cold, is the horse. It is impossible, in my humble opinion, to imagine more unsatisfactory animals. Accustomed to follow each other in the ranks, most of the horses fail to answer to the bit and are ever insensible to the whip. They dislike to pass each other on the road without making wild leaps and jumps that are calculated to disturb the seat of the best of riders. One of these beasts, known familiarly as "The Assassin," has well-nigh achieved fame by his fearful escapades. He is at this moment carrying an English officer, an aide-de-camp of Admiral Fremantle, who is authorised to follow the army. I had the unhappiness of finding myself for a few brief moments behind this steed to-day. Heaven preserve us! what capers! Had not my boots been of unusually thick leather my tibia would have been crushed to bits. This wretched animal has, unfortunately, a host of imitators. For the second time this morning I have been kicked, and even more violently than on the first occasion. I have at once decided to continue my march on foot. This is, in my opinion, the only way to reach the next station with sound limbs.

It has snowed all night long and the huge white flakes are still falling, and giving to the country through which we are slowly passing a most picturesque appearance. The spreading branches of the tall poplars look as if covered with a fine coating of powdered sugar. Our column opens out slowly, and the horses step out with the awkwardness of peasants who for the first time find themselves walking on a carpet. After two slow hours of such travel we make a general halt at a little hamlet called To-sheng. Everybody dismounts, and we make ready to devour the lunch packed up in our saddle bags.

Breakfast over, I am taken to make the acquaintance of one who has earned the title of "The Traitor." He is a very fine-looking Chinaman who has sold his brethren for certain monies promptly paid down, and who is now acting as the guide of the Japanese army. Mounted on a white horse, the only one of the kind in our column, is this renegade. As he steps forward one involuntarily experiences a feeling of shame, and scornful fingers are pointed at him here and there. This gentleman is treated with all the courtesy he merits. "Ah, you Chinaman," said I, on catching sight of him, "do you not blush at the thought of having sold your comrades?" But he, not the least abashed, bows with folded hands and a most insinuating smile. Noticing that my overcoat is not properly buttoned up, he begins to put each button into its proper hole, thus acting as a sort of *valet-de-chambre*. This done he looks at my boots which, and with justice, he finds but poorly polished and which he insists upon re-tying. This traitor is unquestionably a very obliging creature. He is a thorough-bred circus-clown on horseback, and his antics have this morning given me an amusing quarter of an hour. His white Rosinante has the idiosyncrasy of preferring to walk along alone rather than with the rest of the squadron. By chance the traitor had at one time to fall behind a cavalry captain of the shortest possible temper. In an instant the Chinaman's horse began to rear and shower a volley of kicks at the devoted body of the Captain's steed. Rage of the officer, who begins to swear and inveigh against the "accursed Chinaman." Without losing a minute, the Chinaman slips off his horse and commences to bow low before the choleric officer; and every time this beast lifts its legs to give another kick, the Chinaman humbly bows his head in excuse! This little bit of by-play made us all laugh heartily.

At one o'clock in the afternoon we have reached the Chao-loh station, a village that has perhaps some seven hundred inhabitants. With the exception of a massive granite gateway, there is nothing worthy of note among this cluster of houses which have neither windows nor any salient features. We are just twelve kilomètres distant from Weihaiwei, and thus in the very midst of the enemy's country. A band of Chinese attacked our outposts yesterday, and it took some very lively fighting to drive them back. Cannon thunder without cessation, and this evening, gathered round the camp-fire made (in default of other wood) of the furniture of our momentary hosts, we catch the sound of a distant but very lively fusillade, the sound coming evidently from the West. And we ask if tomorrow will be able to bring us any nearer our goal.

But to-morrow brings with it only a fresh snowstorm:—

Il neigeait; l'âpre hiver fondait en avalanche;
Après la plaine blanche, une autre plaine blanche.

In company with Captains Murata and Furukawa we sallied forth to reconnoitre the country. Surrounded by enemies on every side, such a proceeding was nothing short of adventurous. Indeed it turned out to be actually imprudent, for, probably intentionally misled by our native guides, we soon lost our way and were finally fired at by a number of Chinese sentinels. Recognising our mistake, we turned back at full gallop, while our horses, terrified by the dull roar of the cannonade, bore us rapidly along perilous paths where we were every moment in danger of a broken neck. On our way back we crossed in front of the brigade which, to-morrow morning, will meet the enemy face to face.

Kushan, February, 1895.

At 9 o'clock in the evening of January 29th the following general order was sent out from the Head-quarters established at Mokacho:—"As the enemy holds the position south-west of Hyaku-seki-yai, the forces must to-morrow take possession of the heights overlooking Horinchow on the south-east." The Japanese army at once set forward in two columns. The first column, that of the right (Sixth Division), was composed of the 11th Brigade, one squadron of cavalry, two mountain-batteries, three engineer companies, ammunition and commissariat train, and an ambulance corps. This moved off in the direction above-mentioned. The second column (Second Division) was made up of two brigades of infantry, two squadrons of cavalry, four mountain-batteries, one field-battery, two companies of engineers, and ammunition and commissariat train, with an ambulance corps. There were further two batteries of 9-centimetre mortars; two sections of the military telegraph corps; the staff-service and a band that belonged either to the Second or Sixth Division.

At seven a.m. [illegible] south, the left column,

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under the command of General Sakuma, met with the enemy near Kosan. After a very lively fusillade on both sides (the Chinese, some fifteen hundred strong, being backed by several artillery batteries), the Japanese dislodged the enemy from their position, causing them to abandon Kosan and the redoubt which overlooked the place. They captured, moreover, eight cannon, Krupps of the 1888 model. During this time the right column, under General Kurogui, marched on from Kosango toward the forts that lined the peninsula west of Weihaiwei. A fierce contest was at once begun. The Yofoié fort, with its 15-centimetre cannon and field-pieces, sent a veritable rain of fire out against the advancing column, which mounted upwards to the attack with loud and oft-repeated cries of *Banzai!* It was a quarter past eleven when the Japanese flag floated out above the ramparts of the conquered fort. The Matandé redoubt, situate about 1,500 mètres from the Yofoié fort, was at the same moment subjected to a fierce attack from the four battalions of infantry, led by Major-General Odera in person. After a most desperate resistance, which cost the life of the valiant general, the Chinese broke and fled in the direction of Weihaiwei, leaving eight cannon and a large quantity of ammunition in the hands of the Japanese. Without losing an instant, the Japanese directed the batteries of which they had just won possession against the Yofoié fort, and succeeded in blowing up the powder-magazine. Profiting by the tumult resulting from this explosion, a battalion of engineers took the fort by storm.

Being now in possession of these two land forts, the Japanese directed their efforts against the forts on the flank, of which there were four, all well armed and well manned. Demoralised at the sight of their strongholds falling one after another into the hands of their foes, the Chinese again took to flight towards Weihaiwei, keeping close to the shore. At this instant the left wing of the second column cut the line of retreat and started in hot pursuit of the fugitives. Everything was over by four o'clock in the afternoon, and the plans of the Head-quarters had been carried out in their entirety. The Japanese were in unquestioned possession of the peninsula east of Weihaiwei.

The fleet was not doomed to inaction on this memorable day. Admiral Ito had already for several days been blockading the Chinese Squadron. From seven o'clock in the morning of the same day the Japanese fleet began bombarding the Zhih fort, which lies midway in the western entrance to the port of Weihaiwei, besides shelling the Chinese vessels at anchor in the bay. The engagement, which lasted well on till five in the afternoon, was an exceptionally hot one. Owing, however, the great distance between the combatants, the result was not so satisfactory as had been expected. The Chinese war-ships, shut in and aided by the Zhih fort as well as those on Liuking Island, were condemned to stay where they were. The Japanese men-of-war, on their part, were kept at a distance by the torpedoes and the boom preventing their entrance into the harbour: Nevertheless, the cannonade of the fleet was very useful to the two attacking columns, as it helped to dislodge the enemy from the flank forts.

The Chinese losses were of considerable magnitude, more than one thousand men being left dead on the field. The Japanese in the various assaults made during the day, lost about four hundred men.

Amusing as well as melancholy incidents marked this 30th day of January. I narrate a few at random. The victors of the day were unquestionably the artillerists who, under the command of Captain Ichi, took one after the other of the Chinese forts. Distinguished for their bravery in every case, they were also fated to become the heroes of a ludicrous and most original *contre-temps* in the course of the attack on the Matandé fort, one of the most stubbornly defended of the citadels. On entering the redoubt the Japanese found intact a number of cannon abandoned by the fleeing Chinese. To take possession of these and turn them in the direction of the enemy, was the work of an instant only. But to the intense disappointment of everybody the muzzles of these invaluable pieces were found to be frozen up and quite useless as they were. I shall not go farther into particulars; it is sufficient to note that the ice was speedily melted and the cannon made promptly serviceable by having recourse to a most natural yet none the less indescribable operation.

And now for a little idyl. In their barracks as well as camps, the Chinese troops are found of having, if possible, their families with them. On January 30th the Japanese were about to attack a fort and had made prisoners of a [illegible] when they discovered, crouched behind a heap of corpses, a young woman of exceptional beauty. A gallant captain at once stepped forward and offered her his handkerchief wherewith to dry her pretty eyes, at the same time ordering two non-commissioned officers to see the Celestial Niobe in safety to the nearest village. Hardly had the woman quitted the vicinity of the fort when the same officer heard, proceeding as it were out of the ground, the muffled cry of a very young child. Approaching the spot whence the sound appeared to come, he found a poor little baby, hardly two years old, left in a basket. His father-heart touched by the sight, the captain instinctively lifted the little one up in his arms. At the same instant the report of a gun rang out and a bullet pierced his cap. Without letting go his tender burden, the officer continued to give his orders and direct the movements of his command until the Japanese were well inside of and masters of the fort. Advancing toward the sullen crowd of Chinese just taken prisoners, the captain selected the least ill-favoured captive and addressed him as follows:—"You are free, and 'tis to this baby that you owe your liberty. Take the child carefully in your arms and carry it as quickly as you can to a place of safety." The improvised nurse did not have to be told twice what he was to do. With the baby clasped to his breast he at once set off at the top of his speed.

It is quite remarkable to see how the Chinese are learning to respond to the lessons of humanity lavished upon them since the beginning of the campaign. Whatever may be said to the contrary, the Japanese army has p'ayed a noble rôle. The Chinese are incorrigible barbarians. As I reported at the time, the sanguinary scenes of which Port Arthur was the theatre had but one cause, the exasperation of the Japanese soldiers at the sight of the atrociously mutilated remains of their unfortunate comrades-in-arms. Well, it was scarcely necessary for sensitive spirits coming from the banks of the Hudson to prate to us about courtesy on the battle-field. The Chinese have this time again done everything in their power to deserve a most sanguinary chastisement. Small detachments of Japanese soldiers have here and there had the misfortune to be taken by surprise and captured by these brutes. On not one occasion have the miserable victims escaped being subjected to demoniac tortures at the hands of the Chinese, drunk with blood and lusting for cruelty. Their last exploit in this direction, which occurred eight days ago, deserves special mention. A detachment of thirty men under the command of a lieutenant had been sent forward to reconnoitre the territory about the Chinese outposts. After a long wearisome march across the snowy plains, the little troop, which had been in motion since early morning, stopped exhausted and took advantage of their halt to cook a bit of dinner. All at once, without the Japanese even having the time to recover their stacked weapons, some two hundred Chinamen fell upon and literally hacked them to pieces. To those of somewhat higher rank they gave the honour of martyrdom. After crucifying them the Chinese slowly dismembered their victims. Several of the Japanese had the nails of their feet and hands torn out and their entrails scattered to the winds. On the following day the advancing army found their bloody remains.

With General Odera, whose sad death I have referred to above, one of the noblest figures has disappeared from the military history of Japan. He possessed in the highest degree the qualities of a soldier and a leader. He had been scarcely two months Chief of the Staff under General Yamaji when he was given the command of the Sixth Brigade, which was to cover itself with such glory in capturing Weihaiwei. I had on several occasions the honour of speech with the general during the latter part of my stay in Chinchow. One morning, I remember, accompanied by a single aide-de-camp, he insisted on sharing with me my modest breakfast. We talked of France, which country he said he loved greatly; and of the glory of Japan, to establish which he had done so much. A mutual friend, who was acting as interpreter—a boyhood companion of Odera—spoke in enthusiastic terms of the General's bravery. His courage was, in fact, proverbial in the army. During the attack on Port Arthur, while balls were whistling about him on every side, this daring man coolly unbuttoned his overcoat, took out his cigar-case and lighted, with the most undisturbed of mien, a superb Londres! The General smiled at the officer who was recounting this story, and then added:—"All right, I have still some of the same brand. And I promise to give you one if we are ever under fire together." Alas, this brave soldier did not have the opportunity to keep his promise. In the attack on the Matandé fort—the fiercest engagement of all—he remained unmoved, with folded arms in the position of a man wholly at his ease and confident in his star, in the midst of the Chinese cannonade. Captain Sagara, who happened to be standing beside him, could not refrain from saying, "General, please be careful and do not expose yourself so rashly. These Chinese devils seem to-day to have called the thunder of heaven to their aid. Just look!"..... Odera did not let him go on. "Nonsense," he replied, "do like I do, and fear nothing. Death always thinks twice before killing a brave man." At the same instant a fragment of shell struck him in the breast. Two hours later he was dead.

I imagined that the obsequies of a General, fallen on the field of honour, would be of the most ceremoniously impressive nature. I could see in my mind's eye the whole panorama of death: the soldiers with reversed arms marching past the catafalque; the thunder and roar of the cannon; the bayonets glistening in the sunshine, encircling like glowing tapers the last resting-place of the hero. Even Nature herself should be in mourning, every field and every tree being clad in the white mourning vestments significant of death among the Japanese. In a word, I dwelt lovingly on the imposing scene that would, I fondly imagined, make the day one never to be forgotten. But my dreams were soon to be rudely dissipated. One evening, all at once, I saw on a hill which overlooked my quarters, long streamers of flame rising up high into the still air. And while I asked myself, in surprise, what might be the cause of this sudden blaze among the watchers around the camp fire, I heard a soldier that passed in front of me cry out to a comrade, "Come on, they are burning the General this evening." And "burning the General" they were, in very truth. The following morning, conducted by a friend, I crossed the threshold of a Chinese dwelling momentarily occupied by two officers. The gentlemen were at breakfast. My friend pointed out a small box of white wood resting on a plank, on either side of which were a sack of biscuits and a tin of corned beef! The white box was the cinerary urn of General Odera; it contained all that was left of that brave man.

I must confess that, on that day, the idea of cremation impressed me painfully. I could not help thinking that this method of cremating a corpse was absolutely lacking in dignity, and it even seemed to me to shock in the highest degree one's sentiments of veneration for the dead. I could sympathise with those simple souls, grounded by their faith in the great hope of an immortal life, that insist in regarding the coffin—despite all science and the opinions of learned men—as man's last, necessary, and unchangeable resting-place after death. The devouring element of fire accomplishes in a few moments that work of dissolution which it takes the earth, slowly, gently, methodically, and with apparent regret, sometimes years to carry out. Who knows? Mother Earth, always kind, may have her own plans. I do not wish to question what they are; but simply to note an illogical act on the part of those that refused a few handfuls of soil to the man that so largely aided them in conquering a vast territory.

FERNAND GANESCO.

THE CHORAL SOCIETY'S CONCERT.

The Yokohama Choral Society gave its second and last concert of the present season at the Public Hall on Tuesday evening. There was a full and appreciative house, but the honours of the evening were achieved by the individual members of the Society who appeared in the second half, and the three overtures given by the Philharmonic Society. A brighter and more taking Choral Ballad than Stanford's setting of Tennyson's story of "The Revenge"—one of the most heroic chapters on England's head-roll of fame—would be difficult to find. Yet it went with a disappointing listlessness on Tuesday evening, contrasting forcibly with previous performances of the Society. Granted that here and there the music is difficult to interpret rightly, and that now and again the Choral demands for its proper expression a larger choir than the Yokohama Choral Society can muster, still this does not account for the mediocrity of the whole. Far more ambitious work has been attempted and carried to a triumphant success in the days when the Society was weak in numbers compared to the present day; a little more whole-hearted energy thrown into the practises "The Revenge," we cannot help but think, would have been all that was required to sustain the reputation attained in the last two concerts. The tenors, we are glad to notice, are a little stronger than on the occasion of the autumn performance, but they still require a good deal of [illegible] to balance with the other portions of the

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choir; but the accomplishment of this, we imagine, is only a question of time. The youthful Philharmonic Society in its three pieces scored a great success. Really, it would appear as if Yokohama expended the best of its musical energies in the early years of a Society's existence: we hope that this may not be the case with the Philharmonic, but precedents once set in a community such as ours, are difficult to break away from. Let us hope that the Y.P.S. may prove an exception to the rule and set an example of unflagging zeal at all and every concert to which it may lend assistance in the coming years.

The first half of the programme was entirely filled with the Overture "Le Cheval de Bronze" (Auber), by the Philharmonic Society; and Stanford's Choral "The Revenge." The second part opened with an Overture by the Y.P.S., Mozart's "Le Nozze de Figaro"; this was splendidly given. The vocal quartet which followed, Pinsuti's "Good-night, beloved," was encored and had to be repeated. The singers were Mrs. Mollison, Mrs. Read, Mr. Nicholas, and Mr. Walford, and their rendering of the music was above all praise. Mrs. McIvor made her *début* on the Yokohama concert platform in the next number, a Caprice by Moskowski, and drew forth long and hearty applause. She has a dainty touch and thoughtful appreciation of the composer's varying moods, to which she gave sympathetic expression. The audience would have liked the piece to be repeated, but as the hour was drawing on, Mrs. McIvor returned merely to bow her thanks. The song given by Mrs. Irwine, "La Cattà," was, as usual, very charming; seldom have we heard the gifted songstress to finer effect. A recall was given but could not, unfortunately, be acceded to. Mr. Schmid followed with two short solos on the violoncello—(*b*) "Impromptu" (Widor), and (*a*) "Andante" (Goltermann). Both were delightfully played, and in response to a loud and persistent encore, Mr. Schmid gave an exquisite Schlummerlied. The concert was brought to a conclusion with a capital rendering of the Overture to "Zampa" by the Philharmonic Society. During the evening accompaniments were played by Mrs. Poole and Miss Leach; Mr. Griffin presided at the organ, and Miss Griffin at the pianoforte, and Mr. C. I. Fraser wielded the conductor's *batón* during the performance of "The Revenge."

THE JAPAN SOCIETY.

SWORDS AND SWORD FURNITURE.

The sixteenth ordinary meeting of the Japan Society, being the first meeting of its fourth session, was held on 14th Jan. at 20, Hanover-square, W. Mr. A. Diósy, Vice-Chairman of the Council, was in the chair. An exhaustive paper on "The Decoration of Swords and Sword-furniture," by Mr. E. Gilbertson, M.J.S., of Ilfracombe, was read by Mr. M. B. Huish, LL.B., member of Council, the author being unable to come up to London. The paper was illustrated by a large series of beautiful photographic lantern-slides of objects in Mr. Gilbertson's famous collection, and by a loan exhibition of carefully selected specimens from his collection, and from those of Mr. Huish, Mr. Harding Smith, and other members. We take the following extracts from Mr. Gilbertson's paper:—

The history and traditions of the Japanese sword, and the composition, modes of forging, tempering, and finishing the blade, are all subjects of great interest. But it also appears to me that the sword and its fittings illustrate to a greater extent, and in greater variety than any other object, some of the arts in which the Japanese excelled, and their application to decorative purposes. The Japanese gentleman wore no jewellery, that the goldsmith's art as understood by Western nations was practically unknown, but in reality it was carried to very high perfection, though chiefly employed for the decoration of the sword, and, in a smaller degree, of armour. For his weapons the Japanese noble spared no expense, nothing was more highly prized than a first-class sword, and the most eminent artists and artisers were employed in its decoration. The alloys, combinations, and treatment of the metals used for the guards and mounts of swords interest the metallurgist, while to the artist the wonderful dying and chasing are equally attractive. The Japanese chasers had at their disposal, by the fusion of the many-coloured patinas on their bronzes, a most remarkable palette of colour, entirely unknown to the art workmen of other nations. The blade of a Japanese sword was never, so far as I can learn, damascened in gold like the ordinary Oriental blades; I have however, seen the maker's name so damascened on the tang, which was a custom with some of the Koto, or "old sword" smiths. At the end of the twelfth and beginning of the thirteenth centuries we find on the blades, not only engravings, but intaglios representing usually the dragon round a sword, or figures, almost exclusively of Fudo. Bonji inscriptions, that is, invocations in old Sanscript, are also common, with more or less conventional representations of the ken, or straight sword, or a Bonji character converted into a vague semblance of the dragon round the sword. The halbert of Bishamon is another object frequently represented, and all these had doubtless a special significance, as well as being ornaments. Longer inscriptions are not uncommon; one of my blades has the Bonji invocation of Fudo on one side, and on the other an astrological Chinese group of four characters. On a blade dated 1309, is "kimi manzai"—"long life to the lord" or prince, and this is repeated on one of my swords, upon the scroll held by Kanzan and Jittoku. On another blade is an inscription in intaglio rilevato to the effect that "on the battle-field the front rank is the place for the warrior." The most usual mode of decoration is by means of the "hi" or grooves, the larger ones serving also to render the blades lighter without injuriously weakening it.

The common people called these grooves "chinagashi,"—blood channels—and we sometimes find them filled with red lacquer. Another style of decoration was the combination of pierced work and chasing, the subject being in most cases the "ama kurikara" or "dragon round the sword." This was usually either in a large groove, or in a panel with a triangular end to it, the metal being cut quite through the blade to detach the outlines. This was a very early mode of decoration, for it appears on a large blade by Muramasa in my collection, as well as on many blades by Masamune. The deep chasing on grooving on the back of the blade was rendered possibly by the composition and the mode of tempering it. In the latter operation by covering the rest of the blade with clay, mixed with other substances, so as to leave only a narrow cutting edge exposed to the fire, the smith was enabled to bring that exposed part to the temperature required, while altering that of the rest of the blade so little that its character remained unchanged when the blade was plunged into the tempering bath. The result was that while the edge of the blade was rendered intensely hard, the back of it remained soft enough to be easily chased. The base of the blade and a portion of the tang is covered by the "habaki," a piece of metal surrounding the blade, and fitting the wooden scabbard tightly, so as to preserve the edge of the sword from contact with it. It is made of bronze or copper, usually gilt, and roughened by diagonal file marks to enable it to bite the scabbard and keep the sword from falling out. "Habaki" are often of silver, or covered with a thin plate of gold, sometimes ornamented in relief, and one of my habaki of gold has a Fudo engraved by Somin. The hilt of the sword, sometimes eighteen inches, or even more, in length, is generally covered with "samé," usually rendered "shark skin," but really that of a species of ray, the rhinobatus. It is white and covered with nodules, and what is called "samé-nuri," or shark-skin lacquer, is this skin, the nodules rasped down partially, covered with black lacquer until the hollow portions are filled up, and then ground down smooth and polished. It has then the appearance of rounded discs of ivory set in black lacquer, and is often used as a covering for scabbards. Over the "samé" is the "taka-ita," a braid wound round in various patterns, leaving rhomboidal spaces through which the "samé" is visible; it also helps to keep in their places the two ménuki, or metal ornaments, one on either side of the hilt. On some of the ordinary swords the menuki are of fine workmanship and occasionally signed. But the main features of the hilt are the Kashira and the Fuchi, the pommel, and the ring into which the base of the handle fits. These, with the Menuki and the Kozuka, were called the "mi-to-koro mono" or "objects of three places," and were usually the work of the same artist so as to insure uniformity of style. The "Kashira" or pommel, was of course the chief of the two pieces on the hilt, and was different both in form and style of decoration on the ordinary sword from that used in the "tachi" or court swords, on which it was called instead of "Kashira," the "Kabutogāně" from "Kabúto," a helmet. These "Kabúto-gāně" were frequently an inch and three quarters in depth, the top of an ogee form, and the broader sides open. In this open space we usually find a ring, or a loop of metal reaching to the other side of the hilt, called the "sarú te" or "monkey hand," sometimes it being really two monkeys' arms with the hands joined. From the "sarú te" hung a cord and tassel, generally of leather with ornamental ends of metal. In spite of the small surface at the disposal of the artist, an oval rarely exceeding 1¾ in length, and 11-16 of an inch in breadth, we find very beautiful and spirited designs on the "Kashira," combined with the most perfect workmanship. As a rule they are admirable specimens of goldsmith's work, and the productions of the most celebrated chasers of Japan. The principal part of the subject represented is executed on the "kashira," the less important on the "fuchi."

The "fuchi-kashira" have been, in my opinion, unwisely neglected by collectors and students of Japanese art, for not only do we find in them the most perfect examples of minute chasing by the best masters, and remarkable combinations of coloured metals, but the form of the "kashira" permits the artist to treat his subjects with a boldness of relief and variety of plane incompatible with the use and position of the "kosuka." We find in them also styles of work and of subject by a given artist rarely seen in other objects. The "kozuka," or knife-handle, found only on the wakizashi, the chisaitotana, and the small swords and daggers, is the most important of the "mi tokoro mono," and although when these three pieces are the work of the same artist, it always forms part of the general design adopted for the fuchi-kashira and menuki, we often find the kozuka by a totally different artist and only in general harmony with them. The more extended surface of the kozuka gave the artist greater scope for his design than the fuchi or the kashira, and it is here, therefore, that we meet with the finest examples of engraved work. And this engraved work merits careful examination, for although it is done with a small pointed chisel and a hammer, the lines are as free and delicate, and the curves as true as if they were produced by the etching point or the graver. With a strong magnifier we can often trace the separate blows of the hammer on the thicker lines, but the way in which the strokes of the writing brush are reproduced by the chaser is not the least interesting of the examples of technical skill found on sword mounts. The "Kogai," found like the Kosuka only on the small swords, is usually in one piece, but sometimes in the form of a pair of chopsticks, either of square section or imitating two sprigs of bamboo. The former often have the outer surface decorated in intaglio, and are signed, as are those in one piece, having a surface resembling that of the Kosuka at its upper end, and decorated in harmony with it, although not always by the same master. Besides the Fuchi-Kashira, Menuki, and Kozuka, there are other mounts on the scabbard, quite as elaborately decorated, especially on the small swords, and the "aikuchi" or daggers. The "menuki," too, on the scabbards of these short swords or daggers, are generally of a far more elaborate and important character than those on the hilt, and often cover no inconsiderable portion of the scabbard. Some are of very fine workmanship, although rarely signed, and are frequently of solid silver; but the signature is often to be found on one of the other mounts when they are all by the same master. These mounts are met with not only on the small swords, but on the "Chisa-Katana," a sword of intermediate length, worn instead of the pair of swords, and which has also the Kozuka attached to it. The "Ashi" or collars surrounding the scabbard of the "tachi," and by which they were slung, were rarely ornamented, except on those of the earlier period—the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries.

The Tsuba or guard is the special part of the sword mounts on which the skill of the Japanese chaser was exhibited in its highest perfection, and in addition, the body of the guard itself, and its composition are objects of the greatest interest to the metallurgist. What the very early tsubas were like, the material of which they were made, and their style of decoration, if any, appears to be somewhat uncertain. In the treasuries of the temples many swords are preserved which belonged to historical personages of the twelfth and thirteenth centuries, but so far as I can judge from the representations and descriptions, all these with tsubas have been remounted, and their fittings are for the most part the work of the Gotos, not earlier, that is to say, than the fifteenth century. It seems to be generally accepted that Kanliye, said by M. Gonse to have worked at the end of the fourteenth, and by others at that of the fifteenth century, was the first maker of tsubas artistically decorated. In dissecting some of these early iron tsubas with subjects in relief, such as busts, &c., I found that a hollow place was cut out, in the form of the object to be represented in relief, the bottom made quite smooth and flat, the sides a little undercut. A piece of iron the exact size and shape of the cavity, was fitted and hammered into it, probably while the tsuba was hot, but there was no filling or soldering. We may

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I think, attribute to the fifteenth century many of the unsigned iron tsubas with rather conventional saw-cut silhouettes of birds, leaves, or animals, as well as most of those ornamented with hammer dints and punch marks, which were probably the work of armourers. This was the case with Nobuiye, one of the famous Miochin family of armourers, whose iron tsubas are highly esteemed. They are much more artistic than those of Kaneiye, some of them are of open work, others with heads or masks in relief, and the more simple ones with diapers or punch marks. But the most perfect workmanship in these early iron tsubas is that of Umetada, who lived about the middle of the seventeenth century, according to the Leuko Furiaku. His hammer work is perfect, and in *l'art Japonais* there is the representation of a tsuba by him, dragon-flies in intaglio, a style only used by him, I think; a very fine work, of which I have a replica. Goto Yujo, however, who lived between 1434 and 1512, is really the father of artistic sword guards, and he often worked from the designs of the great painter Kano Motonobu. There was a long succession of the Gotos, and it was they who introduced the peculiar ground of raised dots known as "nanako," or fish-roe ground, and also the profuse employment of gold, which in the last and early part of the present centuries, degenerated so easily into tawdry vulgarity.

To the sixteenth century belong those admirable specimens of sawcut work in iron representing crysanthemums, kiri, and other crests, but these and the open work tsubas are rarely signed. Another type of iron tsuba is evidently derived from European sword guards, probably from those of Fernando Mendez Pinto and his companions. Many of these are exceedingly elegant and of first-class workmanship. They have pierced and undercut tendrils, often very slender, and as a part of the design, figures or dragons, the edge being sometimes beaded, sometimes pierced. They seem gradually to have altered their character and quality, and finally to have ceased altogether to be made. They are never signed, I think, and it is probable that their use was limited to certain districts, and that the fashion lasted for a limited period only. In the early part of the seventeenth century Hirata Domin, or Hikoshiro, introduced enamelled tsubas. The *Kinko Benran* states that he learned the art of enamelling from the Koreans, but this could only apply, I imagine, to the ordinary style of cloissonné enamel, and not the translucent enamel on gold with which he decorated his own tsubas, and which is so well known as Hirata enamel. We find his successors, for the Hirata family have continued his traditions down to the first half, at least, of the present century, applying the same style of decoration, but chiefly to Shakudo, especially in their more recent works. We have also enamelled kozukas and tsubas by Tomoyasu, Omori Jenbiko, Hamani Kuzui, Kaisuoki, and Ishiguro Masayoshi. Champlevé enamel was executed by Hirata Jokosai, a tsuba maker of the seventeenth century, and by others who did not sign their work, some of which is assigned to a still earlier date, but with no sufficient ground. Tsubas with the design in very low relief, the ground being etched away with acid, are not uncommon both in bronze and iron, and I am inclined to believe that some of the effects in the latter metal have been produced by acid, as well as certain peculiar grounds on the bronze tsubas. On some etched sentoku tsubas the strokes of the etching needle in removing the ground are distinctly visible with a magnifying glass. The open work tsubas of the seventeenth century, of iron, are of very fine design and execution, the most eminent of the artists in that style being Ishikawa Kinai, of Echizen, most of whole tsubas are of open work. There is a class of open work tsuba in which the iron left bears a very small proportion to that which is cut away; it is called the Akasaka Tsuba, and was introduced by Tadamasa of the Akasaka quarter of Yedo, from which it derived its name. The so called Joken-in period, from 1681 to 1708, that of the Shogun Tokugawa Tsuneyoshi, is considered by Japanese connoisseurs the culminating point of many branches of Japanese art. It was about that time that the three great schools of chasers which branched off from the Gotos, were founded, namely the Yokoya, Nara, and Hamano Schools. To that secession we owe the wonderful beauty and variety which has characterised the work of the Japanese chasers and tsuba makers, and which it retained until late in the present century. Even the Goto School revived under Goto Ichijo, and in my opinion in a style far superior to its old and formal mannerism which has been so highly extolled. The first great seceder from the Gotos was Yokoya Sayo, called also Moritsuga, a pupil of Goto Ijujo who, about 1640, formed a school of his own, in conjunction with [illegible] was he of whom the Prince of Todo ordered five hundred kozukas of one pattern. But the glory of the Yokoya School was Somin, whose works, according to M. Gonse, are extremely rare out of Japan. He worked a great deal from the designs of his friend Hanabusa Itcho, and lived between 1670 and 1733. There was another Somin, his grandson, the fifth Yokoya, who flourished in the latter part of the eighteenth and beginning of the nineteenth centuries, and the signatures of the two are identical. Another very distinguished family of chasers is assigned, sometimes to the Hamano, although like others of the eminent masters of three great schools, they founded one of their own. This was the Omori family, of whom Terumasa, a pupil of Soitsu, was the first, and who died in 1772. But the most eminent of the Omori was Teruhide, who died in 1798, so well known by his chasings of waves, which are remarkable for their freedom of treatment and bold undercutting.

The Nara school was founded by Nara Toshiteru, another seceder from the Gotos, who entered the service of the Shogun Iyemitsu in 1624. He worked chiefly in iron, and more in the style of the masters of the fifteenth century than of the seventeenth. The first great master of the Nara school was Toshinaga (1667-1736); there were two of this name, distinguished as Yei Toshinaga, the master, and Jin Toshinaga, the pupil, who was the eminent one. The distinction in their names arises from the character used by each in writing the "naga" of their name, the first using the character "yei," the other "jin," both characters being read "naga," and both indicating length, but "yei" is length of time, "jin," longevity; and "naga" of dimension. Jin Toshinaga worked both in iron and in bronze. Nara (or Ichisando) Joi, a pupil of Nara Zenzo, is an admirable master of this school, working chiefly in bronzes and rarely in iron, his style being scarcely recognisable in the latter metal. He made tsubas, kozukas, and fuchi kashira, all of them equally fine. The glory of the Nara school was Nara Yasuchika, the "prince of chasers," who worked chiefly in sentoku, and lived between 1670 and 1744. His family name was really Tsuchiya, and he studied under Nara Tokimasa. When he shaved his head and retired, he signed Toū, and his son signed Yasuchika, but his work is very inferior to that of his father. The Hamano school was founded by Hamano Shozui, a pupil of Jin Toshinaga, and who died in 1769. He used a multitude of names in addition to that of Shozui, the most common being Miboku, Otsuriuken, and Rifudo. He worked both in iron and bronze, and as in the case of Toshinaga, there is sometimes a strange contrast between his work in the two metals.

It is to the men of these three schools and to their followers, that we owe the multitude of fine works produced during the eighteenth and early part of the nineteenth centuries. They had the courage to cast aside the weak and effete elements of the Goto school, chiefly distinguished by a vast amount of patient and skilful labour with a very poor artistic result. They introduced, and used most skillfully, the wonderful palette of colour furnished by the patinas of the various alloys, and they availed themselves of a far wider range of subjects. In the sword furniture of the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries we have examples of chasing unsurpassed anywhere for technical skill, and that have no parallel as pictures, because of the variety of alloys introduced. In the work of the Japanese chasers, as in their carving, there is one very striking feature, the air of flexibility given to such objects as serpents or dragons. They have the appearance of being modelled in wax, rather than of being sculptured in a hard substance. In a tsuba by Michinaga of Mito, representing a serpent winding in and out of a piece of weather-worn wood, and making for a frog, the serpent is not flattened, but round. It is of copper, and must have been twisted and bent by the hammer, but there is no trace of that, and had it been cast in pure lead and put into its present position it could not have a greater air of flexibility. It has also the great merit of not looking, as most chased or carved serpents do, like a stuffed snake skin. Some of the iron tsubas bear inscriptions incised; one of mine has "Kai-un," "a change for the better;" another, with algeneral's baton, or "saitrai," helmet, &c., has deeply incised on one side the prayer "Namu Amida Butsu," and on the other, "Universal peace; Sun and moon ever bright." On another, there is a spider in its web, a cicada, and a mantis, with an inscription to the effect that they represent the three virtues of a general, namely—cleverness, the spider;—humanity, the cicada;—and courage, the mantis. All these three are of iron and their destination is highly doubtful. The dragon-fly, usually [illegible] kiku crest, or conventional chrysanthemum, is, of course, an emblem of victory and of Japan, and when, as is often the case, a gadfly is added, it refers to the story in the Kojiki, of the Emperor Yuriyaku, and the dragon-fly killing the gadfly that settled on him. The tsubas with the seven stars refer to the Tanabata *fête* on the 7th day of the 7th month, and those with numerous constellations damascened upon them, possibly belonged to priests' swords. The eagle swooping on a monkey at the foot of a tree is so frequently met with that it must have a meaning, and the tiger and storm dragon is a very common subject. Some of these have probably been used on the swords of a particular class of persons, but the subject has never been alluded to in any work I have met with. The decoration of the scabbard of the sword varied both in extent and character, according to the size and the purpose of the weapon. In the "tachi" or slung Court swords, the lacquering was regulated by strict etiquette, a particular colour and style being used on different occasions, and the number and position of the crests prescribed. The slung swords were also worn in battle, those of the commanders having the scabbards usually covered with the skin of a bear, leopard, or tiger, the end of the scabbard broadened out like a fox's brush. These were called "shirazaya." An imitation of them in wood, lacquered, was worn in horse-racing. The daggers and short sword of wood, with carved insects in ivory, tortoiseshell, &c., having for the most part tsubas of carved wood, are said to be mostly work of the present century, and to have been worn by the head men of villages, and I have not found any reference to them in Japanese works. As a rule their blades are of very poor quality; but some wooden scabbards are of a different character, ornamented in a different style, and signed by Shibayama, Toyomasa, or other celebrated carvers.

To those who have specially directed their attention to the sword and its mounts I need hardly apologise for the meagreness and poverty of this sketch. The time and space at my disposal renders it impossible for me, even were I competent to do so, to enter fully into any part of the subject. My chief object has been to indicate how very wide and interesting a field of study and observation is opened by the Japanese sword and its fittings, and to suggest that every branch of it merits the attention of collector and of the student.

THE DISCUSSION.

After the reading of the Paper, Mr. W. Gowland, F.C.S., Member of Council, late of the Imperial Mint at Osaka, delivered a most interesting address on Prehistoric Japanese Swords and on the metals and alloys used in the decoration of Japanese swords and sword furniture.

This was followed by an animated discussion, in which Messrs. Chas. Holme (Hon. Sec.), Huish, W. Harding Smith, Diósy, M. Garbutt, and other members took part.

Mr. T. Okumura, L.L.D., proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. Gilbertson, which was carried by acclamation.

Mr. A. Diósy, in closing the meeting, said that Mr. Gilbertson could not have chosen a more appropriate subject for his admirable paper, as the sword of Japan was very much to the fore of late.—(Cheers.) Such an exhaustive paper by an authority like Mr. Gilbertson was a boon to all lovers of Japanese art.

It was stated at the meeting that the Society, not yet three years old, already number 620 members, and that candidates continue to apply for election daily.—*L. and C. Express.*

CHESS.

(All Communications to be addressed to the Chess Editor.)

The Yokohama Chess Club meets at the Club Hotel, No. 5, Bund, on Monday and Thursday in each week from 5 to 11 p.m.

The Tokyo Chess Club meets at the Tokyo Hotel every Friday from 1 to 7 p.m.

SOLUTION TO PROBLEM No. 165.

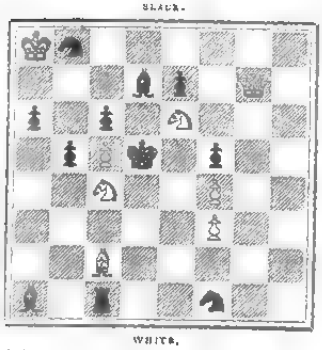
WHITE.	BLACK.
1—B to Kt 2	1—R × Q or B × B
2—B to Kt 3	2—Any
3—B to Q 5, mate	
	1—R × B
2—B to Kt 3	2—R × B, or P
3—Q to R 8, mate	
	1—P × P
2—B to B 2	2—Any
3—B to K 4, mate	
	1—Kt moves
2—B to K 3	2—P to Q 4
3—B × P, mate	

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rect solutions received from Omega, W.H.S., uma, Stogi, Kr., E. J. King, and J.D.

Problem No. 167.
By K. Erlin.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in three moves.

Game No. 223.

following exceedingly fine game was one of ultaneous games played at the Newcastle Club during Mr. Blackburne's visit. We as a rule, publish games won against the player, as they are usually the result of s by the master, but this is an exceptional Mr. Blackburne has praised very highly bson's play.

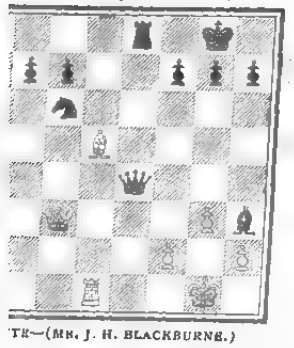
EVANS GAMBIT.

WHITE.	BLACK.
. Blackburne.	J. W. Robson.
P to K 4	1—P to K 4
Kt to K B 3	2—Kt to Q B 3
B to B 4	3—B to B 4
P to Q Kt 4	4—B takes Kt P
B to B 3	5—B to R 4
P to Q 4	6—P takes P
astles	7—P takes P (a)
P to K 5 (b)	8—P to Q 4 (c)
P takes P *en pas* (d)	9—Q takes P
Kt to Kt 3	10—Q to Kt 3
Kt to R 3	11—K Kt to K 2
P takes P	12—Castles
R to K sq.	13—R to K sq.
P to K 5 (e)	14—Kt takes Kt
Q takes Kt	15—B to R 6 (f)
P to Kt 3	16—B takes Kt
Q takes B	17—Kt to B 3
B takes R ch.	18—R takes R
K to Q sq. (g)	19—Q to K 5
K to Q 5 (h)	20—Kt to Q 5 (i)
B takes Q (j)	21—Kt to K 7 ch.
K to R sq.	22—Kt takes Q
R Q B sq.	23—R takes B (k)
K B 3	24—R to K 6

And White resigned.

before Black's 20th move, Kt to Q 5.

BLACK—(MR J. W. ROBSON.)



TE—(MR. J. H. BLACKBURNE.)

wn as the Compromised Defence It is theo- enough, but in actual play, it is difficult to avy attack White obtains. P to Q 3 is safer, ormal position.

ows better than Mr. Blackburne that 8—Q to ut he doubtless wanted to puzzle his opponent bsolete form of attack.

a Pawn at once to obtain freedom; but Black umerical superiority by K Kt to K 2, 9—Kt P; 10—Kt takes B P, Kt takes Kt; 11—B kes B; 12—Q to R 5 ch., P to K Kt 3; 13—Q

was much better, producing equality at once; s is no "drawing master."

ne censures this move; but, on the face of , and would have proved so but for Mr. e play afterwards.

cy-note of a counter-attack, which is cleverly rately executed.

icipation of Black's next move, but over- g one.

rning the tables, as it defends the mate and

s a "bolt from the blue," which is worthy himself, and is distinct evidence of chess er.

(j) He had nothing better. Black's last move threatened mate on the move by Kt to K 5. If 22—Q or R takes Kt Black forces mate in two by Q to K 8 ch. ! and if 22—B to B 4, Kt to B 6 ch. with destructive effect.

(k) Correct and decisive. White cannot take the Kt on pain of mate.

London versus New York.

A special dispatch to the *S. F. Chronicle* from New York states that the Manhattan and British Chess Clubs will play their great match on ten boards in one sitting by cable on March 9th. Professor Rice of New York will act as umpire for the British, who will select their team from the following players:—Hoffer, Lord, Mills, Guest, Locock, Donisthorpe, Trenchard, Mortimer, Heppell, Hunter, Owen, Mundell, Woodgate, Lunn, and Hirsch. The Manhattan Club will rely on Showalter, Hodges, Delmar, Hanham, Devisser, Baird Brothers, Isaacson, Simonson, Ettlinger, Davidson, Rocamora, Ford, and Ryan. The contest is creating a great sensation in Europe, as the experiment of playing ten games simultaneously by cable has never been tried. The cable company will connect rooms in New York and London by direct wire, and two operators will work on either end, one receiving and the other transmitting moves. In all probability a trial will be made March 7th, when one game will be played between these clubs.

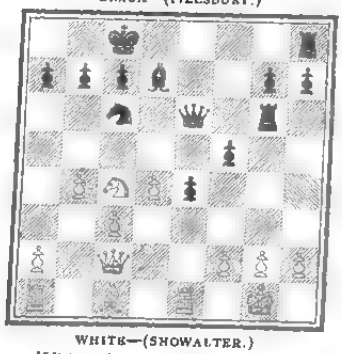
Game No. 224.

Below is given the score of a game played between Showalter and Pillsbury in the final round of the "Cup" tourney at Buffalo. The notes are by Showalter.

WHITE. Showalter.	BLACK. Pillsbury.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—Kt to K B 3	2—Kt to Q B 3
3—P to B 3 (a)	3—P to Q 4 (b)
4—Q to R 4	4—P to B 3
5—B to Kt 5	5—Kt to K 2
6—P takes P (c)	6—Q takes P
7—Castles (d)	7—P to K 5 (e)
8—B takes Kt ch. (f)	8—Kt takes B (g)
9—R to K sq.	9—P to B 4
10—P to Q 4 (h)	10—B to Q 2
11—O to B 2!	11—Castles
12—K Kt to Q 2	12—B to Q 3
13—Kt to R 3	13—Q R to K sq. (i)
14—P to Q Kt 4	14—R to K 3 (j)
15—K Kt to B 4	15—R to Kt 3 (k)
16—Kt takes B ch.	16—Q takes Kt
17—Kt to B 4	17—Q to K 3
18—Q to Kt 3!	18—R to Kt sq. (l)
19—P to Kt 5	19—Kt to Q sq.
20—Kt to K 5	20—R to B 3 (m)
21—B toKt 5	21—B to B sq. (n)
22—B takes R	22—P takes B
23—Kt to B 4	23—Q to B 2
24—Kt to R 5	24—Q to Kt 3
25—Kt to B 6 ch.!	25—Kt takes Kt (o)
26—P takes Kt	26—R to Kt sq.
27—P to Kt 3	27—P to Kt 3
28—Q to Q 5 (p)	28—P to K R 4
29—P to Q R 4	29—P to R 4 (q)
30—Q R to Kt sq.	30—K to R 2
31—R to Kt 5	31—B to R 3
32—R takes R P	32—P takes R (r)
33—Q to B 5 ch.	33—K to R sq. (s)
34—Q takes R P	34—K to R 2
35—R to Kt sq.	35—Resigns.

Position after Black's seventeenth move, Q to K 3.

BLACK—(PILLSBURY.)



WHITE—(SHOWALTER.)

White played 18—Q to Kt 3!

NOTES.

(a) The Ponziani, or as it is sometimes styled, Staunton's Opening, has been subjected to less rigorous analysis perhaps, than any other prominent opening in chess. It is of kindred nature to the Ruy Lopez, but has never attained a tithe of that opening's popularity. In fact, it is commonly looked upon as leading into positions favourable to the second player, a presumption that we believe to be quite unwarranted, if not altogether groundless.

(b) This move, in connection with Black's fourth and fifth to follow, constitutes what is regarded as the best defence, an invention of Steinitz.

(c) If [illegible] P; 7—Q takes P, B to B 4; 8—B takes Kt ch, P takes B; 9—Q to Q 6! 6—P to Q 3 is sometimes played, but is inferior to the text move.

(d) If 7—P to Q 4, P takes P; 8—P takes P, B to Kt 5! with the preferable game.

(e) A new move with which Mr. Steinitz has sought to strengthen the defence here. We fail to see that it is in any sense superior to the old plan of B to Q 2, etc.

(f) Better, we believe, than Kt to Q 4, B to Q 2, etc., leading to wholesale exchange of pieces without advantage for White.

(g) If Q takes B; 9—Q takes Q ch. P takes Q (Kt takes Q loses the K P) 10—Kt to Q 4, B to R 3; 11—R to K sq., B to Q 6, 12—Kt to K 6! with best game.

(h) 10—P to Q 3 looks strong, but is not really good: 10—P to Q 3, Q takes P; 11—P to B 4! (if Kt to K 5, Q to Q 4! and if 12—R to Q sq., P to Q Kt 4!) B to Q 2 (nor Q to Q 2, which loses by 12—Kt to B 3, P to K 2; 13—B to Kt 5 with an irresistible attack, as Black cannot capture the Kt), 12—R to Q sq., Kt to K 4 and wins.

(i) To capture the Kt would subject Black to attack from the Rooks on the open Kt's file. It must be borne in mind that Black plays mainly to secure a draw in this game, as he needs but half a point to insure him first prize.

(j) Which turns out badly. P to K Kt 4 was no doubt his best course here.

(k) White threatens Kt to K 3, which cannot be stopped by P to R 5, as Kt takes B ch. wins a P.

(l) White threatened to win a piece by P to Q 5. There seems nothing better than the text move, and Black's game is practically lost. See diagram.

(m) If Q takes Q; 21—P takes Q, R to Q 3, 22—B to R 3, R to Q 4; 23—P to Q B 4, R takes P; 24—B to B 5, R to Q 7; 25—B takes P ch, K to B sq.; 26—B to K 3, and wins the R.

(n) If Q R to B sq.; 22—B takes Kt, R takes B; 23—Kt to B 7, and wins exchange.

(o) P takes Kt; 26—P takes P dis. ch., K to R sq.; 27—Q R to Kt sq., Kt takes P; 28—Q to Kt 5, Q to K sq., P to Q 5; and mates soon.

(p) Correctly played. Stopping the advance of the B P as well as confining the R and reducing Black's prospects of drawing to nil almost.

(q) P to R 5; 30—P to R 5, P takes Kt P; 31—B P takes P, and Black must be mated in a few moves, but there is no longer hope in any case.

(r) If Q to K sq; 33—R takes B ch. K takes R; 34—Q to Kt 5 ch., K to R 2; 35—P to R 5, Q to Kt sq.; 35—R to R sq.

(s) If K to Kt sq.; 34—R to Kt sq. ch., K to B sq.; 35—Q to Q 5, and there is no escape.

Lasker.

The latest intelligence from England is that the Champion had recovered his health, and was filling a professional engagement in Liverpool. No further news about the projected trip to the Antipodes.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[Reuter "Special" to "Japan Mail."]

London, February 24.

The Russian Squadron in the Mediterranean has been ordered to the Pacific.

The influenza is again raging in Great Britain.

London, February 26.

The Earl of Rosebery is suffering from a chill and extreme insomnia.

A motion has been brought forward by Mr. Robert Lacey Everett for a Bimetallic Conference, and Sir W. Harcourt, who doubted its utility, accepted the motion, though not in the sense as pledging the Government to bimetallism.

London, February 28.

M. de Staal has been appointed Minister for Foreign Affairs in the place of the late M. de Giers.

["Special" Telegrams to "Japan Mail."]

Nagasaki, March 1, 7.25 p.m.

The U.S. cruiser *Baltimore* has arrived here, and reports that when she passed Weihaiwei on Wednesday the Japanese were destroying the forts and those guns that were unmovable.

(From the "N.-C. Daily News.")

London, February 12.

The French steamer *Gascoigne* has arrived safely in New York.

It is reported that the French Expedition to West Africa, against the Chief Samory, has met with a serious reverse.

The Glasgow Chamber of Commerce has resolved to petition for the abolition of excise duties on low counts of Turkey Reds and coloured yarn imported into Burma, as otherwise the Scotch trade would be killed.

London, February 14th.

Six hundred of the Grenadier Guards have been drilled on the ice on the Serpentine.

London, February 15.

Mr. F. A. Swettenham, C.M.G., Auditor-General for Ceylon, has been appointed Colonel Secretary for the Straits.

A conflict is reported between the French and Siamese troops at Kammoun on the left bank of the Meikong river, in the course of which a French officer was severely wounded.

Tientsin, February 15.

All honours and appointments of which

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Original from UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

has been deprived have been restored to Li Hung-chang, and he has been appointed Special Envoy to Japan.

London, February 16th.

The Viceroy Li Hung-chang has been restored to all the honours of which he was recently deprived, and has been summoned to an audience at Pekin prior to starting for Japan to renew parleying for peace.

A great meeting has been held in London at which twenty-six members of Parliament were present.

The meeting resolved to demand a full debate in Parliament on the cotton duties.

Mr. Chamberlain, in moving an amendment to the Address in reply to the Queen's Speech, stated that he did not hope that the Government would be defeated, but that he desired to expose their tactics is keeping back Home Rule, knowing that the country was opposed in it.

Mr. Asquith, Home Secretary, stated that Home Rule for the present was not a vital question, and that the Government in the first place was resolved to fulfil other pledges.

The debate was then adjourned.

London, February 19.

Mr. Chamberlain's Amendment to the Address in reply to the Queen's Speech has been rejected by a majority of fourteen, viz., two hundred and ninety-six against two hundred and eighty-two. The Address has been voted.

After the division on Mr. Chamberlain's Amendment to the Address in reply to the Queen's Speech, the debate on the Address was closured by a majority of eight, amidst Opposition cheers.

February 20.

H.R.H. the Prince of Wales is suffering from the effects of a chill, caught while skating.

February 21.

The American Loan of sixty-two million dollars has been covered twenty times over in London.

February 22.

The anti-British feeling in Egypt is becoming more pronounced, and *The Times* ascribes this wholly to the influence of the Khedive.

The Cairo correspondent of *The Times* states that the symptoms at Alexandria recall the events preceding the massacres which took place in 1882.

There has been a great influx of Bedouins from the outskirts lately, and an agent of the Khedive has been distributing *largesse*, and listing Bedouins as a Khedivial bodyguard.

The French papers attack Lord Cromer (H.B.M.'s Consul-General and Minister in Egypt), and the British policy.

The *Journal des Débats* justifies the discontent of the Khedive with his Ministers.

(From Japanese Papers.)

Morioka, February 28.

Mr. Sato Shozo was successful in the election of a parliamentary representative for the third district of Iwate Prefecture.

Kobe, March 1.

Cav. de Martino, ex-Italian Minister, left here this morning by the German mail steamer.

Mr. Hitrovo, the Russian Minister, arrived here to bid farewell to the Italian Minister. The Russian Minister and Colonel de Wogack, a military *attaché* in the Russion Legation, who has arrived here from Hiroshima, leave for Tokyo this evening.

Hiroshima, March 1.

Surgeon Kusakari, Chief of the Medical Department of the Fifth Army Division, has received the additional appointment of President of the Temporary Military Hospital here.

Hiroshima, March 1.

The total number of guns captured at the land forts at Weihaiwei was 114, including 24 guns of above 15 c.m. and under 28 c.m., and 90 guns of under 15 c.m. Of the above, 24 heavy guns were destroyed owing to the inconvenience of transporting them, while the remainder will be conveyed to Japan.

The number of Chinese prisoners released at Weihaiwei was 5,124, of whom 3,084 including 183 officers, belonged to the Navy, and 4,040, including 40 officers, to the Army. The foreigners numbered 112, of whom 2 were surgeons.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From America	per O. & O. Co.	Sunday, Mar. 3rd.*
From Europe, viâ Hongkong	per M. M. Co.	Sunday, Mar. 3rd.†
From Hongkong	per O. & O. Co.	Thursday, Mar. 7th.‡
From America	per P. M. Co.	Tuesday, Mar. 12th.
From Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Sunday, Mar. 10th.
From Canada, &c.....	per C. P. R. Co.	Monday, Mar. 18th.
From Europe, viâ Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd	Wed'day, Mar. 20th.
From Hongkong	per C. P. R. Co.	Thursday, Mar. 28th.

* *Oceanic* left San Francisco via Honolulu on February 20th.
† *Sydney* will leave Kobe on March 2nd. ‡ *Belgic* (with English mail) left Hongkong on February 28th.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For Europe, viâ Shanghai	per M. M. Co.	Saturday, Mar. 9th.
For America	per O. & O. Co.	Saturday, Mar. 9th.
For Victoria, B.C., & Tacoma, Wash.....	per N. P. Co.	Saturday, Mar. 9th.
For Hongkong	per C. P. R. Co.	Monday, Mar. 18th.
For America	per P. M. Co.	Tuesday, Mar. 19th.
For Europe, viâ Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd	Friday, Mar. 22nd.
For Canada, &c.	per C. P. R. Co.	Friday, Mar. 29th.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Mount Lebanon, British steamer, 1,555, Chas. Hendry, 23rd February,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Nürnberg, German steamer, 2,007, Hugo Walter, 23rd February,—Hongkong 16th February, Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.

Taiyick, German steamer, 903, Schuldt, 23rd February,—Bonin Island, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Peru, American steamer, 2,540, D. E. Friele, 25th February,—San Francisco 2nd February, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Tordenskjold, Norwegian steamer, 1,240, Hansen, 25th February,—Takao, Sugar.—Flint Kilby & Co.

Ancona, British steamer, 1,880, W. D. Mudie, 25th February,—Hongkong 15th, Nagasaki 20th, and Kobe 24th February, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Cathay, British steamer, 1,870, 25th February,—Hongkong viâ ports, General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Liddesdale, British steamer, 1,716, A. Clarke, 26th February,—Otaru viâ ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ashdown, British steamer, 1,893, Jas. Cowie, 27th February,—Kobe 26th February, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

China, British steamer, 2,600, W. B. Seabury, 27th February,—Hongkong viâ ports, 20th February, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Empress of India, British steamer, 3,003, O. P. Marshall, 28th February,—Hongkong viâ ports, 20th February, Mails and General.—Frazar & Co.

Victoria, British steamer, 1,991, J. Panton, R.N.R., 28th February,—Hongkong viâ ports, General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Abergeldie, British steamer, 2,160, P. K. Barnet, 28th February,—Yokosuka, Ballast.

DEPARTURES.

Glenearn, British steamer, 1,409, Murray, 23rd February,—Kobe, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Fuyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 875, Eden, 24th February,—Moji, Ballast.—Mitsu Bishi Sha.

Strathdon, British steamer, 1,720, C. Johnston, 25th February,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Alexandrine (18), German cruiser, Captain von Frantzius, 25th February,—Germany viâ ports.

Angers, British steamer, 2,076, Bannister, 25th February,—Bombay viâ ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kaijio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,611, R. Pender, 26th February,—Ujina, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Mount Lebanon, British steamer, 1,555, Chas. Hendry, 26th February,—Otaru viâ ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Myrmidon, British steamer, 1,815, Brown, 26th February,—London viâ ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Nürnberg, German steamer, 2,007, Hugo Walter, 26th February,—Hongkong viâ ports, Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.

Peru, American steamer, 2,540, D. E. Friele, 26th February,—Hongkong viâ Nagasaki, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Ping Suey, British steamer, 1,988, Davis, 26th February,—Kobe, General.—W. M. Strachan & Co.

Gerda, German steamer, 1,243, Ehlers, 27th February,—Hamburg viâ ports, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Sikh, British steamer, 2,735, J. Rowley, 27th February,—Hongkong viâ ports, Mails and General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Anaconda, American schooner, 41, A. Lawson, 28th February,—North Pacific, Sealing Gear.—T. M. Laffin.

Eskdale, British steamer, 1,575, Houston, 28th February,—Otaru, Ballast.—Hokkaido Tanko Tetsudo Kaisha.

Golden Fleece, American schooner, 131, P. Hansen, 28th February,—North Pacific, Sealing Gear.—J. Kernan.

Tordenskjold, Norwegian steamer, 1,240, Hansen, 1st March,—Takao, Ballast.—Flint Kilby & Co.

Vedra, British steamer, 1,764, R. H. Prout, 1st March,—Yokosuka, Ballast.

Victoria, British steamer, 1,991, J. Panton, R.N.R., 1st March,—Tacoma, Wash., viâ Victoria, B.C., Mails and General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Empress of India, British steamer, 3,003, O. P. Marshall, 1st March,—Vancouver, B.C., Mails and General.—Frazar & Co.

China, British steamer, 2,600, W. B. Seabury, 1st March,—San Francisco, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per German steamer *Nürnberg*, from Hongkong :—Professor H. Koebele, Messrs. Rud. Böhlke, Hans Nielsen, Emil Petersen, Frank A. Cope, Chan Ching, Ho Kow Pow, Ching Sin, Ah Hoi, Ho Chu Fau, and Mrs. Chope Hen in cabin.

Per American steamer *Peru*, from San Francisco :—Messrs. Alex. Bowers, W. Bowers, Jas. Strouble, and T. Satomi in cabin, and 5 Europeans in steerage. For Hongkong :—Mr. A. G. Smith in cabin.

Per British steamer *Ancona*, from Hongkong viâ ports :—Mr. P. A. Angier, Mr. G. Corti, Mr. Marshall, Mr. Clow, Mrs. Abbott, Dr. Horsey, Mr. Mehta, and Mr. Lambe in cabin.

Per British steamer *China*, from Hongkong viâ ports :—Mrs. C. F. McWilliams and infant, Mr. J. B. Morse, Mr. Geo. Middleton, and Mr. B. Guggenheim in cabin. For San Francisco :—Mrs. E. J. Richardson, Miss Falconer, Miss Harkness, Mr. Geo. Wells, and Mr. Dyce in cabin.

Per British steamer *Empress of India*, from Hongkong viâ ports :—Mr. E. A. Turnour, Mr. A. E. Ripley, Rev. and Mrs. Pockey and 5 children, Mr. S. Komer, Miss Fergusson, Mr. B. E. Fripp, Mrs. H. P. Wilkinson, Commander Litaimoff, Mr. H. G. E. Forster, Mrs. MacArthur, Mr. E. H. Tuska, Captain Crawford, and Mrs. G. W. Taft in cabin; 12 passengers in second class, and 310 passengers in steerage.

Per British steamer *Victoria*, from Hongkong viâ ports :—Mr. Jas. E. Macrae and Mr. Foster in cabin.

DEPARTED.

Per American steamer *Peru*, for Hongkong viâ Nagasaki :—Mrs. Mason and infant, and Mr. Geo. Van Houghton in cabin.

Per German steamer *Nürnberg*, for Hongkong via ports :—H.E. Chev. de Martino, Italian Minister, Madame de Martino, Miss de Martino, Graf Quadt-Wykradt and European servant, Mr. and Mrs. Bunting and 4 children, Mrs. J. Mendelson, family, and European nurse, Mrs. F. Mendelson, family, and European nurse, Miss McDonald, Captain E. Robertson, and Captain Webster in cabin; Miss Ozaki, Dr. Whitney, family, and Japanese servants, Messrs. Kiya Shinzo, R. Bowser, Logan, J. M. Nicor, R. Bowman, D. C. Fusyk, and N. McInnes in second class; 20 Europeans in third class, and 4 Indians, 4 Chinese, and 3 children on deck.

Per British steamer *Empress of India*, for Vancouver, B.C. :—Mr. Blanchard, Mr. W. H. Correll, Mr. J. T. Hamilton, Mr. R. F. Lambe, Mr. and Mrs. Murdoch, Rev. and Mrs. W. X. Ninde, Mr. Geo. F. Ninde, Mr. F. W. Ninde, Mr. Pors, Mr. A. E. Ripley, Rev. Mr. and Mrs. Rockey, and 5 children, and Mr. A. E. Turnour in cabin.

Per British steamer *China*, for San Francisco :—Mr. G. W. Bever, Mr. H. P. Bowie, Mr. T. Cox, Miss E. G. Correll, Miss G. V. Correll, Mr. Wm. Bray, Mr. W. Crellin, Mr. C. M. Dyce, Miss Falconer, Dr. J. M. Flint, U.S.N., Mrs. J. M. Flint, Mr. A. Frank, Miss Harkness, Mr. O. H. Hyden, Mr. F. T. Jacques, Mr. L. T. Jacques, Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Jewett, 3 children and 3 servants, Comte Le Marois, Dr. Muller, Mr. G. Muller, Mr. E. C. Potter, Mrs. E. J. Richardson, Mr. William Sorley, Mrs. A. G. Smith, Mr. John Sorley, Mr. J. Theduro, Mr. V. Weinberg, Mr. Geo. Wells, and Mr. John E. Wright in cabin.

CARGOES.

Per German steamer *Nürnberg*, for Hongkong viâ ports :—Raw Silk for Europe, 36 bales; Waste Silk for Europe, 100 bales.

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British steamer *Victoria*, for Tacoma, viâ Victoria, B.C.:—

TEA.

	PACIFIC COAST.	NEW YORK.	CHICAGO.	CANADA.	OTHER CITIES.	TOTAL.
.....	6	—	504	—	—	510
...	30	—	—	—	—	30
...	161	—	—	—	—	171
.....	197	—	504	—	—	701

SILK.

	NEW YORK.	OTHER CITIES.	TOTAL.
.....	294	..... —	294
.....	294	..... —	294

RATES.

..... 1½ cent. per lb. gross.
..... 3 cents. per lb. gross.
ement (Pacific Coast) $10 per ton.
ement (Overland) ... $14 per ton.

British steamer *Empress of India*, for ver, B.C.:—

TEA.

	CHICAGO AND CANADA.	NEW YORK AND WEST.	NEW YORK AND EAST.	PACIFIC COAST.	OTHER CITIES.	TOTAL.
...	4	—	12	42	10	68
.....	—	—	—	20	—	20
.....	16	—	—	86	—	102
.....	—	—	—	97	—	97
...	283	—	—	—	—	283
.....	303	—	12	245	10	570

SILK.

	NEW YORK.	OTHER CITIES.	TOTAL.
g & Canton	15	..... —	15
.....	169	..... —	169
a	182	..... —	182
.....	366	..... —	366

lish steamer *China*, for San Francisco:—

TEA.

	SAN FRANCISCO.	NEW YORK.	CHICAGO.	MONTREAL.	OTHER CITIES.	TOTAL.
...	381	300	—	—	—	681
.....	189	—	—	—	—	189
...	570	300	—	—	—	870

SILK.

	SAN FRANCISCO.	NEW YORK.	HARTFORD.	TOTAL.
.....	—	130	—	130
.....	—	25	—	25
.....	—	239	—	239
.....	—	394	—	394

REPORTS.

erican steamer *Peru*, Captain D. Friele, left San Francisco the 2nd February; l heavy gales from south-west and west y unsettled weather throughout the Arrived at Yokohama the 25th Febru-y.

TEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

e for the better in this market. Yarn—sales have been made but prices are ings—Some little doing in both 8⅓lb. t there is no life or animation in the y Cottons and Woollens—No busi-

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

PER PIECE.

s—8⅓ lb, 38½ yds. 50 inches	$2.25 to 2.90
s—9lb, 38½ yds. 45 inches	2.50 to 3.25
, 21 yards, 32 inches	1.65 to 2.00
gs—12 yards, 44 inches..	1.70 to 2.35
ted, 24 yards, 30 inches..	2.90 to 3.75
ns and Sateens Black,	

PER YARD.

.....	0.16 to 0.22

PER PIECE.

k, 35 yards, 22 inches ...	7.25 to 9.50
s, 12 yards, 42-3 inches,.	0.85 to 1.00
2.0 to 2.4lb, 24/25 yards,	
.....	1.65 to 1.75
2.8 to 3lb, 24/25 yards,	
.....	1.85 to 2.05
3.8 to 4lb, 24/25 yards,	
.....	2.30 to 2.60
4.8 to 5lb, 24/25 yards,	
.....	2.80 to 3.10

WOOLLENS.

PER YARD.

.....	$0.30 to 0.50
yards, 32 inches best	0.32½ to 0.37½
30 yards, 32 inches	
.....	0.27½ to 0.30
30 yards, 32 inches	
.....	0.20 to 0.25
ning—Crape, 24 yards.	
.....	0.15 to 0.22½
51 @ 56 inches	0.35 to 0.50
ns, 51 @ 56 inches ...	0.60 to 0.65
54 @ 36 inches	0.40 to 0.70
t and Green, 3 to 5lb	
.....	0.60 to 0.75

COTTON YARNS.

PER PICUL.

nary	—
ium	$34.50 to 35.00
to Best	35.50 to 36.50
ne	—
ary	—
ium	36.00 to 36.50
to Best	37.00 to 38.00
Nos. 38/42, Medium to Best	42.00 to 43.00
No. 32s, Two-fold	40.00 to 42.00
No. 42s, Two-fold	43.00 to 46.00

PER BALE.

No. 20s, Bombay	—
No. 16s, Bombay	—

METALS.

No current business worthy of the name. Market easy, and all prices weak, without much quotable change.

PER PICUL.

Flat Bars, ½ inch	$3.60 to 3.65
Flat Bars, ¼ inch	3.65 to 3.70
Round and square up to ¾ inch	3.60 to 3.75
Iron Plates, assorted	3.70 to 3.85
Sheet Iron	4.90 to 5.10
Galvanized Iron sheets	8.50 to 9.00
Wire Nails, assorted	6.00 to 6.25
Tin Plates, per box	6.00 to 6.25
Pig Iron, No. 3	1.70 to 1.72½

KEROSENE.

No sales reported this week. Holders are firm in the absence of arrivals. Present stock is about 700,000 cases, of which quantity only one-seventh is Russian.

American	$1.82½ to 1.85
Russian	1.85 to 1.87½

SUGAR.

Brown—Arrivals have much exceeded sales and prices for Formosa and Manila kinds have broken. Even at the reduced quotations business is not brisk by any means. White—Still quiet with small doings and prices tending downwards.

PER PICUL.

Brown Takao	$3.60 to 3.65
Brown Manila	4.20 to 4.25
Brown Daitong (New)	3.50 to 3.55
Brown Canton	3.70 to 4.00
White Java and Penang	6.50 to 6.60
White Refined	6.25 to 8.75

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

After a very quiet time there is a little more enquiry, but it does not result in much business for export. Holders of good full-size Silks are strong, and the home trade continues to draw its supply of Raw material from this market. On the other hand, fine Filatures and Kakedas are easier and prices lower.

QUOTATIONS.—(NEW SILK.)

Hanks—No. 1	—
Hanks—No. 2 (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 2 (Joshu)	—
Hanks—No. 2½ (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 2½ (Joshu)	—
Hanks—No. 2½ to 3	—
Hanks—No. 3	—
Hanks—No. 3½	—
Filatures—Extra 10/12 deniers	Nom. —
Filatures—Extra 13/15 deniers	Nom. —
Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers	$850 to 870
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den	850 to 860
Filatures—No. 1½, 10/14 deniers	830 to 830
Filatures—No. 1½, 13/16, 14/17 den	830 to 830
Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers	770 to 790
Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	780 to 790
Filatures—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	—
Re-reels—Extra	—
Re-reels—(Oshu) Best No. 1	—
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 deniers	810 to 820
Re-reels—No. 1½, 13/16, 14/17 deniers	780 to 790
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	740 to 760
Re-reels—No. 2½, 14/18 deniers	—
Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	—
Kakedas—Extra	—
Kakedas—No. 1	Nom. 780
Kakedas—No. 1½	Nom. 750 to 760
Kakedas—No. 2	Nom. 710 to 720
Kakedas—No. 2½	—
Kakedas—No. 3	—
Kakedas—No. 3½	—
Kakedas—No. 4	—
Oshu Sendai—No. 2½	—
Hamatsuki—No. 1, 2	—
Hamatsuki—No. 3, 4	—
Sendai—No. 2½	—

WASTE SILK.

Less doing and a quiet market. Buyers want a reduction in price which holders refuse, so there is little chance of trade at the moment. Stock keeps high at 14,000 piculs.

QUOTATIONS.—(NEW WASTE.)

Pierced Cocoons—Good to Best	—
Noshi-ito—Filature, Best	$130 to 135
Noshi-ito—Filature, Good	120 to 125
Noshi-ito—Filature, Medium	110 to 115
Noshi-ito—Oshu, Good to Best	120 to 130
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Best	—
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Good	80 to 90
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Medium	—
Noshi-ito—Bushu, Good to Best	100 to 115
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Best	—
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Good	70 to 75
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Ordinary	60 to 65
Kibiso—Filature, Best selected	100 to 110
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds	90 to 95
Kibiso—Oshu, Good to Best	—
Kibiso—Shinshu, Best	—
Kibiso—Shinshu, Seconds	—
Kibiso—Joshu, Good to Fair	30 to 27½
Kibiso—Joshu, Middling to Common	25 to 22½
Kibiso—Hachoji, Good to Fair	25 to 23
Kibiso—Hachoji, Medium to Low	22 to 20
Kibiso—Neri, Good to Common	12 to 8
Mawata—Good to Best	—

EXCHANGE.

Rates have been steady.

Sterling—Bank T.T.	1/11½
— — Bills on demand.....	1/11⅝
— — 4 months' sight	1/11⅝
— Private 4 months' sight ...	2/0
— — 6 months' sight ...	2/0⅛
On Paris—Bank sight	2.45
On Lyons—Private 4 months' sight ...	2.52
On Hongkong—Bank sight.....	1 % p.
— Private 10 days' sight.	Par.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	71½
— Private 10 days' sight.	72½
On India—Bank sight	182
— Private 30 days' sight.....	184½
On America—Bank Bills on demand.	47½
— Private 30 days' sight..	48⅛
— — 4 months' sight	49⅛
On Germany—Bank sight	1.98
— Private 4 months' sight...	2.05
Bar Silver (London).....	27½

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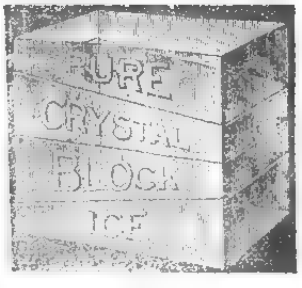
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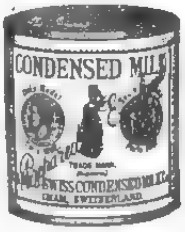
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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

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YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, MARCH 9TH, 1895.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

Mr. Watanabe, Minister of Finance, is steadily improving in health.

THE Tong-hak troubles in Korea are now completely quelled.

A CRUISER built at Yokosuka is to be launched by the Empress to-day.

A RUMOUR comes from Söul as to an attempt by the Tai Wön-kun to commit suicide.

THE accounts of the Yokohama Cemetery now show a balance in hand of $5,287.49.

THE Spring Meeting of the Nippon Race Club has been fixed for May 1st, 2nd, and 3rd.

A HOUSE was destroyed by fire in the native quarter of Yokohama at midnight on Wednesday.

THE ice is reported to have melted on the Peiho and steamers were to run to Tientsin during the week.

THE War Department acknowledges receipt of public subscriptions to the amount of *yen* 2,022,286.

THE average death-rate among the foreign population of Yokohama during 1894 was 13.639 per mille. The average for the past five years is 15.195 per mille.

Two hundred Japanese surveyors are now engaged in an hydrographical survey of the district around Chinchow.

THE two students who were killed on the railway near Shiba, last week, were sons of well-to-do men in Tochigi prefecture.

IT is stated that Their Majesties the Empress and Empress-Dowager and H.I.H. the Crown Prince will visit the Kyoto Exhibition.

MR. KATO, the newly appointed Japanese Minister to the Court of St. James, presented his credentials to H.M. the Queen on Feb. 27th.

THE section between Iidamachi and Ushigome on the Kobu Railway has been completed, and will be opened for traffic on the 15th inst.

AT a meeting of fishermen held at Shimonoseki, it was resolved to petition the Government to obtain increased facilities for fishing in Korean waters.

THERE were 32 Spinning Mills in Japan at the close of last year, employing 8,503 men and 27,969 women. The spindles in operation totalled 488,132.

Two Chinese, who have long been "wanted" by the police, were arrested this week in connection with burglary committed in the Settlement at Yokohama.

H.I.M. THE EMPRESS is going to visit Hiroshima to inspect the Red Cross Hospital. His Majesty will pass two nights in Nagoya, where she will visitthe Hospitals.

THE military coolies at the seat of war have sent upwards of *yen* 600,000 to their families through the agency of the postal savings banks which accompany the Armies.

THE total quantity of wheat harvested in Japan during last year was 19,812,433 *koku* (one *koku* = 5.13 bushels), an increase of 3,187,182 *koku* as against the previous year.

THE total number of cattle slaughtered for food in the capital during last year was 31,525 head, of which 20,316 were horned cattle, 5,298 horses, 5,468 pigs, and 1,706 sheep.

TAKAHASHI UMEKICHI (36), and his wife, Nami (21), living at Nagai-mura, Miura-gun, Kanagawa Prefecture, were murdered in their house early on the morning of the 4th instant.

THE foreign population of Yokohama at the end of 1894, including 1,173 Chinese, was 2,864, living in 999 houses. The British head the list with 797, followed by Americans, 293.

THE heavy snowstorm of the 24th ult. did much damage at Yama-gun, Fukushima, where two men were killed through the collapse of buildings occasioned by the weight of the fallen snow.

Two Japanese steamers collided off Wada Point, Kobe, at 2 o'clock on the Wednesday morning. One was sunk, but her passengers and crew were rescued. The other sustained slight damage.

THE Viceroy Li, accompanied by Mr. Pethick as foreign adviser, and a full suite, is expected to arrive at Shimonoseki, the place selected for reception of the Embassy of Peace, towards the close of the month.

The Japanese First Army, under command of Lieut.-General Nozu, captured Newchwang on the 4th inst., after a few hours' desperate fighting. The Chinese loss includes 1,880 killed and 500 taken prisoners. The Japanese casualties were 206 killed and wounded.

IN Chinese native circles it is reported that Admiral Ting killed himself with his sword, which is considered amongst Chinese the proper thing for a warrior to do, but according to the most trustworthy accounts opium was the agent employed.

THE Committee of the Victoria Public School have disposed of the surplus funds remaining in their hands when the school was closed. Mr. Fardel has been presented with $300, and the Ladies Benevolent' Association have received the remainder, $137.39, to be spent in assisting the education of poor boys.

AN apartment at Head-quarters in Hiroshima has been arranged as the temporary residence of H.I.M. the Empress, who leaves Shimbashi by the 7.30 a.m. train on the 11th inst. She will pass the night at Nagoya, whence she will start by the 9.20 a.m. train on the following day, reaching Kobe at 5 p.m. The Empress will leave Kobe on the 13th at 9 a.m., and reach Hiroshima the same evening.

REUTER Telegraphs:—In official quarters the situation in Egypt is being viewed calmly, as needless importance has been attached to the disquieting symptoms recently recorded. A Mixed Court has been founded in Egypt for the trial of offences by natives against British officers, soldiers, marines, and sailors. Judgments are to be summary and without appeal. It is believed in St. Petersburg that Japan desires serious peace-parleying with the Viceroy Li Hung-chang, knowing that otherwise a bad impression will be created in Great Britain and France. The Emperor of Russia is suffering from an attack of influenza and sore throat. Ismail Pacha (ex-Khedive of Egypt) is dead. Serious riots have occurred among the students of St. Petersburg. The rioters were dispersed by Cossacks, during which many persons were seriously injured. The riots were of a semi-political nature favouring liberalism. The United States Congress has finally agreed to join a Monetary Conference, and Mr. Speaker Crisp will be one of the delegates. Messrs. Fowler, Bannerman, and Asquith are laid up with influenza. The English cricket team in Australia won by six wickets.

THERE is very little to be said about Imports, and with but few exceptions, the Manchester trade is exceedingly dull. In Yarns there has been a small business in double 42's, and that is about all, though these have been sold at better figures. Shirtings, Fancy Cottons, and Woollens, seem all to have drifted into a dead calm. Metals have been sparingly taken at unchanged rates, though prices are at the close slightly in favour of buyers. Still no business in Kerosene, but buyers are strong, notwithstanding an increasing stock. There has not been much done in the Sugar Market, though arrivals about equal sales of Brown sorts. Manila sorts are in best request at the moment, and are quoted a trifle firmer. The recent inactive condition of White sorts has given way to a brisk enquiry, and purchases have been rather freely made at a rise in values. There appears to have been rather more inclination for business amongst Silk buyers, but actual transactions have been damped by the attitude of holders, who are strong. Only small business in Waste. Nothing to say about Tea, but that a continuation of the present we[illegible] will [illegible] forward the new crop at a[illegible] [illegible] has been stea[illegible]

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THE SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS DURING THE WEEK.

The Vernacular Press continues to comment on the Viceroy Li's Peace Mission. None of the papers entertain any doubt as to his coming. With regard to the credentials he is expected to bring, the following view of the *Mainichi's* is approximately that of the Tokyo journals in general :—"Li Hung-chang's credentials must be of such a nature as to fully empower him to represent the Chinese Emperor at the Japanese Court. His is not a mission for negotiating with Japanese Plenipotentiaries. He has simply to receive the commands of Japan. Such being the case, should the great Chinese statesman prove himself true to the necessities of the occasion, it is more than probable that, on his return to China, a fate similiar to that which befel the Chinese Plenipotentiaries that concluded the Ili Treaty with Russia and the Treaty of Tientsin with England and France, will overtake him." The *Choya* has a long leader entitled "What should be done with China?" From it we translate the terms for peace that our contemporary considers proper :—

1.—China must promise not to interfere hereafter in any way in the domestic or foreign affairs of the Korean Kingdom, or to place any manner of obstacle in the way of the relations between Japan and the Peninsular State.

2.—China must conclude a new Commercial Treaty with Japan, which Treaty shall contain, among other things, the three following clauses :—

a. A clause conferring upon Japan unconditionally all privileges that China has hitherto given, or may hereafter give, to European and American Powers.

b. A clause giving to Chinese merchants permission to import, and to Japanese merchants permission to export, table salt.

c. A clause providing for the free export of bean-oil cake from Chefoo and Newchwang.

3.—China must agree to a territional concession consisting of the Shinking Province, the northern half of Shantung and Formosa, together with the islands in its southern vicinity.

4.—China must pay an indemnity, the amount of which should be a thousand million *yen*, if the Treaty be concluded after the Great Wall has been passed by the Japanese Army and Taku bombarded by the Navy; something less if before these events. The indemnity may be paid in yearly installments, the unpaid portion to bear a proper rate of interest.

5.—Until the indemnity is paid up, Japanese garrisons must be maintained, at China's expense, in various places in China, such places to be selected by Japan in accordance with her own interests.

The *Yomiuri* advises Li Chung-tang to have Prince Kung appointed either as his superior or his colleague in the peace mission. The power and influence of the Imperial Prince would do much to lessen the violence of ignorant attacks that the old and proud Mandarins will inevitably make upon the Viceroy after his return to his Sovereign's Court. Unless Kung, or some other equally powerful Prince of the Blood, accompany Li on his mission, the latter's attempt may prove a complete failure, and may even involve the loss of his long and not inglorious life. Touching the problem of receiving the Chinese indemnity either in gold or in silver, which the *Shogyo* considers to have an intimate bearing on the monetary standard of Japan, that journal simply delivers its opinion that one of the terms of peace should be China's adoption of the Japanese system of currency. Our contemporary writes much about the advisability of Japan and China having a common system of tokens of value.

* * *

The *Kokkai* enters a strong protest against the Japanese House of Representatives. The members are blamed for too frequently absenting themselves from the House, for paying altogether too little attention to the discussion of many important subjects, especially the amendment of the Standing Orders of the House, for too hastily entrusting many Bills to Special Committees, for too frequently interrupting long and useful speeches by cries of "Kantan!" "Kantan" (be brief, be brief), and for calling for the closure prematurely and too often.

* * *

The *Kokumin* pleads for Boku Eiko, the Korean Home Minister. Boku is abused, writes the Independent organ, for having tried to wield supreme power in the Cabinet of his country. That kind of ambition is not reprehensible. It cannot be doubted that he is the first man in the Cabinet, and that, as such, he is entitled to strive for paramount influence, especially under such circumstances as the present. Is it mere selfish ambition on his part to wish to form a Cabinet of men of progressive ideas and pro-Japanese sentiments and to lay his plans accordingly? He may be deeply harrassed by the famous French King's thought, "After me, the Deluge," and may be trying by every means in his power to avert, for his country's sake, perils only too evident. The same journal encourages educationists and teachers in Japan to labour in their line harder than ever. It alleges that education may fairly claim in the famous Japanese victories indirect merit scarcely less than the direct achievements of the officers and soldiers in the field.

* * *

The *Kokkai* recommends the Japanese nation to erect a large triumphal arch in Tokyo and also to set up statues of brave generals, admirals, and other persons whose merits in the present war are found to be worthy of such honour. The place selected is just outside the Great Gate to the Imperial Palace. These tokens of national thanks, the *Kokkai* thinks, would do very much to foster the martial spirit and patriotic sentiment of Japan's rising generation. It cites examples of various monuments commemorating victories or triumphs in many a capital-town in Europe and America. The proposed triumphal arch is to be a grand edifice fully characteristic of Japanese Art, and to have famous battles as well as the names of great heroes inscribed on it.

* * *

The *Kokumin* is anxious lest the 4th National Exhibition, to be opened in Kyoto from April, should prove an evil to Japan instead of a blessing. This ominous prediction is based upon the well-known singing-girls, who dwell in large numbers in Japan's old capital, and frequently descend to a greatly lower business than their name indicates. The police Authorities are warmly urged to devise proper means of restraining these troublesome young women from exceeding their legitimate methods of attracting pleasure-seekers.

* * *

After the war, writes the *Jiji*, Japan's alliance will be sought by not a few foreign Powers. In view of that obvious contingency and for certain other reasons, she should, immediately on the conclusion of peace, do the utmost in her power to increase her military and naval preparations and to obtain able men for her diplomatic service.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

JOLLY CAPTIVES.

According to the *Chuo Shimbun*—a very readable and well-edited journal of the *Ko Shimbunshi* variety,—the Chinese prisoners at Sakura are the jolliest crowd of exiles imaginable. They keep up games of all sorts from morning till night, shuttlecock made of a few cash and a couple of feathers being in great request; while sky-larking of some kind or other is always going on. They have on no occasion as yet expressed the slightest desire to return to their native country, if indeed the frequent question as to "Whether the war has come to an end yet?" be not construed in this sense. Their enforced idleness, however, is growing exceedingly irksome and they daily petition the guards to be set at some kind of work, road-making, house-building, or anything else to keep the time from hanging so heavily on their hands. Among the men are one or two self-taught artists of by no means ordinary talents. Their skill is employed in making chalk caricatures of their comrades and erstwhile officers, some of their productions being really very amusing. Needles and thread are frequently divided among them, every man being quite skilled in the repair of his own wardrobe. They profess to like the Japanese wadded *kimono* much more than their own national garb, but find fault with the open sleeves, on the score of their admitting too much of the wintry breeze. They have on several occasions already got up a kind of private theatricals, one or two of the men having formerly been actors. It goes without saying that the unities of the drama are not strictly adhered to in these performances, which are replete with broad jokes and coarse allusions. On the whole, says our contemporary, the men have the average intellect of and behave like boys of six or seven years old in Japan, being harmless, good natured, and full of fun. We think this critique is a little out of place. How else could the men employ their time if not in just such a way? It is gratifying to learn and surely creditable to their captors, that they have no complaints to make and can keep up their spirits under confessedly trying circumstances. But men in their position and without the capibility of work cannot act otherwise that in a seemingly childish way. They must do something, and so long as that something is neither malicious nor an attempt to regain their liberty it is impossible to criticise their actions. At all events it is pleasent reading about their being "good-natured and full of fun."

CRUELTY TO ANIMALS.

We have so often written on the subject of the necessity for the promulgation of laws to prevent cruelty to animals that we hesitate to approach it again. A fresh instance of what Europeans cannot fail to stigmatize as downright barbarous treatment of certain animals has, however, quite recently been brought to our notice, and so forcibly that we cannot let it go without comment. There is, undoubtedly, a gratifying revulsion of feeling with regard to this subject, and it has found emphatic expression within the last ten or twenty months: certain writers as well as speakers inveighing against the horror of inflicting suffering on maimed horses, and urging a greater amount of attention to the needs of the lower domestic animals. Still, that is not enough. In a country where, less than a quarter of a century ago, it was thought nothing to slash at or maim an inoffensive dog by the roadside; where the active employment of horses so disfigured by raw spots, gaunt with hunger, or weakened by disease that they would at once arouse the sympathy of even the most callous Occidental, is today permitted or, at all events, not prohibited by any legal enactment—in such a country it requires more than the mere expression of sentiment to inaugurate a new and better era. The instance to we would make special reference is as follows. A number of metropolitan schools, as well as educational establishments in the interior, have of late been celebrating the victories achieved by the Japanese army and navy. That is but just and timely; but in several cases a new pastime called *buta-uchi*, "hitting the pig," has been introduced, which consists in killing one or more pigs with most unnecessary and unfeeling cruelty. At a school in Yokosuka, a correspondent informs us, the students were allowed to run after certain pigs liberated for the purpose within an enclosure, and *hack them to pieces with their penknifes*, the wretched animals thus dying a slow and agonizing death. Elsewhere in several places—notably in Tokyo on Saturday last—pigs were set "free" in an enclosure and then chased and kicked and beaten to death with the students' naked hands and feet. An eye-witness writes that the intense suffering of the maltreated animals was horrible to behold, until the breath was finally crushed out of their quivering bodies. Such spectacles as these are not calculated to enhance the nation's fame; and we are confident that every right-thinking Japanese citizen will denounce a "pastime" of the kind as tending to brutalize and coarsen the participants: to accustom them to view suffering with nonchalance and arouse the worst traits of destructiveness and love of cruelty. It is reported that the

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nation's Representatives are, just now, finding time hang a little heavy on their hands; the reason for this assumption probably being the multiplicity of bills lately brought forward one day to be withdrawn the next. One could wish that before this session is at an end some large-minded patriot would introduce a bill calculated to put a definite stop to the above evils. There are still foes to fight at home as well as abroad.

A LARGE METAL PLAQUE.

Mr. Tsukada Shukyo, a famous glyptic artist living in Yushima Tenjin, Hongo, intends, says the *Yomiuri*, to send a very large iron plaque to the Fourth Domestic Exhibition in Kyoto. The plate measures 6.3 feet by 3.7 feet, is about 1/10 of an inch in thickness and weighs 108½ pounds. The designengaved on it, which is in high relief, is said to be a dragon on a rock lashed by wild waves. The picture was copied by Soami from a famous *kakemono* in the possession of a certain gentleman. Engraving upon iron was greatly in vogue in olden times, many noted glyptic artists having worked upon helmets and armour, but a plate of the size of Mr. Tsukada's has never yet been engraved and the exhibitor was much perplexed about procuring a suitable plaque. As wrought not cast iron was desired, and none could be found of the given size, a cast iron plate was imported from abroad. In May of the year before last the work of engraving was commenced, but when the greater part had been finished, the plate cracked in spite of the care taken in carving it. A new plate was at once substituted, but this cracked also after it had been worked upon for more than five months. The artist was in despair, and at one time resolved to give up the plan. He subsequently adhered to it, however, and commenced the work a third time last July, and as he has exercised great caution, no accident has occurred thus far. Mr. Tsukada finds it particularly difficult to use his chisel during the cold weather, for owing to the hardening of the metal the plate is very liable to crack. The greater part of the work has now been finished, and it is to be hoped that the plaque will be happily completed

AOTA GOZO.

Aota Gozo, the steward of the late unhappy Viscount Soma, at one-time accused of complicity in his master's mysterious death, is carrying things with a high hand in Tokyo. He was acquitted, our readers may remember, on the score of insufficiency of evidence, but this by no means cleared him, as is generally the case, in the eyes of the public. Aota now holds the post of Managing Director of the Chiba Railway, and is usually to be seen in company with at least three or four gaily-dressed female denizens of Shimbashi. The other day, at the Chiba terminus, flushed with wine, he turned to his *geisha* friends and loudly bade them make use of "my" railway whenever they liked; it shouldn't cost them a *sen*." A bystander overheard this arrogant statement, and asked the nearest guard who the man was. "That," replied the guard, "is Aota Gozo, one of our Directors." On this the bystander grew indignant. "What," said he, "is a man not wholly cleared of the fearful suspicion of having attempted his master's life permitted to act in this way? He should hide his head for very shame and avoid human society for the crime that was almost brought home him. Fie on such a rascal and those who associate with him!" The words were loudly uttered and reached the ears of him for whom they had been intended. Aota turned ghastly pale and rushed from the station, leaving his *geisha*-friends disconsolate and alarmed. Thus the *Kaika Shimbun*.

WHAT'S IN A NAME?

Before the system of individual registration (*nimbetsu*) was adopted at the beginning of the present period of *Meiji*, the majority of the *Eta* —the pariahs of those times—were without either surname or given name, so when the census-takers and registrars made their rounds they were often puzzled to meet with people actually anonymous. It was at this time, finding that they had to have some appellation or other, that numbers of those hitherto social outcasts chose very high-sounding appellations, such as Iyeyasu, Hideyoshi, and the like, there being no prohibition any longer against their so doing. A very similar phenomena was met with after the Civil War in the United States, when the newly enfranchised negroes showed a marked predilection for such styles as "Abraham Lincoln" and "George Washington," not to speak of the aristocratic patronymics of their former masters. It is perhaps in a measure attributable to these circumstances that in the list of persons who have contributed free-will offerings to the War Authorities we find scores of names of former celebrities, which cannot be explained as mere coincidences. From the *Yomiuri Shimbun* we take the following, all of which are the actual names of actual contributors:—Okubo Hikozaemon,—the famous minister and counsellor of Iemitsu, noted for his shrewd bluntness; Kinoshita Tokichi,—one of the youthful names of the Taiko; Kato Toranosuke,—who was none other than the famous general Kato Kiyomasa, Toranosuke being his boyhood name and that by which Hideyoshi ever called him; Matsushita Kaheiji,—who was Hideyoshi's first master; Kawai Matagoro—the hero of a most famous vendetta; Hirai Gompachi,—familiar to the readers of Mitford's "Tales of Old Japan" as the paramour of the peerless Komurasaki; Suzuki Mondo,—a celebrated *bon vivant* and knight errant; Murakami Yoshimitsu,—one of the great military heroes of olden times; and a host of others. Thus history repeats itself.

TROUBLE ON THE "RHEINGOLD" IN KOBE.

A somewhat serious affray, says the *Kobe Chronicle*, took place on the 5th inst. in Kobe between the officers of the German steamer *Rheingold* and Japanese coolies. The vessel was chartered by Japanese from a foreign firm and then sub-chartered to others for the Hokkaido. The vessel having sustained damage on her voyage up, the Captain wired home for instructions. In the mean time, owing to the delay, the sub-charterers found they had lost the return cargo, and having no further use for the vessel attempted to evade their responsibilities: they refused to give instructions to the Captain, in consequence of which the vessel returned to Kobe. On her arrival the sub-charterers made an attempt to unload the vessel, but were told they could not until the charter money was paid. They then took a gang of coolies on board and were breaking open the hatches when the chief officer appeared with a revolver. They, however, hustled him, when he fired into the air, whereupon the coolies stampeded. The matter has been placed in the hands of the German Consul and police are guarding the vessel. No arrests have been made.

THE MERCHANTS AND THE MARQUIS.

An excellent story about Mr. Mayeda Masana is now going the rounds in Tokyo. It is hardly necessary to state that Mr. Mayeda, one-time Vice-Minister of the Agricultural and Commercial Department, is an enthusiast on the subject of the development of this empire's trade with foreign lands. He is forever lecturing on the theme; and has bestowed incalculable benefits on the country at large by starting some of the finest and best-regulated tradal corporations to be found anywhere. Out of all this Mr. Mayeda has personally not only reaped no profit, but has even exhausted the whole of his private means in fostering and setting on foot the many utilitarian schemes with which his busy brain is ever teeming. His addresses are invariably couched in admirable language, shrewd, and convincing. Some little time ago this gentleman was in Tokushima, and while there engaged to deliver a lecture on commercial topics of great local importance. Marquis Hachisuka, the former feudal lord of the Tokushima clan, placed his beautiful villa at the disposal of the lecture-meeting. Now the villa is spoken of as being one of the finest bits of architecture in Japan, not only on account of its external beauty but also because the woods used in building it are of the rarest and most precious description. For that reason the Marquis is careful to invite no one to the place except those that can be trusted to do no injury to it. On the day of the address there was a very large attendance of prominent and deeply interested merchants. Mr. Mayeda's remarks were listened to with the attention they merited. During the course of the lecture, however, a large map had to be exhibited, and for the purpose of hanging this up a folding screen had been brought in. On being attached to the screen, it was found that a number of those present were not able to see it properly and could not thus intelligently follow the lecturer's remarks. When this was intimated to Mr. Mayeda, he grew angry. "What!" he is reported to have exclaimed, "am I, who have spent all my fortune in promoting Japanese industries, to be balked by the price of a piece of wood?" Calling for a hammer and nails, he immediately proceeded to drive a large nail into the carved panel behind him, on which he suspended the map, now visible to all. Those present were speechless at his temerity, but the story ends with alleging that Marquis Hachisuka himself applauded the energetic speaker's action, who is liked none the less because he treats others as he treats himself.

THE PACIFIC CABLE.

From a gentleman who is deeply interested in Pacific cable matters, and who was recently in San Francisco, the *Commercial News* of that city learns that the British proposition regarding the Hawaiian cable will not be favourably received by Congress. The plan of action doubtless will be to introduce a bill into Congress incorporating the Hawaiian Cable Company. No subsidy or any money consideration will be asked. The company, if the bill passes, will then confer with the Japanese, French, Russian, and Hawaiian Embassies with a view to having international assistance given for the completion of the cable. The Japanese and Hawaiian Embassies already have expressed the belief that their respective Governments will furnish material aid, and it is believed that both France and Russia, each of which has a large interest in such an enterprise, will also respond favourably. Should this plan be successfully carried out, the United States will be asked to assist the work, and the cable from California to Hawaii will be under American control in a great degree, while the whole system, which contemplates lines radiating from Hawaii to Japan and Tahiti, will complete the trans-Pacific cable system under international control.

* * *

The U.S. Senate voted a large appropriation for the Hawaiian cable on February 9th; it received the support of Republicans and Democrats. A station on the Farallone Islands is said to be included in the scheme.

ABDUCTION.

In January of last year the only daughter of well-to-do parents residing not far from Surugadai, Tokyo, went on a jaunt to Shinjuku, one of the urban suburbs, there to attend the festival of Yemma Dai-o, or in other words the fête of the King of the Infernal Regions, for Yemma-sama is none other than the Pluto of the Greeks. Now Shinjuku is a quarter of by no means savoury renown, and people of the better classes fight shy of it except on this one occasion, when at least one-tenth of the inhabitants of the capital wend their way thither. As evening closed in, the young lady failed to return: the next day and the next brought no tidings of her, although the frantic parents did everything in their power to obtain tidings of the lost girl. Detectives were employed and an active search was instituted, but to no avail. The young lady had been seen at the fête, and that was all that could be ascertained. It was finally supposed that she had been way laid on account of her rich clothing and other adornments, and as the year drew to a close the sorrowing parents erected a monument in the cemetery attached

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to the temple of which they were parishioners. Some of the young lady's garments were put in a coffin and given a costly funeral: and so the sad episode was let pass as one of those nameless crimes that forever remain undisclosed. A few days ago, however, while the bereaved mother was walking through Kojimachi, her attention was aroused by the antics and quaint posturings of a seller of *amé*, who, as is customary, was accompanied by a young woman singing and playing the *samisen*. The musician kept her face carefully concealed by means of the usual *tenugui*, but there was no mistaking the voice. The mother rushed towards her, tore off the towel, and found that it was in deed and truth her daughter: pale, emaciated, the ghost of her former self. The young woman was at once conveyed to her former home and there told her sad story. She had, in some unexplained manner, been inveigled into the house of the *ameya*, on the day of the fête. Here she was drugged, and awoke the next morning to find herself dishonoured. Under the circumstances she had been ashamed to return to her parents, and kept herself concealed. The *ameya* had not been unkind to her on the whole, but her heart was broken and she had fallen into a decline. The joy of the parents was tempered with sorrow on seeing the condition of their daughter. At her urgent request they forbore to institute criminal proceedings against the guilty man; but they have left the capital forever with the poor victim, who has not, it is said, many months to live.

"THE GREATEST PAPER IN JAPAN."

JUST now, writes the *Yorozu Choho*, the people of London, are better acquainted with the name of this our journal than they are with that of any other newspaper in Japan. For this we are primarily indebted to a misconception of Sir Edwin Arnold. The total amount of subscriptions to the War Fund which have been sent to this office, now stands at considerably over sixteen thousand *yen*, the majority of contributors being people unable to send in more than two to five *sen*. Some little time ago the total of contributions received was 14,653 *yen* 8 *rin*, or, written in Japanese style, *yen* 14,653.800. On seeing this sum published in our columns, Sir Edwin Arnold must have mistaken the 8 *rin* for '800' *yen*, for the *Daily Telegraph* states that our contributors had sent in no less 14,653,800 *yen*. That would be an enormous sum, if true, and easily place us at the head of the newspaper world. It is for this reason that the readers of the *Daily Telegraph* are now persuaded that the *Yorozu Choho* is the first paper in Japan, and that, unpretentious as its size is, it must have a circulation rivalling that of any journal on the globe. We (*Japan Mail*) have not seen the error alluded to in Sir Edwin's paper, yet it would not be an unnatural one owing to the somewhat unusual style of numeration current in Japan. The laugh is this time evidently on the side of the *Yorozu Choho*.

SEISMOLOGICAL THEORIES.

QUITE a number of the vernacular dailies have been canvassing the opinions of their readers for an explanation of the severity and frequency of the recent earthquakes. Some of the theories advanced are highly amusing, science being nowhere in the matter. The opinions of the majority are divided into three classes:—(1) the frequency of earthquakes of exceptional force shows that the Japanese arms will shortly win a succession of brilliant victories, of unparalleled magnitude; (2) the shocks portend a speedy and complete defeat of China, with subsequent disintegration of her territories; (3) and, finally, these earthquakes mean that the end of the war is not yet, and that the dying throes of China will be accompanied by political changes of vital magnitude. Nothing is even so much as hinted about increase of volcanic action, dislocation of strata, or subterranean electric discharges. Such explanations would not suit the popular palate at all.

RAILWAY ACCIDENT.

BY a sad accident, two students of the *Keiogijuku*, Yuzawa Ryozo (19) and Suzuki Tetsu-saku (16), were crushed to death by a down-train from Shimbashi on the afternoon of the 28th ult. They were lodging at a common boarding house in Honshiba, Sanchome, Shiba whence they daily attended Mr. Fukuzawa's school. That afternoon one of their class-mates called on them, and they went out to stroll along the beach. When they were about to cross the line they saw at a distance an up-train coming toward Shimbashi from Shinagawa. They stood a while on the line watching the progress of the train. So absorbed were they that they remained unaware of the approach of another train coming from behind. When they did perceive their danger it was too late. The train struck down Yuzawa and Suzuki, and threw the third lad into the sea. The last lost his senses for a while, but soon recovered, and then ran to the lodging house to give the alarm. When the landlord hastened to the spot with the student, they saw the terribly mutilated corpse of Yuzawa, and the remains of Suzuki some distance off, his bones all crushed, though outwardly his body presented no special signs of mutilation. The two lads were sons of well-to-do men in Tochigi prefecture.

CUSTOMS RETURNS.

THE following is a summary of the Customs Returns for January showing the foreign trade of the empire for the month:—

	1894. SILVER YEN.	1895. SILVER YEN.
Exports	7,556,762.190	12,704,459.900
Imports	8,851.157 860	9.842,040.310
Total exports and imports		22,566,879 670
Excess of exports		2,566,879.670

CUSTOMS DUTIES.

Exports	222.419.040
Imports	337,100.561
Miscellaneous	14,496.049
Total	574.015.650

TOTAL VALUE OF EXPORTS TO AND IMPORTS FROM VARIOUS FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

	Exports. Silver Yen.	Imports. Silver Yen.	Total. Silver Yen.
Hongkong	1,433,038.830	855,669.910	2,288,708.740
China	371,474.200	1,729,2[illegible].780	2,000,661.880
British India	419,891.340	465,020.050	877,912.700
Korea	264,090.290	222,523.590	486,613.880
Philipine Islands	22,809.730	215,006.080	237,815 190
Annam & other French India	1,740.080	112,974.890	114,714.970
Russian Asia	5,973.000	17,557.440	23,530.440
Siam	814,980	13,213.210	23,418.740
France	3,999,896.180	470,573.610	4,470,469 730
Great Britain	838.905.800	3,266,196.330	4,105,102.150
Germany	410,112 090	1,226,554.340	1,636,676.430
Italy	705,321.760	8,389.740	713,691.500
Belgium	1,804.020	141,354.260	143,158 280
Switzerland	19,030,000	64,453.020	83,103 020
Austria	20,527 880	1,840.540	22,364.240
Spain	10,165.000	4,305.020	14,470.020
Holland	3,422.740	3,432.140	11,854.880
Turkey	5,193.000	208.880	5,701.880
Sweden & Norway	—	2,892.720	2,892.720
Russia	2,250.260	292.470	2,547.630
Denmark	—	1,426.080	1,426.980
Portugal	—	16.000	16.000
United States of America	3,786,950.200	873,809.240	4,660,761.340
Canada & other British America	116,107.630	388.100	116,495.730
Australia	168,472.690	137,196.710	305,669.400
Hawaii	8,847.020	—	8,847.020
Other Countries	20,379.280	34,150.780	54,850.600
Total	12,514,336.930	9,862,429.680	22,376,756.600

TOTAL VALUE OF EXPORTS AND IMPORTS FROM AND TO EACH PORT.

Yokohama	9,095,248.740	3,969,827.460	13,065,066.200
Kobe	2,770,383.930	5,146,930.100	7,923,574.030
Osaka	18,769.630	62,026.050	74,195.680
Nagasaki	206,652.980	631,097.490	837,750.470
Hakodate	28,020.800	—	28,020.200
Shimonoseki	192,732.380	49,178.250	241,910 570
Moji	134,739.000	—	134,739.000
Hakata	5,305.100	—	5,305 200
Karatsu	24,184.000	—	24,184.000
Kuchinotsu	191,785.000	—	193,785 000
Idzugahara	1,174.460	2,870.930	4,045.390
Shiohimi	2,337.810	397 500	2,735.310
Sasuna	394.280	502.900	897.180
Muroran	14,750 000	—	14,750.000
Otaru	26,902.500	—	26,902.500
Specie and Bullion	Exports		2,335,908 350
	Imports		449,971.090
Total			2,785,879 440
Excess of exports			1,885,937.260

VALUE OF EXPORTS AND IMPORTS BY JAPANESE MERCHANTS AND GOVERNMENT.

By Japanese Merchants	Exports	1,695,456.460
	Imports	3,237,196.720
Imported by Government		62,787.730

THE MAN HOWIE.

"IF the man Howie," says a vernacular contemporary, "was really among the foreign prisoners at Weihaiwei, we advise Marshal Oyama to have him sent over to Japan. Not that we want to hurt him in any way. Only he is such a unique specimen of humanity that it would be worth while showing him in a booth at so much a head. It is quite possible that he did not get the whole of the sum promised him by China in view of the fact that his little plan failed to work. Here in Japan he would find plenty of people willing to pay a *sen* each for the inestimable privilege of just looking at him. Or he might give a course of lectures—say on the subject of "How I was to blow up the Japanese Fleet and Didn't"—which would assuredly prove attractive. Let us have him here in Japan for a while, just for the fun of the thing." This invitation may be well-meant and express the opinions of a number of people; but for his health's sake we think Howie would do well to steer clear of the shores of Japan in future. There are too many *soshi* to make it all plain sailing for him in this Empire.

H.M.S. "CETURION."

H.M.S. *Centurion* arrived at Hongkong from the North on February the 20th. She went down to have some alterations and improvements made in her machinery, which will probably take a month to effect. Admiral Fremantle did not go down in the flagship, but remains in the North. Just before leaving Weihaiwei the *Centurion* had the misfortune to lose a man overboard. A strong gale was blowing and a very high sea running. While work was going on forward a wave broke over the ship, carrying several officers and a number of men off their feet, but with one exception they all managed to hold on by ropes, rails, etc. The exception was an ordinary seamen named Daniel Edwards, who was washed overboard. A boat was lowered with great difficulty, but Edwards sank before it reached him. Several buoys had been thrown towards him, but the unfortunate man failed to catch any of them. The weather was piercingly cold at the time, and the crew of the boat that had put off to attempt the rescue of Edwards were so benumbed and exhausted that on their return to the ship they had to be assisted out of the boat and have stimulants administered to them.

FORGERY OF A NEW KIND.

A CASE of somewhat unusual interest was brought up, the other day before the Tokyo District Court. It was one of simple fraud, the chief manager of a bogus company having forged certain documents on the strength of which sums of money were obtained from unsuspecting people. The interest lies in the fact that one receipt for two thousand *yen* was foisted on the shoulders of a wholly *fictitious* "John Hamilton," the real writer being so ignorant of the English tongue as to spell "Oriental" *Oliental* and "expenses" *expence*. To another document was attached the signature of a foreigner actually resident in Tokyo; but here again the forgery was of the most clumsy and inartistic description, there being no resemblance whatever between the forged signature and the foreigner's real handwriting. We understand that the case is to be thoroughly sifted and the guilty parties made to understand that forgery is next door to a capital offence.

SILK IMPORTS INTO THE UNITED STATES.

THE following are the Imports of Raw Silk at New York and the Pacific Coast Ports:—

January, 1895.	Bales.	Lbs.	Dollar Value.
Pacific Coast Ports ...	2,316	308,797	925,728
New York	554	120,868	431,156
	2,870	429,665	1,356,884

Imports of Waste, Noils, and Cocoons are:—

New York	545	179,900	$52,187

THE JAPANESE MINISTER TO ENGLAND.

TO-DAY'S *Official Gazette* says that a telegram received from Mr. Kato, Japanese Minister to England, by the Foreign Department, states that his credentials were presented to H.M. the Queen on the 27th of February last.

THE LATEST.

IN answer to the question "What tribes invaded Britain after the Romans left the country?" the densest child in the class, incapable of seeing its own joke, wrote "The pigs and cocks."

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IMPERIAL DIET.

SATURDAY, MARCH 2ND.

HOUSE OF PEERS.

The House met at 10.50 a.m. the Order of the Day being :—

1—Bill (Second Reading) for Supplementing Law No. 25 of the 23rd year of *Meiji*.
2—Bill (Second Reading) for taxing the Bank of Japan.
3—Bill (Second Reading) for amending the Bank of Japan Regulations.
4—Bill (Second Reading) for amending the Savings Banks Regulations.
5—Bill (Second Reading) for amending the Postal Regulations.
6—Bill for amending the District Local Government System.

Viscount Okabe, on behalf of the Special Committee, reported in favour of the first Bill, which provided for the manner of dealing with the paper issues of National Banks closed under ordinary circumstances. The existing law made provision only for the case of Banks closed by official order, but as the period of expiration of the Banks' charters was approaching, and some might choose to continue as private institutions, it became necessary to fix the procedure to be adopted with regard to their paper issues. The Bill supplied the deficiency in the present law, and was therefore approved by the Committee unanimously.

The House passed the Second Reading of the Bill without debate and dispensed with the Third.

Viscount Tani, on behalf of the Special Committee, reported that the opinions of the Committee had been divided on the question of taxing the Bank of Japan. One party had opposed the propriety of the measure altogether, contending that the special position held by the Bank toward the finances of the State entitled it to special treatment. The other had approved of the principal of taxation, on the ground that the Bank was simply a money-making concern and ought to be treated like any other joint stock company. Nevertheless, this second party also were convinced that it would be untimely to tax the Bank at present, and thus, in fine, the whole Committee had agreed unanimously to recommend the rejection of the Bill.

Viscount Yuri opposed the Bill. He invited the members' attention to the history of the empire's finance during the *Meiji* era. In the Tokugawa days the task of bringing together at one time a sum of even a million *yen* severely taxed the capacity of the State financiers. After the centralization of the Government, however, it had become necessary to place the Treasury on a very different footing, and the authorities struck out a programme the leading feature of which had been the issue of notes in the proportion of one *yen* per head of the population. That plan, however, not proving satisfactory, the National Banks had been established, and invested with note-issuing power. But they, too, turned out to be a defective system, and finally the Government, after careful consideration and exhaustive examination of the methods pursued in other countries, had organized a central bank, which at last was found to meet the financial exigencies of the State. The objects of the Bank's formation had been to unify the note issues of the various banks and of the Treasury; to act as a regulator of the money market, and to assist in dealing with the finances of the State. All the functions had been admirably performed by the Bank and it was now within measurable distance of achieving the ends for which it was organized. Especially noteworthy had been the services rendered by it in connection with the China-Japan War. Could anything be more unwise than to impose upon the Bank, at this juncture, a tax calculated to interfere with its development.

Marquis Daigo did not possess any expert knowledge in connection with the subject, but failed to discover a just reason for exempting the Bank of Japan from taxation to which all cognate institutions in Japan were subjected.

Mr. Tajiri, Government Delegate, reminded the last speaker that though at first sight there might be an apparent injustice in requiring the National Banks to pay a tax amounting to $\frac{1}{1000}$ of the notes issued by them, while allowing the Bank of Japan to issue notes without any such tax, it must be remembered that the Bank of Japan was subjected to indirect taxation, since it had to lend money in fixed amount without interest to the Treasury, and also had to perform services in connection with the public funds for which it was very poorly requited.

The Bill being put to the vote found only one supporter, Marquis Daigo.

Viscount Tani, on behalf of the Special Committee, reported that as the third Bill on the Order was correlated to the measure just rejected, no explanation of the Committee's attitude seemed necessary.

The House rejected the Bill unanimously.

Viscount Ogasawara asked that the Order of the day be changed to allow of the immediate discussion of the Bill for restraining the forgery of notes and bonds. The Bill had passed the Upper House last session, and had been examined and approved of by a Special Committee in the Lower House the very day before the sentence of dissolution went forth. Moreover, since that time the need of such legislation had become more apparent than ever, owing to frequent forgeries of notes and bonds circulated abroad. They had just voted a loan of three million *yen* to Korea, and considerable quantities of Japanese paper would therefore be speedily brought into use in that country, so that a unique opportunity would be afforded of uttering false notes among the Koreans who were, of course, little competent to distinguish between good and bad foreign paper. No time ought therefore to be lost in making law of the Bill now in the hands of a committee, and the Government had very properly urged the wisdom of expedition.

The House agreed, and Marquis Nakonomikado, on behalf of the Special Committee, having reported favourably on the Bill, with brief amendments which the Government Delegate approved, a few questions were asked and the House voted for the Second Reading of the Bill, proceeding with it at once, and passing the various articles as amended by the Committee. The Third Reading also was passed.

Prince Konoye presented the following Questions to the Government with regard to the Revised Treaty with Great Britain :—

QUESTION RELATING TO THE REVISED ANGLO-JAPANESE TREATY.

Art. XI. of the Revised Anglo-Japanese Treaty contains provisions relating to the coasting trade. The first clause reserves the coasting trade and the second clause provides that a vessel laden with cargo for two or more ports may discharge a portion of her cargo at each port. Yet the third clause says:—The Japanese Government, however, agrees to allow British vessels to continue, as heretofore, for the period of the duration of the present Treaty, to carry cargo between the existing open ports of the Empire." Thus it will be seen that the permission granted by the third clause destroys the validity of the restrictions imposed by the two preceding clauses, and on the whole the provisions about the coasting trade seem to produce the same result as that now existing in virtue of the present Treaty. For what reason did the Government insert in the two first clauses provisions the enforcement of which was not really contemplated and then proceed to destroy their validity in the succeeding clause? Again, does the phrase "to carry cargo between the existing open ports," occurring in clause 3 of the same Article relate only to cargo shipped at a harbour of export, or does it include the transport of cargo laden at one of the Treaty Ports to be discharged at another treaty port?

Art. XVIII. provides that on the enforcement of the new Treaty, "The several foreign settlements in Japan shall be incorporated with the respective Japanese communes, and shall thenceforth form part of the general municipal system of Japan," but that "when such incorporation takes place, existing leases in perpetuity, under which property is now held in the said settlements, shall be confirmed, and no conditions whatsoever other than those contained in such existing leases shall be imposed in respect of such property."

Now when the existing Settlements are incorporated with the respective Japanese Communes to form part of the general municipal system of Japan, various local burdens must be borne; and yet if, as provided in the new Treaty, land rates, municipal rates, special land rates, and so forth can not be imposed upon the lessees, is it the intention of the Government to pay, in the capacity of land proprietor, all those local obligations out of the Treasury?

The 3rd clause of the new Treaty provides that, "All lands which may previously have been granted by the Japanese Government free of rent for the public purposes of the said Settlements shall, subject to the right of eminent domain, be permanently reserved free of all taxes and charges for the public purposes for which they were originally set apart." And yet with respect to the lands to be leased to individual foreigners, as mentioned in the 2nd clause of the same Article, no such reservation is provided. It cannot but be inferred from this that in the case of lands leased by individual foreigners the right of eminent domain cannot be enforced. For what reasons was such a distinction made?

Art. XIX. of the new Treaty provides that the stipulations of the Treaty shall not be applicable to India and to 11 other British foreign possessions and colonies. Does this mean that British subjects registered in these places are to be looked on as the subjects of non-Treaty countries till a special Treaty be concluded with India and the 11 other places? Or are they entitled, as subjects of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, to enjoy, in accordance with the stipulations of the Treaty, full liberty to enter or reside in any part of the Japanese dominions, or to engage freely in export or import trade or any other business of a lawful nature? Again, are the subjects of this Empire forbidden to engage in trade or other business, in accordance with the stipulations of the new Treaty, in those 12 British possessions?

Art. II. of the present Treaty provides that, The subjects of either of the Contracting Parties, residing in the dominions and possessions of the other shall be exempted from all compulsory military service whatsoever, whether in the Army, Navy, National Guards, or militia: from all contributions imposed in lieu of personal service; and from all forced loans or military exactions or contributions." And yet Lord Kimberley, in a Diplomatic Note addressed to Viscount Aoki on the same day when the Treaty was signed, asked that certain British Colonies and foreign possessions should be excluded from the stipulation relating to military service given in Art. II. of the present Treaty, and Viscount Aoki gave his assurance to that request. Does it follow from the above that when Japanese subjects go to India or any of the 11 other British possessions to engage in trade or some other business they may be obliged to discharge military services at those places, or to pay contributions in lieu of personal service, or to comply with forced loans, military exactions, or contributions? On the other hand, when British subjects come from India or any of the 11 other British possessions to engage in trade or any other business, are they to be exempted from all such obligations? Again, the Customs rates in the British dominions are left to the free enactment of the respective places, and are therefore not uniform with the rates in vogue in the United Kingdom. Consequently, when goods are exported to such British dominions, duties will be imposed according to the fixed rate of the locality. (The rates range between 60 per cent. to 20 per cent. of the original price in the ports of Australia.) On the contrary, are goods coming from the British dominions to enjoy the benefit of being imported into Japan in accordance with the stipulations of the new Treaty and in conformity with the Tariff appended in a Protocol? Or are such goods to be subjected to duties determined by Japan as though they were not included in the scope of the Treaty.

According to Art. XXI. of the new Treaty, it is provided that notice as to the enforcement of the present Treaty may be given at any time after the expiration of four years computed from the day on which it was signed. The right of Japan to give notice of the practical enforcement of the Treaty is not in any way restricted in the body of the Treaty. And yet, in a Diplomatic Note sent by Viscount Aoki to Lord Kimberley on the day on which the Treaty was signed, it was declared that till the various Codes are put into operation Japan will not give notice of the practical enforcement of the Treaty. Thus the right of giving notice stipulated in the text of the Treaty is restricted. Does this not amount to altering by means of a Diplomatic Note the text of a Treaty ratified by the Emperor?

That the consent of the Imperial Diet must be obtained in determining or altering the Customs rates, is expressly provided in Art. LXII. of the Constitution. Yet the Customs Tariff appended in the Protocol and signed by Viscount Aoki and Lord Kimberley, alters the Customs rates on various articles without obtaining the consent of the Imperial Diet. Is not that a measure in con-

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travention of what is expressly provided in the Constitution?

Not only with regard to the text of the Treaty, but also in the matter of the Customs rates, the enforcement of the codes, and the stipulations relating to British Colonies and possessions, the provisions of the Treaty are fettered by the Protocol and the Diplomatic Notes; and while the Treaty loses, as it were, the reality of being a fundamental agreement, the Protocol and Diplomatic Notes issued at the same date appear to possess greater efficacy. What reasons can be assigned for such an anomaly?

Do Protocols and Diplomatic Notes entirely at variance with the text of the Treaty, possess really binding force?

Presented by Prince KONOYE.
Supported by Prince NIJO and 29 others.

March 2nd, 1895.

Viscount Hayashi, on behalf of the Special Committee, having reported favourably on the Bill for amending the Savings Banks Regulations, the measure was passed through all its Readings without debate.

Baron Ozawa, on behalf of the Special Committee, reported in favour of the next Bill for affording increased facilities for sending agricultural seeds by post, and the Bill was passed.

Mr. Yengi, Government Delegate, having stated, in answer to inquiries, that the Government was not wholly opposed to the next Bill, but could only consent to a few of the changes proposed by it,

The Bill was handed to a Special Committee and the House rose at 2.40 p.m.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The House met at 1.15 p.m. the Order of the Day being:—

1.—Bill (Second Reading) changing Prefectural Boundaries.
2.—Bill (Second Reading) for Aid to the Families of Military Men.
3.—Bill (Second Reading) for amending the Law of the Houses.
4.—Representation relating to the Preservation of old Temples and Shrines.
5.—Bill for changing the Jurisdiction of a Law Court.

A Secretary read the Government Reply to Questions propounded by Mr. Tanaka Shozo and others with respect to the subject of canned meat for the Army. It was entirely an error to allege, as the questioners alleged, that the purchase of canned meats was confined chiefly to Tokyo. At the outset, when the war broke out, there had been no competent manufacturers in the country, and the authorities had been obliged to content themselves with imported meats. Presently, however, the home industrials had begun to stir themselves. Those in Tokyo had taken the lead, and by the end of August or the beginning of September, several were in a position to offer supplies. Their manufactures, after due tests, had been found satisfactory and consequently used, the result being that Tokyo took the lead in the matter. After a time manufacturers in the interior followed suit, and at present the Government were obtaining supplies from Tokyo, Sendai, Nagoya, Kyoto, Fukuoka, Osaka, Kobe, Okayama, Hiroshima, and Nagasaki. Owing to the fact that the processes of canning were performed during the hot weather, and to want of experience on the part of manufacturers, there had been some failures at first, and the question had arisen whether it might not be advisable to start canning establishments under official direction. But it was felt that the industry had already made sufficient progress to warrant hopes of its ultimate success, and that official interference at this stage might fatally check private enterprise. The better plan, it was thought, would be to invite representatives of the industry to the capital for the purpose of conference with them. That was done, and on the 15th October 40 representatives assembled at the War Department, where a Committee was appointed to explain to them the salient points in the manufacture, and to expound the system that ought to be followed. To this Committee was also entrusted the duty of superintendence, and on the 10th of November inspectors were sent to the various factories throughout the country to observe and, if necessary, correct the processes employed. A number of competent officials had also been appointed to examine the tins supplied, and their examination was conducted in the most thorough manner possible under the circumstances. It was quite incorrect to say, as the Questioners said, that these officials had been changed subsequently, and that the duty had been entrusted to one or two men who were thus able to be guided by considerations other than those of public benefit. There never had been any such change. The same officials, a number of thoroughly competent and experienced men, had been employed throughout. With regard to the allegation that a few favoured firms only received orders, it was sufficiently met by the fact that the firms supplying canned beef were 18 in Tokyo, 3 in Sendai, 1 in Nagoya, 3 in Kyoto, 1 in Okayama, 4 each in Osaka, Kobe, and Toyama, 6 in Hiroshima, and 21 in Nagasaki, or 65 in all. The Questioners said that persons formerly engaged in the tobacco trade, or in making boots, had suddenly taken to canning meat, and that these and similarly new men had been specially patronized by the Government. But the Government made no distinction whatever of persons, judging invariably by the quality of the goods alone, and in point of fact old established firms had received the preference, other things being equal. If an investigation were now made, it would be found that men of capital were chiefly engaged in the business, and that, where such was not the case, a number of smaller men had clubbed for the purpose, so that there were none of the hand-to-mouth concerns referred to in the Questions. At all events, the chief object to be attained was the procuring of good supplies, by whomsoever manufactured, and the War Office had neglected no precautions conducing to that end.

Mr. Yoshikawa, Minister of State for Home Affairs, said that the Minister President of State, being unavoidably absent in Hiroshima, had commissioned him to reply to a Question from Mr. Ozaki Yukio, with regard to an expression used by the Minister President in his recent speech to the House. The stenographic record made it appear that the Minister President had spoken of himself as representing the Emperor, whereas in truth he had intended to say that he represented the Emperor's Government. The word Government seemed to have fallen out of the record.

Mr. Ozaki Yukio expressed himself entirely satisfied with the full and courteous explanation offered on behalf of the Minister President.

Mr. Takahashi Yasuji presented a Question with regard to the Examination of Silk Worm Eggs.

Mr. Komuro Shigehiro presented a Question with regard to Industrial Exhibitions, and the manner of selecting judges.

Mr. Suzuki Jubi presented a Question with regard to the aborigines of Hokkaido.

Mr. Otake Kwanichi presented the following Question—an identical draft of which had emanated from the various political parties—with reference to the Revised Treaty between Great Britain and Japan:—

QUESTIONS ABOUT THE NEW ANGLO-JAPANESE TREATY.

1.—The Government's motive in concluding the Treaty.—Considering the text of the new Treaty, it generally appears to have been founded on the principle of mutual equality between the contracting parties. Yet the Treaty signed by Viscount Aoki, Japanese Representative in England, is restricted or counteracted in its operation by the Protocol and Diplomatic Note transmitted by the same Viscount Aoki on the same day to the British Government, the Treaty being thus reduced to one of unfavourable partiality and disadvantage to the Empire. It appears from this that while, on the one hand, the text of the Treaty was speciously drawn up so as to secure its ratification, on the other, by the Diplomatic Notes, the national interests were sacrificed, the transaction being thus rendered entirely inconsistent with the principles of equality. If so, is not that a policy firm in face but weak at heart, designed to beguile both the Court and the people? What was the motive of the Government?

2.—The relation between the Treaty and the Diplomatic Notes.—According to Art. XXI. of the present Treaty, notice as to its practical enforcement can be given any time after the expiration of four years computed from the day on which the Treaty was signed, Japan's right to give such notice not being in the least restricted. Yet the Diplomatic Note sent by Viscount Aoki to Lord Kimberley, the British Foreign Secretary, distinctly promises that till the various Japanese Codes shall have been put into operation, the notice of the practical enforcement of the Treaty shall not be given. This clearly restricts the right of notice established by Art. XXI. of the Treaty, and conflicts with the explicit letter of the Treaty. It amounts, in other words, to changing the text ratified by the Emperor by the Note of a Minister. Can any such Note, although at variance with the text, be considered valid? If so, why?

3.—The Relation between the Treaty and the Diplomatic Notes, and the Constitution. The conclusion of a Treaty falls within the Sovereign Prerogatives of the Emperor. Nevertheless, any alteration of Customs rates must be made with the consent of the Imperial Diet as expressly provided in the Constitution. Hence, to arbitrarily determine the rates of import duties, for which act the ratification of the Emperor need not be obtained, must be considered a violation of the express provisions of the Constitution. Can the Protocol and its accompanying Tariff, which are at variance with the provisions of the Constitution, be considered valid and have binding force? If so, why?

3.—The Legal Processes observed in respect of the Treaty Laws or Regulations observed by and promulgated to subjects of the Empire, must be issued in due form and in a completed state. The Anglo-Japanese Treaty, after ratification by the Emperor, was proclaimed by Imperial Ordinance on Aug. 27th of the 27th *Meiji*. Such was not the the case with the so-called protocol signed by Viscount Aoki on July 17th of the same year. It has not been issued in due form, and is therefore an incomplete document. It has no title to be obeyed by Japanese subjects. On what grounds does the Government intend to enforce it?

4.—The Government's Policy with respect to resources of the State.—For the purpose of providing for the development of the resources of the country and obtaining an increase of revenue, there may be economical necessity to levy at times heavy customs duties. In the present Treaty a special agreement has been made about the customs rates for 38 staple articles of import, and a most favoured nation clause has also been inserted. Should other Treaty Powers, adopting this precedent, successively contract similar stipulations, there would be no opportunity for at least 17 years of putting into force customs rates determined by the country. These 17 years represent a period in which the strengthening of the military defences and the development of the national industries should be attended to far more assiduously than in ordinary times. Does the Government not recognize that necessity?

5.—The Government's Policy with regard to the National Economy subsequent to the War.—In order to maintain the equilibrium of the National finances after the War an inevitable necessity may at times arise to increase the taxes levied in the interior. Now matters relating to an increase of customs duties are evidently a part of the essential steps to be taken after the termination of the war. How, then, without paying due attention to future arrangements incidental to the declaration of war against China, did the Government enter into a previous contract with England as to a Customs Tariff? Did it conclude that the Tariff previously arranged with England would suffice to meet the needs of the national finance subsequent to the termination of the war?

Presented by OTAKE KWANICHI, MOTODA HAJIME, HASEBA JUNKO, TAKATA SANAYE, and KANAO RYOGEN.

N.B.—Otake represents the Ote Club, Motoda the National Unionists, Takata the *Kaishin to*, Haseba, *Kakushin-to* (Constitutional Reformists), and Kanao, the "Independents."

On the motion of Mr. Ebara Yaroku, the the House agreed to change the Order of the Day for the purpose of considering the Upper House's amendments of the Bill for amending the Conscription Regulations.

The first Bill relating to a change in the boundaries of Chiba and Saitama Prefecture, having been favourably reported on by the Committee, led to some debate, but was ultimately passed through its Second and Third Readings.

Mr. Kajiyama Teisuke, on behalf of the Special Committee, reported adversely to the Bill for granting aid to the families of soldiers. The Committee were entirely at one with the principle that a soldier on campaign ought to be freed, as far as possible, from anxiety on account of his family at home. But already

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very complete measures for the relief of soldiers' families were taken by the people of the districts in which they lived, and the Committee considered that such acts became the people and properly devolved on them, and that to transfer the responsibility to the State would be to discourage the exercise of active charity on the part of private individuals.

Mr. Komuro Shigehiro opposed the Bill. Under the mask of philanthropy it struck a blow at patriotism.

Mr. Suyehiro Shigeyasu supported the Bill, but objected to the methods of procedure proposed. He saw that the House would reject the Bill, but he wished to place on record his opinion that men who offered their lives on behalf of the State deserved all consideration at the hands of the State, and that the care of their families should not be left to the chances of private aid. He earnestly begged the members to place themselves in the position of the soldiers, and to say whether they would not go into battle with lighter hearts if they knew that the State had charged itself with the care of their wives and children, than if they knew that the support of their loved ones depended on the fortuitous benevolence of irresponsible private individuals.

The House voted against the Second Reading of the Bill.

The Second Reading of the Bill for amending the Law of the Houses was then taken, but before its conclusion the House rose at 5.25 p.m.

MONDAY, MARCH 4TH.

HOUSE OF PEERS.

The House met at 10.40 a.m., the Order of the Day being :—

1.—Report of Petitions Committee.
2.—Bill (Second Reading) for amending the Chambers of Commerce Regulations.
3.—Bill for Supplementing the Local Militia Land Grant Regulations.
4.—Bill relating to the sale or mortgaging of houses, horses, &c., belonging to Local Militia.

Prince Tokugawa, on behalf of the Petitions Committee, reported that the Committee had dealt with 44 petitions in their last two sittings and stated the numbers selected for submission to the House and rejection respectively.

The Second Reading of the Chambers of Commerce Bill was then taken, and it was passed as amended by the Committee, the Third Reading being dispensed with :—

The following Amendments shall be made in the Regulations for Chambers of Commerce embodied in Law No. LXXXI. of the 23rd year of *Meiji* (1890).

(As passed by the House of Representatives.)

Art. I.—By "Commercial men" mentioned in these Regulations the following shall be meant :—

1. Persons who pursue commercial employments mentioned in Art. IV. of the Commercial Code, and also those who engage in transactions specified in Nos. 1, 3, 4, and 6 of Art. V. of the same Code.
2. Partnership Companies, Joint Stock Companies, and Exchanges dealing with businesses specified in the preceding clause.
3. Officers of firms, officers of partnership companies undertaking business, and officers of the same companies who undertake unlimited responsibility, directors of joint stock companies, chief managers and managers of exchanges, and all companies and exchanges dealing with business specified in Clause 1.

Clauses 2 and 3 of Art. IV. shall be amended as follows :—

(2) To represent to Government offices its opinion as to the enactment, amendment, abolition, and mode of carrying into practice laws and regulations relating to commerce, and also to convey its opinion to Government offices and others on points of commercial interest.

(3) To report to Government offices and others on the actual condition of commerce and statistics thereof.

Art. V.—Commercial men who pursue occupations mentioned in Clause 1 of Art. I. in a locality where a Chamber is established ; or who are officers specified in Clause 3 of Art. I. and are paying income tax in that locality ; or Companies and Exchanges of the kind mentioned in Clause 2 of Art. I. that are carrying on business in localities where Chambers are established, shall have the right of electing members.

Art. VI.—Companies and Exchanges that have the right of electing members, males of above 30 years of age, who possess for three consecutive years the right of being elected as members.

Persons who are to represent Companies or Exchanges must be officers coming under Clause 3 of Art. I. of above 30 years of age, and one for each company.

Art. VII.—In regard to the property qualification for election and the right to be elected, as provided for in Art. V. and VI., the Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce may specially fix it in accordance with the condition of each locality and based on the amount of income tax or on the capital of a Company or Exchange.

In localities specified in the proviso of Art. XXIX. of the Income Tax Regulations, the Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce may substitute another tax for income tax and may determine the property qualification according to the amount of that tax.

Clause 1 of Art. XIV. shall be amended thus :—

Deliberations of a Chamber relating to matters specified in Clause 7 of Art. IV. must not be held openly.

The following Supplementary Article shall be appended after Art. XXII.

APPENDIX.

Art. XXIII.—Even when alterations take place in the qualification of eligibility, in consequence of the amendment of these Regulations, the members of a Chamber shall continue to hold office during the prescribed terms.

The next two Bills were passed after a brief debate and the House rose at 1.50 p.m.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The House met at 1.20 p.m., the Order of the Day being :—

1.—Bill (Second Reading) for amending the Law of the Houses.
2.—Representation for the Conservation of Old Temples and Shrines ;
3.—Bill for changing the Jurisdiction of a Law Court.
4.—Bill for amending the City and Prefectural System of Local Government.

The Bill for amending the Law of the Houses was discussed at considerable length, and its hundred articles were passed with various amendments.

Mr. Doi Kokura, on behalf of the Special Committee, reported in favour of the Bill for the conservation of ancient Temples and Shrines, but said, so far as its principle was concerned, that the Committee considered the proposed grant of 200,000 *yen* more than could be conveniently spared under the circumstance of the time.

After some discussion, the House passed the Bill as amended by the Committee, the majority of the speakers urging the great importance of preserving relics so important from historical, architectural, and artistic points of view.

The Bill for making the Hiroshima Court the appeal tribunal for Iyo province, instead of the Osaka Court, as at present, was handed without debate to a Special Committee.

The Bill for amending the Local Government System in Prefectures and Cities, having been favourably reported on by the Special Committee, was opposed by the Government Delegate. Its objects were three ; first, to extend the franchise in respect of electing members of Prefectural or City Assemblies ; secondly, to establish Prefectural autonomy ; and thirdly, to abolish the system of duplicate election.

The House voted to carry the Bill to a Second Reading but refused to proceed with it at once.

The House rose at 4.50 p.m.

TUESDAY, MARCH 5TH.

HOUSE OF PEERS.

The House did not meet.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The House met at 1.20 p.m. the Order of the Day being :—

1.—Supplementary Estimates for the 27th and 28th years of *Meiji*.
2.—Bill relating to the Application of the Military and Naval Penal Code.
3.—Bill for amending the Law of Election of the Lower House.

Mr. Taketomi Tokitoshi, Chairman of the Budget Committee, reported that the Committee had decided to recommend for adoption the Supplementary Budget for the 27th year of Meiji, but had introduced various amendments in the Supplementary Budget for the 28th year, reducing its total from 295,847 *yen* to 95,355 *yen*. The principal item of reduction was the excision of the appropriation (161,466 *yen*) on account of the improvement of Kobe harbour. The Committee did not disapprove of the proposed step, but as it was a new work, and as the declared principle of the Government was not to spend the public money upon any new works at the present crisis, it had seemed to the Committee that to sanction the reconstruction of Kobe harbour would be inconsistent. Some other items in building expenses of Departments had been cut down.

Viscount Enomoto, on behalf of the Cabinet, reminded the House that it had presented many Representations urging the undertaking of various enterprises, the importance of which the Government also recognised fully, but they had not been inserted in the Budget because the expenditures on account of the war dictated strict economy in all other directions. The House, therefore, was evidently prepared to go much farther than the Government in making appropriations on account of new enterprises, yet the Budget Committee now recommended the rejection of a work pressingly necessary, and of a much more imperative character than many of the new works recommended by the House itself.

A number of questions were asked, and after a desultory debate the House passed the Budgets as amended by the Committee.

Mr. Ebara Soroku, on behalf of the Special Committee, reported in favour of the Second Bill on the Order. Its object was to make the Penal Code of the Army applicable to the Navy and *vice versâ*. The relations between the two services had now become so intimate that distinctive codes for each were decidedly inconvenient. It was not intended, of course, that Naval Courts Martial should apply the Army's Penal Code, or *vice versâ*, but only that where men of either service were acting with the other, they should be punishable according to the Code of the latter.

The Bill was passed at once, its Third Reading being dispensed with.

The Second Reading of the Bill for amending the Law of Election of the Lower House was then taken. Several members spoke in favour of still farther lowering the franchise qualification, on the ground that the percentage of the population entitled to vote in Japan was far smaller than in any western country. The debate had not concluded when the House rose at 5 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 6TH.

HOUSE OF PEERS.

The House did not meet.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The House met at 1.14 p.m., the Order of the Day being :—

1.—Bill relating to False Coinage and Forgery of Bonds, etc.
2.—Bill for amending the law of Election of the Lower House.

Mr. Fukayama Takatsura presented a Question relating to the purchase of land by the Government in connection with the repairs of the Kiso River.

Mr. Soyeda, Government Delegate, having briefly introduced the first Bill, it was handed to a Special Committee.

The Second Reading of the Bill for amending the Law of Election of the Lower House was then proceeded with.

Mr. Matsuoka, Government Delegate, spoke strongly against the proposal to reduce the age of electors from 25 to 20 years. He pointed out that a youth of 20 years had no fixed ideas about politics and was wholly without experience. To introduce such an element into the electorate would be merely to add to it so much unintelligent and partial victims of sentiment and passion. The change was above all to be deprecated in Japan where already a deplorable tendency existed on the part of the rising generation to busy themselves about politics to the detriment of productive industry.

The debate lasted a considerable time, but finally the various articles were passed, the Committee's amendments being in many cases rejected for those of Mr. Nagajima Matagoro. The Third Reading was dispensed with, and the House rose at 5.20 p.m.

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THURSDAY, MARCH 7TH.

HOUSE OF PEERS.

The House met at 10.40 a.m. the Order of the Day being :—

1.—Supplementary Estimates for the 27th and 28th years of *Meiji*, and correlated Documents.
2.—Bill for changing the boundaries of Tokyo, Saitama, Chiba, and Ibaraki Prefectures.
3.—Bill for the Conservation of Forests (sent up from the Lower House).
4.—Bill for amending the Taxation System in Prefectures.
5.—Petitions.

Mr. Ando Sokumei presented a Question relating to the Forgery Case that occurred when he held the office of chief of police. He complained that the answer given on this subject previously by the Government was quite unsatisfactory. The documents laid before the Lower House last session had attributed to him written words such as he had never used, and the Government, when asked about the matter a few days ago, had replied that the words in question were copied from official archives. He called upon the Government to produce the original document from which the alleged copy had been taken. Otherwise he must hold it to be a fabrication.

The Supplementary Estimates were handed to the Budget Committee with instructions to report upon them by the 10th instant at latest.

The Government Delegates having explained that the changes of boundaries referred to in the next Bill were connected simply with riparian and irrigation works, and that the Government offered no objection, the Bill was handed to a Special Committee.

Prince Nijo, on behalf of the Special Committee, reported unfavourably on the Bill for the Conservation of Forests, as being a measure that would involve much embarrassment and outlay, and inasmuch as the Government had a duly matured Bill in process of preparation.

After a brief debate, the House voted against the Second Reading.

The next Bill was handed to a Special Committee without debate or question.

Various Petitions were then adopted for presentation to the Government, and the House rose at 2.20 p.m.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The House met at 1.20 p.m., the Order of the Day being :—

2.—Bill for amending the Chamber of Commerce Regulations (sent down amended from the Upper House).
3.—Bill for amending the Naval Penal Code.
3.—Bill for changing the Jurisdiction Limits in a certain Province.
4.—Bill for amending the City and Prefecture Government System.
5.—Representation relating to the Sale, &c., of Military Necessaries.
6.—Representation relating to the Treatment of Diseases of the Brain at the Medical College of the Imperial University.
7.—Bill relating to the Special Taxation of Earthquake Districts.
8.—Representation relating to the appointment of District Headmen.
9.—Representation relating to the Management of State Forests.
10.—Representation relating to Grants in Aid of Protected Companies.

The House, without debate, agreed to the amendments made in the first Bill by the Peers.

Mr. Hatoyama Kazuo, on behalf of the Special Committee, reported in favour of the next Bill, as a necessary legislative step.

The House passed the Second Reading and dispensed with the Third.

The Bill for changing the Appeal Court for Iyo province from Osaka to Hiroshima was then passed, the Third Reading being dispensed with.

On the motion of Mr. Suyehiro Shigeyasu, the order of the 4th and 5th items having been transposed, he explained that the objects of the Bill were to provide facilities for the supply of necessaries to the troops in the field, and to prevent the acquisition of monopolies by specially favoured merchants in the occupied districts. He preferred various charges against officials on the score of perfunctory or corrupt inspection, and declared that the House having voted readily all the war funds required by the Government, it behoved the latter to see that the funds were spent to the best advantage and in the most honest manner.

The Bill was handed to a Special Committee.

The Second Reading of the Bill for amending the City and Prefecture Government System was then taken, and all the articles were passed as amended by the Committee. The Third Reading was dispensed with.

Mr. Takata Sanaye, introducing the next Representation, explained that while Japan had made great progress in many directions since the Restoration, strange neglect had been exhibited in the matter of treating brain diseases. Of 89,679 persons treated at the University Hospital from the 9th to the 23rd year of *Meiji*, 25,852 had been sufferers from brain disease, yet no special arrangements were made for the development of medical investigation in this particular branch. They had a distinguished neurologist in Japan, Dr. Miura Ginnosuke, who after long study in Germany under Dr. Koch, had spent 7 years under Charcot in Paris, and had acquired a high reputation in Europe. Dr. Miura would gladly work in such a laboratory, but as its building and equipment would cost over twenty thousand *yen*, his individual resources could not meet the outlay. There could be no doubt, however, as to the necessity of providing means for this important study.

The House adopted the Representation without dissent.

Mr. Saito Kyosuke, introducing the next Bill, explained briefly that its object was to extend to Yamagata Prefecture Law No. 1 of the 25th year of *Meiji*, inasmuch as that Prefecture was afflicted by earthquakes quite as much as the places on account of which the Law had been enacted.

The Bill was handed to a Special Committee.

The next Representation was handed at once to a Special Committee.

Mr. Nakano Yaroku, on behalf of the Special Committee, reported in favour of the Representation relating to the Management of State Forests, the ground taken being that it was advisable to substitute, as far as possible, private ownership for state ownership of Forests.

Mr. Nakamura Kokusho rose to a point of order. Two similar measures had already been rejected by the House during the present session and it seemed to him that to introduce a third in the form of a Representation was to violate the Constitution.

The House refused to pass the Representation.

Mr. Kaino Kozo introduced the last Representation. He did not object to State Aid for private enterprises on principle, but he thought that it should be regulated properly. Several cases needed amendment in Japan. For instance, the interest guaranteed to the Japan Railway Company should be computed with reference to the whole Company's lines, not with respect to the unfinished portion only. The interest paid to the Fifteenth National Bank on its loan of 15 millions to the Government should be reduced from 7 per cent. to the regular market rate of 5. The subvention to the Nippon Yusen Kaisha should be restricted to its foreign lines only. The grant to the Tanko Railway Company ought to be changed in accordance with the greatly increased price of coal, and so forth.

The House adopted the Representation without debate, and rose at 3.30 p.m.

THE GRAND DUKE ALEXANDER.

The telegram received last Tuesday from the Japanese Representative in St. Petersburg seems to have been misinterpreted. It reported the death of the Grand Duke Alexander, second son of the late Emperor of Russia. The personage really referred to in the telegram is the Grand Duc Alexis Michailovitch, youngest son of the Grand Duke Michael Nikolaevitch, the late Emperor's uncle. The deceased Prince, born in 1875, is thus cousin to the present Emperor of Russia. It is further to be noted that the second son of the late Emperor, now undergoing medical treatment in the Caucasus, is the Grand Duc Georges. He has no brother of the name of Alexander.

WAR NEWS.

SATURDAY, MARCH 2ND.

In our last issue we said that the Japanese troops seemed to be resuming their westerly movement from Kaiping and Haicheng. The supposition is confirmed by a telegram from the Head-quarters of the Second Army, dated 11.40 a.m. on the 27th instant. It says that on the morning of the 24th instant the First Division attacked the Chinese stationed at Taipingshan, and took possession of the place. On the afternoon of the same day, the enemy, numbering at least twelve or thirteen thousand and having 20 guns, advanced against the Japanese from three directions, Pomiaotsz, Tangchiapaotsz, and Yemiao. After a brisk cannonade, the Japanese charged against the centre of the Chinese army, and defeated it, sending it in full retreat toward Yingkow. The Japanese loss was 20 killed, including 2 officers, and about 250 wounded, including 5 officers. The Chinese had 200 killed, but the number of their wounded is unknown. The people of the district say that the full force of the Chinese, namely, 20,000 men, was engaged, under the Command of Generals Sung, Ma, the two Changs, and Sun.

Concering modern Newchwang, or Yingkow, the *Nichi Nichi* says that it has now a population of about 60,000 and that it is divided into east and west districts, namely Tungyingtsz and Piayingtsz, the former being higher up the river than the latter, and being also the site of the foreign settlement, whereas the latter is the larger, having a great number of Chinese houses. The castle was built during the reign of Hien-fung. The customs are under an Englishman, and the place is administered by the Haicheng officials. There are three lines of telegraph; one to Pekin *vid* Chinchow and Shanhaikwan, one to Port Arthur, and one to Mukden. There are forts at the mouth of the river.

The *Fiji Shimpo* says that the account sent by General Sung to Tientsin of his unsuccessfull attack upon Haicheng on the 16th instant, was as follows :—"On the 16th of February we surrounded Haicheng, and made a general attack upon the enemy's positions. The newly enlisted troops fought excellently and captured 3 of the enemy's guns, driving back his first line of defence. But his artillery fire was so severe that we could not make head against it, and had to retreat, after fighting until nightfall. On retreating we laid an ambush and designedly threw our ranks into disorder for the purpose of drawing the enemy after us, but we failed in our purpose. The casualties on both sides have not been clearly ascertained, but must be large. Our loss in killed and wounded was about 3,000." It will interest our readers to compare General Nodzu's account with the above :—"To-day (16th), the enemy advanced from three directions, Laoyang, Newchwang, and Yingkow, against Haicheng. At about noon they attacked Tangwangshan (a hill some 3,000 metres from Haicheng) and were driven back with great loss, but the number of their casualties is not yet ascertained. Another body attacked at Sauriyoshan (a hill on the N.E. of Haicheng, 3,000 metres distant) and was driven back at 1 p.m. They fled in a northerly direction, leaving about 100 dead. The remainder of the enemy's force did not come into action. It advanced along the Newchwang road, but halted about 7½ miles away on the north-west. Our casualties were 3 killed and 10 wounded, the latter including 1 officer. The Chinese forces engaged to-day were those of Su, Chang, and I. They numbered some 15,000 and had 12 guns."

MONDAY, MARCH 4TH.

According to the *Official Gazette*, writing on the authority of a telegram from Colonel Inouye, Chief of Staff of the Second Army, the total casualties on the Japanese side in the battle on the 24th ultimo were 29 killed and 249 wounded. Among the killed were 1 Captain and 1 Lieutenant, and among the wounded, 4 Lieutenants, 1 Ensign, and 1 Surgeon (third

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class). Lieut.-General Yamaji is now at Kaiping, so we may anticipate active work in that neighbourhood.

The *Kokkai* alleges that the total force of the Chinese at Liaoyang, Yingkow, Tieuchwangtai, and in their neighbourhood is 90,000, but on what data it bases such a calculation we do not know. The most recent official reports gave 90,000 as the aggregate of all the forces opposing the Japanese in Shinking, in the east, north, and south. The number in and about the three places mentioned above were then supposed not to exceed 50,000. The *Kokkai* adds that 17,000 or 18,000 are assembled near Nganshanshan, about mid-way between Haichang and Laoyang, and that a fight may be expected there soon.

There appears to be some uncertainty about the number of Chinese remaining in Weihaiwei at the time of the surrender. Various statements have been published. The latest, and seemingly the most correct, is the *Kokkai's* :—

NAVAL FORCE.		TOTAL.
Officers	183	3,054
Marines, &c.	2,871	
LAND FORCE.		
Officers	40	2,040
Rank and File	2,000	
Total		5,094

The number of foreigners was 112, including 2 physicians. This last figure, if correct, is worthy of note. A hundred and ten foreign combatants constituted something more than "a mere handful."

Wantien, as has already been stated in these columns, is a walled town in Shantung, about 30 miles south-west of Yungcheng and 18 south of Weihaiwei. The News Agency reports, on the authority of a telegram from Major Ishiwara to the Commander-in-Chief of the Second Army, under date of February 8th, that Japanese scouts, having failed to discover any trace of the enemy in the vicinity of Wantien, and having learned that the gates of the town were kept tightly closed, ingress and egress being alike forbidden, reported these facts to a company of infantry stationed at Chwangli and Chiachwang. The latter thereupon advanced against the town, and attempting to open the gate, were received with a shower of tiles and stones. Thereupon they smashed open the barrier and charged in, scattering 12 or 13 Chinese soldiers, of whom 2 were killed and one taken prisoner. The latter, an artillery-man, subsequently offered resistance and was killed by his guards as he attempted to escape. Within the town were found four 8-cent. Krupp field-guns, 55 rifles, 100 rounds of gun ammunition, and 50,000 rounds of small-arm ammunition. On the 8th instant about 300 Chinese soldiers, aided by the people of the neighbourhood, attempted to retake the place and a sharp struggle ensued, the enemy being ultimately beaten off with a loss of 7 killed. The Japanese had 1 slightly wounded.

At the beginning of the present war, says the *Nippon*, Japan had 30 serviceable men-of-war the aggregate displacement of which was 69,910 tons, and China had 52, their aggregate tonnage being 70,431. This calculation does not, of course, include torpedo-boats. China then stood 11th among the Powers of the world in respect of naval strength, and Japan stood 12th. But China having lost the whole of her Peiyang Squadron, besides other vessels, is now reduced to 31 ships with a total tonnage of 29,244, and has descended to the 19th place, whereas Japan has increased her number to 42 and her total tonnage to 81,240, thus rising to the 11th rank. Three years hence, too, when Japan receives the four vessels now building for her, she will have 46 ships, aggregating 110,600 tons, or possibly 47 ships, aggregating 118,000 tons, when she will stand 10th among the Powers of the world.

Our readers have doubtless remarked that the strength of a Chinese army is usually spoken of as consisting of so many regiments, or *Ying*. The *Hochi Shimbun* gives the composition of a *Ying*. Its total strength, of all ranks, is 560. It is divided into 5 companies, each company consisting of 100 privates, 10 non-commissioned officers, and one commissioned officer. The companies are distinguished as the left company, the right, the front, the centre, and the reserve. To each company there is also a secretary. Five *Ying* make an army corps, the wing also being distinguished as left, right, front, centre, and rear. The nominal strength of the army corps is thus 2,800. But this statement is evidently incorrect. It is based on the assumption that an army corps does not include any officers of higher rank than captains of companies, and that in a division of 2,800 men, there are only 25 commissioned officers. That is obviously incredible.

The *Nichi Nichi* gives the following list of guns, &c., captured by the Japanese forces in the Liaotung peninsula :—

Guns	127 exclusive of guns mounted in forts.
Rifles	1,704 of five kinds.
Large-arm Ammunition	18,000 rounds.
Small-arm Ammunition	4,950,000 rounds.
Gunpower	260 Tons.
Fuzes	2,620,000.
Rockets	300.
Lead	29,166 lbs.
Dynamite	A large quantity.
Chinese swords	200.
Arrows	500.
Large Drums	10.
Chinglung Swords	Several.
Yenyueh Swords	15.

A number of suits of armour, helmets, suits of harness, trumpets, stirrups, etc.

A telegram dated Fusan, 3.29 p.m. on the 1st instant, says that the Third Division (hitherto stationed in Haicheng), moved against the Chinese forces extending from the Liaoyang to the Newchwang road, over a distance of 7½ miles, and having driven them back, headed for Liaoyang. The plan being to break the enemy into two and attack him in detail, the Fifth Brigade turned to the left and directed its assault against the Chinese in the neighbourhood of Daifuton (?); the centre drove the enemy from Hwanlinshan and Changhutai, taking possession of those places, and the Sixth Brigade, forming the right wing, joining forces with the centre, advanced along the Liaoyang road as far as Doshundai (?) which it took possession of. The enemy left more than 150 dead on the field, and the Japanese loss was 10 killed and 82 wounded, among the latter being Lieutenant Kabayama. This engagement took place, so far as we can gather, about the 28th ultimo.

Subsequently to the receipt of the above message, two other telegrams were published by War Department. They are as follow :—"The Third Division marched out of Haicheng at 4 a.m. on the 28th ultimo. The Brigade under the command of Colonel Fujimoto attacked the enemy's position at Sekito (?) hill, a part of the Brigade charging from the front and a part passing round to the left rear of the Chinese. By 8 o'clock Shahoyen was completely in our possession. Another detachment attacked the enemy at Tafetien, and by half-past 10 had captured the position. At 1.30 p.m. the Brigade had occupied the whole district from Playentai to Tafetien, and the troops bivouacked there for the night. Our casualties were 98 killed and wounded. The enemy's dead, at one point alone, the road by which the Sixth Division advanced, numbered 55. Their force was about 15,000, under the command of General I, and they had 8 or 9 guns. The greater portion retreated northward. At about 9 in the forenoon a force of some 3,000 advanced from Liukungtien against Haicheng, but were driven back by the Japanese in garrison there."

"On the 1st instant at 8 a.m., the Third Division set out from its bivouac and advanced toward Kansienpao, in the neighbourhood of which place it was opposed by about 2,000 of the enemy. The van, aided by Hayashi's Battalion which had moved along the road from Hoshangken, drove the Chinese back, and by 11.40 a.m. had completely dislodged them. Thereafter, the van pushed on against the enemy in Sintaitsz, and the Division bivouacked for the night at Kansienpao, its line stretching from Taitsz through Kwanfausz to Rinshokotien (?). The enemy's strength that day was fully 5,000, and they retreated to the north, the greater part halting, however, at no great distance in our front. The Japanese casualties were 5 killed and wounded. The Chinese loss is unknown. A violent snowstorm prevailed throughout the morning, but ceased about noon."

From a telegram published by the *Kokkai*, it would appear that the Third Division's fighting outside Haicheng did not begin on the 28th ultimo. It encountered the enemy at a place to the north of Haicheng on February 27th, and drove them back with a loss of 70 killed and wounded on the Japanese side.

It is reported from Shanghai that the Japanese have dismantled and evacuated the land forts and outposts at Weihaiwei, and that the greater part of the army has embarked and returned to Talien Bay.

TUESDAY, MARCH 5TH.

There is an absolute absence of intelligence from the seat of War to-day. We have only a few items relating to operations already old. In the columns of the *Nichi Nichi* we read that the *Tsi-yuen*, which has arrived in Japan in tow of the *Matsushima*, has for armament two 21-cent. guns, one 15-cent. gun, and a number of smaller pieces. She is lit by electricity, and has four torpedo-tubes. During the fight at Weihaiwei, a shell passed through her from the deck on the port to the starboard bulwark, doing considerable damage. In the battle off Phungdo, she seems to have had a shell in her after cabin, for there are still traces of blood there, but her machinery and armament are uninjured. She has a large stock of ammunition on board. The *Ping-yuen* and *Kwangping* were expected to reach Japan yesterday.

A foreign expert who has visited the *Ting-yuen* reports that her upper deck is entirely over the water; that the Chinese exploded a quantity of powder in her forward hold, after she had been torpedoed, but did not cause any special injury to her hull, and that there can be little doubt as to the possibility of raising her. The expectation now is that all the Chinese ships sunk in the Bay of Weihaiwei will be raised and repaired. They are secure against effects of weather.

The first steamers for the season are to leave Shanghai for Tientsin to-day. The Peiho is therefore open.

Reports from the North of China concur in stating that all the High Dignitaries in China are honestly desirous of peace at almost any cost. It is not expected, however, that the Viceroy Li can cach Japan for a fortnight, or that the negotiations are likely to commence much before the end of this month.

Lieutenant Imai, who commanded the Third Torpedo Squadron in the attack on the Chinese ships in Weihaiwei, tells this story :—"On the 4th instant when the four boats of our Squadron entered the Bay, the moon had gone in and it was pitch dark. We had our fires banked, and we sculled in quietly without even a plash. Happily the enemy saw nothing of us ■ we made our way in from the eastern passage. But when we had passed the boom, a red light was shown from the look-out station on Liukung Island. Apparently the enemy took us for their own boats returning, and signalled to us. It was a critical moment, but fortunately our signal lights also happened to be red, and we flashed them, so that our design remained unsuspected for the moment. The *Ting-yuen* was hit in the bows, in the bottom, and amidships, yet despite of being struck by three torpedoes, she remained afloat until the next afternoon. On our way back, when we reached the neighbourhood of Zhih Island, we saw two of the enemy's torpedo-boats cruising about there in an objectless kind of way, and thought to capture them. It was then that my boat, No. 22, ran on a rock. We lowered our small boat, the idea being that we should get ashore in batches, but there was such a heavy sea running that the boat upset. The whole of us then jumped into the water, dressed as we were, and swam ashore, but when we landed many of us were so benumbed by the cold that we could ■ ■ ■. But by-and-by

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we recovered. We lost a sub-lieutenant and two seamen, however, one of the latter being killed by a shot, and the officer and the other seaman being frozen to death."

It will be seen that the above account differs from the last received, which said that with the exception of a sub-lieutenant and a seaman, the whole of No. Twenty-two's crew that had not landed by the small boat, remained lying in the torpedo-boat drinking brandy until rescued by their own people.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 6TH.

Official reports are now published of the operations of the Third Division on the 28th of February and the 1st of March. We translate them:—

"The Division marched out of Haicheng this morning (28th February) at 3 o'clock, with the object of attacking the enemy on our front. The Seventh Regiment, at 4 a.m. using the bayonet only, charged the Chinese position at Hekitozan and captured it, thus assisting the Division's operations by moving on its right flank. The Sixth Brigade, with the artillery, moving by the left of Shahoyen, advanced against Changhutai and attacked it, while the Sixth Regiment of Infantry with the Third of Artillery marched against Shahoyen from the front. By 7 a.m. the enemy had been driven from Shahoyen and Changhutai. The Fifth Brigade, with a regiment of Artillery, marched meanwhile against Tafutien, and drove the enemy from it, so that by 10 a.m. their whole line was in retreat. Their force was fully 15,000, and they retreated partly toward Pulaitien and partly toward Newchwang proper. The Sixth Brigade with some Artillery then pushed along the Liaoyang road and at 2 o'clock took possession of the high grounds at Tungyentai. Our casualties were 1 officer and 85 men wounded and 10 men killed. The enemy left about 160 dead on the field."

"The Division bivouacked last night (28th ultimo) in the neighbourhood of Gyoteuhopao (?) and resumed its advance this morning (March 1st) at 7 o'clock in pursuit of the Liaoyang troops. From morning a heavy snow-storm rendered it exceedingly difficult to reconnoitre. At 8 a.m. some officers of the van who had ridden forward to scout, reported that the enemy were in position on the heights at Kansienpao and in its neighbourhood. Major-General Oshima, who commanded the van, proceeded to attack them at the head of the 19th Regiment and a battery of artillery, and at 11.45 a.m. Kansienpao was in our possession. The attack by the right wing of Major-General Oshima's force was assisted by a Battalion that had moved up from Tomucheng *vid* Makeutien, and arrived at Kansienpao simultaneously with the 19th Regiment. The Chinese force engaged on this day numbered about 3,000. They retired to the hills about Sintaitsz. Our loss was 7 men wounded. The enemy's casualties are unknown. Oseko's Brigade pushed on as far as Keuliutaitsz, meeting no resistance."

The names in the above reports will doubtless be found very perplexing by our readers. It may be well, therefore, to explain that the roads leading from Haicheng to Liaoyang, and from Haicheng to Newchang proper, lie almost at right angles, and that a road from Newchwang cuts the Haicheng-Liaoyang road at a point about 13 miles from Haicheng, the three routes thus forming a right-angled triangle, with Haichang at the right angle. Within the triangle four other minor roads lead from Haicheng to the hypotheneuse of the triangle. Thus we have six roads all diverging northward, the three on the east, however, converging into one at a point about a mile outside Haiching on the north. It is along these three last roads that the Japanese have advanced, and by the evening of March 1st they had pushed about 10 miles from Haicheng. A portion of the Chinese forces stationed on the most westerly of the three roads, retreated to Newchwang proper, doubtless because they belonged to Wu Tacheng's army, the head-quarters of which are in that town; but the main body retreated northwards toward Liaoyang, and are being pursued by the Japanese, whose right wing, under Major-General Oshima, is following the Liaoyang road, and their left wing, under Major-General Oseko, seems to be marching along the two adjacent roads on the west. It would appear as though Katsura intended to push on to Liaoyang, leaving Kawaji to deal with the forces of Liu, Sung, and Wu on the south, and leaving also a sufficient garrison to hold Haicheng. Katsura's advance is dangerous from a stategical point of view, since his front is now parallel to his line of communications, and a still formidable force of the enemy remains on his left flank. But the Japanese Generals have learned by this time what liberties they can take with the Chinese.

Yingkow, or modern Newchwang, is the natural place for embarking any portion of the Shinking troops that can be spared for the expedition against Pekin, supposing such an expedition to be contemplated. But Yinkow is seldom free of ice before the middle of the present month. We do not look, therefore, for any over-sea movement of the fourth expeditionary force from Ujina before the 12th or 13th instant at soonest. It seems scarcely possible to hope, however, that China's Peace Envoy will arrive in Japan in time, or, if he arrives, that he will conduct the negotiations with sufficient speed, to prevent the despatch of the expedition.

Vernacular journals speak with apparent interest of the positions and numbers of the Chinese forces in Shantung, but we do not clearly see the use of discussing such matters. The Japanese have virtually left Shantung. They have dismantled all the main-land forts, not even waiting to carry away any of the heavy ordinance, the shipping of which involved labour and time, but blowing it up ruthlessly. They retain Liukung, Zhih, and Hwang islands, the forts on which give them ample command of the Bay, but the greater part of the troops have already returned, it is said, to Talien.

We read in the *Mainichi* that the *Kwang-ping* (composite cruiser 1,030 tons) was stripped of all her miscellaneous articles before the Japanese obtained possession of her. She has three 12-cent. Krupp quick-firing guns; four quick-firing Hotchkiss 57-milimetre pieces, and four 37-mill. machine guns, all in good order. She has also a fair supply of ammunition, four torpedo-tubes, electric lights, and 70 tons of coal. A shell that struck her funnel in the recent fighting has left its mark, and two quick-firing 57-mill. guns have been smashed at the waist. Her Captain, Chang, was the officer that paid several visits to the Japanese flag-ship in connection with the surrender at Weihaiwei. He has explained that the ship, together with the *Kwang-chia* and the *Kwang-yi*, belonged to the Canton Squadron and came north only to take part in the manœuvres. They were, however, compelled to join the Peiyang Squadron. The *Kwang-yi* had to be run ashore during the battle off Phungdo Island on July 25th; the *Kwang-chia* ran aground in escaping from the battle of Haiyang (Sept. 17th), and the *Kwang-ping* alone remained. He was very anxious to have the vessel restored to its original Squadron, but the Japanese were not content to be so generous. Failing in his petition, Captain Chang left his uniform and his sword behind him, and returned to China in civilian's dress.

As for the *Chen-yuen*, she too had been stripped of all her minor equipment before surrender. Her armament, however, in is perfect condition, and there is a fair supply of ammunition, especially for the 32.5 cent. gun. She was greatly knocked about in the Haiyang fight. The marks of more than 400 hits are visible, one of conspicuous dimensions being evidently the result of a shell from the *Itsukushima's* 32-cent. gun. She has also the mark of a 30½-cent. shell in her funnel; two or three hits inside her turret, and her whole deck is charred. Large piles of sand-bags are ranged round her sides as a protection against rifle-bullets. She has a torpedo tube in rear.

THURSDAY, MARCH 7TH.

A telegraphic message sent from Head-quarters, Hiroshima, on the 6th instant at 8.07 p.m. and received by the War Department in Tokyo, at 9.15 p.m. on Wednesday, states that Lieutenant-General Nozu, Commander-in-Chief of the First Army, has dispatched the following telegraphic report dated the 4th instant:—As previously arranged, the Army attacked Newchwang to-day. One Brigade operated from the west and another from the south-east, the enemy being finally surrounded. Firing began at 10 a.m., and about noon the Brigades entered Newchwang. A portion of the enemy retreated towards Yingkow, but the main body offered a strong resistance, taking advantage of the shelter afforded by the houses in the town of Newchwang, and much severe fighting took place there. Our soldiers attacked every house, and completely routed the enemy; fighting ceasing about 11 p.m. The enemy's loss includes 1,880 killed, and about 500 taken prisoners. Among the spoils were 16 guns, and investigations are now being made as to the number of horses, provisions, and small arms. Our casualties are 206 killed and wounded.

The following description of Liukung Island and its forts is gathered from the writings of war-correspondents of the metropolitan papers Hwang Island, situated at the north-western extremity of Liukung, is very small, measuring only 900 to 1,000 yards in circumference. Originally separated from Liukung, it is now connected with the latter by awide stone causeway, thus constituting virtually a small promontory. A fort is constructed upon its highest land, and 4 Krupps (24-cent.) and 2 small guns of 4¼-cent. are mounted there. A stone shelter constructed near the fort holds more than 70 men. The fragments of shells discharged from mortars by the Japanese from the nearest land forts are seen here and there near, but the Hwang fort did not suffer any particular damage from these missiles. Liukung Island measures about 8 miles in circumference. It consists entirely of a hill, and its sea-ward side is a steep cliff, forbidding any attempt to land. On the landward side an iron pier, about 240 yards long, is constructed. Here the water is so deep and still, that any big vessel can be moored alongside the pier. Forts are constructed at the western and eastern extremities of the island, and an incomplete fort is seen on the summit. The western fort is armed with disappearing guns. There are two of these pieces, their calibre being 24-cent. A similar fort exists on Zhih Island. It was these two forts that gave so much trouble and did so much damage to the Japanese Fleet. Both from the fleet and from the land forts the Japanese opened a heavy cannonade against the battery at the western extremity of the island, but so admirably is it constructed that, when surrendered, it was found entirely free from damage worthy of mention. At the eastern extremity two forts stand, the southern, which is directed toward the harbour and bears the marks of recent hasty construction, and the northern, which faces toward the open sea. The two forts are separated from each other by an interval of about 350 to 500 yards. In the former, 2 Krupps (24 cent.) and 2 of 12-cent., are mounted, in the latter, 2 Krupps of 24-cent. The two forts were hotly bombarded by the Japanese Fleet on the 7th; but it is vexatious to find, write the war-correspondents of the Tokyo papers, that not only did the guns suffer no damage, but even the forts themselves were comparatively intact. This furnishes another proof of the great disadvantages under which ships labour in engaging forts. The summit of the hill is about 300 ft. above the sea level, but its ascent is extremely difficult. A fort was in course of construction on the summit and aleady platforms for guns were constructed. A correspondent of one of the metropolitan papers was surprised to find that to the summit, the ascent of which he found so tiresome, two guns of 28-cent. had already been hauled up. It was fortunate that this fort was still unfinished; otherwise the Japanese Fleet must have found it extremely perilous to bombard the island forts even at long ranges, for a shot fired from that height

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might inflict serious damage on a ship even at a distance of 5,000 metres. Two other guns of the same type were still lying on the beach. About 1,000 buildings including both Government offices and houses of the inhabitants stand on the island. The inhabitants' dwellings are in two distinct clusters, somewhat separated from each other. The principal official buildings are the Admiralty, the Naval Academy, two hospitals, and a barracks. The *Ting-yuen* lies in a terrible condition about five or six hundred yards from the coast where the southern fort at the eastern extremity it situated. The intervening portion between the two funerals was shattered to pieces by the blowing up of the magazine. When No. 5 Torpedo-boat went to the pier of Liukung to fetch the foreign employés to the flag-ship *Matsushima*, one of them, who was on board the *Ting-yuen* when she was attacked by the Japanese torpedo-boats, saw Lieutenant Mano who commanded No. 9 on that memorable morning. He asked the Lieutenant whether it had been his torpedo-boat that undertook the desperate attack. When he replied in the affirmative, the foreigner praised him for his daring attempt, and observed that the first two torpedoes passed close by the bow of the *Ting-yuen* but that the last and third hit the bottom of the iron-clad. The first two torpedoes were shot from the bow-tube, and the last one from the tube at the side of the boat. It was considered by many experts that as it was difficult to take precise aim with the torpedo-tube, owing to the motion of the boat, and moreover, as it was inconvenient to turn the boat away from the enemy's fire, after having discharged the bow torpedo, therefore the side tube should be more frequently resorted to: this theory has been verified by the recent fight at Weihaiwei.

FRIDAY, MARCH 8TH.

Lieut.-General Katsura continues his advance toward Liaoyang. An official report says that, on the morning of the 2nd instant, the troops of the Third Division resumed their march, with the intention of attacking the enemy's forces which, on the preceding night, had taken up a position on the heights about Suitaisz. But it was found that the Chinese had all retreated toward Liaotung. The Japanese accordingly pushed forward, and at 11.30 a.m., occupied, without resistance, Nganshanchan, a town on the Liaoyang high road, 19 miles from Haicheng and about 21 miles from Liaoyang. The enemy were found to have retreated to Shahochen, a town 8½ miles farther north. It seems plain that Katsura means to assault Liaoyang. If he takes it, Mukden will lie at his mercy and all the Chinese forces in Northern Shinking will be completely out off from their base of supplies. Meanwhile, there is no further intelligence of the movements of Yamagi and Nogi in south-western Shinking, but there can be little doubt that they have matured their arrangements for an attack upon Yingkow in conjunction with the Brigade of the First Army that captured Newchwang on the 4th.

The *Chi-yuen*, says the *Kokkai*, is now lying in Ujina harbour, and the *Kwang-ping* and *Ping-yuen* were expected there on the 6th or 7th. The *Tsi-yuen's* armament is two 21-cent. Krupps forward, one 15-cent. aft, eight 37-mill., two 47-mill., and two 57-mill. machine guns on the sides. She has also four torpedo-tubes, and is altogether a most powerful craft for her size. She has, however, been terribly knocked about in the fights off Phungdo and at Weihaiwei, and the majority of her minor hurts remain unrepaired, marks of blood also being visible in numerous places. A quantity of rifles and all her material of war were handed over intact by the five officers appointed for that purpose.

The *Fiji Shimpo* re-produces two letters, both said to have been written by Taotai Niu to Vice-Admiral Ito. We translate them:—

Excellency—I beg to express my sincere thanks for your having permitted our soldiers to leave the island, as intimated in your answer to Admiral Ting's letter. I am also grateful for your having been so good as to consult with me twice subsequently [illegible] learn from Chang Pikwang that your Excellency has signified your intention of restoring to us the *Kang-chi*, that she may carry the coffin of Admiral Ting as well our officers out of the Bay. I beg you to accept my profound thanks.

(Signed) NIU CHANGPING.
(Dated) 22nd day of the 1st month (Chinese calendar).

Excellency—I have the honour to point out that the *Kwangping* belongs to the Kwangtung Squadron. In the spring of last year, at the usual inspection by Li Chung-tang, the *Kwangchia*, the *Kwangyi*, and the *Kwangping* came to attend the assembly of the Northern Squadron, and at its conclusion ought to have returned, but for certain reasons remained with the Peiyang Fleet temporarily. The *Kwangchia* and the *Kwangyi* have both been lost, and of the three Kwantung ships only the *Kwangping* remains. Kwangtung had nothing to do with the present war, and if it loses all three ships, we shall have no excuses to offer to the Kwangtung Commander-in-chief. Should Your Excellency, sympathising with us, restore the *Kwangping*, I promise that she shall not again take part in the war. If you can not consent to that, perhaps you will agree that the armament be taken from the ship, and that her hull only be restored, in which case Chang Pikwang will not be disgraced, but will have some apology to offer to his commanding officer. Trusting that Your Excellency will appreciate the situation, I await your reply.

(Signed) NIU CHANGPING, &c., &c.

This second letter is one of the most comical chapters in War records. But it is also a sad chapter, in the sense that it betrays the extraordinarily divided state of the Chinese empire.

The *Ping-yuen* says the *Yomiuri*, is a one-masted ship, her armament consisting one 26-cent. and two 15-cent., guns with twelve other pieces of smaller calibre. The *Kwangping* has three masts, and her armament is three quick-firing Krupps of 12-cent. which are the newest type of gun, fired with smokeless powder. Japan had none of the type yet. She has besides eight other guns (of which two are burst) and four torpedo-tubes.

The *Nippon* asserts that immediately on the arrival of Admiral Ting's body in Tientsin, the head was cut off and exposed.

In the *Hochi* we read that the Taotai Niu, who made arrangements, after the death of Ting, for the transfer of the ships and forts to the Japanese, was arrested by order of Li Ping-hang, Governor of Shantung, immediately on reaching Chefoo, and put to death without any form of trial. The officers of Navy are said to be very much exasperated about the affair.

A telegram from the north of China says that the power and influence of the Viceroy Li with the Emperor, Empress Dowager, and Prince Kung have been fully restored, and that the fullest plenipotentiary commission has been given to him to restore peace and to undertake reforms in China. He will be accompanied on his mission to Japan by Lo Fungło, as Interpreter and Secretary, and by Mr. Pethick who will act as Lo's Secretary. The Viceroy left Peking on the 5th instant. He can be in Japan in 10 days if he pleases.

Lieut.-General Yamaji's new position at Tapingshan, won and held after a tolerably severe engagement on the 24th ultimo, places him most inconveniently between Sung's forces about Yingkow and Wu's army in Newchwang (proper). Accordingly, on the 4th instant—the very day when a Brigade of the First Army was attacking Wu in Newchwang, Sung moved up a force of over 10,000 men, and assaulted Tapingshan from three directions. He was easily driven back, however, the Japanese suffering no loss.

A telegram from Haicheng, dated 7.15 p.m. on the 5th instant, says that a scouting party sent out by the 6th Regiment towards Newchwang proper on that day, captured, at Sztaitsz, 3 field-pieces, 150 rounds of large-arm ammunition, 700,000 rounds of small-arm, 8 flags, 428 swords, and 30 bags of rice; and in Santaitsz, 2 field-pieces, 37 rounds of large-arm, and 3,000 boxes of small-arm, ammunition, 6 boxes of gunpowder, and 5 cans of dynamite. Presumably these various articles had been abandoned by Wu's army on the preceding day when Newchwang was attacked.

The guns captured at Weihaiwei, says the *Hochi*, apart from those in the Liukung and Kaun forts, were twenty-four from 15-cent. to 28-cent., and 90 of smaller calibres, making 114 in all. Of these the larger pieces have been destroyed and the smaller will be brought to Japan.

The *Choya* says that the breaking up of the ice in the Peiho river has inspired new fears of the advent of the Japanese and that the Chinese are strenuously endeavouring to strengthen Taku, where 283 guns are mounted.

IN HAICHENG.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

Wednesday, February 7th.

I saw General Katsura this morning. He is a bright, cheery-looking man of middle age. He lived for many years in Germany, and though it was many years ago, speaks German fluently, so that, to our mutual comfort, we can interchange ideas without the tedious mediation of an interpreter. English also he can read and speak, but not with any degree of fluency.

There is no officer of the staff here that can read English fluently, and they have no official English interpreter. As all that I write for publication has to be supervised before it is sent, it has been arranged that the letters shall be orally translated by Tamura to the officer appointed to act as Press Censor. This is rather a relief to Tamura, who was becoming bored for lack of occupation. I shall be in the same state myself in a day or two more, when I shall have fully exhausted all the material the town offers to my pen. There will be nothing to do then but to sit down and twiddle one's thumbs until the Chinese summon up courage to make another attack on the town or the Japanese decide to move forward. The medical officers and their assistants are the most fortunate people in the town, for they have always some work to fill up their day.

There is something of course, for the soldiers to do, though much less than most of them would like. Reconnoiting parties go out every day, and I expect the service is a coveted one, dangerous as it is. Yesterday one of these parties, consisting of twenty men, fell into a trap. They had entered a village that they believed not to be occupied by the enemy, but were suddenly surprised by the appearance of five hundred Chinamen. Being mounted, all escaped but one. In the evening, learning from spies that the Chinese soldiers had left the village, the Japanese soldiers returned to look for the body of their comrade. They found it and brought it away. I saw to-day the body, but not the head. This had been severed from the body and, presumably, taken away by the Chinese soldiers.

Thursday, February 8th.

I am seriously alarmed about Tamura's condition. The diet, which even here, where fresh meat is provided every day and where farther I have been able to open my stores of tinned delicacies, I find somewhat rough and unsatisfying, is to him, who has been accustomed in Japan to live as a student obtaining board and lodging for three *yen* a month, extremely rich. Already on the journey I had noticed he was getting fat; and here, where he gets three meat meals a and day very little exercise, he is, like the old lady seen by Mr. Weller at the temperance meeting "a-awelling wisibly before my eyes." I take him out for a constitutional every day; but harder work, tougher diet, and somewhat less than ten hours sleep a night will be needed, if he is to be kept within reasonable proportions. The same phenomenon has been noticed with many of the soldiers. Instead of suffering in health from the hardships of the campaign, they gain weight and strength, for their appetites are stimulated by the unusual cold, and the diet is far better than that which many of them have been accustomed to obtain in Japan.

In our afternoon walk to-day we saw a rather ghastly sight. I had previously been astounded at the number of apparently homeless dogs that wander about waste spaces within the

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walls, and had wondered how they managed to pick up a livelihood. I thought perhaps if I could count them I should find that they diminished in number day by day, following the example of the prehistoric animals in May Kendall's "Ballad of the Ichthyosaurus"

> And we dined, as a rule, on each other.
> What matter? The toughest survived.

This is, indeed, a partial solution of the problem, for several half-eaten dog-corpses litter the streets of the town; the main sustenance of these animals, however, was explained by what we saw to-day. One of the vacant spaces near the western extremity of the town appears to be used as a slaughtering ground for oxen, and here the ground is littered with the half-cleaned skeletons of forty or fifty of these animals, the offal being disputed between the dogs and the carrion crows. The dogs linger in the neighbourhood, on the watch no doubt for fresh carcasses, but do not haunt the actual field of death. The crows, however, were flying about it in great numbers, and with their strong bills are doubtless able to chip off fragments from the frozen carrion. To the dogs the fresh, warm bodies only can be of much use, but I suppose they get a good meal is this manner every day or two. In this weather, all this carrion can be let lying about with impunity, but it will become a source of danger as soon as the frost ceases. Kitchen middens, whether private or municipal, are a relic of savagery, and should not be tolerated by the Japanese in the towns under their jurisdiction.

Friday, February 9th.

During the earlier part of my journey northward I had occasion to comment on the extraordinary clearness of the atmosphere. Since, however, I reached snow-covered country a peculiar haze has overhung the landscape, rendering it impossible to see the hills even a few miles away. This afternoon I walked out to the hill Konchayan, a mile and a half west of the town; but the day being warmer than usual and the snow soft, the haze was more than ordinarily thick, and I could see nothing for my pains.

Saturday, February 10th.

To-day it was colder again, with bright sunshine, and a moderately clear atmosphere, so that the outline of hills ten miles distant was distinct. I took advantage in the morning of the unusual clearness to climb the hill Cho-moa-yan on which the soldiers are buried, for the purpose of taking a photograph of the town. Finding that from this I could not take in the whole town, I went to another peak a little higher and more distant, from which an excellent view was obtained. On this last hill there were two sentries, who willingly submitted to be photographed with arms grounded, standing on the summit of the hill. I promised each of them a copy should the photographs be worth seeing—a condition, I fear, not very likely to be fulfilled, for I have taken up photography simply for the purposes of this expedition, and, knowing absolutely nothing about it, more than half my attempts are likely to prove failures. I do not, of course, attempt to develop my plates myself, but simply store then for future treatment by a skilled hand, so that I cannot ever have the advantage of learning by my failures, and shall know no more of photography when I have exposed my 25 dozen plates than I did when I left Japan. Still, I diligently photograph everything worth seeing, in the hope that a few, at least, of my attempts will be successful. Of course the battle scenes will be the most interesting of all, but it will be difficult to get near enough to obtain a photograph showing what really happened. The details will be so small as to be almost invisible.

We descended Chomoazan by the side furthest from Haicheng, and halfway down found a little hamlet surrounded by pine trees. It was delicious once more to see other trees than the eternal willows, and to hear the wind rustling in the pines; and the place moreover afforded a beautiful view to the eastward of a range of snow-covered hills. Here, as at all the villages round, some soldiers are stationed, and I could not but envy them their quarters as we returned to this dull and ugly town.

Sunday, February 11th.

Not merely has the atmosphere been warmer during the last few days, but the sun gains power day by day, so that while it continues all day to freeze hard in the shade, in the sunshine at noon the frozen snow give place day by day to increasing puddles of dirty water, which freeze over again at night. Thus the filth of the midday thaw is succeeded on the following morning by an increased slipperiness in the streets. A thaw is a detestable invention of nature; and a climate in which a thaw, instead of being a temporary inconvenience is a daily reiterated nuisance throughout the early spring, is perhaps the most detestable of all climates. I used to dislike the English climate; and, having had little experience of other climates, I did not hesitate to regard it as the worst climate in the world. Now, after a moderately extended acquaintance with various climates, I am inclined to prefer that of England to any other. It is true that in comparison with some other countries, England lacks sunshine—in a French grammar I used at school, we were taught that, "In England, the sky is always covered with clouds": this is libellous, though I remember a week one winter in which the Astronomer Royal's machine at Greenwich recorded only three minutes of sunshine—but still, I was going to say, if England lacks sunshine, she makes up for it in the lower Thames Valley (the best part of England) with a wealth of yellow fog. The dweller in London will continue to regard climate as a necessary evil, as almost all sane persons except house agents and medical officers of health, consider the climates of their respective districts. But for climate, if I must choose, give me the English climate for the present; some day, perhaps, I may in my wanderings find that climate of which I have heard so often, and which like the rainbow recedes as I advance, "the finest climate in the world."

LETTER FROM HUSHAN.

(From our own Correspondent with the Army.)

Hushan, February 11th, 1895.

In my last letter, I mentioned the escape of the Chinese torpedo-boats, and their destruction and capture by the Japanese war-ships. On that occasion, a large number of prisoners were taken. Among them the most remarkable was the captain of one of the torpedo-boats. On the morning of the 9th instant, I paid him a visit, in company with several of my colleagues of the Japanese press. The place of his temporary detention was not far from our own lodging. We found him in a spacious room sitting by the side of a fire. There were several gendarmes under command of a petty officer, who allowed us, on his own responsibility, to hold a conversation with the prisoner. The latter was evidently feeling rather cold, having nothing besides a thin red blanket to keep him warm. He wore a civilian dress of decidedly poor quality. He is a remarkable man in more than one respect. Low in stature, but well built, with a well developed forehead, his features indicate an unusual degree of intelligence and firmness of character. Sincerely pained by seeing a man of his quality and capacity in such an unfortunate situation, I expressed my sympathy for his misfortune. He answered me in fluent English (he had studied for several years in America). I then told him, as the spokesman of the party, that we represented the press, taking particular care to mention the name of the journal I acted for, and offered to become his medium if he had anything to communicate to his friends, family, or the public, through the papers. He said that he had read the *Japan Mail*, and that, though highly appreciating our kindness, he was sorry he could not avail himself of the offer, because, if he did anything of the sort, he would be shot by his Government when he went home after the war. He, therefore, politely declined to hold any conversation with anybody except officers having power to examine him. "I should be very sorry," said I, "to give you the least trouble under the circumstances, but I hope you will not mind favouring me with information on some matters not connected with the war." "Well, I may answer you on some innocent topics," was the reply. "At the Torpedo Depôt, adjacent to Lingmantsui fort, I noticed several English works and notes of lectures by Capt. Rogers with the signature of Y.K. Li. May I ask you who that person is?" "Certainly," said he. "Li, is a Captain in the Imperial Navy and the head of the Mining Department." "Will you kindly tell me the name of the torpedo boat you commanded?" "There," cried he, "you are venturing upon forbidden ground; I am sorry to say I cannot answer you." I asked him a few more questions, but as he persisted in his refusal to make any reply, we took leave of him, hoping to meet him again under happier circumstances. He has already been examined several times, but the results of the examination are kept secret. It is, however, reported that he has on every occasion called forth the admiration of his examiners by his good sense and soldierly behaviour. At first the examination was conducted in Chinese, but since the accidental discovery of his intimate acquaintance with English, the latter language has been used. He is said to have stated that he and his fellow-commanders of the torpedo boats had received orders, on the morning of the 7th steam out of the western entrance of the harbour and attack the Japanese war vessels watching outside. But according to the statements of other prisoners, it is asserted that these torpedo boats had no such orders, but that they ventured out of the port for the sole purpose of escaping to Chefoo. There seems to have been a cause of complaint on the part of the torpedo officers against Ting and the other officers. The former, it is stated, imagined themselves alone condemned to duties of a particularly dangerous character, while those on board the war-vessels, they thought, were enjoying comparative ease and comfort. Consequently, they unanimously excused themselves from attending a council of war which Admiral Ting called early on the morning of the 7th, and instead tried, as already narrated, to escape to Chefoo. This version of the matter appears to be the more probable of the two. Prisoners are daily arriving from the neighbourhood of Weihaiwei where several of the Chinese torpedo boats, hotly pursued by the Japanese war ships, got aground.

To-day being the anniversery of the coronation of the founder of the Imperial dynasty, the Emperor Jimmu, the camp here has been *en fête*. A piece of ground at the back of a building belonging to the Commissariat Department has been prepared for an entertainment. In the daytime the company was entertained with matches of wrestling by coolies. There was one that figured head and shoulders above the rest. He was once a professional wrestler and had climbed very high in the science, having occupied a front position on the so-called "Second column" (*nidan-me*). The day was fair, but a strong cold wind was blowing from the west. The amateur wrestlers nevertheless stripped themselves of their garments and in all other respects strictly observed the canons of the profession as if they were performing in Japan. The winners received rewards from the Commissariat authorities. In the evening, the entertainment consisted of story-telling, masquerades, *jôruri*, dancing, etc. The performance commenced with a few choice selections by the military band. Two big fires and a few lanterns sufficed to illuminate a little open stage erected in a corner of the ground. It was indeed a novel and romantic sight to see the Japanese officers from the Field-Marshal downwards seated round the fires listening to songs or stories or watching masquerades all based on allusions to the engrossing business of the day, the war. One of the most interesting performances was the playing of the 10th act of the *Taikôki*. Mitsuhide, the short-lived usurper and murderer, was represented by Li Hung-chang. The lamentations of the arch traitor's wife were skilfully

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modified so as to apply to the present forlorn situation of the great Chinese statesman. Another performance that evoked in the mind of every Japanese feelings of pity and triumph was the singing of songs by three Chinese. Their tone was sad and abject, and while perhaps conscientiously striving to please their new masters, they only served to damp the spirit of the company and hold themselves up as an emblem of Chinese ignorance and servility. Among the performers, were two that particularly distinguished themselves by intelligence and wit. One was a former follower of the *soshi* actor Kawakami Otojiro; the other had once been a member of a political party and had some experience as a public orator. It was truly a romantic sight to observe this scene of simple amusement, while reports of guns were heard now and then over the hills from the direction of the harbour of Weihaiwei. Such was the enthusiasm displayed by the voluntary performers that the entertainment did not come to a close before half-past ten o'clock. After the performances were over, the officers and newspaper correspondents were invited to drink *saké* under a shed in the inner court-yard of the house. Here again a few of the principal performers were called upon to display their accomplishments for the entertainment of the convivial party.

A little before twelve, it being a beautiful moonlit night, I was taking a walk with Mr. Furuya of the *Kokumin Shimbun*, a graduate of the Doshisha School of Kyoto, and a very promising young man, when we observed some commotion in the neighbourhood of Marshal Oyama's head-quarters. On enquiry we were told that two Chinese armed with weapons had been seen by coolies loitering in the village. A thorough search was at once instituted in every direction, but no trace of the supposed assassins has yet been made out.

THE TONG-HAKS.

The Tong-haks, who so greatly disturbed the peace of Korea for a long while, have been suppressed at last by the Japanese troops. The latter with their Korean auxiliaries sent to the agitated districts, have returned to Sōul, and the king despatched the Minister of War as far as Ryozan to welcome the triumphant soldiers and to convey complimentary messages to them. The two principal ring-leaders of the Tong-hak agitation, Sai Jikyo and Zen Rokuto, have been disposed of, the former having been killed some time ago in a skirmish, and the latter captured and transported to Sōul to be subjected to strict examination. They were widely known throughout Korea, just as the name of Saigo Takamori was on the lips of everybody in Japan at the time of the civil commotion in Satsuma. When Zen was first brought to the Japanese Legation on the 17th ult., from which he was subsequently removed to the Consulate to receive medical treatment, being wounded in the foot—an immense mass of Koreans flocked to the Consulate to see the "great man." Questioned by Count Inouye as to why he had raised a grave agitation and disturbed the tranquillity of the country, Zen replied that he and his compatriots had no other motive than to get rid of knavish officers in the Central Government and to drive out, at the same time, the Japanese troops whom they considered to have come to Sōul for the purpose of self-aggrandisement. They knew from the first that, numerous as their followers were, they could never hope to successfully resist the well-disciplined and well-armed Japanese, but they felt that when their Sovereign was in such a humiliating plight, his subjects ought to rise against his enemies and to resist them to the death. By and by, however, Zen had begun to doubt the accuracy of his judgment. He then sought to ascertain the real motives of the Japanese, and sent a messenger to the Japanese Legation with a letter. The letter never reached its destination. Its bearer, afraid to send it direct to the Legation, entrusted it to the care of a publican in Sōul. Zen professed to be deeply pained by the thought that he and his compatriots had laboured under serious misconceptions about Japan, for had they known her real motives they would not have taken arms against her. To a question of Count Inouye's as to why, while having such great objects in view, their followers had subjected innocent people to so much distress, he replied that the real Tong-haks had carefully avided any such lawless conduct. It had been the work of a mob that, taking advantage of the prevailing agitation, rose against oppressive and corrupt local officers. Zen was also examined by Major Minami, Commander of the 19th Battalion—which had been despatched to suppress the rebels—when brought before that officer as a prisoner. The replies made by him to the Major's questions served to show how the Tong-haks rose in rebellion. Asked whether he had not been instigated by others, he replied in the negative; saying that the message issued to the Tong-haks by the Tai Wōn-kun had been simply to the effect that as he was once more installed in office to direct the administration of the country, therefore the people should peacefully attend to their business as before. He further stated that, while he and those entertaining cognate opinions, dissatisfied with the oppressive rule of the Governor of Kofu and the neighbouring district, petitioned that it should be amended, the people broke out into open insurrection at various places and obliged him to assume the command of the movement, and that he led the Tong-haks of Chollado, while Saijikyo led those of Chunchoudo. Zen was taken prisoner by a body of Korean soldiers in Kyongchoudo in January last. Until now he did not know that the Japanese troops had been sent to Sōul to guard the independence of Korea. Had he possessed such knowledge earlier, he and his compatriots would have persuaded their followers in Chollado to refrain from offering any resistance to the Japanese. Though not distinctly instigated by others, the Tong-haks had been gravely led astray by certain malcontents in the Court, who assured them that the independence of Korea, based on the support of Japan, could last only temporarily, being certainly destined to be overthrown sooner or later at the hands of China, and that therefore it was more prudent for the Koreans to be subservient to the will of the Celestial Empire. The Tong-haks were readily persuaded to believe that specious view, and gradually came to uphold the cause of China. It is said that all their military arrangements were devised by Zen and Sai.

COUNT KATSU ON ADMIRAL TING.

Count Katsu is said to entertain feelings of great sympathy for the death of Admiral Ting between whom and the Count, an Admiral of the Japanese Navy, a warm friendship had existed since Ting's visit to Japan some years ago. The "Count of Hikawa" observed to a representative of the *Kokumin* that he considered Ting's conduct entirely free from blame. He has furnished a precedent that should be followed by any commander of a fleet deprived of fighting capacity, and his action has planted a bright spot in the dreary wilderness of the annals of the present naval warfare. It is an easy matter for strongwilled persons to die by their own hands when driven to an extremity, but to do so after having calmly deliberated on the situation and after carefully arranging for the future is extremely difficult. Such was, however, the case with the Chinese Admiral. He had to arrange for a number of rising naval officers trained at great expense, who were to constitute the staff out of which China's future Navy is to be organized, and he had also a number of foreign employés to think of. To fight to the death meant to destroy the germ of China's Navy, while to surrender meant to forfeit his honour in the eyes of his countrymen. After deep deliberation he took the only course by which both the welfare of the Navy and his own honour could be preserved—he sacrificed his life and the fleet that had been formed after years of trouble and expense. He deserves the deepest sympathy.

A Tokyo paper tells a story illustrating the appreciation in which Count Katsu held his Chinese friend. It is said that the Count was calling upon a certain distinguished dignitary when intelligence was received by his host of Ting's surrender of all his ships and armament. The host also held Ting in high esteem, and when he read the message his first feeling of pleasure at the success of the Japanese changed to one of disappointment at the conduct of the Chinese Admiral. He grew quite angry, thinking that the surrender was actuated by the base motive on Ting's part of ensuring the safety of his own life. His disappointment in Ting incensed him highly and he proceeded to throw down a costly fur that he had received as a present from the Chinese Admiral. Count Katsu stopped his host, remarking that he did not share his opinion about Ting, who, he was sure, would die by his own hand after having obtained more or less favourable conditions from the Japanese in connection with the surrender. As his host would not agree, the Count said that as he was so angry with Ting as not to like to look at a gift of his, he (the Count) would like to have it. He received the fur as a reward for his keen appreciation of the Chinese Admiral.

THE NIPPON GINKO QUESTION AND THE BANKERS' UNION.

The bankers of Tokyo and Yokohama have been discussing the Bill relating to the Taxation of the Nippon Ginko now before the House of Peers after having been carried through the Lower House. The bankers have held repeated deliberations on the subject and have come to the conclusion that the idea of taxing the Nippon Ginko should not be put into force at present. They do not oppose it in theory, for the method is generally adopted in Europe with regard to a central bank. Moreover, a certain system of taxation is enforced even in this country on national banks, and the exemption of the Nippon Ginko cannot be considered strictly just. The taxation of the Bank of Japan would, however, greatly affect the commercial and industrial classes of the country as it would necessarily be followed by alterations in the policy of its business. The effects would therefore be felt more by the economic world than by the Bank itself. Although almost every country in Europe taxes its central bank, the mode of doing so varies in different countries, thus showing that the organization of a central bank should be adapted to the conditions of each country. It does not follow, therefore, that because central banks are taxed in Europe the same method should be adopted towards the Nippon Ginko. Central banks in Europe enjoy, moreover, advantages from which the Bank of Japan is precluded. For instance, when one European market suffers from any change, another will extend help to it, thus ensuring freedom and activity. In Japan the chief products are agricultural, so that when rice or silk have been unfavourable, the money market is gravely affected and the position of the Bank of Japan is of great importance, for unless it can assist the market the latter is reduced to a serious condition. The imposition of a tax upon the Nippon Ginko is therefore highly impolitic. The Bank's help will be greatly needed on the expiration of the terms of the National Banks, for a grave financial crisis may result, and it is highly important therefore that the Nippon Ginko be allowed to strengthen itself beforehand.

The chartered transport *Jumna* arrived at Portsmouth on 19th inst., bringing about 1,000 troops from Hongkong, Singapore, Ceylon, and Gibraltar. She was nearly two days overdue, having met with heavy weather off Cape Finisterre. Among the officers from China were Lieut. Boys, R.E., and Captain Forbes and Lieut. Jordan, who were presented by the Governor of Hongkong with an address on the part of the residents for their services during the plague.

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CONSUL-GENERAL SHIMAMURA ON THE ACTION OF THE BRITISH FLEET.

Since the breaking out of the present war between Japan and China, write the *Jiji* and other vernacular papers, a rumour has been constantly circulated to the effect that Englishmen always favour China and seek to place impediments in Japan way. That is strongly disputed by Consul-General Shimamura, who was sent some time ago on official business to the seat of war and has returned home, having accompanied Field-Marshal Count Oyama at Port Arthur and Weiweihai. He declares that the unfavourable criticisms of the Japanese press as to the sentiment and actions of the British Oriental Fleet toward the land and naval forces of Japan, are entirely unfounded. It is true that whether in land battles or sea fights, the presence of strangers as mere spectators is a source of trouble, and therefore the fact that the British Fleet follows in the wake of the Japanese squadron and watches the latter's actions may have proved more or less embarrassing. Yet that is the sum total of what the British Fleet did, and there is no ground whatsoever for the charge that it sided with China and obstructed the operations of the Japanese forces. Admiral Fremantle has shown considerable goodwill to the Japanese, as is attested in more then one instance. When Field-Marshal Oyama reached Port Arthur, for example, the Admiral also landed there and paid a complimentary visit to the Commander-in-Chief of the Second Army. This courtesy he repeated when the Marshal reached Yungcheng, at which place his arrival was anticipated by the British Admiral. As the Marshal could not return the visit at Port Arthur, he discharged the obligation at Yungcheng, when he was again called upon by the Commander of the British Oriental Fleet. The Marshal visited the British Flag-ship and talked with Sir E. A. Fremantle for some hours in a very friendly manner. The Admiral was extremely desirous, he said, of accompanying the Marshal in the assault on Weihaiwei, but as it was not possible for him to leave his ships so long a time he asked the Marshal to permit his Secretary to go with the Army. The Admiral subsequently accompanied the Marshal to Weihaiwei and was present when the ceremony of surrender was held there. The French Admiral and officers of other neutral countries were also present on that occasion. At the ceremony, the English and French national anthems and then the *Kimigayo* were played in due order, and last of all cheers were given for the Empire and Emperor. All were on the best possible terms and enjoyed themselves frankly and heartily. Not the least ill-will exists between the British Admiral and the Japanese forces.

SHANTUNG.

A News Agency reports thus of Shantung :—Now that Weihaiwei has fallen into the hands of the Japanese, the question naturally arises whether Japan ought to occupy Shantung permanently or whether she should abandon it after having destroyed its defences. A certain reliable authority who has stayed in that part of China for a long period, recommends the latter course. He thinks that Japan would not benefit by occupying the province. Being watered by the Yellow River it is extremely liable to suffer from the devastation of that unruly stream. Moreover, the soil is unsuitable for cultivation and the inhabitants are difficult to govern and for the most part, poor. Numbers leave their homes every year to seek employment in Vladivostock, Manchuria, Formosa. Port Arthur and Weihaiwei form the two wings of the Gulf of Pechili gate and are doubtless most important positions for the control of Pekin, but it is feared that should Japan retain those fortresses, China would be obliged to remove her capital. In that case Port Arthur and Weihaiwei would lose their importance. Even if the Chinchow peninsula be incorporated into Japan's dominions, it will be better to abandon Weihaiwei after having destroyed its defences. The permanent retention of that fortress as a Japanese outpost would involve an outlay that this country cannot well afford. Even if the place were abandoned and its land defences destroyed it would be easy to re-occupy it. Some persons seem to think that the occupation of Shantung is necessary as a preliminary to extending Japan's power into the vital parts of China, but the authority here quoted does not share that opinion. He ridicules the idea of making Shantung a basis of operations against the capital and the central portion of China. His idea is that should Pekin ever be invaded, troops ought to be despatched direct by sea and landed in some place nearer the capital than Shantung, while in order to devastate the centre of China, Shanghai should be taken and the Japanese Army sent into the interior by the Yangtze-kiang. Both Japanese and foreigners have overrated the importance of Shantung. Based on that misconception, Chefoo was opened for purposes of commerce, but the place does not justify what was expected of it.

THE ORIGIN OF THE NATIONAL FLAG OF JAPAN.

The *Yomiuri* has the following extract on the origin of the national flag of Japan, taken from the archives of Prince Shimazu sent to the paper by a correspondent :—

After the arrival of American steamers at Uraga in 1853 the country became considerably agitated and several far-sighted men urged strongly the necessity of strengthening the coast defences. Foremost among those men was Shimazu Seihin, Lord of Satsuma. He caused three battle-ships to be constructed after Western models. About the same time the Shogunate also conceived the idea of building foreign-fashioned ships, and hearing that the Lord of Satsuma had already set the scheme on foot, it issued an order to him to the effect that the vessels should be presented to the Shogunate on their completion. In the summer of the following year, when the construction of the ships was nearly finished, Prince Shimazu had occasion to come to Yedo. One day while visiting at the Shogunate Court he happened to meet Abe Ise-no-kami, the Chief Councillor. Among other topics their conversation turned on the question of a Japanese national flag. The Prince observed that he considered it inconvenient that there was no mark by which a Japanese vessel might be distinguished from one belonging to another country, especially as the idea he had in view of opening communication with the Loochoo group would increase the risk of a Japanese vessel being stranded on a foreign shore. He thought also that when the ships then in course of construction in Satsuma for the use of the Shogunate should be completed and brought up to Yedo Bay, some suitable flag ought to be hoisted on them. The Prince asked the Councillor whether any decision had been come to by the Regency as to what kind of national insignia to adopt. The Councillor replied that the idea was good, but that owing to pressure of important business the Shogunate had no time to attend to that point. He asked the Prince, however, whether he had any suggestion to make on the matter, whereupon the latter replied that, after thinking about it, he had come to the conclusion that the figure of a red ball representing the sun should be adopted as the insignia of the country on account of the meaning of the ideographs composing the name Nippon. The Councillor was much pleased at the Prince's happy conception, and asked him to have two or three specimens made to show to the Shogun and the other Councillors. Four samples were submitted to the Chief Councillor, who wrote to the Prince four or five days later saying that the design had been favourably received by all the Councillors, and that the Shogun himself had expressed great satisfaction with it as it resembled the flag of no other country. On July 11th, 1854, a notification was issued by the Shogunate, over the signature of Councillor Abe, to the effect that in order to avoid confusion all ships owned by Japanese should thenceforth fly a flag representing the sun. On the February 25th, 1855, one of the vessels constructed in Satsuma for the use of the Shogunate was brought to Shinagawa where it cast anchor. That ship was the first to hoist the Japanese flag.

MR. TAGUCHI ON THE FINANCIAL QUESTION OF THE DAY.

Mr. Taguchi, M.P., editor of the *Keisai Zasshi*, expresses his views on the financial question of the day in the columns of the *Kokumin Shimbun*. Of the 150 million *yen* for which the Government first obtained the consent of the Diet for the purpose of defraying war expenses, 44 million *yen* have yet to be raised by the issue of bonds. Mr. Taguchi proposes that that sum be supplied by appropriating the reserve specie of the Nippon Ginko. According to returns issued by the Bank in the latter part of January, the specie in the vaults amounted to 80 million *yen*, while the total of convertible notes in circulation was 167 million *yen*. The economist does not consider that there is any need for so much specie to be kept in reserve. He says that when the resumption system was first inaugurated in 1886, the total amount of reserved specie did not exceed 45 million *yen*, and he is consequently of opinion that the reserve might with impunity be reduced to 30 million *yen*. Thus a sum of 50 million *yen* could be obtained from the Nippon Ginko either in the form of specie or by issuing notes bearing interest of 5 per cent. The Government need not pay any interest on this sum, so that its appropriation would be preferable to raising a foreign loan. Mr. Taguchi next discusses the various sources of revenue and gives his opinions as to what taxes ought to be reduced or entirely abolished with a view to the encouragement of the commerce and industry of the country. He first advises an amendment of the *saké* brewing tax. He suggests chiefly that the mode of tax collecting be simplified and a tax levied on *saké* brewed for home consumption. Two evils arising from the exemption of home-brewed liquor from taxation are worthy of notice, namely, the subjection of regular brewers to great inconvenience, and the partiality shown to the wealthy who are the brewers of *saké* for home use. The poor are thus obliged to pay the *saké* tax. Mr. Taguchi gives a table showing how, in the decade ending with 1892, the number of regular brewers gradually diminished while the opposite was the case with the home-brewers. He considers that the method of tax collecting may be simplified by levying the tax on the capacity of casks instead of on the amount of *saké* brewed, as is done at present. The present system involves great expense which could be largely done away with if the above suggestion were followed. Home-brewed *saké* could be taxed by the same system. According to Mr. Taguchi, even if the rate of taxation be left as before, that is to say, 4 *yen* per *koku*, an addition to the revenue of 4 million *yen* would be derived from that tax alone by his proposed method of assessment, and another 2 millions by taxing home-made *saké*. The next tax that ought to be amended is that levied on soy. It is now levied on the *moromi* (grounds left after the soy has been pressed out), and the difficulty experienced in the collection of this tax is even greater than in the case of *saké*. The writer suggests that it also should be determined by the capacity of the casks used. Should the taxation be thus simplified, manufacturers would be ready to pay a higher rate. A sum of 1,200,000 *yen* is at present obtained by the treasury from this tax, but it can easily be increased to 1,700,000 *yen*. Mr. Taguchi next discusses the taxation of railways. Railway companies ought, he considers, to pay a tax to the State when their profits are large. The system of national taxation does not, however,

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extend to railways, so that the companies are subjected to local taxation even before traffic is commenced. That cannot be considered quite fair. If the profits of such companies were taxed they would be exempted from taxation while the business was still in its infancy. The rate of taxation should be 10 per cent. on the profits remaining after the deduction of a dividend of 6 per cent. The Nippon Ginko should be taxed in the same way. The Bank enjoys at present a profit of over 1,700,000 *yen* by the issue of convertible notes and will receive an additional sum of 1,100,000 *yen* after the redemption of all the national bank notes. It is perfectly natural therefore that the notes issued by the Bank should be taxed. This would yield about 1,150,000 a year to the Treasury. Mr. Taguchi proposes the abolition of the following taxes :—Export duty, 1,900,000 *yen*; tax on waggons and carriages, 770,000 *yen*; tax on confectionery, 600,000 *yen*; and import and export dues, 80,000 *yen*; in all 2,350,000 *yen*. On the enforcement of the new Treaty, he says, Import duties will rise to over 8 million *yen*, 5 millions more than the present amount. This surplus may be used for strengthening national defences and for reducing postal duty and railway fares to half of their present cost. Should export duty be abolished, and forts, harbours, docks, and so forth constructed, the future receipts of the Custom Houses will reach a big figure. The last point touched on is the land tax. Mr. Taguchi is an ardent exponent of the theory that the rate of taxing land should be increased. A further assessment of 5 *rin* would not be objected to by farmers and would yield an additional revenue of 8 million *yen*. Of this sum 3,750,000 *yen* should be applied for the re-assessment of the tax, so as to equalize the rate, and the remaining 4,250,000 *yen* should be contributed for prisons now supported by each locality. The aid given to local police expenditures should also be increased. In this way long-standing political questions can be disposed of in a manner satisfactory to all parties.

THE INTERPORT FOOTBALL MATCH.

In the interests of all true sport and good-fellowship, the discussion anent the recent interport football match, originated by the *Kobe Herald*, is greatly to be regretted. We are at one with those that consider the original remarks upon the subject unworthy the consideration accorded them by Mr. Dare; they had better have been left in oblivion. But having once been alluded to and discussed, it would have been better still for all concerned if the remarks of Mr. Lias had never been made. Less sensitive men than sporting contributors to the press would have felt deeply annoyed at the epithet "chuckle-head"—an expression appropriate only to the discussions of school-boys. It evidently aroused the ire of the editor of the *Kobe Herald* beyond all control, and led him past the limits of discretion. In a reply to the remarks that fell from Mr. Dare, Mr. J. P. Mollison, and Mr. Lias, in the course of the annual meeting of the Yokohama Amateur Athletic Club, the editor of the Kobe evening journal has laid charges against the half-backs of the Yokohama football team and against Mr. Hyde Pearson—than whom a more honourable opponent could not be desired in any kind of sport—of a most serious and far-reaching character. He alleges, upon information gained, he says, from "seven of the members of the Kobe team," that the Yokohama half-backs were guilty of conduct unworthy even of professionals; that the Kobe players could repose no confidence in Mr. Gillett as referee; and further, that "it seemed to some who were present that the Umpire had unconsciously permitted himself to be influenced by the warning given him by the Yokohama Captain before the match commenced, to look out for Lucas and Hutton of the off-side." This serious attack upon Messrs. Pearson and Gillett cannot be passed over in silence, and the Committee of the Y.C. and A.C., we trust, will take proper steps to put the matter beyond dispute. Our own opinion of the game is that it was fought with thorough fairness by both sides. From the spectator's point of view it was greatly spoiled by the many appeals raised against off-side and foul-play, but the referee's decision upon each and all points of the game called into question was given in an eminently fair-minded spirit. Kobe no doubt was bitterly disappointed at not winning the match, and, as is only human, some grumbling may have been indulged in, but to take up these remarks and put them into print is another matter. With the best intentions in the world, such a course of procedure may lead to the creation of interport ill-will, and eventually to the abandonment of these annual reunions of athletes that are as the salt savouring the dull monotony of Settlement life. As the matter stands, it will be impossible to arrange a similar interport football match until the air is cleared of the allegations now obscuring the once fair prospect of interport relations. We can not doubt that the *Kobe Herald* wrote in good faith, but it certainly showed a most unfortunate want of discretion. The road to a satisfactory settlement of the trouble is, however, plain and easily followed.

"AROUND THE WORLD FOR A WAGER."

Yokohama has been peculiarly honoured during the last few years with flying visits from several persons engaged in the apparently highly agreeable task of going "round the world for a wager"—generally at the public expense. George Francis Train, Nellie Bly, Sven Wiren, Louis Morningstar, are some of the folk we call to mind, and now another of the genus will soon be among us. This time it is a lady, Miss Londonderry, an American journalist, who is engaged in encircling the globe—*with* a bicycle. According to the Kobe *Chronicle*, "two wealthy sugar brokers of Boston had a discussion as to what women could and could not do, and as a result one of them wagered twenty thousand dollars against ten thousand that no woman could be found to go round the world alone on a bicycle. Miss Londonderry was chosen as the woman who should uphold the reputation of her sex as daring all that man could dare and more, and the terms of the agreement ultimately drawn up bound her to circle the world within fifteen months, dressed in one suit of clothes and carrying one change of underclothing, but having neither money nor scrip, and not being allowed to beg, borrow, or steal, the agreement binding her to earn her keep and her passage-money and also to remit the sum of 500 dollars to America. She was further precluded from doing any journalistic work on her tour, by which condition her difficulties were greatly increased." The advanced lady appears to have availed herself principally of the services of the M.M. steamer *Sydney* from Marseilles in reaching the Far East, but as she has several months in which to accomplish her task, she will doubtless put in her real bicycling in the States, starting from San Francisco. At Kobe on Friday evening she rode round the Recreation Ground a few times, accompanied by Messrs. Hughes, Shepherd, and Clarke, while a subscription was being taken up to defray her expenses in Japan. She was dressed in an ordinary bicycle male costume, dark blue knickerbockers and blouse, with advertisements of various machines sewn on her garments, more particularly on her breast and the knee-bands of her knickerbockers, and she naturally attracted considerable attention. We hope she will accomplish her journey safely, but at the same time we must again express our astonishment at the open-handed manner in which the public support these undertakings. They serve no useful purpose, accomplish no useful object. Yet the game seems extremely profitable for all those who care to take it up; and so long as it pays, so long will it find ready [illegible] several votaries.

THE VICTORIA PUBLIC SCHOOL.

The Victoria Public School ceased to exist at the close of the year 1894, but a few hundred dollars remaining in hand, a public meeting was held in the month of February to discuss the best means for disposing of that money. After a long debate, a resolution was carried instructing the old Committee to take various specific steps and to publish the result of their endeavours through the medium of the Press, such publication to be deemed a full and sufficient release from office. We therefore publish the following report :—

The Committee of the Victoria Public School have to report through the courtesy of the local newspapers as follows :—In accordance with the resolutions passed at the Public Meeting of the 4th ult., they credited to Mr. Fardel the sum of $300, out of the funds in hand.

Further, they proposed to Mr. Schurr that he should adopt the name "Victoria School" for his School, and become the depositary of the portrait of Her Majesty. At the same time they offered to place at his disposal the balance of the funds for the purpose of providing, after defrayal of any expenses incident to the preservation of the portrait, a yearly prize or prizes of the value of $7½ or $10, to be called the "Queen's Jubilee Prize."

Mr. Schurr, however, did not see his way to change the name of his School, and these proposals therefore fell through.

The Committee then, in the exercise of the discretion accorded to them, offered the money to the Ladies' Benevolent Association, the same to be expended as their managers might deem best, in the education of any boy or boys of this place who might need such help.

This offer has been accepted by the Association, and accordingly the sum of $137.39 (*i.e.* $143.05 less $7.55 for advertising, etc.) has been handed to their Treasurer.

This then closes up the affairs of the Victoria Public School. JAS. TROUP,

Chairman, Victoria Public School Committee.

March 6th, 1895.

THE FORMOSA DISTURBANCES.

H.M.S. *Mercury*, second class cruiser, returned to Hongkong from Takow, Formosa, on the 21st ult., and the *Daily Press* then gathered the following authentic details of the rising at Takow. It seems that, for some reason or other, the Black Flags have lately shown signs of jealousy, and about a week ago they assumed a hostile attitude to the British subjects at Takow. The English Consul was once molested in the streets, and had some difficulty in escaping serious injury. As matters got worse and a riot seemed imminent, he determined to wire to the Naval authorities here—"Protection urgently required." The *Mercury* was despatched immediately after getting in supplies and she arrived on Tuesday morning. The English Consul was pleasantly surprised at the prompt arrival of the boat, and asked the Captain to remain for some days until affairs had become more peaceful. The *Mercury*, however, is due at Singapore in a few days, and it was decided to return to Hongkong. She started on the journey on Wednesday night, and in a day or two a gunboat—most probably the *Rattler*—will be despatched to Takow, where she will remain until such time as the officials think it is safe to withdraw her. Twenty-five of the ring-leaders in the riots have been beheaded.

While at Takow the officers on the *Mercury* learned particulars of the terrible powder explosion at the fort. There were at the time fifty-three Chinese soldiers in the forts, and only one escaped.

Last year Great Britain launched thirty-one warships of 32,971 tons, Denmark one of 1,280 tons, France six of 28,690 tons, Germany four of 6,190 tons, Holland four of 10,450 tons, Italy three of 3,290 tons, Russia four of 34,850 tons, Turkey six of 2,300 tons. Two vessels built in Germany were for Turkey, and one built in Holland was for Liberia. It must be recollected, ere we feel too proud, that the majority of our vessels were only little torpedo-boat destroyers, and that in the number was only one battleship or ironclad of any sort, while France and Russia each launched several.

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PEACE OR WAR.

IT certainly appears at this moment as though peace or war was hanging in the balance. On the eve of the recent Envoys' advent, the question in everybody's mouth was "is China in earnest?" Then ensued the discovery of the palpably inadequate character of the so-called "Plenipotentiaries'" credentials. With an unimpeachable draft in their possession, the Tsung-li Yamên had ignored it, and had adopted a form that could not possibly be accepted by Japan; a form that the diplomatic annals of China herself proved to be unacceptable. There was little semblance of sincerity in that method of procedure. Nevertheless, the Chinese Government seemed disposed to remedy the error without delay. They talked first of supplementing the defective credentials by telegraph—which was obviously out of the question—and then of sending a new embassy with a commission beyond cavil. That looked like being in earnest. But then, how could honesty of intention be reconciled with deliberate neglect of forms known to be essential. The Tsung-li Yamên had been furnished with a copy of unexceptionable credentials, yet they had pigeon-holed it, and employed a model that their archives showed to be utterly vicious. It was a perplexing situation. Soon, however, it was learned that the Pekin Government intended to send the Viceroy LI as Peace Envoy; the man of all others with whom Japan would like to treat; the man whose very advent in such a capacity would materially modify Japanese demands. Again public faith in China's sincerity was restored. But when LI'S departure for Japan seemed imminent, the telegraph announced that the Emperor of CHINA had resolved to seek a mandate from the country: all the provincial dignitaries were to be invited to submit telegraphically to the Throne their views as to the advisability of concluding peace or continuing war. What did that mean? If such a step were an essential preliminary to the despatch of a genuine peace mission, then it followed that the peace mission of Messrs. CHANG and SHAO could not have been genuine, since no step of the kind had preceded it. Further, the Emperor of CHINA appeared to be deliberately placing himself in a dilemma. It was a foregone conclusion that the provincial magnates would advise war to the end rather than peace involving surrender of territory. Yet the EMPEROR and the Viceroy LI knew well that without some cession of territory Japan could not be placated. As a matter of fact the provincial officials have thus far been unanimous. With the *bourgeois* spirit proverbial in China, they have said, "Buy peace at any monetary price, but do not pay for it an inch of territory." Will the Emperor ignore that advice, after having himself invited it? What expression? There are many riddles difficult of solution in Chinese policy, and this seems to belong to the category. Yet, after all, an explanation offers. Precedent, which, in the course of centuries, has been crystallized into an unwritten but inviolable constitution for China, requires that in all great national crises the provincial dignities—the Viceroys, the Taotais, the Grand Treasurers, and so forth—must be consulted by the SOVEREIGN before any decisive step is taken. Perhaps KWANG-SU did not recognise that the situation amounted to a national crisis when HIS MAJESTY despatched Messrs. CHANG and SHAO. Certainly the march of events has been greatly to China's disadvantage since then. She has lost Weihaiwei; the whole of her northern squadron has been destroyed or captured; her coasts lie completely at the enemy's mercy; she is absolutely powerless to prevent the blockade of the Gulf of Pechili; Pekin itself has been brought within comparatively easy reach of the Japanese armies. The character of the crisis can no longer be mistaken, and it may be that the EMPEROR, though he believed himself competent to deal with it independently two months ago, does not venture now to adopt a conclusive step without reference to the opinion of provincial officialdom. Having obtained that opinion, however, the question is, what will HIS MAJESTY do with it. If he rejects it, he openly flouts the whole body of high dignitaries. If he endorses it, he defies Japan, for it is not within the financial competence of his empire to buy Japanese acquiescence with money alone. But the EMPEROR is presumably able to estimate his own strength. He may judge himself able to over-rule the official dictum. The Viceroy LI, too, is thoroughly competent to gauge the value of provincial resistance. Hence the sign to be looked for on the political horizon is the procedure of LI Chung-tang. If he starts for Japan, he will make peace. He knows what Japan wants: he knows how much she will be content to accept; he knows the extent of the concessions to which Chinese public opinion can be reconciled; he knows that he must not fail. If he does not start—and there are a thousand means of evading the task—it will be because he understands that the time has not yet come for elaborating a mutually acceptable basis. He has actually been appointed by the Throne. He has received credentials of an unquestionable nature. The Governments of Pekin and Tokyo are already discussing preliminaries as to the place of conference and so forth. Yet LI may not set out after all.

Major-General Black, C.B., who, as we have already announced, has been selected to succeed Major-General G. D. Barker, C.B., in command of the troops in Hongkong, is a passenger by the P. and O. steamer *Massilia*, leaving London February 28th.

CAUSE AND EFFECT.

EVER since the present war broke out it has been the constant endeavour of two English journals published in Yokohama to bring Japan's cause into discredit. They have resolutely refused to admit that she had the slightest justification in drawing the sword. Nor is that all. Their writings are invariably inspired by bitter hatred of the Japanese nation. From between the lines of every article they publish the same inveterate ill-will obtrudes itself. They want Japan to be beaten in this conflict and they allow their wish to be plainly seen. It is true that, when charged with such sentiments, they invariably attempt to hide their real mood behind a mask of hypocrisy. They pretend to be honest censors who, inspired by a pure desire to promote Japanese progress and to correct Japanese abuses, speak out frankly and courageously, and no vocabulary is rich enough to formulate the contempt they profess to feel toward every writer that discusses the affairs of the country and the people in a friendly and sympathetic spirit. We have no doubt that these words of ours will evoke a chorus of abuse and a column of protestations. These men, whose daily task is to hold Japan up to the scorn and antipathy of the world, will again have the assurance to proclaim themselves her true friends, and will again resort to the abject pretext that were no voice of defence or approval raised in her behalf, their malevolent tongues would remain silent. Such evasions form a worthy context to the writings they seek to exculpate. But not even a child could be deceived by them. The language of unvarying aspersion can never be dictated by friendship, nor can the voice of perpetual sneering and detraction be prompted by goodwill. Before the war broke out the inveterate hostility displayed by these journals did not attract wide-spread attention in Japan. Undoubtedly it had some effect. Like inevitably begets like. Men reading strong expressions of dislike and perceiving perpetual endeavour to injure Japan in the professed organs of the British community could not fail to become imbued with a more or less hostile feeling toward Englishmen. But many Japanese of the highly educated class, who read the Yokohama journals in the original, were able to perceive that the marvellous grammar and blundering composition of the one, as well as the hysterical silliness and glaring dishonesty of the other, disqualified both alike to be justly regarded as representatives of English intelligent opinion. It was chiefly when translations of these newspapers found their way into the vernacular press that they reached a circle of readers naturally disposed to interpret them in the plain sense of their language. That great mischief was thus done cannot be doubted, though, as we have said, its sphere was

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comparatively limited. With the war, however, a different state of affairs arose. The Japanese, making their first *début* on the stage of the world, became almost morbidly anxious to learn the attitude of foreign opinion toward their acts, and the estimate that foreigners formed of their military competence. Thus every foreign journal published in Japan came to be eagerly scanned, and copious translations made from its columns were brought within the ken of a large section of the people. We must remember, when we attempt to estimate the effects of the knowledge thus conveyed, that the national spirit was wrought to a high pitch by the thought of engaging in a struggle against an apparently colossal foe. To the nation it seemed a fight for life and death. In such a moment of vital effort and hard struggle the antipathy of an onlooker is resented as keenly as his sympathy is appreciated. What must have been the feelings of the Japanese people to find their cause denounced as wholly unjustifiable; to find themselves described as pestilent aggressors; to find ready credence given to every tale, however, incredible, of their enemy's successes; to find their own victories minimized; to find a perpetual tendency to misrepresent the military situation to their disadvantage; to find in short, that they were the objects of undisguised dislike and contempt? It is not difficult to conceive the sentiments such a course of writing must evoke. The result is before us. Among all foreign nationalities the only one cordially disliked in Japan to-day is the British, and not one intelligent Japanese, so far as we know, ascribes that unhappy feeling to anything except the malignant writing of the two English journals claiming to be the mouthpieces of the British community in Yokohama. It is most sincerely to be regretted that just as England's magnanimity in the matter of Treaty Revision had won her golden opinions in Japan, these petty mischief-makers should have stepped in and undone all the good. But the fact is indisputable. There is neither sense nor use in reviling the *Nippon* or other so-called "anti-foreign" journals. The *Nippon* and its congeners are the inevitable growth of seeds sown by foreign journals in Yokohama. We do not like to speculate what dimensions the crop may take if the process of sowing goes on unchecked by foreign public opinion.

THE POSITION IN MANCHURIA.

ONE is tempted sometimes to suppose that the Japanese are conducting the war with a view to spectacular effect, and that they arrange the various acts in such a manner as to avoid any inconvenient interval between the fall of the curtain in one place and its rise in another. A hiatus of undue length. Things having opened briskly with a naval skirmish off the Korean coast on July 25th, followed by the assault and capture of Yashan at the close of the same month, it seemed as though the programme would proceed with regularity and without hitch. But there then ensued a month and a half of waiting so that impatient people began to wonder, and the Chinese had leisure to fabricate various entertaining canards. It is amusing now to recall the attitude of certain foreign journalists at that time. They overwhelmed the Japanese with reverses; represented them as beaten back by the enemy, decimated by disease, prostrated by incompetence, and seeking relief in suicide. Delighted merriment was evoked by the notion that the invaders line of outposts had been retired for strategical reasons, and when it was explained in these columns that the delay had no graver origin than a modification of the plan of campaign in order to synchronise the northward movement of the Sōul army with the westward movement of a second corps from Gensan, we were politely dubbed "liars," and informed in accents of portentous menace, that our perfidy would not be forgotten. However, the Gensan column and the Sōul column did manage to cōoperate, the inland march of the latter being commenced three days after its landing on the peninsula, and the northward movement of the former being resumed simultaneously. Then, as though to compensate for the delay, a grand scene in two acts was performed on shore and at sea, the assault and capture of Phyŏngyang on September 15th and the naval battle of Haiyang two days later. These events sufficed to occupy men's thoughts for a considerable time, followed, as they were, by the controversy whether the Japanese had or had not lost ships in the Haiyang encounter, a controversy that could never have lived for a day had it not derived vitality from the inveterate desire of certain foreign journalists in Yokohama and Kobe to minimize Japanese successes. Little more than a month later, just when the audience was again beginning to grow impatient, YAMAGATA reached the Yalu, and the fights at Hushan, Chiulien, and Fenghwan occurred in rapid succession, followed by KATSURA'S march down the Yalu, the occupation of Antung, Tatung, and Takushan, and finally the inland flank movement against Suiyen. Meanwhile, a second expeditionary force had been assembled at Hiroshima and in the latter half of October it was carried across the sea to the Liaotung peninsula, whither all eyes were at once directed. The capture of Port Arthur on the 20th and 21st of November followed, and then, as though to fill up the interval between that remarkable event, and the next big coup, Lieut.-General KATSURA made his bold place in the middle of December, cutting the enemy's line of defence in two, directly menacing the Mukden and Laoyang armies' communications with their common base, and thrusting himself between two Chinese corps each of greater strength than his own. It was a daring movement on the part of KATSURA, and as he did not immediately attempt the mad feat of pushing northward and southward simultaneously and objectlessly, he was gradually converted by anti-Japanese foreign journalists from a dashing and successful leader into a blundering and beleaguered captain, who had fallen into the enemy's trap and could not extricate himself by either advancing or retreating. Three weeks later, while KATSURA'S position was still provoking the silliest of silly criticisms, General NOGI moved north from Chinchow and, after a sharp contest, occupied Kaiping, whence he directly menaced the base of the Liaoyang and Mukden armies at Yingkow. Then, just as people whose eyes are capable of perceiving only the "battle, murder, and sudden death" scenes in a campaign, were again beginning to shake sagacious polls over the pause in the fireworks, another expeditionary force was launched at Weihaiwei, and there ensued the most dramatic series of episodes in the war, ending with the destruction or capture of the whole of the Peiyang Squadron and the suicide of its Admiral. Scarcely were these events concluded when affairs in Manchuria once more began to attract attention.

Some time ago, speaking of the military position at Kaiping and Haicheng, we stated it to be a fair inference that any operations undertaken from the two places in the near future would be cōordinated with, or subordinated to, some large and important enterprise not directly concerning Manchuria. There was, in fact, no immediate reason to extend the Japanese line of occupation westward of the Kaiping-Haicheng road. Already KATSURA'S communications with the Yalu were so long as to invite harrassing enterprises on the part of the Chinese, and the necessity of guarding against such contingencies must have involved the detachment of a considerable force from the fighting line. To capture Yingkow (modern Newchwang) and make it a new base of supply would have been an obviously advantageous operation had Yingkow been open. But being blocked with ice until March, its possession offered no profit. KATSURA in Haicheng and NOGI in Kaiping therefore waited quietly until, first, their resumed activity should harmonize with the general plan of campaign, and secondly, the breaking up of winter might enable them to operate continuously. Meanwhile, the Chinese, fully alive to the immense importance of [illegible] Haicheng, made no less

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the latter's arrival at the place. SUNG, marching from the vicinity of Yingkow at at the head of some ten thousand men, fought the battle of Kangwasai on December 18th. The Japanese on that occasion did not wait to be attacked. Doubtless they had not yet entrenched the heights about the town. They moved out to a distance of eleven miles and attacked SUNG, defeating him after an exceptionally bloody engagement. Thenceforth SUNG made no independent attempt to renew the assault. Three weeks later, before he had assembled a sufficient force to resume the offensive, a Japanese Brigade under Major-General NOGI moved up from the Liaotung peninsula, and, capturing Kaiping, obtained a position directly menacing SUNG'S army at Yingkow, and compelling him to remain covering that town as well as the coast road to China proper. He was able, however, to detach a portion of his rapidly swelling army for the purpose of cöoperating with the Laoyang forces in the north. The latter moved down from their head-quarters in a leisurely manner, and delivered their first attack against Haicheng on January 17th, more than a month after its occupation by the Japanese, who having now fully completed their defensive arrangements, waited behind their entrenchment and did not move out to complete the discomfiture of their assailants until the latter's strength had been almost exhausted by abortive pretences of fighting. The 22nd of January saw a second and equal farcical attempt, and then ensued nearly a month's interval, when on February 16th, the Laoyang Army once more renewed its assault, only to be driven back once more with heavy loss to itself and comparatively none to the Japanese. Finally, the fifth and last effort was made by WU TA-CHENG, at the head of 20,000 men, on February 18th. WU had recently arrived at Newchwang from Shanhaikwan, and had signalized his arrival by publishing a grandiloquent proclamation in which the Japanese troops were referred to compassionatingly, and were charitably promised that if they presented themselves at the Chinese camp and made act of submission, their lives would be saved. WU'S forces mustered twenty thousand and had twenty guns. They made no better show than the Liaoyang men had done, being driven back from Haicheng after an assault as important as any that had preceded it. WU'S attempt, however, was distinguished from those that had gone before by a semblance of strategy. The day previous to his advance against Haicheng, three thousand men of the Liaoyang army had attacked Tomucheng, an important town on the Japanese line of communications, 18 miles eastward of Haicheng. It seems scarcely questionable that the object of this attack was to divert the attention of the Japanese in Haicheng from their front to their rear, and to be[illegible] enemy had moved round from the north-east with the intention of interposing between Haicheng and Suiyen, and isolating the defenders of the former town. But the Tomucheng assailants were driven back with such ease that the unreal character of their enterprise was fathomed at once, and when WU TA-CHENG advanced from the west against Haicheng, he found the Japanese fully prepared to receive him.

The situation in Shinking was now this: the Chinese were divided into two armies; one in the south, having its head-quarters at Tienchwangtai, and its forces distributed so as to cover Yingkow and the coast road, and to menace Kaiping; the other in the north, posted on the Liaoyang and Newchwang roads and in the interval between them, so as to prevent a flank movement from Haicheng against Tienchwangtai, or a northerly movement against Liaoyang and Mukden. Further, the winter was virtually over, and the Chinese northern navy having been lost, the whole coast of the Gulf of Pechili lay at the mercy of the Japanese, who would undoubtedly strike at Pekin as soon as the rivers became free of ice. The time had therefore come for the forces in Kaiping and Haicheng to assume the offensive. Lieut.-General YAMAJI had already arrived at the former place. On the 24th of last month, he moved out of Kaiping and attacked the southern Chinese army under LIU KUN-YI and SUNG. There were 20,000 men engaged on the Chinese side; probably 12,000 on the Japanese. The battle, so far as telegraphic details go, has already been described in these columns. It ended in the rout of the Chinese and their retreat toward Yingkow and Tienchwangtai. Four days later (February 28th), KATSURA marched out of Haicheng and attacked the Liaoyang army along its entire front (some 7½ miles) from the Newchwang to the Liaoyang road, a column from Tomucheng cöoperating against the enemy's left flank. These operations were completely successful, and, so far as we can now judge, KATSURA'S main body is moving toward Liaoyang, the capture of which city, as well as that of Yingkow, would completely break up the Chinese positions in Shinking and set free a great part of the Japanese troops now campaigning there. That these movements on the part of the First and Third Divisions are preparatory to the final coup, against Pekin itself, we entertain little doubt. Some observers have conjectured that Shanhaikwan will be approached overland from Shinking. But we do not believe that with the maritime route entirely unopposed, a march of 200 miles will be imposed upon the troops. What is taking place now in [illegible]ng is merely the breaking up of [illegible] strong enough to divert any [illegible]ortion of Japan's [illegible] from the conclusive enterprise of the war. Chinese fugitives from Liaoyang and Yingkow will not add much to the defensive capacity of the troops massed at Shanhaikwan, and the confidence of the men in the capacity of their commander-in-chief, LIU KUN-YI, will not be increased by the record he is about to leave behind him in Manchuria.

THE JOURNALISTIC TROUBLE IN TIENTSIN.

THERE seems to have been—perhaps we should not yet speak in the past tense—a journalistic trouble of some dimensions in Tientsin. The editor of the *Pekin and Tientsin Times*, in order to invite special attention, has sent us "slips" of an article containing an account of the affair. Presumably we shall have no immediate opportunity of hearing the other side, and therefore the story now before us must be taken with all the reserve attaching to an *ex parte* statement. The facts are simple enough. The *Pekin and Tientsin Times*, like many another journal, is the property of a company. There are 15 shares in the company, but how many shareholders we do not know. Among the latter, however, are Mr. G. DETRING and General VON HANNEKEN. No man is more unfortunately circumstanced than the editor of a newspaper owned by a Company when the shareholders have views to ventilate. Even assuming the scarcely conceivable hypothesis that all the shareholders are of one way thinking, there remains the virtual certainty that, in connection with some issue or other, the editor's way of thinking will differ from theirs. It has always been an axiom with newspaper proprietors that are not their own editors to abstain wholly from meddling with the editorial department. An editor must be left an entirely free hand within certain broad lines. If his writing tend to injure the circulation of the paper or be opposed to the general policy of the proprietors, then his chair must be given to another. But to guide him in a sense contrary to his own convictions is an impossible undertaking. The editor of the *Pekin and Tientsin Times* seems to have found himself between two fires. A section of his proprietors wanted one thing; the other section wanted something else. Unable to please both, his natural course would have been to resign. But he chose to espouse the cause of one set of shareholders against the other, and among the latter were Mr. DETRING and General VON HANNEKEN. The editor, of course, had a right to make such a choice. But he certainly had no manner of right to emphasize his choice by personal attacks upon the shareholders in the other camp. That was wrong, however. He commenced by depreciating General VON [illegible] passed on to

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Mr. DETRING. It has not been our fortune to make General VON HANNEKEN'S acquaintance. We can not, therefore, speak of him except as of one whose public acts have made him, to some extent, generally known. That he is a brave man, that he has done much good work for China, and that he has been thoroughly loyal to her, there is every reason to believe. We do not think that either WARD or CHARLEY GORDON would have remained in Tientsin while Talien, Port Arthur, and Weihaiwei were beleagured and captured. But a soldier's performances can not be justly weighed until the scale of his opportunities is determined. All persons, however, may not be content to suspend judgment. Struggling to manufacture bricks of progressive promise out of the dust of Chinese conservatism, it has for years been the habit of foreign journalists in the East to clutch at every straw likely to facilitate their painful labour. General VON HANNEKEN has proved to be a straw of unusual dimensions. A man possessing military experience, high courage, and a splendid physique, he had long been in the service of China when the war broke out. He had organized her forces, planned her fortresses—Port Arthur conspicuously—and superintended her squadrons. At the outset he seemed likely to become the hero of the situation. Jumping into the sea from the sinking *Kowshing*, he saved his life by stout swimming, and in the great naval battle of September 17th he played a fine part. It seemed as though a second CHARLIE GORDON was about to step upon the stage. Then came a circumstantial story that HANNEKEN—now promoted to the rank of General—had been commissioned to procure an unlimited number of German officers to serve as vertebræ for the Chinese armies; that he was authorized to raise and organise forces independently of all control except that of the Throne, and that the EMPEROR had summoned him to Pekin, in order to receive from his lips a true statement of the belligerent situation, HIS MAJESTY openly confessing inability to trust the accounts of Chinese Generals and officials. All these tales produced a profound impression on credulous persons. At last there seemed to be sound reason to conclude that China's eyes were opening, and that the true nature of Occidental civilization was beginning to be appreciated by her. Journalistic articles of the most sanguine character were penned, and the dawn of a new era was editorially announced. But when Port Arthur fell, and when it was seen that General VON HANNEKEN had not found leisure or inclination to personally direct the defence of the fortifications planned by himself and supposed to be invulnerable, people began to wonder. Then followed news that augmented their surprise. It appeared that General VON HANNEKEN'S great mission had dwindled to the functions of a drill sergeant. Assisted by 64 foreign officers, he was engaged drilling a picked body of 6,500 Chinese officers and men at Tientsin, the ablest of his pupils being intended for service with various corps in the fighting line, but the ultimate purpose of the sixty-five hundred being to furnish a body-guard for the Viceroy LI himself. It was not China, then, but the Viceroy LI that General VON HANNEKEN was to save, and as for the great awakening, well, it was postponed.

Such criticisms were certainly invited by the situation. But it ought to have been the rôle of the *Pekin and Tientsin Times* to render every possible assistance to General VON HANNEKEN instead of trying to discredit him and to augment appreciably the immense difficulties with which he had to contend. Still more inexcusable, we venture to think, was the attitude of that journal toward Mr. DETRING. Nothing could have been less consistent with the truth than the portrait it painted of one of the most broad-minded, far-seeing, and competent men in China. It represented Mr. DETRING as an arrogant, discourteous, self-asserting man, without either tact or suavity, whereas in reality he is to be described by the exact opposite of such epithets. We confess, therefore, that we approached the perusal of our contemporary's long complaint without any feeling of sympathy, and we lay the article down unconvinced that the Tientsin Journal has anything whatever to complain of. The whole story, as told by the newspaper itself, shows simply that Mr. DETRING and General VON HANNEKEN tried to place the policy of the journal on a different footing—an attempt that they were unquestionably entitled to make—and that General VON HANNEKEN, at a meeting of proprietors, employed parade-ground tones in protesting against some ruling by the chair on a technical point. It is an essentially petty tale, and certainly neither Mr. DETRING nor General VON HANNEKEN suffers in reputation by its telling. The people of Tientsin, however, must long more than ever for a revival of the *Chinese Times*, such as that journal was in the hands of Mr. MICHIE.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[Our readers must distinctly understand that we are in no sence responsible for the sentients or opinions of our correspondents, for the accuracy of their assertions, or for the deductions they may choose to draw therefrom.]

THE PORT ARTHUR AFFAIR.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—In September last, for the purpose of studying the practical application of international law, I joined the Fleet and embarked in a man-of-war of the Imperial Japanese Navy. I am now staying in Port Arthur having witnessed several battles. Being a subscriber to your paper, I saw in the issue of the 21st January, some singular statements by Mr. Creelman to which you refer. It being impossible for an eye-witness like me to pass over such a matter in silence, I send this letter in the hope that you will kindly have it translated at your office [illegible] paper. What I write is an accurate and faithful description of the things that actually happened, and I vouch for their truth in the sight of heaven. Convinced that the contents of my letter are of value to the public at large, I venture to impose this trouble on you, especially since my facts may furnish material to strengthen the position you take in the matter. Harassed by official business of various kinds, I can not find leisure to write at greater length, and must crave your kind indulgence.

I am Sir, your obedient servant,

TAKAHASHI SAKUYE,
Hogakushi,
Professor of the Naval Academy, and ex-legal Adviser to the Commander-in-Chief of the Imperial Standing Fleet.

ENCLOSURE.

On the occasion of the battle of Port Arthur I was on board the *Itsukushima* and accurately observed the fight as carried on both on shore and at sea. I saw how the Imperial troops fought and how the Squadron, cöoperated with the Army off the coast of Port Arthur, and I watched the movements of the enemy with the utmost vigilance. Similarly, I carefully looked out for any incident that might furnish material for the study of my special subject, and I do not therefore hesitate to say that I am among those best informed as to what actually took place on the occasion. Equally I do not hesitate to declare that I saw nothing blameworthy about the assault on Port Arthur.

I have seen to-day in a copy of the *Japan Mail* that reached me, that Mr. Creelman, the war-correspondent of the New York *World*, wrote to that paper to the following effect: "Torpedo-boats were going through the waves sinking junks loaded with men, women, and children endeavouring to escape." "Ten junks laden with terror-stricken people were thus sunk, and the water was filled with drowning inhabitants." While regretting for the sake of Mr. Creelman, whose honour, as a gentleman, may be impaired by such absurd fabrications, I fear lest the public should be led astray by what he has written, and I therefore feel constrained to refute the false statements made by him.

In the first place, the assertions of Mr. Creelman are entirely imaginary, for his allegation that he saw from the shore, on the day of the assault upon Port Arthur, that is, on November 21st, 1894, Japanese men-of-war and torpedo-boats in motion, can not be founded on actual facts. It is true that on the 21st men-of-war and torpedo boats were off the coast of Port Arthur, but for two days from the evening of the 21st they were away from the coast, owing to stress of weather. Now Port Arthur was not entirely taken on the 21st. Severe struggles were still in progress on that day. Hence it was practically impossible at such a juncture to see the warships and torpedo-boats in motion off the coast of Port Arthur, and the fictitiousness of any statement to the contrary will be admitted by any one actually at the scene of the battle. On that same day certain staff officers of the army, desiring to communicate some intelligence to the Fleet, could only effect their object by braving extraordinary dangers and hardships, and by passing through the lines of the enemy. How then could Mr. Creelman have seen the movements of the Fleet and the Torpedo flotilla except in pure imagination!

Secondly, while the Fleet and flotilla were lying off the coast of Port Arthur and in the vicinity, from 5 a.m. to 6 p.m. on the 21st, not a single Chinese junk was captured. Only two junks escaped that day at a little past 5 p.m. But the Commander of the Fleet had specially ordered that any small vessel of the kind should be let alone, attention being paid to the larger only. No other junk escaped. It is true that there were five or six junks on the shore close by the foot of Lao-Tie-Shan, but they were all beached. Thus the statement that junks loaded with men, women, and children were sunk is not only absolutely groundless but the very allegation that such a number of junks attempted to escape is a fabrication.

Thirdly, it is a fact that at a little past 4 p.m. two steamers emerged from Port Arthur. It was subsequently known by the confession of Chinese prisoners that a number of Chinese officers were on these vessels. It is also a fact that torpedo boats pursued these steamers. It would have been a neglect of duty on the part of the Fleet to disregard the escape of such vessels. When the torpedo boats gave chase to the steamers, they signalled "Heave-to, or take the consequence." The steamers not obeying [illegible] sank cartridges were fired after [illegible]

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Thereof one of the steamers turned back into the harbour and the other, changing its course, ran ashore and all the persons on board fled. Was not this procedure on the part by the Japanese officers perfectly proper and in strict accordance with the canons of western nations?

The foregoing explanations are sufficient to prove the falsehood of Mr. Creelman's statements. I regret that he should be so lost to the sense of honour as to fabricate such injurious stories. In order that the public may not be deceived, I beg you to give publicity to these facts.

Your obedient servant,

TAKAHASHI SAKUYE,
Hogakushi.

Port Arthur, February 11th, 1895.

ADMIRAL TING'S SUICIDE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—In your otherwise admirable summary of war news in the weekly edition of Feb. 23rd, you give expression to one idea which seems to me to fall below the high ethical standard demanded at the present time, and to be unworthy the advocacy of the *Japan Mail*. It is where you say, "If it be not so, his final choice (that of suicide) was the sole method of saving his memory from execration." The implied justification of self murder to be found in this sentence seems to me entirely uncalled for and in every way regrettable. Uncalled for, because Admiral Ito in urging the surrender, said in his excellent letter to the Chinese officer, I quote from the same issue of your paper: "I believe your wisest course is to come to Japan and wait there until the fortunes of your country are again in the ascendant, and until the time arrives when your services will be again needed." This advice he followed up by citing several instances in both European and Asiatic history of men who have survived a worse downfall and later on done marked service for their own nations, and been held in high esteem by their countrymen; regrettable, because it yields to the passing passion of the day and cheapens the worth and dignity of life in an age and a country which need righteous thinking on that important subject.

Suicide is a sin against both nature and nature's God. It should never be encouraged nor countenanced. Here in the East it is the *shikata ga nai* principle gone to seed. Any one desiring as you do to lead the thought of men in the Far East to higher conceptions of life and duty than have characterized such thought in the past—noble as that may have been in its day—should be above encouraging, even in a passing sentence, the needless sacrifice of brave men on the altar of mistaken duty.

I plead for no visionary standard of morals, though firmly believing that the revealed will of God is particularly explicit on this subject. I am glad that the Japanese ignored the manner of his death and gave Admiral Ting's body such special marks of honour. I should be sorry, however, to think they did it because of the manner of the Admiral's death. They honoured his life, not his death. He was a brave man, but erred in his last act on earth. In view of the traditions of the Orient we do not wonder at the deed. But we deplore it all the same, and we should brace ourselves and all about us against the tendency to yield to such a sentiment.

This is the true position for manly—not to say godly—men, especially those from the West, to take and commend in every possible manner.

I remain, Sir, yours, &c.,

J. H. PETTEE.

Okayama, March 2nd, 1895.

THE PSI UPSILON FRATERNITY IN JAPAN.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—I am a member of the above-mentioned college fraternity of the United States, and should like to get the names and addresses of other members resident in Japan. My present knowledge includes only the following:—

U.S. Consul-General N. W. McIvor, Yokohama.
Rev. D. C. Greene, D.D., Tokyo.
Prof. Naibu Kanda, Imperial University, Tokyo.
Prof. Noriyuki Kozima, Imperial University, Tokyo.
A. Kabayama, Tokyo.
—. Matsukata, Tokyo.

If there are other Psi Upsilon in Japan, I wish that they would kindly enter into communication with the undersigned at 16 Tsukiji, Tokyo.

Yours, &c.,

ERNEST W

March, 1st, 1895.

WHAT SHALL WE DEMAND OF CHINA?

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Now that it must be, and indeed is, admitted by the whole world that Japan is in a position to dictate terms of peace to China, it is, I think, a suitable time for seriously discussing what those terms ought to be. Some of the Japanese political parties have already publicly announced their views, while others are reported to have adopted a resolution on the subject among themselves, and our own Cabinet must surely have come to a definite plan ere this. What this last may be, I have, of course, no means of learning, but the propositions of the political parties would seem—from all appearance—to be uniformly in favour of acquiring the most extensive territory that Japan can reasonably demand. It is principally upon this point that I venture to submit my humble opinion.

It is beyond question that other terms of peace should be the absolute recognition of the independence of Korea (which is the principal object of the present war), the payment of an indemnity large enough to cover all that we have already spent or may hereafter spend in connection with the war, and in distributing among men of merit in the army and navy as well as the families of those killed or maimed in battle on by disease; the retention of extraterritorial jurisdiction for the Japanese residents in China; the restriction of Chinese immigration to Japan; the insertion of a most favoured nation clause in the Japanese-Chinese treaty, &c. But the most serious point of all is the extent of the territory to be demanded. Now if we assume for the sake of discussion that such territory should cover the whole area already occupied by the Japanese army, a vital question will certainly arise. According to my information, the country now occupied is naturally a poor—if not the poorest—part of China, and it is known that nothing has hitherto been done either by the Government or the people in the way of developing its resources, such as they are, so that it remains now exactly as it was hundreds of years ago—the only feature of difference being the building of fortifications. Naval establishments exist in places of strategical importance, which naturally has had the effect of rendering the inhabitants still poorer and of consequently reducing their already small resources and checking the development of industry, &c. The soil, generally speaking, is not unfertile, it is true, and there are reported to be some mines of gold, silver, copper, coal, &c., as well as forests of considerable extent. But to develop these would entail the outlay of hundreds of thousands of dollars and tens of years of labour. And even then it seems doubtful from all appearances whether there would be a fair return for the money and time expended. The amount of taxes &c., heretofore collected or likely to be fairly borne by the present inhabitants, is trifling as compared with the vast extent of the territory. The income from that source is utterly inadequate to carry on even the ordinary machinery of Government—not to speak of the expense of stationing garrisons and of providing coast defences, &c., which would doubtless be necessary if the territory were retained by Japan. Such being the case then, the acquisition of the said territory would certainly prove a loss rather than a gain to Japan, so far at least as the financial aspects of the question are concerned. It is certain, however, that the matter must be considered from political and strategical points of view, and provision must be made for securing the effectual carrying out in the future of the terms demanded, *i.e.* the independence of Korea and the prevention of China's menacing her and even Japan.

I submit, therefore, that the vast tract of land now occupied by the army should be returned to China and the territory demanded should be confined to a piece of the region bordering Korea just large enough to effectually check China's future advance upon the latter, and such places of strategical importance as Port Arthur, Talien and perhaps Weihaiwei—including such surrounding districts of the same as are necessary for their defence from the landside. On the other hand, the Island of Formosa—though not yet occupied by Japan, forms, as a glance at the map shows, one of the chain of islands continuous with the Loochoo Group now indisputably a part of the Japanese Empire; and it is geographically certain that which ever Power the latter belongs to, should be in possession of the former—not speak of its strategical value to Japan and the already known quality and quantity of its produce. I submit, therefore, that instead of the vast territory to be returned to China as above suggested, the surrender of this island should be demanded.

To recapitulate—the demands of Japan with terms for ending the present hostilities should, in my opinion, be the absolute recognition of the independence of Korea, a war indemnity, the retention of extraterritorial jurisdictions in China, the restriction of Chinese immigration together with a most favoured nation clause, and the surrender of the territories above named.

I should like to know what you, yourself, as well as your readers think of the proposition of an outsider, but a sincere patriot like

Your obedient servant,

A JAPANESE STUDENT.

Tokyo, February 28th, 1895.

FOREIGN OPINION.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—There are many of us in Yokohama to whom the words of your leading article to-day come as an echo of their long complaint. We are questioning whether, after all, evening newspapers are a necessity of life, and whether we can fairly be called upon to support two evening papers both of which persistently misrepresent our opinions whilst we continuously writhe under "the marvellous grammar and blundering composition" of the one and "the hysterical silliness and glaring dishonesty" of the other.

Since I am in many respects also not in agreement with the *Japan Mail*, I may fairly sign myself

Yours truly, UNREPRESENTED.

Yokohama, 5th March, 1895.

NEWCHWANG.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—We had this pleasure last on the 30th ultimo, since when there has been no special news to comment upon. The 30,000 men under Wū Ta-cheng are expected to arrive very shortly, from Hu-san Ghan, which is about 30 miles this side of Shanhaikwan. General Sung is supposed to hold a consultation with Wū on his arrival as to the best means of making an attack on Lieut.-General Katsura at Haicheng, and according to general confabulation there is to be a fight on the 9th inst. As we remarked before, we cannot make out what Sung means by being so dilatory, his soldiers keep coming in every morning for provisions from the various villages round-about, and were it not for the two gunboats, viz., H.M.S. *Firebrand* and U.S.S. *Petrel*, our port would have been looted long ere this.

Yours, etc., BUSH BROS.

Newchwang, 5th February, 1895.

YOKOHAMA GENERAL CEMETERY.

The annual meeting of residents interested in the Yokohama General Cemetery was held in Kiel's Building on Wednesday afternoon. There were present Mr. James Troup, H.B.M.'s Consul (in the Chair), Rev. E. C. Irwine, Messrs. A. O. Gay, G. Allcock, J. Rickett, J. A. Fraser, and B. Gillett, (Hon. Sec. and Treasurer).

The CHAIRMAN announced that the meeting was called to receive the annual report and statement of accounts of the Yokohama General Cemetery. He would call upon Mr. Gillett to read them.

Mr. GILLETT then read the following:—

REPORT.

The Committee of the Yokohama General Cemetery beg to lay before the members of the community the Annual Report and Treasurer's statement of Account for the year which ended the 31st December, 1894.

From the Treasurer's statement of Account, it will be seen that at the close of the year there stood a balance to the credit of the Cemetery funds of $5,287.49. Part of this amount, viz., $5,200, is on fixed deposit with the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, bearing interest at the rate of five per cent. per annum.

The separate items included in the above-named statement of Account speak for themselves, and call for no special observations on the part of the Committee.

Interments in the Cemetery during the past year have amounted to 48. Of these 10 were of visitors; 14 were of seamen, who had been serving on board vessels lying in the harbour; 2 were unclassifiable, and 22 were of *bona fide* resident members of the foreign community, as against 16 in the previous year of 1893.

Of the 22 interments of foreign residents mentioned in the preceding paragraph, 5 were those of children under a year old; 6 were of persons between the ages of 20 and 50; and 11 were over 50 years of age.

The foreign population of Yokohama (exclusive of the Chinese) according to returns kindly furnished by the various Consulates, was 1,613 at the end of the year. This figure in connection with the

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number of interments, viz., 22, it will be found that the death-rate for Yokohama amounted to 13.639 per mille in 1894 as against in—

1893	1892	1891	1890	
9.932	13.854	21.628	16.920	or say :

15.195 per mille as the average death-rate for the past five years.

INTERMENTS IN THE YOKOHAMA GENERAL CEMETERY FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER, 1894.

British	15	as against	16	in 1893.
American	10	do	7	do
French	7	do	3	do
German	4	do	4	do
Austrian	0	do	1	do
Russian	1	do	0	do
Portuguese	4	do	2	do
Spanish	2	do	2	do
Norwegian	0	do	1	do
Dutch	2	do	2	do
Danish	1	do	0	do
Indian	1	do	0	do
Brazilian	1	do	0	do
	48		36	

1892	1891	1890	1889	1888
39	54	45	40	40

The present Committee, consisting of Messrs. James Dodds, J. A. Fraser, H. Grauert, Rev. E. C. Irwine, M. F. Smith, and B. Gillett, beg to tender their resignations.

THE YOKOHAMA GENERAL CEMETERY, IN ACCOUNT WITH B. GILLETT, HON. TREASURER, FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER, 1894.

Dr.

To M. Jarmain for Salary 12 months	$ 120.00	
To Labour Account 12 months	283.58	$ 403.58
To Repairs		11.72
To New Stone Steps in Cemetery		26.50
To Laying out Ground, Making up Banks, Turfing Graves, etc.	137.39	
To Less amount received from J. Witkowski, Esq. on behalf of the Jewish Community for building a stone embankment and putting in order the Jewish portion of the Cemetery	177.03	60.34
To Tools		4.95
To Books, Stationery, Advertisements, etc.		3.20
To Postage and Sundries		2.30
To Fire Insurance on Buildings		9.00
		$ 522.79
To amount on fixed deposit with Hongkong and Shanghai Bank at 5 per cent. interest	$5,000.00	
To balance in the hands of Treasurer on 31st December, 1894	87.49	5,087.49
		$5,790.28

Cr.

By balance brought down from previous account 31st December, 1893		$4,402.32
By Interment fees 12 months	$490.50	
By Fees for erecting stones and enclosing graves	397.00	1,029.50
By Hongkong & Shanghai Bank for interest on several deposit notes, made up to to-day's date		378.46
Total		$5,790.28
1895, January 1.		
By balance brought down		$5,087.49
Dependency, 31st December, 1894. Outstanding interment fee since paid and passed to credit of new account		25.00

E. & O. E.

Yokohama, 1st January, 1895.

B. GILLETT,
Hon. Treasurer.

I have examined this account with the vouchers relating thereto, and find the same correct.

H. W. BELL.

The CHAIRMAN inquired if any present had any questions to put in regard to the accounts.

Mr. ALLCOCK said the accounts were of an entirely satisfactory character and he moved that they be passed.

Mr. GILLETT said that he should like to make a few remarks ere the accounts were passed. He had heard outside some observations as to the large balance which the Committee carried forward, and it was thought the balance might be appropriated by reducing the fees, etc. In looking at this matter, he would remind them that at some time or other, the present Cemetery, either owing to its becoming filled or at the instigation of the Japanese Authorities, would have to be closed, but notwithstanding this the graves, stones fences, &c., would have to be kept in decent order; the question arose how this would be done in 12, 15, or 20 years, when the friends of the people buried there were scattered hither and thither. To maintain the Cemetery in ordinary decent order would require at least $400 a year. The interest on the present balance realised about $260 a year, and it occurred to him that it would be a matter of great difficulty to obtain money from the community to keep the Cemetery in order when they would really have little or no interest in it. He made these remarks simply with the object of clearing up any impressions which may have been formed by people outside.

The CHAIRMAN put the motion for the adoption of the accounts to the meeting, and the same was unanimously carried.

Mr. RICKETT said, [illegible] to the election of [illegible] Committee, that he would like to propose that the old Committee be asked to serve again.

Mr. ALLCOCK seconded.—Carried.

Mr. GILLETT proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. Kiel for the use of the room. When he had approached him last year upon the matter of remuneration for its use, that gentleman would not hear of it.

The CHAIRMAN said that the community was greatly indebted to Mr. Kiel for the use of a room for the purpose of public meetings of this nature. He did not know what Yokohama would do without it. He now proposed a vote of thanks to the Committee for the care they had taken in the Cemetery during the past year; and more particularly were their thanks due to Mr. Gillett. Any one taking the trouble to look through the Cemetery could not fail to be struck with the fact that the Cemetery was well kept and maintained in beautiful order through all seasons of the year. For this, as they were all well aware, they were indebted to Mr. Gillett.—(Hear, hear.)

Mr. GILLETT, in returning thanks, said that he could not do very much for the public weal, but what little he could do in so far as concerned the Cemetery, he did with very great pleasure.—(Hear hear.)

A vote of thanks to the Chair concluded the proceedings.

SILVER IN JAPAN.

AN ADDRESS DELIVERED AT THE PUBLIC HALL, YOKOHAMA, WEDNESDAY EVENING, FEBRUARY 27TH, 1895.

The subject of bimetallism has been so thoroughly discussed in all its phases during the last 20 years, both in Europe and America, and of late the literature of the subject has increased so rapidly, that it would seem impossible to contribute anything new or fruitful to the question. The theoretical defence of bimetallism, and by this I mean the successful establishment of a joint standard of gold and silver on an international basis, I believe to be so thoroughly proved that it is beyond the reach of disputation. It is accepted not merely by all the leading economists of France, England, Germany, and the United States, but by some of the most active men of affairs of every description,—bankers, manufacturers, and financiers. The only question left, it seems to me, is whether countries think the gain of bimetallism sufficient to undertake the task. In proportion as the claims of bimetallists are understood, so I venture to say, are they acknowledged by all men of impartiality and intelligence.

Indeed, it were wonderful were it otherwise. Bimetallism is not a new fad or fashion, but, on the contrary, almost as old as European civilization. Bimetallism has been the rule, the conservative rule, while monometallism is a most modern and, I believe, dangerous innovation. And I do not say this in any sense peculiar to myself, implying some strain of words, but in quite the ordinary meaning of the word. Let me just explain what I mean.

Previous to the year 1803, nearly all the States of Europe had adopted the use of both gold and silver in commercial transactions (but mainly silver), according to ratios which varied within narrow limits from time to time, chiefly from the want of any common understanding between nations. In this latter sense both Locke and Newton were bimetallists, since they accepted both silver and gold as true money, the former as the standard or rating money, the latter as the rated money. From 1803 to 1873 bimetallism was on a much more efficient basis than before, because France in 1803[1] definitely adopted the ratio of 1 to 15½ for the coinage of both gold and silver indifferently in her mints, and France therefore acted as a balance wheel on the value of the two metals. During these seventy years, notwithstanding the changes in the relative production of the two metals, changes which were greater and more powerful than any before or perhaps since, silver retained its steadiness of value in relation to gold. The British Gold and Silver Commission of 1886, after carefully weighing the evidence, came to the following conclusion: "So long as that system was in force (namely the mint law of 1803), we think that notwithstanding the changes in production and use of the precious metal it, kept the market price of silver approximately steady at the ratio fixed by law at 1 to 15½."

The new period, an entire novelty in the history of money, began in 1871-3 with the demonetization of silver and the adoption of the gold standard by the United Empire of Germany,[2] and the resulting action of France and the Latin Union in at first limiting and finally prohibiting the free coinage of silver. Germany's demonitizing legislation was confessedly adopted in imitation of England, who had preached the wonderful blessings of the single gold standard ever since its adoption in 1819. The United States also ommitted the coinage of silver in the coinage act of 1873, and though $2,000,000 per month were coined by the Bland Act of 1878 and 4,500,000 oz. of silver by the Sherman Act of 1890, yet these were bare palliatives of the gold monometallism that practically existed in Europe and America since 1873. To emphasize this single metal régime still more, the British Government decided to stop the coinage of silver in the Indian Mints on June 26th, 1893, so that the greatest consumer of silver in the world has been to some extent deprived of its silver supplies.

Thus for the last 20 years the countries of the world have been jogging along in a condition of monometallism, the countries of Europe and the United States for the most part under a gold standard, while China, Japan, and other Eastern countries, as well as Mexico and certain South American countries, have retained the silver standard, and between these two groups of countries there has been no common measure of value, or par of exchange as existed previous to 1873. In the United States and Europe silver has become for the most part a simple commodity, like other commodities, while in Japan or China gold is simply a commodity like other commodities. It is needless to say that during these twenty years greater changes in the relative value of these two metals have taken place than were ever dreamed of before. In the year 1872, before any effective demonetization legislation has been enacted, the average value of silver in terms of gold was more than 60d. per oz., while during the past year it has averaged less them 30d. per oz., or less than half its former value.

That this condition of silver and gold monometallism is an innovation, is now, I think, granted by every money authority in the world. The British Gold and Silver Commission of 1886, in a summary of its conclusions says: "The action of the Latin Union in 1873 broke the link between silver and gold which had kept the price of the former, as measured by the latter, constant at about the legal ratio; and when this link was broken the silver market was open to the influence of all the factors which go to affect the price of a commodity." And in 1876, Walter Bagehot, then Editor of the London *Economist*, writing not long after the silver panic of 1876 said: "The cardinal present novelty is that silver and gold are, in relation to one another, simply ordinary commodities. Until now they have not been so. A very great part of the world adhered to the bimetallic system which made both gold and silver legal tender and which established a fixed ratio between them. In consequence, whenever the value of the two metals altered, these countries acted as equalizing machines . . . But now this curious mechanism is broken up . . . . As the Latin Union does not allow silver to be coined, except in limited quantities, it has no equalizing action. . . . In former times the fluctuations in the relative value of the two metals were few and small, but now they are many and large." I only give these quotations to show that the present state of monometallism is generally regarded by those who have studied the historical character of the two metals as an innovation, or "novelty," the state of bimetallism was the old rule. And if this truth were more widely recognized I think that much absurd prejudice against the "bimetallic theorists" would stop, and certain so-called practical men would cease their objections.

It is only therefore in the last twenty years that we find violent and rapid fluctuations in the relative values of gold to silver, fluctuations which show no tendency whatever to decrease either in number or intensity. And it needs no special elucidation to explain that where two things vary in value with reference to each other, we cannot, looking only to these two commodities, say whether the change in value is due to one or to both. Thus *a priori* it is quite impossible to decide whether during the last twenty-two years gold has doubled in value or silver fallen to one-half. All we can say is that either the value of gold has advanced, or the value of silver has declined, or that both movements have taken place to a greater or less degree. The main object of this paper is to inquire as fairly as possible from the experience of Japan, whether the variation in value of the two metals to each other is owing mainly to the appreciation of gold or to the depreciation of silver. Is gold to blame or silver, for the abnormal condition of things we see at present?

Now [illegible] one monometallist has an [illegible] gold is the one true

[1] Specifying the law of 1785.
[2] Following the law of Dec. 4, 1871.

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unchanging measure of value. Silver is the debased, discredited, metal that is fit only for lower civilizations, or subsidiary coins. Sir William Harcourt, speaking some months ago, referred to the bimetallic agitation as a "renewed attempt to replace the gold standard of England by a currency of cowries and brass farthings," and other writers have dubbed silver as "metallic assignats." Such statements as these, springing merely from intolerance and prejudice, it is unnecessary to answer. It has been acknowledged on all sides by the most competent scientific authorities, long before bimetallism was an issue, that gold can vary and has varied in value as much as, if not more, than silver as a standard of value. What special providence is there to watch over the destinies of gold more than those of silver? Why should gold be the perfect measure of value while silver turns somersaults like a young athlete? This, I know, is a deep-rooted prejudice in the minds of certain British mercantilists, but it cannot stand the light of rational inquiry.

Before going on to consider the specific question of this paper, I would like to state certain elementary truths about money,—truths that we are all inclined to regard as self-evident, but that we need to keep clearly before us in order to draw safe conclusions from them. In the text-books of political economy it is stated that money has three functions: it is, first, a medium of exchange; second, a measure of value; and third, a standard of value. Of the first function it is not necessary to speak at length. It means simply that whenever an exchange takes place, commodities are given for money, and this transfer is in everyone's mind no matter whether the actual money is received or not. Money is not a specific commodity like flour or cloth, but the general commodity which is taken at all times and seasons against any particular commodity. Still more important than the first function of money is the second, namely, its function as a measure of value. We reckon all values in terms of money and call it price, though an exchange may not be contemplated. A price list of mercantile articles is a good example of this function. A man may study prices in terms of money, and make up a statistical list, yet he may not be thinking of money as a medium of exchange, but only as a measure of the relative values of commodities. If I meet a friend who wishes to exchanges his horses for my cart, and he values his horses at $100 each, while I consider my cart worth $200, it would then be plain that in our opinion two horses were worth one cart, if the exchange were affected. And so far as this function of money is concerned it is abstractly possible that no actual money need exist at all. All that would be necessary is that a recognized measure of some kind should exist, though it need not exist in actual metal or substance. This function of money is strictly comparable to the yard-stick of the dry goods merchant, which only exists in a substantive form for the sake of convenience, but not from any inherent necessity. And if only we agreed upon a definite length we could dispense with the actual yard-stick altogether.

But we must further note that in the very idea of a measure of any kind, whether of value, or of length, or of quantity, some conception of definite stability is implied. If your yard-stick is one length to-day and another to-morrow you would hardly like to call it a proper *measure* of length. It might, indeed, in any definite concrete case be a true measure, however it might increase or diminish in length a day later, but in popular parlance, by a measure of any kind we mean a measure that possesses some stability. And so with money as a measure of value. If it were discovered that the money in use were constantly varying, one measure to-day and another to-morrow, it would I think, be generally condemned as a false measure.

This naturally leads to the third function of money, and for the purpose of this paper, its most important function, namely its use as a standard of value. I have already stated that a measure may alter from day to-day and still be after a fashion a measure, if only it remain unalterable for the particular occassion in which it is used and if its alterations are perfectly understood. But suppose you wish to compute quantities from day to day according to the same measure for a year in advance, then your measure must indeed have a fixed and unalterable character. Indeed, its fixity or unalterableness is then its chief requisite. This then, is the third function of money as a standard of value: that it is a measure of value plus the element of time. Money in this sense has been called the measure of deferred payments, and I need not explain to a body of merchants [illegible] of practical affairs how immensely [illegible] function of money is in modern m[illegible]

man say, has a salary of a thousand dollars a year: he expects to have as much in real value during the second half, as during the first half year. Or I lend $500 for a term of years. I expect to receive as much principal in real value at the end of the term as I gave at the beginning. The fundamental objection that all economists and right-minded business men bring against an inconvertible depreciated currency is that it fails as a standard of value. You give one thing and get back another, and there is a remarkable consensus of opinion that such a currency is utterly demoralizing to all honourable and just exchange. It transforms the honestest merchant into a speculator, and defrauds the most laborious workman of his just reward.

What is, then, a proper standard of value. How can we secure a measure that will remain approximately unchanged as the years go by without loss either to lender or borrower, employer or employee, or to those who buy and sell. One opinion, I know, exists, which has been shared even by eminent statesmen, that a fixed quantity of gold or silver is a true measure at all times and places, in fact is a measure in the same sense that a yard-stick of three feet is an unvarying measure of length. Sir Robert Peel, in his speech on the Bank Charter Act of May 6, 1844, was the man who perhaps more than any other crystalized this opinion when he asked his famous question, "What is a Pound Sterling," and answered that, "it is a certain definite quantity of gold with a mark upon it to determine its weight and fineness." But this on its face is a false interpretation of a true measure of value. It is the father of innumerable fallacies in the history of money. The pound sterling of 123 grains 11/12 fine, the Japanese *yen* 416 grains 9/10 fine, the American gold dollar 25.8 grains 9/10 fine are in no sense of the term unchanging measures of value. They are unchanging measures of weight it is true, if we should care to use them as such, but their value may alter just as the value of a *koku* of rice or a bushel of wheat may alter. It is the same *koku* of rice, the same bushel of wheat at all times, but not the same at all times in the power of exchanging with other commodities. It is not necessary for me go into any further proof of this to the merchants of Yokohama. It needs only to be stated that twenty-two years ago the English pound sterling was equivalent to less than 5 Mexican dollars or Japanese *yen*, while at the present moment it is equivalent to more than 10 Mexicans or Japanese *yen* to show the fallacy of this doctrine. Somewhere then there must be a radical mistake in Peel's estimate of a standard of value. Either the pound sterling has increased in value, or the Japanese *yen* has declined in value, or both have diverged simultaneously.

I will not at this point undertake a definition of money, lest in the words of a witty Frenchman "I introduce a new error into the world." I will state that I give my adhesion to what is known as the "quantitative" theory of money, not, however, in a strict or rigid sense, but with certain well-known limitations and deductions. According to this theory, the value of money depends, *ceteris paribus*, upon its quantity: if the quantity increase, other things remaining the same, its value falls; but if its quantity decrease, other things remaining the same, its value rises. But this rule only follows under the conditions prescribed. An increased demand for money, and by demand I mean use in circulation, would, if the quantity remained the same, increase its value, while, on the contrary, a decreased demand for money, the quantity remaining the same, would cause its value to fall. If, for instance, a certain amount of money, say 50 millions of dollars, be required to operate a certain amount of commodities at a certain price, then if the amount of money be doubled to 100 millions, the commodities as a whole remaining the same in quantity, prices will on the average double, barring of course certain accidents of credit and trade; while if the quantity of money be reduced to 25 millions, the quantity of commodities remaining the same, prices would on the average fall to one half. *Per contra*, if the commodities doubled and the amount of money remained the same, prices would as a whole fall to one-half of what they were before.

I think then that we may establish it as a general proposition, subject of course to certain exceptions, that where commodities suffer a general fall of prices, money rises in value or appreciates, and that where commodities advance in price for a continuous period, money falls in value or depreciates. I say subject to certain conditions and exceptions, because whatever economizes money or acts as a substitute for it, to that extent has the same effect as an increase of money. An extension of credit, for instance, would be quite as powerful in affecting prices as an increase of money. Bills of exchange, cheques, and notes, in fact every device whereby the use of money can be economized, have an effect upon prices no less than an increase of the circulating medium. Money, in short, is purchasing power, and every form of substitute for money that has purchasing power can influence prices. But it need not be explained that all forms of credit, hitherto invented rest on a basis of one of two fundamental substances, either gold or silver, and therefore given a certain amount of credit for a term of years, an assumption we can easily make, the original proposition still holds good that money appreciates or depreciates as prices fall or rise.

I have run through these simple preliminary explanations to get at a clear comprehension of the real issue of this paper. How shall we discover whether gold has appreciated or risen in value or whether silver has depreciated or fallen in value during the last two decades? In Europe or America it is a common form of language to speak of the decline of silver, as though it were a fact not to be questioned. And so far as silver has declined in terms of gold there is of course no denying the proposition. In 1872 the average price of standard silver in the London market was 60¼d., per oz., while during the two months of the present year its has averaged about 27¼d. per oz. But quotations like this give us no insight into the real nature of the change that has taken place. In England it is true, silver has declined in terms of gold, but in Japan where silver is in fact[1] the standard and where gold is quoted in terms of silver we have precesely the opposite phenomenon. Thus, as I have explained, we are no nearer the solution of the question than before in looking merely at quotations of gold in terms of silver or silver in terms of gold.

So far as I am aware, there is only one method of settling this question, namely, to investigate by means of prices whether the purchasing power of gold has increased or whether the purchasing power of silver has decreased. If during the last twenty two years we find that the purchasing power of silver has diminished *pari passu* with its own decline in terms of gold, then let us in all frankness confess that the fault lies with silver. In the latter case silver is the discredited metal, the "metallic assignats" which certain writers would have us believe. But if, on the contrary, we find that the purchasing power of silver has declined in no degree with its decline in terms of gold, but has remained steady as a whole, then let us in all frankness and honesty attribute the fault to the gold standard. Above all, if we find not only that the purchasing power of silver is as great as it was 20 years ago, but that also the purchasing power of gold has risen almost continuously during the same period, are we not justified in concluding that we have a double proof that silver is innocent of depreciation and that the difficulty lies at the door of gold. This method of determining the value of money was not invented by bimetallists for the sake of making out a case. It was used, long before bimetallism had ever risen to be an issue, by Jevons for the purpose of determining the fall in the value of gold which had taken place in consequence of the Californian and Australian gold discoveries. Jevons' method was justified by Cairnes when he investigated the same subject in his Australian Episode. It has been the method adopted by Mr. Giffen and Mr. Goschen, both of whom can scarcely be credited with leanings toward bimetallism, and it has been accepted, so far as I am aware by every thoroughly scientific student of money since the time when money was made the subject of exact investigation. I know of no other method of determining whether the value of money has fallen or risen but the method of average prices, or "standard of desiderata," as it has been called by one of the most distinguished writers on money.

One more word is necessary to explain this method. Its value largely depends upon the range of commodities selected and the carefulness with which their prices are investigated. Any change of demand owing to wholly peculiar causes, as for instance cotton during the period of the Civil War in America, or rice in Japan during the short crop of 1890, should be as far as possible eliminated from the list. These temporary fluctuations, violent as they may be for a while, tend to right themselves after a time. Again, periods of expansion, of over-trading, should not be compared with periods of depression or panic. We should as far as possible begin with normal periods, as the basis for comparison. Finally, in quoting prices, we must of course as a rule take wholesale rather than retail prices, as the latter do not follow so quickly the changes of the market. The number of articles to be selected is a matter of a great importance. In England

[1] Both gold and silver are legal tender. But gold coins have never circulated as a part of the medium.

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the list commonly accepted is that of the London *Economist*. Jevons selected for his own purpose a list of 39 articles, made up from the weekly price published in the London *Economist*. Perhaps the most trustworthy statistics of prices are those of Mr. Augustus Sauerbeck, an eminent statistician who has calculated his "index numbers" from the following 45 commodeties:—

English Wheat.	Lead.
American Wheat.	Coal (London).
Flour.	Coal (Exports).
Barley.	American Cotton.
Oats.	Indian Cotton.
Maize.	Flax.
Potatoes.	Hemp.
Rice.	Jute.
Prime Beef.	Wool (Merino).
Middling Beef.	Wool (English).
Prime Mutton.	Silk.
Middling Mutton.	Hides.
Pork.	Leather.
Bacon.	Tallow.
Butter.	Palm Oil.
West India Sugar.	Olive Oil.
Java Sugar.	Seed Oil.
Coffee (2 sorts).	Petroleum.
Tea (2 sorts).	Soda Crysals.
Pig-iron.	Nitrate of Soda.
Iron bars.	Indigo.
Copper.	Timber.
Tin.	

I regret to say that I have not found it possible to make out such a complete list of articles as Mr. Sauerbeck. Japan is a country which, until recently, has been in a peculiar position in regard to trade. In the first place, she has not been fully open to the regular currents of trade until within recent years. True her ports were opened 35 years ago, and certain articles have been regularly imported and exported for about 25 years, but they were comparatively few. It required some years for the Japanese to feel their way gradually, both as to what they wanted in the way of imports from abroad and what they could most easily ship in the way of exports. This fact has rendered Japan, until recently, rather an insignificant market and the number of commodities traded in few in number. Secondly, of purely native articles, such as are produced and consumed in Japan, no doubt a large list might be mentioned, but it has been found impossible even for Government experts to get an average of prices earlier than 1878 or 1879. Previous to that time the monetary medium of the country, except in the trade of the open ports, was in great confusion, and not until the decimal system was fully settled can we find any approach to the system of modern prices.

But while the list of articles is not nearly as complete as I should like it to be, it will serve for the purposes of the present paper. The articles selected are for the most part the most common articles of export or of consumption in Japan, and will, as a rule, be found in the weekly reports of the papers. Wherever possible the mean price for the year is given of each commodity for a series of years extending as far back as possible. For the sake of exactness I have drawn up three different lists; the first compiled by government experts of the Statistical Bureau. This list contains the mean price of the articles in the Tokyo market, the second list is compiled from the weekly reports of prices in Yokohama as given in the weekly trade reports of the press. Both the first and second lists are wholesale prices. The third list is less important. The prices are taken from a price-list issued by the leading retail grocer of Tokyo, the first price list in 1884 the second in 1894. During this interval the price of silver in terms of gold had declined from an arrage of 50¾d. per oz. (1884) to an average of about 35d. per oz. It is true that retail prices are not subject to competition so quickly as wholesale prices, but the list is interesting as throwing some additional light upon the subject.

In order not to weary you with too many details, as given in these lists, I will select a few instances taken at random of the more important commercial articles. In the year 1875 the average price of rice per *koku* in the Tokyo market was 5.97 *yen*; in the year 1892 it was 7.47 *yen*. In the year 1875 the average price of peas per *koku* was 4.81 *yen* in the Tokyo market, in the year 1892 the average price was the same, 4.81 *yen*. In the year 1875 the average price of *saké* per *koku* in Tokyo, was 10.61 *yen*, in 1892 the average price was 12.36.* In 1878 the average price of tea per 100 lbs. in Tokyo is given at 39.85 *yen*; in 1892 the average price was 28.77 *yen*. In 1878 the average price of sugar per 100 lbs. was 5.31 *yen*; in 1892 it was 4.30 *yen*. In 1878 the average price of petroleum per case in Tokyo was 2.83 *yen*, in 1892 the average price was 1.68. In 1870 the average price of cotton yarns, graded *good to best*, was $53.00 per picul. On February 25th, 1895, they were quoted at from 35.50 to 36.50 per picul. In 1870 the average price of grey shirtings 8¼lb. was 2.65; during the present month they are quoted at from 2.25 to 2.90. In 1871 the average price of T.-cloths 7 lbs. 24 yds. 32 in. width averaged $2.20 Mexicans. On February 25th, 1895, they were quoted at from 1.65 to 2.00. For the year 1871 the average price of black velvets 35 yds. 22 in. averaged 9.00 Mexicans, on February 25th, 1895, they were quoted at from 7.25 to 9.50. The average price in 1871 of Mousseline de Laine was 22 cents. per yard; on February 25th, 1895, they were quoted at 15 to 22½ *sen* per yard.

* Tax on *saké* has been increased.

I will not longer weary you by further details of this kind, especially as I intend to print full tables† of prices which will be open to your inspection and criticism. I have thus far confined myself to commercial articles, but if I were to appeal to experience I think still more evidence of the same kind might easily be added. For instance, upon my arrival in Japan in 1889 silver was somewhat more that 3 shillings, whereas now it is barely two. According to all the calculations of the gold enthusiasts prices in these five years ought to have increased one-half in Japan. What cost one *yen* then ought to cost 1.50 now. But does not your common experience contradict this, except in rare cases which can readily be accounted for. House-rents in Tokyo are on an average, one-third cheaper to-day than five years ago. Ground rents are cheaper. Manilla cigars are precisely, quality for quality, what they were in 1889. Bread is the same price. Meat has risen somewhat in price, but the rise is mainly due to the war. Common wines have risen little or nothing in price, though wines of better quality and champagnes are higher. Certain articles, indeed, have risen in price precisely in degree as the gold price of silver has declined, but they are articles which are scarcely affected by commercial conditions. I may, for instance, mention books, magagines, articles of luxury, etc. Again I am assured by one of the most experienced men in railway construction in Japan that the same railway could be built to-day for one-half the price it would have cost ten years ago. This is partly due, no doubt, to the increased skill of the Japanese in railway construction, but I am also assured that all articles imported for railway building have rather declined than risen in silver prices in Japan, in spite of falling exchange.‡ And this general tendency to stable or even declining prices in Japan has gone on during a time when credit has considerably expanded in this country. Japan to-day is a fairly well banked country, whereas twenty years ago a native bank did not exist. An extension of credit would tend to produce, if anything, a rise in prices, or at least it would stay any tendency to fall, and therefore the fact that no rise in prices has taken place in spite of this is another tribute to the stability of silver as a measure of values.

† These tables will be printed soon.

‡ Exact statistics of imported steel and iron will be printed later.

While thus prices have remained stable in Japan, what do we find in Europe and America where the gold standard has prevailed? I have already called your attention to the "index numbers" of Mr. Sauerbeck based on the prices of 45 commodities. Mr. Sauerback takes the prices of eleven years, from 1867 to 1877, and the average of these prices establishes the base of his "index number" which he calls 100. This period embraces 4 years of low prices after the panic of 1866, 3 years of high prices, from 1870 to 1873, and four years of low prices after the panic of 1873. Starting with this "index number" of 100 he finds the following result:—

Years.	45 Commodities.	Years.	45 Commodities.
1867-71	100	1882	84
1870	96	1883	82
1871	100	1884	76
1872	109	1885	72
1873	111	1886	69
1874	102	1887	68
1875	96	1888	70
1876	95	1889	72
1877	94	1890	72
1878	87	1891	72
1879	83	1892	68
1880	88	1893	68
1881	85		

For the year 1894, though I have not yet seen Mr. Sauerbeck's index number, I am certain it is still lower than 68†. The index number of the London *Economist* is lower than the preceding year, and from all the markets of Europe and America come report of lower prices. This, therefore, is the result of comparing gold prices in the West with silver prices in Japan, that the latter have remained fairly steady or shown only a mild tendency to decline, while the former according to a most favourable calculation have suffered an enormous decline.

† Mr. Mulford has kindly informed me that the index number fell to 67.4 in. 1894, with 60.1 for Dec. 1894.

What conclusions are to be drawn from these facts as to the value of the monetary standard now prevailing in Japan? There has been some talk of late of establishing a gold standard in this country, in lieu of her present silver standard. There are no indications at present that this plan will be carried into effect, and certainly there is no public agitation whatever for a change. On the contrary, the Japanese, at least the commercial classes, seem to be wholly satisfied with the present system. But I would like to ask what is Japan to gain from a change of her existing standard? What to-day is the true standard of money in the light of economic principles? Is it not the standard whose purchasing power has the quality of stability in the highest degree? If not, then the very horn-books of political economy will have to be revised. Japan is getting the commodities she buys from Europe and America as cheaply as ever in terms of silver, while the commodities she has to sell do not fall in price, but command on the whole as good a price as they did ten or twenty years ago, and if these are not good attributes of a money standard I do not know what the qualities of a perfect money-system are. I protest against the statement that silver has depreciated. It is as misleading as the statement that the earth is flat, though to the uninstructed mind it may appear so. Let us not be led astray by the mere appearances of things. When we have the double evidence of stability in silver and instability in gold who can doubt that Japan is wise in tenaciously holding to her silver standard and keeping aloof from the scramble for gold that we see now going on in Europe and America.

Other facts are equally strong in favour of the silver as against the gold standard. Compare, for instance, the financial condition of European countries or America with that of Japan. Three years ago England suffered a panic so severe that it brought her strongest financial institutions to the brink of ruin. Likewise Australia, South America, the United States, and Italy have suffered disastrous panics. There is not a single country under the gold standard but is bitterly complaining of depression, and the countries suffering most severely in this respect are the debtor countries of the world, the United States, Australia, Italy, Greece, and others. They are the countries that have been forced to pay in an appreciating standard, their burden of debt proving more and more heavy in spite of themselves, though the nominal amount remains the same or even decreases. During these last five years, while nearly every country of Europe and America has suffered a financial convulsion, Japan has gone on peacefully and prosperously, her capital and labour all employed, her prices remaining steady, and every department of wealth production progressing favourably. Even the present war with its great demands upon the loanable capital of the country has not seriously hampered her industrial progress. I know of no country of the world whose economic and financial conditions are more free from serious apprehensions than those of Japan, and I believe that one of the most potent causes of her prosperity, in the midst of a world-wide depression, is her adherence to the silver standard despite the efforts of certain wiseacres to dislodge her from it.

Before finally dismissing this branch of the subject, I wish to anticipate one objection commonly made by a certain class of theorists who hold to what may be called, for want of a better term, the "mechanical" theory of money. According to their doctrine, all that I have so far attempted to prove may be granted as true, but, they would add, the consequences are as trifling as they are true. What difference does it make, say they, whether prices are high or low, whether they fall or rise, whether there is much money or little; if prices are low because of a scarcity of money then indeed sellers receive less for the commodities they have to sell, but correspondingly they pay less for the commodities they have to buy. I, as a farmer, may sell my wheat for 50 cents a bushel instead of a dollar, but if I buy all my daily necessities for half their former price, as coffee for 40 instead of 80 cents per lb. shoes for $3.00 instead of $6.00 per pair —I am as well off as I was before. The only difference is that I reckon in smaller instead of larger denominations. Money is a commodity and "that's an end o'nt." While this mechanical doctrine of money has had vogue with certain men, especially those engaged in purely mercantile pursuits, it certainly has never had any influence upon monetary authorities. On the contrary, it has been repudiated by

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the foremost men of this century who have studied monetary problems. I have already indicated in a previous paragraph how important the function of money as a standard of value is, and how this function is related to some of the most important phases of the economic and commercial life of a nation. For money is not only used for the purpose of making exchanges in commodities, but is used to measure service, sometimes over a long period of time, as wages, salaries, etc. It is used to register the debts of nations, corporations and individuals, national obligations, railway bonds, mortgages, debentures, etc. It is used as a measure of certain dues which occupy a very important place in the disbursements of people, as for instance taxes, fees, fixed charges, etc. Whether money appreciates or depreciates has therefore a very powerful effect upon the national income and its distribution. If, for instance, it is admitted that gold has appreciated 50% since 1873—a very moderate figure from Sauerbeck's tables—let us for a moment consider what effect this appreciation has had upon only one point of the economic life of the English people, viz., the national debt. In 1873 the national debt of England was in round numbers £750,000,000 stg. and 50 per cent. of this sum is therefore £375,000,000 stg. Assuming therefore England had the option of redeeming her national debt either in 1873 or 1893 and had chosen the latter year, it would follow that the people of England would have to produce in real wealth £375,000,000 more than in 1873, quite a tidy increase of indebtedness for England. Assuming, for instance, that there are 6,000,000 families in Great Britain this would involve an extra burden of £62 upon every family, certainly no insignificant amount for the labouring classes to add to their existing burdens.

But this is only a single and by no means the most important instance of the effect of the appreciation of gold. Every investment made in gold and running for a term of years since 1873, when silver was demonetized, has increased as a burden upon the debtors. In this way the bonded debt of railways has augmented and the obligations of cities, towns, and other governments. To take one more example, I need only mention a debt contracted by the Japanese government 1873 amounting to £2,400,000 at a nominal interest of 7 per cent. The redemption of this debt has been going on at a regular rate for many years, and consequently a very large part of the debt was extinguished before the appreciation of gold had assumed the intensity it now bears. But the sum still remaining unpaid is, I believe, about £450,000, which the Japanese Government expected in 1873 to discharge by an outlay of 2,250,000 *yen*, but which in fact will require more than 4,500,000 *yen*. In Japan the 2,250,000 *yen* has fully the purchasing power it had in 1873, but the English investor claims his pound of gold, as "'tis written in the bond," and forsooth any attempt at substraction from the principal in gold would no doubt be called national repudiation. But suppose, and the supposition is not chimerical, Japan had borrowed the whole of her national debt in London instead of applying to the home-market say £60,000,000, from which she would have received about 300,000,000 *yen*, is it not clear that the very effort to pay it off would have forced her to bankruptcy or something nearly like it? Japan's public debt would have in fact fully doubled had she borrowed abroad instead of at home. The Japanese Government has had the good fortune or good sense for the most part to avoid the foreign markets for loans except for small amounts, and thus has escaped the pitfalls which the Indian Government has not avoided. These are only a few of the examples that might be mentioned of the great part played by money as a standard of value, but I abstain from further amplification of this point. The evil effects of appreciation have been described in the clearest manner by Jevons, Giffin, and other economists, without reference to bimetallism, and to-day I do not know of a single economist or financier who is willing to risk his reputation in a denial of them.

Finally, the adherents of the gold standard have still another gun to fire at their opponents. "Granting," they say, "granting that the value of gold has appreciated in value, still we do not see why the creditor countries under the gold standard should be in any way concerned in the matter." The best example of this type of argument is found in England, inasmuch as she is the principal creditor nation of the world. "England," they add, "has a very good thing of it. If the principal she has lent and the interest due to her are augmenting in value why should she act the generous part in a matter where business and practical consideration only are supposed to rule." It would not be difficult to point out that in this not only the English people, but even the English holders of securities are overreaching themselves. There is no doubt that a few investors whose securities are of the very best quality are indeed gaining something by the appreciation of gold. They have an increased income measured in commodities above what they would have received ten or twenty years ago. But in the year 1879, in a paper read before the Royal Statistical Society, Mr. Giffin says of the effects of the appreciation of gold then noticeable: "Now we may witness a gradual increase of the burden of debts, to the loss of the debtors, and for the immediate advantage of creditors," *although* he adds in the end, "the latter may lose by the relatively diminished income of their securities following the adjustment of all prices to the new circumstances." I need not add how truly the latter half of this prophecy has been fulfilled in England, how many securities Englishmen hold are entirely worthless through bankruptcy and repudiation, how some of the strongest monied institutions nearly went to the wall in the panic of 1892. I could easily show that the English security holders are only a small fraction of the whole wealth-producing population of England and by far the less important fraction. I could point out that though a portion of London gains, Manchester and Liverpool, Sheffield, and Leeds suffer, because of the diminished buying capacity of the debtor nations. But I do not like to answer this argument by an appeal to the most ignoble motives of the human mind. I do not want to believe that England is the Shylock of modern nations and demands gold, gold, gold, because, forsooth, 'tis so nominated in the bond. I would far rather believe that there is still a strong sense of justice in the English people, which, though obscured by a transient and local self-interest, can, nevertheless to decide to give to all, that which is their chief claim to greatness and admiration, viz., fair play. And if England refuses so much as this she has fallen indeed from the ancient standards which it has always been her boast to apply at all times and places. For justice is not a sentiment which can be meted out to particular categories and interests, it pervades all the interests and activities of life. Like gravity itself, it penetrates and permeates all the relations that bind man to man, whether of work or of thought or emotion. And if it be not so, if the justice of England goes with the chances of a would-be Machiavellian self-interest, then the elasticity and hope of the old race are all gone.

In these few words I have attempted to show that silver has on the whole been a stable standard of value during the last twenty years, and that in this respect gold stands in great contrast to it in having appreciated by leaps and bounds, to the great injury of the commerce of the world, and the wealth and income of individuals. I have further tried to show that Japan has acted the wiser part in avoiding all tampering with her money standard, that she has gained as a seller of commodities, and avoided all the pitfalls of panic and depression with which the gold countries of the world have been afflicted. It now remains for me to make some application of these conclusions to the practical aspect of bimetallism in so far as it applies to the future policy of the countries that still cling to the gold standard, the United States and the nations of Europe. I need not explain that in these countries the gold monometallists are afflicted with a fear of being inundated with a worthless metal, a discredited standard of value. But if I have reasoned correctly in regard to the stability of silver as a standard of value, it follows that these fears are groundless, that they are based upon a misapprehension of the depreciation of silver, that in fact the gold monometallists are in terror of a baseless figment of their imagination.

> Back recoils, he knows not why,
> E'en at the sound himself has made.

There is a story of a man who, walking at night in an unknown path fell, as he thought, over a cliff, and saved himself by clinging to the branches of an overhanging tree. Here he held on in agony, fearing every moment to dash down the precipice, and when the first light of morning came he found his feet just within an inch from the ground. Something like this, I take it, are the apprehensions of the gold party in Europe and the United States. Were the nations of the West and India to once more open their mints to the coinage of silver by international agreement, nay were they to coin silver together with gold at the old ratio of 1 to 15½, they would once more find their commerce, their industry, and securities on a solid basis. They could not possibly suffer any more inflation of prices than Japan has suffered from keeping open her mints to the free coinage of silver. The small increase in the production of silver, which has been going on in recent years would be spent to a great extent in merely preventing a further fall in the gold prices of commodities. For we have not yet come to an end of the appreciation of gold. The struggle for gold in all nearly countries of Europe, the unseemly scramble for gold securities on the London stock exchange portends that a still further appreciation is to take place. It may be interrupted for a year, or more, and prices many show a slight upward tendency because of peculiar circumstances, but in the end gold is bound to continue its course of appreciation. There is not gold enough to go around all the countries of Europe, America, and India. And so the addition of silver to the coinage of the west would in a great measure be used in keeping gold at its proper level. And if more silver than were sufficient merely to stay the appreciation of gold were produced, such an increase would flow over such a vast area of wealth and population in the countries of Europe and America, and the millions of France, England, Germany, Italy, Holland, Belgium, Austria, Norway, Sweden, Spain, Portugal, the United States, Canada, Australia, and other countries, that its influence in raising prices would be wholly beneficent. Such an increase in the coinage of silver at a fixed ratio with gold would have precisely the same effects which Mr. Jevons declared in 1862-3 followed from the gold discoveries of California and Australia. His words, with but slight alterations, are as follows: "I can not but agree with M'Culloch that, putting aside individual cases of hardship, if such exist, a fall in the value of gold and an increase in the supply of money must have, and as I should say has already, a most powerfully beneficial effect. It loosens the country, as nothing else could, from its old bonds of debt and habit. It throws increased rewards before all who are making and acquiring wealth somewhat at the expense of those who are enjoying acquired wealth. It excites the active and skillful classes, of the community to new exertions, and is, to some extent, like a discharge from his debt is to the bankrupt long struggling against his burdens. All this is effected without a breach of national good faith which nothing could compensate."

GARRETT DROPPERS.

LETTER FROM AMERICA.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Ithaca, N.Y., Feb. 1st, 1895.

The great Brooklyn strike is over and law and order have been again vindicated, though not without the use of powder and ball. The "stern radiance" of the bayonet has been a light shining in a dark place, but it has been the reflected light of a determined public opinion; which, while sympathizing with the wage-earners and criticising the corporations, has insisted upon obedience to law.

To an outsider who reads of these outbreaks such as the Chicago railway strike and the Brooklyn "trolley war," it must seem as though the United States were the hotbed for every noxious weed of disorder and especially for the nightshade of anarchy. Seeing little and knowing less of the vastly greater conservative forces of home, school, church, and law, the outside critic evidently imagines that the centrifugal forces are steadily overcoming the centripetal, in this republic which has the oceans for its boundaries. It is very certain that English critics, from Matthew Arnold to John Burns, the labour agitator, and Stead, the sensational editor, do mightily mistake the real situation. In the large cities, into which the illiterate and turbulent elements of immigration are dumped in heaps, there are certainly striking manifestations of the phenomena of disorder. In Chicago the native American element is probably not more than one-fifth of the whole mass. In Brooklyn the proportions are nearly as startling. In New York, out of a population of about 2,000,000 there are less than 350,000 native Americans. In time of public excitement, and especially of the movements of hostile "labour" organizations, all the forces of misrule and destruction come immediately to the front. Therefore at once, the foreign newspaper correspondent and the European book-maker utters the cry that "the Americans have no real nationality, and being a hodge-podge of all nations, society is disintegrating."

It seems at first sight amazing that so few English writers have any real insight into the real nature, constitution, and aim of the American Republic. Because we speak the English language, it seems to be taken as a matter of course that our country is a bad copy of England, a mistranslation of English thought and genius. Whereas, in New England but a New Europe. It seems more than probable that the average Englishman does

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not understand our diplomacy, our foreign policy, our home politics, or our social organization. Only men like Prof. Bryce or Goldwin Smith, among Englishmen, seem to have any clear idea or well-balanced system of opinion concerning us. Furthermore, Englishmen seem utterly unable to recall their own history or to remember that the English people is itself one of the most mixed under Heaven; that Briton, Roman, Angle, Jute, and Saxon, Dutch, Frisian, and German, French, Norman, and Scandinavian, have contributed their quota of blood, ideas, and institutions to the making of modern England. It would do good to some of our English friends, who criticize us so sharply, to read over De Foe's "True-born Englishman," before writing so rapidly about American social and political questions, and before so quickly suggesting remedies which show profound ignorance of the roots of the problem. Nevertheless, we Americans are very grateful for the strictures to which we are subject; it is as wholesome, in the main, as the curry-comb style of criticism which the Japanese so often receive from aliens dwelling in their own country.

The truth is that, whether right or wrong, the Americans are more given to devotion to and sacrifice to an idea, than are Englishmen. It may be that they are more like the French in this particular. It is very certain that their Continental European ancestry tells in their make-up. It is clear that, having taken, as the parlance of to-day goes, a "big contract," they seem determined to fulfill it. Like those of the Holy City of Isaiah's prophecy, our gates are "open night and day" to the sons of the stranger and the alien. We have invited all the world—all the world of Europe at least—to come in and make themselves at home, and they have accepted our invitation. Somehow or another, despite the awful "black belt" of the negro population in the Cotton States, the "yellow belt" of Chinese on the Pacific coast, the looming mass of Japanese in California,—with signs of danger farther afield in Hawaii—with Ireland larger in America than in the Emerald Isle, with a small-sized Scandinavian empire in the North West, with Germans here enough to do all the business of New York, with Russian and Polish Jews, Italians by the myriad, and other sporadic groups too numerous to mention, the American believes that he can do on a large scale what both the Dutch Republic once did on a very small scale, and which England for a thousand years kept on doing on a little larger scale. Despite the colossal proportions of his "contract," the American does not despair. With his faith in God, with his public school system, with his free press, with his law so soundly based on that of ancient Rome, and upon that of slowly but healthfully growing England, with his citizen militia, with the superb harmony of national and state government, with his local freedom and, above all, with his church, sunday school, and home, he believes that the contract will be fulfilled. He is sure that these foreigners will in time become loyal Americans, obedient to law and order, proud of their country and of their freedom, using without abusing their privileges, and that even the frontier and the wilderness, as well as the gorged cities will, in time, become part of "God's country."

The thoughtful American who is hard at work down among the people and in vital contact with them, cannot take the pessimistic view of those who brood with alien eye and unsympathetic heart upon those phenomena in which the newspapers do so delight. The working teacher, pastor, educator, knows and can measure the forces at work for the steady Americanization, civilization, and Christianization of the people, as the man in a hurry for telegrams, "hot" editorials, and sensational books, cannot. While optimistic, "speculative" and even visionary, if you please, concerning the ability of the Republic to digest and assimilate the food which enlarges its body, he is not blind to the necessity of dealing with the individual, for he knows it is only by making and saving the individual that the nation is to be saved. The man, then, who deals in actual intellectual and moral work with the individual, and sees his steady improvement, is not afraid of the mass, for he knows that leaven will work. He sees steady progress in the individual. Take, for example, the negro; it is now just about thirty years since the Civil War closed. Now, a new generation of black people has grown up. The teacher and the missionary have been busy, and already one-half of the reduction in national illiteracy has been made among the negroes. The European emigrant soon after arriving here, goes on strike, and gets up a row; the negroes do not strike, they study, they progress. Already there are a good many mortgages on white man's houses held by negroes, and it is astonishing how respectfully a mortgaged white man will treat his mortgagor, despite his inky hide. It is probably not too much an exaggeration to say that three-fifths of the strikers both in Chicago and Brooklyn could not speak the English language except in single words or very brokenly. The children of the strikers go to the public schools which are the stomach of the country and turn out good blood. They become good Americans.

Take the Indian. Thirty years ago ninety-nine out of every hundred Indians wore a uniform consisting of cuticle, breech-clout, and blanket. The "blanket Indian" was a beggar, and perhaps a drunkard. Now, it is simply astonishing to note how the Indian problem has been eliminated as a factor, first from military history. As a rule, only the old officers can tell of Indian fights. I have been personally acquainted with Indians who, though born in savagery, are now in their tenth of fifteenth year of life as ordinary American citizens. Despite the exaggerations of interested parties, the civilization and Christianization of the Indian on the reservations is proceeding as steadily as it is proceeding hopefully.

Having attacked the Indian and Negro problem, the men most active in the revival of public spirit in our large cities, are attacking the tenement-house problem, and that of the enlightenment of the foreigners among us. The recent political revolution in New York City shows that the foreigner can rise to the demands of the hour, that the adults can be instructed and are open to conviction. The proofs are sufficiently clear that kindness and patience will win them to the side of law and order. It may be that our national legislature will have to limit and regulate foreign immigration, but is is very certain that those who know best and believe most profoundly in civilizing agencies, are more anxious for the unselfish and unceasing application of these agencies to the individual, than they are for congress made law.

One out of the many agencies in our complex educational system is that of the free lecture course? The old days of the "Lyceum," when reformers mounted the platform to deliver lectures in "star courses" week after week, when Beecher, Chapin, Emerson, Alcott, Phillips, and others would give fifty or a hundred lectures in a year, are over. That system was doomed to a short life, just as soon as the catch-penny people from either Europe or America began to use it "for revenue only." When English lecturers used to come to tutor us in magisterial style or to talk to American audiences without preparation, and when American nobodies turned the rostrum into a variety show; in a word, as soon as the conscience of the true reformer left the Lyceum, it was doomed. Nevertheless, this prepared the way for the club period. For the last twenty-five years the literary club has been dominant in our large cities. With University Extension, this method of culture has been broadened in influence by the multiplication of womans' clubs. Nearly every large town or small city, to say nothing of metropolitan centres, has discovered that talent at hand lay buried if not in napkins, in familiar garments. These clubs, developing "home talent" and working in connection with the rapidly multiplying public libraries are doing a mighty educational work. Yet apart from these local and private enterprises, and the still general village and town lecture courses, there is to be noted in such places as Boston, Chicago, Philadelphia, Baltimore, Washington, and New York, the beginning of a vast system of public instruction by means of lectures which shall quickly and permanently influence the very people who most need them; that is, the fathers and mothers of the public school children.

For example, beside the Boston Lowell Institute of Arts and Sciences courses, in which are over hundred lectures by experts from all over the country and throughout the year, there is now in successful operation in New York City a system of lectures free to the people. They are given on Monday and Thursday evenings, in twenty different parts of the city. The lecturers are men and women who are masters of their themes, and there is a remarkable variety in the subjects treated. The system is under the control of Dr. Henry M. Leipziger, who devotes his whole time to the enterprise. This system is the outgrowth of that close sympathy with the people, and that penetration into their needs, of the late Townsend Harris, whose name as the founder of the College of the City of New York and as President of the Board of Education of New York, is as honoured on this side of the water as it is in Japan, as the maker of the first commercial treaties. I have had the pleasure of delivering several of these lectures, speaking to audiences of from 500 to 1,500. To look into the faces of men and woman of British and Continental European origin, is to see how eager and earnest, for the advantages which their children are now enjoying in greater measure, these adult folk are.

This letter does not give you very much news that will interest those who expect a purely Japanese touch in a missive sent Japanwards, but it is at least the view of one who keeps in close sympathy with the people and watches the conservative forces which are at work in molding our country. We are all hoping that Japan will issue from the war with honour and profit, and that in making terms with China she will act reasonably and generously as well as justly. Naturalists tell us that after the hornet has thrust his sting into the enemy attacked, there is risk of death to the hornet in withdrawing the sting. Having got in, we are hoping Japan will get herself out in a way that will strengthen her own life and be for the advantage of civilization in Asia. Though none of us are prophets, we rather look for the enunication of a Japanese "Monroe Doctrine," in which Japan and China in alliance will serve notice upon the Western Powers that the era of conquest and hostile aggrandizing European interference in the affairs of Eastern Asia is over. W.E.G.

CHESS.

(All Communications to be addressed to the Chess Editor.)

The Yokohama Chess Club meets at the Club Hotel, No. 5, Bund, on Monday and Thursday in each week from 5 to 11 p.m.

The Tokyo Chess Club meets at the Tokyo Hotel every Friday from 1 to 7 p.m.

Solution to Problem No. 166.

WHITE.	BLACK.
1—Q to R 7	1—Any
2—Mates accordingly.	

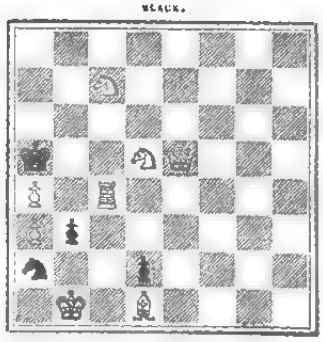
Correct solutions received from Omega, Digumma, W.H.S., Kr., Shogi, J.D., and E. J. King.

Shogi.—We print your letter below; but would remind you that "we are not here to answer conundrums" on behalf of Mr. Showalter. We will forward your query to that gentleman by the outgoing mail; if you so desire.

Problem No. 168.

By S. Loyd.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in two moves.

Problems versus Games.

In the *St. Albans Times*, Mr. John Rogers remarks that the problem, which is always with us, and which involves no rupture of home ties, has many advantages over match games. In a hard contest there is considerable wear and tear; often it induces sleeplessness, while, on the other hand, problem solving has a soothing influence "well calculated to promote longevity. The fruits of chess are not all golden. Unless regulated and a proper balance struck, it is capable of doing a vast amount of evil. Nay, it can prove more exacting than Shylock's knife, for, while sapping the life blood, it will offer us only blank cheques in return. Large practice over the board (I am speaking of the skilled proficient) leads inevitably to scepticism, and is apt to produce the most intense and bitter selfishness. The cold, calculating spirit inseparable from steady play has shed its withering blight upon the moral temperament. It is just here that the dual nature of chess comes in and provides an alterative course of treatment: In the problem world we forget our miserable selves, sink as perishable cargo the unworthy heaping up of small advantages, the grinding Lopez and the crushing Evans, and breathe a purer and more invigorating air."

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Game No. 225.

SALVIO—COCHRANE GAMBIT.

WHITE. Jouy.	BLACK. Labourdonnais. Sans Voir.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—P to K B 4	2—P takes P
3—Kt to K B 3	3—P to K Kt 4
4—B to B 4	4—P to Kt 5
5—Kt to K 5	5—Q to R 5 ch.
6—K to B sq.	6—P to B 6
7—Kt takes P (B 7)	7—Q Kt to B 3
8—P to Q 4	8—B to Kt 2
9—P to Q B 3	9—Kt to B 3
10—Kt takes R	10—P to Q 4
11—P takes P	11—Kt to K 5
12—Q to K sq.	12—P to Kt 6
13—B to Q 3	13—P takes P ch.
14—K takes P	14—B to K B 6 ch.
15—K to Kt sq.	15—Kt takes Q P
16—Q takes Kt ch.	16—Q takes Q
17—B takes Q	17—Kt to K 7 mate.

Mr. Blackburne's Memory.

It is reported in the *Newcastle Weekly Courant* that Mr. Peguaro, the president of the Whitby Chess Club, recently mentioned that as one of a team of eight players, against whom Mr. Blackburne played blindfold, he first made Mr. Blackburne's acquaintance at Stockton. After the lapse of three or four years Mr. Blackburne was again at Stockton, and Mr. Peguaro was again introduced to him. "But I know this gentleman already," said Mr. Blackburne, who immediately proceeded to call out the moves of the blindfold game of the former visit. Another of Mr. Peguaro's anecdotes is that during one of Mr. Blackburne's blindfold exhibitions, at Stockton, one of the players took advantage of the absence of the teller, and with the object of analysing a position, moved about the pieces on his board. In replacing the men he forgot to put a Bishop on the right square. When the play was resumed, Mr. Blackburne's move was Kt to Q 4. "A mistake," said the player. "I can play B takes Kt, winning a piece for nothing." Accordingly, the player's answer was B takes Kt. "What Bishop?" said Mr. Blackburne. "It has no power to do so. Its correct square is so and so," naming the square from which the Bishop had been moved. Again, Mr. Peguaro mentioned that in the middle of a blindfold performance in another English town Mr. Blackburne and his eight opponents were invited to adjourn for refreshments. During their absence from the chess-room the servants entered it, and, under the impression that the play was over, cleared the boards and put away the pieces in the boxes. Mr. Blackburne, on his return, was informed of what had happened. He called out the eight positions, and the games were continued. Finally, Mr. Peguaro stated that on one occasion, and in reply to a question about his extraordinary memory, Mr. Blackburne said that "it was a gift." He then gave the following reminiscence of his early life:—"When I was 13 years of age I was employed in a large and very busy warehouse in Manchester. It was my business to enter into a certain book a detailed account of every article that went out during the week, giving its number, price, quality, &c. At the end of the week I handed the book to the manager. One day I happened to leave the book at home, which was a good way from the warehouse. The manager was naturally very impatient to have it, wishing to know what had gone out during the previous week. 'What shall we do?' said he. I replied, 'I can remember them,' and then, much to the amazement of the manager, I called out every one of the articles that had gone out during the week, giving the number of each of them, its quality, and its price."

Game No. 226.

RUY LOPEZ.

WHITE. Mayet.	BLACK. Andersen.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—Kt to K B 3	2—Kt to Q B 3
3—B to Kt 5	3—B to B 4
4—P to B 3	4—Kt to B 3
5—B takes Kt	5—Q P takes B
6—Castles	6—B to K Kt 5
7—P to K R 3	7—P to K R 4
8—P takes B	8—P takes P
9—Kt takes P	9—P to Kt 6
10—P to Q 4	10—Kt takes P
11—Q to Kt 4	11—B takes P
12—Q takes Kt	12—B takes P ch.
13—R takes B	13—Q to Q 8 ch.

And Black mates in three more moves.

Macdonnell on Chess.

According to [illegible] Steinitz, by his annotations as [illegible] editor, has "lifted chess out of the empirical rut, and placed it on something like a scientific basis." The Rev. G. A. Macdonnell is of a different way of thinking. His view is that Mr. Steinitz's notes on games are "like the bucklers which certain soldiers heaped upon a Roman traitress, thereby crushing and killing her. Mr. Steinitz once said to some one, 'I am the most noted chess editor in the world!' 'You may be,' was the reply, 'but I think it would be better to call you the most *noting* chess editor.' Reduce chess to science—what a wonderful exaltation to effect." Mr. Macdonnell is happy, however, in "knowing that chess has not yet been so exalted or so reduced. It is a game, and it can never be anything else. The imaginative cannot be expunged from it by all the efforts of all the mathematical masters. Who read, much less studied, all Mr. Steinitz's notes in full? Probably the combatants whose games were the anatomist's subjects; and possibly, also, a few of the fanatics who believe that the more you read about chess the more you know of it."

Game No. 227.

STEINITZ GAMBIT.

WHITE. Taubenhaus.	BLACK. Halpern.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—Kt to Q B 3	2—Kt to Q B 3
3—P to K B 4	3—P takes P
4—P to Q 4	4—Q to R 5 ch.
5—K to K 2	5—P to Q 4
6—P takes P	6—B to Kt 5 ch.
7—Kt to B 3	7—B takes Kt ch.
8—P takes B	8—Q to K 2 ch.
9—K to Q 3	9—Kt to Kt 5 ch.
10—K to B 4	10—P to Q B 3
11—B to R 3	11—P takes P ch.
12—K to Kt 3	12—Kt to Q B 3
13—R to K sq.	13—Kt takes P ch.
14—Q takes Kt	14—Q takes R

And White mates in seven moves.

It is difficult, says the *Belfast News Letter*, to combat the wide-spread belief that for the acquisition of even a moderate degree of efficiency as a chess player both great natural aptitude and special mental gifts are required. Yet, in chess circles, the general experience is that so soon as any student of the game has mastered its rudiments, he begins to have an insight into the manifold beauties of chess science. He is thus stimulated to enrich his mind by diligent delving in the mine of chess literature. "As an old chess friend, who had attained the rank of a good third-rate player, was wont to say:—'You know that I never expect to be a first-class player; but I have reached the strength that enables me to enjoy the exhilarating and stimulating influence of the game; and with my own moderate powers I can relish its practice and its study just as much as if I held the rank of a great chess master.'"

CORRESPONDENCE.

Game No. 224.

To the Chess Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—In the notes appended to this game by Mr. Showalter, he says (note l.) that White threatened to win a piece by P to Q 5. This is not at all clear. Black replied 18—K to Kt sq., apparently to obviate the check. But had he played instead, P to B 5, what then? White advances the Q P as suggested, Black rejoins by Q to R 6, and White dare not capture the Kt because of the immediate mate threatened. How does he then win a piece?

Yours, etc.,

SHOGI.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[Reuter "Special" to "Japan Mail."]

London, March 3.

The Emperor of Russia is suffering from an attack of influenza and sore throat.

Ismail Pacha (ex-Khedive of Egypt) is dead.

Serious riots have occurred among the students of St. Petersburg. The rioters were dispersed by Cossacks, during which many persons were seriously injured. The riots were of a semi-political nature favouring liberalism.

London, March 4.

The United States Congress has finally agreed to join a Monetary Conference, and Mr. Speaker Crisp will be one of the delegates.

London, March 6.

Messrs. Fowler, Bannerman, and Asquith are laid up with influenza.

The English Cricket team in Australia [illegible] by six wickets.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Sunday, Mar. 10th.*
From Canada, &c.....	per C. P. R. Co.	Monday, Mar. 18th.†
From America	per O. & O. Co.	Sunday, Mar. 24th. ‡
From Europe, viâ Hongkong	per M. M. Co.	Sunday, Mar. 17th.§
From Hongkong	per P. M. Co.	Friday, Mar. 15th.‖
From Europe, viâ Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd	Wed'day, Mar. 20th.
From Hongkong	per C. P. R. Co.	Thursday, Mar. 28th.
From America	per P. M. Co.	Sunday, Mar. 31st.

* *Yvana* left Nagasaki on March 7th. † *Empress of China* left Vancouver on March 4th. ‡ *Gaelic* left San Francisco on March 5th. § *Calédonien* (with French mail) left Hongkong on March 8th. ‖ *City of Rio de Janeiro* left Hongkong on March 7th.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For Victoria, B.C., & Tacoma, Wash.....	per N. P. Co.	Tuesday, Mar. 12th.
For Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Saturday, Mar. 16th.
For America	per P. M. Co.	Saturday, Mar. 16th.
For Hongkong	per C. P. R. Co.	Monday, Mar. 18th.
For Europe, viâ Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd	Friday, Mar. 22nd.
For Europe, viâ Shanghai	per M. M. Co.	Saturday, Mar. 23rd.
For Canada, &c.	per C. P. R. Co.	Friday, Mar. 29th.
For America	per O. & O. Co.	Friday, Mar. 29th.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Carmarthenshire, British steamer, 1,775, D. Richards, 3rd March,—London viâ ports, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Ghazee, British steamer, 1,827, Bailey, 3rd March,—London viâ ports, General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Wm. H. Conner, American ship, 1,424, Pendleton, 3rd March,—New York 1st October, Petroleum.—Standard Oil Co.

Sydney, French steamer, 3,450, Garbe, 4th March,—Marseilles 20th January, Hongkong 22nd February, Shanghai 26th, Nagasaki 27th, and Kobe 3rd March, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

Salvadora, Spanish steamer, 978, 4th March,—Manila, Sugar.—Findlay, Richardson & Co.

Vera, British schooner, 62, W. Shields, 4th March,—Victoria, B.C., Sealing Gear.—J. G. Cox.

Dryfesdale, British steamer, 1,574, Geo. Contmer, 5th March,—New York viâ ports, General.—Frazar & Co.

Oceanic, British steamer, 3,808, W. M. Smith, 5th March,—San Francisco 12th February, viâ Honolulu 20th, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Vedra, British steamer, 1,764, R. H. Prout, 5th March,—Yokosuka 5th March, Ballast.

Admiral Kornilloff (18), Russian cruiser, Captain Elchaninoff, 6th March,—A cruise.

Patroclus, British steamer, 1,670, Robinson, 6th March,—Hongkong viâ ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Agnes MacDonald, British schooner, 107, M. Cutter, 6th March,—Victoria, B.C., Sealing Gear.—Captain.

E. B. Marvin, British schooner, 96, W. D. Byers, 6th March,—Victoria, B.C., Sealing Gear.—J. G. Cox.

Winchester, American schooner, 98, F. Johnson, 6th March,—San Francisco, Sealing Gear.—Captain.

Ixion, British steamer, 2,290, Nish, 7th March,—London viâ ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Belgic, British steamer, 2,695, Wm. H. Walker, 7th March,—Hongkong viâ ports 28th February, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Carradale, British steamer, 2,269, Sharp, 7th March,—Hongkong 27th February, Ballast.—Mitsui Bussan Kaisha.

Oanfa, British steamer, 1,970, 7th March,—London viâ ports, General.—W. M. Strachan & Co.

Casco, British schooner, 63, C. Le Blanc, 8th March,—Victoria, B.C., Sealing Gear.—T. M. Laffin.

Diana, British schooner, 64, Neilsen, 8th March,—Victoria, B.C., Sealing Gear.—T. M. Laffin.

Geneva, British schooner, 98, Wm. O'Leary, 8th March,—Victoria, B.C., Sealing Gear.—T. M. Laffin.

Idaetta, American schooner, W. O. Hughes, 8th March,—Seattle, Wash., Sealing Gear.—T. M. Laffin.

Ocean Belle, British schooner, 84, P. Martin, 8th March,—Victoria, B.C., Sealing Gear.—T. M. Laffin.

Viva, British schooner, 99, M. Pike, 8th March,—Victoria, B.C., Sealing Gear.—T. M. Laffin.

DEPARTURES.

Ancona, British steamer, 1,880, W. D. Mudie, 2nd March,—Hongkong viâ Kobe and Nagasaki, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Admiral Kornilloff (18), Russian cruiser, Captain Elchaninoff, 3rd March,—Target Practise.

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Felbridge, British steamer, 1,517, Stokes, 4th March,—Kobe, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.
Retriever, American schooner, 75, H. J. Snow, 5th March,—North Pacific, Sealing Gear.—T. M. Laffin.
Willard Ainsworth, American schooner, 40, E. E. Crockett, 5th March,—North Pacific, Sealing Gear.—A. O. Decker.
Ghazee, British steamer, 1,827, Bailey, 6th March,—Hongkong, General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.
Vedra, British steamer, 1,764, R. H. Prout, 6th March,—Otaru, Ballast.
Oceanic, British steamer, 3,808, W. M. Smith, 7th March,—Hongkong viâ Nagasaki Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.
Salvadora, Spanish steamer, 978, 7th March,—Manila, Ballast.—Flint Kilby & Co.
Sydney, French steamer, 3,450, Garbe, 9th March,—Shanghai viâ ports, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per French steamer *Sydney*, from Marseilles viâ ports:—Miss Annie Londonderry, Mr. S. Miyoshi, Mr. Maurice Brugnot, Miss Oshu Natsu, Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Chapman, Miss El. Adair and 3 gentlemen, M. Ganesco, Correspondent of the *Figaro*, Mr. and Mrs. T. H. Olmsted, and Mr. T. Holm in cabin, and 8 passengers in steerage.

Per British steamer *Oceanic*, from San Francisco:—For Honolulu:—Mrs. Captain Cotton, Major M. A. Higley, and Mrs. Higley in cabin. For Yokohama:—Mr. Sho Nemoto, Sir Tatton Sykes, Mr. Alfred E. Raymond, Mr. R. B. Cholmondeley, Mr. Henry Simonds, Mr. Fried, Mrs. Fried and child, Rev. Eugene Bell, Mrs. Bell, Mr. R. G. Robert, Mrs. E. S. Dundy, Miss Dundy, Mr. E. S. Dundy, Jun., Mrs. Dundy, Jun., Dr. S. W. Bushell, Mr. A. H. Littel, Mr. Hardenbrook, Miss Elsie Wetherell, Mr. H. Binley, and Mr. B. Kobayashi in cabin. For Hongkong:—Mr. E. Stanley Gibbons, Mrs. Gibbons, Mr. R. C. Leigh, Mrs. Leigh, Mr. Wm. C. How, Mr. Fung Nam Pak, and Rev. Alfred Iliff in cabin.

Per British steamer *Belgic*, from Hongkong viâ ports:—Mr. T. D. McKay, Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Mitchell and amah, Mr. Pritchet, Mr. G. J. Melhuish, and Mr. J. E. Genth in cabin. For San Francisco:—Mr. T. M. Boyd, Mr. F. Simmons, Mr. T. G. Gowland, Dr. L. Morris, U.S.N., and Lieut. W. A. Pickering, R.N.R. in cabin.

DEPARTED.

Per British steamer *Ancona*, for Hongkong viâ ports:—Mr. E. W. Steel, Mr. W. Wright, Mr. J. Collie, Mr. R. Fergusson Scott, M. l'Abbé A. Heinrich, Right Rev. C. M. Williams, D.D., Mr. Fong Kue, Mrs. F. J. Abbott, Mr. Tavenis, and Captain Symms, officers and crew of steamer *Cathay* in cabin, and one Japanese in steerage.

Per British steamer *Oceanic*, for Hongkong viâ Nagasaki:—Mr. James Miller, Miss T. Stewart, Mrs. H. Saunders, and Mr. T. Shibata in cabin.

Per French steamer *Sydney*, for Shanghai viâ ports:—Captain W. H. Crawford, Mrs. G. F. Elliott and family, Mr. B. Guggenheim, Mr. Joseph Straubli, Mr. J. Sieberman, Mr. E. J. Noble, Mr. C. Hegis, Mrs. Moutz, Mrs. Fickholm, Mr. Henry W. Andrews, Mr. A. Tai, Mr. A. Chun, Mr. Y. Sinting, Mr. and Mrs. Albert Barnes, Mr. C. H. Best, Mrs. Matsu, Dr. Albert Jondin, Mr. Naller, Mr. Itinis, Mr. Schræder, Comte Durand de la Penne, M. Boissonade de Fontarabie, Mrs. Federia, Mr. L. Gauthie, Mr. Tomitsu Okasaki, and Mr. K. Yamada in cabin, and one Japanese in steerage.

CARGOES.

Per British steamer *Ancona*, for Hongkong viâ ports:—Silk, 102 bales; Waste Silk, 51 bales.

Per French steamer *Sydney*, for Shanghai viâ ports:—Raw Silk for Europe, 254 bales; Waste Silk for Europe, 204 bales. Treasure for Shanghai, $6,500.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

Deplorably dull, with very few exceptions. Yarn—Some little business in double 42s at better prices; but all else unchanged. Grey Shirtings—These have fallen into a calm also. Fancies lifeless and Woollens dead.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirtings—8½ lb, 38½ yds. 30 inches	$2.25 to 2.90
Grey Shirtings—9lb, 38½ yds. 45 inches	2.50 to 3.25
T. Cloth—7lb, 24 yards, 32 inches	1.65 to 2.00
Indigo Shirtings—12 yards, 44 inches	1.70 to 2.35
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches	2.80 to 3.75
Cotton—Italians and Satteens Black, 32 inches	PER YARD. 0.16 to 0.[illegible]
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	PER PIECE. 7.25 to 9.50
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 2-3 inches	0.85 to 1.00
Turkey Reds—2.0 to 2.4 lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.65 to 1.75
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.85 to 2.05
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.30 to 2.60
Turkey Reds—4.8 to 5lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.80 to 3.20

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.
Flannel	$0.30 to 0.50
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches best	0.32½ to 0.37½
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Medium	0.27½ to 0.30
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Common	0.20 to 0.25
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.15 to 0.22½
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches	0.35 to 0.50
Cloths—Presidents, 54 @ 56 inches	0.60 to 0.65
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0.40 to 0.70
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 5lb. per lb	0.60 to 0.75

COTTON YARNS.

	PER PICUL.
Nos. 16/24, Ordinary	—
Nos. 16/24, Medium	$34.50 to 35.00
Nos. 16/24, Good to Best	35.50 to 36.50
Nos. 16/24, Reverse	—
Nos. 28/32, Ordinary	—
Nos. 28/32, Medium	36.00 to 36.50
Nos. 28/32, Good to Best	37.00 to 38.00
Nos. 38/42, Medium to Best	42.00 to 43.00
No. 32s, Two-fold	40.00 to 42.00
No. 42s, Two-fold	44.00 to 47.00

	PER BALE.
No. 20s, Bombay	—
No. 28s, Bombay	—

METALS.

Some little business doing, but there is no life in the market; prices unchanged but tending in favour of buyers.

	PER PICUL.
Flat Bars, ½ inch	$3.60 to 3.65
Flat Bars, ¼ inch	3.65 to 3.70
Round and square up to ½ inch	3.60 to 3.75
Iron Plates, assorted	3.70 to 3.85
Sheet Iron	4.90 to 5.10
Galvanized Iron sheets	8.50 to 9.00
Wire Nails, assorted	6.00 to 6.25
Tin Plates, per box	6.00 to 6.25
Pig Iron, No. 3	1.70 to 1.72½

KEROSENE.

Still no business. Holders are firm, and it is probable that buyers will have to pay up in the near future. Stock has been increased about 50,000 cases by the arrival of the *Wm. H. Connor* from New York.

American	$1.82½ to 1.85
Russian	1.85 to 1.87½

SUGAR.

Brown—Arrivals and sales about equal in amount. Prices are lower for all except Manila, which is a trifle firmer. White—The inaction has given way to a good enquiry, and purchases have been freely made at a rise in quotations.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Takao	$3.50 to 3.60
Brown Manila	4.25 to 4.50
Brown Daitong (New)	3.40 to 3.50
Brown Canton	3.50 to 3.90
White Java and Penang	6.50 to 6.75
White Refined	6.50 to 9.00

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Rather more inclination for business on the part of shippers; but holders are firm and this stops the trade as exporters want a turn in price. Good qualities are scarce at present, and owners believe they can hold values where they are at least until "Spring Reelings" make their appearance.

QUOTATIONS.

Hanks—No. 1	—
Hanks—No. 1 (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 2 (Oshu)	—
Hanks—No. 2½ (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 2½ (Joshu)	—
Hanks—No. 2½ to 3	—
Hanks—No. 3	—
Hanks—No. 3½	—
Filatures—Extra 10/12 deniers	Nom. —
Filatures—Extra 13/15 deniers	Nom. —
Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers	$850 to 870
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den	850 to 860
Filatures—No. 1½, 10/14 deniers	820 to 830
Filatures—No. 1½, 13/16, 14/17 den.	820 to 830
Filatures—No. 2, 10/13 deniers	730 to 790
Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	780 to 790
Filatures—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	—
Re-reels—Extra	—
Re-reels—(Oshu) Best No. 1	—
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 deniers	810 to 820
Re-reels—No. 1½, 13/16, 14/17 deniers	780 to 790
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	740 to 760
Re-reels—No. 2½, 14/18 deniers	—
Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	—
Kakedas—Extra	—
Kakedas—No. 1	Nom. 780
Kakedas—No. 1½	Nom. 750 to 760
Kakedas—No. 2	Nom. 710 to 720
Kakedas—No. 2½	—
Kakedas—No. 3	—
Kakedas—No. 3½	—
Kakedas—No. 4	—
Oshu Sendai—No. 2½	—
Hamatsuki—No. 1, 2	—
Hamatsuki—No. 3, 4	—
Sodai—No. 2½	—

WASTE SILK.

Small business (less than 100 piculs a day). Holders ask more than shippers are willing to pay, and so nothing much is done.

QUOTATIONS.—(NEW WASTE.)

Pierced Cocoons—Good to Best	—
Noshi-ito—Filature, Best	$130 to 135
Noshi-ito—Filature, Good	120 to 125
Noshi-ito—Filature, Medium	110 to 115
Noshi-ito—Oshu, Good to Best	120 to 130
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Best	—
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Good	80 to 90
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Medium	—
Noshi-ito—Bushu, Good to Best	100 to 115
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Best	—
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Good	70 to 75
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Ordinary	60 to 65
Kibiso—Filature, Best selected	100 to 110
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds	90 to 95
Kibiso—Oshu, Good to Best	—
Kibiso—Shinshu, Best	—
Kibiso—Shinshu, Seconds	—
Kibiso—Joshu, Good to Fair	30 to 27½
Kibiso—Joshu, Middling to Common	25 to 22½
Kibiso—Hachioji, Good to Fair	25 to 23
Kibiso—Hachioji, Medium to Low	22 to 20
Kibiso—Neri, Good to Common	12 to 8
Mawata—Good to Best	—

TEA.

There have been no settlements lately. Stock of old leaf (very poor selection) is below 1,000 piculs, and there is no chance of any business before New Crop. If the present spring-like weather continues we ought to see hand musters of garden grown Teas before the end of the current month.

EXCHANGE.

Rates have been fairly steady.

Sterling—Bank T.T.	1/11½
— — Bills on demand	1/11½
— — 4 months' sight	1/11½
— Private 4 months' sight	1/11½
— — 6 months' sight	2/0
On Paris—Bank sight	2.45
On Lyons—Private 4 months' sight	2.51
On Hongkong—Bank sight	½% p.
— Private 10 days' sight	½% d.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	71½
— Private 10 days' sight	72½
On India—Bank sight	182
— Private 30 days' sight	184½
On America—Bank Bills on demand	47½
— Private 30 days' sight	48½
— — 4 months' sight	49½
On Germany—Bank sight	50
— Private 4 months' sight	1.98
Bar Silver (London)	2.04

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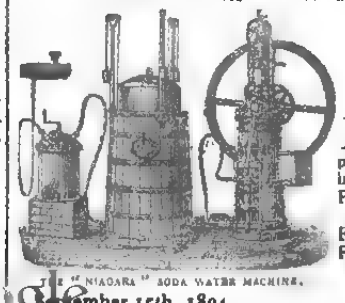
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Printed and Published for the PROPRIETOR at 51, Main Street, Settlement, by JAMES ELLACOTT BEALE, of No. 58, Bluff, Yokohama.—SATURDAY, March 9, 1895.

The Japan Weekly Mail.

A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

No. 11.] REGISTERED AT THE G.P.O. AS A NEWSPAPER. YOKOHAMA, MARCH 16TH, 1895. 月三年五十二治明 可認書信郵日十三 VOL. XXII.

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, MARCH 16TH, 1895.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

THE Diet will probably close on the 25th inst.

H.I.H. THE CROWN PRINCE has been suffering from a severe cold.

A BICYCLE-TRACK will shortly be added to the athletic resources of Kobe.

THE renegade Howie is now a prisoner in Japan. He is said to be very despondent.

COUNT MATUSKATA has been summoned to a private audience with the Emperor.

THE weather has turned cold again, and sleet and snow fell in Yokohama on Thursday.

A CHINAMAN of Yokohama committed suicide by shooting himself with a revolver on the 7th instant.

THE Hawaiian Government has intimated its intention of hiring some skilled Japanese gardeners.

SATURDAY, May 4th, will probably see the first sailing-race of the season for the Yokohama Sailing Club.

THE concert given in the Public Hall on Tuesday in aid of the funds of the Convent proved a marked success.

VISCOUNT AKIMOTO, a Minister Resident, has been promoted Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary.

Two destructive fires have occurred in Tsesaki-cho, Yokohama, and its neighbourhood during the past week. Forty houses were burnt on the first occasion, and about fifty on the second.

THE Nagoya-Kiso Section on the Kansai Railway will shortly be completed. It will be opened for traffic in April next.

WORK on the Tokyo Waterworks, which was suspended for sometime owing to the frost, was recommenced on the 11th inst.

MR. WATANABE, Minister of Finance had sufficiently recovered from his indisposition to attend business on the 13th inst.

THE Yokohama Specie Bank has declared a dividend of 15 per cent., and carried forward *yen* 26,620,512 to the new account.

Kobe has sent invitation to Yokohama to compete in four races in the Southern Port's Regatta, fixed for Queen's Birthday.

THE *Akashi Kan* (a sister ship of the *Suma Kan*) now being constructed at Yokosuka, will be completed in the spring of 1897.

NOBLE work is being done by the Yokohama Jizen-kai in taking care of disabled military coolies at its hospital at Negishi free of charge.

DURING a severe gale on the 9th inst. fire broke out at Iwamura in the neighbourhood of Odawara, destroying thirty houses; two others were damaged.

THE crew of the *George Peabody*, a sealing schooner which has been wrecked off Ishinomaki, Kinkasan, arrived in Yokohama on Wednesday.

THE Spring Regatta of the Yokohama Amateur Rowing Club is fixed for May 11th. The formal opening of season takes place on the last Saturday in March.

THE whole of the Odawara-Atami Tramway will be completed before the close of next month. The section between Odawara and Enoura is finished.

THE Russian Legation in Tokyo is now undergoing repairs, and the Russian Minister will reside at No. 142, Bluff, Yokohama, until the work is completed.

AMERICAN and Canadian sealing-schooners are now arriving in Yokohama nearly every day. Many get fresh supplies of food and water and then put out to sea again.

THE Spring training of the Nippon Race Club commenced on Monday. A goodly number of ponies appeared on the course, and everything points to a good meeting in May.

THE Chinese Peace Envoy will be received at Shimonoseki. The Viceroy's suite will include, Lord Li, once Chinese Minister to Japan; Mr. Foster and Mr. Pethick, both American advisers.

THE Imperial Life Assurance Company of Tokyo have issued 35,332 policies the value of *yen* 10,589,700. Seventy-three subscribers died last year involving the payment of *yen* 21,600.

SMALL-POX of an epidemic nature has made its appearance in Tokyo, where seven or eight cases were reported between the 1st and 5th inst.; twenty-five cases were reported in Chiba Prefecture.

A GRAND religious service took place at the parade ground in Hiroshima on the 10th inst. In memory of the men killed during the present war, the ceremony being carried out by more than one hundred priests.

THE Osaka Mint struck coins to the following amount during last month:—5 *yen* gold pieces, *yen* 140,000; 1-*yen* silver pieces, *yen* 830,000; 20-*sen* silver pieces, *yen* 387,441; 10-*sen* silver pieces, *yen* 600,331.

REUTER telegraphs:—The Duc de Chartres instituted legal proceedings against his son, Prince Henry of Orleans. He accused his son of excessive extravagance, and asked to be appointed his guardian. The Court gave a verdict against the Prince, who did not appear in court, and deprived him of the management of his property. Lord Rosebery is recovering from this indisposition. A train containing pilgrims, in consequence of an accident, plunged over a precipice in Mexico, the result being the death of about one hundred people, and serious injuries to ninety others. A debate has been held in the Reichstag on the naval estimates, the Government strongly insisting upon an increase in the number of cruisers, to enable them fittingly protect German trade and German subjects and to watch their interests, especially in China and Japan. The cost of four cruisers was voted by a large majority.

THERE is a much better feeling in the Import trade, which is said to be the precursor of an improvement on recent conditions. This can hardly be the outcome of the pending proceedings for peace between China and Japan, as no great faith is attached to the ability of Li Hung-chang to effect an arrangement whereby a cessation of hostilities will be secured and a treaty of peace be signed, notwithstanding the rumour that the Chinese Authorities are in full possession of the requirements of the Japanese Government, and are prepared to concede the main points of the Japanese demands. That peace would give an immense impetus to trade there can be no question, though it has already been found that Japan's trade has not only not suffered the check that was predicted on account of the war, but its total volume in money value in 1894 was very nearly 30 per cent. over that of the preceding year. There have been a few sales of Yarns, all counts participating, fine and double having been sold for more money, while Grey Shirtings have seen quite a revival, and considerable sales have been effected. T.-Cloths and Lawns have also been freely taken at full rates. Other fabrics are quiet. The Metal trade has improved, the principal articles in demand being Iron Bars and Plates, of which a good quantity has been moved off. There have been no sales of Kerosene, but holders are stronger than ever, and buyers still hold off, though they must shortly be forced into the market. There has been considerable activity in the Sugar trade, and Takao sorts have fetched an advance; while a large business in Whites has reduced the stock and left the market strong at better rates for the best brands. The Silk market has been fairly steady, and a good demand for the States has resulted in fairly large settlements, Lyons also coming into the market for a fair share. The stock is now reduced to manageable dimensions, no spring reelings having yet been sent in. Waste Silk has hardly been touched, and the big stock of 14,000 piculs still awaits customers. Nothing to be said about the new Tea crop, further than that March commenced with strong "budding" which has probably been checked by the late change in the weather. The season was expected to be early, but will probably commence about the average date. The past season's export was 29½ million pounds, against 28½ millions the previous year. Exchange had [illegible] days, but towards the end of the week a slight rise in rates took place, and these [illegible]

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THE SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS DURING THE WEEK.

As might be expected, the Viceroy Li's Mission occupies the leading place in the columns of the Vernacular Press. Several telegrams received from Shanghai during the week, have led the Tokyo journals to attach much greater importance to the Peace Mission than they were disposed to attach to it originally. The old Chinese statesman himself is spoken about in terms less flippant, and his true character and merits are recognized. It is to be observed, however, that some journals still declare in unequivocal terms that peace is an impossibility until the flag of the Rising Sun floats over the walls of Pekin. It is pleasant to note, however, that the Viceroy is no longer called bad names, or stigmatized as a political and diplomatic rogue ready, even now when his country is in a perilous condition, to play a tricky rôle with the object of inducing European Powers to intervene as peace-makers between Japan and China. As for the terms of peace, the vernacular journals advance nothing new. Since, however, they attach importance to the present Embassy, they state their idea of the terms more definitely than heretofore. The *Mainichi* believes that the Chinese Court has given Li full powers to negotiate with the Japanese Commissioners as regards the independence of Korea, the payment of a war indemnity, and the cession of a portion of territory. With respect to Korean independence, the Progressionist organ is of opinion that it cannot, properly speaking, constitute a condition of peace, seeing that Korea was independent long before the war broke out. According to the *Mainichi*, the opinion that, should China declare her inability to cede any portion of her continental territory, an enormous indemnity may be demanded and its payment secured by material guarantees, finds favour with a section of the Japanese nation. Against that view our contemporary enters a warm protest, ridiculing its advocates as blind to the prolific germs of foreign interference that it embodies; interference that might eventually endanger the existing order of things in the whole Orient and fatally check the rise of Japanese power, influence, and civilization. The *Mainichi* warmly advocates the idea of annexing a part of continental China, not merely for the two usually advanced reasons—to secure the independence of Korea and to assure the maintenance of peace in the East—but also for two others, viz., that it would be contrary to the principles of humanity to suffer the Chinese in the newly occupied districts to fall again under the barbarous rule of China, and that it would be regrettable in the interests of the Chinese in general if, after the war, they did not have enlightened Japanese near them to instruct them in the sciences and arts of civilization. The *Kokkai's* terms are these :—

1. To make China renounce all claims upon Korea.

2. To make China cede to Japan Formosa and the neighbouring islands, as well as the whole, or at any rate the more important portion of Manchuria.

3. To make China pay an indemnity large enough to cover all the loss and damage incurred by Japan.

4. To require that the two Provinces of Kiangsu and Chihkiang be temporarily occupied by Japan as guarantee for the payment of the indemnity.

5. During the temporary occupation of the two Provinces mentioned in the above clause, two Japanese Army Divisions should be stationed there at the expense of China.

The *Yomiuri* deems it important that the Japanese Commissioners, who are to meet the Viceroy Li as peace negotiators, should hear the Chinese terms before submitting their own demands. The Progressionist organ's reasons for this recommendation are two :—

1. From the character of China's proposals, it will be possible to infer how far she appreciates the superior military strength of Japan.

2. The Chinese Envoy, being required to declare his terms first, may be prevented from returning [illegible] with a knowledge of the Japanese terms [illegible] employ them as the ground of [illegible] appealing to foreign Courts for intervention in China's favour.

* * *

The *Niroku* has an article in which the inspection of food and drink, especially beef, cow's milk, and *saké*, is urged upon the Police Authorities as calling for more attention. Our contemporary asserts that frequent visits of inspection should be paid to the smaller grog-shops for the purpose of examining their stock. Numerous imitations of *saké* are manufactured with imported alcohol to evade the regular tax, and these imitations being usually cheaper and stronger than the genuine Japanese rice-wine, do much harm to the lower classes. As to milk, which, the *Niroku* tells us, often contains admixtures detrimental to health, our contemporary suggests a peculiar and most unpractical method of inspection; namely, to catch the milk-boys on their way to their customers and to examine the contents of their cans on the spot.

* * *

The *Shoygo Shimpo* has a long leader on "Japan's Foreign Trade." We reproduce its gist :—Never was Japanese foreign trade as prosperous as during the last year. In money value the foreign trade of 1894 was *yen* 230,728,041, which is *yen* 52,758,004 more than the figures for the previous year. That represents a percentage of nearly 30 per cent., a rate of progress never before attained. In the case of certain articles the war has done some injury to the foreign trade, but on the whole it has exercised very little influence. The chief exports that showed an increase were :—

	1894 (in *yen*).	1893 (in *yen*).
Rugs	1,134,073	391,988
Coal and Coal dust	6,578,460	4,817,912
Cotton-cloths	1,639,285	828,392
Matches	3,795,635	3,537,974
Matting	1,965,493	1,723,382
Paper	303,795	201,369
Peppermint-oil	242,769	121,697
Rice	5,595,398	5,002,767
Raw silk	39,353,156	28,167,411
Coarse silk	1,632,211	1,591,581
Refuse silk	1,576,381	1,201,182
Habutae	7,254,478	3,553,604
Wheat-straw braid	743,399	378,349
Green teas (*a*)	6,430,902	6,350,431
Green teas (*b*)	1,138,286	1,069,939
Powdered teas	248,014	195,596
Other teas	113,082	86,119
Tobacco leaves	259,675	65,768
Umbrellas	746,068	589,272
Copper	3,101,319	2,535,409
Wood-wax	562,135	383,766
Miscellaneous	7,933,012	5,557,641

As is apparent in the above table, the greatest increase in the export trade of 1894 was in the case of raw silk, of which the value of the quantity sent abroad exceeded that for 1893 by as much as 11,000,000 *yen*. The articles of import showing an increase were as follow :—

	1894 (in *yen*.)	1893 (in *yen*.)
Cotton	19,103,923	15,294,898
Sateen	1,266,151	855,398
Unbleached muslin	2,935,034	2,315,124
Bleached muslin	337,607	168,305
Cotton yarn	7,977,366	7,284,242
Hemp	537,925	326,337
Flour	641,930	322,641
Iron	743,553	446,477
Iron bars and rods	1,339,034	975,787
Iron plates	889,185	456,644
Iron nails	1,333,150	888,430
Kerosene oil	5,135,332	4,401,041
Leather and hides	880,623	652,635
Railway cars and appendages	1,735,373	509,391
Machinery	4,201,694	2,779,957
Oil-tanks	822,195	599,893
Iron and steel rails	1,209,205	667,108
Rice	8,413,148	3,254,842
Cotton and silk satin	235,505	111,687
Boilers and appendages	215,155	157,957
Steel	362,366	296,012
White sugar	8,689,748	7,937,305
Brown sugar	4,551,848	3,514,720
Velvets	1,759,796	1,489,305
Camlets	3,150,823	2,305,506
Miscellaneous	22,976,375	11,859,398

On the other hand, among articles whose import and export showed considerable decrease during 1894, we have :—Alcohol, beans and peas, cotton wool, figured muslin, mats, flannel, blankets and woollen cloth, pottery and porcelain, crude camphor, unrefined copper, fans, dried cuttle-fish, salmon and cod-fish, isinglass, shrimps, *kombu*, and silk-handkerchiefs. The *Shogyo Shimpo* has not yet finished the article. It has merely given a series of tables upon which it promises to comment subsequently. We shall refer to the subject in our next weekly summary.

* * *

The *Jiji* is still anxious about Korean matters. It states in confident tones that no reform, political or social, can be accomplished by the Koreans themselves. The Japanese should not be afraid of being accused by Western people of interfering too much with Korean affairs, for none but Japanese can pave the way to Korean reform and civilization.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

RUSSO-JAPANESE COMMERCE.

MR. SAKUMA TEIICHI, manager of the Shuyeisha printing office and one of the most influential merchants in Tokyo, has, according to the *Mainichi*, met the Russian Lieutenant-General (retired) now visiting the capital as commercial commissioner of the Russian Government for the purpose of inspecting Japan's commercial condition with a view to providing against the opening of the Siberian trunk railway. The General was greatly pleased to see Mr. Sakuma, and had a great deal to say on the subject of the future of Russo-Japanese commerce. He regretted to observe that although numerous articles were exported from Japan to Russia, they were all sent through English or French merchants. Such a state of affairs ought not to be allowed to continue, especially now that the opening of the Siberian railway will increase the importance of commercial relations between Russia and Japan. Sulphuric acid is one of Russia's chief imports and has been thus far supplied by other European countries, but as it is produced abundantly in Japan, it might be exported to Russia from this country. The same remarks apply to sulphur. Again, in recent years Japanese wares have been greatly in demand as Christmas gifts, and a Japanese merchant enterprising enough to go to Russia with a quantity of Japanese articles would do good business. Unless the Japanese are on the alert, the Siberian railway, when opened, will simply benefit European merchants. The fact that a special space will be set apart for Japanese wares in the Domestic Exhibition to be held in Russia in April of next year, proves how desirous that country is to encourage commerce between herself and Japan. Mr. Sakuma has promised to accompany the Russian guest to the various industrial establishments in Oji and Senju and also to fancy-ware factories of note. The members of the Tokyo Chamber of Commerce contemplate inviting the Commissioner to the Maple Club to hear his views with regard to commerce between the two countries.

YOUTHFUL PATRIOTS.

HORIUCHI KOMAKICHI, a school-master in Kamitakai District, Shinshiu, has contributed 6.92 *yen* to the War Fund, the subscription being of an exceptional character. It was furnished entirely by between 30 and 40 pupils that attend the little village school of which Mr. Horiuchi is the teacher. The letter accompanying the contribution says that the master, desirous of educating his little pupils in a less mechanical manner than that now prevalent in most educational institutions, started a few years ago in a little village of Kamitakai a night school, modelled partly on the old *terakoya* system and partly on the new method. His undertaking has been attended with such success that although there are less than 80 families in the village, his night school is attended by over 30 pupils. It was usual for the pupils to bring a small sum every fall as a *seibo* or New Year's gift, but last year the master strictly forbade the children to bring any such present, telling them that they should instead contribute something

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to the Relief Fund for the families of soldiers and military coolies. They were enjoined not to bother their parents for the money, but to obtain it by their own work. The pupils were delighted at the idea and set to work in earnest, the boys twisting rope or making sandals and the girls spinning cotton yarn or weaving straw mats. They saved whatever money they received at the New Year to add to the sum. At the commencement of March they were told to bring in their contributions, which they did, each one wrapping his or her share in a piece of paper with the name of the donor written on it. On adding up the money the master found that it amounted to no less than 6.92 *yen*, or nearly 20 *sen* per head. He praised his little pupils highly and thanked them with tears in his eyes for their act of self-denial and true patriotism. This is not the only instance of the kind. The nation is indeed united in furthering the cause of the war.

THE HABUTAYE INDUSTRY IN FUKUI.

THE *Fiji Shimpo* gives the following interesting particulars of the extraordinary development of this industry in Fukui Prefecture:—The progress which has been made of late years in the manufacture of *habutaye* for export is marvellous, and the rapid strides of its development in Fukui are shown by the following table:—

Year.	No. of *Hiki*.*	Value—*yen*.
1888	7,154	53,624
1889	44,672	406,641
1890	87,224	748,190
1891	186,286	1,378,770
1892	414,415	2,838,914
1893	409,980	3,534,421
1894	571,993	5,076,127

As will be seen by the above table, the outturn of *habutaye* in Fukui last year was no less than 571,993 pieces of the value of above five million *yen*, this result having been obtained in the short space of eight years. The total value of the *habutaye* exported last year was 7½ millions, so that Fukui looms produced more than two-thirds of the *habutaye* exported. The present prospect of an increase in the manufacture of this article are decidedly bright, it being in good request abroad, especially in the United States, and it is hoped that in a few years this cloth may be exported to the annual value of 10 millions of *yen*. The following table shows the number of looms and weavers in Fukui in the years named:—

Year.	Looms.	Weavers.
1889	2,037	no returns
1890	2,900	2,907
1891	3,765	4,762
1892	12,174	10,970
1893	12,061	8,743
1894	12,519	11,835

Although weaving may be said to have been properly started in Fukui only about eight years ago, a few French looms existed there as far back as 1875, and about that time the Tsuruga Kencho sent a man and a woman to Kyoto as learners. These two persons returned the following year and started to make umbrella cloth, and in the following year a company was started and several looms set up. Then figured handkerchief cloth was produced for the first time in Fukui, and as this and the umbrella cloth business continued to prosper, a number of people went into the business, so that the looms increased to 200 in 1885 in Fukui alone. Up to this time the output at Fukui had been limited to umbrella cloth and handkerchiefs, and the consequence was that, with greatly increased powers of production the market for these articles soon become overstocked, the supply being much greater than the demand. It being apparent that some other article would have to be made if the looms were to be kept going, in 1887, a few weavers were brought from Kiriyu to teach the manufacture of *habutaye* to the Fukui weavers, and this was the beginning of the trade in that article which has now grown to such extraordinary dimensions. The work, being easily learned, spread rapidly, and there is now scarcely a village in the prefecture in which the sound of the loom may not be heard. Yet little of the silk used in the manufacture of *habutaye* is grown in Fukui—not more than 17 per cent., but nearly three-quarters of a million pounds of silk are consumed to produce the present output and most of this fibre is taken off the Yokohama market. There are 12,000 girls engaged in the weaving industry in Fukui, each of whom can weave from 3 to 11 *hiki* (pieces of 21½ English yards). The price paid is 50 *sen* per piece, and as an ordinary worker turns out 5 or 6 pieces a month, the pay is generally 2.50 to 3 *yen*. Girls commence weaving at 13 to 16 years of age and generally are sufficiently adept to become ordinary weavers in six months. By the above figures, the export of *habutaye* will be seen to be in the front rank of the products of Japan, and as the demand for it is rapidly increasing in America the maximum has not yet been reached. It consequently behoves the manufacturers to see that good material and workmanship are maintained, and improvements introduced into such a flourishing industry, as anything in the form of deterioration would have a most injurious effect upon an export that will certainly yet attain to still much greater dimensions.

* One *hiki* is a piece 25 yards in length.

A LITTLE PATRIOT.

THERE is in Honolulu at present, says a vernacular contemporary, a little Japanese boy, about twelve years old, who has quite recently won for himself unexpected fame. The son of poor parents, he amassed by diligence sufficient money to defray his passage to the Hawaiian Islands, and once there, immediately set about contriving some means to pay for his own keep and schooling. He soon got employment as a carrier or distributor of newspapers, and in this manner earned enough to feed and clothe himself as well as to get four or five hours of schooling daily. By dint of the utmost frugality the little fellow managed to scrape together the sum of five *yen*, and he has recently contributed this amount to the Red Cross Fund, expressing his regret at being unable to send more. Subsequent inquiries have elicited the fact that the boy is a really exceptional character; and his self-denial in sending the five *yen* to the Fund is known to be so great that the interest of the President of the Red Cross in Japan has been aroused in Japan. There are few who show such persistence in well-doing as this little fellow has done, who is a worthy son of Japan.

A NOVEL SCHEME.

WE all know, remarks the *Yomiuri Shimbun* with satirical emphasis, what a very stupid people the Chinese are, and here we have a remarkable instance of this fact. A Nanking Correspondent of the *China Gazette*, writing under date of February 25th, gives the details of an "excellent scheme for the annihilation of the Japanese." It appears that the Governor of Nanking recently issued a proclamation ordering all those under his jurisdiction to devise some scheme for the destruction of the Japanese. Shortly after the appearance of this well-meant decree a certain sage of high repute and supposed to be the possessor of a clear judgment, came to the Governor's *Yamén*, bringing with him a memorial, containing several thousand ideographs, on the subject of the proclamation. The learned scholar assured His Excellency that there could be no doubt of a successful issue if only his plan were adopted. The scheme was indeed a remarkable one. Every soldier, advised the sage, should be armed with a sword, a long bamboo pole, and a bucket of water! The pole and the bucket should be held with the left hand, while the sword was grasped by the right. On charging down upon upon the foe, the buckets should be hurled at the opposing ranks, so as to wet their powder and render their guns useless. The bamboo-poles should then be thrust between the legs of the enemy and given a twist, which would cause the Japanese to topple over in confusion. After that it would be an easy matter to finish off the dripping and prostrate foe with swords. The Governor on perusing the memorial was astonished at the absurdity of the plan and drove the pseudo-sage from his presence in a fit of rage. This story, concludes the *Yomiuri*, sounds so improbable that one might think it only the invention of witty writer; we however, good authority, besides that of the *China Gazette*, for knowing that it is authentic.

A MODEL HOST.

COUNT TOKUGAWA SATOMICHI is spoken of in terms of warm praise by the metropolitan press for the manner in which he has looked after the physical and mental well-being of a number—eighteen, all told—of soldiers of the Imperial Guard, who, until quite recently, were most comfortably lodged in the Count's fine residence in Kagacho, Ushigome District. The men were billeted there for some two or three months, and on each day of this period it was their host's kindly custom to send out to the best restaurants in that neighbourhood and get them the nicest and most palatable food procurable. Nor was this all. The news of each fresh triumph of the Japanese arms was celebrated in befitting style, with speech-making, wine, and general patriotic jollity, the leader of the revels being the Count himself. Each day he would come and talk with his delighted guests and tell them tales of heroic deeds in ancient and modern times; talk to them about the duty they owed to Japan, and impress them with the fact that they were the offspring of a warrior-nation. He lent them books on military subjects and such as were calculated to inspire their martial enthusiasm—in a word did everything possible to prepare them for the call to active duty. When that call came, the soldiers were more than ready. They were, they declared, unable to express in words the gratitude they felt for their host's most solicitous kindliness; they hoped, however, to repay him in part by their exploits in the field, and vowed that they would yet make him happy, with the laurels they should earn in his name. How vast the changes in this country! Count Tokugawa is a scion of that family which, for three centuries, was supreme in Japan. Less than three decades ago his immediate ancestors were waging a civil war with the Imperialists; less than thirty years ago saw the last Shogun dethroned and exiled from Yedo. And yet this nobleman is now a loyalist and patriot in the best and truest sense; and bids those whose fathers helped to dethrone his sires, fight for that Emperor who commands the fervent, deathless love of all Japanese. It is a picture without a parallel; one of history's most absorbing, most surprising pages.

A LITTLE GIRL'S LETTER.

IN a recent issue the *Yomiuri Shimbun* gives unusual prominence to a letter written by a little girl of fifteen to her elder brother, a soldier with the Second Army, a private of the name of Nishikawa Yasutaro. It is impossible to imagine anything more artless and childishly innocent than the original, which necessarily loses a great deal of its attractiveness in a translated form. Our contemporary reproduces the letter on its first page as a sample of the missives sent by Japanese women to their relatives afield. There is no doubt that it has the right ring: an echo of that old *samurai* spirit which Japan claims as peculiarly her own. But to foreign eyes the letter has a double interest in view of the fact that the gentle writer is supporting her parents unaided, while the brother is fighting against the enemies of his country. Little Miss Tono must be an exceptional young lady, one who deserves every word of the *Yomiuri's* unstinted praise. The letter is throughout written in *kana*, showing that the writer is wholly without education except of the most primary sort. But the words spring from the depths of a loving loyal heart, which is better than all the iams and elogies of the century. "Dear brother," writes little Tono, "with your departure we lost a pillar on which we could depend. In my weak way I try to play your part, now that you have gone, and faithfully serve our parents. Do not

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have, I hear, conquered in many places, capturing many guns and much ammunition. We people at home are very glad to hear of this. His Majesty the Emperor is well satisfied with the exertions of the Army and Navy, and out of sympathy with the hard life you soldiers lead, is, I hear, living in a very frugal style at Hiroshima. The papers say that Japan is three times as strong as China, the power of the former being proved by her invincibility on the sea as well as on the land. We have heard about the gate-opening at Phyŏng-yang. Even little children of three or four years now go about singing that song *Ute ya susume ya Shinkoku wo!* (This is the refrain of one of the military ballads composed shortly after the outbreak of the war.) People say that Li Hung-chang is so frightened that he longs for peace more than for any other thing. The Chinese Emperor is not less scared and is going to fly from Pekin. Some of his subjects are trying to dethrone him. These facts show that there is not one loyal heart in China. On the other hand, our great Emperor is so benevolent that he takes much interest in the welfare of the families of the soldiers abroad. Indeed, you need never be anxious about us. March on bravely! Let all the world see how courageous the Japanese are! Don't let yourself be outdone by others in pressing forwards boldly. This is the best way to cheer our parents. If you think only of saving your own life, then you will be able to do nothing for our Emperor and our country. Yet you must not merely die; if you must fall, let it be in the midst of some heroic exploit. Every day and night I pray to the gods about these things. I repeat, dear, brother, you need not worry about us at home. I have much more to tell you, but will save the rest for another letter.—Your loving sister, Tono. Mukumoto-mura, Ise."

HAKODATE.

Since June last year, many complaints have been made regarding the non receipt of letters posted at this port, and every endeavour to trace the missing correspondence proved futile till a few nights ago, when a thief was discovered in the act of opening one of the street pillar letter boxes with false keys; but before the policeman close by could lay hands on him he made his escape, leaving behind his *geta*. The foot-gear together with the fact that lately a great number of postage stamps had been sold by a certain person, gave the police a clue which led to the detection and arrest of the thief, a man named Aoyagi Morimasa, 35, who came to Hakodate from Akita with the avowed object of starting on a sealing expedition. He is believed to have collected some money in Hakodate by means of P.O. orders from letters, and this with the sale of stolen stamps allowed him to live pretty comfortably. The case has been committed to the local Court.

MEDICAL SCIENCE IN JAPAN.

Foreigners are apt to attribute the wonderful progress achieved by Japan within the short space of time that has elapsed since the opening of the country, to the power of clever imitation possessed by the Japanese and to ignore the originality with which the people of this country are endowed. To say nothing of the discoveries and inventions of ancient times, observes the *Mainichi*, writing on the point in question, a few prominent examples of what has been originated in late years will suffice to prove that the Japanese people are capable of something greater than imitation. The investigations of Drs. Kitazato and Aoyama of the Hongkong plague last year, and their discovery of its cause are among the most recent instances that may be mentioned in this connection. The services that have been rendered to the human race by Dr. Kitazato are indeed very great, and what he has thus far accomplished toward the diminution of its miseries entitle him to a place in the history of the benefactors of mankind. He is constantly making new experiments and investigations. Besides his treatment of consumptive patients, he is now engaged in administering the diphtheria serum, discovered by him in conjunction with a distinguished doctor whom he studied some years ago under Dr. Koch. The new treatment is both preventive and remedial. Thirty-four patients have been treated according to this new method with the most satisfactory result. It is true that three of them died, but that was because the treatment was not applied in time. Dr. Kitazato is also engaged in experimenting on lepers, the disease having been proved to be epidemic. He has three of these patients in his hospital, whom he has already fairly cured, his extraordinary bacteriological knowledge being of the greatest use to him. It is quite probable therefore that a complete method of curing the disease will sooner or later be worked out by the renowned Doctor. The fame achieved by Dr. Kitazato in the field of medical science is a national glory, and it is a matter of great satisfaction that the Diet has voted unanimously the appropriation of a sum to be devoted to the laboratory superintended by him.

A MISTAKE SOMEWHERE.

The *Miyako Shimbun* has an amusing story to tell of the mishap that recently befell a well-to-do merchant in Tokyo. About a month ago the merchant's wife died quite suddenly, leaving two young children to the care of her husband. He speedily engaged an elderly nurse for the two little ones, and would frequently talk with her about the children. She advised him to remarry at once; he must do so sooner or later, she declared, for the children's sake; and what did it matter whether he waited, out of respect to his wife's memory, for one week or one year? He would not be marrying to please himself but for the welfare of his offspring. If the *danna-sama* was of her way of thinking, why, she knew the very woman for him: thirty-one years of age, a widow with a jointure but no encumbrances, good-looking, skilful performer on the *samisen*, and very fond of children. The lady was, in fact, her own younger sister and would be, she could swear, charmed to receive the addresses of so fine a gentleman. In short, by dint of painting the young widow in attractive colours, the bereaved merchant was finally led to ask for the name and address of the charmer in question. These were promptly forthcoming, and the nurse, overjoyed, promised at once to inform, by letter, her younger sister of the good fortune in store for her. A day or so thereafter the merchant repaired to the address that had been given him: a nice, genteel-looking house. He was promptly admitted on presenting his card and asking to see the lady of the house. In a few moments the mistress appeared: elegantly dressed and pretty beyond the merchant's most sanguine hopes. A conversation was at once begun which the suitor tried in vain to lead up to the main object of his visit, but the lady continued as calm as a summer morning and utterly unresponsive to his adroit insinuations. At last the merchant plumped the momentous question; the lady arose at once, in very evident alarm, and as she did so an infuriated man rushed into the room. "Scoundrel!" cried he, "I've been listening for the last half hour to your vile talk and hints to my wife. What do you mean, Sir, by addressing a lady as you have done? Who are you, any way, and what is your business here?" The merchant tried, horrified, to explain the true situation, but his words found no credit, and he himself was speedily and unceremoniously bundled out of the house, his cruel inamorata aiding and abetting the while. Disgraced and apoplectic with rage, the merchant rushed back to his own house and called furiously for the nurse. "What?" cried she; "the lady did not consent at once? There must be some great mistake. She is my own sister and I am persuaded that she will jump at your proposal. Perhaps my letter hadn't reached her. Married? Not a bit of it! She's a widow. Please come with me and let us go there once again. I can set everything right in a trice." Wholly disbelieving the woman's words, the merchant nevertheless concluded to visit the scene of his disaster in the nurse's company, hoping that his reputation might thus be cleared. He did [illegible] and was admitted under protest; but no sooner had the "young widow" caught sight of the nurse than she began to smile and requested both her husband and the crestfallen visitor to enter an adjoining room. There she told them that the woman was well known to her, though absolutely no connection. She had formerly been in the lady's employ, but had been discharged for insanity. At times perfectly sane she was at others as mad as a March hare; and to her diseased brain and moon-struck vagaries must all the confusion be attributed. Subsequent investigations proved that the nurse was a lunatic beyond doubt; indeed until quite recently under medical treatment. The matter was thus cleared up; and the offended husband and the uxorious merchant effected a complete reconciliation, with much merriment, over several cups of *saké*.

FRENCH CONSULAR COURTS AND THE BANK OF CHINA.

We are informed by the Bank of China, Japan, and the Straits, says the *Shanghai Mercury*, that the appeal lodged by them against the judgment of the French Consular Court in the case of "The Bank of China, Japan, and the Straits, Ltd. *v.* E. Lepissier," rendered last May, has been sustained. The Court here held that the Bank had not fulfilled the conditions necessary to enable it to sue in the French Courts, that the transfer of shares had not been made so as to hold the defendant liable, and that the defendant was justified in refusing to pay the call, giving judgment for the defendant with costs. The appeal was made to the High Court in Saigon, where the decision was reversed in every point, and judgment given in favour of the Bank.

CHARITY CONCERT.

The Concert given on Tuesday evening in aid of the funds of the Convent was in every way a success, there being a full house, and all the numbers of the programme eliciting loud and enthusiastic applause. Madame Grauert was unfortunately absent through indisposition, but Mr. Launay filled the gap and sang Victor Massé's "Les Noces de Jeannette," Mrs. Bayne in the opening of the second part also taking the place of Miss Voigt in the Septette for two pianos. With vocal and instrumental music so well performed, it is needless to say that the applause was constant and hearty, and that several attempts to obtain a repetition were made. Mrs. James Walter, who was in splendid voice, kindly complied, and repeated the last verse of Blumenthal's well known "Sunshine and Rain." Mr. Launay, who is always well received, was also recalled for his happy rendering of "Nous avons vingt ans," which he sang in place of "The Calumny." The pianos were lent by Mr. Doering, and the plants and ornaments by Mr. Boehmer.

A ZEALOUS PRAYER.

We learn from vernacular sources that there is at least one priest in Japan who does not intend to let the courage of the Japanese armies falter for want of fervent prayer to help them on. In a small town in Gifu there is a temple known as the Shukko-ji, the resident priest of which is named Watanabe Shinsho. On December 12th, of last year, he made a vow that, if the exercise did not kill him midway, he would pass one hundred days in prayer, combining ascetic practices with his petitions. At the foot of the temple garden stands a large vat or tub, filled daily with spring water. This is almost invariably covered with a more or less thick film of ice, but nothing daunted the priest breaks this ice thrice daily, gets into the tub, and while standing there—*in puris naturalibus*, of course—recites one Buddhist sutra after another until his chattering teeth get the weather-gage of him. This done, without wiping his half-frozen limbs, he puts on a coarse hempen garment and repairs to the inner sanctum of the temple, where he continues his prayers for another ten or fifteen minutes. This severe course of ascetic devotion has been carried on with [illegible] regularity since the date

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above mentioned, and the great wonder is that the petitioner is still alive. Pneumonia and pleurisy must be unknown quantities in Gifu—or else Heaven itself has been moved to pity at the sight of the shivering priest in his tub.

A GUARDSMAN'S LETTER.

Under date of March 7th, a sergeant in the Hospital Corps of the First Regiment of the Imperial Guard—which regiment left Tokyo at daybreak on the 5th instant—writes as follows, in English, to his teacher in the capital. We quote *verbatim* :—"I have travelled so long by train! Two days and two nights I have been in the cars, and only at eating-times we were permitted to get out. Four men on every seat, so that we had no space in which to lie down at night. But, Sir, to make up for this distress we have had pleasures of both the eye and the ear. I had heard in Tokyo that all my countrymen were very patriotic and very kind in their treatment to passing soldiers. This is quite true. Both their geographical environment and historical teaching lead them to do so. The real truth, however, travelling myself, I found to be far greater than I had expected. At every station we were welcomed with shouts of *Banzai! Banzai!* and presented with packages of tobacco, rolls of paper, or parcels of tea. Then we had more pleasures than that, in looking at the Japanese mountains and sea-scenery, so famous throughout the world; Mount Fuji, Okitsu, Tago-no-ura, Suma, Akashi, Maiko-no-ura. All these beautiful scenes passed before my eyes in two days. And my future looks bright: war in China-land, with perhaps a gold medal! Compared with this prospect all my discomforts are worth nothing. I have something more to inform you. I have no time to get warm sitting down. To-morrow morning we leave for Talien Bay. What the next step will be is unknown; but I pray that it will be Pekin."—The writer is, as will be seen from the above, a more than usually good English scholar. He is a First Class Reservist and a political economist by education, but now serves on the staff of the Hospital Corps.

SUDDEN DEATH OF CAPTAIN BURDIS.

Says the *Kobe Chronicle* of Thursday:—We regret to announce the sudden death of Captain Burdis, which took place last night about ten o'clock. Captain Burdis had been in his usual health during the day, and had shown no signs of illness. In the evening he had a bath, and shortly afterwards appeared so unwell that Dr. Miller and Mr. Sim, the latter having been with him a short time previously, were sent for. Dr. Miller was immediately in attendance, and assisted by Mr. Sim, applied the usual restoratives, but despite everything done for him, Captain Burdis continued to sink, and after lying in a comatose state for some time, expired about ten o'clock. Captain Burdis is very well known in Japan, having for many years been in the service of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, which he left a few years ago in order to assist the late Mr. Byrne in his business as marine and general surveyor. We believe that the deceased was about 56 years of age.

THE ACTOR AND THE BABY.

Kawakami Otojiro, the *soshi*-actor, has been one of the few people in Tokyo of late into whose open hands the stream of Pactolus has flowed in unstinted measure. After his trip to Korea, where he is said to have minutely inspected the various scenes of conflict which took place on Korean soil in the first month of the war, he re-opened with his troupe at the Ichimura-za, Tokyo, the style of his new melodrama being "The Forty-Second year of *Meiji*," with any quantity of fighting, flying Chinamen, and triumphant parading. The thing took immensely, and for several weeks the performances were so densely attended that hundreds of people had daily to be turned away from the doors—an occurrence well nigh unprecedented in the annals of theatrical Japan. Like Jeshurun, the consequence was that the leading histrion "waxed fat and kicked." An excellent plot of ground was bought on the Misaki Parade Ground, at Iida-machi, where a fine new playhouse is now being rapidly erected for the *soshi*-actors and their chief. But this is not all. Kawakami, it is averred, grew to consider himself the peer of any Thespian in Japan, Danjuro *et al.* not excepted. About three weeks ago he is said to have given a remarkable example of the manner in which he rates his own abilities. The cue had been given for a *pas seul* of his, which invariably brings down the house, when a baby of some two years, in charge of a lady patron in the parterre, set up a loud crying, much to the actor's annoyance. The child's mother at once arose and carried the still screaming infant out of the theatre, but this by no means sufficed to placate the player, the whole performance coming to a standstill until the objectionable infant had been taken out of ear-shot. The scene is described as one of those painful interludes that now and then occur in nearly every public place of entertainment. As soon as the act was over, a cryer, or one of those accustomed to make announcements of any change to the public, went on the stage and said that "Kawakami requested that, in future, crying children should not be brought within the precincts of the theatre, as their screams put him out." This was a piece of rudeness simply unheard of. The following day all the papers of the metropolis, which until then had been loud in their praises of the performance and performers, came out with scathing remarks on the upstart pride of the chief actor. He was derided and laughed at until the box-receipts began to feel the result of the popular disfavour. Hereupon Kawakami inserted a paragraph in nearly every Tokyo journal to the effect that he had not ordered the cryer to make the objectionable announcement on the day in question. The whole thing had been a mistake; he was the public's very humble servant, and hoped that their patronage might not be withdrawn. This has, however, not mended matters much. The words had actually been stated, and whether Kawakami denied the responsibility or not, their authorship was attributed to him. The little affair is now blowing over, but it has quite upset the theatrical world in Japan for a fortnight.

"OUR BOYS" AT KOBE.

The performance of Byron's well known comedy "Our Boys," by Kobe amateurs, seems to have been a great success. Mr. Hazelaud as *Sir Geoffrey Champneys*, Miss Mola as *Mary Melrose*, and Mrs. Melhuish as *Clarissa Champneys* appear to have carried away the honours.

THE CHINESE MOHAMMEDANS.

As the Japanese expeditionary army advances upon Pekin, writes the *Mainichi*, the stoutest resistance with which it meets will not be offered by "Li's veterans," nor yet by the Manchurian troopers, but by the Mohammedan soldiers of China. This was indicated by the conduct of General Tsao at the battle of Phyŏng-yang. He acquitted himself as a true General should, while Yei and the other Chinese Generals disgraced themselves by their pusillanimity. General Tsao's conduct at Phyŏng-yang and Admiral Ting's at Weihaiwei were the solitary bright spots in China's dark record during the war. Tsao was a patriarch of the Chinese Mohammedans. A story has been told to the effect that when news of Tsao's death reached his native district, his wife declared that she would collect some 3,000 Amazons and avenge the death of her husband, and that the Mohammedans shared her resolution. They are most likely thoroughly in earnest. The history of Mohammedanism in China dates far back. In the year 520 A.D., during the Tung dynasty, an uncle of Mohammed succeeded in gaining audience of the reigning Emperor and was given permission to expound the Koran. Although subjected in later years to many vicissitudes, Mohammedanism spread steadily and its believers in the vast country now number about 20 millions. They are found for the most part in Kangsuh and Shansi, and less numerously in Yünnan. In Pechili there are about a quarter of a million Mohammedans and about 200,000 each in Shantung and Honan. The Mohammedan missionaries were very skilful in their mode of converting the natives. They relinquished the intolerant policy, so characteristic of Mohammedanism, and endeavoured to adapt their teachings to those of Confucius and Mencius. They did their utmost to bring up orphans and foundlings, and did not necessarily object to idol-worship, in that way conciliating both the people and the Government. The reigning Chinese dynasty is on good terms with its Mohammedan subjects and their offer to fight the Japanese will be accepted by the Pekin Court. Now that Newchwang and Yingkow have been captured, the march upon Pekin will soon follow, says the *Mainichi* and it will not be long before the Mohammedan fanatics will endeavour to oppose the irresistible force of the Japanese Army, only to meet with the same fate that befel their brother believers at Phyŏng-yang. The *Mainichi* regrets to think that their ignorance of the principles of true righteousness should lead them to attempt such a fatal undertaking.

AN OLD FALSEHOOD.

We cannot allow the *Japan Gazette* to repeat, time after time, its audacious falsehood that this journal circulated and gave eager credence to the extraordinary canard about the British Admiral's having frustrated the Japanese attack upon Weihaiwei by firing a salute at an untimely moment. In the great majority of cases the *Japan Gazette's* indifference to truth concerns no one save itself. But we do not propose that any journal, of whatever character, shall falsely accuse us of defaming the British Navy. We therefore reproduce what we originally wrote, placing it side by side with what the *Japan Gazette* now writes:—

Japan Daily Mail, Aug. 18th, 1894.

There is current in Tokyo a singular story. People say that the intended secrecy of the Japanese attack upon Wei-hai-wei was effectually frustrated by the English Admiral. Sir Edmund Fremantle, it is alleged, was in Chemulpho up to a short time before the Japanese squadron left that place on its plucky quest. He met the squadron not many miles from its objective point and saluted it, whereat the Japanese ships, being compelled by courtesy to return the salute, a din was made that warned the Chinese of what was on the *tapis*. This tale implies some remarkable circumstances. In the first place, Admiral Fremantle is not in the least likely to have done anything of the kind, for the simple reason that to salute a squadron of ships almost within sight of their enemy's coast would be the act of a child. In the second place, naval salutes are not fired at sea when ships are under weigh. In the third place, if the salute was fired at all, it must have been fired during darkness, for the Japanese Squadron got up to Wei-hai-wei at dawn, and must therefore have met the English Admiral—if it did really meet him—some time before dawn. Conceive the notion of a British Admiral saluting a squadron at sea under weigh before daylight within a few miles of a fortified harbour which he must have known to be the object of the squadron's attack! Conceive the notion of his saluting any Chinese or Japanese ships at any time within the arena where their mutual encounter signifies an engagement! Never was there a more ridiculous story. Yet we are told that certain folks in Tokyo believe it and that comments very unfavourable to Admiral Fremantle are made! We did not imagine that any educated people in Tokyo could be so lacking in perception.

Japan Gazette, March 9th, 1895.

Before the reptile journal circulated the extraordinary falsehood that the British Admiral had awakened the Chinese at Wei-hai-wei, Consul-General Shimamura should have spoken, for thereby much misunderstanding might have been avoided. But it is better late than never and it is well to learn from a competent authority that Admiral Fremantle, so far from transgressing those rules which the proclamation of neutrality stipulated, actually fraternised with the Japanese and was on the best of terms with their Admiral. We never believed the cock and bull story of a British Admiral saluting before daylight, or using his search-lights to warn one of the combatants, though the falsehood was eagerly given credence to by the Judas whose metier seems to be to invariably exhibit his own nationals in the worst possible light.

Precisely the same accusation has been already preferred more than once by the *Japan Gazette* against the *Japan Mail*, and precisely the same answer—simple re-production of our original words—has been made by us. Yet the *Japan Gazette* continues to utter the falsehood, one of the grossest and most unfounded that ever disgraced a newspaper's columns.

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IMPERIAL DIET.

FRIDAY, MARCH 8TH.

HOUSE OF PEERS.

The House did not met.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The House met at 1.15 p.m., the Order of the Day being :—

1.—Resolution relating to the disbursement of the Reserves for the 26th year of *Meiji*.
2.—Bill for amending Law No. 46 of the 23rd year of *Meiji*.
3.—Bill for opening the port of Tsuruga to trade with Sachalien and Korea.
4.—Bill for opening the ports of Sakai and Hamada to trade with Korea.
5.—Bill for opening the port of Karatsu to trade with Chosen and China.
6.—Bill for opening the port of Aomori to trade with Vladivostock and Siberia.
7.—Bill for opening the ports of Shimonoseki and Moji to trade with India and Russia.
8.—Bill for opening the port of Hakata to trade with Korea and Russia.
9.—Bill for amending the Finance Law.
10.—Representation for establishing Educational Councils.

Mr. Saito Ryosuke presented a Question relating to the management of Forest Lands in Hokkaido.

Mr. Tanizawa Ryozo presented a Question with reference to the Bill that had passed both Houses for establishing Silk Conditioning Houses. The Minister of State had told them that the Government could not approve of the measure at present, in view of the large expenditures incurred in connection with the war. What did that mean? It looked as though the Government mistook the Bill for a mere Representation. Or did it signify that the Cabinet would not submit the Bill to the Emperor?

Mr. Naito Kiukan, on behalf of the Special Committee, reported in favour of the Expenditures from the Reserve for the 26th year of *Meiji*.

Mr. Nakajima Yuhachi opposed the measure, not as objecting to the objects of the expenditures, but because it seemed to him that the appropriations were not taken from the proper reserves, and that the Constitution was thus violated.

Mr. Shiba Sankuro spoke in a similar sense.

Mr. Tajiri, Government Delegate, briefly disposed of these objections, and showed that the method of accounts adopted by the Government was strictly constitutional.

Mr. Yoshimoto Yeikichi propounded several questions which were answered minutely by Mr. Tajiri. Mr. Yoshimoto finally declared that, although not convinced of the propriety of the procedure, he yielded to the ability of the Government Delegate's explanations.

After some further debate, the House refused to pass the measure.

The Special Committee having reported favourably on the next Bill, for amending the Regulations relating to Irrigation Councils, and having stated that the Government approved of the measure, the Bill was passed through its Second Reading, and the Third Reading was dispensed with.

Mr. Obata Iwajiro, on behalf of the Special Committee, said that the Committee unanimously approved of the Bill for opening the port of Tsuruga in Echizen. The development of foreign trade was of vital importance to the country, especially at this time of war. It had been urged that, as Treaty Revision was in progress, the opening of new ports at present was unadvisable. But five or six years must elapse before the new Treaties went into operation, and the country could not afford to wait so long.

Mr. Megata, Government Delegate, in reply to a question, said that the Government did not see any special occasion for the proposed measure.

Mr. Otake Kwanichi reminded the House that these newly opened ports would not be for the convenience of Japanese owned vessels only. The revised Treaty with Great Britain rendered them accessible to British ships, and other countries would acquire the same privilege through the most favoured-nation clause. He questioned the advisability of throwing open so many ports when the country was passing through a crisis like the present. Some people urged that the ports could be closed again if any inconvenience arose. That was very questionable.

Mr. Tsunematsu Yukei declared his resolve to vote for all the Bills for opening new ports. The argument based on Treaty Revision being in progress was not genuine. It arose simply from the Government's reluctance to spend money on outside matters while the war was in progress.

Mr. Megata, Government Delegate, said that the House was already familiar with the Government's view. It was quite out of the question to carry out the proposed measure at present.

The House passed the Bill, dispensing with the Third Reading, and adopted the same course with respect to all the Bills down to No. 8.

Mr. Murakami, introducing the next Bill, explained that its object was to fix a limit of time for the presentation of the Settled Accounts. At present the Constitution merely said that the Settled Accounts must be laid before the Diet, but did not say when. Consequently there was great laxity about the matter, and although the session of the Diet was drawing to a conclusion, the settled accounts for the year before last had not yet been submitted. The Bill proposed to enact that the settled accounts for any year must be presented to the Diet in the year but one following.

The Bill was handed to a Special Committee.

Mr. Kashiwada Moribumi introduced the Representation relating to Educational Councils. He spoke at considerable length, urging the vital importance of education to the Japanese people, and claiming that under the present system only one suitable Minister of Education, Mr. Inouye Ki, had ever been appointed, the result being constant and injurious changes of educational policy.

The House passed the Representation without debate :—

REPRESENTATION RELATING TO HIGHER EDUCATIONAL COUNCILS AND LOCAL EDUCATIONAL COUNCILS.

The success or failure of the educational system is vitally related to the prosperity of the State. In order to obtain the true fruits of education, a long lapse of time is obviously necessary.

Any work the benefit of which is to be expected after the lapse of years must be most carefully arranged, for unless it be firmly based on a fixed policy so as not to be subject to change when only half carried out, no possibility exists of attaining the original object, but, on the contrary, far-reaching evils may be begotten. Such is especially the case with education. Yet it is most regrettable that in a work requiring the utmost constancy and firmness as to the system of conducting it, the policy pursued is liable to frequent alteration whenever the responsible officials are changed, the result being that the progress of education is greatly impeded. Now that education has become of such importance to the country, too much care cannot be taken in elaborating the system followed, and too much constancy and firmness can not be observed in giving effect to that system. If the change of a Minister of State become unavoidable under a constitutional form of Government, it is absolutely essential to establish independent regular educational mechanism. Such mechanism should take the form of a Higher Educational Council, organized with leading educationists either within or without the Government service, its functions being to discuss, and offer assistance in respect of, important matters of education. Were such mechanism in existence, all sudden changes in the system of education could be avoided and its fruits could be reaped more certainly, with the result that its original object would be attained. Further, it is equally essential that each locality should establish such mechanism in accordance with the requirements of the time. The House expects, therefore, that the Government will promptly organize a Higher Educational Council.

Presented by KASHIWADA MORIBUMI and 2 others.

Supported by TODA KUMAHIKO and 30 others.

The House rose at 5.30 p.m.

MONDAY, MARCH 11TH.

HOUSE OF PEERS.

The House met at 10.40 a.m. a.m. the Order of the Day being :—

1.—Supplementary Budgets and correlated Documents for the 27th and 28th years of *Meiji*.
2.—Bill relating to the Application of the Military and Naval Penal Codes.
3.—Bill for amending the Law of Election for the Lower House.
4.—Bill relating to a change of Jurisdiction Limits.
5.—Resolution relating to the Settled Accounts for the 24th year of *Meiji*.
6.—Petitions.

Viscount Soga, on behalf of the Budget Committee, reported in favour of the Supplementary Budgets and correlated documents, but said that the Committee had decided to recommend the restoration of the appropriation on account of the re-construction of Kobe Harbour, which the Lower House had struck out. The Committee considered that in view of the rapidly growing trade of Kobe and of the country's foreign relations, the proposed harbour works were of the utmost importance, and that their inauguration should not be postponed. Other items connected indirectly with the works were also recommended for restoration, and others excised by the Lower House were not re-inserted because, although the Committee did not see any sufficient reason for the excision, there was no imperative necessity for making the appropriations at once.

A brief detate ensued. Some members announced their intention of opposing the restoration of the Kobe Harbour item on the ground that, although approving of the expenditure, there was little chance of a conference of the two Houses being able to agree upon the point, and if they did not agree, the whole Supplementary Budget would fail to come into existence. Better strike out the one item than run the risk of sacrificing the whole.

Viscount Soga strongly combatted this notion. He said that if such a doctrine were admitted, there would be no occasion to submit the Budget at all to the Upper House. Hitherto the Peers had received the Budget so late in the Session that if they voted against the amendments of the Lower House, the whole Budget would have been imperilled, but there was no such difficulty on the present occasion, and the House should resolutely act up to its opinions.

The House voted for all the amendments of the Lower House and passed the Budgets.

The next three Bills were entrusted to Special Committees after a few questions.

Mr. Mitsukuri Rinsho, on behalf of the Settled Accounts Committee, reported that on examining the Settled Accounts for the 24th year of *Meiji* the Committee had found several points in which the Administration seemed to have violated the provisions of the Law of Finance. There were, in fact, 5,908 of such items, but among these 5,801 had been already settled and out of the remaining 107 the Government had expressed its willingness to adopt a different system hereafter with regard to 105. There remained only 2, therefore, to be considered by the House : the first related to expenditures made in excess of the Budget without the consent of the Diet ; the second, to expenditures over and above the items of the Budget, also made without the consent of the House.

Prince Konoye asked why the form of a Resolution had been adopted in lieu of the original intention of an Address to the Throne.

Mr. Mitsukuri replied that in view of the war with China, it had seemed undesirable to trouble the Throne. A resolution of the House would doubtless suffice to prevent any repetition of such irregularities. Besides, the officials responsible for the errors had already been punished.

The House adopted the Resolution as regards the first two points, and by a vote of 54 to 50 substituted an Address to the Throne in regard to the third point.

RESOLUTION.

The House of Peers hereby resolves that as the following items in the General Settled Accounts of Revenue and Expenditure for the 24th fiscal year of *Meiji*, were outlays made in excess of the Estimates and without the consent of the Imperial Diet, therefore the Government should bear the responsibility arising from such procedure :—

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ORDINARY EXPENDITURES.

DEPARTMENT OF HOME AFFAIRS.

	Yen.
IX.—Hokkaido Board Administration.	
5. Rewards and Relief Fund	362.569
XII.—*Fu* and *Ken*.	
3. Rewards and Relief Fund	4,798.538
9. Joint Police Outlays	4,148.705

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE.

X.—The *Official Gazette* Bureau.	
6. Printing Expenses	12,097.058

DEPARTMENT OF WAR.

II.—Military Expenditures	100,526.519
4. Provisions	34,074.551
6. Horses	—
III.—Gendarmes' Expenses.	
4. Horses	805.021
IV.—Colonial Troops' Expenses.	
4. Provisions	2,957.381
9. Prisoners' Expenses	259.423

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COMMERCE

I.—Department Proper.	
3. International Weights and Measures Expenses	438.260

RESOLUTION.

The House of Peers hereby resolves that as the following items in the General Settled Accounts for the 24th fiscal year of *Meiji* were outlays made over and above the items in the Budget and without the consent of the Imperial Diet, therefore the Government should bear the responsibility accruing from such procedure:—

EXTRAORDINARY REVENUE.

DEPARTMENT OF WAR.

VII.—Expenses for despatching Gendarmes to Kochi *Ken*.	
1. Expenses for despatching Gendarmes to Kochi *Ken*.....	5,429.560
VIII.—Expenses for re-constructing Houses, &c., destroyed by Fire, for Colonial Troops.	
1. Expenses for re-constructing Houses, &c., destroyed by Fire, for Colonial Troops	575.520
IX.—Expenses for despatching Gendarmes to Saga *Ken*.	
1. Expenses for despatching Gendarmes to Saga *Ken*	1,356.523

RESOLUTION.

The House of Peers hereby resolves that the Communication Expenses, Item 3, Clause III., of the Communication Department, Ordinary Expenditures in the General Settled Accounts of Revenue and Expenditure for the 24th fiscal year of *Meiji*; the New Construction Expenses, Item 1, Clause III. of the Department of Communication, Extraordinary Expenditures for the same fiscal year; and the establishment of the system of double restrictions with regard to competitive estimates in the case of unmanufactured Articles Purchase Expenses, Item 1, Clause I. of the Telegraphic and Lighthouse Materials Manufactory, under the Control of the Department of Communications, in the Settled Accounts of Special Revenue and Expenditure for the 24th fiscal year; were improper steps at variance with the spirit of the Law of Finance.

ADDRESS TO THE THRONE.

Your Majesty's humble servant, Mosho, President of the House of Peers, in pursuance of a resolution of the House of Peers, hereby most respectfully presents to Your Enlightened Majesty the following Address:—Upon examining the settled accounts of Revenue and Expenditure for the 24th fiscal year of *Meiji*, the House has come to the resolution that the arbitrary establishment of a system of double restrictions in respect of competitive tenders, under the control of the Department of Communications, and the resort had to the method of independent contract by arbitrarily dividing the amount involved in the competitive tenders, were acts at variance with the provisions of the Law of Finance. Your Majesty's humble servant, Mosho, most respectfully submits this Address.

The House rose at 3.25 p.m.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The House met at 1.20 p.m. the Order of the Day being:—

1.—Bill for supplementing the Regulations relating to Grants of Land to Military Emigrants.
2.—Bill relating to the Hypothecation or Sale of Buildings and Horses granted to Military Emigrants.
3.—Representation for increasing the Tokyo Technical School.
4.—Representation for increasing the Tokyo Art School.
5.—Petitions.

Mr. Suyehiro Shigeyasu presented a Question relating to the alleged abuse of the power of suspending newspapers by the Administration. He spoke at great length, and asserted that to place such an instrument in the present press law in the hand of the Government was like putting a sword into the hand of a murderer.

The first two Bills, having been briefly explained by the Government Delegate, were handed to the same Special Committee.

The Special Committee having reported in favour of the Representation for the increase of the Tokyo Technical School, with some amendments, it was passed without debate as follows:—

REPRESENTATION RELATING TO THE EXTENSION OF THE TOKYO TECHNICAL SCHOOL.

It is universally admitted that this Empire must especially strive to develop its commerce and industry, so as to augment its resources. As a means to that end none can be more important than the Tokyo Technical School, which is very closely related to the development of national industry. The prosperity of that institution should be sought before everything else. Yet the institution is at present much limited in scope, and the students educated there are far too few to be commensurate with the progress of the country or to supply the ever increasing demand. Such a state of affairs is highly regrettable. The Government should endeavour to make the School more prosperous and to extend its scope. As to the funds required for that purpose, the House trusts that the Government will draft an estimate at a convenient time and introduce it for discussion by the Imperial Diet.

The Representation relating to the increase of the Fine Arts School was also passed, with an amendment that the funds required should be appropriated whenever convenient to the Treasury:—

REPRESENTATION RELATING TO THE EXTENSION OF THE FINE ARTS SCHOOL.

The Japanese Empire is one of the few countries of the world where the Fine Arts have attained to their highest development. Yet, while Japanese Fine Arts are loudly praised abroad and their designs are eagerly copied by foreign art workers, the condition of Art affairs at home is deplorable. It would seem, in fact, that matters are tending towards their speedy extinction. Now that the China-Japan war is causing a large national outlay, it would appear that such a matter as the Fine Arts is too trivial to be discussed. Yet, it must be admitted that manufactured goods, from which a great part of the nation's income is derived, would be but clumsy things if not brought within the refining and decorative influences of the Fine Arts. It therefore follows that the Fine Arts must not be neglected even for a day. In view of this consideration, the House of Representatives hopes that the Government will seek to enlarge the scope of the Tokyo Fine Arts School and take steps to establish a similar institution in Kyoto; and also compile and subject the estimates of such extensions and additions to the deliberations of the Imperial Diet.

Presented by Mr. SUYEHIRO JYUKYO, and 4 others.
Supported by Mr. TAKEMURA TOBEI, and 34 others.

Various Petitions were then adopted for presentation to the Government, and the House rose at 4 p.m.

TUESDAY, MARCH 12TH.

HOUSE OF PEERS.

The House met at 11 a.m., the Order of the Day being:—

1.—Bill for amending the City and Prefectural Government System (sent up from Lower House).
2.—Bill for supplementing the Law relating to Irrigation Guilds (sent up from Lower House).
3.—Six Bills relating to the opening of various Ports (sent up from Lower House).
4.—Petitions.

The first two Bills were handed to Special Committees without debate.

The six Bills relating to the opening of new Ports were handed to a Special Committee of 15, nominated by the President, the Government Delegate, in answer to a question, having declared that the Government saw no reason for immediately taking the steps proposed. The House refused to assign any limit of time for the presentation of the Committee's report.

The House then adopted 14 petitions for presentation to the Government, rejected one, and postponed the consideration of two.

The House rose at 12.15 p.m.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The House met at 1.20 p.m., the Order of the Day being:—

1.—Bill relating to Forgery of Coin and Bonds (sent down amended from Upper House).
2.—Bill (Second Reading) for amending the Law of Finance.
3.—Bill for Supplementing the Special Export Ports Regulations.
4.—Bill relating to Special Ports of Import.
5.—Bill relating to Rebate of Duties on Cotton Manufactures.
6.—Bill (Second Reading) for amending the Mining Regulations.
7.—Bill for amending the Mineral Sand Law.
8.—Representation relating to Places for Examining Tea.
9.—Representation relating to the founding of an Industrial School.
10.—Representation relating to a School for the study of the Chinese, Korean, and Russian Languages.
11.—Representation relating to the Parcels Post System.
12.—Bill for changing the boundaries of Chiba and Ibaraki Prefectures.
13.—Bill for the Protection of the Hokkaido Aborigines.
14.—Bill for changing the Jurisdiction of Local Courts.
15.—Bill (Third Reading) for amending the Law of the Houses.

Mr. Tsunematsu Rinkei presented a Question relating to Railways and Telegraphs in Sanindo.

The Chairmen of the Petitions Committee reported that the Committee had held a meeting on the 11th instant and had decided to recommend 5 petitions for the House's adoption for presentation; had rejected two, one of which prayed for the restoration of the custom of carrying two swords, and had decided that three deserved to be forwarded for purposes of comparison.

The Special Committee having reported in favour of the Upper House's amendments in the first Bill, it was passed.

Mr. Den Teikichi, on behalf of the Special Committee, reported in favour of the next Bill for removing the Reserve from the items in the Budget, the object being to provide against misapplications of Articles 64 and 69 of the Constitution, and Article 7 of the Law of Finance.

Mr. Tajiri, Government Delegate, said that the gist of the proposed Bill was provided for in the 64th Article of the Constitution, and that any measure altering the latter was of course out of the question. Moreover, the Bill would materially affect the compilation of the Budget. The Government regretted to be unable to agree to it.

Mr. Konishi Junnosuke said that the Bill aimed at conferring on the House powers in excess of the Constitution. He yielded to none in desiring to secure for the House the full exercise of its constitutional powers, but he could not endorse an unconstitutional attempt to augment those powers.

A long debate ensued, and the House finally refused to carry the Bill to a Second Reading.

The next two Bills were introduced by Mr. Nakajima Matagoro. The first Bill was to provide that coke, cement, and other articles should be included in the staples exportable from Special Export Ports—rice, barley, coal, and sulphur being the only articles now exportable. The Second Bill provided that rails and other railway material, as well as all raw material for manufacture in Japan, should be importable at Moji, Kuchinotsu, and Yokkaichi. He explained that the object of the Bills was to develope the commerce and manufactures of the country, and that such a result would certainly be attained.

The two Bills were handed to a Special Committee.

The discussion of the fifth Bill was postponed at the request of its introducer.

Mr. Nakamura Yaroku, on behalf of the Special Committee, reminded the House that the present Mining Law had been enacted somewhat hurriedly by the first Diet, with a distinct understanding that its defects should be subsequently remedied. The Bill now offered for the House's deliberation seemed to meet the requirements of the case and had been carefully amended by the Committee.

After some discussion, the House rejected the Bill.

The Bill for amending the Mineral Sand Law was passed without debate.

Mr. Ohara Juyemon introduced the Representation for establishing Tea Examination Offices. He contended that such places were essential to the improvement of Japanese tea, and said that the development of the tea trade during the *Meiji* era had not been at all satisfactory.

The Representation was handed to a Special Committee.

The House rose at 5.55 p.m.

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THURSDAY, MARCH 14TH.

HOUSE OF PEERS.

The House did not meet.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The House met at 1.20 p.m., the Order of the Day being :—

1.—Bill (Third Reading) for amending the Law of the Houses.
2.—Bill relating to the Taxation of Earthquake Districts.
3.—Bill relating to Rebate of Duty on Cotton Manufactures.
4.—Bill relating to a change of boundaries in the case of Chiba and Ibaraki Prefectures.
5.—Bill for protecting the Aborigines of Hokkaido.
6.—Bill for changing the Jurisdiction of Local Courts.
7.—Representation relating to the Founding of an Industrial School.
8.—Representation relating to the Founding of a School for the Study of the Chinese, Korean, and Russian Languages.
9.—Representation for the Development of the Parcels Post System.
10.—Representation relating to the Tax on Alcohol.

The Third Reading of the first Bill was passed without debate.

The Special Committee having reported in favour of the second Bill, which provided that lands in Yamagata Prefecture injured by the earthquake of October 22nd, 1894, should be exempted for the maximum term of 10 years from paying seven-tenths of the usual Land Tax, the House voted for the Second Reading without debate, and dispensed with the Third.

Mr. Inaba Ichiroyemon introduced the Bill for granting a rebate of import duty on cotton manufactures. He claimed that the cotton manufacturing trade of Japan had great prospects of a market in China, India, and neighbouring countries, and that every possible effort should be made to encourage it.

Mr. Murakami Yoshitaro opposed the Bill. He was strongly in favour of encouraging the cotton manufacturing industry, but he regarded the proposed measure as too superficial. The proper plan was to exempt raw cotton altogether from import duties, but the time for that measure had not yet come. It was further to be noted that cotton goods were made with home-grown as well as with imported cotton, and as the Bill made no discrimination, nor, indeed, could any be made in practice, it was obviously an impossible measure.

The House refused to carry the Bill to a Second Reading.

The Bill for changing the Boundaries of Ibaraki and Chiba Prefectures was handed to a Special Committee.

Mr. Chiba Tamamura introduced the Bill for Protecting the Ainu. It provided for giving to the Ainu full possession of all lands reclaimed by them, and for increasing the area of reclaimable land to 15,000 *tsubo* (125 acres) for every household. He said that without some aid of the kind, the Ainu must die out, and they were, after all, a portion of the Japanese people. The Kuriles were not included in the Bill, as sufficient research had not been made in their case.

The Government Delegate, in answer to a question, said that the proposed law would be exceedingly difficult to carry out, as the Ainu were not organized like the people of Japan.

The Bill was handed to a Special Committee.

The Bill for making a change of jurisdiction in Akita Prefecture in order to bring the people of the Shinohama Division within easier reach of a Local Court, was rejected, the Government Delegate having explained that many similar changes had been made the subject of petitions, and that the whole matter was now under careful official deliberation.

Mr. Kawarabayashi, on behalf of the Special Committee, reported in favour of the Representation for establishing in Osaka an Industrial School like that in Tokyo, but said that the Committee being doubtful ■ to the expediency of taking the step just at present, had expunged the clause asking that an estimate should be presented this session. He might state for the information of the House that the cost was expected to be 9,700 *yen*, approximately, and that Osaka city would bear one-half.

The House voted for the Representation.

Mr. Horikoshi Kansuke introduced the Representation for establishing a School for teaching the Chinese, Korean, and Russian Languages. He said that the relations between the three countries were destined to become more and more intimate and a mutual knowledge of their languages was essential. The opportunities afforded by the classes at the present Commercial School were not at all sufficient. The expense involved would be only 32,800 *yen*.

Mr. Komuro Shigehiro opposed the Representation. He asked whether any one had ever heard of a school for the study of Polish being established in London, or a school for the study of Egyptian in Paris. If the need alleged by Mr. Horikoshi existed, let Chinese, Koreans, and Russians learn Japanese.

Mr. Horikoshi asked whether Mr. Komuro had eaten off the same platter with the *Taiko*, he talked ■ big.

The House rejected the Representation by a large majority.

The Representation relating to the Parcels Post was thrown out after a brief debate.

The object of the next Representation was to exempt from taxation alcohol used in compounding medicines according to the foreign pharmacopœia. Alcohol entering into the composition of Japanese medicines was already exempt, but not so alcohol used for foreign medicines compounded in Japan. The consequence was that Japanese medicines, being cheaper, were receiving undue preference.

The House rejected the Representation and rose at 4.35 p.m.

WAR NEWS.

SATURDAY, MARCH 9TH.

The latest intelligence from Manchuria is that the First Army—or rather the portion of it operating from Haicheng—pushed southward towards Yingkow after its victory at Newchwang proper, and reached Kaokan without encountering any enemy. Thence the Third Division was to march toward Tienchwangtai.

Meanwhile, Yingkow (modern Newchwang) had been captured by the First Division (Second Army) from Kaiping. The littoral forts, however, *i.e.* those at the mouth of the river Liao, were still holding out. General Sung had fled toward Tienchwangtai, where General Wu, it appears, was in quarters all the time.

We may note that the *Nippon* publishes a telegram containing news said to have been brought to *Moji* by the *Shinshu Maru*. The news is that the First Division captured Yingkow on the 6th instant, Sung and ten other Chinese Generals being killed, and about 1,000 of their troops being killed or wounded, while the Japanese casualties were about 300. It is plain that no such news could have been brought by such means.

The intelligence we give above came direct to the War Department, having been telegraphed from the staff of the First Army under date 8.30 p.m. on the 6th instant. Why the doings of a portion of the Second Army (the First Division) are not telegraphed direct by the Staff of that Army, we are unable to say. Possibly Lieut.-General Yamaji does not care to wire until the littoral forts at Yinkow are in his possession.

The *Kokkai* says that at Chinchow, the principal town between Yingkow and Shanhaikwan, there is a garrison of 5,000 men, commanded by General Su, and having 10 English instructors.

MONDAY, MARCH 11TH.

The official report now to hand of the taking of Newchwang shows that, as we conjectured in our last issue, Lieut.-General Katsura did turn back, on the 3rd instant, after breaking the Liaoyang army and driving it back to a distance of about 19 miles of Haicheng. The report, dated at Newchwang on the 5th instant, runs thus :—"The Division" (*i.e.* the Third Division) having joined forces with the Fifth Division at Nganshanshan, passed, in the afternoon, to the Newchwang-Liaoyang main-road, and on the 4th advanced as far as Kangchiachwang in the direction of Newchwang. On the 5th instant, the Third Division attacked Newchwang from the north and north-west, the Fifth Division marching in the same line and attacking from the east. The van under Major-General Oseko and Colonel Sato delivered its assault from the north-west *vid* Lichiawofu, and the main body of Major-General Oshima's Brigade, turning westward from that place, delivered its attack at a point farther west so as to command the roads leading to Tienchwangtai and Yingkow. Colonel Shibawo, with a force of field and mountain artillery, took up a position on the south of Lichiawofu, and subsequently changing his position several times, kept up a fierce cannonade against the enemy. The cavalry brigade under Colonel Tamura manœuvered on the right flank of the Sixth Brigade (of the Third Division) to threaten the enemy's line of retreat. At 2 o'clock in the afternoon Major-General Oshima's Brigade forced its way into Newchwang from the north-west corner, attacking in rear, and Major-General Oseko's Brigade pushing forward simultaneously, the town was in our possession at half-past two. The enemy broke and fled in the direction of Yingkow, but some five or six thousand being too late to effect their escape, took refuge in the houses of the citizens and offered an obstinate resistance, firing upon our troops. The sound of their rifles continued far into the night. The severest fighting was done by Oseko's Brigade. Our casualties were 42 killed, including a Captain and a Cadet, and 174 wounded, including a Colonel and 3 Lieutenants. We have not yet clearly ascertained the enemy's loss, but they seem to have had at least 1,200 or 1,300 killed. As to the number of their wounded, we cannot speak. About 3,000 were taken prisoners. The spoils were, 2 mortars, 4 mountain guns, 1,500 rifles, 160 flags, 70 or 80 horses, 700 or 800 *koku* of hulled rice, an immense quantity of ammunition and various other articles."

Later intelligence—dated the 7th instant—corrects the list of spoils as follows :—"Up to yesterday, the spoils taken at Newchwang were ascertained to have been 2,138 rifles ; 1,518,000 rounds of small-arm ammunition ; 1 field piece (injured) ; 12 mountain guns (all of Chinese manufacture) ; 2 excellent guns of position, of 6-centimetre calibre ; 6 Gatlings ; 216 flags ; 42 *fusils-de-rempart* ; 1,648 boxes of gunpowder ; 1,120 *koku* of rice ; 150 *koku* of barley ; 110 *koku* of Indian corn ; horses enough to carry the whole baggage of the army ; 80 or 90 tents ; horse-shoes 213 ; a quantity of clothing, fur coats, field ovens, and other articles."

The complete capture of Yingkow (modern Newchwang) was effected by the First Division on the 7th instant. On the 6th the Division advanced as far as Kenchiayinfang, which is 5 miles north of Yingkow, at the junction of the Yinkow-Haicheng and Yingkow-Tienchwangtai roads. It was found that the greater part of Sung's army had retreated to Tienchwangtai, only a small force remaining to guard the forts on the south and west of Yingkow. Against these forts Lieut.-General Yamaji's men advanced on the 7th instant at 10 a.m. The forts are on either side of the Liao river, but presumably no difficulty was experienced in crossing the river as it is still frozen. The forts were evidently captured with ease. Yamaji reports only 2 killed, and they lost their lives by mines laid in the forts.

On the afternoon of the same day (7th), Lieut.-General Nodzu despatched Colonels Fukushima and Muraki to inform the British and American Consuls in Yingkow that the place had been occupied by the Japanese, and that every step would be taken to provide for the safety of the foreign residents. The two Colonels were also instructed to inquire whether any of the foreigners had been injured in the fighting at the capture of the town. The Consuls were much pleased with the message, and promised to convey it to their nationals. They were also asked to telegraph to their Minister and to the officers in command of the British and American Squadrons, the facts of the town's capture by the Japanese and of the safety of all the foreign residents, to which they at once assented. "The foreigners," adds the telegram, "are much pleased with the treatment they have received and everything is going on satisfactorily." Three companies of

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Japanese soldiers have been placed to guard the foreign settlement, with instructions not to admit any Chinese without permission. The British and American gun-boats lying in the river are included in the arrangements for preserving tranquillity.

There was only one foreign missionary in Newchwang at the time of its capture, and steps were at once taken to protect him.

After the occupation of Yingkow—according to a telegram from Marshal Oyama—the officer commanding the First Division, after consultation with the officer commanding the First Army, tooks steps to guard the forts, barracks, and the town. As for the spoils, it was arranged that everything difficult to move should be subsequently handed over to the First Army. Troops were posted round the foreign settlement as guards, with instructions not to let Japanese soldiers enter without permission.

Two days later (9th instant) the troops of the First Army, joining forces with the Brigade of the First Division that had occupied Yingkow, moved to the attack of Tienchwangtai. The last named place is 18 miles west of Yingkow, on the coast road leading to China proper. It lies on the opposite bank of the river Liao, there very wide, and would doubtless be a formidable position to attack had not the river been frozen. It has been for the past three months the headquarters of the Newchwang and Yingkow armies. The Japanese attacked from three sides, the north-west, the north-east, and the east. At 7 a.m. the fight opened with a heavy cannonade from the Japanese, and at 10.30 a.m. the Chinese were in full retreat and Tienchwangtai was in Japanese possession. The Chinese troops are said to have totalled about 10,000, from which we infer that large numbers must have fled farther west after the fall of Newchwang and Yingkow. The line of retreat chosen was to the north-west, that is to say, along the coast road to China proper. The total Japanese casualties are estimated at 96 killed and wounded, namely, 47 in one Division, 19 in another, and 30 in the third, but the Divisions are not identified. The enemy's loss is not certain, but is believed to have been over 2,000 killed. The spoils taken are not yet catalogued. The town was set on fire by the Chinese troops in retreat, but nothing is said as to the degree of damage done.

By these operations the Chinese forces in southern Shinking are completely broken and dispersed. We supposed that after the capture of Kaiping, the First and Second Armies would combine at once to shatter General Sung's forces. That they could have done so at any moment is evident. But they had other things to take into consideration. Plainly the whole campaign is being conducted on a general scheme.

We read in the *Hochi Shimbun* that the Chinese population of Yingkow is 15,000, and that there are about 400 foreigners in the settlement, the majority being British subjects. Some 4,000 foreigners visit the place annually for purposes of trade. The town is divided into two quarters, Tungyingtsz and Piayingtsz, or east and west Yingtsz, the foreign settlement being in the former. The circumference of the walled town is about 3¾ miles, the walls being 34 feet high. The chief staple of trade is oil. There are 20 large oil merchants, doing a business of 500,000 and 600,000 Tls. yearly. The distances from Yingkow to various important places is:—to Haicheng 45 miles; to Liaoyang, 67½ miles; to Mukden 105 miles; to Port Arthur, 187 miles; to Shanhaikwan, 235 miles; to Tientsin 390 miles; to Pekin, 403 miles.

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* contains an interesting statement by a Japanese naval officer with regard to the qualities shown by the two iron-clads *Ting-yuen* and *Chen-yuen* in the battle of September 17th. Such assertions as he makes could not have been published before, but are now permissible since one of the ships has been sunk and one is in Japanese possession. "It is true," he says, "that the Japanese gained a great victory on that occasion, but so long as the *Ting-yuen* and *Chen-yuen* were in fighting trim, no decided [illegible] could be felt. The biggest armoured ship owned by the Japanese, the *Fuso Kan*, had not one half of the fighting power of the *Ting-yuen* or *Chen-yuen*, and among the 105 guns of the Japanese squadron, there were only 3 that could pierce the armour of the big ships, whereas every gun in the Chinese fleet could pierce the Japanese ships. The enemy did not preserve their formation in the fight, but very soon fell into confusion, whereas the Japanese never once lost their order, but manœuvring always in concert, managed to separate the iron-clads and get them between two fires, the Main Japanese Squadron on the right and the First Flying Squadron on the left. Japanese shot and shell literally rained on the *Ting-yuen* and *Chen-yuen* at that juncture. The fore part of the *Ting-yuen* finally caught fire, and the *Chen-yuen* had her hull badly damaged, yet both ships were able to fight on, the *Chen-yuen* assisting the *Ting-yuen*. Fully 2,000 missiles were fired at the *Ting-yuen* by the Japanese ships, yet not one of them pierced her armour: all dropped harmless from her sides. The *Fuso* fired steel shot at her, but finding it useless, had recourse to ordinary shells, abandoning the idea of piercing her hull and seeking only to injure her gear or kill her people. The folks on board the *Chiyoda* cried out that it was useless to fire at the iron-clads: they could not be hurt. On the other hand, the Japanese ships were all so small and weak, comparatively speaking, that whenever one of the enemy's missiles hit them it inevitably penetrated. The Japanese had only one advantage: when the 30½ cent. shells of the Chinese struck the *Chiyoda* and the *Fuso*, they did not meet sufficient resistance to explode, but passed right through the ships from side to side, smashing a big hole but not doing fatal damage. The *Matsushima* unfortunately had a shell explode on board, and moreover, being the flagship, was cannonaded with special vigour by the enemy, so that she had 111 of her crew killed and wounded. The ship had only 177 men to work her guns, and when over 100 of these were *hors de combat*, her fighting capacity was almost gone. But Admiral Ito encouraged his men so stoutly that they fought on with blood streaming from their wounds and with the dead and dying all about them. Unhappily the ship took fire at that juncture and had to leave the fighting line. Had the fight been continued another hour, the *Ting-yuen* and the *Chen-yuen* would have been taken. But the fact that the battle lasted 5 hours is worthy of note. In the battle between the French and the Chinese at Foochow, a few minutes sufficed to sink 9 of the Chinese ships, and in the war between Austria and Italy, the big naval battle lasted only an hour. Yet in those days quick-firing guns had not been invented. It is much to be regretted that the Japanese had not a powerful vessel to serve as flag-ship. Had they possessed one, the *Ting-yuen* and *Chen-yuen* would not have escaped. All other countries have ships of over ten thousand tons to carry the flag, but Japan has nothing bigger than 4,000 tons."

Tuesday, March 12th.

Field-Marshal Oyama's official report of the attack on Tienchwangtai adds little to the information already published. The Marshal says that, after consultation with the officer commanding the First Army, Lieut.-General Yamaji, having left a regiment to garrison Yingkow, moved the remainder of his force to Tafangshan, and on the 9th instant, acting in concert with the First Army, attacked Tienchwangtai. A part of the Japanese troops crossed the Liao river and moved down the opposite bank. The infantry attack commenced at 8 a.m., and after 2 hours the enemy began to retreat toward Shwangtaitsz, but their line of flight being intercepted by the Brigade from Kaiping, they suffered heavily. More than a thousand corpses were left on the field at this point alone. Inquiries conducted in Yingkow disclosed the fact that the number of the enemy too severely wounded to be carried off, in the battle on the 24th and 25th February—when Nogi pushed his outposts into the enemy's lines and was attacked by Sung with 15,000 men—had been 600. The records of the Red Cross Hospital under foreign management showed this. A great quantity of rifles and cannon were taken in the fight on the 9th instant. The Marshal adds that Tienchwangtai has been entirely consumed by a conflagration. We may add, for the information of our readers, that Tienchwangtai became the principal emporium of trade in south-western Shinking about 30 years ago, after old Newchwang was deposed from that position, but that the gradual silting up of the river caused the trade to be transferred to Yingkow (modern Newchwang). The Liao river is 2 miles wide at Tienchwangtai, and the place is difficult of approach for an assaulting army, since no cover whatever offers in the vicinity.

The *Nichi Nichi* publishes some striking stories of encounters between scouts of Major-General Nogi's Brigade when the latter's camp was at Feyuntsai, very close to Sung's lines. In one case a Sergeant and 4 Japanese troopers, on their way back to the camp, were attacked by 20 Chinese mounted braves, some of whom opened fire with carbines and some, dismounting, charged with spears. The five men drawing their swords, attempted to cut for themselves a path through the enemy. Four succeeded, but after they had ridden some distance, the sergeant looked back, and seeing one of his men, who had been shot in the stomach and had fallen from his horse, struggling along, now rising and now falling, he hastened back to his rescue and would have raised him on to his own horse. But the wounded man laughingly declined assistance. "My wound is too bad," he said, "to leave any chance of my escaping even on horseback. Do you get away as fast as possible, and discharge your duty by reporting what has happened to the officer in command." He had scarcely done speaking when the enemy reopened fire and came on with their spears. The sergeant had nothing for it but to ride away. He looked back once more and saw the Chinese carrying off the headless trunk of his comrade. We read also of another fight between two bodies of cavalry, in which three Japanese troopers were struck down. A party sent from Nogi's camp the next day to look for their bodies, found the snow dyed with blood throughout a space of 3,000 metres, showing how fierce had been the fight, and how heavy must have been the losses of the Chinese.

The *Hochi Shimbun* says that three vessels of the Peiyang Squadron are not yet accounted for, namely:—the *Taian* (1,258 tons); the *Chentai* (sister ship to the *Tsaochiang*) and the *Meiyuen* (578 tons).

Lieut.-General Viscount Nodzu is gazetted a full General. That means, of course, that he will now receive the permanent Command-in-Chief of the First Army.

The Viceroy Li is expected to leave Tientsin on the 13th or 14th instant. It is fair to conclude, therefore, that we are on the eve of seeing peace restored.

Wednesday, March 13th.

There is absolutely no news from the seat of war to-day. The *Kokkai* reports that Generals Ku and Wang are at Shanhaikwan with about 200,000 troops, but it is not possible to place much reliance on these figures.

The vernacular newspapers are now publishing detailed accounts of the attempts made by the Chinese on January 17th and 22nd to recover Haicheng, but as all the facts have already appeared in these columns from a correspondent in Haicheng, and as our vernacular contemporaries add nothing to his accounts, we do not translate them.

Her Majesty the Empress has conveyed messages of congratulation and thanks to the First and Second Armies, through the Head-quarter Staff. The message to the First Army runs thus:—

Her Majesty the Empress, having learned of the success achieved by the First Army in capturing Newchwang, has desired me to convey to the officers, non-commissioned officers, and men, her expressions of lively satisfaction, and to say that Her Majesty

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profoundly appreciates the loyalty and courage displayed by the Army.

(Signed) The Chief of the Staff
To Field-Marshal Nodzu, Commander-in-chief of the First Army.

The message to the Second Army is in identical terms, *mutatis mutandis*, the capture of Yingkow being the subject of eulogy.

The *Yomiuri*, in an extra issued last evening, says that the *North China Daily News* publishes the following telegram dated at Pekin 2.10 p.m. on the 11th instant:—

The Chinese Government, through the United States Ministers, have already agreed to the points to be discussed at the peace-conference, which include:—

The independence of Korea.

The cession of territory.

The payment of a money indemnity—the extent of which (the last two points presumably) the envoys are to determine.

No Imperial edict relating to the war is to be issued for a whole month, nor any published reference to the peace mission.

Entire harmony of opinion exists in the Council, the war-party having, unwillingly, yielded, as the above is the only possible course to be pursued, although there is latent hatred of Japan.

It is expected that the agreement arrived at will be signed at an early date.

There may be some truth in the above, but we find it difficult to believe. Certainly the assertion as to the part played by the United States Representatives is incorrect, and an error so palpable in one part of the story tends to invalidate the whole.

We gather the following information about the liberation of the Chinese that surrendered, from the vernacular press:—

It was stipulated that the Chinese that surrendered should land in Chutai at 5 p.m. on the 14th ult. Lieut. Colonel Kamioka and Captain Yoda having been commissioned to receive the men, they were on the landing place some hours before the appointed time. Five o'clock came but there was no sign of the approach of any ship carrying the soldiers. Meanwhile, darkness set in, and the officers and about two battalions of soldiers to be used as the guard of the Chinese, returned to their quarters. The sea was too rough on the following day to allow of any small ships coming to the coast. It was not till about 10 a.m. on the 16th ult. that a gunboat, presumably carrying the Chinese, was sighted starting from Liukung Island. To the surprise of the Japanese waiting to receive the vessel, it made for Peshantsui instead of steering for Chutao. The Japanese officers and soldiers then hastened to the former place and when the vessel was moored to the pier, a Chinese officer was caused to land and explain why the vessel had been brought to the wrong place. He replied coolly that Peshantsui had been selected as it was more convenient for landing. As that was true and it was not worth while disputing about the breach of promise, the Chinese were suffered to land on the pier. Six gunboats plied between the island and the pier till 6 p.m. of the same day and about 3,000 men were carried across. They were divided into companies of from 200 to 300, and were led away under a guard of Japanese soldiers toward the Chefoo road. On reaching Lutao, the termination of the Japanese cordon, the Chinese were set free. The appearance of the liberated soldiers and marines was truly piteous. Although divested of their weapons, they were allowed to wear their uniforms and to carry with them their personal effects. The latter consisted of tobacco pipes 3 feet long, umbrellas, bed-clothes, pitchers, kitchen knives, iron pans, shoes, medical cases, and musical instruments. Some carried their property on a pole, others on their backs or in their hands. They looked as if they had just plundered old furniture shops. Most of the men seemed entirely insensible of the disgrace to which they were being subjected, but a few appeared to be sincerely ashamed and to deplore their country's fate. There were many mechanics and grooms among the Chinese that landed on the pier. Some of them were accompanied by little boys and girls whose pitiful condition touched even the hearts of the Japanese officers and soldiers. Five officers of some importance were among the Chinese. These were all mounted, some being accompanied by relays of horses, and one, Colonel Yuan, had his effects in a carriage drawn by two horses. The remaining Chinese did not land next day, as had been previously arranged, but were carried to Chefoo by the *Kwang-chi*.

The Japanese officers who brought the captured war-ships *Ting-yuen* to Ujina, told the *Nippon's* correspondent that the *Chen-yuen* was taken to Port Arthur on the 25th ult. for temporary repairs before being brought to Yokosuka where she will be completely repaired. The Port Arthur dock is said to be unsuited for the purpose. A war-ship—the *Paochio*—was sunk by the Japanese Fleet at the battle of Weihaiwei by means of torpedoes, but her name is not well known. The officers also told the correspondent that the *Ching-yuen* was the only Chinese war-ship sunk by shots from the forts at Pohchiyaisui, all the others sunk in the harbour of Weihaiwei having been destroyed by torpedoes.

THURSDAY, MARCH 14TH.

The official return of the officers wounded at the battle of Tienchwang-tai is as follows:—Captain Chiba Tanesuke, of the Infantry, shot in the right thigh; and Ensign Shinowara Minekichi, shot through both thighs.

In default of intelligence from the seat of war some of the vernacular newspapers write about the remaining portion of the Chinese Navy, but since the destruction or capture of the ships composing the Peiyang Squadron, the Chinese Navy has ceased to be a belligerent factor of much importance.

Conjectures are now beginning to be formed as to the next operations that the First Army will undertake. It is tolerably evident that the First and Second Armies are to act independently. The Second Army now consists of three Divisions, the Tokyo Division, the Sendai Division, and the Kumamoto Division. To these will soon be added the Imperial Guards, so that, if we suppose the Divisions to be brought up to their war strength, the Army will aggregate about 70,000 men. The First Army consists of two Divisions, the Hiroshima Division and the Nagoya Division, its total strength being thus 40,000 of all ranks. Our readers will have observed that in the reports referring to the spoils taken by a Brigade of the Second Army at Yingkow, it was stated that all articles too large to be easily transported were to be handed over to the First Army. From that alone it is plain that while the First Army remains in Manchuria, the Second is to employed on some over-sea expedition. What then will the First Army do? The armies hitherto massed on its west and south, namely, those of Wu and Sung, have been completely broken up and scattered, and the only forces remaining to be disposed of are the Liaoyang Army which received a crushing blow from Katsura on the 28th ult. and following day, and the remnants of the Tartar Army stationed among the hills eastward of Fenghwan and Motien. It cannot be supposed that the First Army will remain idle, but whether it will push westward, or whether it will advance to the north against Liaoyang and Mukden, we do not pretend to say.

The *Hochi Shimbun* adopts the former hypothesis. It speaks confidently of the First Army's marching direct from Tienchwangtai to Chinchow and thence to Shankaikwan, and describes the character of the country between the Liao River and Chinchow. But since the distance from Tienchwangtai is over 200 miles, we find it incredible that such a movement should be undertaken.

The *Shogyo Shimpo* says that the honours of the battle of Newchwang belong chiefly to the 18th Regiment of the Fifth Brigade of the Nagoya Division. The bulk of the casualties fell also to that regiment's lot. It had one Captain killed, a Colonel and three Lieutenants wounded, and 170 rank and file killed or wounded.

The *Yomuri* says that in the house to house fight at Newchwang the Japanese soldiers used gun-cotton to blow open the doors of the houses where the Chinese soldiers were holding out, and then charged in, singing a war song in chorus.

According to an account published by the *Kokkai*, the Chinese, in their attack upon Tomucheng on the 16th of February, hoped to take advantage of the comparative paucity of the Japanese garrison. They came on from the east in skirmishing order, to the number of about 1,000. Major Hayashi, who commanded the Japanese troops, ordered the most complete silence to be observed in the hope of inducing the enemy to approach within easy range. These tactics led the Chinese to suppose that the town was undefended, and they advanced firing briskly and flying flags to within 300 or 400 metres. Then the garrison suddenly opened fire checking the enemy effectually, but not putting them to flight. Tomucheng being a Japanese commercial station, there were many land-transport men there, and these, arming themselves, took post on the flanks of the troops, and the whole, charging into the open, made such an imposing show that the Chinese took to flight leaving 60 dead upon the field. The Japanese had not a man killed or wounded. The spoils were 30 *fusils de rempart*, 7 rifles, and 6 flags.

FRIDAY, MARCH 15TH.

We continue without any news of an interesting character.

From Shanghai comes a report that sixteen Japanese men-of-war have been sighted off north Formosa, and that their destination is believed to be Keelung or Tamsui. Another rumour current in Shanghai is that the Japanese intend to occupy the Pescadores as a base of operations against Formosa and South China.

The Tartar troops who, subsequently to their unsuccessful attempt against Haicheng, last December, retired into the hills eastward of Chiulien and Fenghwan, are again making their appearance in the field. A telegram from the staff office at Takushan says that, at 9 a.m. on the 11th instant, the Eleventh Regiment under Colonel Nishijima, encountered a body of the enemy, numbering about 1,000, on an eminence above Hiang-lu-keu-ling, and, after a brief engagement, drove them back, and pursued them as far as the vicinity of Wantien-tsz. A company of infantry, also, which had advanced in the direction of Changlingtsz, was met by a force of 600 men, composed of Koreans and Manchurians, and drove it back, the enemy retreating toward Fachutiengtse. Another force of the enemy, numbering 1,000, approximately, advanced against our left rear. One company and afterwards a second was sent against them, but they retained their position. After sunset the Regiment returned to Changkang, and went into quarters there. The enemy left over 70 dead upon the field. The Japanese casualties were 5 wounded, including Ensign Miyake, but none killed. Two Chinese flags, 20 repeating rifles, and a number of Manchu spears were taken.

A telegram from Ninsen says that a force of 130 Japanese soldiers sent from Fwanchu in Korea on the 3rd instant for the purpose of reconnoitering, having been joined by 150 Korean troops from Ponzan, attacked and defeated a body of rebels, 200 strong, on the 4th instant, near Gimpa. A quantity of rice and weapons of war were taken from the Tonghaks. According to statements received from various quarters there are still 1,000 Tonghaks at Kingessan.

His Majesty the Emperor has addressed to the First Army the following Message:—

"Soldiers—Since you captured Haicheng, you have had to endure great rigours of climate, and have beaten back several attacks from the enemy. Advancing to Ngan-chan and changing front to Newchwang, you finally joined forces with a portion of the Second Army, and took Yingkow, one of the most important places in Shinking. At Newchwang, especially, you fought a hot fight from house to house and completely broke the enemy's forces. We profoundly applaud and honour your deeds."

His Majesty's Message to the Second Army is as follows:—"Soldiers—Since you captured Kaiping, you have had to endure great rigours of climate, and have beaten back the enemy's attacks. Recently, covering the rear of the First Army as it changed front to Ngan-shan-chan and Newchwang, you guarded it against risks, and finally joining forces with it, took Yingkow, one of the most important places in Shinking. We profoundly applaud and honour your deeds."

The telegraph between Shanghai and Tientsin has been interrupted since the 13th instant.

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WEIHAIWEI.

(From our Special Correspondent with the Army.)

Weihaiwei, February 12, 1895.

The past week has been one of tiresome inactivity on land. The officers and men as well as the camp followers are complaining of ennui. Want of activity meaning absence of news, it has been especially hard for us newspaper correspondents to be condemned to lie on straw and have nothing to do but talk over stale news day after day. With the navy, however, it has been a week of incessant vigilance and activity. Since the combined operations of the 7th instant, no general attack has been undertaken against the Chinese fleet and the forts by the Japanese war-vessels and the sea forts in their hands. But almost every night Japanese torpedo boats have entered the port and prosecuted destructive operations against the ever diminishing remnants of the once powerful Northern Fleet of China. These nocturnal attacks are made in the small hours of the morning when the moon has descended behind the range of mountains to the west of the harbour. At such hours, reports of guns fired by the Chinese warships upon the approaching torpedo boats may be heard by such as happen to be awake. Thoroughly tired of the life of inactivity to which we have been condemned for these several days, I made a trip here this morning as a means of the breaking the monotony. On this occasion, I was able to procure the service of a Chinese horse; but it was far from pleasant to travel eight miles on the back of a slow and obstinate beast, with wooden harness, under the guns of the enemy's war ships. As to the latter course of apprehension, I need not have been under any uneasiness, for I have learnt since my arrival here that, long before I left my abominable den at Hushan, one of the Chinese gun-boats had been observed to steam out of the eastern entrance with a white flag, evidently for the purpose of conferring with the Japanese fleet about capitulation. But being at the time entirely ignorant of this circumstance, and knowing by my own experience how lavish the Chinese are in the use of their shots, I could not but be under constant apprehension of a salute from the Chinese ships that were, as I thought, watching the shore along which I urged my obdurate horse, followed by a number of provision carts drawn by coolies. I noticed four of these ships lying close to Hwang Island at the western entrance of the harbour.

Weihaiwei is a walled city of some antiquity, containing about 20,000 souls in round numbers. As attested by a monument standing at the western corner of the wall on the hill side at the back of the place, the town was constructed in the time of the Ming dynasty by way of defence against hordes of Japanese adventurers then a terror along the whole eastern coasts of China. Liu-kung-tau was once in the possession of these Vikings. The present name of the island is derived from that of a man who fell in his heroic efforts to drive the intruders out. The place being thus full of reminiscences pointing to valiant exploits by the Japanese of old, it was with no common amount of curiosity and interest that I entered the city. Just inside the Southern gate, I observed a large crowd of Japanese, some coming out and others entering a side avenue. Following the stream of loiterers, I came upon a Chinese house of respectable character. A gendarme was standing at the gate keeping off the crowd. From him I learned that a shell from one of the Chinese war vessels had struck an inner building in the compound the preceding evening, severely wounding three of the inmates, a man and two women. With the guard's permission, I visited the place, which was shown and explained to me by one of the family. The shell burst through the wall of the building, making a round hole about three feet in diameter, and, smashing the inner partitions, struck against the mud wall on the opposite side, where it entered the ground. I saw one of the injured persons, the son of the master of the house. The poor fellow was groaning on his bed, with his head buried in a mass of bandages. He and the two women were promptly attended to by surgeons sent by the Japanese Commander. I offered a small present in money on behalf of the wounded, and it was gratefully accepted, the whole family coming out to tender heartfelt thanks. I had a pleasant conversation in writing with the master of the house. He highly appreciated the timely assistance tendered by the Japanese surgeons, sparing no terms in praise of their skill. He expressed himself indignant at what he considered the reckless and inhuman action of the fleet of his own country.

The streets are wide and tolerably well kept, lined on both sides by houses of substantial construction and of large dimensions. Here and there are private mansions such as I had never seen either at Chinchow on Yungcheng. Altogether, this is the finest place I have thus far seen in China. The majority of the inhabitants remain at home, only the officials and the very richest having left. The houses not appropriated for the use of the troops have notices at the gate forbidding the Japanese to enter. It is a noticeable fact that the female portion of the population has not abandoned the town. Many of them do not fear to venture out of doors. Most of the houses, whose inmates have fled, show signs of depredations, but these are the work of the Chinese braves, who never fail to rob their fellow countrymen when they fly before advancing Japanese. Such has been the invariable experience at all the places passed through in the present campaign. The inhabitants of Weihaiwei freely vent their indignation at the lawless behaviour of the soldiery.

In one of the streets there is a Chinese shop where several articles of daily use are sold, such as sugar, tea, paper, soap, writing brushes, towels, etc. A number of gardarmes are stationed in the shop; but their presence is hardly necessary, as the Japanese soldiers and coolies are little prone to give trouble. The prices are marked for each article on a piece of board. The Chinese are driving a roaring trade, for the shop is always besieged by a crowd of buyers. There are a few other shops where cakes and confectionery are sold.

The town is at present the head-quarters of the Second Division, one of the brigades being quartered here, while the other is stationed several miles to the west along the coast road to Chefoo.

LETTER FROM HUSHAN.

(From our Special Correspondent with the Army.)

Hushan, February 14th.

Having heard of the capitulation of the Chinese fleet, I returned here from Weihaiwei yesterday afternoon, for information is always most expeditiously and accurately obtained at the head-quarters of the army. The facts I have thus far been able to collect concerning the surrender of the Chinese fleet are as follow. On the 12th instant at 8.30 a.m., a Chinese gun-boat flying a white flag was seen approaching the *Matsushima Kan*, the flag-ship of the Japanese fleet, then at anchor at Yinshankow, not far from the harbour of Weihaiwei. At a signal from the *Matsushima*, the Chinese gun-boat stopped at a distance of about 800 metres. A gun-boat then came out from the Japanese fleet and slowly led the Chinese ship to the side of the Japanese flag-ship. The name of the Chinese gun-boat was the *Chin-peh*. A boat was immediately lowered from her, and, in it there came to the *Matsushima* a messenger of war, Chang, Captain of the *Kwang-ping*, a Cantonese, educated in the West. He brought a letter from Admiral Ting addressed to Admiral Ito, the purport of which was that, though his original determination had been to fight to the end, the writer was now disposed to save the lives under his charge, and that, should that request be granted, he would deliver up to the Japanese all the war-ships in the harbour and all the forts, magazines, and so forth on the island of Liukung. His prayer for the lives of those under his command extended to the troops on the island and to the foreigners. On receipt of this letter, Admiral Ito immediately called together his officers and held a council. A large number of the officers present urged the advisability of taking the more conspicuous of the Chinese officers as prisoners of war. But the Admiral rejected all such suggestions, and declared for accepting the terms proposed by the Chinese, saying that to demand an unconditional surrender under the circumstances would be a harsh course, unbecoming the proverbial magnanimity of Japanese *samurai*. While the council was going on, the Chinese messenger was entertained in a separate room by one of the staff officers. A little past twelve, an answer was placed in his hands addressed to Admiral Ting, granting his request on the terms proposed by him, but advising him in a friendly spirit to come to Japan and remain there till the close of the war. Such a course, said the letter, would be in every respect most advantageous for him. Admiral Ito also sent by the messenger a case each of champagne and whisky and a barrel of persimmons as a present to Admiral Ting. Admiral Ito's letter, it must be stated, further named the 14th of February as the date for the delivery of the ships, forts, and so forth. A reply to this was asked for by 10 a.m. of the following day, the 13th. As soon as the report about the arrival of the messenger of surrender reached the head-quarters of the Army at Hushan, the Field-Marshal dispatched Lieutenant-Colonel Ijichi and Mr. Ariga, legal adviser, to the *Matsushima* for the purpose of representing his views to Admiral Ito on the question of capitulation. But the deputation did not arrive at the flagship in time to convey their message to the Admiral before he had made up his mind as to the course to be pursued. Thus Admiral Ito acted on his sole responsibility, and to him belongs the sole honour of having resolved on such a magnanimous course. On the 13th at 8 a.m., namely two hours earlier than the specified time, the messenger of the preceding day, Captain Chang, came to the *Matsushima*. His appearance on this occasion presented a marked change. He was visibly dejected and in much trouble. Slowly delivering Admiral Ting's reply, he then informed Admiral Ito, with tears in his eyes, that, after finishing the letter now in the Japanese Admiral's hands, and writing a telegraphic message to Li Chung-tang, Admiral Ting had committed suicide, his example being soon followed by Commodore Liu and General Chang. The Chinese Admiral's letter was couched in language of unusual warmth and friendship. After sincerely thanking Admiral Ito for his ready compliance with his request, Admiral Ting went on to express his regret that, in the present state of relations between the two countries, he did not think it proper to accept the kind gifts sent to him the preceding day. As to the date for the surrender of the Chinese marines and troops and the delivery of the war-vessels, forts, etc., he asked for a postponement until the 16th. All the by-standers say that the news of Admiral Ting's death made a deep impression upon the Japanese Admiral, a man of warm sympathies and genuine benevolence. He willingly consented to the prolongation of date as requested. The messenger was further charged to tell the Chinese naval authorities to send a responsible delegate by 6 p.m. that day to arrange details about the departure of the Chinese officers and men, and the delivery of the ships, forts, and other things. At the appointed hour, the required delegates arrived in the persons of Niu, whose card represented him to be a Taotai, but who was believed to be actually an official of lower rank, and the same Captain Chang who had been the Chinese messenger on the two preceding occasions. It was settled that the officers and foreigners in Kiukung should be suffered to depart un-

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molested on making a promise not to take up arms against Japan in the present war; that the men should be released without such promise; that the officers and men should land near the village of Chutao, in the vicinity of Weihaiwei; that they should be escorted out of the Japanese lines by Japanese troops; and that the delivery of the war vessels and the forts should be effected on the morning of the 16th just before the landing of the Chinese marines and troops.

Such is the information I have obtained about the capitulation of the Chinese war vessels. The ships that are still floating are the *Chen-yuen*, the *Chi-yuen*, the *Ping-yuen*, and the *Kwang-ping*, and several gun-boats. This afternoon I ascended the highest peak at the back of the village, in company with Mr. Amano of the *Osaka Asahi Shimbun*. It was indeed a melancholy sight to see the remnants of the once powerful northern fleet of China lying quiet and, as it were, crestfallen in a corner of the harbour. A rumour that the *Ying-yuen* was blown up by the Chinese after the 12th, has been current among the Japanese, and we now found that the report was but too true. The ship was distinctly seen to have been broken at the middle into two nearly equal parts.

As to the forts to be delivered into the Japanese hands, they are three in number, those on Zhih, Liukung, and Hwang island. I have obtained the following figures relating to the armament of all the forts along the harbour of Weihaiwei:—

Forts.	Calibre and kind of Guns.	Number of Guns.
Polishan-tsui	No. 1...24 cent. Krupp	2
	No. 2...24 do	2
	No. 3...24 do	2
Hwangniyai	21 do	2
Tsisztai	No. 1...21 do	2
	No. 2...15 do	1
	No. 3...15 do	1
Chiufangting	15 do	2
Polting	15 do	2
	12 do (quick firing)	2
Lungmiao-tsui	21 do	2
	15 do	2
Luchu-tsui	24 do	4
Chaopoh-tsui	24 do	3
	28 do	2
Siechiau	15 do	4
Tifangling	12 do	4
Zhih	Armstrong	2
Liukung	do	2
Hwang	24 cent. Krupp	6

The Armstrong guns were made at Nanking, those on Liukung were ordered from England. The Krupp guns in the rest of the forts are of the most advanced kind.

With the surrender of the Chinese fleet, the Weihaiwei expedition has been practically ended, and hearing of the speedy departure of another expedition from Japan, I decided to go home by the earliest ship. I have obtained permission to leave to-morrow morning in company with Lieutenant-Colonel Jojo and a few other officers who are returning to Hiroshima to report to the Imperial Head-quarters there.

I have just returned from a round of visits to such officers as showed kindness to me during my stay here. Count Oyama was ever ready to enter into genial conversation. I was profoundly touched by the sincerity and warmth with which he deplored the sad death of his friend Admiral Ting. "We had hoped," said he, "that we might have the satisfaction of accompanying the brave man home to Japan, lest he should be subjected to indignities on going to China during the war. But fate willed otherwise. We are denied the pleasure. Poor fellow!" Such sentiments are not confined to the Field-Marshal: they are shared by the other officers and civilians here. There is not a man who does not admire the heroic manner in which Admiral Ting resisted the Japanese as long as possible, and sincerely regret his not less heroic end.

In his recently published autobiography, Sir William Gregory narrates that after his election to Parliament for Dublin he received a letter from a worker, who requested a Government situation on the plea that he had voted no less than thirteen times for Sir William under as many different names.

KOREAN NEWS.

Further news from Söul conforms with the explanation already given in these columns of the cause of the recent crisis in the Korean Cabinet. It was entirely due to the manœuvres of Boku Yeiko, Minister of Home Affairs, and Jyo Kohan, Minister of Justice, with a view to ousting their old colleagues and forming a new Cabinet composed of themselves and those friendly to them. The presence of Kin Koshu, Premier, and Gio Inchu, Minister of Finance, was a great stumbling-block in their path and they were therefore anxious to get rid of those two men. This could not, however, be accomplished by their sole power, so Boku, taking advantage of his renewed friendship with the Queen, took steps to win her over to his side. It was a dangerous idea, for although the Queen had promised Count Inouye not to intermeddle in future in State affairs, the temptation offered by Boku was too strong for her after she had once enjoyed the pleasure of governing the country. An understanding was come to between the Queen and Boku, and it was decided that a coalition Cabinet composed of the Boku party and the Mings should be formed. Out of the nine Ministerships, no less than five were to be given to men enjoying the special confidence of the Queen. Boku was of course to fill the office of Premier—the cherished object of his ambition. How to win over the Japanese Ambassador was the most difficult part of the programme, but as that was necessary to its fulfilment, Boku resorted to various methods congenial to his nature, slandering the Premier and the Minister of Finance, telling Count Inouye that the two were again coming into close friendship with the Tai Wön-kun, and saying that it was impossible to carry on State affairs in conjunction with such old bigots, and so forth. Finding that these devices produced no apparent effect upon the Japanese Minister, Boku became alarmed, but having gone so far, it was impossible to retreat. He therefore took another bold step and tried to deceive his two rivals as well as Count Inouye. He called on the former and told them that the King and the Japanese Minister, being highly dissatisfied with the incapability of the Cabinet, desired its resignation. Kin and Gio, believing this and being men of strict fidelity, assented to Boku's proposal that the Ministers should resign in a body in obedience to the secret wish of the King. On the evening of the day on which all the Cabinet Ministers and Vice-Ministers resolved to tender their resignations, Boku went to the Japanese Representative and told him that a plot formed by the rival party against his (Boku's) life had been discovered and one of the accomplices arrested. The Home Minister's object was to discredit Kin and Gio in the eyes of Count Inouye, so as to preclude them when a new Cabinet was formed. All these artifices were, however, soon brought to light. The Count, suspecting Boku, sent one of his confidential subordinates to Kin Koshu to ascertain the motive that led him and the Minister of Finance to take the step decided upon by them, and Boku's scheme was at once made clear. All the reward that he obtained for his trouble was a severe reprimand from Count Inouye. In spite of his blameworthy conduct, Boku's presence in the Cabinet is considered necessary to counteract the conservative tendency of older Ministers and he is therefore allowed to remain in office. It was only after about 10 days' earnest remonstrance and advice that the Count succeeded in conciliating the Premier and the Minister of Finance, especially the latter, and in inducing them to become unsuspicious of, and frank with, their younger and progressively inclined colleagues. When the Cabinet met on the 21st ultimo, the Count was present and spoke for several hours on the absolute necessity of cordial unity on the part of the Ministers in the management of State affairs. He enjoined them, if they were really desirous to maintain Korean independence, they must discard all personal interests and keep only national interests in view. The Ministers promised to do as the Count advised, and once more the Cabinet trouble was quieted. As a step towards improving the relations between the old and the new Ministers, the Premier held a party in his residence on the evening of the 22nd ultimo to which he invited all the members of the Cabinet and other distinguished personages. The next evening a similar entertainment was given by Kin Kachin, Minister of Public Works. In the course of the banquet, Boku turned to Gio and said that he was grieved to hear that rumours were circulated about the supposed unfriendly relations of the two. Such a thing could never be, seeing that Gio was a warm friend of Boku's father. Boku hoped that Gio would disregard any such rumours. The conversation between the two is said to have been of a cordial nature.

The ring-leader of the late Kin Kakun's assassins has been arrested. He is reported to have been a steward of the Tai Wön-kun, who is therefore supposed to be implicated in the affair. Several accomplices have taken shelter in the Tai Wön-kun's house around which, at the time of the despatch of the latest letters from Söul correspondents of Tokyo papers, the Police were stretching a cordon. A vernacular paper published, on the 7th instant a telegram from the Korean capital to the effect that the old Prince had been detected in an attempt to commit suicide.

Mr. Le Gendre and other foreign *employés* of the Korean Government have been discharged. It is believed, however, that Mr. Greathouse and one or two others will be re-engaged.

QUESTIONS ABOUT THE REVISED TREATY.

The *Keisai Zasshi* comments on the points raised by the two Houses of Parliament in connection with the new Anglo-Japanese Treaty. It speaks thus of the Questions of the House of Peers:—

"Art. XI. of the Revised Anglo-Japanese Treaty contains provisions relating to the coasting trade. The first clause reserves the coasting trade and the second provides that a vessel laden with cargo for two or more ports may discharge a portion of her cargo at each port. Yet the third clause runs," &c.

In consequence of the provisions of the third clause the coasting trade will be carried on as it is at present, but as the provisions will only be valid during the prescribed period of the Revised Treaty, the provision given in the first and second clauses cannot be said to be absolutely inefficacious. Again, the cargo to be carried between the existing open ports will include that taken in at a Treaty Ports as this is acknowledged in the present coasting trade.

With regard to the questions whether foreign land-holders are to be exempted from local obligations; whether the Government intends fulfilling those obligations in the capacity of land proprietor; and whether the right of domain cannot be exercised over land leased to individual foreigners, the *Keisai* concurs with the doubt of the questioners and is anxious to hear the replies of the Government.

The *Keisai* is less favourable to the questions raised on Art. XIX., on Military obligations mentioned in Art. II. and in the Diplomatic Note, and on the Customs duties of the British colonies and possessions. It wonders that such questions have been raised, as the perusal of the Revised Treaty makes them all clear. It is needless, to say that, in accordance with the provisions of Art. XIX. of the Revised Treaty, the British Representative in Tokyo will give notice to the Japanese Government within two years from the day of the ratification of the present Treaty, to the effect that the Treaty will be enforced in India and in eleven other British possessions. Should the Revised Treaty be put into operation without such notice having been given, there would be no Treaty between Japan and India and the eleven other British possessions. Even if the Revised Treaty be enforced in India and the eleven other British possessions, the provisions

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of Art. II. will not hold good in virtue of Lord Kimberley's Diplomatic Note. But if Japanese subjects that go to those British possessions are obliged to undergo various military obligations, it follows that the people of those places coming to Japan shall be similarly treated, for privileges must be reciprocal.

As regards the Tariff appended in the Protocol, it is provided in Art. I of that Protocol that the Treaty signed this day shall be applicable to articles, grown, produced or manufactured in the dominions and possessions of Her Britannic Majesty, upon their importation into Japan. It is therefore absurd to say that the Customs rates are to be applied to articles grown, produced, or manufactured in England and not to those coming from India and other British possessions.

The question whether the body of the Revised treaty ratified by the Emperor is not restricted by the Diplomatic Note, must be considered rather superfluous. The Treaty was signed on the 16th of July of last year and Viscount Aoki sent the Diplomatic Note to Lord Kimberley on the same day. The Treaty was not, however, duly ratified until the 24th of August, so that the Note could not alter the Treaty subsequently ratified by the Emperor.

The next question raised by the House of Peers is whether it was not unconstitutional on the part of the Government to alter the Customs rates without soliciting the consent of the Diet, and the *Keisai* owns to having also had its doubts on the subject. It hopes therefore that the Government will give a clear explanation of the point. It thinks that the Government would also do well to explain the question about the restriction of the operation of the text of the Treaty by means of the Protocol and Diplomatic Notes, and questions whether such Protocol and Notes at variance with the text of the Treaty are binding.

The *Keisai* next takes up the questions of the House of Representatives. It does not consider the condemnation of the latter to the effect that the Revised Treaty is outwardly firm but inwardly weak, and that it is designed to beguile both the Court and the people, sufficiently substantiated. The second and third questions about the relation between the Treaty and the Diplomatic Notes are more or less similar to those brought forward by the House of Peers and require no special comment.

The *Keisai* has, however, something to say in connection with the fifth question about the Government's policy with respect to the resources of the State. It is of opinion that although the national finances may at some time or other necessitate the imposition of high tariff duties, yet to impose them with a view to developing national resources must be strongly denounced, the enforcement of the policy of a protective tariff being altogether antagonistic to the development of national resources. It is erroneous to say that there would be no opportunity to put into force Customs rates determined by the country, should other Treaty Powers contract similar stipulations as those now entered into with England, for it is not on all articles imported, but only on a small portion of them that a special contract about Customs rates has been made.

The *Keisai* considers the fifth question about the Government's policy with regard to the national economy subsequent to the war, too severe, the Revised Treaty having been contracted on July 16th, before the outbreak of the war, and the notification alone having been made afterward. Moreover, the main point in revising the Treaty was to recover national autonomy, not to raise the Customs rates, and there is no reason why the ratification of such a Treaty as that between England and Japan, should be deferred on account of a war. The national economic policy subsequent to the war can be maintained without in any way raising the tariff rates, for the increase of Customs receipts is not effected by raising the rates but by contriving to ensure the prosperity of foreign commerce.

ENGLAND AND JAPAN.

England alone, writes the *Kokumin-no-Tomo* in its latest issue, does not share the universal pleasure felt at the signal success achieved by Japan in her war with China. Even the English statesmen, discerning through they generally are in matters relating to their country's interests, do not form a true estimate of "Greater Japan." That is not strange, for they only get inaccurate information about Japan through the distorted medium of newspaper editors in the East, who are all vile men, omitting to mention every creditable action on Japan's part and exaggerating whatever would tend to lower her in the eyes of the world. Thus led astray by their informants in the east, the English people have come to look upon the rise of "Greater Japan" with dissatisfaction exceeded only by that felt by China. The attitude that is attributed to the English has caused various rumours to be circulated, all of which are unfriendly to Japan. The writer does not know how far those rumours are founded on facts, but he is of opinion that so long as the English have sense enough to discern what are really their interests and are not led astray by a sentiment of envy, they cannot assume a hostile attitude toward Japan. Conflict with this country would mean the loss of England's power and influence in the east, which would be followed by the loss of her possessions in the South Sea and in the continent of Asia. Let us suppose, for the sake of argument, continues the *Kokumin-no-Tomo*, that England entertains a feeling of enmity against Japan. Could she carry that enmity into effect? It is most doubtful. Japan has now discarded her former foreign policy of concession and is determined to assert herself. Diplomacy would therefore be of no avail, and the dispute would have to be settled by the relative fighting strength of the two countries. Has England sufficient power to carry her point? Far from it. England is in one sense the China of Europe. Her greatness is chiefly due to the achievements of her forefathers. It is entirely historical, and that fame was gained for the most part by fighting with peoples greatly inferior in strength and capacity. Trafalgar and Waterloo were the only battles worthy of the name, but even those are nothing much to be boasted of, for the first was gained over an antagonist much inferior in seamanship, while the second was won over a general already greatly embarrassed by the combined forces of Europe and whose star was in the decline. If the fame attained by England in subjugating savages and the sort of terror with which she is regarded by other countries on account of her vast possessions, be excepted, her greatness becomes an insignificant thing. In her outer pomp and historical fame, quite out of proportion with her real strength, England greatly resembles China. The writer explains that this observation about England is not actuated by any hostile motive. He respects England as a good Treaty Power, and on that account calculates her strength so as to make it clear that she cannot entertain any enmity toward Japan and to dispel any suspicions that may be felt by the Japanese people on that score. He then proceeds to speak of the naval forces of the two countries, England's being confined to her Oriental Fleet. She has, it is true, stronger squadrons at home, in the Mediterranean and at the Cape, but she cannot well spare them, so that the naval forces that would be used by her in case of an emergency would not be much stronger than the Oriental Fleet. But what of the relative fighting of the two Navies? As regards that point, the writer does not see any reason why the Japanese should fear their prospective foe. The Japanese Fleet has acquired invaluable experience in the present war, worth more than the mere theoretical training of twenty years, while the English Fleet has had no such practical training with the exception of some unimportant battles with uncivilized enemies. England's land forces, without whose cöoperation it would be impossible for her to fight, are miserable, continues the writer. The only troops available to her for the purpose are the sepoys of India who cannot be expected to make any stand against the well-disciplined and fearless Japanese veterans. The inconvenience of transportation would practically preclude extensive use of even the native troops of India. On the other hand, the advantages enjoyed by Japan in the matter of land forces are considerable. She can levy hundreds of thousands of the standing of sepoys who turn out good soldiers after four months' training, as has been verified by the troops now fighting in Manchuria. England would thus be compelled in the imaginary war with Japan, to depend on her Navy alone. That would, however, be absurd. That men-of-war attacking a fort are exposed to great danger and disadvantage is acknowledged, and was, clearly proved in the battle at Weihaiwei. Undisciplined and pusillanimous though the Chinese were, they succeeded in inflicting more or less harm upon the Japanese men-of-war, and the latter were unable to operate freely until assisted by the land-forces. How much more would that be the case in the attack of a fort defended by Japanese of tried valour and skill! To fight Japan with the navy only might succeed in devastating the coast, but the object of the war would not be attained. Then again, where could the English Fleet repair its damages. Englishmen must be well aware of all these disadvantages and will forbear from taking any such rash step as the one talked of. Some say that the consideration that England is safe from any invasion on Japan's part, while she could easily invade this country and even march upon the capital, might induce her to undertake a war with Japan. The writer rejects that notion utterly. He thinks that the grave nature of the issue of such a war must deter England from any attempt of the kind, for if the English Fleet were once defeated by Japan the prestige of the former country would be forfeited and she would have to be prepared to lose all her vast territory in Asia and America. She would be reduced to the state in which Spain now is. The writer concludes with a warning to England to think carefully about the course that ought to be taken by her at the present important crisis.

THE SURRENDER OF WEIHAIWEI

At half-past 5 p.m. on the 13th ult., Niu, representing the Chinese Army and Navy at Weihaiwei, came with Commander Chang to the flag-ship *Matsushima* for the purpose of arranging the details of the negotiation. That was the third time that Chang had come, but being simply the Captain of the *Kwang-ping*, he had not been recognized by Admiral Ito as a fit person to conduct the negotiation. It had therefore been required that a Chinese officer competent to act as the representative of the Chinese Army and Fleet in Weihaiwei should come to the Japanese flag-ship. Niu was the highest Chinese officer in Weihaiwei after Admiral Ting's death, and the responsibility naturally devolved upon him. The negotiation was at once held in a cabin of the flag-ship. On the part of Japan, Admiral Ito, Captain Dewa, Chief of the Staff of the combined Japanese squadrons, Lieut.-Colonel Ichichi, Adjutant of the Staff of the Second Army, were present at the conclave. Captain Ishii of the Artillery also sat at the board on account of his proficiency in Chinese. On the part of China, Taotai Niu and Commander Chang were the only officers present. By 11 p.m. of the same evening, the negotiations were concluded and a complete agreement was signed. It consisted of 11 Articles as follow: —(1) There shall be furnished a full list of the Chinese soldiers and sailors and of the foreigners in Chinese employ who are to be set free in accordance with the present stipulation. (2) The Chinese officers and the foreign employés shall sign promises not to again take part in the present war between Japan and China; (3) The military equipment of Liukung shall be collected at certain definite places, which shall be reported to the Japanese, and the Chinese soldiers and sailors

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shall be landed at Peshantsui between 5 p.m. of the 14th and noon of the 15th, thence to be sent, under the escort of Japanese troops, from Weihaiwei beyond the lines; (4) The Chinese officer duly competent to represent the Chinese Army and Fleet in Weihaiwei shall appoint Committees for the purpose of handing over the warships and forts, and shall cause them to submit by noon of the 15th, a full list of the arms found in the ships and forts placed under their charge. (5) The Chinese officers and the foreigners in Chinese service, shall be allowed to leave Weihaiwei on board the *Kangchi* as set forth in Art. 10. (6) The officers shall be allowed to carry away their personal effects, with the exception of arms. (7) The inhabitants of Liukung shall be advised to live on the island as before; (8) The landing of the Japanese on Liukung shall begin at 9 a.m. of the 16th, and steps shall be taken to hand over the ships, forts, and so forth at once; (9) Any inhabitants or other non-combatants that wish to leave the place, shall be permitted to do so in Chinese junks, from the morning of the 15th, after having undergone inspection by Japanese naval officers; (10) In order to pay due respect to the memory of Admiral Ting who died in the discharge of his duty to his country, Admiral Ito shall decline to receive the steamer *Kangchi*, but shall leave it at the free disposal of Taotai Niu who shall carry away in it the remains of the Admiral and others that died with him, these steps to be taken between noon of the 16th and noon of the 23rd of February. The ship shall be inspected by Japanese naval officers on the morning of the 15th. (11) Should the Chinese in Liukung after the conclusion of this agreement offer any resistance to the Japanese, the agreement shall entirely lose its validity, and the Japanese will at once resume military operations.

One of the questions that required longest deliberation had reference to the place when the Chinese officers were to be sent and what ship should be used for the purpose. This matter was left unsettled that day to be definitely arranged on the next, when the Taotai promised to come once more, after having deliberated with his colleagues. Next day the two Chinese again visited the flagship and it was decided to carry the Chinese officers and foreign employés to Chefoo on board the *Kangchi*. When Admiral Ito proposed to present that ship for the purpose of conveying the remains of Admiral Ting, the two envoys were deeply grateful. They stood up and offered a profound obeisance to the Admiral. All the particulars of the surrender having been satisfactorily arranged, the Chinese soldiers were landed on the 16th at Peshantsui to be transported thence under an escort of Japanese troops to Lutaokow. At noon on the 17th, the Japanese Fleet entered the harbour of Weihaiwei and all the warships, forts, and armament were handed over. At 4 p.m. on the same day, the *Kangchi*, having on board the Chinese officers and the foreign employés, steamed out of the western entrance of the harbour and proceeded toward Chefoo.

The process of negotiation was somewhat inconvenient. The Taotai spoke in Chinese, Chang then translated his words into English, and Mr. Ariga next rendered the English translation into Japanese. When Admiral Ito had to say anything, exactly the converse operations of rendering and re-rendering had to be gone through. Captain Ishii was present to see that no mistake was made in Chang's translation. One point about which the Taotai was specially troubled was the stipulation that the Chinese soldiers should be landed in Weihaiwei and sent beyond the Japanese lines under escort. He said that as the Chinese troops were ill disciplined and were liable to be guilty of disorderly conduct while being escorted beyond the lines, this arrangement had better be dispensed with. The Taotai persisted in that request even after he had been assured by the Admiral that as the soldiers were to be deprived of arms and were to be escorted under strong guard, he need not entertain any such apprehension. Admiral Ito finally said, somewhat sharply, that he failed to see why the Taotai should object to a procedure strictly in accord with the Western usage adopted in cases of the kind, especially when Japan, by an uncommon act of grace, had agreed to set the soldiers free, soldiers who, according to the strict rules of war, should be sent to Japan as prisoners. The Taotai then waived his objection and also consented to the condition that their parole should be given by the Chinese officers and foreigns employés, another point about which he had showed his ignorance of Western usages. Next day the Taotai again earnestly requested that, as all the officers and soldiers strongly objected to the sending of the soldiers beyond the Japanese lines under escort, that part of the programme might be relinquished; but he was again refused.

At 15 minutes past 3 p.m. on the 16th, the examination of the foreign employés in the Chinese service was commenced. It is said that when a Japanese torpedo-boat went to the island to carry these men to the flag-ship, they were so indifferent to the situation that some of them were playing billiards. There were 10 foreigners, and each of them was examined separately before Capt. Ito, Commander Shimamura, Lieut. Nakamura, and Mr. Ariga. Captain McClure was first examined. He looked to be a man of strong will, still he betrayed considerable emotion, and his voice faltered in reading the oath. The others were sworn one by one and the ceremony closed. The *Yomiuri's* correspondent says that with the exception of McClure all the rest were common-looking persons both in appearance and demeanour, and showed evident marks of low origin. Nine of them were Englishmen and one German. The *Jiji's* correspondent tells a strange story at the expense of Commander Chang. When all the particulars about the surrender had been arranged, Chang made a ridiculous appeal to Admiral Ito. He said that the present war between China and Japan involved only the Peiyang Fleet, as far as the Navy was concerned. The Southern squadron to which he belonged was entirely unconcerned in the matter. The three *Kwangs* of that Squadron had simply come up to the north to take part in the naval manœuvres, and had then been obliged the join the Peiyang Fleet and engage in the battles against the Japanese. It had been a most unfortunate thing for the *Kwangs*, for out of the three two were already lost, there remaining only the *Kwang-ping* that he commanded. His life had been saved by the magnanimity of the Japanese Admiral, but how, he asked, could he meet his colleagues of the Southern Squadron if all the three ships were lost. He begged, therefore that the *Kwang-ping* should be set free so that he might return to the South in her. When this singular appeal was rejected, he next asked that, in view of his services in satisfactorily settling the particulars of the surrender, he should be made, through the recommendation of Admiral Ito, Captain of the *Kang-chi*. If he preferred such ridiculous requests in earnest, he is, says the *Jiji*, simply a Chinaman after all. The total numbers of Chinese set free were as follow:—Navy, 183 officers, 30 students, 2,871 warrant officers and marines; Army, 40 officers, 2,000 rank and file: in all, 5,124.

THE LAUNCH OF THE "SUMA."

A most successful launch of a steel cruiser, lately constructed at Yokosuka, took place on the 9th inst. It had been announced that Her Imperial Majesty the Empress would honour the occasion by her presence, but Her Majesty was prevented by unforeseen circumstances from carrying out this intention. The marine barracks, the various building slips and machine shops, and all the other buildings in the yard were gaily decorated with flags of various countries, the Japanese national flag, and naval ensigns. The *Isumi Kan*, which was in No. 3 dock, and a Nippon Yusen Kaisha steamer, which is undergoing repairs in No. 2 dock, were fully dressed. The Admiralty Station, which was also neatly decorated with flags, was used as a waiting place for the Ministers of State and other high officials of the various Departments and their wives, the buildings of the Engineer Training Institution were set aside for members of the Imperial Diet, and the Construction Factory was arranged for the guests from Tokyo and Yokohama, another building being prepared for local guests. Despite the bad weather, every train brought large numbers to Yokosuka, and about noon Viscount Enomoto, Minister of Agriculture and Commerce; Paymaster-General Kawaguchi, who represented the Minister of the Navy, Captain Matsumura, Captain Sugi, Viscount Watanabe, President of the Audit Bureau; other high officials of various Departments, over sixty members of the Diet, some eighty residents of Tokyo and Yokohama, and more than a hundred local guests, had assembled. At 2.45 p.m., when all the preparations were ready, Vice-Admiral Aiura, Commander-in-Chief of the Yokosuka Admiralty Station, and other officials proceeded to the front of the slip in which the ship was built, and took their seats, followed by Commander Baba, Captain Shimasaki, Chief Staff Officer, and others. Paymaster-General Kawaguchi then read the message authorizing the naming of the cruiser *Suma*, after which the Chief of the Shipbuilding Department gave the order to launch her. Shortly after this part of the ceremony the ship began to move, and in three minutes and half the cruiser was floating in the harbour amid the loud cheers of the multitude. While the ship was sliding down the ways, Captain Tajiri, who was on the upper deck of the ship forward, pulled a string which opened a large paper bag at the bow, and set at liberty a lot of pigeons, some small balloons, and numerous strips of coloured paper and streamers. Shortly after the launch the guests assembled and sat down to an excellent cold collation.

The dimensions of the *Suma* are as follow: Length, 93.500 mètres; breadth, 12.000 mètres; draft forward 4.200 mètres, and aft 5 mètres; displacement, 2,700 tons; horse-power, 8,500; boilers, 8; indicated speed, 20 knots. She carries two 15-cent. and six 12-cent. Armstrong quick-firing guns, twelve 47-mill. quick-firing Hotchkiss guns; four repeating Nordenfeldts, and two torpedo-tubes. Her keel was laid down in August, 1892, and the fitting of her machinery and armament, will be completed by December next. She will cost, when ready for sea, *yen* 1,707,500.

GENEROSITY.

Several correspondents of the metropolitan vernacular press, during the last two months, have been making frequent references to the forlorn state of the native children in Shinking. In many cases, bereft of their fathers and separated from their mothers, the little waifs, finding no one to protect them, have finally succumbed to hunger and the bitter cold. Everything that could be done has been done to alleviate their misery, yet the means at the disposal of the new possessors of the land are wholly inadequate to give relief to the many little sufferers. A gendarme, now in Shinking with the First Army, writes the *Yomiuri Shimbun*, has been greatly affected by the pitiful sight of these homeless orphans in a hostile land. He recently sent home ten *yen* out of his hard-earned wage as a subscription to the Orphan Asylum of the Fuku-den Kwai. The subscription was accompanied by the following letter:—

ENCLOSING TEN YEN.

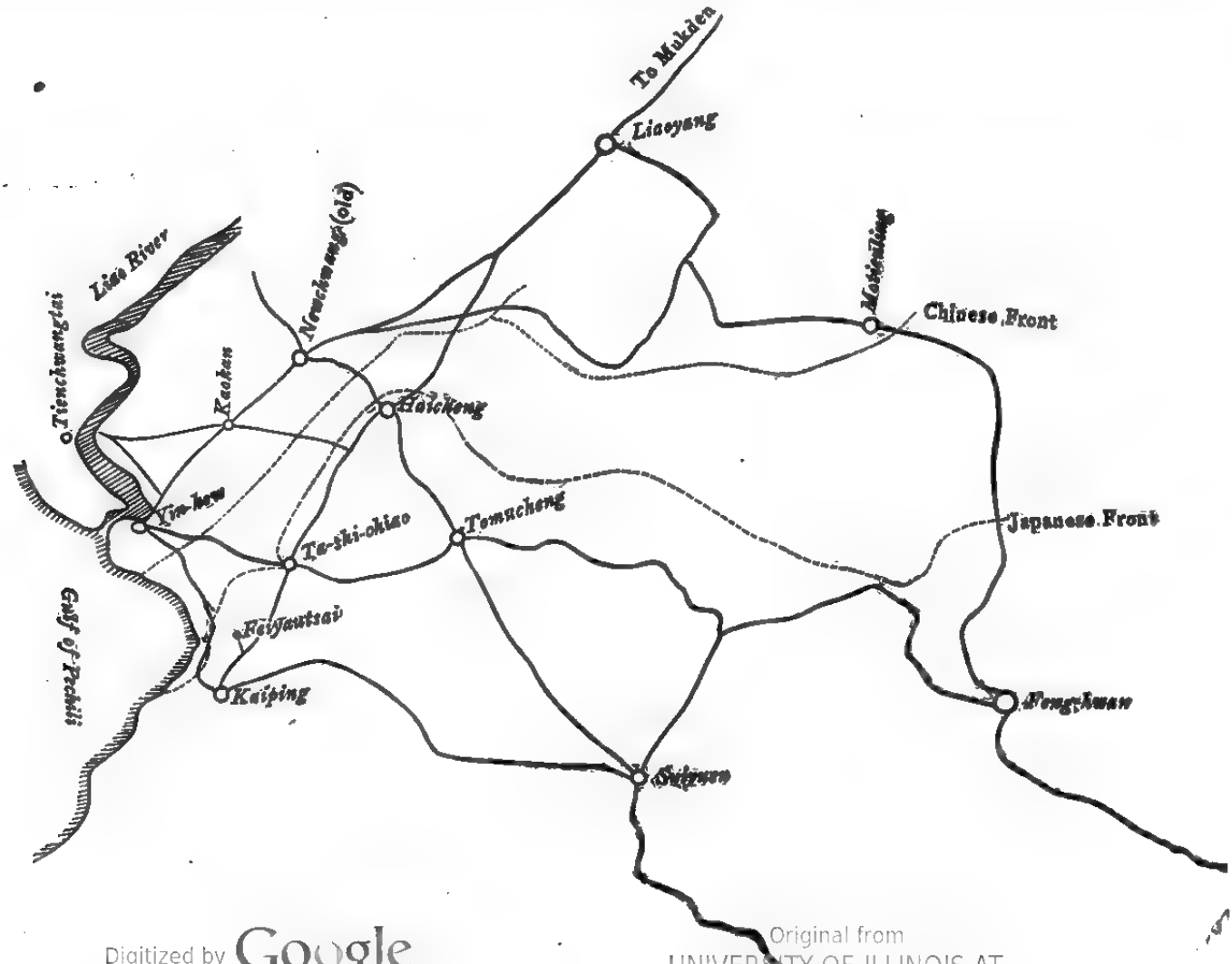
SIR,—I am quite ashamed to offer you so trifling a sum; but on witnessing the miserable condition of the poor orphans in this place I have been so deeply touched that I can not forego sending you the enclosed small amount. I do this in the hope that I may thus be eased of the painful thoughts that visit me here in camp. If you will kindly accept this trifling sum it will afford me the liveliest satisfaction. I only beg that my name shall not be made public in this connection.

The last-named request has been complied with, although the text of the letter is published in full. It certainly is to be hoped that practical benevolence will also speedily reach the helpless victims of the war in China.

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THE CAMPAIGN IN MANCHURIA.

IT will doubtless be observed by readers of war news published on the 8th and 9th March, that we are left without any further intelligence as to the movements of the Japanese force that marched out of Haicheng on the 28th ult. and after a tolerably severe engagement with the Chinese on its right front, drove them before it and pushed northward along the Liaoyang road. When we last heard of that force, it had reached a point 19 miles north of Haicheng, and nearly half way to Liaoyang. That was on the 2nd instant. Now, however, we have news up to the night of the 6th inst. and nothing whatever is said of any continuation of the march toward Liaoyang. There seems to us to be but one explanation, namely, that Lieut.-General KATSURA'S northern advance had for its immediate object the breaking of the Chinese line, and for its ultimate object, a rapid countermarch against Newchwang proper. If our readers will follow us for a moment they will be able to comprehend the situation. Opposed to the Japanese forces in south-western Shinking at the end of February, were, in effect, three Chinese armies. The first, whose original head-quarters were Liaoyang, had pushed down and stationed itself on the north-west of Haicheng. It numbered about 16,000. The second, aggregating 20,000, had its head-quarters in old Newchwang. The third, mustering about 25,000 to 30,000, was massed on the north and east of Yingkow, with its head-quarters at Tienchwangtai (*vide* map). Confronting these 60,000 men, the Japanese had 8,000 in Kaiping and some 25,000 in and about Haicheng. When, therefore, a westward advance was resolved upon at the close of February, the plan adopted was that the Kaiping troops, under YAMAJI and NOGI, should first assume the offensive, so as to occupy the attention of the Yinkow army. Then KATSURA, pushing out of Haicheng, would strike heavily at the Liaoyang army, driving it northward and pursuing it so vigorously as to disintegrate it, and eliminate it, temporarily at all events, from the campaign. That done, he was to turn suddenly with his main force, and marching against Newchwang proper, attack it from the north and the west, simultaneously with another corps moving direct against it from Haicheng on the east. The cöoperation of the three Chinese armies would thus be destroyed, and they might be beaten in detail. A glance at the accompanying map will show that the topography of the country lent itself to that programme. The main roads from Newchwang and Haicheng to Mukden form, with the Newchwang-Haicheng road, a triangle, within which are several minor routes (not shown on the map). The Liaoyang Army had posted itself across the three easternmost of these routes, and was driven rapidly along them by the attack from Haicheng, until the Japanese van had passed the apex of the triangle by a considerable distance. Then KATSURA, converting his van into a rear guard, countermarched his Division (the Third), and led it against Newchwang by the routes on the West of the triangle. He had about 20 miles to cover before reaching Newchwang. Meanwhile, the portion of the Fifth Division in garrison at Haicheng, being kept in touch with KATSURA'S operations, marched out of Haicheng, and traversed the 13 miles separating it from Newchwang so as to reach the point of attack simultaneously with the Third Division. There ensued, on the 4th instant, the sanguinary fight in Newchwang, when the Chinese lost over 1,800 killed and 500 prisoners. On the following day, KATSURA led his columns southward, towards Yingkow and reached



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Kaokan (*vide* map) on the 6th instant, without encountering any resistance. Let us turn now to the Brigade of the First Division (Second Army) in Kaiping. Its line of outposts, stretching across to within 10 miles of Yingkow, joined those of the First (Haicheng) Army at Tashichiao, and Major-General NOGI had his head-quarters at Feiyautsai, whence a great plain extends for 18 miles to the Liao river. On February 24th, NOGI suddenly pushed forward his outposts and occupied Tapingshan, a place near the Chinese lines in the direction of Yingkow. The Chinese made a determined attempt to dislodge him, but were driven back with heavy loss. This operation on NOGI'S part gave full occupation to the Yingkow army, and four days later KATSURA commenced the series of manœuvres described above. On the other hand, so soon as the Newchwang army was completely broken by KATSURA, NOGI —or rather YAMAJI—resumed his advance against Yingkow, and had gained possession of the greater part of the place by the time that KATSURA'S forces reached Kaokan, 10 miles distant. The two Chinese armies—Newchwang and Yingkow —have then been driven across the Liao, and unless they rally and make another stand at Tienchwangtai, they will probably continue their retreat to Chinchow and Shanhaikwan.

Such, so far as we can see, seem to have been the recent operations in Shingking.

THE MILITARY SANATORIUM AT KUGENUMA.

MOST wisely and thoughtfully chosen is the site of the Military Marine Sanatorium at Kugenuma. Although not much over a mile along the coast from Enoshima, Kugenuma was a comparatively unknown hamlet half-a-dozen years ago. The sandy soil produced only a few stunted conifers, and the beach offered small attractions to bathers, the surf being quite heavy as a rule and the shingle abruptly shelving off to dangerous depths. It was about this time that two Japanese inns were erected: the one, known as the *Karabu*, otherwise "Club," being an unpretentious, second-rate affair, with not too savoury a reputation from the outset; the other was the Kosho Kwan—"Kosho" is the *Kan-on* of Kugenuma—established by a Mr. MITSUHASHI, a cutler of Nihonbashi District, Tokyo. The latter soon throve apace. An extra southerly wing was added to the main-building, and three years ago, another two-storied wing was erected, so that the total accomodation is about forty rooms, one and all of which face the sea and have a grand view of that island gem, Enoshima, which seems afloat on the placid surface of the Bay. Around the Kosho Kwan there is now a sturdy grove of pines and firs, whose resinous breath is a panacea for all sorts of ailments. The walk from Fujisawa on to Kugenuma is picturesque and pleasing, leading through well-tilled fields of sweet potatoes and ground-nuts—the two *meibutsu* of the place —tiny villages half-hidden in bamboo thickets, solitary farmhouses that have nevertheless a well-to-do air, and whence the whirr of the spinning wheel may be heard from morn till night during the hot summer months, on till a fringe of pines, with a carpet of wild pinks, rhododendra, or violets, marks the beginning of the sea-coast proper. The last bit of the road lies through heavy sand, impassable to *kuruma*. As the pine-fringe is reached, a very beautiful vista lies disclosed. The sails of the fishing-vessels of Odawara to the west and south, sharply defined against the sapphire blue background of the Hakone range; Enoshima in its garb of sempiternal emerald green; Shichi-ri-gahama and the winding cliff-road to Kamakura; and finally, in the dimmer distance, the white veil of smoke that marks volcanic O-shima. The whole sea-scape is idyllic. It is in such surroundings that half-a-hundred wounded soldiers have been sent to recuperate. The whole lower floor of the Kosho Kwan is taken up with Red Cross doctors, nurses, and assistants, while their patients bask in the sunshine that floods the room above and breathe the life-giving draughts of breeze from the pine-woods. Fish of all sorts is plentiful, the little river that empties into the sea at the foot of Enoshima being famous for its delicious *ina*. A kind of immature white-bait is caught in great quantities. The fishlets are then dried and formed into appetizing squares, looking like network, which require only a few minutes' heating to become edible. Nestling among the pine-trees is a very pretty little rustic villa, of only four tiny rooms, belonging to Count OKUMA, the rustic bridge and arches that mark the confines of the ground being exceedingly pleasing to the eye. Half a mile farther down the beach is another, somewhat more pretentious, summer-house. This is the occasional retreat of Mr. NAKAJIMA, first President of the Lower House, and thereafter Japanese Representative at Rome. One or two foreigners have not failed to take advantage of the quiet and wholesomeness of the place, for just opposite the Kosho Kwan there are two or three quaint compromises between Japanese architecture and the exigencies of Western domestic life. It is said that the warm waters of the Bay make a difference of no less than ten degrees in winter, with a corresponding amount of coolness in summer. And it is in this little vale of Avalon, with the distant surf ever singing a deep-toned lullaby in their ears and recalling the roar and thunder of the far-off war, that the fifty wounded soldiers are recuperating and convalescing. That the hospital reports should be favourable is not surprising under such circumstances.

THE CHINESE ATTACK ON HAICHING.

WE have now received information that enables us to give a connected account of the attempt made by the Chinese to recover Haicheng on February 16th. We shall first describe the battlefield, and those who wish to follow the account easily will do well to draw a plan in accordance with the terms of our description. Haicheng is a walled city, square in form, each wall measuring a little more than half a mile. The walls face the four cardinal points of the compass. The town stands near the eastern extremity of a great plain forty miles wide, extending from the high mountains of the interior north-westward to the Liao River and westward to the sea. A tributary of this, the Newchwang River, runs past the south-west corner of Haicheng, and thence in a direction east-north-east to the Chinese town of Newchwang. Rising from the plain in a line at right angles to the course of the river are five small elevations, two south and three north of the river. The most southerly of these, Tanwanshan, is about two miles and a half south-west of Haicheng; the next, Kyanchashan, is a mile west of the south-west corner of Haicheng; the next, Hwanshishan, is rather more than a mile north of the city; a mile and a half farther on in a direction north-north-east is Shi-to-shan; and lastly, two miles farther on in the same direction is a hill of which we cannot learn the name. North and east of these hills the plain stretches away for many miles unbroken by any elevation. On the other side of Haicheng there are various small hills between the city and the mountains, but the only one of these that we need mention is So-wan-ron-shan, rather more than a mile north-east of the north-east corner of Hai-cheng. These hills range between one hundred and two hundred feet in height. Tan-wan-shan, Kyan-cha-shan, Hwan-shi-shan, and So-wan-ron-shan are regularly occupied by outposts of the Japanese army. The great plain we have described, being extremely fertile, is thickly covered with villages, but of these three only need be mentioned by name; Ton-chi-zan-tan, a mile north-west of Hwan-shi-shan; Po-ru-pu, a mile west of the same hill; and Ta-fu-ton, four or five miles north-west of Haicheng.

The Chinese forces engaged in the attack were about sixteen thousand in number. The centre, a body of rather less than 5,000 men, under the command of General I KU-TAN-GA, came from a village named Ta-fu-ton, four or five miles north-west of Haicheng. They advanced in a line more than two miles broad, and by nine on the morning of the 16th had occupied a position extending from Ton-chi-zan-tan to the river at a point more than two miles below Haicheng. There they placed batteries in Ton-chi-zan-tan, where they

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quick firing gun and four or five small Krupp guns) and Po-ru-pu. The left extremity of their line was under fire from the Japanese guns on Hwan-shi-shan; the right extremity, that close to the river, had, in order to reach Haicheng, to pass under the guns on Kyan-cha-shan; against the centre of their line the Japanese placed a battery in the field about a mile from Po-ru-pu, mid-way between Hwan-shi-shan and the river.

The Chinese left consisted also of 5,000 men. Two thousand of these remained in a village two or three miles North of Hwan-shi-shan, and took no part in the actual fighting. The remaining three thousand, under General CHANG SHANG, occupied the northernmost of the hills we have described; placed two 9-cm. Krupp guns on Shi-to-shan, threatening the Japanese positions on So-wan-ron-shan and Hwan-shi-shan, especially the latter; and later in the day, sent a body of about 1,000 infantry to attack So-wan-ron-shan.

The Chinese right, a force of 6,000 men under the command of General SHI HWAN-TON, came from Newchwang along the southern side of the river to attack the Japanese position on Tan-wan-shan.

The Japanese right, extending from So-wan-ron-shan to near the river, was commanded by Major-General OSHIMA, who himself remained on Hwan-shi-shan. Major-General OSEKO, in command of the left was on Kyan-cha-shan. The divisional commandant, Lieutenant-General KATSURA, remained in the plain near Haicheng.

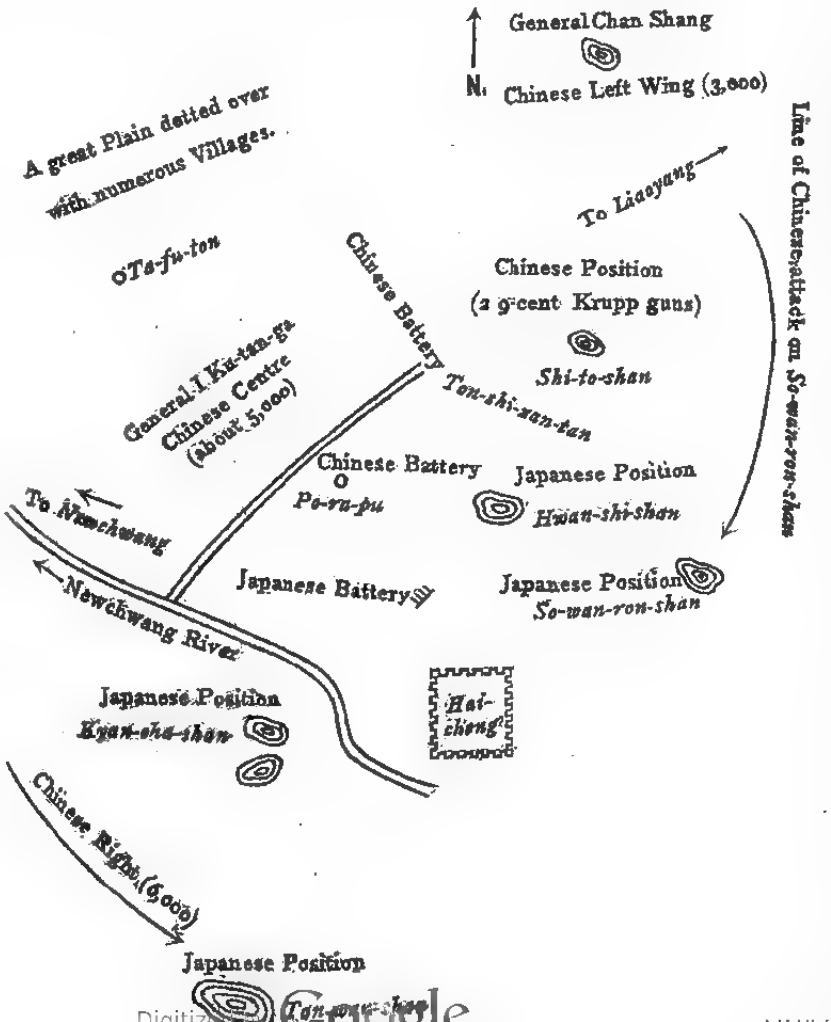
The Chinese guns on Shi-to-shan opened fire on Hwan-shi-shan shortly after half-past eight and the battery in Ton-chi-zan-tan soon followed suit. For a considerable time the Japanese made no reply, as the Chinese shooting was very wild, and the Japanese, who on previous occasions have found the Chinese retreat when two or three discharges of shrapnel have been fired at them, wished this time to encourage them to come within rifle-range. The infantry of the enemy's centre showed, however, no disposition to advance; they contented themselves with an occasional discharge of their rifles at the hill, though they were too far off for their bullets to have any effect. What bad marksmen the Chinese artillerymen are may be instanced by the fact that, although for several hours Hwan-shi-shan was a principal object of fire for two of their batteries, yet of the forty or fifty men on the top of the hill three only were wounded, by the splinters from a gun and carriage struck by the enemy's shot. Still, bad as their shooting was, they had improved with experience: the Japanese officers considered it the best they had yet seen; and on this occasion, after a time, the shots came so near that Major-General OSHIMA thought it expedient to reply, without waiting further for the Chinese infantry to advance.

At a quarter to eleven, therefore, the guns on Hwan-shi-shan opened fire on the enemy, now on Shi-to-shan, now on Ton-chi-zan-tan, now on the infantry in the plain. The infantry soon retreated and reformed their line further back; were then fired at again, and driven further and further back until they were beyond effective range. At a little before one the enemy abandoned Shi-to-shan. The battery in Ton-chi-zan-tan also finally ceased fire at about one o'clock. The portion of the Chinese right near the river was fired on with shrapnell from the guns on Hyan-cha-shan; and in the afternoon the battery in Po-ru-pu was silenced by an active fire from the Japanese battery in the plain. The infantry, having retreated out of range, remained drawn up in line till about half past three, when it finally withdrew to Ta-fu-ton.

In the wings there was some fighting at closer quarters. Here also the Japanese withheld their artillery fire, and the enemy were induced to make attacks with infantry on Tan-wan-shan and So-wan-ron-shan. The first position was attacked at ten, the second at about half-past eleven. In both cases the result was the same. The Japanese allowed the enemy to come to the foot of the hill, and then opened fire with their rifles, when a few rounds were sufficient to drive them back in disorder.

The total number of the enemy's bodies found by the Japanese exceeded a hundred and fifty. In the whole day's fighting the Japanese had three men killed and eleven wounded.

MAP TO ILLUSTRATE THE CHINESE ATTACK ON HAICHENG, FEB. 18, 1895.



FANCIES AND FACTS.

BY degrees the extraordinary romances penned by local foreign journalists, whose wish to see the Japanese beaten has fathered many a conviction of their defeat, are being shown up in all their silly shallowness. Lieut.-General KATSURA took Haicheng on December 13th, Major-General NOGI occupied Kaiping on January 10th. Thereafter the lines of the two Generals became continuous, stretching from Kaiping in the south to Haicheng in the north, and thence eastward *vid* Suiyen until they touched the outposts of the forces guarding the Fenghwan-Chiulien positions. But neither NOGI nor KATSURA made any further advance westward. As a mere military operation we expected them immediately to combine their forces for the purpose of attacking SUNG'S army at Yingkow and Tienchwantai. But it is now evident that they were controlled by the general plan of the campaign, and

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that their offensive movement was not to be resumed until the near approach of Spring, and until the time came for freeing a portion of their troops for the purposes of an expedition elsewhere. During the interval of waiting—from January 10th to February 24th—alarming and baseless accounts were published in Yokohama as to disastrous checks experienced by the Japanese in Manchuria: as to the decimation of their numbers by General Winter; as to their being beleaguered by the enemy and unable to move either forward or backward: as to the excellent tactics pursued by the Chinese; and as to the extremely embarrassed position in which the Japanese found themselves. All these assertions were pure fabrications. They had absolutely nothing to support them except the keen desire of their inventors to see them confirmed. Strategically speaking, when KATSURA thrust a Division of his Army, like a wedge, into the Chinese lines, and took up a position menaced on either flank by bodies of the enemy each outnumbering his own force, he accepted risks that might have been grave in face of different adversaries. Those risks remained real until the occupation of Kaiping by General NOGI removed all pressure on KATSURA'S right flank, and secured his communication on the more dangerous side. We noted the peril at the time, but as for all the silliness published about fatal checks, decimation by cold, beleaguering by the Chinese, and so forth, we estimated them at their true value, namely, the vapourings of malevolent ignorance. A letter just received from *The Times'* correspondent in Haicheng shows that even our view of the situation was needlessly alarmist. He writes:—"The *Japan Weekly Mail* of February 2nd reached me to-day. I have read your War News of January 28th with much interest, and have no criticism to offer except as regards your statement 'the interval that separated the taking of Haicheng and the northward movement of NOGI'S Brigade was unquestionably a time of peril for KATSURA.' There was no time of peril. One regiment of Japanese infantry and enough guns for the hills round the town would hold Haicheng against the whole of SUNG'S army. I never saw such fellows as the Chinese. Their only notion of a soldier's duty is to scuttle if there's any chance of being hit; whereas the Japanese don't care a straw about danger. On the 16th of February, when the Chinese made their attack, three Japanese gunners working a field-piece on Hwanshishan were hit; the others, quite young fellows too, never blenched, but quietly turned to put on temporary bandages. Yesterday (February 21st when the Chinese attack was resumed), a shell dropped into the intrenchment next to the one where I was sitting. There were four men in the intrenchment, but not a man moved a muscle, except to laugh. No one was hurt as the shell failed to explode. Chinese shells often do fail. Of course I have not seen the Japanese soldiers yet under really serious fire, but I've no doubt they'll be just the same. We have to remember, meantime, that Japanese fire is a much more serious matter than Chinese. When the Japanese fire, they fire to hit, so that the Chinese have more reason to be afraid. Still there does seem to be a hopeless want of morale in the Chinese troops."

Such, then, was the true situation when newspaper critics in Yokohama were telling their readers that the Japanese were in terrible straits, environed by enemies, unable to move, and dying off rapidly from cold. To cap the absurdity we have the recent campaign—a campaign of twelve days, during which brief interval the Japanese forces utterly smashed and scattered the three Chinese armies opposed to them; captured Newchwang, Yingkow, and Tienchwantai without the least difficulty, and drove the Liaoyang troops in full flight northward. The gloomy vaticinations of the past two months, the real state of affairs during that time, and the *dénouement* now before us constitute as quaint a chapter of history as could easily be imagined. It is very sad for the prophets of evil, but if they will construct chimeras out of their own desires, they must expect to be sometimes disappointed.

THE CHINESE ATTACK ON HAICHENG ON FEBRUARY 21ST.

THE demoralization exhibited by the Chinese forces in the attack they made on Haicheng on February 21st was almost inconceivable. This was the fourth time they had tried to recover the town, and with each successive attempt their courage diminished, until at last it seems to have declined into non-existence. In the first attack, on January 17th, they approached boldly in the open, in a line stretching from the mountain chain north and east of Haicheng to beyond Tan-wan-shan, two miles and a half south-west of the town; and they advanced until they were well within range of the Japanese guns. On January 22nd, they were much more chary of exposing themselves to the enemy's fire. Their pusillanimity on February 16th we described at some length a few days ago; but even this was altogether eclipsed by the faint-heartedness they displayed on February 22nd. An army composed of the cowardly nomad curs that infest Chinese towns might have been expected to display a bolder front.

The strength of the enemy's forces and the directions in which the various bodies approached the town were practically the same as in the previous attacks. The Japanese, as usual, occupied the elevations named San-ron-shan, Hwan-shi-ran, Kyan-cha-shan, and Tan-wan-shan, and in addition posted a battery in the plain midway between Hwan-shi-shan and the river. With this the description of the "battle" might for practical purposes end, for there was no fighting worthy of the name. The enemy, indeed, wasted a quantity of powder and shot; but the Japanese made hardly any reply to their fire, in the vain hope of inducing them to approach within a reasonably effective range.

The Chinese forces for the most part skulked in the villages. A portion of the centre, a force of from two to three thousand men, was, as in the attack of the 16th, drawn up in the plain to the north-west of Hwan-shi-shan. These men advanced to a line about 1,700 yards from the hill, and then retired, without having been fired on by the Japanese. A portion of the right had placed some guns in a village 800 yards N.W. of Kyan-cha-shan, and opened fire on this hill; but the battery was effectually silenced by a few shots in reply. At about ten in the morning a large body of the enemy's infantry that had been marching to occupy a hill S.W. of Tan-wan-shan, was seen making a disorderly retreat into the plain, and the cause of the rout was explained by the appearance of Colonel SATO with a small body of infantry—considerably smaller than the force that had fled before their approach—marching up from Ta-shi-cho to Haicheng. Later in the day, a small force of Chinese infantry approached within rifle-range of the Japanese at Kyan-cha-shan, but fled directly the latter opened fire.

Considerable bodies of the enemy were nearer to San-ron-shan than they had dared to approach to any of the other Japanese positions, but here also for the most part they were afraid to venture into the open. At Shi-to-shan, a hill 2,700 yards north of San-ron-shan and the like distance north-east of Hwan-shi-shan, the enemy had placed artillery—not as before on the summit of the hill but in a village at the foot. Here they had two quick-firing guns and one or two ordinary field-guns. In the morning they fired at Hwan-shi-shan; and in the afternoon, for a change, at San-ron-shan—the Japanese in neither case paying the slightest attention. Some infantry soldiers also, in the village at the foot of Shi-to-shan, kept up an irregular rifle-fire on San-ron-shan—apparently with the impression that they would intimidate the enemy, for they could not hope to have any material effect on men in intrenchments on a hill-top a mile and a half away. With shells and shrapnell they might of course have done some damage, but as an actual fact all their shots were thrown away. Just as the Chinese army as a whole testifies its zeal by these ridiculous demonstrations against an enemy it is utterly powerless to expel, so, we suppose, the individual riflemen and artillery soldiers are valued by their officers in proportion to the number of rounds of ammunition they thus idly waste.

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CORRESPONDENCE.

[Our readers must distinctly understand that we are in no sense responsible for the sentients or opinions of our correspondents, for the accuracy of their assertions, or for the deductions they may choose to draw therefrom.]

THE "SPECTATOR."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—I inclose you a clipping which I cut from the New York *Nation* for January 17th, 1895. It is written, as you will notice, by the Hon. William Everett, member of Congress. I am sure this squib will prove amusing to your American readers at least. It caused me to recollect that I have seen it stated somewhere that during the Civil war in America *The Times* [London] in a long, wise, and very heavy editorial advised the American people to bring their unhappy conflict to a close by a peaceable division of the country, and informed them that this seemed especially fitting since nature had provided a natural boundary line between the Northern and Southern states *in the Mississippi river!* To return to the inclosure, however: I would like to inquire if the editor of the *Spectator* is simply an ignoramus or is there an element of the cad in him? The cause of this latter uncharitable shot is his reference to "a Mr. Foster." Is it possible that the leading American diplomat, lately Secretary of State, and still later head of the Americans concerned in the Behring Sea Arbitration between England and the United States, is actually unknown to the editor of one of the leading London papers? I should be glad to ascribe it, Sir, to ignorance, for in that case the pure and unalloyed humour of the inclosed clipping commends it to every lover of the writings of Artemus Ward and Mark Twain! Without further comment.

THE "SPECTATOR" ON THINGS AMERICAN.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "NATION."

SIR,—Let me call attention to two delicious bits from the London *Spectator* of December 29, 1894. (The italics are mine.)

In the first editorial article: "The Chinese Government still talks of negotiation, and has taken the very odd step of asking the American President to send them a statesman to advise the ambassador they are sending to Tokyo. *Mr. Cleveland has accordingly selected a Mr. Foster.*"

Again, a very eulogistic review of Mr. Scudder's 'Childhood in Art and Literature' ends thus:

We will conclude with a specimen of the humour which Americans *can put into their gravest state documents:*

"The sixteenth amendment to the Constitution reads: 'The rights and caprices of children in the United States shall not be denied or abridged on account of age, sex, or former condition of tutelage,' and this amendment has been recognized in literature, ■■ in life, while waiting its legal adoption."

Save me from my friends, may Mr. Scudder say.

The same criticism quotes Dr. Johnson as saying of Goldsmith, "Nihil tetigit quod non ornavit"—which he didn't.

WILLIAM EVERETT.

Washington, D.C., January 8, 1895.

I am, Sir, very truly yours, J. W. D.

FOREIGN OPINION.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Permit me to express my sincere thanks to you for directing public attention to a matter of great importance. It is clear that the Settlement newspapers are principally maintained by members of the British community, and that their claim to be regarded as mouthpieces of British opinion can hardly fail to be accepted by the Japanese so long as it ■■ allowed to pass unchallenged by those who are in a position to refute it. The truth is that the sentiment of British residents is entirely opposed to the inflammatory writing which you have so often condemned, and which constitutes a most serious menace to peaceful relations with the people of this country.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

BRITISHER.

Yokohama, March 9th, 1895.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—There is in Yokohama an evening newspaper conspicuous for the peculiar childishness of its tone, for its nearsightedness, for the narrowness of its Editor's mind, for its marvellous ignorance, and for its glib assurance. It is a matter of interesting speculation to divine whether its Editor has any sense of the great responsibility attaching to one who undertakes publicly to state facts and argue from them; a responsibility that must be borne by all persons laying any claim to be regarded as journalists.

That evening paper, in an editorial published on the 9th inst., writes: "If the end justifies the means, it is evident that other Powers who have interests at stake, interests which will be injured, perhaps destroyed, by the ascendency of a powerful military and naval Eastern nation, have the same right, the right of expediency, to check Japan's rise." If the above be the genuine and honest sentiment of that evening paper, I cannot but admonish the Editor to leave this country. He is not a fair representative of the opinion prevailing among foreigners I am sure, but is a mere fabricator of nonsense, nay a public nuisance. Such jealousy as he displays is to be found only in a harem.

Why do not the English and other nationals cease subscribing to such an injurious paper, which is indeed betraying their great interests in the East?

A. B. C. OF POLITICS.

Yokohama, March 11th, 1895.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Your Correspondent "Britisher" assumes that the settlement newspapers are mainly supported by the British Community, and regrets that they should express sentiments which wound the feelings and excite the hostility of the Japanese.

May I go a step further, and express the regret of another Briton that these same newspapers, including your own, are open without comment or disproof of any kind to the incessant attacks of a certain type of American on the character and policy of our country.

The vulgar virulence of Admiral Belknap, the subtler hostility of your correspondent W.E.G., and the sneers of J.W.D., are all manifestations of the same ignoble desire to mimify the lustre of the British name, to deny the greatness of the greatest Empire the world has seen, and to magnify, at the expense of truth, even in defiance of common sense, the unquestioned grandeur of their own country.

These sham patriots, who may fitly be termed Micro-Americans, to distinguish them from those many good fellows of American birth whom we count as our friends, and whom to know is to esteem, cannot comprehend a love of country which does not include hatred and contempt for those outside it, whose destiny differs, but whose dignity and powers are the compeers of their own.

What can be more miserable, more ridiculous, than the painful amassing, for reproduction here, of errors perpetrated in a London newspaper, or the hysterical sensitiveness which snuffs a possible insult to America in the accidental prefix of the indefinite article to Mr. Foster's name?

You, Sir, know as well as I do that if the daily errors and mendacities of the most corrupt press on earth were repeated and refuted in your columns by Englishmen, you would have space for little else.

But, here as at home, our people are only animated by the most friendly feeling towards Americans, and recoil from a task as uncongenial to them as it would be painful to their fellow residents.

These would-be sowers of discord regret our failure to understand America, but the one thing they themselves utterly fail to understand about us is the unfailing cordiality which persists in regarding Americans as brothers.

The opinions of men like Bacus and Stead excite the wrath of W.E.G., who ignores the well known fact that these critics are just as merciless in their judgments of their own countrymen, and that no conspiracy of silence exists in England about England's faults. Secure in her fixed determination to amend wherever and whenever possible her national defects, she counts no man a traitor or an enemy for denouncing them.

But there is a difference of methods. If the Briton carps at things American he does it boldly, either like Stead in his book about Chicago, or in the columns of the press at home or in America. The Micro-American bottles up his spleen carefully and exports it for consumption here (British newspapers being the retailers), with the worthy double purpose of embittering both the Japanese and his own countrymen against the British element of the foreign population. With your permission I shall notice in detail some points in W.E.G.'s letter which call for protest on the part of those whom he seeks to belittle.

First, there is the assumption of the existence of some mysterious panacea in American institutions which somehow elevates and purifies the moral nature, more quickly and surely than any means accessible to European Communities. Something in fact which would speedily bring about an American millennium but for the damnable foreign element which periodically disgraces the country.

I would ask W.E.G. if the notorious Debs, of railway strike fame, ■ not an American, brought up amid the specially civilizing influences he enumerates, also whether his Californian confederates in the same strike and the actual murderers of unoffending men there, were not Americans and Eastern men at that. I would ask him also whether the Tammany leaders are not men born and bred in America. I would ask him further if there is any great proportion of foreigners in those Southern States in which the lynching and burning alive of negroes has been enacted, and in passing I would call attention to the fact that that eminent abolitionist the venerable Lloyd Garrison has recently borne testimony, in a letter from his Boston home to the London *Times*, to the value of British public opinion in arresting the course of those outrages.

I am not affirming that Englishmen are in any way superior to their American cousins, but I protest against the arrogant and unwarrantable assumption of special virtues on which your correspondent lays such stress.

W.E.G. disclaims the essentially British character of the American people; can he deny that the immense majority of America's most distinguished citizens have been and are, as their very names testify, men of English blood? The *Century Magazine*, by no means an Anglo-maniac publication, showed conclusively some years ago the overwhelming preponderance of the purely English element in the list of the greatest names in every department of American life and history. W.E.G. holds that, whether right or wrong, the American is more devoted to and more ready to sacrifice to ideas than the Englishman. It has been the fashion even for Englishmen themselves to deny the existence of sentiment in their composition, and our friend the enemy has not been slow to avail himself of this, and to picture us as a nation of Shylocks inaccessable to any but material considerations. The Japanese have apparently acquired the idea too, and their recent unfriendly comments on our character and aims are doubtless to some degree the result of this misconception. For it is a misconception. There are few nations more powerfully affected by idea considerations, or who have made greater sacrifices for them.

It was in deference to an idea that England freed the slaves on her West Indian plantations at the cost of 20 millions sterling, and of the ruin of Jamaica.

It was in deference to an idea that she vindicated in Abyssinia, the "Civis Romanus sum" doctrine, and rescued a solitary missionary by an armed expedition, at a cost of 10 millions sterling.

W.E.G. refers to the devotion to ideals as a peculiarly French characteristic. I fail to see any reason for the opinion. It is true France went to war for an idea at the time of the Austro-Italian campaign but, unfortunately for her disinterestedness, the idea turned out to include the cession of Savoy.

If we turn from national to individual instances of devotion to lofty standards of duty, I have but to name Livingston and Florence Nightingale, to summon to remembrance a cloud of heroes and heroines whose deeds give the lie to W.E.G.'s assertion.

Doubtless British policy has been and is still stained by much that is selfish and unworthy, but we are none of us without reproach in that respect. Of late years our land-grabbing in Africa (forced on us by the persistent attempts of others to acquire and *close* to us the markets we acquire and *open* to them) has been denounced by Americans, who forget that their own country is the scene of the biggest land-grab ever known.

It is England's Free Trade policy which gives her that preponderance in the commerce of the Far East which W.E.G. stigmatizes as hostile interference and selfish aggrandisement, and which some of his fellow-thinkers style an oppressive monopoly. What there is of oppression in it, or what monopoly exists, save that of the cheapest producer, it would be hard for these cavillers to say. They cannot deny that the field is open to them as freely as to us, and absolutely no obstacle is placed in the way of their trade in our colonies and dependencies, which offer to them as to all the world, the same tradal facilities as British subjects enjoy.

Can they or any nation in the world point to proofs of similar liberality in their treatment of British subjects? I trow not.

Yours faithfully, AN ENGLISHMAN.

Yokohama, March 14th, 1895.

SILVER IN JAPAN.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—I have read with the greatest interest Professor Garrett Droppers' paper on bimetallism printed in your issue of the 12th inst. It is the clearest exposition of the theory of the bimetallists that I have read, and is, like all such expositions, from those who know even the rudiments of Political Economy, unanswerable up to a certain point; but it remains for me to point out that there is a point at which all bimetallists go off at a tangent. Briefly

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put, the argument of the bimetallists is as follows:—

As compared with commodities, the value of silver has remained nearly constant, for a very considerable time. It has probably slightly depreciated during the past quarter of a century, but such depreciation has been steady, not of a nature to dislocate commerce, and having a tendency to benefit the most deserving classes.

Gold has greatly appreciated, as compared with commodities; moreover, the appreciation has been of a spasmodic kind, tending to dislocate commerce, and its tendency has been harmful to the most deserving classes.

We can see that, in the future, the value of silver must remain fairly constant and, if it varies, can only do so gradually.

We can predict nothing certain about the value of gold in future, though it will probably continue to appreciate with irregular leaps and jumps.

Therefore silver is a good standard, gold is a bad one.

Therefore let us have bimetallism.

It is here, as it seems to me, that the bimetallist goes off at a tangent.

The logical conclusion is not, let us have bimetallism, but let us have monometalism with silver as a standard. The thing is as plain as a pikestaff, and I have long considered that the eventual solution of the problem, unless some other standard than either gold or silver be introduced, will be the adoption by the World of a silver standard, though I doubt if any of us will live to see it.

I admit that bimetallism would be greatly better than the present system, by which the greatest part of the World is using the worse standard, and in which there are two standards of constantly varying values used by different countries rendering commerce between any two countries using the two different standards as much a matter of speculation as of legitimate trade. It has always, however, seemed to me, that the establishment and maintenance of a fixed ratio between gold and silver presents insuperable difficulties. If the time ever comes when all nations are as one, and when wealth is both produced and distributed collectively, the thing will be possible, but in the present political and social state it seems to me impossible. I am in no way prejudiced, however, and am quite open to conviction by Professor Droppers, or any one else, that the establishment of bimetallism does not present the difficulties that I seem to perceive. Indeed, it would be particularly interesting if Professor Droppers would give us his views on this part of the subject. I mean if he would give us a distinct statement, of how it is possible, in the first place to establish a fixed ratio between the value of gold and of silver, and how in the second place, it is possible to *maintain* it, assuming, as is nearly certain, that the ratio of the quantities of the two metals available will keep constantly varying. It seems to me that this is a part of the subject always shirked by bimetallists.

I remain, Sir, yours, &c., W. K. B.

Tokyo, March 13th, 1895.

THE PURITY SOCIETY.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—The enclosed letter is from Dr. Bushnell and Mrs. Andrew, round-the-world-missionaries of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union of the United States, who have done efficient service for the Purity Society of London, by their work in India in discovering to the lawmakers of England the infringement of laws repealing the "Contagious Diseases Acts," by English officers and soldiers in the cantonments of India.

This letter they have sent to us with the request that it be put before the Japanese people. We humbly beg the privilege of presenting it to your paper, trusting you will thus help make it to work effectively for the good of this nation.

In presenting it, allow us to quote from the address of a foreign teacher of young men in Japan, on "The Scholar for the Nation."

"Another qualification of a scholar for the nation is *purity*. The purity of a people is one of the most important conditions of national strength and national welfare. Without purity a nation cannot stand. Rome once was the mistress of the world. Before every other nation of her time she stood proud and unconquerable. But she fell before the power of internal corruption. The luxury, the intemperance, and the lust of her citizens did what the armies of Macedonia and Carthage could not do; and so it is in every nation.

"Stronger than the strength of foreign enemies is the strength of the forces of internal depravity, and woe to the nation whose citizens are on the downward [illegible] moral laxity. Every man is an enemy to his country, no matter how loud his shouts of patriotism are.

"All the strength which is developed by the unwearied drill and the monotonous hardship of the military camps is more than offset by the armies of drunkards and whoremongers that are the curse of so many lands. And what, if among these are found those that have enjoyed the ennobling influences of higher learning, who are perhaps even the teachers of youth?

"Words almost fail to express the guilt, the disloyalty, and the shame which attaches to such men.

"Instead of being impure, it is incumbent upon the scholar to be a man of such blameless life as will throw the weight of his influence on the side of that sacred purity which lies at the very foundation of all physical, intellectual, and moral strength, whether for the individual, the community, or the nation."

Also allow us to quote a clause from an article by Dr. William E. Griffis, a preacher and popular writer in the United States, who has lived in Japan, who in the said article is writing about the work of a certain young Japanese.

"Like a true Christian Samurai, his blood boiled at the representations of his countrywomen in such books as those of Pierre Loti and of certain English authors whose sensualism and excessive and ill-directed flattery *have sent thousands of American and European young men to Japan for the gratification of their lusts.*"

The first extract may recall the necessity of purity to the well-being and very existence of a nation. The second may call your attention to the fact that Japan is already a place where evil-minded men from every land can come secretly and freely to gratify their passions, *because of the legalised system of prostitution in this country.*

We pray you to help prevent this beautiful land of Japan being made the harlot-house of the nations, and let us all work together that the womanhood of Japan may be a glory instead of a byword and jest to the impure, and a sorrow and loathing to the pure of all lands.

In behalf of the World's Woman's Christian Temperance Union.

Signed by a number of Ladies in Japan.

To our Christian Friends in Japan.

Reigate, England, September 19th, 1894.

We desire to send you our greetings and thanks for the many kindnesses shown to us when in your country. You have our prayers that you may be continually helped and strengthened for the great work you have in hand to do.

It has been our purpose ever since we were in Japan to lay before you our thoughts and what we have learned concerning a very great injury that is being done to your countrywomen, wherein all the Japanese women suffer more or less in reputation. We refer to the traffic with foreign countries, in Japanese girls, of which you have doubtless read a good deal in your own newspapers.

It has lately become the fashion for English, American, and other profligate foreigners to prefer Japanese girls This is said to be because no other class of women are so willing to obey whatever they are told to do *whether good or bad*. Other women will either obey only when it is right to do so, or disobey when they are told to do right and obey when told to do wrong, for they prefer the wrong. But of the Japanese women it is said they do not ask whether a thing is right or wrong, they simply obey whoever commands them. For this reason they are desirable by wicked men, because they will both make themselves agreeable and serve these wretches; or on the other hand, do the most wicked acts when they are commanded to. This is one reason why profligate foreigners like Japanese girls.

Secondly profligate foreigners have been very shrewd in inducing Japan to enact a system of laws for prostitutes of the most infamous sort. These laws require the Japanese degraded women to submit to examinations by doctors of vile character, and to keep themselves in health for the convenience of wicked men. Formerly such laws existed in certain towns of England, in India, Singapore, Hongkong, and many other places, but owing to the fact that laws which promised to make it healthy for men to commit vices directly encouraged those vices, there was in England and these other countries an alarming increase in the number of impure men and women. Besides it was found that increasing the vices of the people directly increased the diseases due to their vices; so that, when this was plainly shown in the British Parliament, about twenty years ago, the laws were changed; and degraded women were no longer forced to the examination in England. Then next the British Parliament ordered a repeal of these same laws (known as the Contagious Diseases Acts) throughout all British Colonies. Now in some parts of the world, such as India, Singapore, Hongkong, and South Africa, the officials of the country were of such low moral sentiments that they did not wish to cease licensing houses of ill-fame and examining women. It has been necessary therefore again and again to order them to do so, and of late they have had to be very slyly when breaking the laws of Great Britain in these far-off places. But in India and in Hongkong, and Singapore, the Indian and Chinese women have learned the law and know that they do not have to go to the examinations, and have refused to go, and the officials did not dare to force them, therefore the profligate foreigners of these places are sending all the way to Japan, and are paying high prices to have Japanese women taken to India, Singapore, Hongkong, and Shanghai. They prize the Japanese for two reasons:—

First.—They are very obedient and go to the examinations without complaint when told to do so.

Second.—They have been trained in Japan to go to the examinations, and naturally do so without being compelled to do it, and that helps these profligate men in defying England's laws secretly, for just as soon as the British officials are compelled by order from England to tell the degraded women that the examination is *voluntary*, not compulsory, then nearly all *but the Japanese women* stop going. There are 1800 prostitutes at Singapore, of whom 150 are Japanese, the rest nearly all Chinese. When these were told the examination was "voluntary" all but three Chinese women refused to go, but 15 Japanese girls went to the examination. This was in 1891. Then again it was reported in July, 1892, that 22 prostitutes came up for examination, 12 Japanese, 1 European, 8 Chinese, one Malay.

Again, in January, 1893, it is reported that 28 women came up voluntarily for examination, of whom 23 were Japanese.

In a letter written by the Colonial Surgeon, Dr. Ayres, of Hongkong, to the Colonial Secretary, Dr. Ayres says that the Japanese women *desire* the regulations that compel them to be examined, 'for in their own country they have the Contagious Diseases Law much more strictly enforced than it has ever been here" (in Hongkong). "Often they come to the hospital after I have gone, and request to be admitted, and the matron to look after them until I can see them the following day," he adds.

The official in charge of the matter at Perak, near the Straits Settlement, makes a request for the compulsory examination in that place. In a letter to the Colonial Secretary of the Straits Settlements in September, 1891, he says of the Malay women that "sooner than accept the position of a *registered* prostitute (who must be examined) such women would either give up the life they were leading or move out of the limits of the town. As to the Chinese the only question was whether such an order would not drive the women from the state?" Then, he adds, "the Japanese would submit to it without any trouble . . . the Chinese prostitutes would accept it less willingly."

These remarks we copy from official State documents printed and sent to England.

We copy them that you may know that we do not say these things simply because it is *our* opinion, but because the officers of the law recognize and say these things that you may clearly understand that the system of laws you have in Japan for the government of Japanese degraded women, make them desirable as prostitutes in other countries, because they go on attending the examinations having been accustomed to them in Japan, and are very easily controlled in the matter, so that the system of examining women can be kept up secretly wherever Japanese women go, to a considerable extent.

Now the number of Japanese women who have been taken from Japan and sold to brothel-keepers in foreign ports is, as far as we have learned, as follows:—

In Bombay	38
" Calcutta	21
" Rangoon (about)	120
" Penang	50
" Singapore	250
" Hongkong	60
	479

But these numbers are given by the police themselves who usually will not acknowledge the full extent of prostitution which they neglect to check. So there may be many more than this number.

There are also Japanese women in very many other cities, such as Port Said, Madras, Moulmein, Mandalay, Shanghai, Vladivostock, and on the Pacific Coast, and in Canada. We have understood that they can be found in very many other cities in small numbers.

We were told by Mrs. Flora Best Harris (who with her husband were missionaries of the Methodist Church at Tokyo and elsewhere, and who now have charge of a mission for the Japanese at San Francisco) that the traffic in Japanese girls with California had been *entirely stopped* and that there were no Japanese girls in the brothels in San Francisco. This good work, she said, had been done by a Society of Christian Japanese Young Men of San Francisco, with the aid of the Japanese Consul.

Now from the Census Report for 1891 for the Straits Settlements we learn the following facts:—

In 1881 the number of Japanese in that country were 11 males and 14 females, but in 1891 there were 61 males and 264 females, of these 13 were under 15 years old, so that out of 325 Japanese in that country there were only 13 young people, showing that the Japanese could not many of them be married. Farther, the report of the Protectorate for the same year tells us that in the two cities of Penang and Singapore alone there were 249 prostitutes, so that we know that only 13 of the 264 Japanese women *could* possibly be respectable, and it is very doubtful about a considerable number of them for we know that there are some Japanese prostitutes in that country in other little towns. Now the fact that *so very few* respectable Japanese women leave their own country for other lands, while wicked men are interested in taking disreputable Japanese women to these countries, has led to a wide spread belief among those who have not visited Japan, that there are no respectable Japanese women. That is a very great injury to the reputation of Japanese women as a class and to the Japanese nation, and for the sake of respectable Japanese women in their own country, as well as the nation itself, the traffic with foreign lands in Japanese women should be exterminated. We were told by friends of a respectable Japanese lady in Singapore that she told them she did not dare to wear her Japanese costume or let her nationality be known among strangers for they immediately thought that, being a Japanese woman, she must be a prostitute. We are very apt to judge things by what we see with our own eyes and many say, "There are no respectable Japanese women for I have known many, and all I ever knew were bad."

Such are thoughtless, and do not consider that because they have not been in Japan and seen the Japanese women at home they ought not to think they know all about them.

As Christian sisters of Japanese women, then, we want to beseech the Japanese Christians, women as well as men:

First.—To try to do away with that set of laws which make Japanese women desirable as prostitutes in foreign lands; we mean those laws which license brothels and compel the inmates to be examined in Japan.

Second.—To increase efforts that are already being made quite vigorously to check the selling of these girls to brothel-keepers in distant countries. We rejoice over all we read in the newspapers of efforts being made to [illegible] already.

Third.—Give such instruction to growing girls as will

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cause them to dare to disobey those who *have no right* to command them, and who *command them to sin against God.*

We will say that we have made a clear representation of these facts concerning the degradation of women in all these foreign countries which we have visited in our travels all over the world. This representation we have made before Members of Parliament here in England, and the matter has been given in large part, by us, in evidence which has gone before the British Parliament. Our work in this direction is not yet done; we have had one interview with Lord Ripon, the Colonial Secretary, through whom all these distant parts are governed by England, and we expect to have a further interview shortly. In this manner the members of Parliament, with Lord Ripon, who is very friendly to our efforts, hope to accomplish a good deal, to put Hongkong, Singapore, etc., under better government as to these things. All that we can do on this side of the world to move England to its duty, we will do.

Further, we can see that our Japanese friends are supplied with literature in the English language which they could have translated into the Japanese as far as its necessary. This literature shows very plainly how the system of laws known as the "Contagious Diseases Acts," whereby the brothel is licensed and degraded women forced to be examined, are a failure in two important respects:—

First.—The regulations do not check disease.

Second.—The regulations encourage vice.

We hope our Japanese friends will feel led to organize a Japanese Purity Society to co-operate with the Woman's Christian Temperance Union in this work, and if this is done we will take pleasure in putting you in communication with persons of preëminence in the purity work in England who can give you counsel and literature, for they are carrying on this same sort of work in India, Singapore, and Hongkong, and have in years past been completely successful in England itself.

And now, praying God's richest blessings upon you in all your efforts for righteousness, we are

Your comrades in the work,

Mrs. Elisabeth Andrew.
Kate C. Bushnell, M.D.

Third and Fourth Round-the-World Missionaries of the World's Woman's Christian Temperance Union.

P.S.—If the Japanese friends should wish to write directly and immediately to England to the Society for the abolition of these laws, they can address

Miss Forsaith,
No. 1, King Street, Westminster.
London, S.W., England.

CONSCRIPTION REGULATIONS.

PROJECTED AMENDMENTS AND ADDITIONS TO THE CONSCRIPTION REGULATIONS.

The following amendments and additions shall be made in the Conscription Regulations.

Art. II.—The service of conscripts shall be divided into service with the Colours, with the Reserves, *with the Supplementary Conscription*, and with the Territorial Army.

Art. III.— . . . The First Reserve term shall be 4 years *and 4 months* in the Army, &c., &c.

The following new Article (V.) shall be divided into First Supplementary Conscription Service and Second Supplementary Conscription Service in the Army. The term of service in the First Conscription Service shall be 7 years and 4 months, and shall fall on those Conscripts who are in excess of the number required for service with the Colours each year, and the number enrolled shall be determined on each occasion.

The term of service in the Second Conscription Service shall be 1 year and 4 months, and shall fall upon those Conscripts who are in excess of the number required for the First Supplementary Conscription Service.

In the Navy the term of service in the Supplementary Conscription Service shall be 1 year, and shall fall upon those Conscripts who are in excess of the number required for service with the Colours each year.

Art. VI.— *The Territorial Army shall be divided into the First Territorial Army and the Second Territorial Army.*

The First Territorial Army shall consist of men that have completed their service with the Second Reserves and with the First Supplementary Conscription Service, and the Second Territorial Army shall consist of men that are not on the list of those serving with the Colours, with the Reserves, with the Supplementary Conscription, and with the First Territorial Army.

Art. VIII.—Soldiers in active service *and soldiers in the Supplementary Conscription service.* . . . *marines* in active service *and class marines in the Supplementary Conscription Service.* . . .

The following new article (XI.) shall be inserted.

Art. XI.—Candidates for active service who are not required by the Supplementary Conscription Service each year shall serve in the Territorial Army, according to the order of lots drawn.

Art. XII.—Any one between the ages of 17 and 26 years who holds the certificate of a government school, ... , and who can defray the expenses of his food, clothing, and necessary accoutrements during the term of Service, *and who aspires to become an officer in the First and Second Reserves*, may, on application, put in one year's active military service. *Terms of service with the First and Second Reserves of one-year volunteers shall be specially determined by Imperial Ordinance.*

Graduates of official ordinary normal schools, between 17 and 26 years of age, may enter active military service for six months, their expenses during that period being defrayed by the Army. When such volunteers give up a teachership before they reach the age of 26 years they, without conforming to the ordinary process of lots, shall be made to serve [regular service] *with the Colours for two years and the usual period with the First and Second Reserves.*

Art. XIV.—The First Reserves *and the second Reserves* shall be mobilized in times of war or of emergency; ordinarily they will be mobilized each year for a period not exceeding 60 days for drill.

The following new Article (XVII.) shall be inserted after Art. XVI. Conscripts in the First Supplementary Conscription Service and in the Supplementary Conscription Service of the Navy may be drafted into the regular service to supply vacancies that may occur; or they will be mobilized in times of war or of emergency. Provided that this drafting of conscripts in the First Supplementary Conscription Service for purposes of filling vacancies with the Colours shall be limited to the first year of service.

In ordinary times the First Supplementary Conscription Service shall, for purposes of training, be mobilized for a period not exceeding 150 days; and also will be required to attend to drills, reviews, and mobilization like the First Reserves.

In time of war or of emergency, should the mobilization of the conscripts in the First Supplementary Conscription Service be found insufficient, the Conscripts in the Second Supplementary Conscription Service will be mobilized.

Clause 2 of Art. XXI.—In the case of those conscripts [studying] who are abroad (in Korea excepted) enrolment will, on application, be deferred [till they attain the age of 26 years.] *But on their return before they reach the age of 32 years* [attainment of that age, or if they return before reaching that age,] they shall without any ballot be enrolled. *Conscripts whose age is above 32 shall be enrolled into the Territorial Army. Provided that Conscripts who, in accordance with Clause 1, of Art. XIII., apply to become one year volunteers shall not come under the preceding provision.*

Art. XXII.—Conscripts who have to discharge official duties which cannot well be left to substitutes . . . . shall not be required to attend the mobilization and drills even though they are on the lists of First or Second Reserves *or First Supplementary Conscription Service.* . . . .

Chapter IV. relating to Reserves for Enrolment to be expunged.

Art. XXV.—Young men who attain the age of 20 between January and December of each year should notify the fact in writing to the chief of the city, town, or village in which they are registered, between January 1st and January 31st of each year: *when the cause of excuse for Conscripts who come within the purview of Clause 1. Art. XXIII. disappears before they attain the age of 28; or when Conscripts who come under Clause 2 of the same Article return home before they attain the age of 32, this fact must be notified within 14 days.* . . . .

Art. XXVI.—Conscripts shall be enrolled at offices established for that purpose in the place where they are registered [but such as do not reside in the place where they are registered may, on application, be enrolled at the office in the prefectural jurisdiction where they are residing.]

Art. XXIX.—With regard to the computation of the term of service, for those who are on active service or on the list of the First Reserves, [Second Reserves] *Supplementary Conscription Service, and the Second Reserves of the Navy*, the computation shall begin on December 1st of the year in which the enrolment into the respective services has been effected; *while for those who are with the Second Reserves of the Army the computation shall begin from April 1st of year of enrolment.*

Provided that for those whose terms of service have been extended in accordance with the provisions of Art. VII., the computation of the terms of service shall not differ from those whose terms of service have not been so extended.

The period of imprisonment *while on service with the Colours*, or of absence by absconding, shall not be included in the term of service *with the Colours.*

The terms of service of the First Reserves shall be computed from the year in which the service with the Colours ends, and shall extend, in the Army, to March 31st of the sixth year, and, in the Navy, to November 30th of the fifth year.

Provided that when terms of active service are shortened in accordance with the provisions of Art X. (which provides for volunteer service before the age of 20 is attained) *the calculation of the terms of service of the First Reserves shall be computed in conformity with the provisions laid down in this Article.*

Conscripts who are on the list of the First and Second Reserves and Supplementary Conscription service and fail to attend mobilisation on account of the commission of unlawful acts or on any unjustifiable ground, the period of such non-attendance shall not be included in the terms of service.

Art. XXX.—With the exception of Hakodate, Yezashi, and Fukuyama, these Regulations shall [not apply for a while] *be gradually carried out;* to the rest of Hokkaido, to the Prefecture of Okinawa, as well as to the Ogasawara-jima which are under the jurisdiction of the Tokyo City Government. *The time and place of the execution of these Regulations, special exemptions, and postponments, shall be specially determined by Imperial Ordinance.*

Art. XXXV.—*The terms of service of Conscripts who are at present on the lists of the First Reserves shall be fixed in accordance with Art. III; while for those who are on the lists of the Second Reserves the terms shall be fixed at 12 years and 4 months from the time of the enrolment into the active service.*

APPENDIX.

The present Law shall be put into force on and after April 1st, 1895. Provided that for the Reserves for Enrolment now in service the old procedure shall be applied.

N.B.—In the above draft bill, all those portions written in italics are either additions or amendments, while those included in brackets are intended to be excised.

THE WRECK OF THE "GEORGE PEABODY."

Captain S. H. Burdis, of the sealing schooner *George Peabody*, arrived in Yokohama on Wednesday, along with the crew of the wrecked vessel, and from him was gathered the following account of the disaster:—"The *George Peabody* is an American schooner of about 52 tons burden, and left San Francisco for a sealing and hunter cruise on the 23rd December last year, with a crew of 21 souls all told. Everything went well during the voyage, and on March 4th we anchored off Ishinomaki, a place just inside the bight of Kinkasan. The next day our anchor got foul and about 2 o'clock in the afternoon we struck the bar. It was not until three hours afterwards that it was reported to me that water was making its way into the forecastle, and at first I thought that it was only bilge water coming through. But as it increased I ordered the pumps to be set going. Very soon it was noticed that sand was choking the pumps, and then I knew that the vessel had sprung a leak, either through a strain or else through running on to a rock. I went ashore to obtain assistance, after ordering the men to bring all their possessions on deck. We were about half a mile from shore: no sea was running, but the current across the bar was very strong. When I returned on board, shortly after seven o'clock, the water had gained on the pumps very considerably. In the cabin it was up to my waist, and I had great difficulty in getting at my things. It was some time after dark ere we left the schooner. We managed to get most of the gear out of her into a large sampan which was sent from the shore, and only one or two of the men lost their clothes. When we left Ishinomaki the vessel was lying on her beam ends on the starboard side; her masts and decks were unsprung, and she looked apparently uninjured. I believe it will be quite possible to save her, by taking out the 35 tons of ballast now in her. We have not been able to discover the damage on the starboard side, as owing to the set of the current the vessel is burying herself deeper in the sand on that side. I do not know whether she has knocked a hole in her side or whether she has strained herself after getting on to the bar. She has not moved since getting on the bar, beyond sinking deeper into the sand. Only her main hatch and wheel box has been washed away. The first mate has been left in charge of the *George Peabody* at Ishinomaki, and as soon as divers can be obtained some attempt will be made to get the vessel off."

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LEAVES FROM A WAR CORRESPONDENT'S JOURNAL.

Sunday, January 20th.

C—— and I went on shore at Talien as early as possible in order to examine one of the forts before starting for Kinchow. We chose the one most immediately overlooking the harbour and the town. It is a fort of modern construction, with earthwork walls, backed with strong masonry and, with the other forts on the neighbouring hills, should have proved almost impregnable. The fort we examined contained four Krupp guns, two of 21 centimetres calibre, two of 15 centimetres. As we looked down on the narrow isthmus along which the Japanese army advanced from Kinchow, and saw the road stretch away for miles under the very guns of the fort, it seemed almost incredible that such a position should have been abandoned, as it was abandoned, without striking a blow. The Chinese indeed did fire a few shots that were presumably meant to intimidate the advancing army, but they were quite unable to make any effective use of the magnificent modern weapons at their disposal. I have been informed by a Japanese officer who examined these guns that they had marks by which the range could be fixed for particular points along the road, showing that the work of the Chinese gunners was purely mechanical and that they were incapable of using the guns in a scientific manner. The shots fell wide of the mark; the Chinese fled; and the Japanese entered the forts without further opposition. Lightly as they were obtained, we could not but think that the Japanese were not likely readily to abandon them. We may expect to see them hand over Talien and Port Arthur soon after the English have restored Gibraltar to Spain.

Returning to Talien, we expected to find horses to take us to Kinchow, but a good many officers had been beforehand, and no more horses were available, so we started on the eight mile walk. My companion was not particularly well pleased, having come on shore prepared to ride, in a heavy fur lined ulster and a pair of particularly badly made Japanese Jack-boots; for myself I was not sorry to walk, for the grapes were unquestionably very sour. Facing a strong wind with the thermometer at 16° F., most persons would agree that it is preferable to go on foot. The correspondent of the *Temps*, trotted cheerily past us, in a huge sheep-skin coat; but I expect he was pretty thoroughly frozen before he reached Kinchow. For ourselves, though we kept warm enough by fast walking, our fingers were almost useless from the cold if we exposed them for a moment bare to the wind, our beards and moustaches were frozen stiff, our handkerchiefs were frozen in our pockets, and when we sat down for a few minutes under shelter of a rock to eat our luncheon, we found the bread in our sandwiches frozen quite hard with the cold.

We reached Kinchow at about two, and I was immediately taken to head-quarters and introduced to Marshal Oyama, a ruddy, cheery-looking, middle aged man, with a face deeply pitted with small-pox. C—— who is to sail with the new expedition about to start from Talienwan, returned shortly afterwards to Kinchow. Marshal Oyama, who is, I understand, to lead the new expedition, goes there to-morrow. Most of the troops forming the Second Army, with the exception of half of the Kumamoto Division now at Kaiping, have already been shipped on board the transports in the harbour. These troops join with the Sendai Division for the new expedition.

My next step was to make arrangements for my journey to the head-quarters of the First Army. I was promised three horses, for myself, Tamura my interpreter, and Takeguchi my boy, respectively, and with regard to the transport of my baggage I was referred to Major Ogasawara, the officer in charge of the Transport Station of Kinchow. He was exceedingly kind and helpful, was not as aghast as I had feared he would be at the vast quantity of baggage I am bringing, and promised me a bullock-cart ready to-morrow morning. The transport is effected in stages, distant three or four *ri* from one another, and, since the roads are bad and bullocks are slow, it is not possible with the utmost expedition to cover more than two stages a day. There are fifteen stages between Kinchow and Kai-ping, so it will take me at least eight days to get to the last named place. Where the head quarters of the first Army will be by that time I do not know, but probably not more than two days journey, so I can confidently expect to reach the Army before the end of the month. I have this great reason to hope that I may be in time to witness the important movements that are expected shortly to take place in the neighbourhood of Newchwang.

I have been considering the possibility of leaving my baggage to the charge of my interprete and pushing forward more rapidly alone, but apart from the discomfort that would be entailed by the absense of the baggage and the difficulty that I should experience from the want of the interpreter, it is doubtful if I shall find a horse able even to carry me over the two stages a day for a week. Horses such as those they speak of in Australia, that will carry a man 40 miles a day for several days in succession, are not often met with in China or Japan, and if the Second Army has such horses it is not likely to place them at the disposal of a newspaper correspondent. Finally, to attempt such a ride at this stage would be premature, and likely to prevent my witnessing the rest of the campaign. Later, when I am "in training," I may be able to do such things, but they are not the first things for a man to attempt who suddenly changes a life of ease and physical inaction for one of considerable hardship and requiring considerable powers of endurance.

The only serious difficulty that arises is the want of saddles. I brought one for myself, but one only, and it appears that not even a Chinese saddle can be bought for love or money. Takeguchi, who has ridden before, says confidently that it doesn't matter, but for Tamura, who does not know how to ride, I fear it involves a considerable number of falls. Though stirrups and saddle will never teach a man to ride, undoubtedly they give confidence and security to the beginner, and they are certainly much more comfortable to use than riding the "bare-backed steed."

The stay here is too short to see anything of the Japanese Civil Administration at Kinchow, but I have seen all that there is to see of the town itself. It is perfectly square, surrounded by a wall about 20 feet high, the walls facing pretty accurately north, south, east, and west. There are four gates, one in the middle of each face of the town, and the two principal streets run from north to south and from east to west, thus dividing the town into quarters. The whole plan of construction thus strictly resembles, if what smattering of classical lore remains to me from school days be accurate, the plan of the camp of a Roman army when it went into winter quarters. The dirt and squalor are extreme, but C—— assured me that the place compared favourably with most Chinese towns of his acquaintance.

Monday, January 21st.

My suggestions of yesterday about the horses have not proved unfounded. These geese are not swans, but very ugly ducklings. "Three horses" prove to be one small and very aged pony and two ill tempered mules. I choose the pony for myself, as a full-sized English saddle is less likely to prove a misfit on its back than on that of an animal like the mule, with no withers worth mentioning. At the sight of one of the mules, kicking up, like Ole Joe, "ahind and afore," Tamura decides, wisely I think, to sit in the bullock cart on the top of the baggage, so one of the mules is returned with thanks. The valourous Takeguchi, however, ties his blanket on the back of the other, and prepares to follow me. We cannot get away yet though, for where is the bullock-cart? We go round to Major Ogasawara, and find the gate of his office blocked by a crowd of bullock-carts and vociferating Chinese drivers. He comes out, and with considerable difficulty succeeds in getting ours disentangled and sent round to our door. He has considerately provided a covered cart, with a view, as I then supposed, to keeping off snow, but more probably as I learned later, to keep off dust. The cart proves too small, and we have to be content with one without a cover. The Chinese bullock cart is a two-wheeled vehicle, all very stoutly built, but with wheels that are disproportionately strong until I learn later in the day the work they have to perform. I call them bullock-carts, and for oxen I suppose they are built, but at present, when the demands of the transport service so far exceed anything previously known in the neighbourhood, all kinds of animals are yoked together, and I actually saw a cart yesterday drawn by two or three bullocks, two donkeys, a mule, and a pony. My own cart is drawn by three bullocks and two mules, and they are not too many for the load they have to draw and the roads they have to traverse.

After an interview with the Press Censor to get some letters past, and a farewell visit to Marshal Oyama, we get fairly away, Takeguchi and I, at a quarter to twelve, Tamura having started half an hour before with the baggage. It is a late start for a twenty-mile march, and push as we may, we shall hardly cover the distance before nightfall.

My pony is a broken down old screw, and when, with a good deal of stimulation, I can induce him to quicken his pace, he develops a trot of a character I have never hitherto experienced—one to which it seems absolutely impossible to "rise." So I give it up and let him get along at a pace betwixt a walk and a jog trot, which covers the ground faster than a bullock-cart, and is not absolutely unendurable. The mule, whose temper had seemed so abominable, follows cheerfully and looks the better animal of the two.

After about an hour we overtake Tamura with the baggage, and in another two we reach the first Transport Station, San-ze-ri-pu. On the road we meet a great number of waggons, perhaps as many as a hundred, returning from San-ze-ri-pu to Kinchow; most of them empty, but some containing Japanese soldiers, these being from Kaiping. None of the men that I noticed carefully looked very ill, and in any case I presume seriously wounded men would not be sent on such a journey, so these can have been the slighter cases only, but men whom it was deemed inexpedient to keep at the front. About two hundred, we were told, are now being sent back along this road.

We made a very short stay only at San-ze-ri-pu, as it was necessary to push on rapidly. We did not see the commanding officer of the Station as he was indisposed. As my pony had fallen twice with me in the morning, and evidently found me too heavy a load, I determined to walk the three *ri* to the next station, and Tamura joined me for exercise, while Takeguchi, who found bare-backed riding less to his taste than he had anticipated, took to the bullock cart. At half-past five, when we were overtaken by the darkness, we had still a *ri* to cover. As I was stiff and footsore. I also got into the bullock cart, and at once commiserated the wounded men that had to travel 130 miles in such a conveyance. The cart is of course entirely without springs, and the roads are very bad, with large loose stones lying about, and here and there rocks, projecting six inches or more from the surface, so that the jolting is indescribable. It must be experienced to be understood—a London omnibus can give no conception, but those who have travelled in the terminal carriage of a fast goods train on the London and South Western railway may form some faint idea of what it is like. I now understood why the wheels of these carts are so massive; and occasionally, as jolting over a boulder in the darkness one side rose high into the air and I clung to the luggage ropes for support, I found myself speculating with reawakened interest on some of those mechanical problems of my youth that concerned the relation between plumb-line from the centre of gravity of a mass and its base of support.

We reached Se-foi at about half past six, and were given a kindly welcome by the Major in command of the station. He made many apologies, which will no doubt become monotonous in time, for his inability to provide me with foreign food, and at once proceeded to cook my supper himself in a little saucepan which he told us he had sent for from Japan. With some pieces of fresh beef—a grateful sight after breakfast and luncheon of tinned salted beef,—some sweet onions, sugar, and curry powder, he made a very palatable stew to eat with our rice; and we finished our meal with a cup of chocolate made from a tinned preparation. French wine (manufactured in Japan) was of course pressed on me, for to do so is one of the elements of Japanese hospitality, and I find the vice of my constitution that makes tea, tobacco, and alcohol all rank poisons to me rather troublesome in mixing with the Japanese. It is impossible to value too highly the kindness of thought that these offers exhibit, but the alternative of seeming churlish or submitting to an unnecessary headache is rather a trying one, and I hope that soon, since the Major informed me that the First Army is much less efficiently supplied than the Second, I may find myself beyond the area of distribution of "Kondo's Fragrant Wine."

The Major gave me much interesting information concerning the transport service. The supplies for the First Army, which are of course a far larger matter than those for the half of the Kumamoto Division that is furnished by the road along which I am now travelling, have all, now that the north of the sea is frozen, to go overland through Korea. At this part of the field the service of supplies runs from Talien to Kai ping. This line, a distance of about 130 miles, is worked in 16 sections, each from three to four *ri* in length. At each section there is an officer to take charge of the service, with about thirty soldiers. The supplies go forward in the bullock carts already described, as many as a hundred cartloads often being sent in a single day. Each cartload is carried only one station per diem, so that it takes a bag of rice, for instance, more than a fortnight to get from Talien to Kaiping. The materials sent forward are, he said, "all the necessaries of life," the principal, on enquiry, proving to be rice, charcoal, barley, biscuits, tinned beef, tobacco,

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and candles. "Of these last," said the Major, as he called for a fresh one, "the Second Army has a much better supply than the First Army, as it has of almost all things. I have heard that in the First Army, the generals even are on a ration of one candle per night." The candles, I may mention in passing, are the most execrable tallow dips, such as are used in *jinrikisha* men's lanterns. They require snuffing every three or four minutes, and give a wretched light, and I really don't know how I shall get on when the small stock of sperm candles I brought with me has been exhausted.

The Chinese coolies employed in the transport service and the bullocks and other animals belonging to them are hired by the day. The coolies are paid from 30 to 40 *sen* a day—a higher wage, probably, than they have ever before been able to command—and a heavy cart-load with bullocks attached may cost as much as three *yen* a day. For a rough calculation let us say three *yen* a cart, and put the average number of carts going forward each day from station to station at 80. The number of stages being 16, the cost of the transport service alone from Talien to Kaiping would amount to $3 \times 80 \times 16 = 3,840$ *yen* per diem. This calculation is so rough as to be little better than a guess, but it will serve to give some idea of the cost of a quite insignificant item in the Japanese expenses.

The Chinese coolies employed are the ordinary inhabitants of the village, these being sufficient to meet the regular needs of the service. It is fortunate indeed that this employment is open to them, as all regular trade is at a standstill. Men and women alike had fled to the hills to escape, so say the Japanese officers, the tender mercies of the Chinese Army, but the men returned to their homes—such homes as remained, when order had been restored by the Japanese occupation. The women still keep away, a fact that explains the sight, new to one unfamiliar with Mahomedan countries, of a population appearing to consist entirely of men and a few children.

I say good-night to the major and go to my quarters. We arrived late and want to start early to-morrow, so I unpacked nothing but some rugs, and go to bed in my clothes for the first time, I think, in a peaceful existence.

Tuesday, January 22nd.

Very little washing is possible when travelling in such weather and under such circumstances as these; and upon occasions, as for instance when an early start is to be made, the very little becomes none at all. With the natives, the latter seems to be the alternative invariably chosen, and the brown skin of the coolies is turned several shades browner by coatings of the dust that flies continually along the roads on which they work. The Japanese soldiers too and coolies returning from the front have a similar artificial tan: but the Japanese are naturally cleanly, and the men in the stations along the road keep up a decent appearance notwithstanding the absence of the great hot baths of their native land; while the commanding officers of the stations, many of them, look as if they were fresh from their own barracks—an appearance it must be difficult to maintain amid the grime of their surroundings.

Grimy, indeed, seems hardly a strong enough word to describe the interior of a Chinese dwelling of the lower class. Here, in the north of China, the room, about twelve feet broad and varying in length, is divided into two parts. One, the floor, on the further side of the window, is about seven feet broad. It consists merely of mud, which in winter happily is frozen hard and is therefore odourless, but which in summer must, I should think, be oozy and pestilential. Against the back wall of the dwelling stand cupboards and various household utensils. The other part of the room is a brick platform about five feet wide and raised three feet above the floor. This is covered with a thin straw mat, not with the thick *tatami* of Japan. The brick-work underneath the bed contain a furnace, and by this the interior of the room, and more particularly the platform, on which the people sit in the day time and sleep at night, are warmed. Now these furnaces invariably smoke when they are first lighted; moreover, in many cases, even when the fire is drawing well, smoke continues to exude through cracks in the brickwork into the interior of the room. Thus the rafters of the roof, and in a lesser degree the upper part of the walls, become coated with soot, and an impalpable dirt falls continually on everything in the interior.

The smoke that fills the room when the furnace is first lighted is extremely irritating to the eyes and lungs, and is moreover positively dangerous if freely inhaled in a closed room. Several of the foreign newspaper correspondents who followed the expedition to Port Arthur were made quite ill in this manner, but I have not hitherto suffered from more than a temporary irritation.

The windows of the rooms consist, like those of the houses of Japan, of paper pasted on a wooden frame, but the frame opens upwards on a hinge: it does not slide like the *shoji* of Japan. The unceasing rattle of the Japanese home is thus avoided; but, in the absence of a rack and pinion adjustment, the window must either be entirely closed or else hooked widely open—a disadvantage in a frigid climate like that of North China. Still, paper is not impervious like glass, and unless the brick furnace is mismanaged, it is rarely necessary to open the window. A more serious disadvantage of the Chinese room as contrasted with the Japanese is the comparatively small size of the window, so that the interior is usually dark as well as dirty. To render my description of a lower class Chinese interior complete, I must mention that it swarms with bugs. This is hearsay evidence, for though the insect is particularly fond of me, I have not yet been bitten. The character of the interior, however, is quite sufficient to confirm the statement, and I have no doubt there are plenty of bugs under the dirty mats and in the crevices of the brickwork. The reason for my immunity is simple—the bug, like the dormouse, goes to sleep in cold weather, and I have not yet had the brick furnace in any of the rooms in which I have stayed made sufficiently warm to drive the insect from its lair. When the weather is warmer I have no doubt I shall find the bites of these pests among the most serious hardships of the campaign.

Having described the dwelling room, I may as well complete the description of the house. Its plan is simple. It is merely one room deep, the entrance is in the middle, where there is a small and more than ever dirty room, used as kitchen and fuel house. On either side of this is a dwelling room, and sometimes two or three in succession. The walls are of stone; the interior is usually plastered and papered, and the exterior is in a few cases covered with a kind of stucco. The roof is usually of thatch, but sometimes of tiles. Below may be a light framework of bamboo on which is stretched a paper, blackened of course with soot, forming a kind of ceiling.

It is time I returned to the description of my journey, which was resumed at about nine o'clock. On this occasion I tried the mule, as the animal was undoubtedly stronger and steadier on his legs than the poor old pony. He proved worthy of the reputation of his race, for I think I never mounted a more obstinate brute. When I wished him to pass the baggage-cart there proved to be a serious difference of opinion—a difference that ended after a prolonged struggle in a victory for the mule. From his reluctance to pass the cart it might appear that he was aware of my intention to make him go a good deal faster than he could go behind it; but this stretch of reasoning seems beyond the capacity of a mule, and it is probable that it was merely his custom always to walk behind something, and he was not going to break his rule by walking in front. This view is supported by the fact that he trotted fairly well behind my pony yesterday, and that to day, when the pony was led in front of the cart, the mule followed quite amicably—but pass him he wouldn't, either for coaxing or sterner persuasion. At last, after many efforts, and excursions into the fields on either side of the road, my arms being tired and the poor brute's jaw sore, I gave up any further attempts, since they were evidently useless cruelty, and settled down to the rest of my four hours at the tail of a bullock cart.

At the next station, Pu-ran-tsu, noticing again what I had noticed in many of the villages we had passed, that most of the houses were roofless, I asked the commanding officer of the station how this came to be. It was done, he said, by the Chinese soldiers who had passed along the way. Fuel is very scarce in this part of the country, and when the soldiers wanted to warm themselves they stripped the thatch from the cottages to make their fires. I took a photograph of one of these houses just opposite the station, and then, at the request of the soldiers, one of their station house, with my luggage cart and myself on the mule grouped in the foreground for artistic effect.

I talked to the officer of this station about the preservation of order in the conquered districts. Strictly speaking, it appears, the duties of the soldiers at the stations begin and end with the transport service. All matters relating to public order in this district are subject to the Civil Administration at Kinchow. But of course the presence of a small force every few miles along the route suffices of itself to maintain order over a considerable area. In the interior of the peninsula, away from this route, anarchy necessarily prevails. At one of the stations the officer informed me that some men in his neighbourhood who had been deprived of their regular employment in consequence of the war, had taken guns from the bodies of fallen Chinese soldiers, and were obtaining money and food from the peasants by intimidation. It had been impossible hitherto for him with the small force at his disposal to take any steps to apprehend these offenders.

The wretched mule was a further source of trouble this afternoon. I left the pony behind at Pu-ran-tsu, as he had fallen once this morning while being led behind the cart, and was evidently quite unfit for work. I had intended the mule to go with the baggage cart, which started under charge of Takeguchi half an hour before Tamura and myself, but found that the beast had been left behind by mistake. I did not want to be balked of my walk, so I determined to lead him. The mule, however, had had enough of me in the morning, and hung back with firmly planted feet and head in the air at the full length of his bridle. We found however, that he would go fast enough if Tamura took the bridle and I walked behind with the whip in my hand, so in this Indian file we marched for several miles. It must have been a ludicrous spectacle for any onlooker with a sense of humour, for we must have looked as if our chief business in life was to get the mule over the ground, like an Irishman tied to the leg of his pig. Yesterday, when we left Kinchow, I on my sorry screw and Takeguchi on my mule behind me, I involuntarily thought of Don Quixote and Sancho Panza; but to-day's performance called up reminiscences of Æsop; of "The Old Man and his son, and the Donkey." At length we overtook the baggage, and the mule was restored to his rightful place at the tail of the bullock cart.

The character of the country underwent a change hereabouts. Hitherto it had all been of a uniform dull brown colour, not even the hills on the horizon relieving the landscape with the usual depth of blue—all cultivated country of the hue of a frozen ploughed field, but now, after crossing a sandy waste in the estuary of a river and then striking inland, we came to a region of downs, steep dull-green slopes with rock jutting out here and there, so that when the distant hills were shut out from view I could, but for the temperature, have easily imagined myself to be among the tors of Devonshire.

The temperature, by the way, may have been as low yesterday and to-day as on the day C—— and I walked over from Talien to Kinchow. (I broke my thermometer at Kinchow, so I cannot say if this was actually the case); but it has felt much warmer. The first day a bitter north-east wind, which the Chinese call *sakufu* (the wind from the Barbarous Region), was blowing, and it is a trite observation that our sensations of cold depend chiefly on the wind.

Soon after four we reached Tachaku, where we were to spend the night. We were soon allotted our rooms, with the usual apologies for dirt, discomfort, and the want of "foreign food." After supper, Tamura and I went to see the officer in command, as we wished to arrange for a very early start, in order if possible to reach Fuchow, three stations distant, to-morrow night. We nearly broke our necks stumbling about among the oxen and carts which were promiscuously blocking the street, there being no stable accommodation for them for the night. On a still night like this they may enjoy their hard-earned rest comfortably enough in the open, but it must be terrible for the poor creatures when there is any wind.

Wednesday, Jan. 23rd.

We got off at twenty minutes to eight—not a bad start for a morning when the first glimmer of light begins at six o'clock. The *Sa ku fu* is blowing to-day, and though it is not strong, I am glad of all the clothing I can put on, and allow nothing to face the wind but my nose and my eyes, or rather my spectacles, which, besides being a necessity for sight, are a great comfort as a protection from the wind. Tamura's spectacles, by the bye, were stolen last night. He had put them on the window ledge, and some one made a hole through the paper and took them in the night. It was probably one of the house coolies, since no else could have known the exact spot where the spectacles had been placed. This suggests greater caution in leaving things within reach of the window at night. I sleep with my revolver handy, but must have it on the side away from the window, or it might be stolen without my waking.

A curious feature of the scenery that I forgot to notice yesterday is the absence of trees. I am reminded of it now because they are becoming more plentiful as we advance; for the first two days there were often but two or three in the whole landscape. What there are, are all the same, a kind of willow I think, but one that grows up stiff and straight, not drooping like our English willows. I have seen only one tree of another kind than this since we left Talien.

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To-day, because we happen to wish to press forward, we have a bullock-cart unusually exasperating in its slowness. So slow is it that by the time we arrive at Di-cha-ten, the first station, our hopes of reaching Fuchow to-night have entirely evaporated, and we halt for our midday meal.

The officer at this station, Captain Kimura, lived at Pekin for some years, and speaks Chinese fluently. He is evidently on the most excellent terms with the Chinese inhabitants of his village, and tells me that the men did not run away before the Japanese arrived, but have been there all the time. As a matter of fact I believe that most of the flights from the villages were due to fear of the Chinese soldiers rather than of the Japanese.

It is *two ri* and a half, we are told, to the next station, and I start off to walk the distance. Takeguchi prefers to sit in the cart, and begs Tamura to stay behind. He dropped his sword this morning—the sword with which he informed me he was going to protect me if a Chinaman tried to kill me—and now, says Tamura, he "feels lonely" when he is left behind with the baggage. Lonely is evidently a euphemism for "afraid," and I must confess that, settled as the district seems, I should not feel perfectly comfortable walking about alone unarmed, for there may be plenty of Chinese deserters lurking in the hills near the road.

I venture on a tempting short-cut, and do not meet with the fate that is apt to attend those rash enough to try such experiments, for the path over the hills is certainly shorter than the main road, and affords magnificent views of the surrounding country. Nevertheless, I find the two *ri* and a half very long, and the conviction grows on me that the Japanese *ri*, like the German *Stands* is an exceedingly elastic measure of distance—the *ri* of the jinrikisha-man in Tokyo who is engaged at eight *sen* per *ri*, is marvellously short compared with those over which I am now tramping. Another peculiarity of the Japanese estimate of distance came to my notice to-day. A full hour after we had started we met three or four Japanese coolies, one of whom, limping along rather wearily with an injured foot, asked Tamura how far it was to the next station, "*Mo-siki des*," was the reply "you're just there," an answer that seemed strangely at variance with the truth, but it was not my business to interfere The same thing occurred to me this afternoon, for when I was becoming stiff and footsore, and confident I was near the end of my two and a half *ri*, I asked a Japanese coolie that I met how far I was from my destination, "*Mo siki-des*," he replied cheerily, and in spite of the morning's experience I was simple enough to believe him—and had to struggle on with sore feet for at least another *ri*.

The way is enlivened, however, as it has been every day, by magpies chattering on either side of the road in numbers for which Saxon superstition has neglected to provide. What one, two, three, and even four magpies signify I know or used to know, but how am I to interpret the appearance of magpies in numbers greater than I can take the trouble to count?

I am rewarded when I reach Fou-cha-ten by finding an officer able to speak a little French, the first that has confessed such a knowledge since I left Kinchow. So I get on without any difficulty while awaiting the arrival of Tamura. Still, when he does come, conversation certainly progresses more rapidly—for my own French is not particularly fluent, and my accent is not that of Paris but of Cockaigne. I *did not* see the Commandant again for some time, as he had some wounded officers to entertain, but he sent in some Chinese musicians (whom he had hired to perform before these officers) the instruments being a kind of flute, a drum, a gong, a screeching fiddle, and the human voice, which last was added as an occasional horrid howl by the performer on the drum. Then the Commandant came in afterwards to apologize *more Japonico*, for the badness of the performance. The brutal canons of Western outspokenness (which to the Japanese must often appear atrocious rudeness) impelled me to confess that, while the performance had interested me since it was my first experience of Chinese music, I had not a sufficiently educated ear to know if it was good or bad. As a matter of fact the sounds were not entirely new to my ears, for the Japanese music being imported from China, they may be heard frequently in the streets of Japan.

The Commandant stayed for a long and interesting conversation, which naturally turned largely on the past conduct and the future prospects of the war. While I am on this topic I may fitly mention that just before I left Tokyo I was told by a foreign newspaper correspondent who had recently returned to Japan, that when I reached the army I should find that in the eyes of the officers Japan occupied the greater portion of the map of the globe, while England was one little speck and America another. It is perhaps too soon to form a final decision as to the value of that statement, but, as far as my experience has gone I have seen nothing of the inflation spoken of by this gentleman. I met indeed one officer—a naval officer by the by, not military—who seemed, as was humourously said to me, "to draw a good deal of water;" but this has been a solitary instance, and one of mere personal conceit and ill-manners. The Japanese officers with whom I have had the opportunity of conversing during my journey northward (from one and all of whom, let me mention, I have received a courteous attention, that far exceeded my expectations) seem to me to have an excellent sense of proportion, and to be, I should say, singularly free from the exuberant national pride that is usually, and perhaps rightly, considered characteristic of Japan. Their military education perhaps accounts for this; but be the cause what it may, I state the fact as I find it.

The Commandant at Fou-cha-ten is deservedly proud of the relations between the Japanese garrison and the Chinese inhabitants of the village. I have seen surprisingly little to complain of in this respect anywhere along the road, but at this station, certainly, intercourse seemed to be on a particularly friendly footing. There has been no destruction of houses in his district, as it lay off the line of march of the Chinese army, and the Japanese have been kept under strict control. When I asked him whether any of the destruction I had witnessed along the route had been the work of the Japanese soldiers, he replied that at first it had no doubt been impossible to prevent it entirely, but that strict discipline was now preserved all along the line, and that most of the destruction had unquestionably been the work of the Chinese soldiers, who tore the thatch from the houses to use it as fuel. He pointed, in confirmation, to the fact that, whereas the Chinese peasants had fled from these villages to escape the outrages of their own soldiery, the men, at least, had all returned now that their homes were occupied by the Japanese. From his own station, which had not been visited by the Chinese Army, not a man had run away, and a few of the women even had remained.

Of course infraction of discipline occurs now and again, and he gave me an instance of three in his own district. In one case a soldier had torn out the window frame of his quarters to use it for fuel; in another a Japanese coolie broke the head of a Chinaman in consequence of a dispute about money; and two other coolies had also struck Chinamen. These men had all been sent to Kinchow for punishment.

Thursday, January 24th.

The mule improves on acquaintance—and by the application of a pair of spurs that I succeeded in finding in one of my boxes. I doubt if time alone would have worked such changes. By the reform in his manners and my feet it resulted that he was got out of the yard before the bullock cart, and trotted briskly over the distance to Fuchow. I was glad to go quickly, for the cold was bitter. Snow, the first we have encountered, fell last night; and the feel of a wind blowing over frozen snow is sufficiently exhilarating to make active exercise desirable. Far more trying than the cold, however, is the glare from the sunlit snow. This will have to be faced for ten weeks at least I suppose, but fortunately it is easily tempered by the use of dark spectacles.

I decided to cover only one stage to-day, as I am feeling the fatigues of the journey a little, and I can get more comfortable quarters at Fuchow than I shall again find till I reach Kaiping, eight stages further on. I also had some hopes of getting a horse, but the Commanding Officer, having made some enquiries for me, assures me that it is impossible. Talking of the horse reminds me that Takeguchi yesterday afternoon tied the mule to the tail of the cart by means of the bridle, with the natural result that the beast, hanging back, broke some of the head gear. I was philosophical about it, for I thought I had some spare harness, till I found that Takeguchi had "thought" that the harness I unpacked at Kinchow was supplied by the military authorities there, and, since we had only one horse (the mule we brought being indeed provided with an old bridle) he had "given it back" to the soldier who shared our quarters, saying that we had no need for it. The soldier "thanked him politely," as well he might, for two fine stirrup leathers and some other spare harness. I have written to Major Ogasawara at Kinchow to explain the mistake, and shall no doubt get the gear back in due course; but for the present I have to ride the mule with a snaffle only, which is good enough after all for the mule, for the snaffle has just as much effect on his mouth as the curb, namely—none at all.

I need not describe Fuchow, as it is an exact reproduction in size and plan of construction of Kinchow. The only different of importance is the existence of an old ruined solid brick tower, about 50 feet high, outside the south-east corner of the town. I cannot learn anything about its history. It is rather picturesque, so I took a photograph of it, surrounded by a crowd of Chinamen in whom awe evidently mingled with amusement and interest. When I closed the camera and went away they were still looking up at the tower as if they expected something odd to happen to it—a dragon, for instance, to fly down from heaven and bear it away in his clutches.

Friday, January 25th.

The snow the night before last appears to have been local only, as the country through which we pass to-day is uncovered. It is comparatively warm, with what wind there is from the south behind us and therefore hardly felt. At Yun-cha-ten, our mid-day halting place, I was considerably before Tamura, the improvement in the mule's paces having continued. When Tamura at length arrived, he was in a state of considerable perturbation because a soldier had ridden out of Fuchow after him to ask why I had removed Marshal Oyama's proclamation from the North Gate of that city. The proclamation, it appears, had been removed, and some Chinamen who were questioned about it said I had done it as I rode by! Of course I had done nothing of the kind. Tamura had assured the soldier it was impossible that I could have done it, and the man had returned, satisfied with this, without taking the trouble to overtake me. But I had better send back a letter to the commanding officer at Fuchow to disclaim all knowledge of the disappearance of the proclamation.

In the afternoon, having again ridden on ahead, I was wondering much when I should reach the next station, only two *ri*, I had been assured, from our mid-day halt. I was certain I had gone three *ri* at least, and as I had kept the telegraph wire in sight all the time, I could not think that I had missed the road. But as night was falling, and the commandant of Fuchow had told us that owing to the number of disbanded Chinese soldiers about the neighbourhood the road between Fuchow and Kaiping was not quite safe, particularly after dark; and I was, moreover, afraid of losing the road altogether if I went on after nightfall, I began to think that I had better turn into one of the deserted huts by the wayside and pass the night there. Fortunately, two Japanese came along at this moment, and explained that they were going to the station I wanted, and that it was a *ri* further back along the road. The next station was three *ri* further on, and was evidently too far to reach to-night. So I turned back with them, and soon understood how I had missed my way, for the station, Sawanten, is on a byroad, half a mile from the telegraph wire. There was a sign-post where the road branched, but this, being in Japanese, was of small use to me. Before we reached the station we met Tamura and Takeguchi, who, realising my mistake, and thinking I should probably push on to the next station, had started after me with the luggage.

Saturday, January 26th.

The food and the accommodation are getting rougher as we advance and reach places more recently occupied by the army. Black, long-haired pigs grunt under the bed-room windows, and cocks surprise me by crowing inside the house at two in the morning. But I am getting used to the dirt—and to being dirty, for cleanliness is almost unattainable. After all, the prejudice in favour of cleanliness is of very recent origin in the history of man. It is one that would never have arisen had all races of mankind occupied the frigid zone.

To-day the south wind continues, and the temperature is far from arctic. Freezing hard, of course, but not a frost that find its way into one's very bones. There are times when I feel inclined to wonder whether the cold of these regions has not been exaggerated, but of course the Oldest Inhabitant has already made his appearance and assured me that never within his memory has there been so warm a winter. There is certainly a warmer spell than usual just now; for instance, at the station at which I am writing, it was necessary a few days ago when using a Japanese pen to thaw it after every character over the glowing charcoal whilst now continuous writing is possible. To-day is merely a dull, cold, frosty day with threatening snow, such as we have often in our English winter. Every one tells me that further south, where the First Army is, it is much colder than it is here; and as it is, I cannot say that with all my appliances for keeping warm I have felt overheated since I landed at Talien.

To-day, for the first time, the extraordinary clearness of the air has disappeared, and the distant view is limited by the haze to a few miles. Hitherto I have been able to see to great distances; how far I had no means of estimating till yesterday even-

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ing, when, through a gap in the mountains that form the backbone of the peninsula, I caught a glimpse of the sea on the east coast, fifty miles away.

As I push on I observe that the number of available bullock carts is rapidly diminishing. It becomes necessary to have the transport business performed by Japanese coolies, who draw hand-carts—light vehicles brought from Japan expressly to meet such emergencies. This morning I passed a train of these carts. They numbered 136, and each was manned by 3 coolies. The distribution of the men is strictly arranged. They are attached to fixed stations, and they have to draw the loaded carts over one stage and to bring them back empty, which double journey represents a day's work. Where bullock carts are scarce, the number of coolies is proportionately large. Thus at Chanwundai, where I am to remain to-night—a particularly incommodious place—there are quartered no less than 600 Japanese coolies. In a village consisting of only three or four mud huts, the accommodation of such a number of men would be impossible. They have to be sent out at night to neighbouring hamlets, where their own good behaviour and the friendly disposition of the inhabitants enable them to live without any unpleasantness. Chanwundai is garrisoned by a petty force of 20 soldiers. I have not seen so small a force at any other station. Evidently they would be unable to hold their own if the Chinese made a resolute attack. But there is little, if any, risk of such a contingency. The Japanese hold the neck of the peninsula thoroughly guarded. No considerable force of the enemy could find its way through their lines, and as for the fugitive soldiers hiding in the mountains, they may be formidable to solitary wayfarers, but they certainly will not attempt anything against organized resistance.

The cart we obtained this morning, with a team of oxen only, was so slow that it took nearly five hours to cover four *ri*, and did not reach Chanwun-dai till half-past two. As it was so late, and as, being the first day of the Chinese New Year, it was extremely difficult to get another cart, I decided to make only one stage to-day, and after a short walk in the hills, took advantage of the afternoon to make up some arrears of writing.

CHESS.

(All Communications to be addressed to the Chess Editor.

The Yokohama Chess Club meets at the Club Hotel, No. 5, Bund, on Monday and Thursday in each week from 5 to 11 p.m.

The Tokyo Chess Club meets at the Tokyo Hotel every Friday from 1 to 7 p.m.

Solution to Problem No. 167.

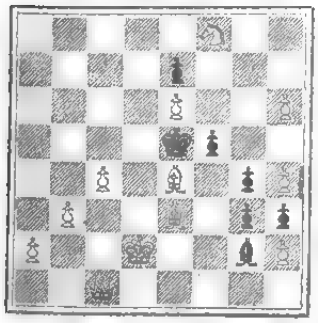
WHITE.	BLACK.
1—Kt to Kt 2	1—B × Kt
2—Q to Q B 3	2—B × Q
3—B to Kt 3, mate	etc., etc.

The above is the author's main idea, which has been discovered by Omega and J.D. Unfortunately, the problem, as it stands, can also be solved by 1 Kt to Kt 6 ch., as pointed out by several correspondents. A white pawn on the square indicated would make the problem perfectly sound. It is a curious fact that none of the solvers of the *St. James' Budget*, from which we copied the position, seem to have discovered the second and simpler solution.

Problem No. 169.

By E. Krug, Tokyo.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in three moves.

Game No. 228.

Mr. R. J. Loman, the chess champion of the Netherlands, reports the following game, which below will be found very interesting. It was recently played at Graz, between Professor Berger and Herr Wimmer:—

THE BISHOP'S GAMBIT.

WHITE. Professor Berger.	BLACK. Herr Wimmer.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—P to K B 4	2—P takes P
3—B to B 4	3—P to Q 4
4—B takes P	4—Q to R 5 ch.
5—K to B sq.	5—P to K Kt 4
6—Q to K B 3 (a)	6—P to Q B 3 (b)
7—Q to Q B 3 (c)	7—P to K B 3
8—P to Q 4 (d)	8—P to Q R 4 (e)
9—P to Q R 3	9—B to Q Kt 5 (f)
10—P takes B	10—P takes P
11—R takes R (g)	11—P takes Q
12—Kt to K B 3	12—P takes P
13—B takes Kt P	13—Q to R 4
14—R takes Kt	14—P takes R
15—R takes B ch.	15—K to Q 2
16—R takes Kt (h)	16—R takes R
17—Kt to B 3	17—P takes P
18—Kt takes K P	18—Q to Kt 3
19—Kt to B 4 ch	19—K to B 3
20—Kt to Q 3	20—K to Q 4 (i)
21—K to B 2	21—R to K sq.
22—R to R sq.	22—P to Kt 4
23—R to R 6	23—Q to R 4
24—Kt to Kt 4 ch (j)	24—K to R 5 (k)
25—Kt to Q 2 ch.	25—K takes Kt
26—P to B 3 mate.	

Notes (Condensed).

(a) This move—said to be Max Lange's—was played by Winawer against Englisch in the Paris International Tourney, 1878.
(b) Englisch's defence. The alternative is 6...B to Kt 2; 7 Q to Kt 3, Q to R 4 (threatening check at Queen's eighth). Or if 7 P to K Kt 3, then 7...Q to R 3; 8 P to K R 4, P to Q B 3; 9 B to Kt 3, Q to Kt 3; 10 Kt P takes P, P takes P; 11 Q takes P, Kt to B 3; 12 Q to K 5 ch, K to Q sq; and Black ultimately has a strong attack on White's exposed King.
(c) 7 P to K Kt 3, B to R 6 ch; 8 K to K sq, Q to Kt 5; 9 Q takes Q; R x Q; 10 B to Kt 3, &c., would only equalise the game.
(d) In the Winawer-Englisch game Winawer played the inferior 8 B takes Kt, R takes B; 9 Q takes P.
(e) 8...Kt to K 2 was the proper move.
(f) The price of three pieces which Black paid for the White Queen was too high. 9...Kt to K 2 was still the best move.
(g) Or 12 B takes P ch, K to Q sq; 12 Q takes P, R takes R; 13 Q to B 8 ch, K to B 2; 14 Q to Kt 7, and White wins.
(h) This sacrifice was forced. For Black threatened 16...P takes P; 17 Kt to K sq, P to B 6, &c.
(i) There was risk in the King's *sortie* into the hostile camp.
(j) The position allows of a pretty and problem-like mate.
(k) If 24...K to K 5, White mates by 25 Kt to Q 2.

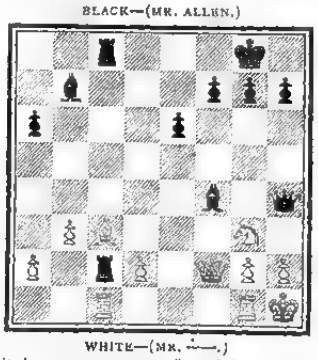
Blackburne in the Field again.

During the progress of the Mieses-Janowski match in Paris it was positively stated that a match had been arranged between Blackburne and the German master, Bardeleben, and the conditions of the match were said to be as follows: Games to be played at Hastings at the end of February or at the beginning of March at the latest. Match to be five games up for a purse of £200 and stakes of £25 a side. The English newspapers now declare that Blackburne has consented to play a "friendly" match with Lasker at Hastings.

End-Game No. 25.

The following curious and brilliant ending occurred some time ago at the Newcastle Chess Club between Mr. R. C. E. Allen (Black) and another strong amateur (White):—

BLACK—(MR. ALLEN.)



WHITE—(MR. ——.)

White's game seems, at first sight, safe enough, but Black (Mr. Allen) practically demolished his opponent with one deep and brilliant move.

1—R to Q B 4!

If R takes R; 2 Q takes R P ch, K takes Q; R to K R 4 mate. If Q takes R; 2 B takes Kt and wins. If K R to K B sq; 2 R to K R 4 and wins.

San Francisco.

The tournament works its way along, the leaders being Dr. Lovegrove (1st class) with 30 wins and 4 losses; and Mr. Thompson (2nd class) whose present score is 31 wins and 5 losses. There are many more games yet to be played before the tourney can be brought to a conclusion.

We give some of the games at various odds.

Game No. 229.

A game played between Dr. Lovegrove and Mr Nevill, the latter receiving the odds of a pawn and two moves:

WHITE. Nevill.	BLACK. Lovegrove.
1 { P to K 4 / P to Q 4	1—P to K 3
2—B to Q 3	2—P to K Kt 3
3—P to K R 4	3—Q Kt to B 3
4—P to K 5	4—Kt to Kt 5
5—B to K 4	5—P to Q 4
6—B to B 3	6—B to R 3 (?) (a)
7—B takes ■ (b)	7—Kt takes ■
8—Q to Q 2	8—P to Q B 4
9—P takes P	9—Q to R 4
10—P to ■ 3 (c)	10—Q takes P
11—P takes Kt	11—Q to B sq.
12—P to R 5	12—B to Q 2
13—P takes P	13—P takes P
14—Q to Kt 5	14—Kt to B 2 (d)
15—R takes R	15—Q takes R
16—Q to ■ 3	16—Q to R 7
17—R Kt to R 3	17—R to B sq.
18—Kt to Q 2	18—P to Q 5
19—Q takes P	19—Kt takes P
20—K to K 2	20—B to Kt 4
21—K to K 3	21—R to Q sq.
22—Q takes P	22—R to Q 6 (ch)
23—Resigns.	

Notes by Catz.

(a) B to Kt 2 would have been a better move.
(b) Wins a piece.
(c) If Q takes Kt then Kt to B 7 and wins the exchange. Or if P to R 3, then Black forces exchange of queens and wins rook.
(d) Forces the exchange and wins pawn.

Game No. 230.

The game played between Messrs. Samuels and Thomas, the latter receiving the odds of a knight.

REMOVE WHITE'S Q KT.

WHITE. Samuels.	BLACK. Thomas.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—Kt to K B 3	2—Kt to Q B 3
3—B to Q B 4	3—B to Q B 4
4—P to Q Kt 4	4—B takes P
5—P to Q B 3	5—B to B 4
6—Castles (K R)	6—Kt to K B 3
7—P to Q 4	7—P to Q 4
8—P takes Q P	8—Kt to Q R 4
9—Q to Q R 4 ch.	9—B to Q ■
10—Q takes Kt	10—B to Q 3
11—P takes K P	11—B to K 2
12—P takes Kt	12—B takes P
13—R to K sq. ch.	13—K to B sq.
14—B to R 3 ch.	14—K to Kt sq.
15—Kt to Q 4	15—P to K R 3
16—P to Q 6	16—P takes ■
17—Q to K R 5	17—P to K Kt 3
18—Q takes Kt P ch.	18—K to B sq.
19—Q takes K B P mate.	

Game No. 231.

A game played between Messrs. Coltz and Johnson, the former conceding odds of pawn and move:

REMOVE BLACK'S K B P.

WHITE. Johnson.	BLACK. Coltz.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K Kt 3
2—P to Q 4	2—B to Kt 2
3—B to Q 3	3—P to K 3
4—P to K 5	4—Kt to K 2
5—P to K R 4	5—P to Q R 3
6—P to R 5	6—P to Q 4
7—B to K Kt 5	7—Kt to Q 2
8—P takes P	8—P to K R 3
9—Q to K R 5	9—P takes B
10—Q takes R ch.	10—B takes Q
11—K takes B ch.	11—Kt to B sq.
12—P to K Kt 7	12—K to K B 2
13—R takes Kt ch.	13—Q takes R
14—P takes Q ch.	14—K takes P
15—Kt to Q 2	15—Kt to K B 4
16—B takes Kt	16—P takes B

And White wins.

Game No. 232.

A game played between Dr. Lovegrove and Mr. Lazarus, the former conceding the odds of rook:—

WHITE. Lovegrove.	BLACK. Lazarus.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—K Kt to B 3	2—Q Kt to B 3
3—B to B 4	3—P to Q 3
4—Q Kt to B 3	4—K Kt to B 3
5—Castles.	5—B to K 3
6—B to Kt 5	6—P to Q R 3
7—B to Q	7—P to Q Kt 4
8—B to Kt 3	8—B takes B

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10—Kt to Q 5	10—Kt takes Kt
11—P takes Kt	11—Kt to K 2
12—P to Q B 4	12—Kt P takes B P
13—Q P takes P	13—Kt to K Kt 3
14—P to K R 4	14—Kt takes P
15—Kt takes Kt	15—Q takes Kt
16—P to K B 4	16—Q to Q sq.
17—P takes K P	17—P takes P
18—P to Q Kt 4	18—Q to Q 3
19—Q to K sq.	19—Q takes Q P
20—R to R sq.	20—P to K B 3
21—Q to K R 4	21—Q to Q 2
22—Q to R 5 ch.	22—Q to B 2
23—Q to B 3	23—Q R to Kt sq.
24—R to Q sq.	24—B to Q 3
25—Q to B 6 ch.	25—Q to Q 2
26—Q to Q 5	26—Q R to Q sq.
27—R to Q 2	27—B takes P
28—Q to B 4	28—B to Q 3
29—P to Q Kt 3	29—Q to K 2
30—P to Q Kt 4	30—P to K B 4
31—Q to B 6 ch.	31—R to Q 2
32—Q to R 8 ch.	32—Q to Q sq.
33—Q to Q 5	33—Q to K R 5 ch.
34—K to Kt sq.	34—Q to K 8 ch.
35—K to R 2	35—P to K 5 ch.
36—P to Kt 3	36—B takes P ch.
37—K to R 3	37—R takes Q
38—R takes R	38—Q takes P
39—Resigns.	

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[Reuter "Special" to "Japan Mail."]

London, March 13.

The *Novoe Vreyma* says that one of Japan's demands in the Settlement of peace with China will be the cession of that portion of Manchuria at present occupied and extending to Mukden and the Great Wall.

London, March 14.

The Spanish war-vessel *Reina Regente*, which left Tangier in a storm, has not since been seen or heard of, but some wreckage belonging to the ship has been found. She carried a crew of 450 all told.

["Special" Telegrams to "Japan Mail."]

Kobe, March 11, 7.40 a.m.

The premises of Messrs. Samuel Samuel & Co. at this port were completely destroyed by fire last night. While directing operations to subdue the fire, Mr. Sim was assaulted by a Japanesefireman, but for what cause is unknown.

Hakodate, March 14.

Fire broke out in this town shortly after 9 o'clock last night and thirty houses were destroyed, and a woman and two children burnt to death.

(From the "N.-C. Daily News.")

Tientsin, March 2.

Prince Kung has obtained a Decree of Mercy from the Emperor that officers and soldiers defeated in battle are not to be decapitated if it be proved that they have not committed excesses while retreating, but are to be given the chance of retrieving themselves. Orders have therefore been issued to all the Generals of divisions at the front to post the above edict in the various camps. After a defeat, soldiers are to form again according to their respective regiments, at any spot previously indicated by their Generals. This will doubtless prevent disbanded soldiery from scattering around the country and being forced to obtain subsistence by plunder and pillage.

Peking, March 3.

Another Censor, following An Wei-chün's footsteps, has been making a sensation by presenting a memorial, written with his blood, appealing to the Emperor to sweep away the traitors now holding the most important trusts in the government of the Empire. It is reported that several of the highest persons, including a Prince, have been denounced. The memorial in question was a secret one and was sealed, and intended for the Emperor's eye alone, but, somehow, a good deal has leaked out, although his Majesty has made no reply so far.

Tientsin, March 4.

The disturbances amongst the soldiers are increasing. One General in Shantung province, in attempting to suppress pillaging, was beheaded by the soldiers. Similar troubles in Honan are reported to have been suppressed. Liaoyang near Moukden has probably been taken by the Japanese.

Peking, March 4.

In the course of an audience with the Empress-Dowager, the Viceroy Li Hung-chang spoke frankly as to the state of the Empire. [No more edicts referring to the war are published in the *Peking Gazette*].

Tientsin, March 5, 3.49 p.m.

The Viceroy Li Hung-chang left Peking to-day and proceeds by steamer direct from Tientsin to Shimonoseki, where the Japanese Government require him to tranship for Hiroshima. Mr. Foster will join the Viceroy there.

Li Hung-chang had his fifth Imperial Audience yesterday, the Empress-Dowager being present.

The Privy Council heartily support the peace mission, Prince Kung silencing all opposition by presenting papers showing the failure of the Chinese was due to the backward policy for which they were themselves alone to blame, and exonerating Li Hung-chang.

The powers to negotiate which have been conferred on Li Hung-chang are believed to be complete, his commission being Imperially signed.

Tientsin, March 4.

The successor of Hu Yü-fên, as the Chief of the Commissariat of the Huai Army, is to be the Treasurer of Chihli, Ch'ên. The four Commissariat departments of the various brigades of the Siang Army in Manchuria will also, according to instructions from the War Council at Peking, be consolidated and placed under the Chihli Treasurer. Hu Yü-fên is to go into active service in the field without delay.

Tientsin, March 3rd.

Hü-fên commenced yesterday enrolling extra troops to be placed under his command, viz :—One battalion of mounted carbineers; two battalions horse artillery; five battalions of infantry, and one battalion sappers and miners. Each battalion, in addition to their usual arms, is to have two machine guns attached to it. Hii Yü-fên had three battalions of infantry, originally, as guards of the Grain Commissariat Department. These will be incorporated with the new brigade. When enlistment is completed the whole force will march at once for Shanhaikwan. The brigade will be under foreign officers, of which General von Hanneken, it is reported, will be appointed chief.

Tientsin, March 6, 8.30 p.m.

The Emperor completely vindicates Li Hung-chang, confessing having tried others yet found him alone trustworthy, and therefore grants him the fullest powers to deal with the Japanese and to control affairs. The Government publicly assumes entire responsibility for the condition of the national defences, being the result of blindness to the progress of other nations. This places future reforms in the hands of Li Hung-chang.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From Canada, &c.....	per C. P. R. Co.	Monday, Mar. 18th.*
From America	per O. & O. Co.	Sunday, Mar. 24th.†
From Europe, viâ Hongkong	per M. M. Co.	Sunday, Mar. 17th.‡
From Hongkong	per P. M. Co.	Saturday, Mar. 23rd.§
From Europe, viâ Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd	Wed'day, Mar. 20th.
From Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Sunday, Mar. 24th.
From Hongkong	per C. P. R. Co.	Thursday, Mar. 28th.
From America	per P. M. Co.	Sunday, Mar. 31st.

* *Empress of China* left Vancouver on March 4th. † *Gaelic* left San Francisco on March 5th. ‡ *Calédonien* (with French mail) left Hongkong on March 8th. § *Peru* left Hongkong on March 9th.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For America	per P. M. Co.	Sunday, Mar. 17th.
For Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Sunday, Mar. 17th.
For Hongkong	per C. P. R. Co.	Monday, Mar. 18th.
For America	per P. M. Co.	Tuesday, Mar. 19th.
For Europe, viâ Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd	Friday, Mar. 22nd.
For Europe, viâ Shanghai	per M. M. Co.	Saturday, Mar. 23rd.
For Canada, &c.	per C. P. R. Co.	Friday, Mar. 29th.
For America	per O. & O. Co.	Friday, Mar. 29th.
For Victoria, B.C., & Tacoma, Wash.....	per N. P. Co.	Saturday, Mar. 30th.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Oceana, German steamer, 1,628, 9th March,—Hamburg viâ ports, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Carlotta G. Cox, British schooner, 82, C. J. Harris, 10th March,—Victoria, B.C., Sealing Gear.—T. M. Laffin.

Miike Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,053, W. Thompson, 10th March,—Ujina, Ballast.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tacoma, British steamer, 1,661, R. Crawford, 11th March,—Hongkong viâ ports, General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Brenda, British schooner, 99, C. E. Locke, 11th March,—Victoria, B.C., Sealing Gear.—T. M. Laffin.

City of San Diego, British schooner, 46, J. Pike, 11th March,—Victoria, B.C., Sealing Gear.—T. M. Laffin.

Elax, British tank-steamer, 2,321, Daniel, 11th March,—Kobe, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

M. M. Morrill, American schooner, E. Cantillion, 11th March,—Seattle, Wash., Sealing Gear.—T. M. Laffin.

Verona, British steamer, 1,878, C. H. S. Tocque, 11th March,—Hongkong 2nd, Nagasaki 7th, and Kobe 10th March, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Jane Gray, American schooner, 107, E. W. Buncke, 11th March,—San Francisco 7th January, Sealing Gear.—T. M. Laffin.

Sadie Turpel, British schooner, 64, R. Anderson, 12th March,—Victoria, B.C., Sealing Gear.—T. M. Laffin.

Umbrina, British schooner, 98, C. Campbell, 12th March,—Victoria, B.C., Sealing Gear.—T. M. Laffin.

Rose Sparks, American schooner, 42, Sparks, 13th March,—San Francisco, Sealing Gear.—T. M. Laffin.

Bowhead, American schooner, 103, W. P. Noyes, 14th March,—San Francisco, 18 Seals.—T. M. Laffin.

Lauderdale, British steamer, 1,870, Williams, 14th March,—Middlesboro' viâ ports, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

City of Rio de Janeiro, American steamer, 2,246, J. T. Smith, 15th March,—Hongkong viâ ports, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Siam, British steamer, 1,897, 15th March,—Hongkong viâ ports, General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

DEPARTURES.

Belgic, British steamer, 2,695, W. H. Walker, 9th March,—San Francisco, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Planet Venus, British steamer, 2,379, J. W. Kelly, 10th March,—Manila, Ballast.—Order.

Tairen Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,975, F. Brown, 10th March,—Ujina, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Boynton, British steamer, 1,630, Irving, 11th March, — Otaru, Ballast.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ixion, British steamer, 2,290, Nish, 12th March, —Liverpool viâ ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Tacoma, British steamer, 1,661, R. Crawford, 12th March,—Tacoma, Wash., viâ Victoria, B.C., Mails and General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Tenshin Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,894, Tibbals, 12th March,—Ujina, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Carmarthenshire, British steamer, 1,775, D. Richards, 12th March,—London viâ ports, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Casco, British schooner, 63, Chas. La Blanc, 13th March,—North Pacific, Sealing Gear.—T. M. Laffin.

Diana, British schooner, 64, A. Neilsen, 13th March,—North Pacific, Sealing Gear.—T. M. Laffin.

Oanfa, British steamer, 1,970, 13th March,—Hongkong viâ ports, General.—W. M. Strachan & Co.

Elax, British tank-steamer, 2,321, Daniel, 13th March,—London viâ ports, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Dryfesdale, British steamer, 1,574, Geo. Cantner, 14th March,—Hongkong viâ ports, Ballast.—Frazar & Co.

Oceana, German steamer, 1,628, J. Behrens, 15th March,—Hamburg viâ ports, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Omba, British steamer, 1,907, Munroe, 15th March,—Hongkong viâ ports. Ballast.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

E. B. Marvin, British schooner, 96, W. D. Byers, 16th March,—North Pacific, Sealing Gear.—T. M. Laffin.

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Mattie T. Dyer, American schooner, 103, C. E. Moekler, 16th March,—North Pacific, Sealing Gear,—T. M. Laffin.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per British steamer *Tacoma*, from Hongkong viâ ports:—Mrs. Morrish, Miss Muller, Mr. A. Rose, and Mr. T. W. Hellyer in cabin, and 1 Japanese and 52 Chinese in steerage.

Per British steamer *Verona*, from Hongkong viâ ports:—Mrs. R. Vanum, Mrs. F. C. Farmer, Mr. W. Reid, Mr. A. R. Ramsay, Miss J. Möller, Mr. G. Schiller, Mrs. G. Pakenham, Mr. H. E. Daunt, Mr. E. Buxton Forman, Mr. Dodds, and Mr. C. W. Hind in cabin; 1 Chinese in steerage.

Per American steamer *City of Rio de Janeiro*, from Hongkong viâ ports:—Captain T. Soyejima, Lieutenant Miyasato, and Mrs. Miyasato and child in cabin.

DEPARTED.

Per British steamer *Belgic*, for San Francisco:—Dr. Lewis Morris, Mr. A. M. Masters, Mr. C. Georger, Commander E. J. Garin, Mr. V. Mannheim, Captain P. K. Barnet, Mr. T. M. Boyd, Mr. T. G. Gowland, Mr. A. Vaigas, Lieut. W. A. Pickering, Mr. Thomas Livesey, Mr. B. Beramjee, Mr. Manuel Cros, Mr. A. F. Valderrama, Miss Elsie Adair, Mr. A. Kirsten, Miss Anna Londonderry, Mr. W. B. Vanderlip, and Mr. J. Boyer in cabin.

CARGOES.

Per British steamer *Belgic*, for San Francisco:—

TEA.

	San Francisco.	New York.	Chicago.	Montreal.	Other Cities.	Total.
Hyogo	—	—	300	—	—	300
Yokohama	—	105	—	—	—	105
Hongkong	421	—	60	—	—	481
Total	421	105	360	—	—	886

SILK.

	San Francisco.	New York.	Hartford.	Total.
Hongkong	12	158	—	170
Yokohama	—	390	—	390
Total	12	548	—	560

Per British steamer *Tacoma*, for Tacoma, Wash., viâ Victoria, B.C.:—

TEA.

	Pacific Coast.	New York.	Chicago.	Canada.	Other Cities.	Total.
Hyogo	2	—	560	—	—	562
Yokohama	—	—	—	—	504	504
Hongkong	140	—	17	300	—	457
Total	142	—	577	300	564	1,583

SILK.

	New York.	Other Cities.	Total.
Hongkong	176	—	176
Total	176	—	176

RATES.

Tea ..... ¼ cent. per lb. gross.
Silk ..... 3 cents per lb. gross.
Measurement ..... $24 per ton.

REPORTS.

The American steamer *City of Rio de Janeiro*, Captain J. T. Smith, reports:—Left Hongkong the 7th March, Nagasaki 11th, and Kobe the 13th. Arrived at Yokohama the 15th March at 1 a.m. From Oshima had strong easterly wind with heavy head sea.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

A better feeling in the air; and importers look decidedly more cheerful. Yarn—A few sales have been made in all counts; fine counts and doubles being higher in price. Grey Shirtings—Demand has revived, and considerable sales have been made. T.-cloths—5,000 pieces moved at quotations. Lawns—4,000 pieces taken up, probably for Korea. All else quiet at the moment.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	Per Piece.
Grey Shirtings—8¼ lb, 38½ yds, 39 inches	$2.25 to 2.90
Grey Shirtings—9lb, 38½ yds, 45 inches	2.30 to 3.25
T. Cloth—7lb, 24 yards, 32 inches	1.65 to 2.00
Indigo Shirtings—12 yards, 44 inches	1.70 to 2.35
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches	2.00 to 3.75
Cotton—Italians and Satteens Black, 32 inches	Per Yard. 0.16 to 0.22
	Per Piece.
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	7.25 to 9.50
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches	0.85 to 1.00
Turkey Reds—2.0 to 2.4lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.65 to 1.75
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.85 to 2.05
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.30 to 2.60
Turkey Reds—4.8 to 5lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.80 to 3.10

WOOLLENS.

	Per Yard.
Flannel	$0.30 to 0.50
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches best	0.32½ to 0.37½
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Medium	0.27½ to 0.30
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Common	0.20 to 0.25
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.15 to 0.22½
Cloths—Pilots, 51 @ 56 inches	0.35 to 0.50
Cloths—Presidents, 54 @ 56 inches	0.60 to 0.65
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0.40 to 0.70
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 3½, per lb	0.60 to 0.75

COTTON YARNS.

	Per Picul.
Nos. 16/24, Ordinary	—
Nos. 16/24, Medium	$34.50 to 35.00
Nos. 16/24, Good to Best	35.50 to 36.50
Nos. 10/24, Reverse	—
Nos. 28/32, Ordinary	—
Nos. 28/32, Medium	36.00 to 36.50
Nos. 28/32, Good to Best	37.00 to 38.00
Nos. 38/42, Medium to Best	43.00 to 45.00
No. 32s, Two-fold	42.00 to 43.00
No. 42s, Two-fold	44.00 to 47.00
	Twists.
No. 20s, Bombay	—
No. 16s, Bombay	—

METALS.

A better feelings in this market and considerable sales of Bars and Plates are noted. Other sorts quiet with some shading of quotations.

	Per Picul.
Flat Bars, ½ inch	$3.60 to 3.65
Flat Bars, ¼ inch	3.65 to 3.70
Round and square up to ½ inch	3.60 to 3.75
Iron Plates, assorted	3.80 to 3.90
Sheet Iron	4.80 to 5.00
Galvanized Iron sheets	8.50 to 9.00
Wire Nails, assorted	5.90 to 6.20
Tin Plates, per box	6.00 to 6.15
Pig Iron, No. 1	3.70 to 4.72½

KEROSENE.

Still no sales, but holders appear to have combined in asking over [redacted] a case for their wares. This, at present, buyers will not pay, but they must come to it eventually if sellers hang together. No arrivals this week, and the stock is below 700,000 cases.

American } $2.10 per case.
Russian }

SUGAR.

Brown—Sales have exceeded arrivals this week, and the market, after some activity, closes quiet at some advance in quotations, especially for Takao sorts. White—A large business has reduced stocks and advanced prices, especially for the best brands. Market closes strong at quotations.

	Per Picul.
Brown Takao	$3.60 to 3.65
Brown Manila	4.25 to 4.50
Brown Daitong (New)	3.40 to 3.50
Brown Canton	3.50 to 3.90
White Java and Penang	6.50 to 6.75
White Refined	6.50 to 9.20

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Considerable business for New York and a few purchases for Lyons have held the market fairly steady at quotations. The home trade demand continues brisk, and stock is reduced to about 4,000 piculs. No sign of "Spring Reelings" as yet.

QUOTATIONS.

Hanks—No. 1	—
Hanks—No. 2 (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 2 (Joshu)	—
Hanks—No. 2½ (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 2½ (Joshu)	—
Hanks—No. 2½ to 3	—
Hanks—No. 3	—
Hanks—No. 3½	—
Filatures—Extra 10/12 deniers	Nom. —
Filatures—Extra 13/15 deniers	Nom. —
Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers	$850 to 870
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den	840 to 850
Filatures—No. 1½, 10/14 deniers	820 to 830
Filatures—No. 1½, 13/16, 14/17 den	820 to 830
Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers	770 to 790
Filatures—No. 2, 13/18 deniers	780 to 790
Filatures—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	—
Re-reels—Extra	—
Re-reels—(Oshu) Best No. 1	—
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 deniers	800 to 810
Re-reels—No. 1½, 13/16, 14/17 deniers	770 to 780
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	740 to 760
Re-reels—No. 2½, 14/18 deniers	—
Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	—
Kakedas—Extra	790 to 795
Kakedas—No. 1	780 to 785
Kakedas—No. 1½	760 to 770
Kakedas—No. 2	710 to 720
Kakedas—No. 2½	—
Kakedas—No. 3	—
Kakedas—No. 3½	—
Kakedas—No. 4	—
Oshu Sendai—No. 2½	—
Hanetauki—No. 1, 2	—
Hamatauki—No. 3, 4	—
Sodai—No. 2½	—

WASTE SILK.

Quiet market, with small settlements. Quotations unchanged. Stock 14,000 piculs.

QUOTATIONS.

Pierced Cocoons—Good to Best	—
Noshi-ito—Filature, Best	$130 to 135
Noshi-ito—Filature, Good	120 to 125
Noshi-ito—Filature, Medium	110 to 115
Noshi-ito—Oshu, Good to Best	120 to 130
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Best	—
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Good	80 to 90
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Medium	—
Noshi-ito—Bushu, Good to Best	100 to 125
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Best	—
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Good	70 to 75
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Ordinary	60 to 65
Kibiso—Filature, Best selected	100 to 110
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds	90 to 95
Kibiso—Oshu, Good to Best	—
Kibiso—Shinshu, Best	—
Kibiso—Shinshu, Seconds	—
Kibiso—Joshu, Good to Fair	30 to 27½
Kibiso—Joshu, Middling to Common	25 to 22½
Kibiso—Hachoji, Good to Fair	25 to 23
Kibiso—Hachoji, Medium to Low	22 to 20
Kibiso—Neri, Good to Common	12 to 8
Mawata—Good to Best	—

TEA.

Old season moribund, and settlements for the present month have not been more than 100 piculs. Export to date 29½ million pounds, against 28½ millions last year. The late inclement weather retards vegetation, and it is rumoured that the Tea Growers Association will not market New leaf in any quantity before 20th April.

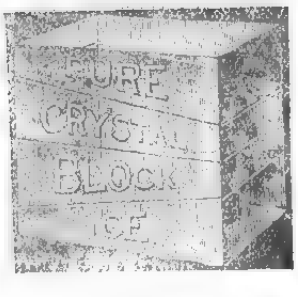
EXCHANGE.

Exchange has been steady all the week, and at the latter end rates rose slightly, remaining firm at the close.

Sterling—Bank T.T.	1/11½
— — Bills on demand	1/11⅝
— — 4 months' sight	1/11¾
— Private 4 months' sight	2/0⅛
— — 6 months' sight	2/0⅛
On Paris—Bank sight	2.48
On Lyons—Private 4 months' sight	2.55
On Hongkong—Bank sight	⅛% p.
— Private 10 days' sight	⅛% d.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	71½
— Private 10 days' sight	72¼
On India—Bank sight	184
— Private 30 days' sight	186½
On America—Bank Bills on demand	47¾
— Private 30 days' sight	49¼
— — 4 months' sight	50¾
On Germany—Bank sight	2.00
— Private 4 months' sight	2.09
Bar Silver (London)	28 1/16

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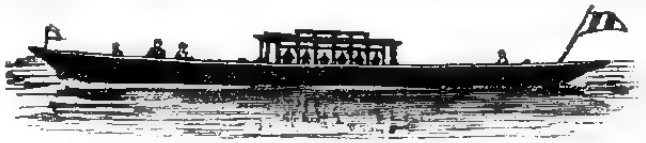
This List of Korean Geographical names has been compiled principally from the Map published by the Japanese General Staff, and partly from the "Collected Administrative Regulations of the Korean Government, entitled *Tai-jŏn Hoi-thong*.

The names are given in Chinese characters and in Romaji, with the provinces in which the places are situate and their latitude and longitude.

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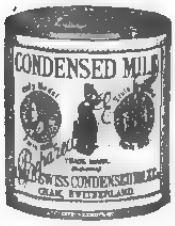
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No. 12.] REGISTERED AT THE G.P.O. AS A NEWSPAPER. YOKOHAMA, MARCH 23RD, 1895. 明治二十五年三月二十三日通信書類認可 VOL. XXII.

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, MARCH 23RD, 1895.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

THE Crown Prince has recovered his usual health.

THE Kawagoye Railway was thrown open to traffic on the 21st.

THE Lower House of the Diet has telegraphed its thanks to the Army afield.

OVER five hundred gendarmes will leave the capital in a few days for China.

THE P. & O. steam *Siam* has been purchased by the Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

JUDGE MOWAT, of H.B.M. Court for Japan, left London on the 15th inst., for Yokohama.

BARON OZAWA TAKEO has been elected President of the Kodzuke Railway Company.

MR. JOSEPH HEROD has been promoted First Secretary of the U.S. Legation in Tokyo.

THE newly established Noda Cotton Spinning Co. will commence business early next month.

THE Spring Festival was duly observed at the Palace and in Government offices on Thursday.

LI HUNG-CHANG attended by a very large [illegible] Pethick, arrived at Shimonoseki on Tuesday morning. Credentials were exchanged on Wednesday.

MORE than three hundred disabled soldiers reached Tokyo on the 19th inst. from Hiroshima.

THE King of Korea has received in audience the Japanese officers who subdued the Tong-hak rebellion.

THE death is announced of Viscount Matsudaira Churei, which took place in Tokyo on the 19th inst.

SEVERAL clauses of the Peace Preservation Law have been put into operation at Shimonoseki for a space of 21 days.

PRINCE KONOYE becomes President of the Nobles' School for boys through the resignation of Viscount Tanaka.

A SMART shock of earthquake was felt in Yokohama, Tokyo, Utsunomiya, etc., about 1 o'clock on Wednesday morning.

VISCOUNT INOUYE KI, the late Minister for Education, succumbed to consumption at Dzushi on the 16th inst.

TWO special Imperial Rescripts have been issued to Counts Kuroda and Matsukata in reference to their new appointments.

MR. MINAMIJIMA KANSAKU, M.P., has bought the Blue Funnel steamer *Patroclus*, and renamed her the *Shiganoura Maru*.

THE local Japanese merchants are firmly resolved upon abolishing the system of feeing *bantos* employed by Chinese firms.

CHOLERA is reported to have broken out at Moji, having been imported by one of the transports lately returned from China.

THE Japan Weaving Company, of Tokyo, distributes $13,500 as a dividend, and carries forward $3,480.261 to the new account.

DR. ELDRIDGE lectured on the "Ubiquitous Microbe, what it is and what it does," at the Yokohama Literary Society's meeting on Friday.

ELEVEN local newspapers were suspended between the 16th and 18th inst. for having published articles injurious to the public peace.

SIX workmen were killed in a landslip which occurred at the tunnel now being excavated at Niwasakimura, Shinobu District, Iwashiro Province, on the 9th inst.

IN Tokyo last year 8,917 persons reported losing articles, and 8,665 reported finding lost goods. Money lost amounted to $17.028.744, of which $3,631.650 was recovered.

THE Empress is now at Hiroshima inspecting the military and Red Cross Hospitals there. She is expected to stay in the South until after the opening of the Kyoto Exhibition.

THE match trade returns for February show that 1,273,567 gross of safety matches (value, $344,932.44), and 54,715 gross phosphorus matches (value, $20,397.50), were exported during that month.

THE Osaka Mining Co. (capital *yen* 80,000), which has engaged in procuring copper at Motoyama, Tosa, lately decided to purchase a coal mine in Chikuzen Province, and agreed to increase its capital.

[illegible] is current that the Emperor will re- half of the Staff have been transferred to China under command of Prince Komatsu, newly appointed Commander-in-chief of the Third Army in China.

YAMAGUCHI JUN, ex-Judge, and Nishigori Katakiyo, who were so prominently connected with the Soma affair, and lately sentenced to imprisonment for false accusation, were sent to the Ishikawajima Prison, Tokyo, on the 15th inst.

COUNT KURODA has resigned the portfolio of Communications, and is succeeded by Mr. Watanabe, hitherto Minister for Finance, the portfolio of Finance being given to Count Matsukata. Count Kuroda is appointed President of the Privy Council.

HANAI GEMBEI, ex-Mayor of Itabashi, Kitatoshima, District, Tokyo, has been sentenced by the Tokyo Local Court to imprisonment with hard labour for seven years, for having embezzled official money to the amount of *yen* 1,328 while Mayor of the town.

REUTER TELEGRAPHS:—Lord Rosebery continues to be in a weak and depressed condition. The correspondent of *The Times* in Rome states that France, by arming and strengthening the Abyssinians, is pursuing a dangerous game, and that France in 1891, recognised that the Abyssinian dependencies including Harrar, were within the Italian sphere of influence. The Marquis of Queensberry has been arrested and committed for trial on the charge of libelling Mr. Oscar Wilde, but has been let out on bail. He left his card at Mr. Wilde's club, and on it were inscribed words implying a horrible offence. The Marquis of Queensberry maintained that the accusation he wrote was to save his son, Viscount Drumlanrig. There is no hope now for the safety of the Spanish cruiser *Reina Regente*, and there is great grief in Spain. Twelve thousand troops have been mobilized in the Punjaub and are to advance into the Chitral unless Umra Khan withdraws by the 1st of April. The St. Petersburg correspondent of *The Times* states that the whole of the Russian Squadron in the Mediterranean will leave there for the Pacific to be in readiness for eventualities. Señor Sagasta and the Spanish Cabinet have resigned.

THE Import trade is much as last reported, and the good feeling continues, though the amount of actual business is not so large as was anticipated a week ago. Buyers had hoped that the improvement in exchange would operate in their favour, but holders appear to doubt the permanency of the rise in rates, and will at least wait for further signs before reducing prices. The Manchester trade has been light all round, and the same may be said of Metals. Kerosene has made another jump, and Oil is now held for higher figures than for a long time past. Buyers are still holding out, but they will have to come to terms shortly or go without, holders being very strong and the Oil stock up country generally being very low. The Sugar trade is fairly steady, and a cargo of Takao has arrived to replenish that article. White sorts are at low water, but arrivals are expected soon to build up the stock again. There has not been much done in Raw Silk, and prices are unchanged but firm. Nothing to report in Waste but that a heavy stock still remains. Nothing can be said about New Tea, though the crop is supposed to be going on all right. It is too early yet for the canards to be floated that annually reach Yokohama, but they will come in time—"disastrous frosts," "twenty per cent. of the tea crop lost," &c., &c. Ex-

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THE SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS DURING THE WEEK.

The Chinese Embassy is the leading topic of the Vernacular Press. With respect to the peace problem, the Tokyo journals indulge in no extravagances. They no longer ventilate satire at the expense of the great Viceroy, or speak ironically about the fate of the Middle Kingdom. On the whole, their attitude is in due conformity with the present stage of the peace negotiations and with the rules of international etiquette. They show, indeed, no indications of desiring to purchase peace by recourse to obsequiousness or flattery. Many of them, it is true, unhesitatingly state that peace is at all times their great desire, but they modify the statement by adding, "not peace at any price." The following quotation from the *Mainichi*, though not fairly representing the general tone, shows the sentiment pervading one great political party:—"The present Japan-China war is one of the greatest wars ever fought. Besides, it is unique, for does history record any other war in which the victories were so absolutely one-sided? Were the victor State left to assert its full military supremacy, no augur would be needed to foretell China's fate. But fortunately Japan desires of China nothing save the giving of some trustworthy guarantee for permanent peace in the East. Japan is really desirous of seeing peace and friendship restored between herself and her giant neighbour. Changes of dynasty have been frequent in China in the sequel of wars, but she need not fear such a change in the present case. Japan is fighting for peace and for nothing else. That being the case, let China, or rather Li Hung-chang, distinctly understand and gracefully yield to the present necessity. Peace will then be easily concluded." The papers that prophesy the restoration of peace at an early date, give the following as the reasons for their prediction:—

1.—That China must, by this time, have fully learned that she is no match for Japan.

2.—That even the proverbially boastful Chinese Mandarins must feel convinced of their country's weakness as compared with the strength of her island neighbour, and must consequently appreciate that the only way of evading greater evils is to purchase peace at the present juncture at any price proposed by the victor.

3.—That a statesman of Li Hung-chang's standing and reputation must be assumed to have clearly foreseen, before leaving Pekin for Japan, the possibility of an early restoration of peace.

4.—That there is no doubt about Japan's readiness to sheath the sword so soon as ever the Chinese admit her just claims.

5.—That the experience and sagacity of the Viceroy Li must suffice to show him after a few days' conference with the Japanese High Commissioners, that no Japanese demand is preferred for the selfish aggrandisement of the Island Empire, but that all her proposals point to the benefit of the whole East, his own country not excepted.

The *Yiji*, it is needless to say, is very solicitous for peace, but writing much about Chinese pride, perfidy, and chicanery, it throws great doubts upon the success of the Li Mission. The *Choya* warmly urges the Japanese Peace Commissioners to forget the person of Li Hung-chung in the Chinese Mission. However much the man himself may deserve respect, admiration, and sympathy, he is not come on a private mission. Therefore, should any of his terms fall short of the wishes of the Japanese nation, Count Ito and Viscount Mutsu must not hesitate to bring the negotiations to an end.

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The death of Viscount Inouye, the late Minister for Education, is deeply lamented by all the Metropolitan journals. His talents were many-sided. Some papers mourn for him as a great Japanese scholar; some as a Chinese scholar; others as an able Statesman, and still others as a really competent educationalist. All the Tokyo journals agree in praising him for the purity and simplicity of his life, for the honesty of his purposes, for the profundity of his erudition, and for the stubborn fortitude of his character. It cannot be doubted, says the *Nippon*, that Japan has lost in him a true gentleman. Many of our vernacular contemporaries are specially grieved to think that the lamented Viscount did not live to see the fruits of his ardent labours in the line of industrial education.

* * *

"Hasenshi," writing in the *Asahi*, congratulates the Ito Cabinet upon the fact that Counts Yamagata and Matsukata have received portfolios specially suited to their talents, knowledge, and experience. The civilian and military parties have been, so to speak, amalgamated by the addition of the two Counts to the Ministry. Their presence in the Cabinet will do much to set the national mind at rest as to the character of the Treaty to be concluded with China, for they both belong to what is called the Strong Foreign Policy party. The entry of the influential Field-marshal into the Cabinet, proceeds the writer in the *Asahi*, will procure a hearing for the views of the military classes in the Ministry, and will thus prevent many dangerous contingencies from cropping up. The National finances placed under the care of Count Matsukata, will prove strong enough to bear any burden that may be thrown upon them both during and after the War. All the other journalists of the Metropolis speak of the two great accessions to the Ito Cabinet in nearly the same strain.

* * *

The *Mainichi* heads one of its leaders, "England and France in the Orient." In the article England is invited to exhibit more sympathy towards Japan than is shown by some of her leading newspapers. Otherwise she may find herself, at no distant future, a far less influential Power in the East than France, her ancient rival. At the Restoration of 1868 and before that memorable event, England gained more favour than France in the eyes of Japan's legitimate Sovereign by virtue of her superior diplomacy. But now the balance is turning into just the opposite direction. The Japanese nation is more than ever ready to embrace France as Japan's friend, while it looks askance toward England. It is to be hoped that the British Government and nation, concludes the *Mainichi*, are not fairly represented by some newspapers published in England. They ought to see, for their own interests, that the Orient of the future will be quite different from the Orient of the past.

* * *

The *Shogyo Shimpo* does not give the continuation of its leader headed "The Foreign Trade of Japan," a portion of which we reproduced in our last weekly summary. Our contemporary has this week an interesting editorial in which it advances strong arguments in favour of changing the present Special Export and Import Ports of Japan into General Export and Import Ports. It sees nothing advantageous in limiting the articles to be exported or imported from or into any sea-port. Nor does it see any reason for having any port prescribed by law as an exclusive place of import or export.

* * *

The *Choya*, in a long article headed "What should be done with China?" says that, for strengthening and enriching a country, one of the most important measures to be taken by its Government is to see its customs duties so increased as to form a considerable factor of its revenue. From 1889 to 1892, the entire revenues and the customs duties of Japan were as follow:—

Year.	Revenue (in *yen*).	Imports and Exports (do.)	Customs Duties (do.)
1889	92,339,004	136,415,912	4,728,023
1890	85,870,633	138,523,609	4,392,566
1891	78,887,538	143,446,665	4,539,687
1892	81,272,739	167,130,897	4,991,524

The average money value of Japan's exports and imports during the four years mentioned above, was only 150 million *yen*, and the customs duties were 3 to 3½ per cent. of that amount, constituting only 5½ to 6 % of the revenue. How do these figures compare with 5,000, 3,000, 2,500, 2,000, and 1,200 to 1600 millions of *yen*, representing the value of the imports and exports of England, Germany, France, America, Belgium, Holland, and British India respectively? A still more remarkable point is that the customs duties levied on these enormous amounts were at the rate of from 15 to 20 %, and so formed considerable portions of the revenues of the respective countries. Japan's foreign trade is equal to that of only the weakest and poorest States in Europe. Even China is Japan's superior in this respect. Under these circumstances, a first step toward developing the source of revenue under consideration, the Japanese Government ought to make China consent, in the course of the peace negotiations, to give Japan at least such commercial rights and privileges as the Great powers of Europe now enjoy in the Middle Kingdom.

* * *

The *Nippon* strongly blames the Government for not adopting speedy measures to grant to the Nippon Yusen Kaisha a subsidy such as shall enable it to compete with the P. & O. Company on the line between Japan and India. Our contemporary also takes the Ministers to task for neglecting to pay due attention to the Parliamentary Representations relating to the training of sailors, the establishment of a steel and iron foundry, and the development of navigation in general. Doubtless, we are told, by our contemporary, the war is a great undertaking, but not great enough to be allowed to eclipse all the other important State business. In order to be truly great, it is not in battle with arms alone that Japan must conquer. She must fight and win commercial and industrial battles also.

* * *

Brief reference must suffice as to the other topics touched upon by the Vernacular Press during the week. The *Kokkai* thinks it advisable to establish a special institution, at the expense of the State, for the relief of those wounded in the War. They should not be left to suffer from indigence and other evils in their after lives. The *Nichi Nichi* considers that Counts Yamagata and Matsukata having joined the Cabinet, without Count Kuroda's losing his seat there, the Ito Government has become in very truth an "All Talents Ministry." The advance of a portion of the Head-quarters to the seat of war is referred to by the *Yiji*, the *Yemiuri*, the *Nichi Nichi*, and some others, as a necessary and judicious step to be now taken, for, they write, although the peace negotiations are started, who can foresee their result? A writer in the *Asahi* tells the Government and the people not to slacken, because of the War, their endeavours to make the Kyoto National Exposition a successful affair. It should be the aim of the Authorities and exhibitors to make the Fair a mirror in which foreign vistors may see Japan's industrial capacity reflected in dimensions as large as her military strength appears in the eyes of the world. The *Hochi* sees an immense growth in Japan's wealth-producing capacity after the War in the increase of ships to be used for commercial purposes, even though everything else remain the same. The *Yiji* warns the Chinese General in command of the garrison at Mukden not to allow his troops to be near the Imperial Shrines, when the Japanese Army comes to deliver an attack upon the sacred town. Not finding the enemy near the Shrines, the Japanese will not destroy them wantonly. They know how sacrilegious it is to demolish ancestral tombs in time of war.

The Egyptians bestowed great labour on their tombs and little on their homes. They regarded the latter as mere temporary abodes, but the former they looked on as eternal habitations.

The torpedo-boat destroyer *Banshee*, built for the British Government and engined also by Laird Brothers, Birkenhead, has just attained the speed of 29.56 knots, or just on 34 miles an hour. This is the highest speed ever attained by any boat, beating the latest record by Thornycroft's by half a knot, and it is expected that it will be even increased during the deep water trials on the Clyde.

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EDITORIAL NOTES.

PRACTICAL PATRIOTISM.

We read elsewhere of the very excellent and truly patriotic work of the wife and daughters of Major Yûchi, an officer in the Second Regiment, First Division of the First Army. The Major is described as being one of the wealthiest of officers below general rank, possessing as he does in Tokyo alone some twenty or thirty houses. His present wife is the result of a second matrimonial venture, and there are two almost full-grown daughters by his first marriage. As soon as the husband and father received his marching orders, he gave Madame Yûchi *carte blanche* in the administration of the estate during his absence. She at once moved, with her two step-daughters—to whom, by-the-bye, she is described as being a model mother—into one of the smallest of the houses owned by her husband, and with the young ladies has ever since then been day and night busy preparing food and home-comforts for the Major afield, every steamer taking him a huge hamper filled not only with all sorts of home-made delicacies but gifts of food and clothing as well as sundry always-welcome little extras for the officers and men in his command. In order the better to do this, Madame Yûchi dismissed all her retinue of servants, and has been living in most unpretentious style, her personal expenses having thus been reduced to a minimum. But the lady's patriotic industry and wifely solicitude have gone even still further. As nearly a dozen of her husband's houses were without tenants, she has filled them all with the wives and children of poor soldiers: people who otherwise would be compelled to live in very unpleasant quarters, while not a few of them were absolutely without friends or means. At the time of writing it is said that this most patriotic lady is housing nearly thirty different families and, to a great extent, feeding them as well. On the news reaching the Major's ears, he is reported to have expressed himself as entirely satisfied with his wife's management in the matter; she had, he declared, made the best possible use of his estate, and he was well pleased that he had given her plenipotentiary powers. Cases of this kind are not so rare after all. There are scores of soldier's wives in the capital at present who are systematically denying themselves every luxury in order to provide acceptable gifts not only for their own husbands but for their comrades. And this without ostentation and with not a thought of selfish regret for themselves.

A MIRACULOUS ESCAPE.

The vernacular press gives the following account of the wonderful way in which Mori Yeisaku, a citizen of Tokyo, and a private of first rank in the Tokyo corps, was saved from death in a certain reconnaissance undertaken, together with six comrades, after the fall of Chinchow and Port Arthur. When news reached the Divisional Head-quarters to the effect that the Chinese in Fuchow intended marching upon Chinchow, Mori and six others were ordered to reconnoitre the vicinity of Fuchow and to ascertain the enemy's condition. Having duly fulfilled its mission, the little band set out on its journey back to Chinchow. From some cause or other, Mori lagged behind the rest and on reaching the foot of a certain mountain pass, he came suddenly upon a party of Chinese scouts, numbering more than 20, who were all disguised as ordinary civilians. They at once surrounded him, the meeting being so sudden that Mori had no time to load his rifle. He made a rush at the Chinese, clubbing his rifle, and knocked down four or five of them. The odds were, however, too great; he was soon over-mastered and his rifle wrested from him. He next drew his sabre and wounded two or three of the Chinese, but that weapon also was torn out of his hands. Still undaunted, Mori sprang upon his enemies, biting several of them. The unequal contest went on for some minutes, but the wounds he had received in various parts of his body at last began to tell, and he was brought to the ground. Retaining his presence of mind, he feigned death, upon which the enemy began to move away. One of the more cautious however, stayed behind and stabbed the soldier in the throat with his own sabre. By a lucky chance the stab did not kill him. When the Chinese had all gone, Mori rose slowly and tried to overtake his comrades, but after he had proceeded about a *cho* the loss of blood was too much for him and he fainted by the roadside. Fortunately, just at that juncture, his comrades, who had begun to feel anxious at his tardiness, happened to return and he was carried back by them in an almost insensible state. He was at once sent to the camp hospital, where it was found that he had received no less than 40 wounds. Not one of them proved fatal, however, and he recovered sufficiently under the careful treatment of the surgeons to allow of his being brought some time ago to the Tokyo Military Reserve Hospital. When the Empress visited the Hospital the other day and was told of the above particulars, Her Majesty is said to have marvelled at the miraculous escape of the gallant soldier.

RARE HONESTY.

Mizuno Sanjiro, says a vernacular contemporary, who is a servant of the Shingon sect, now with the Second Army, was recently one day walking through the streets of Chinchow when he picked up a purse, which some one had evidently let drop on the high road. On examining it, the purse was found to contain a sum of about five *yen*. Being a very honest fellow, Mizuno at once took his find to the Civil Administration Office and left it there, giving an account of the manner and place he had come across the purse. Shortly afterwards the real owner was discovered in the person of a Chinaman attached to the staff of the First Division. He had been presented with the purse by a Japanese official interpreter and esteemed it very highly, not so much because of its intrinsic value but for the sake of the friendly donor. On losing it he had been very much annoyed, feeling quite sure that he should never see it again, as he had never heard, in his own country, of an instance of a lost thing being returned to its owner. Having heard that some one had picked up a purse, he went to the office in question to make inquiries, but with little or no hope of regaining his property. To his great astonishment, however, the purse was promptly restored to him, after a few questions had been asked. Learning who the finder was, he hastened to thank Mizuno, and offered him all the money in the purse as a reward. But Mizuno would have none of it, saying that he had done nothing out of the common and desired no thanks. "Truly, you are a Japanese!" exclaimed the admiring Chinamen. "In China there are few who are as honest and upright as you." The next day he sent Mizumo a large boxful of Chinese sweetmeats, with a complimentary letter.

A FATEFUL TREE.

A story very like the "Luck of Edenhall" has recently been reported from Shizuoka. Within a mile or two of that town there is a thriving little village known as Magarikawa-mura, wherein, a few years ago, dwelt a farmer of the better class. His chief treasure was a fine old plum-tree, growing in a large porcelain pot, which had been handed down from father to son for two or more generations. Not only the farmer but also his family took great pride in the beauty of the tree, which was each year covered with a wealth of most odorous and perfect pink-and-white flowers. The old peasant grew to look upon the tree with something akin to superstitious veneration; so long as it blossomed and did well, he would frequently declare, the fortunes of his family would remain in the ascendant; but should the tree wither or cease to produce flowers, poverty and distress of all kinds would overtake his house. Firm in this belief, the old peasant on his death-bed, some six or seven years ago, bequeathed the fateful tree to his children. They were to foster its growth with assiduous care, if they wished for temporal happiness. But should, in spite of every precaution, the tree wither and their fortunes fade with it, they should wait until the last sign of life had departed from the trunk and then cut down the tree, break the vase, and scatter the earth on the ground, in order to avert fresh disaster. Strange to say, within a year after the farmer's decease the tree began to pine and have a sickly look, and the family were overtaken by a series of mishaps that drove them almost to the verge of penury. After vainly struggling for a time against their ill fate, which they now attributed wholly to the influence of the rapidly withering tree, they awaited with eagerness the disappearance of the last green leaf, in order to carry out their father's last behest. In the early autumn of last year the tree seemed wholly dead. The time had thus come for prompt action. The trunk was up-rooted and the receptacle shattered, but when it came to throwing away the earth about the roots, a number of gold *Koban*, each worth some 45 or 50 *yen* at the present time, were found imbedded in the soil. Several hundred dollars were thus discovered; quite sufficient in fact to start the overjoyed finders in business again and aid them in recovering much that had been thought irretrievably lost. There is a familiar touch in the story that reminds one, somehow or other, of the "Arabian Nights." But it is nothing new for history to repeat itself.

THE VOYAGE OF THE "TATSUTA."

The Japanese man-of-war *Tatsuta*, which suffered a long detention at Aden until a Japanese crew could be sent to man her, appears to have had some difficulty in getting supplies at Colombo owing to local interpretation of the Neutrality Laws, the Police Department at that port assuming that supplying the vessel with coal would stultify the British Government's declaration of neutrality. Orders were promptly issued prohibiting boats going to the steamer with coal, but eventually a telegram was sent to the Governor and permission obtained for Messrs. Delmege, Forsyth & Co. supplying 100 tons. In the course of the afternoon the Japanese steamer *Asagao Maru* transhipped a large quantity of provisions to her fighting companion, and, as an unusual quantity of provisions was purchased locally, the probability is that still more provisions were transhipped to the man-of-war after getting out to sea.

THE "CRISTOFORO COLOMBO."

The Italian cruiser *Cristoforo Colombo*, Commander Gavotte, arrived in Singapore on March 1st about seven a.m. from Colombo, and went to Tanjong Pagar. She is on a round-the-world cruize to allow Prince Luigi of Seville, the Duke d'Abruzzi as he is known—a nephew of the King of Italy—to see various parts of the globe. The Duke who is a young man, having just attained his majority, is an officer in the Italian Navy, and ranks on board the *Cristoforo Colombo* as a lieutenant. The *Cristoforo Colombo* is a third-class unarmoured cruiser, built in 1892, with protected deck throughout, having a displacement of 3,466 tons and engines 3,800 indicated horse-power, and is capable of steaming 16 knots an hour. Her dimensions are: length 249 ft., beam 36 ft. and mean draught 17 ft. 6 in. Her armament consists of six 12 c.m. guns, four 57-m.m., and 37-m.m. quick firers.

POPULAR RUMOURS.

The talk in the streets, the schools, and on the various exchanges of the metropolis is singularly adverse to the success of Viceroy Li's mission. It is, for example, reported that China has already indirectly signified her willingness to cede Formosa, but that the Pekin authorities intend to firmly refuse the cession of an inch of territory on the Liaotung Peninsula, Port Arthur in particular the Chinese are represented as being most anxious to regain. Under these circumstances the popular verdict is that Li Hung-chang will go back *re infecta*, and that the war will necessarily continue until Shanhaikwan is stormed, the road to Pekin opened, and the

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capital itself in Japanese possession. And even then, some wiseacres opine, hostilities may continue, the southern part of China declaring itself independent of the northern government and thus necessitating a fresh Japanese invasion in that part: notably in Fuhkien and the Kwangtung Provinces. The fact that the Weihaiwei forts have been razed shows, it is declared, that Japan has no intentions whatever on Shantung: a poor place at best and not worth the keeping. But the natural boundary of Japan's new territory, it is popularly and widely held, should of rights be the Liao River, a line being drawn thence due east to Motien-ling and so on to the Korean frontier, which should be kept intact. It is not that the people are in favour of the war continuing for an indefinite period, but it is felt and loudly urged that every *tsubo* of occupied territory in Manchuria should be ceded by China to Japan, however unwillingly. And if this be not done, why then let the war go on till the Chinese are willing to make peace at any price, no matter what the sacrifice may be.

PRAYER BY CONTRARIES.

THERE is a quaint old tombstone, remarks the *Yomiuri Shimbun*, in the cemetery attached to the Mansho-in, at Tsukudo, Ushigome District, in this city. It is almost overgrown with moss, while grass and weeds flourish rankly about it, giving the spot a most lonely, gloomy, and forsaken appearance. The wind whistling through the branches of the tall pine-trees seems ever playing some mournful dirge, quite in keeping with the deserted grave. There are but few people who have visited the place for the last two hundred years, yet since the outbreak of the war between Japan and China the old tomb has grown strangely popular. At first worshippers came by twos and threes, but now they come in such numbers that the smoke of incense is forever curling upwards to the pine-branches, while the flowers that deck the tomb are kept abundant, fresh, and green. The grave is that of Kira Kozukenosuke, he who caused the death of the Lord of Ako by whose forty-seven loyal retainers he was himself decapitated. Surely Kira Kozuke was an unlucky man, and we should think it were more natural for people to go to the Sengakuji, in Shinagawa, where the bones of the Ronins lie, if they really mean to pray for good fortune. There is, however, a popular saying that "Dreams show the reverse of what is about to happen," and it is perhaps for some such contrary reason that credulous people now visit the unfortunate nobleman's grave and there beseech Heaven to grant them their desires.

LIEUT. GENERAL KATSURA.

LIEUT.-GENERAL KATSURA, Commander of the Nagoya Division, is a Choshu man and a son of Ishikawa Yoichiyemon one of the retainers of the Lord of Choshu. He was adopted by the Katsura family, of the same clan. The Lieut.-General showed signs of great precocity in his youth. He received military training of the foreign style when 13 years of age, and when only 16, at the time when the Choshu clan was entrusted with the task of expelling foreigners, Katsura, with other youths similarly inclined, organized the Kangyotai, he himself leading a company of that youthful corps. He was at the head of a company when Choshu was invaded by the Shogunate troops, and fought several battles with the latter at Iwami and Izumo. Katsura enjoyed the confidence of the Lord of Choshu and was entrusted with several important missions, being employed as secret messenger between Choshu and the Court of Kyoto. The Imperial Rescripts issued by the Court restoring the rank of the Lord of Choshu and his son and commanding them to come up to Kyoto to guard the Palace, were entrusted to Katsura. In the civil war that broke out in the north-eastern part of the main island before the Restoration, he led a part of the Imperialist army under the command of Prince Kugijo. When the trouble was over, Katsura was rewarded for his distinguished services with a pension of 250 *koku* of rice. He was at that time only 20 years of age. His early initiation into Western military science caused him to turn his attention to the West, and he resolved to prosecute his studies in Europe. He consulted the late Omura Masujiro, then Minister of War, on the subject and was advised by him to learn foreign languages as a preliminary to going abroad. He therefore resigned his post, and entered a school for foreign languages in Yokohama. The Minister of War died while he was still there, and Katsura, finding the school not suited to his purpose, resolved to go abroad at his own expense. In September of 1870 he reached Berlin, where he studied for three years. On his return he was appointed a Captain, and half a year later, was promoted to be Major. In 1870 he received the apppointment of military attaché to the Japanese Legation at Berlin and spent another three years in Germany. His term expiring in 1878, he was recalled and nominated junior secretary of the *Daijyokan*. Two years later he was acting senior secretary of the same office. His civil career was, however, of but short duration, and we find him in 1882 in his proper sphere as Colonel of an infantry corps. In December, 1883, he went to Europe for the third time, on this occasion in the suite of Count Oyama, then War Minister, who was despatched thither on an official tour of military inspection. On his return about a year afterwards, Katsura was promoted to be Major-General and was appointed Chief of the Bureau of General Affairs in the Department of War. He was nominated Vice-Minister of the Department the following year, and in 1890 was promoted to be Lieut.-General, being given the command of the Nagoya Corps in 1891. We need not speak here of the manner in which the Lieut.-General distinguished himself in the battles of Chiulien and Haicheng and in the late engagements at Newchwang and Yingkow. His achievements are too well known to require comment. He is reported to be not only valiant, but most discreet, and is therefore highly fitted for arranging military matters and for defending important posts. The Marshal is still under fifty years of age.

GENERAL ODERA'S SON.

MAJOR-GENERAL ODERA, who fell in the attack on the Weihaiwei forts, left one son behind him: Chiyotaro, a boy of twelve years, very intelligent and the possessor of a most retentive memory. He is now a student in a private school in Yotsuya District, Tokyo, and, according to report, stands head and shoulders above the rest of his class. The little fellow recently had the honour of a visit from Major-General Kawamura and several other officers of high rank. On being interrogated as to his plans for the future, he replied that as his father had fallen while fighting for his country, he too, having inherited his father's mind, desired to devote his life to the service of Japan. Moved by his simple words, the generals have now taken full charge of the little warrior's future and have resolved that he shall matriculate at the Seijo-gakko, a well-known military school, in a little while, and thereafter take a further course of instruction in the Yonen-gakko, where he will be fully fitted for a soldier's career.

MRS. LARGE'S DEPARTURE FOR HOME.

WE hear, writes the *Jiji*, that the widow of the late Mr. Large, who suffered a cruel death at the hands of Japanese burglars some years ago at the Toyo Eiwa Gakko, is about to leave for home, in obedience with the wish of the Central Canada Methodist Church. The cause for the widow's recall is said to be her unpopularity in Japan and the consequent apprehension that her presence here might impede the work of the Church Mission. The *Jiji* does not know whether this is the real reason for Mrs. Large's return, but if it is, it cannot but regret that such a gross misconception should be circulated in connection with the lady. Mrs. Large is not, and never has been, unpopular in Japan. She has devoted herself, during her ten years residence here, to the cause of evangelization with great zeal, and has succeeded in winning esteem in the circle of believers. The interest felt for her by the Japanese has been specially marked since her sudden and grievous bereavement, and all are united in their desire to see the assassins brought to justice. The *Jiji* is at a loss to understand why such an infavourable rumour should be circulated about Mrs. Large. Even supposing she had been formerly unpopular, the calamity that overtook her must have been sufficient to efface any unfriendly feeling entertained toward her, and must have evoked heartfelt sympathy. How much stronger must this feeling be when she has never been disliked. The *Jiji* specially regrets that in Japan, where the police system is of such a high order, the case of the late Mr. Large should be involved in such mystery as to totally baffle the ingenuity of even the most experienced detectives. The recall of Mrs. Large on account of her unpopularity with the Japanese must be due to the total ignorance of the Central Church as to the real feelings entertained toward her by the people of this country. The *Jiji* does not hesitate to say that under such circumstances the propagation of the Church in Japan would be a hopeless task.

A NEW JOINT STOCK COMPANY.

A NEW joint stock company for floating sunken ships has been established by Messrs. Miki Rikigo, Kanayohara Shinkichi and five others, on a capital of 150,000 *yen*. The chief object of the Company is to float sunken ships, but it will also undertake other submarine work, such as the splitting of submarine rocks in connection with the construction of harbours or piers, and the taking of various marine products. The license was obtained a few days ago, but the projectors have since resolve to extend the scope of their field of action and to double the capital. The Company enjoys considerable confidence with the public, several members of the House of Peers, elected in virtue of being the highest tax-payers, are among the supporters of the scheme. The diving department is to be under the superintendence of the famous diver Mr. Masuda Mankichi, with whom a special contract has been agreed upon. The first work contemplated by the Company is the floating of several Chinese men-of-war sunk by the Japanese Fleet off the coast of Asan, in the Yellow-Sea, off Port Arthur, and in the harbour of Weihaiwei.

WELL WRAPPED UP.

A FEW afternoons ago, about dusk, a policeman on his rounds in Asakusa Park noticed a well-dressed individual, of unusual corpulence, walking with apparent difficulty towards one of the smaller streets that lead away from the Ryounkaku Tower. The man's gait was so peculiar that the constable's suspicions were aroused and he unostentatiously followed. In a little while the individual perceived that he was being shadowed, whereupon he broke into a most clumsy trot or waddle—"for all the world," says a Tokyo paper, "like the movements of a duck." Under the circumstances, it was not long before the hand of the law was laid on the fugitive's shoulder. He was taken to the District Police Station and there forced to undress, no less than eighteen different suits being on his body; wadded and doubt-thick garments of cotton and silk, some of very fine make, and every one of which, it was soon found out, he had stolen, except a single ragged *wata-ire* that had once been the sole pride of his wardrobe. The criminal turned out to be a well-known sneak-thief, often punished for similar offences. This beats even Lewis Carroll's baker, who wore fourteen suits, as described in that immortal epic, "The Hunting of the Snark."

NOT LIKE THE MERCENARY CHINESE.

A COUPLE of foreigners, says the *Kokumin Shimbun*, recently left Hiroshima to come up to Tokyo. They were travelling in company with several Japanese officers, one or two of whom spoke English, while the foreigners themselves were ignorant of Japanese. After passing a few stations they noticed that numbers of school-children were drawn up in file at each place, dressed in their best and evidently awaiting something. On asking their Japanese

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friends, the foreigners were informed that the little scholars were expecting the arrival of a certain down-train from Tokyo on which there were to be several hundred soldiers, part of a regiment about to leave for China *vid* Hiroshima. These soldiers the children were desirous of greeting with hurrahs and patriotic songs as the train drew up at the station. That was all. The foreigners, continues our contemporary, were much pleased with this evidence of patriotism and longed to show their approval to the children in some tangible form. So at the next station at which the train stopped the foreigners threw out to the little crowd a handful of small silver coins. This was taken in very bad part by the pupils. Instead of being grateful they called out, "We want none of your money! We are not like the mercenary Chinese but are Japanese patriots, ready to do anything for our country." This reply was, concludes the *Kokumin*, translated in turn to the foreigners who, far from being vexed with the children's rejection of their well-meant gift, expressed thorough approval of their sentiments.

DEATH OF OLD EASTERN HANDS.

THE Shanghai morning journal regrets to announce that another well-known and respected old resident of Shanghai has joined the majority. A telegram was received in Shanghai on the 12th inst. telling of the death at Edinburgh of Mr. J. A. Taylor, formerly the manager of the Chartered Mercantile Bank at Shanghai, whose first acquaintance with that port dates back thirty years.

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Another old resident of Shanghai who has died this month is Mr. R. Francis. In the lamented death of Mr. Francis, says the *N.-C. Daily News*, one more connecting link between the present and the early days of Shanghai is severed. Mr. Francis came to that port in the early fifties to enter the house of Bull, Nye, & Co. He was a member of the first Company of Volunteers organised there and took part with them in the battle of Muddy Flat. He was also one of the Committee appointed to examine and report upon the several towns on the Yangtze when the River was thrown open by foreign treaty to trade. During his long business career in China, Mr. Francis was closely identified with many of the companies and industrial enterprises that have come into existence there, and he was ever a great friend of progress. Fond of adventure, he explored at an early period of his residence the surrounding country for many miles, and contributed not a little valuable information about the interior which was then almost unknown. It is to be hoped that on examination it will found that Mr. Francis had kept notes of his experiences in the early days of Shanghai and of his extensive wanderings in China and Japan, as they would certainly form valuable material for an interesting book. Mr. Francis will be greatly missed by a large circle of friends in Shanghai.

COUNTS KURODA AND MATSUKATA.

THE Emperor has addressed two Special Edicts to their Excellencies Counts Kuroda and Matsukata. They run as follows:—

TO KURODA, PRESIDENT OF THE PRIVY COUNCIL.

A Peace Envoy is now on the eve of arriving from China, and although the result of his mission cannot yet be known, should the war be brought to a conclusion there will be many matters calling for special deliberation by Our Privy Council.

Therefore We exhort you, in the discharge of your important functions as President of the Privy Council, to render Us all assistance.

TO MATSUKATA, MINISTER OF STATE FOR FINANCE.

In the event of the War being brought to a conclusion, problems of the utmost importance connected with the settlement of the finances will present themselves. These things are a source of constant solicitude to Us. Therefore We entrust to you the weighty responsibilities of financial management, and exhort you to devise such able measures as shall satisfy Our expectations

ONE REASON FOR REJOICING.

ON the receipt of the news that Weihaiwei had fallen, remarks the *Miyako Shimbun*, the Chinese prisoners at Asakusa gave way to what appeared to be heart-felt demonstrations of joy. Their guards were naturally somewhat surprised at this lack of patriotic feeling, and asked what might be the cause of their delight? The reply was that they expected a fresh batch of prisoners to be brought up to Tokyo in consequence of the victory, and that they were therefore in hopes of meeting with "friends from home" who could supply them with the latest news. It is strange that the Chinese captives in the metropolis have hitherto invariably refused to send letters to their friends or families left behind, and the reason they give for this refusal is no less surprising. Should it get noised abroad, they declare, that their lot in Japan is such an easy one; that they suffer no privations, and that Japanese prisons are in no way similar to the loathsome dungeons bearing that appellation in China, they would fail to be pitied and made much of on their return to their homes after the conclusion of the war. People would despise them rather than think and speak of them as military martyrs, the innocent victims of a tyrannical Government. This is a plausible pretext for not writing, but we (*Japan Mail*) feel persuaded that the real reason lies deeper. The Chinese, being eminently distrustful and never more so than when in any enemy's camp, are afraid of their correspondence being tampered with; and so perfer non-committal silence to adventurous speech.

PROPOSED NEW CHURCH AT KOBE.

THE *Hyogo News* states that advantage was taken of Bishop Bickersteth's presence in Kobe on Sunday to call a meeting of the Episcopal Church congregation in the afternoon to hear what had been and was being done to forward the scheme for building a new church. By the invitation of the Chaplain and Mrs. Swann this was held in their drawing-room. It was stated that $1,400 were already lodged in the Bank towards the Building Fund; that a Bazaar was being diligently prepared for the autumn; and that an appeal would be spread widely among friends in England and America. In a short address Bishop Bickersteth said he felt the time had come for a real effort to be made to carry out the cherished wish of himself and others to see in Kobe a Church devoted to their own service. Singapore, Hongkong, and Shanghai had their Cathedrals; Nagasaki, Yokohama, and Tokyo had their English Churches. Kobe had to be passed by; but he trusted this would not be so for long. Soon after his arrival in Japan nine years ago, the idea was mooted of having a resident Chaplain in Kobe; many regarded the scheme as impossible, and said the money would never be forthcoming for his support. Yet for five years now it had been well maintained, and he looked to a like happy realisation of their idea for a new Church, worthy of this rising port. He looked for a building as substantial and beautiful as possible, one that would itself help to raise the thoughts of worshippers. The expense need not be very overwhelming; if all did their best and they obtained some outside help they should be ready within a year to carry their project into effect. The present interrupted services were not conducive to the spiritual well-being of the congregation. In their own Church there would probably be more regular attendance, the pew-rents would form a considerable source of income, whereas at present nothing could be taken therefrom for the support of the Chaplaincy. Some general conversation followed, points of discussion being the estimated cost, and the probable result of a year's working to swell the Fund. The Bishop very materially helped this by presenting a cheque for $250 after the meeting had closed.

THE "MACHIAS."

THE U.S. gun-vessel *Machias*, Commander Houston, which has arrived at Hongkong, was built in 1892, and is a twin-screw steel vessel of 1,050 tons displacement, her dimensions being: length 184.4 feet, beam 32 feet and mean draught 12.2 feet. Her engines are of 1,600 indicated horse-power, and she can steam 15.46 knots, or 5,000 knots at 10 knots. Her armament consists of 8 4-in. quick-firers, 4 6-pdrs., 2 1-pdrs., and two machine guns. The following is a list of the ship's officers:—Commander Houston, Lieuts. W. P. Day, S. W. B. Dilke, J. O. Gilmore, J. H. Rohrbacher. Ensigns A. N. Scales, E. T. Pollock, G. O. Day. Chief Engineer, A. F. Dixon; P.-A. Surgeon, T. B. Bailey, Assistant-Paymaster, W. L. Wilson.

LI HUNG-CHANG.

ON the 12th of March the *N.-C. Daily News* said that "many rumours were flying about the Settlements, which are of native origin, to the effect that the Viceroy Li Hung-chang has been created a Marquis; that he has been given an Imperial robe of yellow, and that, in consequence, the sedan chair he will use in Japan will be of the Imperial colour, etc. It is needless to say that no credence can be placed in these rumours."

MAJOR VON HANNEKEN.

PRIVATE advices from Tientsin state that Major von Hanneken will leave China for Europe immediately after his marriage to Miss Detring. There has been some trouble with the Chinese authorities, who are evidently averse to allowing Major von Hanneken a free hand in the military reforms he was to have instituted.—*N.-C. Daily News.*

COUNT KURODA.

HIS Excellency Count Kuroda, who has just resigned the portfolio of Communications and become President of the Privy Council, retains his seat in the Cabinet. Count Ito, it may be remembered, when President—the first President—of the Privy Council, also sat in the Cabinet.

COMMERCE BETWEEN JAPAN AND AUSTRALIA.

The visit of Mr. Dyer, a member of the Melbourne Chamber of Commerce, to Japan promises to be attended with satisfactory results as regards the future of commercial transactions between Japan and Australia, says the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*. Commerce between the two countries was only commenced a few years ago and the exports do not amount to more than 8,600,000 *yen* while the imports only reach 3 million *yen* or so. The Japanese merchants do not give much attention to commerce with Australia, and the profit that it yields is entirely monopolized by the resident merchants, who take advantage of the negligence of the Japanese to reap unduly from such transactions. This is shown by the account given by Mr. Dyer. He brought with him various samples of horn, wool, furs, hides, and so forth, and they were not only superior in quality to those hitherto supplied by Yokohama importers, but were at the same time of a considerably lower price. It is said that several Japanese dealers in fur have already given orders to Mr. Dyer, and that brush manufacturers have also done so for horn. Mr. Dyer has promised to supply and send direct anything that Japanese merchants are desirous of obtaining from Australia. He is ready to do the same with Japanese articles to be despatched to Australia, so that future transactions between the two countries will not be carried on through the medium of resident merchants as is the case with commerce with Europe. The visit of Mr. Dyer to Japan is thus likely to mark an epoch in Japan's trade with Australia. This country enjoys considerable advantages in her commerce with Australia. The latter's exports to Japan are for the greater part in the form of raw material, while Japan sends silk fabrics and other manufactures. Then again, the distance between the two countries is less than that between Europe and Australia, so that it would not be difficult for Japanese merchants to compete successfully with those of Europe. Australia is as yet only a half opened country, and its commercial relations with Japan are therefore likely to increase in activity. The *Nichi Nichi* suggests that, following Mr. Dyer's example, some of the leading Japanese merchants should visit Australia and acquaint themselves with its commercial aspect.

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IMPERIAL DIET.

SATURDAY, MARCH 16TH.

HOUSE OF PEERS.

The House met at 10.45 a.m., the Order of the Day being :—

1.—Report of Petitions Committee.
2.—Bill for amending the Mineral Sand Law (sent up from Lower House).
3.—Bill for changing the Boundaries of Tokyo City and Saitama and Chiba Prefectures (sent up from Lower House).
4.—Bill for amending the City and Prefecture Tax-collecting System.

After a brief report by the Chairman of the Petitions Committees, the Bill for amending the Mineral Sand Law was handed to a Special Committee without debate or question.

Mr. Kioura Keigo, on behalf of the Special Committee, reported in favour of the Bill for amending the Boundaries of Tokyo and Saitama and Chiba Prefectures, the provisions of the Bill being eminently calculated to effect improvements in the works of irrigation and river control in the districts concerned.

Mr. Shibawara Dan opposed the Bill on the grounds that if it were passed similar changes would be demanded from all parts of the Empire and that the project contemplated by the Bill had not been preferred through the channels indicated by law, namely, the Local Assemblies, the Prefects, and the Minister of State for Foreign Affairs.

After some further debate, the House voted to carry the Bill to a Second Reading, but declined to proceed with it at once, as some of the members desired to prepare amendments.

The Bill for amending the Tax-collecting System in Cities and Prefectures was then discussed, but the House was counted out at 2.45 p.m., before a vote could be taken on the Second Reading.

MONDAY, MARCH 18TH.

HOUSE OF PEERS.

The House met at 10.55 a.m., the Order of the Day being :—

1.—Bill (Second Reading) relating to Application of the Army and Navy Penal Code.
2.—Bill for amending the Law of the Houses (sent up from the Lower House).
3.—Bill for the Special Taxation of Earthquake Districts (sent up from Lower House).
4.—Bill for changing the Jurisdiction of Certain Law Courts Second Reading).
5.—Bill for amending Law No. 46 of the 23rd year of *Meiji* (Second Reading).
6.—Bill for amending the Tax-collecting System in Cities and Prefectures (Second Reading).
7.—Petitions.

The first Bill having been favourably reported upon by the Special Committee, was passed through all its readings after a few questions.

Mr. Matsuoka, Government Delegate, in reply to a question, said that the Government strongly opposed the Bill for amending the Law of the Houses. The reasons of that opposition had been stated by him in the Lower House, and were on stenographic record.

The Bill was handed to a Special Committee.

The Government Delegate, being asked, with reference to the next Bill, why the Government had not introduced in the case of Yamagata Prefecture a law similar to that applied in the case of Mino and Owari Prefectures after the great earthquake, replied that, in the opinion of the authorities, the calamity in Yamagata did not call for such a step.

The Bill was handed to a Special Committee.

Count Madenokoji, on behalf of the Special Committee, having reported in favour of the Bill for changing the jurisdiction of certain Courts in order to suit local convenience, the measure was passed without debate.

The next Bill, relating to riparian repairs and the method of dealing with violations of regulations connected with them, was favourably reported on by the Special Committee, but after some discussion, the House, by a vote of 65 to 41, refused to carry the Bill to a Second Reading.

The Bill for amending the Tax-collecting System in Cities and Prefectures was then read a Second time, and passed through its Third Reading, after some discussion.

On an urgency motion introduced by Mr. Yamagawa Ko, the Committee entrusted with examining and reporting upon the settled accounts for the 25th year of Meiji, was instructed to present its report by noon on the 20th inst.

The Chairman of the Petitions Committee then presented for the House's deliberation a Petition praying that the cenotaphs of the men who had been condemned to commit suicide in consequence of the Sakai affair—when 11 Frenchmen had been killed by a party of Tosa *samurai*—should be placed in the Shrine at Shokonsha, and that to the memories of the deceased should be accorded the respect extended to those who had died for their country.

Viscount Tani spoke in favour of the Petition. He urged that, in firing upon the Frenchmen, the Japanese soldiers had merely obeyed the orders of their superiors and done what they believed to be their duty. They could not have acted otherwise, and he did not believe that any reasonable objection could be raised to the step urged by the Petition. The men had received orders to commit suicide, and, obedient in everything as became good soldiers, had died uncomplainingly by their own hands, although they knew that they were innocent of any crime.

Marquis Nakanomikado moved that the Petition be referred to a Special Committee, but the House adopted it for presentation to the Government.

Two other Petitions having been adopted, the House rose at 3.45 p.m.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The House met at 1.20 p.m., the Order of of the Day being :—

1.—Bill for supplementing the Military Settlers Land Law (sent down from Upper House).
2.—Bill (Second Reading) relating to the Sale of Mortgage of buildings, &c., granted to Military Settlers.
3.—Bill (Second Reading) for amending the Law of Finance.
4.—Bill for amending the Law of Election to the Lower House.
5.—Representation relating to the Appointment of District Headmen.
6.—Representation relating to a Continuing Grant in Aid of a Laboratory for investigating Contagious Diseases.
7.—Representation relating to Specially selected Students for a Laboratory for investigating Contagious Diseases.
8.—Representation relating to Railway Construction.

The first two Bills having been favourably reported on by the Special Committee were passed through all their Readings without debate.

The next Bill, providing that the Settled Accounts for each year must be submitted to the Diet in the Session of the next year but one was favourably reported on by the Special Committee, and the House passed it through its Second and Third Reading, despite the Government Delegate's statement that its practical enforcement would entail considerable difficulty.

The Bill for amending the Election Districts in Gifu Prefecture led to considerable discussion, party interests being concerned, and several members urging that such a reform should not be confined to one Prefecture, but should form part of a general measure including all the Districts where changes were needed. The House finally refused to carry the Bill to a Second Reading.

The discussion of the Bill relating to the Appointment of District Headmen was deferred until the following day.

Mr. Wakizaki Gyogo introduced the Representation for granting State aid to a Laboratory for investigating Contagious Diseases in connection with the Japan Sanitary Society. The Laboratory was to be in charge of Dr. Kitazato, and it was proposed that the necessary outlay should be included in a Budget for presentation to the House next year.

The House voted the Representation without debate.

The next Representation was similarly passed, after a few words of introduction from Mr. Dai Koka.

Mr. Kagami Kahei introduced the last Representation. Its object was to hasten the construction of railways in Kiushu. Under the present system the chief lines in Kiushu were to be finished in 10 years, but though 8 years had already elapsed, not more than one half of the lines were completed. It seemed essential that the Government should take steps to expedite the operations of the Company to which the work had been entrusted and to which state aid had been granted.

The House adopted the Representation, and rose at 3.20 p.m.

TUESDAY, MARCH 19TH.

HOUSE OF PEERS.

The House met at 10.55 a.m., the Order of the Day being :—

1.—Bill for amending the Finance Law (sent up from Lower House).
2.—Bill for changing the Boundaries of Tokyo, Saitama, Chiba, and Ibaraki (sent up from Lower House).

The following Answer from the Government to the Questions presented by Prince Konoye on the subject of the Anglo-Japanese Revised Treaty was read :—

The Government's Reply to the Questions relating to the new Treaty between Japan and Great Britain, presented by Prince Konoye Atsumaro, Member of the House of Peers:—

The Government is at present conducting negotiations with the various Treaty Powers for the revision of the existing Treaties. The stipulations involved in the question of Treaty Revision being, in many cases, common to all the Powers, it is deemed not opportune to reply at this moment, while the negotiations are in progress, to each of the Questions brought forward.

Viscount Mutsu Munemitsu,
Minister for Foreign Affairs.

The 18th day, 3rd Month, 28th Year of Meiji.

Mr. Tajiri, Government Delegate, referring to the first Bill on the Order, explained that to prepare and submit the Settled Accounts for each year to the Diet at the commencement of the next session but one, as contemplated by the Bill, would be an almost impossible undertaking. The financial returns from the various parts of the empire could not be obtained in time. Of course some form of Settled Accounts could be submitted, but they would be very far from satisfying the provisions of the Law of Finance. Probably the thing could be done by the opening of the third session after the year concerned, but, under any circumstances, the discharge of such a duty should not be circumscribed by law. The only proper and practical limit of time would be imposed by providing that the utmost possible expedition should be observed, and that was already done.

The Bill was handed to a Special Committee.

The Bill for changing the boundaries of Tokyo, Chiba, &c., led to considerable discussion, but was ultimately passed through all its Readings.

The House rose at 2.15 p.m.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The House met at 1.25 p.m. the Order the Day being :—

1.—Bill relating to Military Reserves and Volunteers (presented by the Government).
2.—Bill for supplementing the Law of Special Ports of Export.
3.—Bill relating to Special Ports of Imports.
4.—Representation relating to Telephones.
5.—Representation relating to the Trial of a Pumping Machine.
6.—Petitions.

The Government's Answer to the Questions presented on the 2nd instant with reference to the Anglo-Japanese Revised Treaty was read. It was identical with the Answer already given to the Upper House.

Mr. Otake Kanichi commenced an excited speech, declaring his dissatisfaction at the course pursued by the Government, but the President called him to order, explaining that, at this stage, he was entitled only to address queries to the Government Delegate, if present, or to present fresh Questions in due form.

A somewhat excited debate ensued. Mr. Otake appealed to the House, and was supported by Mr. Ozaki Yukio. The President said that he should take the sense of the House as to the propriety of such procedure. After some debate, the House voted to hear Mr. Otake.

Mr. Otake complained bitterly of the Government's action, stigmatizing it as a mere device to shirk the embarrassment of answering a difficult question. He did not believe that the Government could answer it, and he declared that the present Government of Japan dishonoured the country and impaired its prestige by concluding such treaties.

Mr. Tanigawa Shochin, Chairman of the Special Committee, reported on the Settled Accounts for the 25th year of *Meji*, but the House deferred the debate on the report until the next day.

The Government Delegate having introduced

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the first Bill, the object of which was to extend the present Military Service and Pension Regulations to the Reserves on service and to Volunteers, the House passed the Bill at once.

The Bill for supplementing the articles that might be exported from special Ports of Export was reported on favourably by the Special Committee, with the amendment that, in addition to the five staples mentioned in the Bill—namely, rice, barley, barley flour, coal, and sulphur—it should be competent for the Minister of State for Finance to sanction the export of other articles according to expediency, with a view, ultimately, to unrestricted export.

The Government Delegate pointed out that if no restriction was placed on the nature of the exports, if the Minister of State for Finance became entitled to sanction the export of any and all staples, the ports in question would cease to be ports of special export. Moreover, the next Bill relating to ports of special imports, contemplated adding sugar and kerosene to the sanctioned staples, but as these articles required special customs treatment, the proposal would prove very inconvenient in practice.

The House refused to carry the Bill to a Second Reading, and rejected the Bill relating to Ports of Import also.

Mr. Kashima Hidemaro, on behalf of the Special Committee, reported that they had been required to consider two Bills, one for transferring the telephones to private hands; the other for keeping them in Government hands but increasing the system. The Committee did not oppose the idea of private enterprise in such a business, but were of opinion that the time had not come for it.

Mr. Nakano Buhei supported the Committee, but asked leave to call attention to the fact that wires were not used for the return current in the present system of telephones, and that they were consequently very defective.

The House passed the Bill as presented by the Committee.

Mr. Nakano Hirotaro introduced the Representation relating to the testing of a Pumping Machine. He urged the importance of the subject in a country like Japan where irrigation was of such moment. His proposal was that one of the pumping machines reputed to be of such utility in the West should be purchased by the State—at a cost of about 25,000 *yen*—and tested by actual trial, so that the people in the agricultural districts might be assured of its value.

Mr. Kusakari Shimmei complained of the great number of Representations that had been adopted this session, and denounced the one now before the House as an ill-considered and most unjustifiable proposition.

Mr. Otake warned the House not to be misled by Mr. Kusakari. Any one having a knowledge of Japanese agriculture must appreciate the importance of the project under debate.

The House passed the Representation.

Four Petitions were then briefly discussed and adopted for presentation to the Government.

The House rose at 5.10 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 20TH.

HOUSE OF PEERS.

The House met at 10.45 a.m., the Order of the Day being:—

1.—Bill for amending the Mineral Dust-collecting Law (sent up from the Lower House).
2.—Bill relating to the Special Taxation of Earthquake Districts.
3.—Resolution relating to the improvement of the Shonai River and to two other Petitions.
4.—Settled Accounts for the 25th year of *Meiji*.

The Answer of the Home Minister to Mr. Ando Sokumei's Question was read. Mr. Ando had declared that in the copy of his resignation submitted last Session to the Diet, words appeared that he had never written, and had asked to have the original document produced. The Minister replied that the originals of such documents were not kept by the Government through a series of years. A copy alone existed in Mr. Ando's case, and of that copy an exact transcript had been laid before the Lower House.

Mr. Matsuoka, Vice-Minister of Home Affairs, spoke at great length with reference to the above. He said that he did not suppose that so much as one person in the country imagined that the Imperial Government could have been guilty of deliberately inserting 24 ideographs into a document of resignation presented by an official. Nevertheless, as Mr. Ando had preferred such a charge, and as he had found members to support him in asking for the production of the original document, the Government felt justified in entering into an explanation. Mr. Ando was not the only official whose written communications to the Government were not preserved in the archives. Hundreds upon hundreds of officials had been similarly treated during the *Meiji* era. In the case of important documents a greatly abbreviated precis was taken and kept for purposes of future reference. Such a precis existed in this instance. It was in the handwriting of a secretary who had died several years ago, and to whose precis of another document written at the time, Mr. Ando had affixed his own seal. To insert a paragraph for the purposes of a question raised in the House of Representatives last session, would have required that the deceased secretary should have been able to look forward to events in the lap of a future a quarter of a century distant. He regretted to have to say that if there were any deception in this matter, it lay at Mr. Ando's door. The speaker then entered into a minute explanation of the Fujita forgery case and of the circumstances that had led to the re-opening of such an ancient question, and condemned in very strong terms the language of Mr. Ando's second Question, where it was emphatically asserted, as a matter of fact, that the Government had been guilty of deliberately falsifying a public document. To ask for the production of the original and before receiving it to declare that it had been falsified, was an unjustifiable and indefensible procedure.

Mr. Ando asked permission to make a statement with reference to the trading operations of Mr. Inouye Kaoru (now Count Inouye).

Mr. Matsuoka said that the point referred to had been discussed last session in the Lower House, but that, as it had nothing to do with the question now under consideration, namely, Mr. Ando's document of resignation, a statement on the subject would be out of order.

Mr. Ando declared himself quite dissatisfied with the explanation that had been given. He had with him a copy of his resignation, and the Government's so-called precis was undoubtedly a forgery. (The President called the speaker to order, whereupon he substituted the words that he believed it to be a forgery.) But it was now too late to elucidate the matter clearly this session. He should take care that the truth were known next session.

Prince Tokugawa, Chairman of the Petitions Committee, presented a report.

The President said that before proceeding to the Order of the Day the Government asked, as a matter of urgency, that the Bill (passed the preceding day by the House of Representatives) with reference to extending the present Military Laws to Reserves on service and to Volunteers, should be discussed.

The House passed the Bill without discussion.

The Settled Accounts for the 25th year of *Meiji* were then taken. Mr. Mitsukuri Rinsho, on behalf of the Special Committee, reported that the Accounts showed, in the opinion of the Committee, irregularities similar to those that had formed the subject of an Address to the Throne in the case of the Accounts for the 24th year of *Meiji*. The Committee therefore suggested that, as the Throne could not be addressed twice on the same matter, the House should confine itself in this instance to a Resolution.

Viscount Tani moved that an Address to the Throne be presented. A different procedure should not be adopted with respect to the same cause of complaint. Repetition of an offence aggravated the guilt of the offender.

After a brief discussion and some questioning of the Government Delegate, the House rejected Viscount Tani's motion by 69 to 52.

The first Bill, relating to Mineral Dust, was then passed through all its Readings without debate.

The next Bill, relating to the reduction of taxation in the districts visited by last autumn's earthquake, was similarly passed.

Prince Tokugawa, Chairman of the Petitions Committee, said that Petitions relating to the Shonai River and the laying of a submarine cable to Okinawa Prefecture, had been adopted by the House for presentation to the Government two or three times since the first session. But the Govern ment had left the matters totally unnoticed. He proposed a Resolution that the Government be asked to make a statement on the subject.

The House adopted the Resolution, and rose at 3.40 p.m.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The House met at 1.20 p.m., the Order of the Day being:—

1.—Bill for amending the Taxation System in Cities and Prefectures.
2.—Resolution relating to the Settled Accounts of the 25th year of *Meiji*.
3.—Bill for opening a Local Assembly in Hokkaido.
4.—Bill for amending the Local Land Tax Regulation.
5.—Bill for supplementing the Business Tax and Miscellaneous Tax Regulations.
6.—Bill for rescinding Ordinance No. 6 of the 20th year of *Meiji*.
7.—Representation relating to a Place for examining Tea.
8.—Representation relating to Improving the Cultivation of Cotton.

The first Bill was handed to a Special Committee.

The President announced that the deliberation of the next five items on the Order would be deferred.

Mr. Suyehiro Shigeyasu asked leave to have the Order changed for the purpose of discussing the following Address to the Throne:—

Your Imperial Majesty's humble servant, Kusumoto Masataka, President of the House of Representatives, in obedience to a Resolution of the House, respectfully and reverentially approaches Your August Majesty, conveying the House's Resolution, that whereas, Your Majesty, organizing the Imperial Forces and advancing the Imperial Standard, have borne the hardships of great heat and bitter cold in common with the soldiers, and have graciously discharged the onerous function arising out of a belligerent state, thereby inspiring Your Majesty's subjects with patriotic zeal and rousing such a spirit among Your Majesty's forces that with the noise of thunder and the speed of lightning they have won victories on shore and on sea; and whereas, Your Majesty has now graciously announced that the first period of the War having been brought to a conclusion, the second is about to commence; therefore, the members of Your Majesty's House, in unison with the universal sentiment of respectful admiration inspired by Your Majesty's greatness, do hereby reverentially present their professions of profound admiration of the military strength that has thus been developed, of the successes that have been thus achieved, and of the prestige that Your Majesty's realm has thus gained in the sight of all nations.

The House agreed to change the Order, and passed the Address unanimously.

The following Resolution for presenting an Address to the Army and Navy was then passed:—

(The translation of the Resolution will appear in our next issue.)

The Bill for establishing a Tea Inspecting Warehouse was then passed without debate, as was also the last Bill on the Order.

The House rose at 2.40 p.m.

WAR NEWS.

MONDAY, MARCH 18TH.

Now that the details of the torpedo attack at Weihaiwei are better known, it appears that our previous idea of it must be to some extent modified. The original account led us to believe that the torpedo-boats were impelled by large sculls and that on the first occasion of their entry they succeeded in getting into the neighbourhood of the enemy's ships without attracting attention. But it now appears that the plan of attack was different. Two gunboats took part in it: the *Chokai*, an iron vessel of 622 tons, and the *Atago-kan* an iron and steel vessel of the same size. The Commander of the *Chokai*, Captain Togo, having been long

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engaged in the business of making himself acquainted with the Chinese littoral, was so familiar with the intricacies of Weihaiwei Bay that he could navigate a craft there even in the dark. His vessel, accompanied by the *Atago Kan*, steamed into the harbour at 1 a.m, on the 5th of February, choosing the route between the forts on the islands of Zhih and Liukung. Immediately on getting within range of the enemy's squadron, they opened a heavy fire, to which the Chinese replied vigorously. By these means the enemy were led to suppose themselves the object of an attack by the Japanese Fleet in force. They were already more or less wearied by many days of constant watching, and the sudden cannonade of the two gun-boats threw them into some confusion and prevented any suspicion of a torpedo attack. Meanwhile, the second and third torpedo squadrons, aggregating 10 boats, crept along the eastern shore of the Bay at half speed (11 knots) and remained unobserved by the enemy until the supreme moment. Thus the success of the enterprise was due in chief part to the diversion caused by the gunboats. With regard to the order of the torpedo crafts' advance, the third squadron led, its components, No. 6, No. 22, No. 5, and No. 10, steaming in that sequence. The second squadron followed, the order of its boats being No. 21, No. 8, No. 14, No. 9, No. 18, and No. 19. As for the operations of these boats in detail, we read that No. 6, changing her course westward on reaching the south of the harbour, steered between the enemy's ships as they lay at anchor and fired two fish-torpedoes, but owing to some defect in the pneumatic arrangements of her tubes, probably caused by ice, the torpedoes were not discharged. No 22 fired three torpedoes, but the cannonade from the Chinese ships was so severe at the time that her crew was unable to ascertain the result. Making her way back, she ran on a sunken rock near the Lungmiao fort. No. 5 aimed two torpedoes at the *Laiyuen*, and then steamed off. Apparently she failed to reach her mark. No. 10 took the *Tingyuen* for a target and fired one torpedo, which seemed to strike the ship. No. 21 steered from the south towards the north of the harbour, heading for the middle of Liukun Island. Her people, observing, as they supposed, a big ship on the port side concluded that she was the *Ting-yuen*, and steered for her, but lost sight of her and emerged in the neighbourhood of Zhih Island. Turning again into the harbour, she was searching for the enemy's vessels, when she found No. 8 in a disabled condition, and decided to assist her, there being no time to continue the attack. As for No. 8, it is not clear how she fared prior to her injuries. No. 14 ran aground in attempting to pass the boom, and what she subsequently did, the account from which we quote does not say. No. 9, following in the wake of No. 14, and observing that the latter had apparently got aground, steered north and passed safely into the harbour. Observing two of the enemy's torpedo-boats approach the *Ting-yuen*, she steered between them, and discharged two torpedoes, the second of which seemed to strike the stern of the iron-clad. Immediately afterwards No. 9 received a shell in her boiler and was disabled. No. 18, coming after No. 9, got ashore near the boom. No. 19, which brought up the rear, lost some time owing to No. 18 running ashore, and fearing to be late for the attack, left No. 18 as she was and steered for the flashes of the enemy's guns. Presently she found No. 9 lying helpless, with several of her people badly wounded. Unwilling to abandon the attack and unable to leave No. 9 in such a state, she decided to tow the latter outside the boom and then return to the assault. But in trying to carry out that programme, she found the ice so embarassing, that she had to give up the idea of getting No. 9 away, and to content herself with taking the wounded men on board, which she succeeded in doing only just before dawn.

It will be seen from the above account that out of the 10 torpedo-boats engaged in the attack, only four actually discharged torpedoes, the total number of missiles discharged being eight. The remaining six boats either got aground or had to confine themselves to assisting their disabled consorts.

An Imperial Rescript has been issued appointing His Imperial Highness Prince Komatsu to be Commander-in-Chief of the forces engaged in the next expedition against China. A portion of the Head-quarters is to be moved to Port Arthur, and thither the Prince will repair to take up his duties as Dai-Sotoku. It is expected that the staff of the Sotoku-fu will leave Hiroshima about the 20th instant for Port Arthur. Prince Komatsu, it will be remembered, was appointed Chief of the Head-quarter Staff *vice* the late Prince Arisugawa. The Imperial Rescript making this important nomination runs as follows:—

Whereas Our land and sea forces advancing against China have already completed the first period of the campaign, and are now about to enter upon the second, therefore We, deeming it essential to appoint a Commander-in-Chief of the expedition against China, do hereby nominate you to that office ordering you to assume command of all Our expeditionary forces, investing you at the same time with authority to appoint, remove, promote and degrade the officers under your command; and We charge you in accordance with Our will to proceed and assume the duties of this office so as to increase the prestige of Our realm.

In addition to the above, His Majesty has issued a commission authorizing the organization of a branch of the Head-quarter Staff at Port Arthur under the direction of Prince Komatsu.

An official telegram from the Staff of the First Army dated 5.35 p.m. on the 15th instant says that the Chinese forces which, after flying from Newchwang and Tienchwangtai halted for a time at Shihshanchan, subsequently dispersed and their whereabouts is not now known. The same message adds that the Liaoyang Army which Katsura defeated and drove northward on the 28th ult. and the 1st inst. is now at Chenshenpao, Shahochan, and Linrhpao. For the benefit of non-geographical readers we may translate this into the simple fact that the Liaoyang troops are posted from 20 to 25 miles south of that town on the roads leading to Haicheng.

We mentioned in our last issue that amongst the spoils taken by the Japanese at Yingkow there was a man-of-war. According to the *Kokumin*, she is the *Mei-yuen*, a wooden gun-boat of 578 tons, 400 h.p. and a speed of 8 knots. She belonged to the Peiyang Squadron and acted as a transport when the Chinese troops were sent to Asan. Subsequently she fled to Newchwang and was there blocked in by ice probably to the no small satisfaction of her crew. She offered no resistance to capture by the Japanese. There are said to be still two ships of the Peiyang Squadron in the Pechili Gulf, namely, the *Tai-an* (1,258 tons) and the *Chen-hai* (950 tons). It is supposed that they are somewhere in the neighbourhood of Taku.

Civil administrative offices have been established at Kaiping, Fuchow, and Itszwo in the Liaotung peninsula. They are all subservient to the office at Chinchow. Major Awaya of the Infantry and Major Ogasawara of the Gendarmerie have been appointed administrative chiefs in Kaiping and Fuchow respectively.

Field-Marshals Nozu and Oyama have made appropriate replies to the gracious messages conveyed to the armies under their command by Their Imperial Majesties the Emperor and Empress. It is scarcely necessary to translate them.

The *Jiji Shimpo* says that with reference to the approaching peace negotiations the *Jiyu-to* (Radical Party) have decided that Japan should insist upon receiving Formosa, Shinking, and Kirin as accessions to the Japanese dominions, and further an indemnity of 600 million Tls. As to the amount of the latter, more or less difference of opinion is said to prevail, but there is complete agreement as to the cession of Formosa, Shinking, and Kirin.

TUESDAY, MARCH 19TH.

There is absolutely nothing in the shape of war news this morning. The Staff of the First Army telegraph some details with respect to the prisoners taken in and about Newchwang. They belong chiefly, we read, to the armies of Wu and Wei, and are natives of Hunan and Hupeh. There are 7 officers, 19 non-combatant officers, and 626 rank and file. Among the combatant officers, two are of the rank of Colonel and two of that of Lieut.-Colonel; one is a Captain, one a Lieutenant, and one an Ensign. The non-combatant officers are secretaries and so forth.

The success achieved by the torpedo-boats at Weihaiwei has naturally produced some elation in Japan. Newspaper editors eulogize the fearlessness of death that adapts the Japanese so signally to the extremely dangerous duties of torpedo-boats, and express the opinion that with a hundred of these craft, the Japanese coasts would be secure against attack by a hostile fleet.

The *Chuo Shimbun* gives some particulars of Shanhaikwan, now becoming a place of considerable interest. It is, says our contemporary, the mid-way fortress between Pekin and Mukden. Its true name is Linyukwan. The circuit of its walls is 700 metres; their height is 15 metres, and their thickness, 25 metres. There are, as usual, four gates, one at each point of the compass. The adjacent coast is unsuitable for the approach of ships. There are three littoral forts on the south—Ting-yuen, Ching-yuen, and Chen-yuen. They are built of earth; their height is 10 metres and their thickness 6 metres. There is also a parapet between them, about 4 metres high. The object of the forts and the parapet is to resist an attack from the sea. The armament of the forts is six 21-cent. Krupps; nine 15-cent. Krupps; four 15-cent. Krupps; seven 12-cent. Krupps; four 15-cent. rifled Krupp mortars; six Gatlings; sixteen muzzle-loaders of various calibres; eighteen 12-pr. steel guns cast at Nanking; sixty other pieces of various kinds and six mortars. There are also torpedo companies, and a numerous force of troops is assembled for the defence of the place.

The population of Tienchwangtai, according to the *Jiji Shimpo*, was 30,000. These unfortunate people were completely deprived of shelter by the burning of the town on the 9th instant. The Chinese Generals Sung, Wu, and Chang have doubtless retreated to Chinchow, which is 100 miles away. The country between the two places being flat, is easily traversed by troops. But at a point some 25 miles east of Chinchow the Taling river has to be crossed. If the Japanese advance against Chinchow, it is possible that the Chinese may organize some resistance at that river.

The *Jiji* says that the *Ting-yuen* is always above water, whatever be the state of the tide, but tells us nothing as to the chances of her being made serviceable again. As for the *Ching-yuen*, her deck is visible at low tide only, but since she was sunk by shells not by torpedoes, there will be little difficulty in getting her up and repairing her. The *Lai-yuen* having turned turtle completely, will not be floated without much trouble.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 20TH.

The Viceroy Li and his suite arrived at Shimonoseki on the morning of the 19th at 8.41. They were in two steamers flying the German and the Chinese flags, and they were escorted from the entrance to the strait by four vessels. It is said that Mr. Detring and General von Hanneken are among the suite. Mr. Foster is there of course.

News comes from Shanghai that the whole of General Sung's Commissariat has been captured by the Japanese. Another piece of intelligence from the same source is that Wu Ta-cheng has been deprived of his post of Commander-in-chief, degraded in rank, and ordered to Pekin to receive punishment. We can not judge what truth there may be in these stories. The only news published from Japanese sources about Sung and Wu appears in the columns of the *Yomiuri Shimbun*. We are there told that the two Generals, leaving a small force in Shisan-shan, have entered Chinchow at the head of 25,000 men.

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It is rumoured that a portion of the General Head-quarters, under Prince Komatsu, having been moved to Port Arthur, the Emperor himself will soon repair to Kyoto and fix the Head-quarters there, accompanied by Counts Yamagata, Saigo, and so forth.

The *Official Gazette* contains a notification that from the 19th instant during a period of 21 days, the 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th articles of the Peace Preservation Regulations will become operative at Akamagaseki (Shimonoseki) in Yamaguchi Prefecture. The articles in question forbid all public meeting, within or without doors, unless police permission has been obtained; interdict the issue of newspapers or other publications until their provisions have undergone police censorship; declare it unlawful to carry weapons of any kind without special license, and invest the police with competence to examine travellers and issue passports.

THURSDAY, MARCH 21ST.

All eyes are now turned toward Shimonoseki, and as the troops in the field are, for the moment, beyond striking distance of the enemy, there is a complete dearth of intelligence.

Yesterday at 2.40 p.m. the Viceroy landed at Shimonoseki and proceeded to the Conference chamber. His Excellency seemed to be in excellent health. He was accompanied by a suite of some ten persons, and immense crowds thronged both the sea and the shore to see him land. The *Official Gazette* announces that Count Ito and Viscount Mutsu are appointed Plenipotentiaries to negotiate with the Viceroy. We can not offer any conjecture as to the length of time that must elapse before any clear indication is procurable, as to the negotiations, but the first conference, at all events, was of a very different character from that between the former Chinese Envoys and the Japanese Plenipotentiaries. On this occasion the conference opened at a little past 3 o'clock and lasted an hour. Credentials were exchanged and those of the Viceroy were found perfectly satisfactory. At half-past four his Excellency returned to his ship, where he seems determined to remain throughout the negotiations.

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun's* war correspondent sends to that journal a long account of the fighting on the 24th of February between the forces of General Sung and Lieut.-General Yamaji, in the neighbourhood of Yingkow. Much of the report resembles the Anabasis of Xenophon, so dry are its details. But we learn from it that a very stubborn stand was made by the Chinese at Piatsiliken, where they were strongly entrenched. No difficulty was experienced in driving them from Siao-ping-shan, Tatszwo, and Tungtsiliken (eastern Tsiliken), but the capture of the western Tsiliken entrenchments proved a tough affair. The Japanese artillery opened fire at 1,600 metres, and poured a shower of shot and shell into the position, but the Chinese showed no sign of moving. On the contrary, their fire told severely on the Japanese, who were led at this point by Colonel Matsumoto. Major Nishiyama, second in command of the Battalion, and Captain Iwane, the next senior, were both killed. Lieut.-General Yamaji was at that time posted on the southern slope of Taping-shan, directing the movements of the troops. Seeing how things were faring with the assailants of Piatsiliken, he ordered Major-General Nogi to reinforce the attack. Nogi at once sent a regiment to attack the place from the front and the left, and himself led the Third Battalion of Reserves against the right. But despite the terrible fire to which they were thus exposed, the enemy held their ground stoutly, seeming even to acquire fresh resolution the stronger the assault to which they were subjected. Major Saito, one of the officers that have gained most distinction in the War, then rushed forward with uplifted sword, and led his men straight at the entrenchment, cutting down the defenders by scores. Major Awaya and Tonoi supported him vigorously. It was then 4 o'clock. A portion of the assaulting force had exhausted its ammunition and was compelled to lie down to avoid the enemy's fire. Major-General Nogi, seeing this, galloped forward, and gave directions to Major Iwamura to push up reinforcements. Two companies were immediately despatched, one against the front, the other against the rear of the entrenchment. This was the sharpest part of the struggle. Captains Hironaka and Kawakami, calling to their men to cease firing and use the bayonet, charged the entrenchment, and a part of the Fifteenth Regiment joining in the charge, the enemy were at last broken and fled toward Pomiaotszchiang, the Japanese occupying the position amid loud cheering. This was at 5.30 p.m. Not until 7 p.m. were the troops able to leave the field. They had marched out at 2 a.m., and did not get back to their quarters until 11 p.m., having thus been 21 hours under arms, and marching the whole time through snow. Many had their feet frost-bitten. In the First Regiment there were 394 sufferers from this cause, and the Fifteenth Regiment is said to have fared even worse. The enemy's forces numbered 12,000, and were commanded, the right by Sung, the centre by Ma, and the left by Su. They had 10 pieces of artillery, and some of their troops were armed with the new German repeating rifles, in which smokeless powder is used. They had thus a considerable advantage over the Japanese. The casualties are not yet fully known, but the First Brigade had 31 killed and 210 wounded, and the enemy left 120 dead on the field and had, apparently, about 1,000 wounded.

The *Choya* produces a story told by Lieut. Fujita, who was in command of a party of 19 men in the battle on the 30th January at Weihaiwei. It appears that his men shot down two Chinese soldiers, one of whom came towards them waving a flag as a signal to the ships in the Bay. Fujita's party, by attempting to interrupt the flight of the defenders of the Eastern forts, exposed themselves to the fire of the ships, and finding a Gatling gun turned on them, made haste to enter an entrenchment some thirty or forty yards away. Just as they reached it, however, a shell of large calibre fell and burst in the midst of them, killing 13 out of the 17 that had fled to the fort for cover. The Lieutenant himself was struck by a splinter on the head, but not disabled. Under his arm he found a piece of flesh blown from the body of one of his men. The whole thirteen were so mutilated as to be unrecognisable. Another company lost 17 or 18 men at the same place. The snow all around was stained with blood. This was doubtless the occasion alluded to in the accounts previously received, when the Japanese troops suffered so severely from the fire of the Chinese ships which had taken up positions to aid in the defence of the eastern forts.

FRIDAY, MARCH 22ND.

A few details of what occurred at Shimonoseki on the 20th instant are given by the vernacular press. The Viceroy Li, on landing, entered a Chinese palanquin carried by four men, and proceeded to the conference chamber, about 250 yards distant. He was accompanied by Lord Li, Messrs. Lo Tung-lo and Wu Ting-fang, and 12 others, as well three flag-bearers. Mr. Lo carried, with evident care, a scroll wrapped in silk; doubtless the Viceroy's credentials. *Jinrikisha* were provided for all except the Viceroy himself, and the road was lined on both sides with policemen. Count Ito and Viscount Mutsu were already waiting at the place of conference, and the conference commenced very shortly after the Viceroy's arrival. The opening and mutual examination of credentials occupied an hour. At 4.25 p.m. the Viceroy returned to his ship. The *Jiji* says that those present on the Japanese side were the two Plenipotentiaries, Mr. Ito Miyoji, Chief Secretary of the Cabinet, Messrs. Inouye (Katsu) and Nakada, Secretaries, and Mr. Narabara. On the Chinese side there were the Viceroy, his son, Lord Li, Messrs. Lo Fung-lo, Ma Chien-chung, Wu Ting-fang, Lo Kang-ling and Huen Yung-ming. It was expected that about 50 of the principal officials of the Viceroy's suite would land on this day, and repair to Insho-ji. At noon yesterday the second conference was to take place.

In the absence of fresh news from the seat of war, the vernacular press publishes stories of individual heroism. The *Nichi Nichi*, for example, tells of Lieutenant Nakajima who was sent with 10 troopers to reconnoitre in the neighbourhood of Yingkow on the 22nd of January. After proceeding a long distance, the little squadron was suddenly fired on by about 200 Chinese soldiers from some houses only 40 metres distant. The first shot hit the Lieutenant in the left thigh, but he showed no sign of injury, and managed to lead his men away in good order, covering his wounded leg with his overcoat. Even when his men, seeing the marks of blood on the snow, began to ask whether some one's horse had not been wounded, the Lieutenant said nothing. Finally, after riding some 4 miles on the homeward journey, he spoke of his hurt, and had the leg bandaged. It was hanging helpless, the bone having been shattered. In that condition the stout-hearted young officer is said to have ridden nearly 23 miles.

The *Shogyo Shimpo* says that it has been decided that the Commander-in-chief of the Third Expeditionary Corps, Prince Komatsu, and his Staff shall proceed to Port Arthur on the 2nd proximo. The Staff comprises Vice-Admiral Kabayama, Lieut.-General Kawakami, Major-General Terauchi (head of the Transport Service), Rear-Admiral Yamamoto, Major-General Noda, Colonels Ishiguro, Obu, and Tsunoda; Lieut.-Colonels Tojo and Iguchi; Majors Ijuin, Murata, and Watanabe.

According to telegrams from Shanghai, four Japanese ships of war arrived off Taku Bar on the 19th instant, and are searching vessels for contraband of war. The Japanese should have been there sooner, for many vessels have already passed up the Peiho.

From Amoy comes a report that the Japanese are at Fisher Island. There have been so many false tales of Japanese vessels appearing off Formosa, at the Pescadores, and so forth, that nothing of the kind coming from such a source is any longer credible.

"THE KOREAN REPOSITORY."

We heartily welcome the reappearance of the *Korean Repository*. The new edition has reached its second number, and if the succeeding volumes can be kept up to the standard of those now before us, the book should find a wide market. Korea has suddenly sprung to a high place in public attention. It is the pivot of the Oriental Question, and for many years to come must remain the most closely observed place in the East. On the other hand, remarkably little is known about it. There are books, indeed. There is the Rev. John Ross' "Korea; its History, Manners, and Customs;" a good enough book in its way, but sadly antiquated and terribly painful to read. There is Mr. Percival Lowell's "Chosen," an elegant volume in which the author has carried to the highest pitch the art of saying nothing and saying it in a multiplicity of words. There is Mr. Carles' volume of travels, concerning which our only regret is that it does not extend to ten times the length. But what we want is a publication telling us something about the living problems of the day; something about the Korea that is the subject of such an immensely difficult experiment at Japan's hands. The *Korean Repository* promises to supply that want. It has an excellent staff of contributors who choose their subjects well and treat them clearly. We wish it all success, not for its own sake alone but for the sake of the public.

CHOLERA AT MOJI.

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* publishes a paragraph to the effect that true cholera has broken out at Moji. There have already been 21 cases and 9 of them have ended fatally. The existence of the disease is said to have been discovered on the 17th inst. Many apprehensions have existed that an epidemic of cholera would occur this year in Japan. It looks only too likely that it will.

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FIELD-MARSHAL VISCOUNT NOZU.

A vernacular paper gives the following brief account of the personal history of Viscount Nozu, Commander-in-Chief of the First Army, who was gazetted Field-Marshal on the 10th instant. He was a retainer of the Satsuma clan and the younger of two brothers, the elder, Lieutenant-General Nozu Shizuo, having died about fifteen years ago. The brothers lost their father while still very young, and it was a hard task for the mother to bring up her two sons. The latter, however, showed themselves to be men of great ability and of a firm and resolute disposition. They were singled out by the appreciative Lord of Satsuma and were sent with others to Yedo to study gunnery under the then celebrated Yegawa Tarozaemon. On their return to Satsuma, after having mastered that branch of Western military science, the brothers were appointed commanders of certain companies of the *Han*. They took part in most of the battles fought between the Imperialists and the adherents of the Shogunate in the troubled pre-Restoration days. Mr. Otori, a Privy Councillor, who led a Division of the Shogunate troops and fought several battles in the north-eastern part of the main island, was much feared at that time on account of his skilful generalship. Marshal Nozu outmanœuvred him, however, winning a signal victory. When the news reached the elder Saigo, then the Chief of Staff of the Imperial forces, he was greatly pleased and observed to his subordinates that the victory gained by A. B. C. Hichiji (the Marshal's name in his youth) over the learned Otori was a most remarkable circumstance, the Marshal not being as advanced in literary attainments at that time as the *samurai* generally were. When, shortly after the restoration of public tranquillity, the question whether the old custom of wearing swords should be abolished or not, began to attract public attention and when it was earnestly discussed in the *Han* of Satsuma, the Marshal sided strongly with the progressive party and argued the point with Kirino Toshiaki and others obstinately desirous of keeping up the old custom. When the Imperial *régime* was duly re-organized and the administration of the country centralized in Tokyo, the Marshal was appointed Major and received promotion the following year (1871). Like other officers of Satsuma origin, he was an admirer of the elder Saigo whom he esteemed greatly. The resignation of Saigo and many of his adherents and their subsequent return to Kagoshima was therefore a great trial to Nozu. As he had his own opinions about the matter, however, and was opposed to the step that Saigo intended taking, he remained in office. A few years later, in obedience to the stern call of duty, Nozu was obliged to fight against Saigo and his adherents, being sent to the seat of war as Chief of Staff of the Second Army. The position of the rebels at Tawarazaka was the strongest, and many and fierce were the fights engaged in by the Imperialists and the rebels at that pass. The fact that the latter were finally overcome was largely due to the stategy and valour of the Marshal. On another occasion a terrible battle took place, the two sides being entrenched at a short distance from each other. The Imperialists had begun to show signs of wavering before the resolute onset of the rebels when the Marshal ordered the artillery to fire at the enemy from a neighbouring height. The road was steep and narrow and the dragging of guns to a suitable position appeared at first so be an impossible task, but they at last succeeded in doing so, urged on by the Marshal's stern commands. The fierce fire directed at the rebels from this height determined the issue of the battle, and the enemy was forced to leave its position and to fly. On the conclusion of the war, Nozu was decorated with the Second Class Order of the Rising Sun and was granted a pension of 350 *yen* per annum. Two years later he was promoted to be Major-General and appointed Acting Commander of the Tokyo Garrison. About 1886 he again received promotion and was entrusted with the command of the Eighth (Hiroshima) Corps. The Marshal has since visited the West on official tours of inspection, once in 1876, to America on the occasion of the World's Fair held at Philadelphia, and nine years afterwards to Europe and America with Field-Marshal Count Oyama and Lieut.-General Miura (retired). His brilliant achievements in Korea and Manchuria since the outbreak of the present war are too well known to require enumeration. The Marshal develops his strategical plans in a strictly conscientious manner, but when once they are resolved upon, he endeavours to carry them out with a promptness and daring that are indeed amazing. Brought up as a warrior from his youth, he was at one time considerably backward in literary education, but he has taken such pains to make good that deficiency that he is now a fair scholar.

DEATH OF VISCOUNT INOUYE KI.

Viscount Inouye Ki, ex-Minister of Education, who had been suffering from consumption for some time, succumbed to the malady on the 16th instant at his villa in Dzushi. The Viscount was 53 years of age. His official career dates from 1870, when he was appointed assistant superintendent of the dormitories of the Tokyo University, the fore-runner of the present Imperial University. He was removed two years later to the Department of Justice in the capacity of a clerk. He accompanied the same year, Eto Shimpei, then Minister of Justice, in his tour of official inspection of the judiciary condition of European countries. They spent about a year in Europe, returning home in September, 1873. Immediately after his return, the Viscount was promoted to be an official of the 7th grade. About a year afterwards he was again sent abroad, this time to China, in the suite of the late Okubo Toshimitsu, when the latter went to Pekin to negotiate with the Chinese Government about the Formosa trouble. The Viscount visited China twice subsequently, on official business, going once to Shanghai and again to Pekin, whither he accompanied Count Ito when he went to China 10 years ago for the purpose of settling the complication that had arisen between the Japanese and Chinese soldiers in Sōul. The Viscount also went twice to Korea on official missions, the first time being in 1881, and the second, in 1884, when Count Inouye was despatched to Sōul as Ambassador to negotiate with the Korean Government in connection with the outrages perpetrated by the people of Sōul on members of the Japanese Legation and on many Japanese residents. Viscount Inouye was a senior secretary of the Department of Justice, of the Home Department, and of the Daijokan successively, and occupied for some years subsequently the post of member of the Council (*Sanjin*), since abolished. In 1888 he was nominated Chief of the Legislative Bureau, and received, a few months later, the additional appointment of Secretary-General of the Privy Council. Three years afterwards, he was nominated member of the Privy Council, retaining his other posts as before. In December of 1890, he was made Chief of the Archives of the Imperial Household, and three years later, was given the portfolio of the Department of Education in which office he remained for about 18 months, being relieved of the post last August at his own request, a step rendered necessary by the impaired state of his health. In January of this year he was created a peer in recognition of the long and meritorious services rended by him to the State, the title of Viscount being conferred upon him. His decorations were the 2nd class of the Order of the Rising Sun and the 1st class of the Order of the Jewel.

The *Mainichi* writes as follows about the late Viscount:—He was not in any way a great man. His merit lay chiefly in sincerity, incorruptible strictness, diligence, and a thoroughly conscientious manner of conducting business. It was on account of these characteristics that, though a junior both in years and in official career to most of the leading statesmen of the day, he was enabled to hold his own with them and to take part in the Cabinet Councils. Originally a student of the Southern College of the Tokyo University, he rose gradually and steadily till at last he was appointed Minister of Education. The official career of the deceased was long and diversified. It may be divided into three sections, namely, diplomacy, legislature, and education. His diplomatic career was chiefly passed in the capacity of a secretary. He went to China in the suite of the late Okubo when Japan and China were involved in the Formosa complication; in 1884 he accompanied Count Inouye to Sōul, and in 1885 he again went to China, this time with Count Ito. He did not take a direct part in diplomatic negotiations, but was chiefly useful in the counsels and valuable information that he gave to the Ambassadors whom he accompanied. His merit in the field of legislature was greater and better known than in that of diplomacy. For about a decade, not a law nor an Imperial Edict or Rescript was issued that did not bear the marks of his painstaking scholarship. He held a high place in the history of the legislature of the *Meiji* era. The most important services rendered by him to the country were, however, in connection with education. To this branch of science he devoted himself, body and soul. His untiring application to the furtherance of education may be said to have aggravated the illness that terminated his life. The changes in the *personnel* of the Minister of Education have been numerous during the last twenty years, but only two men may be said to have been genuine Education Ministers—the late Viscounts Mori and Inouye. The educational policy of Viscount Inouye was, it is true, open to more or less censure on account of its having been too precipitate and elaborate, but the fact that after having marked out a certain fixed course, he pursued it with conscientious diligence, and that he succeeded during his comparatively short tenure of office—only a year and a half—in inspiring vigour and activity into what he had found apathetic and miserably decayed, is deserving of the highest commendation.

The deceased left, with regard to his funeral, instructions in perfect harmony with his character. He enjoined his survivors to dispense with all pomp at his obsequies, to decline all offers of flower-stands and such gifts, and also to dispense with an escort of troops in consideration of the present war. He further desired that, with the exception of his daughters, no women should attend his funeral, as women are wont to make unusual decoration and preparation. He also enjoined that, although his funeral should be conducted according to Buddhist rites, the posthumous title common to Buddhism should be dispensed with, and that his grave should bear the simple inscription "Tomb of Inouye Ki." He desired, moreover, that his tomb should not be finer or larger than those of his parents, and that no epitaph should be inscribed on it. To those attending his funeral no food should be offered, although that is a common practice; they were only to be treated with due courtesy. Such were his directions.

The cortége will leave the residence of the deceased in Yamabushicho, Ushigome, at 1 p.m. on the 23rd instant, and the funeral rites will be performed at Zuirin-ji, Yanaka, in the Shitaya quarter.

MR. J. R. HEROD.

We are glad to be able to announce that Mr. J. R. Herod of the United States Legation in Tokyo, has been promoted from Second Secretary to First Secretary of the Legation. The appointment was made by telegraph, and Mr. Herod was immediately inducted into his new post. He is an exceptionally young man for such promotion, but that he thoroughly merits it there can be no second opinion.

At birth a negro child is of a reddish nut-brown colour, which turns to a slaty-gray in the first week of the child's existence, and the black colour is not developed for a period varying from one to

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MR. OKAMOTO ON KOREAN AFFAIRS.

Mr. Okamoto Ryunosuke, who has been in Korea since the outbreak of the Tonghak rebellion, and who is now a Councillor of War and also of Household Affairs, has returned to Japan for the purpose of reporting to the Home Government on the present state of Korean matters. He made the following remarks to a writer on the staff of the *Kokkai* to whom he accorded an interview.

Speaking of the collision between Gio, Minister of Finance, and Boku, Minister of Home Affairs, Mr. Okamoto observed that the intimacy of the Premier and the Finance Minister with the Tai Wŏn-kun, is a fact, as is also the friendship existing between the Queen and Boku, but he does not consider the two parties irreconcilable. They are free from any deep-rooted hatred, but even if that were not so, it would be impossible for each to wreak vengeance upon the other as long as they are subjected to the control of Count Inouye. One word from the Count is sufficient to settle their disputes. Altercations must take place between them, difficulties of that kind being unavoidable when a nation is about to carry out such reforms as Korea is now making, but as long as Count Inouye is in Sŏul they will be summarily and satisfactorily dealt with as soon as they arise.

Mr. Okamoto does not agree with the idea that the Tai Wŏn-kun still hankers after power, as the aged Prince is so much under Count Inouye's sway. He thinks only of his grandson Li Shunyo, the new Minister to Japan, who is to start for his destination as soon as the Korean loan is obtained from this country. The fact that Li is busily preparing for his departure is sufficient to show that his grandfather must have entirely given up all ambitious projects on his behalf.

The provinces are in a very miserable state, expecially where the Tonghaks carried on their depredations and where the Chinese troops were quartered or marched through. The local inhabitants are little better than beggars, and far from bearing any national burdens, are unable even to support themselves. It was not only impossible to collect taxes last year in any except the two provinces adjoining the capital, but relief was absolutely necessary for the destitute in many districts. The foreign loan of 3 million *yen* will be insufficient to meet divers expenses, all of an urgent nature. Mr. Okamoto is of opinion that the reform of Korea can be accomplished in 10 years. The soil of the country is extremely fertile, and it is possible to grow cereals in all the districts. Korea is also rich in gold, silver, copper, iron, and coal, while its stock-breeding has a far brighter prospect than that of Japan. The people are ignorant, it is true, but they are able to understand the ethical precepts of Confucius. Their physique is of a far higher order than that of the Japanese, and they could, with suitable training, be organized into splendid troops. The wonderful thing about the Koreans is their power of memory. Mr. Kimura, an educationalist of Osaka, who has for some time been carrying on investigations into the educational affairs of Korea, has elaborated statistics which show that as a whole the people of that country are far superior to the Japanese as regards power of memory. Who can say that the task of transforming Korea—a fertile land inhabitated by a people of fine physique and good memory—in 10 years into a prosperous and powerful Eastern country, is hopeless.

Mr. Okamoto does not know what business took Mr. Hoshi to Sŏul, but it was widely rumoured that the ex-President of the House of Representatives would be engaged as legal adviser by the Korean Government.

Li Isshoku, the would-be assassin of Boku Yeiko, is still confined in the gaol of the Japanese Consulate, but he will shortly be brought up for trial. Ko Shou, Kim's murderer, is hiding in a certain remote district of Korea, but it is believed that when the day of Li Isshoku's trial comes, Ko Shou will be brought before the tribunal. Mr. Okamoto spoke in conclusion in glowing terms of Count Inouye's indefatigable zeal in the reform of Korea. He rises at 6 every morning and does not retire to rest till midnight. No outsider can form any correct idea of his extraordinary diligence.

JAPANESE RICE IN THE EUROPEAN MARKET.

Mr. Kaneko, Vice-Minister of Agriculture and Commerce, spoke on the above subject at the general meeting of the Japanese Agricultural Society held on the 3rd inst. at Akasaka. Japanese rice was first sent to Europe about 24 years ago. At that time Japan had foreign debts to pay off every year, and the Treasury Department used frequently to send rice to London to be converted into money for use in redeeming the debts. Since then the export of rice has continued incessantly, though the quantity varies. The export has gradually increased, as will be seen by the following table :—

1877.....	about	145,000 *koku*.
1887.....	do	243,104 do
1894.....	do	570,097 do

A serious drawback to the exportation of Japanese rice to Europe is want of uniformity in the quantity and quality sent and the consequent impossibility of giving any fixed quotation in the market. The following table shows the irregularity both of quantity and price :—

EXPORTED TO LONDON.

Year.	Tons.	Price per *koku* at Osaka. Yen.
1889	163,913	5.96
1890	22,723	8.10
1891	118,000	6.80

The rice exported to the Continent of Europe has hitherto been shipped either to London or Hamburg, whence it is sent to other places. Japanese rice has become so well known in European markets that it is regularly quoted. The total amount of rice imported to London and Hamburg from various rice-producing countries is considerable. The amount received in London in 1893 was 434,300 odd tons (of which 17,354 tons were Japanese rice); and in Hamburg in the same year, 403,350 tons, 6,333 tons being from Japan. The largest quantity of rice imported into London comes from India, and next in order come Japan, Siam, and Saigon. More than two-thirds are sent from India, and as the Saigon rice resembles the Indian in quality, it is sometimes used to supply any deficiency in the latter. If the relative superiority of the cereal be considered, Italy ranks first, then Java, and third Japan. Neither Italian nor Java rice is grown in any large quantity, and those varieties are therefore only used by the highest circles. Japanese rice has therefore a good field before it in the European market. As the manner of cooking rice in Europe is different from the Japanese method, it follows that the standard is also different. What the Europeans call rice of the first quality is a lustrous, large, transparent and hard grain.

The districts in Japan from which rice is exported abroad are Yamaguchi, Fukuoka, Kumamoto, Okayama, Kyoto, Saga, Ehime, Miye, and Oita. Those nine provinces supply about one quarter of the whole amount of rice now consumed in Europe. They are capable of furnishing about one-half of the total consumption. Mr. Kaneko concluded by discussing the profit likely to accrue from the exportation of rice from Japan. He estimates that, based on the present market of rice in Japan and Europe, it is possible to realize a net profit of about 20 *yen* per ton on uncleaned rice. The price of one ton in Japan is 51.545 *yen*, and if the items of bags, packing, freight, storage and insurance be added, the total comes up to 70.133 *yen*. The market price of Japanese rice being 90 *yen* per ton in London, a balance of about 20 *yen* remains as profit. Indian rice only fetches from 65 to 70 *yen* per ton in Europe and it would therefore be advisable to export Japanese rice even in years of scarcity and to buy the cheaper Indian rice for home consumption.

CHINESE NEWS.

The Chefoo correspondent of the *North China Daily News* furnishes some interesting particulars about the capture of Weihaiwei :—

The heaviest loss which the Japanese suffered appears to have been due to their own lack of caution; the *Ting-yuen* on one occasion spied a mob of Chinese soldiers flying along the beach towards Weihaiwei town, and a column of Japanese in close order, charging down a ravine which crossed the path of the fugitives. She managed to drop a heavy shell among them, the explosion of which destroyed eight Japanese, and, naturally, turned the Japanese onslaught into a hurried and disorderly retreat. The Japanese soldiers, however, did not always come off second best even from so unequal a duel, as the following incident, witnessed by Sir Edward Fremantle's flag-lieutenant shows. One of the alphabetical gunboats marked a company of soldiers marching along the beach, steamed within about 100 yards of them, and fired a shell from her one big gun at them; the soldiers flung themselves on their faces; the shell hurtled harmlessly over their heads, and then they sprang up and poured a well-aimed volley from their rifles into the gunboat. Five times this was repeated, until the gunboat got sick of it and beat a retreat; whereupon the Japanese rushed to the water's edge, firing a parting volley, and then waved their rifles triumphantly over their heads, with loud shouts for "Dai Nippon! Dai Nippon!" The night attacks of the Japanese torpedo-boats worried the Chinese extremely; as the men had to sleep round their machine-guns; and such constant strain is tiring even to Chinese nerves. The Japanese were much aided on these occasions by certain traitorous Chinese said to have been Foochow men who had been captured in one of the mainland forts and heavily bribed to take their lives in their hands and aid the enemy. They landed on Liukung-tao, secreted themselves, one of them in a coffin in the cemetery, in the sides of which he bored holes; when required, they indicated by lights, according to a carefully made out plan, the position in which the Chinese war-ships were anchored, and so guided the torpedo-boats to their prey. Three of these men were captured, with diagrams and written directions on them; and were promptly decapitated.

On the night on which the *Ting-yuen* and other vessels were torpedoed, the approach of the enemy was signalled in the usual way by the Chinese guard-boats at the booms, by rockets and guns. Soon after, the European officer who was in charge of the *Ting-yuen* spied a torpedo boat about 300 yards off; and saw her turn sharply as she discharged the missile; it struck the ship with a thud, immediately after which a small earthquake shook the massive structure from stem to stern; the explosion was just under the officer above-mentioned, and all his personal belongings were destroyed. Though making water fast, the water-tight doors and pumps kept the ship afloat for some hours; ultimately she had to be beached on a shallow patch of sand, whence for a while her machine-guns could be fought. Finally she was destroyed by a charge of gun-cotton.

The *Lai-yuen*, which had a coal lighter on each side when she was torpedoed, turned turtle at once, carrying the lighters with her; the greater part of her helpless crew went down with her, and were imprisioned like rats in a trap. By great exertions a hole was bored through her double bottom, big enough for a man's arm to be thrust through, and express some of the anguished entreaties of the poor wretches in their iron coffin; but the Japanese, seeing what was going on, kept up so hot a fire that no succour could be extended to them; for about three days an occasional arm was seen, till suffocation, hunger and cold had destroyed them all. The character of the weather during these days may be inferred from the fact that the crew of a disabled Japanese torpedo boat, which had been run ashore on the night of their successful attack, were all frozen to death.

When the bolt of the topedo-boats took place the soldiers, always disheartened, grew keenly suspicious of the sailors, whom they believed were about similarly to escape in one of the war-ships; and a large party of them mutinied. Some of the officers, greatly agitated, consulted a German officer, and at their request he convoked a meeting of all the foreign officers and the Taotai, and at this meeting the idea of capitulation was mooted, and a letter suggesting this was despatched by the Taotai to Admiral Ting. At 2 a.m. that same night the officer in question was roused by the Taotai and requested by him to go

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see him about the situation, now critical, as the mutineers had got hold of a ship and meant to desert in her. He found the Taotai's letter unopened on the Admiral's table, and the Admiral himself asleep. He was roused, and then, in the presence of Commander Tyler and other officers, the situation was laid before the Admiral. With the result of this you are already acquainted.

There has for some days been a constant stream of wounded pouring into Chefoo, and the terrible sufferings which the poor wretches have undergone cannot but excite the keenest disgust with a Government which treats its employés with such callous neglect. It is well for them that European charity happens to be so well organised here that it is able to do much of the work which any Government with any pretence to being civilised would do itself; but one cannot contemplate without contemptuous disgust the shameless manner in which the officials of a proud and supercilious people resort in their extremity to foreign charity, with hardly an effort to help themselves. True, the Taotai and the General have contributed a few hundred dollars, but nothing like as much as Shanghai charity has sent to the aid of the charitable organisations here. The stress of the work has fallen upon the China Inland Mission Hospital; the Taotai's Hospital, built by our present Taotai's predecessor, but quite unfit for its purpose, being totally unprovided with appliances, and under the care of a very incompetent Chinese, has accommodated a few patients, and the Anglican Mission Hospital has been re-opened to take in others. The native wards of the General Hospital have also of late been utilised, having been placed at the Taotai's disposal some weeks ago, but he delayed availing himself of this offer until he had assured himself that he would not have to pay anything. As to the misery undergone by the poor wretches who have for days and weeks toiled unaided along the frozen road from Weihaiwei hither, many dying by the way, many flung into the sea by their comrades—the subject is too harrowing a one to dilate on. As a single instance, I may mention a poor creature who staggered into one of the hospitals on frost bitten feet which had to be at once amputated.

It appears from the above that the suggestion of surrender came from a meeting of the Chinese officers and the foreign employés, and that a German officer was commissioned to convey the suggestion to Admiral Ting. We never imagined that Ting had the direction of affairs completely in his own hands at the end. He surrendered to the insubordination of his own people, not to the military exigencies of the situation.

With regard to the *Lai-yuen* incident, it bears the marks of error on its face. The *Lai-yuen* was inside the harbour when torpedoed. The time was during the darkest hours of a mid-winter night. The Japanese torpedo-boats effected their escape immediately after discharging their missiles. How, then, could the Japanese have kept up so hot fire that no succour could be extended to the imprisoned crew of the sunken vessel? Whence and from what ships could the fire have come? None of the Chinese vessels, lying, as they did, under the shelter of Liukung Island, were within reach of fire from the Japanese squadrons outside. Yet we are asked to believe that the *Lai-yuen*, which sunk near the Liukung wharf, was for three days so heavily cannonaded by the Japanese that no one could venture to go to the assistance of her unfortunate people, who were waving signals of distress from a hole in her bottom! Fancy firing for three days—and nights too—on a torpedoed vessel that had already turned turtle; and fancy the purpose of the cannonade, namely, to prevent the rescue of a score of unfortunates imprisoned in such a vessel! It is one of the strangest stories we have ever seen in print.

The U.S.S. *Yorktown* produced a sensation at Ch'ingchow when she went there recently to carry away the ladies and children of the American Mission at Weihien. Due notice of the gunboat's visit had been given, together with an explanation that her purpose was entirely peaceful. But like the Irishman that said to his friend carrying a stockless gun "Face her the hill, man; loaded or not loaded she's dangerous," the Chinese garrisoning the forts at Ching-tao declined to "remain" with a foreign gunboat in the harbour, and decamped *en masse*.

There is a rumour in Tientsin that Mr. Detring has ceased to belong to the Customs, and that the Viceroy will presently give him a seat on the Board of Commissioners of the North China Railway Company and the Tongshan Collieries.

There is said to be much distress among the Chinese in the districts adjacent to Tientsin. The soldiers, too, appear to be scantily provided with means of resisting the terrible cold. Their clothing, as seen by a correspondent of our Shanghai morning contemporary, consists of a wadded pair of trousers and jacket, with a short sheepskin garment. For bedding, they have one wadded quilt. Their tents are made of ordinary cotton cloth, which is little protection against a cutting north wind. The well and strong who can eat and exercise well manage to live: the weak and infirm soon succumb to such treatment. On one cold morning 11 were carried out who had been frozen to death in the night. No wonder desertion is not unpopular."

Writing of Liu Kun-yi, recently appointed Commander-in-chief of the Chinese forces in Western Manchuria and at Shanhaikwan, the same correspondent says:—"Of the great Liu Kun-yi at Shanhaikwan and leader of the Chinese armies, it is currently reported, says my informant, that it requires 120 pipes of opium per diem to keep up his spirits, and the feeling seems to prevail that he is of little use in that position."

The intelligence from Newchwang published in the Shanghai papers shows that the cold there was intense in the early part of February. Both the Chinese and the Japanese troops were then supposed to be waiting for a change of weather before making a resolute move.

The Newchwang correspondent of the *North China Daily News* says:—

It astonishes us to read in the *Japan Mail*, and other papers, official reports of the battle of Kangwangtsai on the 19th of December, in which reports it is stated that there were four bayonet charges. The Chinese Generals and soldiers engaged in that battle absolutely deny that any such charges took place. And I fancy if the Chinese had made such a stand they would gladly report it, as they seldom have much cause to report successful or unsuccessful stands made against the advancing enemy.

This is decidedly singular. The Japanese official reports were most explicit on the subject of four charges having been made, and it will be remembered that the losses of the assailants were exceptionally heavy. We have never discovered any error of such a character in the Japanese military reports and we must continue to believe the statement in question despite alleged denials by the Chinese.

The humane conduct of the Japanese troops toward the non-combatant population of China is evidently exercising a wide-spread effect. A correspondent of the leading Shanghai journal, writing from Nanking, reports in the following terms to the spread of reports that a Japanese invasion of the Yangtze valley was imminent:—

The people are much less disturbed by such reports than they were at the commencement of the war. They say now to one another:—"The Japanese will not hurt us." So much for the humane treatment which the Japanese have accorded their prisoners and the protection which they have given the inhabitants of the conquered districts. If the war goes on much longer we may expect the common people to become the allies of the Japanese.

Another correspondent of the same journal, writing from Shantung, says:—

Reports have circulated through this region of the humanity of the Japanese, and the high wages they pay for all help from Chinese coolies. A friend of the writer informed him a few days since that the Japs were paying a dollar a day to every man that joined them, whether to work or carry a musket. As the average coolie here gets only a tenth part of that sum, it was plain that he thought the war was a blessing to some lucky fellows.

"A soldier was carried into one of the Nanking hospitals at the close of February after ten days' suffering in the camp. The physician discovered that his trouble was inflammation of the lungs and saw at a glance that the man had but a short time to live, but took him in. On enquiry he learned that the poor fellow had not a particle of bed-clothing. His companions who carried him to the Hospital were in a like pitiable condition. Yet these men, robbed of their pay, half-starved and half-frozen, are supposed to be under obligation to fight for the support of such a government. As a matter of fact, there is a good deal of dissatisfaction among the soldiers and some have been even heard uttering threats against some of their officers, declaring their intention of avenging their wrongs when the revolution—which they seem to think impending—shall have come."

The Chinese soldiers in Pekin have been insulting foreign ladies. As a consequence the various Legations are said to have overborne the opposition of the Tsung-li Yamên, and have ordered up their guards from Tientsin.

There seems to be much panic among the native population of Tientsin, in anticipation of the lawless doings of the retreating Chinese soldiers if fighting takes place at Taku. Everybody that can manage to find a lodging in the foreign settlement is taking refuge there.

Eastern Shansi is in receipt of news by special despatches that Port Arthur has been re-taken, that several other victories have been gained by the Chinese, and that Li Hung-chang is a prisoner in China awaiting his trial for treason.

The Newchwang correspondent of the *North China Daily News*, writing from the field—or the immediate vicinity of the field—of the last campaign in Manchuria, has much that is interesting to tell. In a letter dated February 27th, he says:—

Since writing on the 20th ult., things all round have changed. It now appears that as soon as Wu Ta-chêng arrived at Tienchwangtai, he sent a despatch from the new Commander-in-Chief, viz., Liu Kun-yi, to General Sung, that he was to communicate with Wu Ta-chêng as to what next step they should take. On the 19th ult., they arranged that Wu Ta-chêng would join with the rebel chief, Hau Pien-wei and Generals I and Chung, and that Sung had better keep his subordinates, viz.: Generals Ma San-yuen, Lieu, Chung Têng-ling, and Ghau. As far as I can ascertain, Wu's lot have surrounded Haichêng and very severe fighting has been kept up for eight days, and according to news received from Newchwang there are over 900 Chinese wounded who are now being attended by some medical students belonging to the Mukden and Liaoyang hospitals. The Japanese have been in possession of Tapingshan for over a month, but on the 21st ultimo a part of Sung's army under Ma, numbering 8,000, managed to drive the Japanese away; the latter seeing their opponents were too many in number, retreated to the hills while getting reinforcements from Tashichiao, which is situated north-east of Tapingshan. Ma, thinking it would be all right, started late at night on the 22nd ult., with 200 men to watch as sentries, and while nearing Tapingshan they fell into the hands of the Japanese, and only Ma and 19 men managed to get away, the rest being shot. Saturday, the 23rd ult., Sung made tracks towards Chiliko to order his Generals and men to make an attack, so first thing on Sunday morning, the 24th, they attacked a part of the left wing of General Katsura's army numbering 6,000 strong, and as Tapingshan is only 10 miles east of the foreign community, we could hear quite plainly the reports of heavy artillery. No doubt something has taken place, for 530 wounded have arrived yesterday and to-day. The sights are really cruel to see; some come in sleighs, some in carts, some on doors, and some carried.

The Japanese estimate of the number of Chinese wounded in the battle of Tapingshan, as we stated in our issue of yesterday, was 1,000. Our Shanghai contemporary's correspondent says that 530 were brought to Newchwang (Yingkow) alone, during the two days following the battle. Thus it would seem that the Japanese estimate was pretty correct. On the other hand, the Japanese wounded were 210, but then they had about 700 men frost-bitten. These long engagements in the snow are terrible affairs. It is painful to think what the unfortunate Chinese must have suffered between February 24th and March 9th.

It will be seen that the above correspondent, writing on February 27th, speaks of Wu's troops having "surrounded" Haicheng. But, as we

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now know, Katsura moved out of Haicheng on the 28th February, after breaking up and driving away the Liaoyang army, turned suddenly upon Wu's army in Newchwang and inflicted a most sanguinary defeat on it. It should be noted also that the Japanese attacked by Sung on the 24th of February at Tapingshan were not Katsura's men (the First Army) but Yamaji's (the Second Army).

No less than seven foreign doctors are engaged at the Newchwang Red Cross Hospital. They are Messrs. Daly, Christie, Gordon, Gray, Brander, Penny, and Arnold. They have eight outside assistants, the Rev. Messrs. Inglis, Carson, Keers, Gillespie and Hunter, and Messrs. Wakefield, Oldham, and Bush. The Hospital had hired four large inns at the end of February, to supplement the accommodation already available. The whole story of the splendid work these noble men are doing is so full of interest that we quote in full :—

This morning (Feb. 27th) some carters arrived from Tapingshan, and they informed me that on Sunday (24th Feb.) over 1,000 Japanese were killed; anyhow they were busily engaged burying their dead. In this engagement it is reported Generals Ma, Lien, and Chung have lost over 4,000 men, so without a doubt they meant business. Fighting must be very difficult, for since the 20th there has been a very heavy snow fall. General Sung left this early yesterday morning, and I am now informed that there will be another big battle to-morrow, and if the wounded turn up as they have been doing, eight more large inns will not be sufficient.

As I have remarked before, it is really a wonderful sight to watch the Doctors perform their many difficult operations; so far, they have been very lucky, as only nine have died out of 290; this speaks well for the Red Cross Hospital at Newchwang. It won't do for me to praise our Doctor too much, as he is such a modest man. Yesterday while walking homewards I saw a Japanese prisoner in a cart followed by ten horsemen. He is now placed in the Taotai's *yamên* and I am glad to say he is being well treated. As he has a wound on his forehead the Taotai has just sent his card into the Red Cross Hospital, requesting that one of the English doctors should attend to his wound, so to-morrow morning one of them will go down and do the needful, the prisoner was caught at Tashêshiao. It is really strange how the Japanese can put samshu away this cold weather. The Chinese are learning a fine lesson from their little friends, better known as "the small black devils." Its seems a cruel thing to say, but it is a fact, the only way to get Chinamen to love us, that is if they are capable of so doing, is by the doctor's knife. They really do respect cold steel! Here is a case. I was standing by a kang on which a good-looking soldier was seated when Dr. Daly remarked, "What is the matter with you?" The reply was, "A bad arm." "Let me look." In a moment the doctor said, "You have a bullet there." The man replied, "No." The onlookers said they were sure the foreigner was right. Out came the doctor's knife and before the man could say "Oh!" out came the bullet also, the on-lookers remarking "You see, the foreign doctor is right after all." The soldier smiled and was happy.

It has occurred to me that a few further particulars with regard to the Red Cross Hospital here may interest your readers, and specially those of them who have so kindly contributed towards its support. Dr. Daly wrote to the Rev. Dr. Muirhead about the rush of wounded soldiers who came into hospital after the taking of Kaichow. Most of these have left with their regiments, which have been recalled to defend their native province of Shantung. Severe cases, such as compound fractures, frost bites, etc., remain in hospital, and a few have died. After this rush subsided, patients continued to arrive at the hospital by ones and twos, until Sunday, the 24th of February. On that day continuous and heavy firing was heard within ten miles of the port, in the neighbourhood of Tapingshan, and in the evening four wounded men arrived in hospital, bringing news of a severe engagement and much slaughter. Next morning, only a few wounded arrived, and passports were obtained from the Taotai, and preparation made to send out carts to convey the wounded from the battlefield; when the first of a long string of carts arrived, and all that afternoon they were being brought in continuously wounded and dying. It was most interesting and pitiable to see these poor fellows passing through the Settlement, some in open carts, some on litters, and others in large baskets. These last must been most uncomfortable as they are not large enough for a man to lie down in, and sometimes the legs would be dangling out at one end, and the head protruding at the other. Many of these wounded men had been lying in the snow for a day and a half, with the thermometer below zero at night. Four have succumbed to their injuries. On the whole, however, considering the entire absence of all ambulance arrangements, the bearers managed wonderfully well, and as one saw the line of wounded moving past, it was a comfort to think that there was a place of refuge ready for them where they could receive adequate attention, and that they had acquired sufficient confidence in the foreigner to avail themselves of it.

This hospital has, we are sure, helped to mitigate anti foreign feeling amongst the Chinese, and also anti-Chinese feeling amongst the foreigners, some of whom on seeing the patience under suffering, and the fortitude of its inmates, have acknowledged that the Chinese soldier is not so black as he is painted and is quite as grateful as any other person, when (which is seldom) he has anything to be grateful for. Were they properly drilled, paid, and armed they would undoubtedly prove themselves fine soldiers. As it is, many have come into hospital armed with excellent rifles of which they took great care, and all seemed ready and willing to rejoin the army and fight again for their country when recovered from their wounds. Two tablets have been presented to the hospital, one by General Chang, and the other by some of the soldiers, in token of their appreciation of its good aims. To-day (26th February), there are 500 wounded soldiers in hospital, they have been steadily streaming in all day.

It appears that in addition to opposing the advance of the Japanese in Manchuria, the Chinese have had to contend with a somewhat serious rebellion there. "We learn," says the *North China Daily News*, "with surprise from an Imperial decree, issued on the 21st of February, that the Chinese forces in Manchuria, though unable to bar the approach of the Japanese troops have had to contend with serious rebellion in that part of the Empire. Our attention was so engrossed with the fighting in and around Haichêng that we have taken no notice of the reports which occasionally reached us of troubles that had occurred farther north, and which necessitated the despatch of large bodies of troops to restore order. But we now know, from a memorial presented to the Throne by En Tsê, Acting Tartar-General of Kirin, that a very serious outbreak was threatened by formidable bands of mounted insurgents, and so alarming was the situation that it was even contemplated at one time in order to escape a threatened and overwhelming disaster, to withdraw all the Chinese troops within Shanhaikuan, and thus leave Manchuria to the tender mercy of the insurgents and the Japanese invader. The rebellion was spread over a large area of country extending from Kalgan, lying at the foot of the Great Wall, to the Amur region, and the rebels themselves are squatters from Chihli, Shantung, and Shansi, who show uncompromising hostility against the Mongols and Manchus, whom they slay without mercy whenever they get the chance. By the Government they are termed *Kufei* and *Chiaofei*, or Secret Society Rebels, but they style themselves *Te-tien Shing-tao*, or the Instruments of Heaven. The Government take especial pains to suppress all knowledge of the risings of such secret societies, for fear of rebellion spreading to adjoining provinces. Fortunately for the Government, although they had to send out a large army to oppose the Japanese, they were yet able to raise the necessary forces to attack the rebels. Many engagements took place with varying result, but just at the time that the Japanese captured Haichêng affairs were in a very critical state, for the Japanese had driven General Sung's troops westward, so that his rear and flank were threatened by the insurgents, and it would have gone hard with him had not the rebel chiefs quarrelled amongst themselves so desperately, that one rebel chief with a following of 8,000 men went bodily over to the Chinese, joining the army of the Tartar-General, Ch'ang Shun, who was in the field holding the road to Liaoyang. This was the rebel Chief Han Pien-wei, who has been referred to by our Newchwang correspondents as assisting in the attack on the Japanese at Haicheng and the neighbourhood. Reinforcements being sent up from Shanhaikuan, the rebels were attacked and driven northwards, where they were encountered by General En Tsê and his Tartars and completely overcome in a battle which was fought near Petunê, in Kirin. Many rebel chiefs were either captured or killed in these engagements, and the insurgents were so effectually defeated and dispersed that they could present no further organised opposition, and a great danger was thus overcome; but had it not been for internal dissensions the outbreak would have proved too formidable for the Chinese Government to cope with at the very time when strenuous efforts on their part were required to oppose the Japanese."

The foreign community of Hangkow and their Chinese Campradores have subscribed $560 to the Chinese Red Cross Fund.

It appears that, according to the views of certain Censors, decapitation is not sufficient punishment for generals that have allowed themselves to be beaten. Yeh, who was defeated at Yashan and subsequently made the "masterly retreat" so much lauded by a few foreign critics, and Taotai Kung of Port Arthur, were recommended by the Board of Punishments for decapitation next autumn, but the Censors have memorialized the Throne, alleging that such a sentence is lenient. Accordingly, the Board of Punishments has been ordered to examine the matter once more. If the Viceroy Li returns to China having signed a peace of the only kind that Japan will accept, how busy will be the Censors' pens.

Folks have exchanged knowing glances over the Viceroy Li's refusal to accept quarters on shore at Shimonoseki, and his determination to remain on board the *Kungyi*. But the *Kungyi* (or *Hacan*) is a favourite vessel with the Viceroy and has twice or thrice served as his yacht when he went on tours to inspect the Peiyang defences. No wonder that he prefers her cabins to a strange inn.

The Viceroy Li's unpopularity in Tientsin seems not to have diminished. We read that the people mutter much against him. He has sent his family to Paoting-fu, an act that will, of course, be severely criticised.

Tungchow is a town on the Peiho, about 16 miles from Pekin. Travellers to or from Pekin by river leave or enter their boats at Tungchow. The Tientsin correspondent of the *N.-C. Daily News* says :—

At T'ungchow, where the American Board has a mission station, the officials, supported by the gentry and better class of society, have guaranteed protection to the missionaries, and have requested that on the approach of the Japanese they go out to meet them, and prevail upon them not to molest the city, offering to pay a ransom for the city if it be demanded. The city in thus making common cause, is pledged as against any local ruffianism, and the danger from this source is reduced to the minimum. It also reduces the danger from fleeing and disorganized soldiers very much, and gives some hope that the few days of uncertainty just before the arrival of the Japanese, may after all be days of comparative security to the foreigners.

The War Correspondent of the *Shanghai Mercury* maintains that several of the foreign officers at Weihaiwei, so far from contributing to the stout resistance offered by the Peiyang Squadron and Liukung Island, behaved with considerable pusillanimity, or want of discipline, and were among the instruments that made for surrender. What may be the truth of this matter, we can not judge. Certainly the controversy that the subject has caused contains little of a conclusive character.

CABINET CHANGES.

The following Cabinet changes are announced :—H.E. Count Kuroda resigns the portfolio of Communications, and is succeeded by Mr. Watanabe, hitherto Minister of State for Finance, the portfolio of Finance being given to Count Matsukata. Count Kuroda is gazetted President of the Privy Council.

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SYNTAX AND ANONYMITY.

OUR correspondents "Britisher," and "A.B.C. of Politics," must be tickled by the criticisms that their letters to this journal have evoked. Their syntax, of all things in the world, has been chosen as an object of attack. And such an attack! "A.B.C." wrote:—"If the above be the genuine and honest sentiment of that evening paper, I cannot but admonish the editor to leave this country." What is the matter with that sentence, we wonder. It is absolutely correct as to grammar, syntax, and construction. Yet the *Japan Gazette* holds it up to public scorn. "Britisher" also is excoriated with the same harrow of fine scholarship. Thus:—

> But "A.B.C.'s" choicest expression is: "If the above be the genuine and honest sentiment of that evening paper, I cannot but admonish the Editor to leave this country." "Prisoner at the bar" said the judge sternly, "God has given you health and strength and yet you steal chickens." "A.B.C.'s" phrase is as delightful in its way as that wherein "Britisher," having praised another paper for condemning us, states that the condemnation is a menace to the country. He did not mean to say that, he is probably so illiterate as not to know that he has meant one thing and said another, yet forsooth people who cannot be trusted to say what they mean when they endeavour to do so, talk about opinions! Had "Britisher" been a schoolboy in the third standard he would have been deservedly birched for perpetrating the hanging phrase "and which."

The phrase of "Britisher's" that evokes condemnation and is compared with the celebrated dictum of the country NUPKINS, the phrase that would have procured "Britisher" a deserved birching had he been a schoolboy in the third standard, is this:—

> The truth is that the sentiment of British residents is entirely opposed to the inflammatory writing which you have so often condemned, and which constitutes a most serious menace to peaceful relations with the people of this country.

What is the matter with that sentence, we wonder. It is absolutely correct as to grammar, syntax, and construction. By no possibility could it be twisted to signify that the *Mail's* condemnation of the *Japan Gazette's* inflammatory writing is "a menace to the country." It means, and can only mean, according to all the rules of syntax, that the inflammatory writing of the evening journals of Yokohama constitutes a most serious menace to peaceful relations with the people of this country. The funniest part of the affair is the *Japan Gazette's* method of quoting and applying the well known phrase from the rural magistrate's judgment. The magistrate said: "God has given you health, strength, and ability, instead of which you went and stole geese on the common." That "instead of which" is immortal. But the *Japan Gazette's* rendering of the phrase is:—"God has given you health and strength and yet you steal chickens." The whole charm of the blunder is lost. In fact, there remains no blunder at all, but merely a clumsy antithesis of ideas. The *Gazette* can only be compared to the host that caused his parlour-maid to drop a sirloin of beef in order that he might get the benefit of SMITH'S witticism about the "*la guæ.*" It is an amusing incident, and instructive also, for it explains a portion of the *Japan Gazette's* extraordinary propensity to misinterpret the plainest English. There is evidently a moral hiatus. Want of capacity, not want of will, is responsible for some, at any rate, of that journal's marked aversion for truth.

As to the question of anonymous letters, published in newspaper columns, there is, we think, much to be said. In any place where journalistic utterances are conducted according to the ordinary rules of courtesy and fair play, the considerations dictating anonymity lose much of their force. Even under such circumstances, however, there always remains the argument that impersonality is the first desideratum of unbiassed controversy. To discuss a question solely on its merits, the personality of the disputants should remain, if possible, unrevealed. Many men, too, with opinions well worth ventilating, might be deterred from expressing them did the act involve thrusting their names into public notice. From these points of view the admission of anonymous correspondence to newspaper columns has received the sanction of the best usage in all countries. But in a place like Yokohama there are additional reasons. There is above all the reason that any man venturing to write to this journal over his own name in the sense of the letters addressed to us by "Unrepresented," and "Britisher," is inevitably destined to become the butt of rude slander and gross misrepresentation such as no one is called upon to endure. We need not elaborate this point. Every reader of the local foreign press is familiar with the journalistic abuses that have effectually killed temperate and polite controversy in this Settlement. Yokohama's real mood does not begin to be reflected by such abuses. They represent it no more than the litter at a stable door represents the horses within. They must be reckoned with, however, and certainly one of their plain consequences is to deter any respectable man from running the gauntlet of such brutality.

Apart from the general problem we have an amusing rider: it is that the evening journals cry out loudly and angrily against the cowardice of anonymous correspondents. "Cowardly calumniators who attack behind the shelter of anonymity"; "nincompoops who skulk behind anonymity"; "poor dependent creatures, sheltering themselves behind anonymity, who are not possessed of the courage to sign their names to their effusions"—such are the epithets applied to our correspondents by the evening journals. Yet it has been, and is, the unvarying practice of those very journals to print anonymous letter after anonymous letter abusing and calumniating the *Japan Mail* [illegible]. While t[illegible] *Mail* have been conspicuous by the comparative absence of such communications, except where some question of genuine public interest was concerned, the correspondence columns of the evening journals have been conspicuous by the abundance of anonymous slanders. One journal, indeed, has so little regard for honesty or manliness, that it formerly printed letter after letter from the same man—an employé of the Japanese Government—all under different *noms-de-plume*, all directed against the *Japan Mail*, and all inspired by personal hostility to the Manager of this journal. These are the journals that find anonymity despicable so soon as they themselves suffer from it! We know of only one parallel to such self-stultification in recent days. It was when the *Japan Gazette*, about a month ago, attacking apanese journalists, wrote:—

> An honest foreign journalist is beyond the conception of the average Japanese newspaper writer; every one of them, they appear to think, has his price. But does it not occur to these rabid writers that these repeated charges of bribery against those who differ from them are apt to make foreigners suspicious as to the proclivities of those who make the allegations?

We are sorry to ask our readers to decipher the meaning of this terrible and bewildering paragraph, but a series of patient perusals will lay bare its pith. And the effort is worth making, for if there be anything thoroughly characteristic of the Yokohama evening journals it is their invariable habit of attributing mercenary motives to every writer friendly to Japan. That villainous propensity has long become proverbial. It is almost a moral certainty that when those journals pen a review of a pro-Japanese book, or a reply to a pro-Japanese article, they will cap their condemnation by charging the writer with having sold himself. Yet so soon as a similar charge is made by Japanese critics the *Japan Gazette* declares that such accusations convict those preferring them of venality! How often have we lamented the absence from Yokohama of the fay with the gift of eyes!

INTERNATIONAL RIGHT.

WE have received another letter from our Japanese correspondent "A.B.C. of Politics," but the discussion has assumed a form that precludes us from inserting this second communication. Like many of his countrymen, our correspondent believes that the present war was undertaken and is waged in the interests of humanity and civilization, its prime object being to push China out of the rut of conservatism into the path of progress. Such faith is historical. It is the common property of every nation resorting to the *ultima ratio*. When Great Britain fights, her subjects, the world over, [illegible] that she battles in

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her victory will mark another step in the advance of civilization. But considerations of that class have little weight with statesmen. A DON QUIXOTE never presided at the council table of any people. The interests of the country he serves are the first and last considerations that sway a statesman. Most silly outcries have been raised here and there because the sensible and practical *Jiji Shimpo* openly declares that Japan is fighting for her own cause in this war; outcries on the part of sentimental Japanese editors, and stranger still, on the part of local foreign journalists, who are sardonically charmed to see Japan "unmasked," as they say, and who take pleasure in her so-called "confession" that she is fighting primarily for Japan and incidentally for civilization. But of course she is fighting primarily for Japan. Had there been question—abstract question—simply of turning the light of civilization into the dark places of China, not a bullet would have been fired or a bayonet fixed. The problem of progress came upon the *tapis* at the outset as a mere accident of the situation. If Japan had believed that Korea was strong enough, either single-handed or with China's support, to defy foreign aggression, there would have been no immediate cause to meddle with the Korean question. But Japan did not believe anything of the kind. She saw that the Korean nation, under its miserably corrupt system of government, was rapidly sinking into complete impotence; she saw that China was powerless to protect her so-called tributary; she saw that from the shadow of Chinese conservatism Korea could never emerge into the light of progress, and she saw that unless the little Kingdom became really independent and progressive, it could never develop spirit or resources to withstand a foreign aggressor. Yet, seeing all these things, would Japan have stretched out a hand to alter them had her shores been five thousand miles, instead of fifty, from the peninsula? Of course she would not. Her interference was based solely on propinquity. From time immemorial it has been universally recognised that every State has a right to concern itself about the circumstances of its immediate neighbours. There is no occasion to elaborate that doctrine by examples. It lies at the root of all international dealings. Any Power neglecting the dangerous contingencies involved in the growing impotence and corruption of a country on its borders, forfeits its title to security and integrity. If England has any right to concern herself about the affairs of Afghanistan or Egypt; if Russia has any right to concern herself about the affairs of the States in the Balkan Peninsula, then assuredly Japan has a right to concern herself about Korean affairs. It was in the (x) she submitted to China, last June, a proposal of joint interference in the peninsula. The final issue at stake was whether Korea should adopt Western civilization, and whether China, herself so hostile to that civilization, should aid in imposing it upon her tributary. But such an issue would never have been carried into the field of practical politics had not the security of Japan's borders been intimately connected with it. Hence we arrive ultimately at the hard fact that Japan is fighting for her own material interests, and that her championship of Occidental civilization is a fortunate incident of the situation, but not its immediate origin. It is curious to observe how persistently foreign critics in the East refuse to allow in her case the exercise of a right that they claim with profound assurance for their own countries. Still more curious is it to observe that, while denying Japan's title to interfere in Korean affairs in the interests of her own safety, they affirm the title of Western Powers to exercise armed interference between Japan and China in the interests of expediency. "One law for me, another for thee," is the practical maxim of these very impartial critics. We do not clearly discern whether "A.B.C. of Politics" intends to query the possession of the above title by Western Powers, but if he does, history is against him. We recommend for his perusal the story of the Grecian revolt and of the treaty between England, France, and Russia in 1826. That Western interference need be apprehended by Japan, we do not believe, but that it is a conceivable contingency, and that it could be justified by reference to the tenets of international law and to the history of European States, we can not doubt for an instant. For the rest, it has pleased Japan's critics to accuse her of attempting to pose as a saint, entering the combat with the gospel of Occidental civilization under one arm and the ritual of enlightened progress under the other. Finding it easy to ridicule her in that attitude and garb, they thus depict her, quite careless of the fact that she has never advanced any such pretensions on her own account. No Japanese need trouble himself about these critics. They are determined that Japan shall always be in the wrong, and to convince them a thousand times against their will can not alter their opinion.

THE ANGLO-JAPANESE TREATY AND THE DIET.

ON Tuesday the Government made answer to the Questions presented in both Houses of the Diet on the 2nd instant relating to the Anglo-Japanese Treaty. The answer was couched in identical terms for each House. The Government still formed the subject of diplomatic negotiation with other Powers. Probably the members that presented the Questions were prepared for that result. They must have known that an interchange of criticism and explanation, such as they seemed to propose, would be in the highest degree inexpedient pending the conclusion of Treaty Revision with all the remaining Powers. We infer, therefore, that their purpose in formulating the Questions was threefold: first, to point out features that seemed to them really worthy of notice by the country's negotiators; secondly, to prepare materials for a crusade hereafter against the Government; and thirdly, to rob the Cabinet of the public eulogies that properly belong to it for successfully negotiating Japan into an international position such as her warmest friends and admirers could not have anticipated for her half a dozen years ago. So far as the questions themselves were concerned, there could not have been any difficulty in answering them effectually. No document ever compiled has been capable of defying criticism, and when we remember what a conflict of interests, what a multitude of difficulties, and how complete an absence of precedent confronted the compilers of the Anglo-Japanese Revised Treaty, it is not to be conceived that a hundred lynx-eyed politicians in the two Houses of the Diet could fail to find some holes in it, especially when their keen desire was to make such a discovery. It must be confessed that the parlimentary Opposition in the Japanese Diet have most thoroughly developed the faculty of opposition. They have educated themselves to a mood of irreconcilable discontent in every conjuncture. Nothing done by the Government can possibly be right in their eyes. But nature has her own unerring method of introducing compensatory balances into her mechanism. Extravagance before it grows dangerous, becomes ridiculous. Only laughter could be excited by the spectacle of Mr. OTAKE KANICHI, standing up in the Lower House, and solemnly declaring that the present Cabinet is dishonouring Japan and impairing her prestige by entering into such covenants with Foreign States. Patriotism is a fine quality, but patriotism run riot can not serve the interests of any country. Japan has obtained from the British Government the fullest measure that she was in any way entitled to expect. If among her politicians there are men so devoid of moral perception as to be incapable of appreciating the magnanimity of a foreign State, and so deficient in the sense of proportion that they can strike no balance between their own desires and the rights of others, it is at their hands that the country's prestige and reputation will really suffer.

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THE UNITED STATES SENATE'S AMENDMENT OF THE REVISED TREATY WITH JAPAN.

A GREAT deal of ingenuity is expended by journalists in this Settlement to demonstrate that Japan does not deserve to have any foreign friends, and to prove that, as a matter of fact, she has not any. Some of the attempts made with that object are specious enough. But some are singularly transparent and fallacious. To the latter category belongs a recent effort to show that the United States Senators were animated by profound distrust of Japan when they amended the Revised Treaty sent down to them by the PRESIDENT.

The Treaty, as transmitted to the Senate, contained a clause guaranteeing to the document a life of at least eleven years. On the expiration of eleven years, either of the High Contracting Parties would be entitled to put an end to the Treaty by giving to the other twelve months' notice of such desire. That clause the Senate altered so as to read that, at any time after the date of the Treaty's going into operation, it might be terminated by either party on giving a year's notice to the other. Thus amended, the minimum life guaranteed to the Treaty became one year instead of eleven.

Now it has been journalistically contended that the above amendment was suggested by the Port Arthur affair; that the Senate's confidence in Japan having been seriously shaken by that affair, power was reserved to terminate the Treaty at a year's notice;] that the new instrument thus became purely tentative; and that if Japan accepted it in its amended form, it would remain on record as a standing declaration of the United States' distrust.

The deliberations of the Senate having been held with closed doors, there was room for misrepresentation outside. Yet the most superficial reflection should have shown the obvious extravagance of the above view. What could the United States gain by reserving power to terminate the Treaty on a year's notice? What possible security would thus be obtained for American citizens in Japan? Were there any other treaty to substitute, the assertion would be intelligible. Were there any alternative arrangement, restoring Consular Jurisdiction in the event of the practical failure of the treaty abolishing it, the action of the Senate might fairly be construed as a mark of distrust. But there is no such alternative treaty; no such arrangement. In the event of the Revised Treaty's being terminated by a year's notice, no treaty at all would exist between the two countries: American citizens then residing in Japan would come unconditionally under Japanese laws and Japanese jurisdiction, and would cease to be entitled to the most favoured nation treatment [illegible] Treaty. So far, then, from the Senate's amendment being a precautionary measure prompted by want of confidence in Japan, it is, in truth, a measure displaying greater confidence than Japan herself asked for. Nor must we forget that there is reserved to Japan the same power as to the United States. She too is entitled to terminate the Treaty by giving a year's notice.

As for the Senate's motive in making such an amendment, it is now quite clear. The regular procedure of the United States in concluding treaties with Foreign Powers is to fix the inferior limit of the Treaty's operation at one year. That policy is dictated by the consideration that the tariff arrangements of the United States being subject to frequent change, it would be plainly inexpedient to conclude conventions extending over a long term of years. It is true that no tariff is attached to the Revised Treaty with Japan, but the principle involved is the same. If America conventionally bound herself *vis-à-vis* Japan to abide for a term of eleven years, at least, by the Customs rates applicable to the most-favoured nation, it would cease to be possible for her to apply her usual limit in the case of treaties concluded with European States. That and that only was the consideration influencing the Senators. In point of fact their amendment placed Japan on precisely the same footing as a Western Power. If there is to be deduced from it any meaning of the nature referred to above, it is that the Senate reposed more confidence in Japan than Japan herself had expected. But there was no question whatever of either confidence or distrust. Uniformity of procedure was the only object of the Senate.

*CHINA.**

(CONTRIBUTED.)

IN the present war between the two Eastern Powers, China has been defeated in every battle. Her frontier line has been pushed back, her cities have been captured; and her armies annihilated. The great forts of Port Arthur and Weihaiwei, that guarded the entrance to the gulf of Pechili, have fallen, and with them China has lost defences on which she had exhausted the contents of her treasury for more than twenty years. They failed her at the critical moment. The Peiyang Squadron, too, formed at great cost, fared no better when put to the test. It remained concealed in harbour, and if any of its warships attempted to fight they were burnt or sunk: finally the remnant of the once famous squadron surrendered to the enemy. By the fall of Port Arthur and Weihaiwei, the gateway to the capital of China has been thrown open, and no power in China can stay the Japanese entry into Pekin. China would, therefore, appear to be anxious for peace. In spite of the rejection of her late peace mission, she has appointed a Plenipotentiary for the conclusion of peace, and it is universally believed that if Japan is really willing to listen to peace proposals, China will eagerly come to terms by the payment of a war indemnity and cession of territory, so as to restore friendship between the two belligerent states. But that is the view of persons ignorant of the true condition of China. If Japan acts on that view, her future will be endangered, and by a father protraction of the war, she will undergo great sufferings.

We shall briefly state the reasons for suspecting China's sincerity with regard to her peace negotiations.

China does not admit that she is vanquished. Her past defeats she attributes to the numerical superiority of the Japanese in every battle, the ignorance of her own troops, who, being kept always in their native provinces, knew nothing of the geography of the seat of war, and the cowardice of her officers. Were these three causes removed, she is confident that she would be victorious. By levying the forces of all the Chinese provinces and the trained braves of Hunan and Anhui, she would have an army many times as great as the Japanese, and thus the Middle Kingdom, she thinks, would be able to conquer by force of numbers. It does not strike her that the strength of an army lies in its discipline and not in its size. Moreover, she further thinks that, though the armies of the Middle Kingdom were defeated because they had to fight in Korea and Liaotung, of which they had no geographical knowledge, the case would be different when they came to battle in Chihli and Shantung, with the topography of which they are well acquainted. They would there have every advantage over the Japanese, whose difficulties would augment as they approached Pekin. Here, too, China is unaware that the Japanese have a decided superiority over her *foe* in their knowledge of those very provinces.

China, further pretends that, as she has given her armies in charge of common officers and not of a generalissimo, they have turned cowards and fled. If a high officer of great reputation were put in command, she thinks that the inferior officers would fear his power too much to fly from the enemy.

She does not perceive that what she calls a high officer is merely a man of exalted rank unversed in military affairs. For these reasons it is clear that in spite of her successive defeats, China fails to attribute them to her want of military organisation, the corruption of her armies, and the mismanagement of her national administration when in a state of war, but

* This essay shows so much knowledge of Chinese and represents so accurately the views of a section of the Japanese nation that we give it do not endorse

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officers. She is firmly convinced that a slight reorganisation would immediately turn her defeats into victories.

The Chinese Government not only believes that it can easily turn the tide of fortune, and that the extent of the country and the density of the population make the empire invincible, but also avers that, however brave and irresistible the Japanese army may be, a small insular empire like Japan cannot long bear the steady depletion of its treasury, and that its expeditionary forces must in the long run yield from sheer exhaustion to the armies of China.

It does not occur to China that the exhaustion of her own treasury has made it impossible for her to stem the tide of Japanese invasion.

The Chinese Court, therefore, in spite of past defeats, has great confidence in gaining the ultimate victory over Japan.

The Chinese Government has no definite Policy. Though the Central Government of China has theoretically absolute authority over the whole country, its real power is very limited. The administrative affairs of the Central Government itself are not presided over by one or two responsible Prime Ministers. The Board of Military Affairs, for instance, is under the control of Princes, and the Ministers and Vice-Ministers of the various Departments, who take part in the deliberations of the Board. The Cabinet, nominally a Board for the general direction of national affairs, has no real power. The Tsung-li Yamên is no more than an office where the Ministers and Vice-Ministers of the various Department meet and deliberate. In other words, there is no Minister in the Government of Pekin for the responsible direction of important affairs of state in time of war. Affairs of the greatest moment are shirked by the numerous Ministers who are supposed to manage them, and are frequently left undealt with. The Ministers of the Central Government are, farther, inferior in knowledge and intelligence to provincial viceroys and governors, who possess great influence over them. The Government of Pekin has, therefore, no definite policy with regard to the war. Its only object is to tide over the present emergencies by temporary shifts. So engrossed is it in bridging over difficulties for the moment, that it pays little heed to enduring designs for the future. It is not, therefore, to be expected that such a Government will be so impressed by the danger threatening the State as to advocate peace at any price.

Among the provincial Viceroys and Governors of China there are two factions, the Anhui and the Hunan. These are in a state of constant friction. The Anhui faction is shrewd, and prides itself upon its knowledge of foreign affairs, while the Hunan is proud, self-reliant and shows a disposition to take upon itself difficult duties. The latter not only became at one time very popular in the interior, but many of its leaders filled high provincial offices. On the death of the chief of the party, however, the other, the Anhui, began to rise in power, much to the indignation of the rival faction. On the outbreak of the present war, LI HUNG-CHANG, the chief of the Anhui faction, took charge of the conduct of the military operations. But the defeats of the Chinese Armies, the fall of the fortifications, and LI HUNG-CHANG'S inability to oppose the Japanese successfully, have led to the decline of his faction, and of this the Hunan party is not likely to fail to make the utmost. The Hunan faction is therefore sure to advocate the continuance of the war, with the object of strengthening their position by the access of popular sympathy that such an attitude will bring them.

Again, in the government of Pekin there is a Board of Censors whose duties in time of peace are to impeach high officials and expose maladministration. In time of war, however, they give utterance to irresponsible views, with the object of compassing private objects, without the least regard to national interests. They will, in the present case, raise their voices for war to the bitter end, knowing well as they do that the cry is popular with the nation. These officials do not, it is true, take part in the affairs of the Government; but they have great influence over the people and will stimulate to decision vacillating Ministers of State.

From the foregoing remarks it is plain that there is no unity of action between the Ministers and Viceroys of China; that, their several duties not being clearly defined, there is no one responsible for the affairs of State, and that in their anxiety to gain popular esteem, they will advocate war to the bitter end.

There is no sincerity in Chinese diplomacy. China has from ancient times been in communication with nations in Mongolia, Thibet, and Central Asia, which she has always regarded as barbarians, and has had little or no relations on terms of equality. In treating with inferior nations, her motto has been deception and expediency. Her compacts have no sanctity, and it has often happened that before the ink on a treaty of peace was dry, she renewed war by pouring armies into the territory of her unsuspecting foe. So great was her perfidy that "southern want of faith" became a bye-word among northern peoples. She still retains her arrogance notwithstanding the treaties of amity she has concluded with European Powers; and though her relations with them are nominally those of equality, she still regards them in reality as barbarians. Her policy towards them does not in the least differ from that pursued by her toward the northern barbarians of old. That is doubtless due to the fact that the Ministers of the Chinese Court study only the history and usages of their own country and are absolutely ignorant of European history. They are consequently content to follow their ancestors' lead in everything. Chinese diplomacy has only two methods, the one is to keep friendly with the distant and attack those at hand; the other, to invade a country weaker than herself, and by temporary peace to avert danger of invasion from countries stronger than her. She has not the sense to distinguish between possible friends and probable foes. She will form an alliance if it suits her convenience, but does not hesitate to break her troth should its observance becomes irksome. Such is her foreign policy, and to make matters worse, her ministers accredited to foreign courts are seldom officials of the highest rank, but are mostly third or fourth-rate men, who are not invested with plenary powers and whose counsels are too often rejected by the stubborn Central Government.

Putting these facts together, namely, that China does not yet admit her utter defeat; that there are no responsible Ministers in the Government; that popular sympathy is with the continuance of the war; and that Chinese diplomacy is based on deceit, we cannot but come to the conclusion that China's overtures of peace are mere artifices to gain time for making further war preparations. If Japan, then, putting her faith in the peace commission, opens negotiations for peace, the Chinese plenipotentiaries, by their vacillation and hesitancy, will be unable to conclude peace; and any treaty that they may possibly sign, is sure to be repudiated by the Government of Pekin. The only result will be the protraction of the war with all its lamentable consequences. We must not, therefore, be deceived into the belief that the mere fact of China's appointment of a peace commission gives hope for an early conclusion of peace.

If the Chinese Court, then, is still averse to peace, and the counsels of the few high officials who acknowledge the utter collapse of the Chinese military organisation are certain to be overriden by the war spirit of the majority, it may be asked is there any possibility of concluding peace. We do not hesitate to answer that peace can only be concluded when the capital of China has fallen and her EMPEROR has taken flight.

What with the obstinacy of the Chinese Court's adherence to the hope of salvation through armies led by high officers, and owing to the exhaustion of Japan's war fund; what with the war spirit now prevailing in China, fanned as it is by party jealousies, there is little chance of the Government's listening to the counsels of the advocates of peace, especially as such disinterested men are scarce, owing to fear of their heads coming off if they gave advice distasteful to the powers that be. Until Japan [illegible] mies pour into Pekin, China

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does, it will not be with sincerity. When however, Pekin has fallen; when the Imperial palace and ancestral shrines are in the enemy's hands; when the EMPEROR himself has taken flight; when the Government's orders are everywhere disregarded; when local governors are powerless and inactive; when, in short, the whole country is threatened with overwhelming ruin, then, and then only, will the Ministers of State think it high time to treat for peace in earnest. Then will the censors, perceiving the irresistibility of the hostile forces and the impending danger to the Imperial house, curb their opposition to negotiations of peace and memorialise the Throne on the absolute necessity of preserving the State from extinction. If the government of Pekin is thus endangered, the provincial viceroys and governors, fearing for their power and position, will also memorialise on the unavoidability of peace overtures, for they have neither the power nor the courage to lead their forces against the enemy for the defence of their Imperial master. Until matters come to the above pass, the Chinese Court will not have resolution to treat sincerely for peace.

There exists in some quarters a suspicion, which, however, is perfectly unwarranted, that the Chinese Court will remove from Pekin before the attack of the Japanese army. The present Chinese EMPEROR, it must be remembered, is by descent a foreigner in a strange land. The TSING dynasty still holds sway, not because it has found its way into the hearts of the people, or because it can keep the nation in subjection by military force, but because, relying on the homage still paid to the achievements of its founders, the dynasty has gained a firm hold over the ignorant people by continual occupation of the time honoured capital of the country. A sudden desertion of the capital would have a baneful effect on the people and might even shake the present national system to its foundations. And since, moreover, proposals to remove the capital or to nominate a new heir to the throne are offences punishable with death, no one would, at the risk of his life, counsel the removal of the Imperial seat. Until, therefore, Japan's armies are at the gates of Pekin, the Emperor of CHINA will not, we may be sure, forsake the capital in defiance of the traditions of his family.

If, on the Japanese armies' pressing on Pekin, the Emperor of CHINA finds it absolutely necessary to take flight, he can seek refuge only in Manchuria or Southern China. It may be predicted, however, that HIS MAJESTY will turn not to Manchuria, but to China Proper, for, unlike what was the case in the early days of the dynasty, the Chinese Court puts little reliance on the people of its old home, and the high officials of the Government being mostly Chinese, they will prevail upon their lord to seek refuge in China itself. Though the Manchu Ministers may oppose the proposal, they will be overruled. In fixing upon the EMPEROR'S new abode, the facilities of governing the nation must be taken into consideration. Next to Pekin, the most desirable seat of Government would be Nanking; but as it is too far south, the EMPEROR will not seek that city for fear of misadventures quite possible during the long journey. The EMPEROR will probably, when Pekin is in danger, escape to Paoting, which is only two and a half days' journey from Pekin, on the boundary of Chihli Province, and which has moreover the advantage of having roads from it in all directions. If Paoting is also threatened, the EMPEROR will flee either southward to Kaifung, in Honan, or westward to Taiyuan, in Shansi. As the road, however, from Paoting to Kaifung is level and offers little obstacle to the advance of the Japanese forces, he will doubtless take the road to Taiyuan, which is distant only four or five days' journey *via* Chingting and Ching-hsing-kow, as the portion of that road between Ching-hsing and Pingting being hilly and in a wretched condition, the Chinese Court may consider it well suited for impeding the pursuit of the Japanese. The Chinese EMPEROR will be all the more eager to escape to Taiyuan, as that city is within easy reach, *viâ* Tatung, of Manchuria. It is possible that the EMPEROR may, when Pekin is in danger, first flee to Siuen-hwa, and thence to Tatung, where he may either remain or remove once more to Taiyuan. Only there is the danger that if Pekin falls while he is at Siuen-hwa, he may be entirely cut off from communication with central and south China. His most prudent plan will, therefore, be to flee to Paoting and Ching-ting, and thence to Taiyuan.

Fears have been expressed that, on the fall of Pekin, the provincial viceroys and governors will become independent rulers and the whole country will be dismembered. Nothing could be more unfounded than such anticipations. They betray ignorance of China's condition. Weak as is the central Government, the provincial viceroys and governors are equally powerless to raise the standard of revolt, because they are not the only officials who rule the provinces. The government of a province is also in the hands of the head-officers of finance, judiciary, and education, and the commander-in-chief and general. Only the Viceroy has absolute control over military officers, but the same control over civil officials is held by the Governor. The provincial finances are managed by the head-officer of finance, judicial matters by the head-officer of the judiciary, and the head-officer of education alone superintends educational affairs. The Blue Standard Army owes allegiance to the Commander-in-Chief alone, while the Eight Banner Army obeys no one but the General. All these high officers possess the right of making a direct address to the Throne, and need not acknowledge any superior but the EMPEROR himself. The Government of a province is in the hands of many officers, and no one man enjoys supreme authority. Viceroys and Governors are, therefore, unable to conspire against the Central Government. Though some of the Viceroys and Governors remain long in one office, the financial and judicial head-officers and officers of local departments and prefectures are constantly changing; and, moreover, it is the usual rule in China not to appoint as civil officers any natives of the province where the appointment is to be made. It is, therefore, next to impossible that there should be sympathy or intimacy between the officers and the people, who are ignorant of each other's language and customs. The local officers discharge their duties in virtue of the authority of the central government and are transferred at the end of three or four years. The people look upon them as no more than mere sojourners feeding on the fat of the land; there is equally little sympathy between the Viceroys and Governors on the one hand and other local officers, on the other, who only bow to the authority vested in the former by the Central Government; and between the former and the people, there is not the least community of feeling or interest. Great, then, as are the nominal powers conferred on Viceroys and Governors, they have not the means of setting up an independent government of their own. Such an instance has never once occurred since the establishment of the present system of local government. For just as there is not one among them in the present national emergency to save the country and the EMPEROR from impending ruin, so there is none with the courage and daring to usurp any of the provinces by force of arms.

Neither is there among the people any one capable of raising armies in revolt. There are, it is true, the Kolao-hui and other societies, as the world knows, permeating all the provinces of South China; but they are divided into many local branches independent of each other, and there is no man of commanding genius to organise them in to a homogeneous whole. Their members, moreover, are mostly disbanded "braves" and miscreants whose only object is plunder. They have no definite plan for the future. Wealthy men are sometimes members of such societies, but they join them simply to escape being plundered by their members. Though these societies, by taking advantage of the war, could create such disturbances as to endanger the Throne, still the Government could suppress them with ease, as they would have no settled programme even if they succeeded in their uprisings. But during the four thousand years of Chinese history we know of no instance of the people rising in revolt with the object of reforming the Government. Their in-

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surrections have generally been due to personal sufferings from famine and other calamities, or to oppressive measures. Even when the subversion of the dynasty was the result, the new Government differed in no wise from the old in organization. Weak as it is, the Chinese Government is capable of keeping the people in subjection. Since, then, a terrible famine is not goading the people to revolt, we may predict with certainty that they will not be driven by the war into rising against constituted authorities and threatening the country with disintegration.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[Our readers must distinctly understand that we are in no sence responsible for the sentients or opinions of our correspondents, for the accuracy of their assertions, or for the deductions they may choose to draw therefrom.]

CHRISTIAN CHAPLAINS FOR THE ARMY.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—Please allow me to call the attention of "*X.*" *et id omne genus*, to two facts.

1st *There is more hope of Corporate Christian Unity in Japan than elsewhere on the planet.* Witness eight societies uniting to form the *Kirisuto Kyo Kwai* and five others to form the *Nihon Sei Ko Kwai*.

With insignificant exceptions the missionaries would subscribe to the Nicene Creed—and fully 95,000 of the native Christians would do the same.

2nd *The great powers of the world are Christian;* and the cross upon their flags is a sign of strength. "God is on the side that has the heaviest artillery" is said to have been a remark made by Napoleon. He lived to learn that in fact the heaviest artillery is on the side of God. In other words, Christianity is a force, stronger than artillery that the kings of the world find it necessary to conciliate, until to-day, the only non-Christian powers worthy of the name are the Turks, the Chinese, and the Japanese. Were the support of Christian England withdrawn, the Turks would soon be swept out of Europe, so that the jealousy of two Christian nations is the foundation of Turkish power. Given a few more Armenian massacres and the Sublime Porte will be deposed, and the only anti-Christian power will be humbled in the dust. China is non-Christian rather than anti-Christian, and that rather from collossal conceit and ignorance than from any intelligent opposition to the faith. What shall we say of Japan?

While it is too soon to call Japan a Christian power, yet she is rapidly approaching that position; and in her present mood, the power displayed by Christian nations appeals most strongly to her. She recognizes the truth of the proverb of King Solomon that

> Righteousness exalteth a nation:
> But sin is a reproach to any people.

Japan has been accustomed to get her ethics from China. But now that China has proved to be an unfit foster-father to Korea, and this war has manifested the rottenness of China's government, in spite of the political maxims of Confucius, Japan may be ready to seek the source of the ethics that gives strength to Christian nations.

Daniel Webster was once asked, "What is the greatest thought that ever occupied your mind?" After a few moments of profound silence he said with the dignity of sincerity: "The greatest thought that ever occupied my mind is the sense of my personal responsibility to Almighty God!" The Japanese, being agnostics, lack this sense, hence their proneness to suicide, thinking it a virtue rather than a crime.

Pro. Ladd, some summers since in his Osaka speech, advised the young men to become Christians to give them calmness in the hour of death. Almost anyone of his audience could have given the professor points on dying calmly. The Japanese are quite too ready to die calmly. They have not the hesitation felt by Hamlet, but they do their "quietus take with a bare bodkin" quite too freely. What they need to be taught is the responsibility and duty of living. To be sure they will concede that their lives belong to their parents, to their Emperor, but this does not prevent them from rushing all unbidden into the presence of their ancestral shades.

They need the Websterian sense of responsibility to Almighty God. They need not only more Christian soldiers but Christian generals also; men like Havelock and Howard, McLellan and Lee: men instant in prayer like "Stonewall" Jackson, whose soldiers could tell that there was hard fighting ahead when his lips were moving in silent supplication; men like "Chinese" Gordon who organized the "Ever victorious army" that beat the Tae-pings.

Mohammedans are fierce fighters because falling in battle for the faith they are sure of Paradise, and they believe in One God and that their Sultan is the successor of the Prophet. In other words, they have a real religion, which is stronger than patriotism.

When the Russian fights it is for God and the Emperor. Nor is his loyalty to the Emperor the less because of his devotion to God. The Nihilists are atheists almost to a man.

Why should the Chinaman fight? He has no god but the demons of Taoism, and no Emperor of his own race.

The Japanese are without doubt the most patriotic people on the face of the earth. Perhaps "X." will say that they are so patriotic because they have no gods higher than the Imperial Ancestors.

Naruhodo, go mottomo desu, and moreover if religion is going to give them regicides like Cromwell or sour schismatics like his Ironsides, God forbid! But the religious sense of the nation is awakening, it is impossible to put the people back to the *Tempo* period, when *reisuru* was synonymous with *haisuru*.

The notice boards of the Tokugawas were taken down in 1873; the one that used to be in the Uyeno museum has been hidden; and the Christians' God is no longer threatened with decapitation. The government is awake to the fact that whether there be a God or no, a very respectable minority of the subjects of the Empire believe in His existence and are none the less loyal because they have received this Asiatic faith through Europe and America. The Christians of the Empire do not need to have their loyalty bolstered up by any belief in the Imperial descent from any Gods historical or mythological.

"X." is quite right in saying that the Japanese soldiers are good; they are doubtless in some respects far superior to any soldiers on the planet, because the whole nation is more highly developed on the ideal side in certain directions than the outside barbarians, *e.g.* the absence of avarice—but never-the-less the soldiers need God, and a sense of their responsibility to Him to make them fight like Joshua did of old and to give them constancy to live when they have to bear cold and long marches on short rations.

If recent reports are true, the coolies seem to need "comforters" much more than the rank and file.

Let the Christian Chaplains shout
"*Strike* till the last armed foe expires!
Strike for your altars and your fires!
Strike for the *green graves of your sires*,
GOD and *your native land!*"

Yours truly,
March 4th, 1895. Y.

SILVER IN JAPAN.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—I agree with W.K.B. so far as to believe that silver is a much better standard than gold. Yet I regret to say that I cannot go to the length of preferring the silver standard to the joint standard, because

1. It would be almost impossible to convert the whole world to the silver standard within any reasonable length of time. A very large number of people who are now listening favourably to the claims of bimetallism would turn a deaf ear to the proposition of a silver monometallism. I cannot of course show much proof of this statement, as it is largely a matter of observation, but I think no one acquainted with the state of opinion in the fields of industry and commerce will question my conclusion. I believe it would require a hundred years longer to convert the world to a silver than to a bimetallic standard.

2. If most of the countries of the world adopted the silver standard and discarded gold, the value of silver would rise so rapidly, and that of gold would fall so rapidly, as to dislocate the industry and monetary relations of all the countries retaining the gold standard. Besides, the increase of the value of silver, in case it were widely adopted, might be so serious that the world would suffer as severely from its appreciation—*i.e.* the fall of prices in silver—that we would gain nothing by the change. I need not go into detail to prove this, as it seems to be perfectly clear that if the chief countries of the world discarded gold, as money, and coined silver, the former would drop enormously in value while the latter would rise to the same degree in value. There would be no gain in this except to the holders of silver investments, but on the contrary an enormous dislocation to commerce and industry.

3. Even if the silver standard could be adopted without great appreciation it would never be as stable as the joint standard. Here no doubt W. K.B. is sceptical and wishes to know how it is possible to secure stability between two commodities, which, according to the law of supply and demand, must change in value to each other. To quote W.K.B.'s words, "the ratio of the quantities of the two metals available will keep constantly varying." He adds:—"It seems to me that this is a part of the subject always shirked by bimetallists." This last expression is the only statement not true, as a statement of fact, in W.K.B's. letter. I can mention, without consulting a reference, at least ten works on the subject of bimetallism where the point in question is explained. I shall attempt an explanation in my own words, but I can claim no originality in the matter, as it has often been done before by men who are regarded as economists of the first rank in every other department of the science. And I believe that if many of our hard-and-fast monometallists (among whom I do not at all class W.K.B.) who I find are the most cock-sure people in the world, were to read a few authorities on bimetallism, in a fair and impartial spirit, and in the belief that they had not exhausted the subject of money by simply referring it all to "supply and demand," they would lose a little of their air of omniscience,—nay, possibly out-Herod Herod in their devotion to bimetallism. All the bimetallists ask is a fair investigation of the principles of their system both in theory and in history.

To make the matter clear, let us assume that at present half of the nations of the world have adopted the gold standard and the other half the silver standard, and to make the conditions as simple as possible, let us assume that the money of the gold countries is 100 X, the quantity X representing any multiple sufficiently large to equal the actual sum of gold in existence; and further, let us assume that the money of silver countries is 100 Y, the quantity Y being some multiple similar to X. Then we could represent the monetary system of the world as follows:

$$100\ X + 100\ Y = \text{all money.}$$

There would be in this case no bimetallism but only two monometallisms, and so long as these quantities remained the same in relation to the demand for money, there would be no alteration in the ratio of exchange between the two standards. But if there were an increase, say of 10 % of the amount of gold, and a decrease of 10 % of the amount of silver (such as could happen in many ways by a change in the output or in the demand), we should have the following

$$110\ X + 90\ Y = \text{all money.}$$

In the present case, the total amount of the money of the world would not have changed, but only its value in the gold and silver countries respectively. The countries using gold would suffer an inflation of prices (just opposite of the present state of things in Europe), while the silver countries would suffer a decline of prices. Above all, the financial and commercial relations between the two groups of countries would suffer enormously, because every debtor in the gold country would still get only the previous number of pounds or francs, and every creditor in the silver countries would demand as before the same number of dollars or *yen*. All people with investments *between the two groups* would suffer still more severely—a point too clear to require explanation.

Now let us study the same system under the operation of a bimetallic league. The arrangement at first was

$$100\ X + 100\ Y = \text{all money.}$$

A bimetallic league is now formed, partly out of the gold and partly out of the silver countries as follows:—

$$20\ X + (80\ X + 80\ Y) + 20\ Y = 100\ X + 100\ Y, \text{ or all money.}$$

We have the same amount of money as before, only

$20\ X$ = purely gold using countries.
$(80\ X + 80\ Y)$ = Bimetallic League.
$20\ Y$ = purely silver using countries.

In other words, 80% of the gold using countries unite with 80% of the silver using countries in a Bimetallic League, by which I mean that they are willing to coin either metal, gold or silver, to any extent at a fixed ratio and to make it full legal tender, just as gold is in the gold using countries, or silver in the silver using countries. The other figures, 20 X and 20 Y, represent what is left of the purely gold and silver using countries after the Bimetallic League is established. The

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total amount of money in the world is of course just the same as before. Now let us suppose precisely the same conditions occurring as before: 10 % increase of the whole amount of gold and 10 % decrease of the whole amount of silver, what would happen? Let us, to bring out the point distinctly, represent the increase and decrease taking place at first in the purely monometallic countries. We would have:

30 X + (80 X + 80 Y) +10 Y=all money.

Now by a familiar operation of money known as Gresham's Law, gold, because it is cheaper in the gold countries (being more abundant) than in the countries of the Bimetallic League, will enter the countries of the League and to some extent drive out silver. This matter is not a subject of dispute between monometallists and bimetallists and so I need not waste time in further explanation. Gold, in other words, can never have a greater value in the gold using countries than in the countries of the Bimetallic League. Consequently we would have the following:

20 X +(90 X +70 Y)+20 Y=all money.

The 10 X increase of gold having entered the Bimetallic League displaces the same amount of silver and drives it to the silver countries.

Can anyone fail to see at a glance the great advantages of the Bimetallic League. In the first instance, before the League was established, the increase of gold or decrease of silver had to take effect in their respective countries, because the gold group refused silver and the silver group refused gold *as money*. It results, however, from the bimetallic system that in spite of the variations in the amount of each money, prices and money values would not alter. First, prices in gold countries would remain the same as before, as they have the same amount of money, viz., 20 X.

Furthermore, prices in the bimetallic countries would remain the same, as they also have the same amount of money; viz., 160 of variously arranged X and Y; and lastly, silver countries would also be in as good a situation as before, since they, too, have the same amount of money; *viz.*, 20 Y. Thus in spite of an enormous change in the respective amounts of gold and silver, greater *in fact* than it would be possible to imagine occurring in the actual world, there is absolutely no disturbance in prices or in the purchasing power of money.

The whole operation, which I have tried to explain, takes place under what Wolowski called the *Law of Compensatory Action*. By this law is meant that if a Bimetallic League is established on a fairly large scale, it will always act as a compensating machine between the two other groups, or, as others call it, a balance-wheel between the two groups. And the value of money will not only be steadier in the whole world, but there will be no more variation of exchange between gold countries or silver countries, or between these and the Bimetallic League, than now obtains in the exchange between gold countries. Only a small percentage above par is necessary to move gold from the United States to England, and in the same way, if the League were established, only a small per cent. of advance in exchange would be necessary to move silver from the silver country to the League countries, or *vice versa*.

"But," I hear my monometallic friend say, "even according to your statement the cheaper money would always drive out the dearer in the countries of the Bimetallic League." This is always regarded by monometallists as a crushing argument against the system. But I answer "No." The relatively cheaper would, indeed, to a slight extent drive out the relatively dearer metal, *but the total value of money* in the Bimetallic League would not change, and that is all men demand from a money standard. For people do not care essentially for gold and silver as money, but stable purchasing power, and this they would acquire under the bimetallic system. "But," says the Monometallist driven to a corner, "what if a very large increase of gold should take place and a very heavy decrease of silver. Would not all the silver tend to disappear from the bimetallic countries?" In the latter case, I answer, the boon of a Bimetallic League would be greater than ever, since it would preserve the world from a monetary cataclysm. If a very heavy decrease of one metal should take place under the monometallic system, it is not difficult to see what a great fall in prices, what a heavy increase of burdens to debtors, and what a disastrous series of calamities would result.

It is sometimes said that we do not use at present much gold or silver, but we use bank-notes or other substitutes for metallic money, and therefore the importance of gold and silver is declining. To this can be replied that all of these substitutes are finally based on the value of gold or silver. These two metals are the foundations of the monetary structure, and we need good foundations to every structure, though after it is built, we need not live in the cellar. There is no necessity for individuals to handle either gold or silver to any great extent, any more under the bimetallic system than under any other system. All that would happen, if bimetallism were adopted, is that the bank reserves, now composed either of gold or of silver, would be composed of gold *and* silver, as they were in France and other bimetallic countries before 1873.

Lastly, the practical question arises whether a Bimetallic League can be established on a thoroughly efficient basis so as insure its success. I believe there can be no doubt that if England cordially cöoperates, the following countries can be counted:—Great Britain, including the dependencies (Canada, Australia, India, and others), the United States, Germany, France, including the other countries of the Latin Union (Belgium, Switzerland, Italy, and others Holland), and probably Japan and Mexico. And if this solid array of nations does not satisfy the trepidations of the monometallist, if his soul is still haunted by the fear of an inundation of the cheaper money, he is beyond the power either of theoretical arguments or of practical experience.

Thanking W.K.B. for his letter, I remain yours truly,

GARRETT DROPPERS.

March 16, 1895.

THE RELATION OF UNITARIANISM TO NON-CHRISTIAN RELIGIONS.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—The enclosed letter written by Mr. MacCauley, President of the Senshin Gakuin (the School for Advanced Learning) in Tokyo, to Mr. Ushiro Nakanishi, a prominent magazine writer and Buddhist scholar of this country, was published recently in translated form in the *Shukyo*, the Unitarian magazine. As the letter has aroused considerable interest among people who are interested in Christianity in Japan, we have desired to see it as it was originally written and to make it known to others. We have requested a copy of the letter from Mr. MacCauley, and we send it to you, hoping that you will kindly give it a place in the *Japan Mail*.

Yours very truly,

Some Students of the Senshin Gakuin.

Tokyo, March 18, 1895.

Mr. Ushiro Nakanishi, Tokyo, Japan.

My dear Mr. Nakanishi,—I have not had time since the receipt of your letter of the 2nd inst. to give it the attention it deserves. But to-day I shall try to answer at least its main question. This question has been answered by me many times during the past five years, and always essentially in the same manner. For some reason, however, I do not seem to have made my meaning perfectly clear. Whether the fault is in me or is in the minds of the persons I have addressed, I do not know. But it is evident that what I have intended should be understood, is not yet understood either by yourself or by many who show a good deal of interest in the Unitarian movement in Japan. I shall therefore try once more to make my meaning plain.

First.—Unitarianism is a religious movement whose history shows it conclusively to be directed by three principles:—

1.—Free thought in the investigation of religious problems.

2.—The supremacy of the human reason in deciding truth or error in religious doctrine.

3.—Moral character and work as testing the worth of men, and as being the ultimate basis of church or associated religious fellowship.

Now, my dear Mr. Nakanishi, if you and your friends would accept this statement, and then never forget it in your inquiries about Unitarianism, your present misunderstanding could not occur. *The three principles above stated, are supreme.* They govern everything else that may have place under the name Unitarian. Their logical conclusions also are always accepted by Unitarians as soon as such conclusions are made known.

Next then.—Never putting out of mind these three fundamental principles, which may be called the "Unitarian standard," we should remember that under this standard the Unitarian Churches, or Church, has naturally occupied many positions and made many changes, and we should know that these variations are to be substantially repeated in the future. As long as men think and think freely, their minds will change and grow with human knowledge and progress. The Roman Catholic Church boasts that it never changes. Why? Because it claims for itself that it is a perfect divine institution established in this world by God himself. The Orthodox Protestant Church subjects all its development to what it claims is a perfect divine revelation—the Bible. But the Unitarians have always refused to submit their minds to either the Church of Rome or to the Bible of Protestantism as such. Their authority has been, and is to be, the enlightened Reason.

At this point we are brought to consider Unitarianism as having part in Christian history. It is a fact that Unitarianism had its origin within Christianity. It is also a fact that most Unitarians at the present day are Christians; in this sense, that they accept the religion which Jesus Christ [illegible] believed, and practiced as the highest form of religion [illegible] which they can direct their own lives. But it is further a fact that Unitarianism has never had a fixed Christian theology. It has again and again been modified by deeper and larger conceptions of Christianity. The early Unitarians were as different in their notions about Christianity from the Unitarians of the present time, as present Unitarians are different from Orthodox Christians. From generation to generation Unitarians have changed in their conceptions of Christianity until now their National Conference in America, by a unanimous vote given last year, stands upon this platform:—

"*The Unitarian Churches accept the religion of Jesus, holding in accordance with his teaching that practical religion is summed up in love to God and to man.*"

But notice, also, that this Christian position is the result of the steady growth of Unitarianism in Christian countries, and as a part of Christianity. Unitarianism is not necessarily confined to Christianity, nor do Unitarian Christians shut up their religious fellowship to those only who are professed Christians. Unitarianism does not belong exclusively to any one form of religion, be it Christianity Buddhism, Mohammedanism, or any other historical faith. The American Unitarian Christians last year, at the same time they adopted the conception of Christianity above given, adopted also unanimously the following declaration:—

"This Conference recognizes the fact that its constituency is congregational in tradition and polity. Therefore, it declares that nothing in this constitution is to be construed as an authoritative test; *and we cordially invite to our working fellowship any who, while differing from us in belief, are in general sympathy with our spirit and our practical aims.*"

Unitarianism, as the word is understood in religion, has therefore become a world-wide movement even although its birth and growth have taken place in Christendom and as part of Christianity.

Now you can see that when Unitarianism is carried outside of what is called Christendom, or Europe and America, and is brought into a non-Christian country like Japan, its relations to the religious and to the general life of such a country, are above everything else, those which arise from its fundamental principles and methods, that is, from its threefold standard spoken of at the beginning of my letter. The personal faith or definite creed of any Unitarian representative or teacher is therefore a secondary matter, and is *not* to be considered *authoritative* in the counsel or aid he may give to those who may wish to associate themselves together for Unitarian faith and work.

So, then, Unitarianism in being brought to Japan must not be thought of as hostile to any form of *religion in Japan, as such*. If, for example, a Buddhist is a free and impartial investigator of religious problems, if he is sincerely willing to submit his faith to the authority of philosophy and science, and if he puts character or moral excellence before everything else as the test of manhood, then he and any true Unitarian can be intellectual friends, even though they differ very widely in other special conclusions. And if any Buddhist is sincerely desiring to help to make men better and happier, by bringing them under the law of justice and love, then such Buddhist can work hand in hand as a religious brother, with any true Unitarian. Of course, a bigotted Buddhist and a free Unitarian can no more study together and work together than can a bigotted Christian and a free Unitarian. But free Buddhists and free Unitarians can and ought to be brothers in principle and in work, even though the Unitarians may find in Jesus Christ their own teacher and guide. No true Unitarian would find fault with a Buddhist for his love of Sakya Muni as teacher of holy thought and living, and, likewise, no true Buddhist should find fault with a Unitarian who may also be a follower of Jesus Christ. The Unitarian principle requires a genuine catholicity of religious sympathy, and the largest toleration in matters of intellectual speculation. The Unitarian is in fact opposed only to intellectual slavery, bigotry, falsehood, and vice.

I hope that I have now answered your question. If you understand my answer as I mean it to be understood, you will see that there is no obstacle set up by Unitarianism itself to your cöoperation with me or with any other representative of Unitarianism who is true to his principles. I understand that a writer in *Bukkyo* has lately found fault with Unitarianism because there are Unitarian workers in Japan whose beliefs differ from one another. I suppose that this writer considers that when men differ in belief, they should separate and form their own parties. Japan is a country of parties, I know. It seems to be difficult for your countrymen "to agree to disagree." But the Unitarian aim is to recognize as far as possible the right of every man to his own opinions in matters of speculation, and to try to find a bond of sympathy and cöoperation in universally acknowledged truth and goodness. Unitarianism is therefore not the agent of a tyrannical partisanship in small things; it is the guide of those who ignore petty partisanship for the sake of a free, all-inclusive service to the largest welfare of mankind. Unitarianism has often been reproached as being "mere morality." Unitarians hold this reproach to be the highest kind of praise. They do not neglect the search for truth, of course, but they hold that truth has its highest value in making mankind better, nobler, purer, happier.

In a word then, I am bold enough to claim that, among the religious movements in the world, the freest, most progressive, most tolerant, most inclusive of all is Unitarianism. It is marked by method rather than dogma. It is as varied as nature or the human mind is varied. It is as united as the hunger for truth or the need of moral excellence can unite men. Every Unitarian has his own faith, and this faith is usually very strong and clear. I have my own definite creed on all the problems of theology and ethics. All Unitarians are pretty well agreed in their disbelief in so-called Roman Catholic and orthodox Protestant creeds concerning the Trinity, the deity of Christ, the Bible, Salvation, and Human Destiny, even though they differ in the emphasis they put on their denials of various parts of these creeds. All Unitarians believe in a universal spiritual endeavour on the part of mankind, in the worth of religion under all its forms in all nations, in a growing manifestation of the faith which underlies all historical expressions of faith, in the duty and the privilege of the disciple of all forms of religion to rise to a common level on which by enlightened Reason they may find at last

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an intellectual as well as moral basis of harmony and cooperation. I hold that this sublime conviction was justified by Christ himself. You may hold that it was justified by the Buddha himself. Each of us can cherish his conviction without any break in sympathy. It involves no antagonism. Jesus and Sakya I believe would have found no reason for separation from each other. They would have gone hand in hand to feed the hungry, to comfort the sorrowing, and to fill mankind with love and peace. It is foolishness, it is even a crime against the human soul, for the followers of Jesus and Sakya to separate from each other as enemies or even as strangers.

Unitarianism has not come to Japan to destroy but to fulfil. I am not here to reproduce in Japan the Unitarian Church of America, except in its spirit. Unitarianism is here to set men free, or rather to help the free minds of Japan to set all minds free in spirit, and to hasten the coming in the world, as far as may be, of the sublime empire of love and righteousness which will at last make of humanity a true Brotherhood under the care of the infinite and eternal God, our Father.

I am, with sincere respect, yours always,

CLAY MACCAULEY.

Tokyo, Mita, February 18th, 1895.

ASIATIC SOCIETY OF JAPAN.

A general meeting of the Asiatic Society was held at No. 17, Tsukiji, on Wednesday, March 13, at 4 p.m. The Hon. Treasurer, Mr. J. McD. Gardiner occupied the Chair.

After the minutes of the previous meeting had been read and approved, the Chairman called upon Rev. Dr. D. C. Greene, the President, to read his paper on *Tenrikyo*, or the Teaching of the Heavenly Reason.

At the outset, Dr. Greene called attention to the rudimentary character of the ancient Shinto, and to the fact that the more important schools of Shinto thought, like the Ryobu Shinto, Yuitsu Shinto, etc., owed their origin to the attempt to interpret the old traditions in the light of Buddhist philosophy. In like manner, the spirit of organization, so active in the Meiji period has led to the transforming of what had been many schools, or societies, into true sects. Sects among the Buddhists were numerous before, but within the Shinto circle, it may be questioned whether they existed at all, in the Western sense of the term. The love of organization, however, partly instinctive, partly the outgrowth of a desire for Government recognition, has led to a hardening of the lines of demarcation between rival schools and to the formation of true sects, like the Kurogumi, the Remmon, and other so-called *Kyo-kwai*, or churches, and, apparently also, Fujiko, the On Take Ko, etc., which, while very old, were until recently merely societies, or clubs. These are an important feature of the religious life of Japan.

Among these, the Tenrikyo is perhaps the most important, because of its assertiveness and rapid growth. It might be roughly characterized as a reaction against the allegorizing tendency of modern Shinto scholars. It possesses much interest because of the light it sheds upon the religious condition of the mass of the Japanese people and also because of certain psychological phenomena associated with its history.

The materials for the study were found in a manuscript copy of the scripture of the sect, of which only twelve hymns have been printed; a number of sermons preached in six different chapels in Tokyo, Kyoto, and Kobe; interviews with priests and preachers; and a number of tracts and magazine articles from Buddhist and Shinto sources.

Dr. Greene then passed on to the story of the founder, who was the wife of a farmer living in the village of Mishima, some six miles south of Nara, the old capital of Japan. She was born in 1798 and died October 26th, 1887, at the ripe age of eighty-nine years. Her first striking experience of the divine favour came to her at the age of thirty-two. Though very poor, and already having three children of her own, she took, out of pity for a still poorer neighbour who was ill, a little babe which she nourished and cared for as her own. One day to her great grief, she found that her foster child had the small-pox in its most virulent form. She felt that the disease was a sign of neglect, and hence of disloyalty, on her part. As the doctor's could give her no help, she turned to the gods and promised, if need be, to give up two of her own children, if only the foster child might be saved. The child recovered, but within a few years two of her own children, her daughters, died, one of them born a year to two after the vow. Later on, in her fortieth year, a son suffered from a lame foot, due to an ulcer. This was also cured by an appeal to the Gods—this time by the use of the *gohei*, as so graphically described by Mr. Percival Lowell in his paper in Esoteric Shinto. In connection with this use of the *gohei*, Omiki for this was the name of the prophetess, went into a trance which lasted three days. At the close of this trance, she was taken with convulsions, which a voice from her lips proclaimed to be due to the presence of the deity, Kuni-toko-tachi no Mikoto. After an interval of quiet, he was followed by nine other deities, of whom the last was Izanagi and Izanami no Mikoto. Omiki was declared to be the prophetess of these ten gods, who styled themselves The Kings of the Heavenly Reason, *i.e.*, Tenri O no Mikoto.

This experience forms the starting point of the history of the sect. During the life of the founder there was much opposition, but six months after her death Government recognition was secured, and since that time, its growth has been rapid till now the priests of Mishima claim 10,000 priests and preachers and 1,400,000 adherents. These are mostly from the lower classes, but their *esprit de corps* has led to generous gifts, so that the head of the sect was able, it is said, to offer the Government a few years since *yen* 50,000 for coast defence.

When Omiki died, her remains, after a gorgeous funeral, were buried on a hill near Mishima in a tomb fashioned after that of the old emperors.

According to the teaching of Omiki, the world, formerly a mere mud sea, was reformed and peopled with the human race by the ten deities who forced themselves upon her hospitality, but among these the two first, Kuni-toko-tachi and Omotani no Mikoto, who represent respectively the moon and the sun, constituted the real source of creative power. Omiki differs from the orthodox Shinto writers, both as to the names and sex of these deities, but the pressure of public opinion has led to a revision of the original teaching in the interest of orthodoxy. After a time Izanami-no-Mikoto gave birth to 999,999 pigmies six-tenths of an inch in height. These in the course of ninety-nine years grew to be four inches tall. They were followed by an equal number which grew to be five inches tall. Then Izanami died in great joy, because she saw in this advance the promise of a future race of men of five foot stature the fulfillment of the creative purpose. At this point, the direct agency of the Gods appear to have ceased, and similar pigmies of gradually increasing size were born in groups of ten, and later on in pairs. By this time the stature had become three feet. Thence the evolution went on until man reached his normal height and the world its present aspect.

The next division of the paper was devoted to the literature of the sect. The literature is meagre, consisting, so far as is known of only about sixty-one closely written manuscript pages and a few pilgrim songs which have been printed. The illiteracy of Omiki and her reporters makes the work of interpretation difficult and not infrequently the only resort is to conjecture. It is probable that, if a considerable number of manuscripts could be collated, some of these difficulties would disappear; but in spite of considerable effort to secure others only one manuscript has been available for investigation. The style is a mixture of the ordinary book language and a provincial colloquial with here and there phrases from the epistolary dialect. These scriptures consist of four sermons of Omiki, the story of her life, an account of the cosmogony, and twelve hymns.

The paper closed with a few extracts from the sermons of Omiki.

A supplementary paper was promised which should deal with the hymns, the doctrines of the sect, its worship and its methods of propagation.

The CHAIRMAN, after thanking Dr. Greene in behalf of the Society, called attention to the interesting character of the essay.

Mr. TYNG stated that he had heard that the doctrines of this sect had been influenced by Christian teaching, and he questioned Dr. Greene as to the truth of this.

Dr. GREENE replied that there was probably no conscious attempt on the part of the followers of this doctrine to be influenced by Christianity, but he thought it very likely that certain Christian influences had been at work in it.

The meeting adjourned at half-past five o'clock.

REVIEW.

The Lilac Sunbonnet. By S. R. CROCKETT. London: T. FISHER UNWIN.

THE "Lilac Sunbonnet" is the sweetest love idyl we have read for many a long day. Its heroine, Winsome Charteris, claims kindred with the very best and brightest of her sex in fiction, past or present. She is worth more than all the "girls of the period" put together, she has nothing in common with the "wild woman of the future," she has no "mission" and no "rights," except the right of being loved, and loving in return.

She is no languishing, love-sick maiden, however, but a practical little woman of business, virtual mistress of Craig Ronald Farm while she is still in her teens.

Gentle and refined from her fair, curly head to the pretty feet she was so eager to bare for the "tramping of the blankets;" ready to take her full share of the day's work, from the baking and churning down to the water carrying; ready too, when the time comes, and indeed it is not long in coming, to give her heart, whole and without a thought of worldliness, or self-interest, into her lover's keeping: each picture we have of the gentle Winsome, whether it is "guddlin for trout" in the burn with little Andra Kissock, carrying her two shining pails of water, throwing her arms round her lively old grandmother, or sauntering by her lover's side in the sweet mid-summer's morning, the famous sunbonnet dangling from her hand, each picture seems the special one which we should like to cherish in our memory, until we came to the next, which seems still more charming. Mr. Crockett has been hardly as successful with his hero, who, after all, is almost worthy of his sweetheart, and that is saying a great deal. We are told that Ralph was a poet, and this is a pretty specimen of what he could do:—

> Large heart true love, service void of sound
> Life-trust, death-trust here on Scottish ground,
> As in olden story, surely, I have found—
> Love, love, love, the whiteness of the snow
> Love, love, love, and the days of long ago.

But the mavis did better still, from the laurel bush by Winsome's window, and this is what she sang:—

> There—there—there—
> Can't you see, can't you see, can't you see ■?
> Love is the secret, the secret!
> Could you but know it, did you but show it?
> Hear me! hear me! hear me!
> Down in the forest I love her!
>
> Sweet, sweet, sweet!
> Would you but listen,
> I would love you!
> All is sweet and pure and good!
> Twilight and morning dew,
> I love it, I love it, I love it,
> Do you, do you, do you?'
>
> Hear! hear! hear!
> Dear! dear! dear!
> Far away, far away, far away,
> I saw him pass this way,
> I saw him pass this way,
> Tirrieoo, tirrieoo! so tender and true,
> Chippiwee, chippiwee, oh, try him and see,
> Cheer up! cheer up! cheer up!
> He'll come and he'll kiss you,
> He'll kiss you and kiss you,
> And I'll see him do it, do it, do it!

Of the minor characters little need be said. Saunders Mowdiewort is a first class bore, and Jock Gordon is not much better. We are disappointed in Jess Kissock, about whom we cannot but think the author must have modified his intentions during the progress of the tale. Agnew Greatorix provides the only scene of passion, but we cannot, for our own part, believe in the existence of such a character. The two old Ministers, faithful remnant of the Marrow Kirk, are touching pictures, if not absolutely true to nature; but John Bairdieson, the Minister's man, and Elder of the Marrow Kirk, who had "followed the Sea" in his youth, is capital. The scene where Ralph comes back to his father's house in semi-disgrace is too good to leave unquoted "Dear Siss!" said John, anxiously, "was't ill-doing or unsound doctrine?" "Mr. Welsh said that he could not company with unbelievers."

"Then it's doctrine—wae's me, wae's me! I wuss it had been the lasses. What will his father say? Gin it had been ill-doin', he micht hae pitten it doon to the sins o' his youth; but ill-doctrine he canna forgie. O Maister Ralph, *gin ye canna tell a lee versel, wudl ye no kaud your tongue—I can lee for ye*, for I'm but an elder—an'I'll tell him that at a kirn ye war over persuaded to drink the health o' the laird an' you no bein' acquaint wi' the strength o' Glenlivat——" Surely the words in italics are worthy of Caleb Balderstone. One word for faithful Meg Kissock, who is a jewel, but who most certainly would never have said, "Juist what I was on the point of remarkin," under any circumstances whatsoever.

It will be seen that Mr. Crockett possesses the "divine afflatus;" indeed it breathes from almost every page. He is filled with a fervent love of nature in all her moods, and he has the power to make her speak, so that he who reads may almost hear her voice; the power to paint a picture which he who reads can almost see with his bodily eyes; the power to describe a spray of honeysuckle so that he who reads may almost breathe its scent. But with power comes responsibility. If Mr. Crockett has the power to charm thousands wherever the English language is spoken, let him not be above taking pains. We have perhaps lost ourselves in the sweet noontide hush; the sound of the bees humming, and of the burn tinkling over its pebbles is in our ears; we can almost feel the soft breeze laden with the

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scent of sweetbrier, bright; tender smiling Winsome stands before us; the picture is a real living one; when suddenly, some absurdity such as the butter refusing to "come" without the encouraging stimulus of hot water, on a midsummer afternoon, wakes us up with a start, and the spell is broken. Then we feel inclined to exclaim with the ploughman who had just devoured a "fairy book" with delight: "They're naething but lees, efter a'!" A careless sentence spoils the *vraisemblance*. We are told for instance that "Afternoon is slack water in the duties of the house, at least for the womenfolk," but on the very next page we find that Winsome was at her "bake-board," and that churning was also going on in the dairy, and this upon an afternoon when a visiter was expected.

At another time we are introduced to Mr. Welsh and Ralph over their breakfast, and we are distinctly told that it consisted of "a wooden platter of porridge." Yet what follows in almost the next paragraph? "Ralph answered looking over his own" cogfu' o' brose "as Manse Bell called them." Now a platter and a cog are different things, so are brose and porridge, as Manse Bell very well knew, and as Mr. Crockett knows too if he will take the trouble to think. These are little faults. Spots in the sun, it may be argued. So is a false note, but it jars on the ear and spoils a beautiful song for all that.

There is, however, a graver fault which may be found with the volume before us. A touch, it is but a touch of vulgarity, or shall we say coarseness, is visible here and there, like a dirty smudge on a fair picture, which contrasts unpleasantly with the simple style, fresh and pure as a May morning, that constitutes the author's greatest charm. Let S. B. Crockett take example by Mr. Stevenson, at whose feet he has sat, or we are much mistaken, and he will purge himself of this sin.

A PARODY.

(With Apologies to the Shade of Lord Tennyson).

We stood beside the bar; he to the East
Was newly come from home—too green, too green;
One whom the strong sons of the world despise
For patent boots and hat of glossy brown.
His name was Juggins, and himself would take
The thing that is not for the thing that is.
So I, with much fair show of courtesy,
Said "Juggins, there's a man you ought to know,
A very learned literary man,
Whom you, being learned, surely ought to know."
And saying thus, I led him to the sage
And named them each to other, for a jest.
Then Juggins, being a fool and rather more
Than half seas over, would not shape his tongue
To some familiar phrase of civil speech—
As "pleased to meet you," "Warm it is to-day"—
But being, as I say, a drivelling fool,
Chirped with a feeble snigger, "Who are you?"
Whereto the gloomy sage, why not? replied:—

I hustle foes alive or dead
With many a vulgar sally;
I sparkle—like a feather bed;
I bicker—like a valet;

And, when I really take offence,
I'm great at foaming rages,
With hardly half a line of sense
To half a hundred pages.

To keep a flickering hate aglow
Is still my chief endeavour,
For men may come and men may go,
But I go on for ever.

Dull modern days, weak modern ways
I roll a scornful eye on,
And bubble into fulsome praise
Of Parkes, the British lion.

I snarl and sneer, I fume and fret
At Japanese successes,
And thank my stars I don't forget
To curse whom fortune blesses.

I chuckle, chuckle, for I know
Though patrons writhe or shiver,
That men may come and men may go,
But I go on for ever.

I wind about, and in and out,
Round, over, through, and under,
With here and there a clumsy flout,
And here and there a blunder;

And here and there a word will start
That haply seems to wander
Across the narrow lines that part
A comment from a slander.

I care not, I, if friends are glum
Or rivals brisk and smiling,
For men may go and men may come,
But I'll go on reviling.

LOVE'S YOUNG DREAM!

Dream of a love that wakes with the dawn
And fades when fresh night folds her wing;
Love with the paling stars that is born,
And dies when nightingales sing.
Dream of a love that lives but a day,
A love, frail, fanciful,—fair,
A wand'ring love,—that never will stay;
White wings, on the whisp'ring air.
Love, that is shadowy, subtle, and sweet,
A love that lives but a night;
Love that lasts, while the red lips meet,
And dies with the dawning light!
Love that is born with the wild West wind,
And is gone while the sad sea sighs!
One look in the eyes! a quick glance behind!
"Goodnight! sweet, goodnight!" and it dies!
This is the love we claim and we crave!
Love that lies crushed in *one* kiss!
Love that is winged on the wand'ring wave!
The "new" love, and "modern" is *this!*

"Fin de Siècle."

THE TOKYO YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION.

Mission work in behalf of Christianity in all lands is marked by great diversity of men and measures. Such variety of means and methods is generally demanded by the fact that the work is among "all sorts and conditions of men," who must be reached in all sorts of ways. In this aspect the diversity is beneficial, and is an essential condition of success. But there is another kind of variety of men and beliefs that is not so productive of success, and is, in fact, more often an absolute hindrance to effective Christian work. This is the division of Christian believers into many denominations, whose differences, small or great, are based upon, sometimes trivial, sometimes important, matters. A Christian institution, therefore, that tends to minify and to unify sects, and at the same time to magnify and to emphasize diversity of means and methods, is one that deserves the sympathy, not only passive, but also active, of all who are anxious for a great moral up-lift in Japan. Such an institution is the Young Men's Christian Association.

Englishmen and Americans in Japan are too familiar with the work of the Y.M.C.A. in their native lands to demand special instruction; they need only occasional reminders that this great institution has an important work in the metropolis of this Empire. The humble beginning was in 1880, when a band of young men, including Kozaki (now President of the Doshisha), Ibuka (now President of the Meiji Gakuin), Hiraiwa, Uemura, Matsumura, and others, organized the Tokyo Young Men's Christian Association. During the first decade the work of the Association was rather limited; but the visit of Mr. L. D. Wishard in 1889 gave an impetus to enlargement. Mr. J. F. Swift come out the same year from America to assist in this enlargement, and in 1890 began, not merely the second decade, but also a new era in the history of this institution.

This new epoch has been marked by several important features. In the first place, the reorganization was carried out along two important principles; "first, that the development of the Association work to be most effective and permanent must be worked out through and by the Japanese young men themselves; and second, that to be true to the history of the Association, its control must be as far as possible in the hands of *laymen*, members of evangelical churches." In the second place, it became necessary in 1890 to appoint a general secretary, Mr. S. Niwa, to devote his entire time and strength to the work. In the third place, the management of the Association was put into the hands of a permanent Board of Directors, consisting of eminent Christian laymen of several denominations; these are earnest workers, who represent the best types of Christianity in Japan, and who may, each of them, be called, what Daniel Webster called Robert Rantoul, "a Liberal-Conservative and a Conservative-Liberal." In the fourth place, through the active efforts of Mr. Swift, a fund of $50,000 was raised in America for the present fine building, which was dedicated last May.

This building is a hive of Christian industry. It is the local habitation of a great work, divided into three departments, educational, social, and religious. The educational department includes evening classes in English, a practical business course for clerks, a public reading-room and library, popular lectures and concerts, and a magazine, called the *Kirkutokyo Seinen*, or *The Christian Young Man*.

The social department provides monthly social meetings in the comfortable rooms of the building, keeps the look-out to furnish employment to worthy young men; and manages a boarding-house, which gives "a Christian home for young men coming to Tokyo from the country and exposed to fierce temptations."

The religious department conducts evangelistic meetings every Sunday afternoon at 2 o'clock; Bible classes during the week; and various meetings for prayer, inquiry and discussion of religious subjects.

The work of the Y.M.C.A. has been very successful, as a comparison of the statistics for 1893 and 1894 shows clearly. At a time when, on account of the distractions of the war, other branches of Christian labour are satisfied to hold their own, the work of the Y.M.C.A. has doubled or trebled in nearly all its departments. And this increase still continues: the average attendance at the evening classes has grown from 134 in November to over 140 now; and the average attendance at the Sunday meeting has increased from 124 in November to about 175 now. It is quite evident that the combination of practical, social, educational, and religious elements (especially the interdenominational phase) commends the Y.M.C.A. to the Japanese, and is destined to produce valuable results.

Another advance step is proposed this year; and it is one well suited to the times in Japan. The present tendency among the Japanese towards independence will undoubtedly be accelerated by the successful issue of the war with China. It is, therefore, the aim of the Tokyo Young Men's Christian Association to reduce gradually the amount of assistance received from America, until self-support is attained. Such a movement, to be permanently successful, must be gradual. It is, therefore, proposed to increase the number of "sustaining memberships among both foreigners and natives in Japan. At present there are about 30 such members, who pay annually from 3 to 5 *yen*, each according to his ability. Cards will soon be sent out in the hope of getting numerous responses in the shape of such memberships.

This appeal for local aid in behalf of the Y.M.C.A. work in Tokyo, will not be limited to Christian workers, or even to Christian believers, but will be made to all who might be expected to sympathize with a movement that promises much for the moral advancement of New Japan. It may, in some cases, become an appeal to personal interests. In America the work of the Y.M.C.A. among railroad employés has so commended itself to the business instincts of many railroad corporations, that large annual appropriations are regularly included in the budget of running expenses. The physical, mental, and moral development in the Y.M.C.A. has been so practical as to increase the actual efficiency of the railroad employés.

It is hoped, therefore, that even those who may have no special sympathy with Christianity as a religious or theological system, and who withhold sympathy from sectarian efforts, may be so impressed with both the practical and the unsectarian aspects of the Y.M.C.A. work as to tender financial assistance. And it is confidently expected, that all Christians who are labouring and praying for the spread of the Gospel among the Japanese, will gladly respond to this appeal from a profoundly Christian and interdenominational institution that is intended, not to supplant, but to supplement, other evangelical work, and to present to unbelievers the grand possibilities of united Christian effort.

HAKODATE.

(From our Correspondent.)

March 15.

The fire at this port on the night of the 13th, in which thirty houses were burned to the ground and a woman and two children lost their lives—as I telegraphed to you yesterday—has been traced to the careless handling of a *kotatsu*. We have been free from fires in Hakodate for nearly eleven months previous to this conflagration, a somewhat unusual occurrence of late years, but misfortunes never come singly, and I regret to have to report another outbreak last night and a further destruction of property. The fire broke out in a godown, and the destructive element was quickly communicated to two others, the result being that the three godowns were in a short space of time reduced to smouldering embers, constructed as they were of wood. The contents of the buildings were 20,000 fish oil barrels and tins, the greater portion of which were empty, otherwise the loss would have been much heavier. The cause of the calamity is said to be through a beggar who had made a little fire by the side of one of the godowns at which he was warming himself.

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LEAVES FROM A WAR CORRESPONDENT'S JOURNAL.

Sunday, January 27th.

To-day has been cold enough to satisfy, I should think, even the Oldest Inhabitant, and cold enough certainly to convince me that when I am rich enough to retire from business as a War Correspondent I shall not build my winter-residence in North China. Still, the sunshine all day was so glorious as nearly to make one forget that the heating rays had all been left out.

I had some conversation last night with the correspondent of a Tokyo newspaper who is returning to Kinchow. This morning he came to me to explain that he was returning because he had forgotten his passport—how without it he had got so far as Kaiping did not appear—but he wished me to allow him to return with me, as he was afraid he should miss the important movements shortly expected to take place. How the poor man had come to think it was in my power to grant his request I could not waste time in trying to find out, though it would have been an interesting problem in psychology; I could only express my regret that my own authorization did not extend beyond certain specified personal attendants, and that I was utterly unable to do anything to help him.

I missed a station again to-day, the one at which I had intended to make a mid-day halt, and so rode on from nine to half-past two without stopping. I had been warned that the station was a little way from the main road, and had, I believe, turned into the proper by-way, when a Chinaman, with whom I communicated by signs, sent me back into the main road, and kept me waiting three hours more for my dinner.

In the latter half of my ride I met twenty or thirty wounded soldiers being conveyed south—more serious cases, evidently, than those I have previously encountered, for some were lying at full length in Japanese hand-carts, others were in stretchers carried by four coolies each.

I hope I have now heard the last of Marshal Oyama's proclamation, which I did *not* remove from the north gate of Fuchow. The Commandant of the station where I slept last night had received a telegram about it for transmission here, and the colonel in command here sent for me to ask me about it as soon as Tamura arrived. He will telegraph back to Fuchow my statement that I know nothing of the matter, and I hope the report will not follow me any further. A brilliant idea has struck me as to how the Chinese invention originated. The night before I left Fuchow I took a photograph of the north gate. The next morning, let us suppose, Field-Marshal Oyama's proclamation had disappeared. What could have seemed a more natural sequence of cause and effect to the Chinese crowd that watched me taking the photograph? With a somewhat foggy Chinese interpreter, this would easily develop into the legend that they had seen me take the proclamation down.

This town, Mon-yu, is a repetition of Kinchow and Fuchow on a much smaller scale. I cannot learn the strength of the Japanese garrison here, but it is larger certainly than at the other transport stations I have passed, and there is a Colonel in command. Twenty-nine Chinese prisoners from Kaiping arrived here to-night on their way south.

The contrast between the ruined condition of the houses for the first 30 miles north of Kinchow and their freedom from destruction for the rest of the way has been explained to me by the Colonel here to-night. After the taking of Kinchow by the Japanese on November 6th, a Chinese army remained in the villages immediately to the north of that city for a fortnight, using the roofs of the houses for fuel. When the Japanese were engaged in the taking of Port Arthur, the Chinese north of Kinchow made an unsuccessful attempt to regain the latter city; and, the attempt failing, retreated rapidly to Kaiping, not lingering long enough on the way to work any serious destruction.

Monday, January 28th.

No, the cold is certainly not exaggerated, if to-day, is a fair specimen. In the morning I simply could not bear it on horseback, and had to walk to keep myself warm. The draught animals all had icicles hanging to their nostrils, and my own beard and moustache froze to the face flaps of my fur-lined cap, so that I had an experience whenever I moved my head of a species of punishment of which I have heard or read, in which a pitch plaster is applied to a whiskered face and then torn off with the hairs attached. The icicles on the fur of the cap yet remain after three hours in the office here (Kaiping), and another three in the room in which we are to sleep.

I was asking myself to-day, in the words of the children's game, whether my revolver was "useful or ornamental." Had I met a Chinese bandit, it would, I fear, have proved ornamental merely. To expose my bare hand to the wind and to handle cold metal would in a second or two have rendered my fingers too stiff to pull the trigger; and my fur-lined gloves, like those of the giant Skyrmir, in which Thor and his companions once passed the night, have one bag for the thumb and another for the four fingers, and so could not be used in firing a pistol. The soldiers' gloves have three divisions, for thumb, forefinger, and the three remaining fingers respectively; and mine should have the same, which would have rendered them more handy also for the less warlike but frequently needed operation of blowing my nose.

Riding as fast in the afternoon as the slippery roads would permit, I reached Kaiping fully three hours before Tamura. In consequence of this, various officers who were full of information they were eager to impart to the first foreign newspaper correspondent who has found his way here, were compelled to bottle it up for want of a means of communication. When Tamura did at length arrive I was too tired to digest much, and must go into various questions to-morrow. The point they were fullest of was that the Chinese army in evacuating the city had left instructions that the wells should be poisoned before the arrival of the Japanese.

Monday, January 29th.

In the morning I had a conversation with Mr. Okawa, one of the Chinese Interpreters attached to the army. I wished to get some information from him about the relations between the invaders and inhabitants in this district, and was referred to him for information, as he had come with the advance guard to within four *ri* of Kaiping more than a month ago, and was with the army when it entered Kaiping on the 10th of the month. His knowledge of Chinese also gives him exceptional opportunities of learning what the Chinese peasants have suffered at the hands of the soldiers of their own nation.

I have already spoken much of this last point, so I will give one more instance only. When the advance guard entered Shonyu, the fortified town at which we spent last night, they found some houses actually burning. Calling some of the inhabitants together, and showing them Field-Marshal Oyama's proclamation of immunity for all peaceful inhabitants, Mr. Okawa then asked them why their houses were on fire. They had been set on fire, they replied, by the Chinese soldiers who had just evacuated the town, in revenge for the inability of the inhabitants to satisfy their extortionate demands. The Chinese, they said, had no regular service of supplies, and obtained everything by extortion from the districts in which they were settled. Their conduct was cruel in the extreme; and, notably, many of the wives and daughters of the peaceful inhabitants had been violated by the soldiers.

When the Japanese reached Kaiping many of the inhabitants showed them letters they had received from friends in the south explaining that the Japanese army was not cruel like the Chinese, and that they need have no fear of ill-treatment.

The Japanese arrived here on the 10th inst. only, and no system of civil government has yet been established. A military officer, however, is appointed to hear complaints from the inhabitants. No serious complaints against Japanese have been received; but several citizens have suffered at the hands of Chinese robbers, and about ten of these have been arrested. There are about 2,000 Japanese coolies in the town and its neighbourhood, and to avoid danger to the inhabitants these men are kept under military surveillance, and are not allowed to leave their quarters without a permit.

The goods needed by the army are bought from the merchants here. No forced sales take place. The goods are bought through the medium of the Chinese interpreters, and if no agreement is reached about the price nothing is bought. Purchases are effected in silver wherever possible, but when silver runs short notes are used. These are now accepted quite readily by the merchants.

In conclusion, I asked Mr. Okawa why it was that the peasants seemed so perfectly indifferent to the change of masters; had they no national feeling? He thought they had none; that they recognized only the authority of the official with whom they were immediately concerned, and had no general conception of China as a whole. Some time ago, shortly after the landing of the Second Army, Mr. Okawa passed between the First Army and the Second in company with a body of about sixty Japanese soldiers. The people of the district through which they passed exhibited curiosity and interest, but no hostility whatever. No "Alsace-Lorraine question" certainly need arise if the conquered province I have been traversing should be permanently retained by Japan.

After dinner, Tamura and I walked over to General Nogi's camp at Fei-yan-tsai, leaving Takeguchi at Kaiping in charge of baggage, notwithstanding his protests that he would feel dreadfully, "lonely" without us. He, who was so full of valour before we left Japan, proves a wretched coward now that he is in China. All the way along the road he was afraid to be left alone with the Chinese coolies in charge of the baggage; now he is afraid to be left alone in a fortified town swarming with Japanese soldiers; he proves afraid even of the Chinese curs, which have no more bite in them than an October mosquito.

The camp is five miles north of Kaiping, but the outposts of the Second Army stretch ten miles further on over the plain in the direction of the treaty port of Newchwang.

I saw General Nogi as soon as I arrived, and had a long talk with him, but can learn nothing, of course, of future movements. The Chinese troops in the neighbourhood considerably outnumber the Japanese, but that, as he says cheerfully, only offers a bigger target to shoot at.

Tuesday, January 30th.

In the morning one of the officers went with me to the top of a small hill in the neighbourhood of the village to point out the disposition of the Japanese and the Chinese forces in the plain beneath us.

As there seems no prospect of any fighting here immediately, I decided to go on to Haicheng to-morrow. I sent Tamura back to Kaiping for the baggage, which he is to bring on as early as possible to-morrow.

I spent the evening in conversation with Captain Kawasaki, an officer who speaks French.

Saturday, February 17th.

The noise of the Japanese artillery yesterday, which, being at close quarters, I found considerably more trying to my nerves than that of the enemy, had given me a headache which continued this morning, and I was moreover stiff and tired from the unusual exertion of the previous day. But as it was not likely that the enemy would take these facts into consideration, I had to get up and go round to Head-quarters to learn if any further attack was pending. I was advised to go to Kyanchashan, as the Japanese artillery intended to open fire on the enemy if they should venture to come within range. My private opinion, as I plodded along through a blinding snowstorm, was that the enemy would not be such fools as to do anything of the kind, as they would have the wind and the snow in their faces, and would in consequence be at a greater disadvantage than ever. At the foot of the hill I met Major-General Oseko, who had come to the same conclusion, and was returning to his quarters. On his advice I returned to Hai-cheng, and as there was really after all no fighting I had no occasion to regret having done so. But as the walk had cured most of my ailments, I was not sorry to have gone off on a false scent; and I spent the rest of the day very pleasantly, as I at last really had some substantial food for my pen.

Sunday, February 18th.

I was informed to-day that the Chinese yesterday made an attack on Tomu-cheng, between this place and Suiyen, but I have not yet been furnished with details.

In the afternoon Tamura and I walked out to Tauwanshan, the hill which on the 16th was attacked by the infantry of the Chinese left wing. This is farther from the town than I had thought—quite three miles judging by the time it took us to reach it. It is also considerably higher than the other elevations in the neighbourhood of the city; my aneroid gave at the summit a reading of 350 feet above the plain. As luck would have it we were half an hour too late to witness a skirmish that took place on the plain near the foot of the hill, between 200 Chinese cavalry and 100 Japanese infantry. A young officer walked up the hill with us, and told us about the attack of the 16th. Towards the north-west the hill sends out into the plain a shoulder a hundred feet high, and the Japanese, before they opened fire from the summit of the hill, allowed the Chinese to gain the brow of this shoulder. Only a round or two as usual was needed to send them back faster than they had come. A large portion of the force that threatened this position withdrew to a considerable distance; but 3,000 men remain in a large village about a mile and a half from the hill, and will probably make another attack before long.

The brother of the officer we were talking to was a member of the scouting-party surprised by the Chinese on the 6th inst., and was one of the three men killed. I had previously thought that only one man had been killed, the man whose decapitated body was shown to me, but in this it appears I was mistaken. This officer's body, like

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the one I saw, had also been decapitated by the Chinese before it was recovered by his comrades.

Monday, February 19th.

Rumours of wars to-day, but no wars. An attack was expected on Kyau-cha-shan or Tau-wan-shan, the hills westward of the town, so immediately after breakfast we went to the former. When we arrived at the top we found that there was no sign of an advance, so, after waiting for an hour, we went on to Tau-wan-shan. Before climbing the hill we went to the military headquarters in the village at the foot. This is the village at which we dined on February 16th, the last day of our journey to Hai-cheng, and I was therefore already acquainted with Major Ishida, the officer in command. This place had been the scene of some of the severest fighting on the 16th instant, and I was able to obtain some information from an officer who kindly accompanied me to a position from which the ground of the contest was visible throughout. I need not, however, enter into a full description of the affair, for I have already said a good deal about it, and, moreover, it is impossible to make the events intelligible to anyone that has not seen the place. But I may mention one point that puzzled me at the time and has only now been made clear to me. I mean the fact that whereas the Japanese allowed a considerable force of Chinese to get within comparatively easy range before opening fire on them, the casualties on the Chinese side were reported to be only 70 and 80 killed. The explanation of this is that the casualties given in the Japanese official reports were limited to those actually known to have occurred, namely, to the number of dead found upon the field. But the Chinese being in great force—immensely outnumbering the Japanese—were able to carry away many of their dead, and were indeed seen removing several cartloads, whose contents did not, of course, enter the Japanese tally.

I have alluded once or twice to the terror that the Japanese artillery fire never fails to inspire among the Chinese, and I may mention a quaint illustration of it that occurred on the 16th instant. The story was told to me by an eye-witness. A little duel of artillery was commenced at a range of about 600 yards, each side having one gun in action. The Chinese ran out their piece to a position some ten yards in front of a wall, probably deriving a sense of security from the mere propinquity of a hiding place. They served the gun for a few minutes, but after two or three rounds from the Japanese side, they suddenly fell into a mood of discretion and retreated helter skelter behind the wall, leaving their gun *in situ*. By and by they ventured out once more to remove the gun, but a Japanese shell drove them back speedily. Then, from behind the wall, they resorted to a comical device—nothing more or less than to lasso the piece. A great many casts were made without success, but at last they managed ■ hitch the rope over the gun in such fashion that the weapon could be drawn back through the door in the wall. I suppose they said *hai-ya!* when they accomplished their unique feat, and I am sure that the Japanese observing it laughed a great deal more than even I did on hearing of it.

The Japanese infantry on the hill were under the cover of forts built of snow. These were found to give a very efficient protection. The walls were made 6 feet thick, and shots fired from a distance of four to six hundred yards penetrated less than two feet. The snow on this occasion happened to be of good quality for the purpose. Powder snow of course is useless; the snow must be "binding," like that suitable for making snowballs.

February, 20th.

I am becoming quite accustomed now to my brick bed, and sleep quite comfortably on it. When I return to European habits, I expect I shall find a horse-hair mattress and spring extremely luxurious, or, as Shakespeare's Henry VI., said, "curious," and perhaps difficult to sleep in at first.

Moreover, the weather being again very cold, we look forward to the hours in bed as the warmest of the twenty-four. I have to keep the window open all day, as I find the smoke that creeps in from a green wood fire on the floor of the next room less tolerable than the cold. How Takeguchi, who works in the smoke all day, endures it, I cannot understand. I don't think I could ever be accustomed to that as I have become accustomed to the cold. To this last I am now inured. Out of doors I have to be as careful as ever of my extremities; but in doors I can sit without serious discomfort and write for hours in a room so cold that my ink is frozen hard, and I have to do all my writing with pencil on carbon paper. If I thaw my fountain pen with a hot water bottle I can use it by blowing on the point every few seconds, but this becomes wearisome after a time. I have to write in thick gloves, or my hands are stiffened by contact with the ice-cold paper. But my feet are on the hot bricks, and are thus kept warm whatever the temperature of the atmosphere.

So much for the cold: and as for the dirt—I am drinking of the waters of Lethe, and shall soon have forgotten that I was ever clean!

THE TONG-HAK.

In conversation with a Japanese friend not long ago, I remarked that the Tong Haks were the occasion of the Chinese-Japanese war. He showed a good appreciation of the word by replying. "Yes, the relations of China and Japan had become petroleum, and the Tong Hak was the match." Being then the occasioning cause of this great war, it may not prove uninteresting to make more inquiry concerning its history.

The Tong Hak originated at Kyeng Chu in the province of Kyeng Sang in 1859. Kyeng Chu is a walled town forty five-miles north of Fusan. Its founder, Choi Chei Ou, was a scholar and claims to have had the following experience. Having been for some years a witness of the progress made by the Roman Catholic church, he began to think deeply as to whether it was the true religion. "Since they have come so far and spent so much money in its propagation, it ought to be true; and yet if true why are its followers now being killed by the government as criminals?" As he brooded thus from day to day, he fell sick. Though he used much medicine, he became no better and finally was at the point of death. One morning just as the sun's rays began to peep over the eastern hills, he fell into a kind of trance and there appeared unto him some supernatural being.

He called his name—"Choi Chei Ou!"

"Yea."

"Knowest not who speaketh unto thee?"

"Nay, who art thou?"

"I am God; worship me and thou shalt have power over the people."

Choi then asked him concerning the question nearest his heart—"Is the Roman Catholic the true religion?"

The answer was—"No, the word and the time are the same, but the thought and spirit are different from the true."

I shall not attempt to interpret the above. With this God departed. Choi, seeing a pen close by, grasped it and there came out in circular form upon the paper these words: "Since from aforetime we have worshipped Thee, Lord of Heaven, according to thy good will, do Thou always bestow upon us to know and not forget all things (concerning Thee); and since thine unspeakable thoughts have come to us, do Thou abundantly for us according to our desire." Choi then picked up the scroll, burnt it, poured the ashes into a bowl of water and drank it. Immediately he arose, and his sickness was entirely gone.

Choi felt himself called to found a new religion. He thereupon proceeded to make the Tong Hak Bible, which is called *Sung Kyeng Tai Chun* or "Great Sacred Writings." He took from Confucianism the book of the five relations, from Buddhism the law for heart cleansing, from Taoism the law of cleansing the body from moral as well as from natural filth. So one of the names used for this book is made by combining the names of the three religious *You Poul Sun Sam To*. The influence of Romanism may be seen in the term for God in the prayer, *Chun Chu* being the one chosen. Romanism is also, indirectly at least, responsible for the name they called it, Tong Hak or Eastern Learning in contradistinction to So Hak (Romanism) or Western Learning. This taken in connection with the fact of its being a combination of the true Oriental religions easily accounts for the name.

Beginning in the province of Kyeng Sang, the Tong Hak religion spread over into Choung Chong and Chulla. It increased in numbers until 1865 when a persecution broke out against the Roman Catholics. Choi was apprehended, accused of being a Romanist, and was beheaded at Tai Ku, the capital of Kyeng Sang, by order of the Government, and the religion was thus put under ban.

The Tong Haks are monotheists. They reject the Buddhistic belief of the transmigration of souls, and do not use images in worship. Their rites are few and simple. When members are to be initiated, a master of ceremonies calls the candidates before him. Two candles are lit, fish, bread, and sweet wine are placed before them. Then they repeat twenty-four times in concert the Tong Hak prayer "*Si Chun Chu*," &c. Bowing before the candles completes the ceremony, when they rise and partake of the banquet—the expenses of which are paid by newly initiated. They claim that they do not sacrifice, making a distinction between the words *Chei Sa* and *Tchi Sung*. They worship as follows: Cement, red clay and one smooth stone are taken and an altar is made. Upon this a bowl of pure water is placed and at night the worshipper bows before this with forehead on the floor praying the "Si Chun Chu," &c. When his prayers are over, he drinks the water, calling it the cup of divine favour.

It is stated that when the founder was miraculously cured, that he wrote a number of mystic signs upon slips of paper, which, when given to any sick Tong Hak, produced instant recovery. I have in my possession a copy of a paper taken from the body of a Tong Hak recently slain in the province of Choung Chong. The signs are utterly unintelligible, looking much like a child's first attempt at drawing spiders. The first reads: If you carry this, hundreds of devils cannot overcome you." The second makes the body weapon proof. It is said that one of the Tong Haks approached the Korean soldiers flourishing one of these papers. At first they were overcome by his daring and were afraid to fire. Finally a brave, more bold than the rest, ventured a shot, killed the Tong Hak and dispelled the enchantment. The third gave a prosperous journey, &c. This superstition is practiced in China; and I am informed that Japanese magicians profess to heal by means of the same mystic characters. The Tong Hak doubtless adopted it from China. We are told by outsiders of other miraculous powers belonging to them. It was the custom of the founder to ride upon a cloud. To jump over a house, or from one hill to another was a common practice. A house so commanded by a Tong Hak suddenly disappeared. If an enemy suddenly appeared in the same room with a Tong Hak, the latter mysteriously vanished. Perhaps there is a modicum of truth in the last statement. This too may be a Chinese custom. An empty purse obeyed the command of the magician and became full. These so-called miracles remind one of the apocryphal gospels and serve in common with other earthly systems to show the infinite disparity between the true miracles of our Divine Lord and all the attempts of feeble man.

Confucianism and Taoism have nothing to say about the future life, and as the Tong Hak refuse the degrading doctrine of the Buddhists, their teaching is concerned solely with this present world. They know nothing of the great scripture truth of the immortality of the soul; and hence, in common with all other Koreans when asked—"If a man die shall he live again?" they answer—"Who can know?" which is their strongest expression for—"It cannot be known."

So far I have treated the Tong Hak purely as a religious body, taking some liberty perhaps with the word "religious." Such they were until a few years ago. But there existed along side, *perhaps antedating it a few years*, a state of oppression of the people by the officials which was becoming more and more intolerable. Every spring for several years there has been the rumbling of revolution in the interior. The people were looking somewhere, *anywhere* for assistance. Some went to the Roman Catholics; the majority, to the Tong Hak. They had a common cause against those in authority. The Tong Hak leader had been beheaded and their religion prohibited. Thus there was a large ingathering of those who were Tong Hak in name only. Had the Tong Hak remained a religious body with principles in harmony with good government, it would have had a right to exist. Every man has a right to worship God according to the dictates of his own conscience. But the political soon dominates the religious and they became a body of revolutionists.

In the spring of '93, fifty Tong Haks came up to Sōul and spread a complaint before the Palace gate, on a table, over which was thrown a red cloth. They asked that their leader, the martyred Choi Chei Ou, be declared innocent, that he be given a certain rank, and that they be allowed to erect a monument in his memory. Further, that the ban be taken off their religion, and that they be allowed equal privileges with the Roman Catholics. If this was not granted they would drive all foreigners from the country. The King replied that he would give the matter serious consideration, and requested that they would cease to obstruct the thoroughfare in front of His Majesty's gate. This was followed by the arrest of a few Tong Haks in the district from which the fifty came. Their petition was not granted.

In the following Spring the long expected uprising came. At first everything was swept before them. The Korean soldiery were unable to check their forces. Governors, magistrates, and other officers were deposed in summary order, many meeting swift justice for past misdeeds. The Tong Hak gained over the people in the following manner. A man clothed as a high official was sent to a village. He carried the royal seal of authority, *pyeng pou*, a reed given by the

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King to his messengers. This reed is broken, one half remaining in the Palace and the other being carried by the official. This intimated that there was royalty among the Tong Haks. This officer summoned the villagers before him and asked who were Tong Haks. The unwilling were then politely urged to join until the majority came over. These then were sent against the halting minority. If they failed, the officers summoned the stubborn one before him. He would not so much as see his face but the victim was made to kneel on the ground outside the officer's door and was told to join at once or take the consequences—death.

At first they were all victorious, but since the Japanese took the field against them they have gradually been driven into corners and their leaders have been killed.

Coming through the little west gate, on Jan. 22nd, I was shocked to notice the head of "Kim" the leader and wonder-worker among the Tong Haks, with the heads of three other leaders tied together by the hair and hung upon poles in the middle of street, intended doubtless as a warning to other offenders. It is, however, a most barbarous and unjustifiable custom which cannot be too strongly condemned. Let us hope that the head of Kim, the Tong Hak, will be the last sign of a custom that does not serve the purpose for which it was intended but only serves to demoralize the people and accustom them to scenes of blood.—WILLIAM M. JUNKIN in the *Korean Repository*.

CHESS.

(All Communications to be addressed to the CHESS EDITOR.

The Yokohama Chess Club meets at the Club Hotel, No. 5, Bund, on Monday and Thursday in each week from 5 to 11 p.m.

The Tokyo Chess Club meets at the Tokyo Hotel every Friday from 1 to 7 p.m.

SOLUTION TO PROBLEM No. 168.

WHITE.	BLACK.
1—Q to Q R sq.	1—Any
2—Mates accordingly.	

Correct solutions received from Omega, Digamma, W.H.S., Kr., J.D., W. Barrie, and E. J. King.

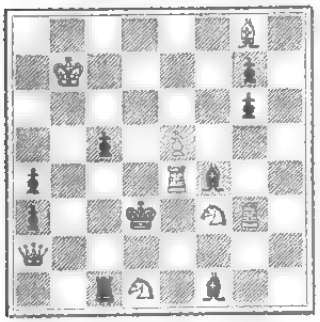
PROBLEM No. 169.

This problem has a second solution beginning Q to Q B 3, overlooked by the composer. A black pawn on Q Kt 5 and a black knight on Q Kt sq., will, we think, make the position correct.

PROBLEM No. 170.

By JOSEF POSPISIL.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in two moves.

In a recent problem-solving contest Mrs. Showalter handed in her solutions twelve minutes in advance of any of her competitors.

GAME No. 233.

MACDONNELL'S IMMORTAL GAME.

The following chess brilliant is considered by Mr. G. H. D. Gossip to be one of the most magnificent chess masterpieces on record, and only slightly inferior to the famous Anderssen-Kieseritzky game:—

QUEEN'S GAMBIT.

WHITE. Labourdonnais.	BLACK. MacDonnell.
1—P to Q 4	1—P to Q 4
2—P to Q B 4	2—P takes P
3—P to K 4	3—P to K 4
4—P to Q 5	4—P to K B 4
5—Kt to Q B 3	5—Kt to K B 3
6—B takes P	6—B to Q B 4 (a)
7—Kt to B 3	7—Q to R 5
8—B to K Kt 5 (?)	8—B takes P ch. (!)
9—K to B sq.	9—B to Kt 3
10—Q to K 2	10—P to B 5
11—Q R to Q sq.	11—B to K Kt 5
12—P to Q 6	12—P takes P
13—Kt to Q 5	13—Kt takes Kt!!(b)
14—B takes Q	14—Kt to K 6 ch.
15—K to K sq.	15—K takes B
16—Q to Q 3	16—R to Q sq.
17—K to Q 2	17—Q Kt to B 3
18—P to Q Kt 3	18—B to Q R 4
19—P to Q R 3	19—Q R to ■ sq.
20—R to Kt sq.	20—P to Q Kt 4
21—B takes P	21—B takes Kt
22—P takes B	22—Kt to Q 5
23—B to B 4	23—Kt takes B P ch.
24—K to B 2	24—Kt takes Q ■
25—K R takes P ch.	25—K to B 3
26—R to B 7 ch.	26—K to Kt 3
27—R to Q Kt 7	27—Kt (Q 7) takes B
28—P takes Kt	28—R takes P
29—Q to Kt sq.	29—B to Kt 3
30—K to B 3	30—R to B 6
31—Q to R 2	31—Kt to B 5 dis. ch.
32—K to Kt 4	32—R to K Kt sq.
33—R takes B	33—P takes R
34—K to R 4	34—K to B 3
35—Q to K 2	35—R to K Kt 3
36—Q to R 5	36—Kt to K 6 and wins (c).

(a) If ■ takes KP, then 7, B to K Kt 5.
(b) A beautiful sacrifice, though not strictly sound, because White should not have taken the Q, but have played 14. B takes Kt, for if Black replied 14. Q takes B, then followed 15. B takes P, winning the exchange.
(c) An exceedingly entertaining game.

The Chess Editor of the *Sunday States* (New Orleans) has found the following paragraph in an old scrap-book:—"The first essential of an amusement is that it should amuse. Chess will always do this, if honestly played, and to a right-thinking opponent, the exertion of playing an up-hill game, or endeavouring to retrieve a slip, affords a keener joy than even that of closing in upon the prey. But young players who get most of their knowledge by going over the games printed in books fall unconsciously into the habit of thinking that the loss of a piece, or even a minority of two or three Pawns, imposes on them the necessity of surrendering to *force majeure*. The result is that what might be the most interesting part of the game is never played, and the student hardly knows how to conduct an end-game at all, but crams himself with books for the first dozen moves or so of perhaps a dozen openings."

GAME No. 234.

CHESS IN SYDNEY.

The game published below was played in 25 minutes at the School of Arts, Sydney, at the conclusion of the annual meeting. The contestants were two of the strongest players in the colony.

PONZIANI OPENING.

WHITE.	BLACK.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—Kt to K B 3	2—Kt to Q B 3
3—P to B 3	3—P to Q 4
4—Q to R 4	4—P to B 3
5—B to Kt 5	5—K Kt to K 2
6—P takes P	6—Q takes P
7—P to Q 4	7—B to Q 2
8—Castles	8—P to Q R 3 (a)
9—B to Q B 4	9—Kt takes P (b)
10—B takes Q	10—B takes Q
11—B takes P	11—Kt to K 7 ch.
12—K to R sq.	12—R to Q Kt sq.
13—B takes P	13—Kt takes B
14—R takes Kt	14—R takes P
15—Q Kt to Q 2	15—B to B 3
16—K R to Kt sq.	16—R takes R (c)
17—R takes R	17—B takes Kt
18—Kt takes B	18—Kt to Kt 3
19—R to Kt 8 ch.	19—K to B 2
20—B to B 4 ch.	20—K to K 2
21—P to Q R 4 (d)	21—K to Q 2
22—P to R 5	22—B to B 4
23—R takes R	23—Kt takes R
24—P to R 6	24—B takes P
25—Kt to Q 4	25—K to B sq. (e)
26—Kt to B 6	26—Kt to Kt 3 (f)
27—B to K 6, mate.	

(a) The proper continuation was—8. P takes P, 9. P takes P —Kt to K 4!
(b) Boldly played, but White comes best out of the mêlée.
(c) R to Kt 3 seems better.
(d) This P looks for promotion.
(e) Fatal; he should have taken the Kt with B.
(f) Missing White's threatened mate, but the game was lost for Black.

Mr. W. C. Bennett informs the chess editor of *The Times* that many years ago he went to India, and, like all young players, imagined himself almost an expert. He continues as follows:—"Going to the Bazaar in Delhi I soon picked up with a very devout and learned Munshi, Rum Buksh by name, who immediately challenged me to a friendly game. I was only too glad to give this gentleman a licking, but to my great surprise and his intense amusement I was beaten in 25 or 26 moves. I was taken down, not a step, but a flight. Well, I attribute my defeat to these facts:—1. As a rule the natives do not move a Pawn two squares at first. 2. They do not practise taking a Pawn *en passant*. 3. They do not Castle. 4. If a Pawn reaches the royal line it can become, not necessarily, a Queen but say it reaches a Rook's square it becomes a Rook; if a Kt sq. it becomes a Kt, or if a ■ sq. it becomes a Bishop, and so on, according to the royal sq. on which it arrives. These rules, of course, upset one's calculations, and would, if adopted in this country, revolutionise the game. It was some years before I quite got into Indian methods, and I may add several more before I could eradicate them from my mind. 5. Lastly, the Hindoos and Mussulmans of India, and also Arabs, adopt most irregular openings—such, for instance, as K P one sq., K Kt P one sq. But their chief skill is generally developed in their Kt play, a practice which is too often slighted in England.

GAME No. 235.

Chess-players will not have forgotten that in the recent Masters Tourney at New York Mr. Hymes, of Columbia College, played what was regarded as a new move against Mr. Steinitz. It is now announced that the move in question had been tried some months previously by Herr Schallopp. The experiment was made in the following game by correspondence between him and M. Tabuntschikoff, of Gatchina, in Russia. The score and the notes (somewhat condensed) are from the London *Standard*:—

RUY LOPEZ.

WHITE. Schallopp.	BLACK. Tabuntschikoff.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—Kt to K B 3	2—Kt to Q B 3
3—B to Kt 5	3—P to Q R 3
4—B to R 4	4—P to Q 3
5—P to Q 4	5—B to Q 2
6—Castles	6—P to Q Kt 4
7—B to Kt 3	7—Kt takes P
8—Kt takes Kt	8—P takes Kt
9—P to Q B 3 (a)	9—P takes P (b)
10—Kt takes P (c)	10—Kt to B 3 (d)
11—P to B 4	11—P to Kt 5 (e)
12—Kt to Q 5	12—P to ■ 3 (f)
13—Kt takes Kt ch.	13—P takes Kt (g)
14—Q to R 5	14—Q to K 2
15—B to Q 2	15—Q R to Kt sq.
16—Q R to K sq.	16—R to Kt 4
17—P to K 5	17—K to Q sq.
18—B to B 4	18—P to Q 4
19—B takes R	19—R P takes B
20—P takes P	20—Q takes P
21—P to B 5 (h)	21—P to R 3
22—B to B 4	22—B to B 4 ch.
23—K to R sq.	23—B to Q 5
24—B to Kt 3	24—K to B sq.
25—Q to Kt 4	25—P to B 4
26—Q to B 4	26—Q to Q Kt 3
27—R to K 7	27—P to B 3
28—K R to ■ sq.	28—P to R 4 (i)
29—R takes ■	29—K takes R
30—R to K 6	30—Q takes R,

And Schallopp mated in four moves.

NOTES.

(a) The move made in the Hymes-Steinitz game and then regarded as new. It is obvious that if, instead, 9 Q takes P, then 9...P to B 4; 10 Q moves, P to B 5; and Black wins a piece.
(b) Best. If, instead, 9...Kt to B 3, then 10 P takes P, and Black could not continue with 10...Kt takes P, because of 11 B to Q 5.
(c) Here Hymes played 10 Q to Q 5, which led to a drawn result. Schallopp, however, saw correctly that there was more than a draw in the attack.
(d) Inferior to 10...B to K 3, after which, however, 11 P to B 4 would still have given White the better developed game.
(e) 11...B to Kt 5; 12 Q to K sq., B to K 3, is also unsatisfactory.
(f) If 12...Kt takes P, White wins by 13 Q to B 3, Kt to B 4; 14 R to K ■ ch, B to ■ 3; 15 P to B 5.
(g) If 13...Q takes P, White wins by 14 P to K 5, Q to Kt 3; 15 P to B 5, B takes P; 16 Q to B 5, B to K 4; 17 B takes P ch, K to Q sq; 18 Q to K ■ 3.
(h) A powerful move. If in reply 21...Q takes Kt P, White wins by 22 B to B 4, Q to Kt 2; 23 P to B 6, Q to Kt 3; 24 Q to K 5.
(i) If 28...B to K 4, then 29 K R takes B, P takes B; 30 Q takes K P, R to ■ sq; 31 Q takes P, and White wins.
(j) Beginning with 32 ■ to B 7 ch, ■ to K sq; and continuing with 32 P takes Q, &c.

The London *Standard* reports that among the possible matches of the early future will be one, to be played at Hastings, between Blackburne and Von Bardeleben, or, failing Von Bardeleben, between Blackburne and Mieses. The *Standard* adds that if neither German master be found available, Janowsky may be.

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Game No. 236.

A Lively Skirmish.

Played at School of Arts Chess Club, Sydney, 19th January, 1895.

White. Mr. W.	Black. Mr. H. Taylour.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—Kt to K B 3	2—Kt to Q B 3
3—B to Kt 5	3—Kt to B 3
4—P to Q 3	4—P to Q 3
5—Castles	5—B to K 2 (a)
6—Kt to B 3	6—Castles
7—B to K 3	7—B to Kt 5
8—P to K R 3	8—B to R 4
9—P to K Kt 4 (b)	9—Kt takes Kt P (c)
10—P takes Kt	10—B takes P
11—B takes Kt	11—P takes B
12—K to Kt 2	12—P to B 4!
13—K to Kt 3 (d)	13—P to B 5 ch.
14—K takes B, and Black announced mate in three moves (e).	

(a) or P to K Kt 3 with B to K Kt 2 to follow.
(b) Violating the "principles" and exposing his position.
(c) Sound enough for a "skittle."
(d) Awfully bad.
(e) A neat termination.

The Cult of Caissa.

(Written by a member of the Brighton Chess Club, and sung at a smoking concert recently given by the president of the club.)

They may sing of the bat and the wicket,
Of the racquet and net on the green;
But what are lawn tennis and cricket
To the game of the Pawn and the Queen?
The gun is a tyrant and slayer,
The niblick* a joy for the few;
Give me chess with a chivalrous player,
And a fig for what others may do!

In summer, when perfume of roses
Blows in at the half-open door,
When the volume unwillingly closes,
And talking is voted a bore;
Then, O for some leafy pavilion,
Some bower th' hot rays never drench,
With a friend deeply versed in Sicilian,
And the intricate web of the French!

And in winter, when dismal and dreary
The snowflakes fall thick in the street,
When newsboys limp haggard and weary,
And policemen take nips on their beat;
Then, whether it thaws or it freezes,
For a nook by a warmth-giving flame,
With the boxwood and ebony pieces,
And a comrade adept at the game.

* Used in playing golf.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[Reuter "Special" to "Japan Mail."]

London, March 18.

The St. Petersburg correspondent of *The Times* states that the whole of the Russian Squadron in the Mediterranean will leave there for the Pacific to be in readiness for eventualities.

Señor Sagasta and the Spanish Cabinet have resigned.

London, March 20.

Persistent insomnia greatly retards Lord Rosebery's recovery. It is officially stated that he has no thought of resigning.

["Special" Telegram to "Japan Mail."]

Bakan, March 19, 9.35 a.m.

The Chinese Embassy arrived here at 9 o'clock in two ships, piloted by the *Taiko Maru*.

Bakan, March 19, 2.20 p.m.

Wu Ting-fang and Messrs. Foster and Pethick have landed here, but, in consequence of indisposition, Li Hung-chang was unable to leave the ship. Wu Ting-fang expressed his admiration of the elaborate preparations that had been made to receive the Embassy, and said that he would try to persuade the Viceroy to land if he could obtain the doctor's permission.

Shimonoseki, March 22, 8.15 p.m.

No conference was held to-day. It is rumoured that the Peace Plenipotentiaries will not meet again for three days.

(From Japanese Papers.)

Shimonoseki, March 21.

The Chinese Envoy sent a long telegram to Pekin to-day.

Shanghai, March 22.

Twenty Japanese men-of-war were seen off Takao (Formosa) yesterday.

Hiroshima, March 22.

It is stated that nothing has yet been decided as to the departure of the Emperor for Kyoto although there is a rumour in official circles to that end. Supposing that His Majesty visits Kyoto, his departure will not take place within the near future.

The rumoured presence of the Empress at the opening of the Kyoto Exhibition, which takes place on the 1st prox. does not rest on a sound basis.

Hiroshima, March 22.

The students of the third, fourth, and fifth year classes in the Hiroshima Ordinary Middle School refused in a body to-day to continue their studies. The alleged harshness of the President is said to be the cause of the affair. The boys are determined to leave the school unless the President is dismissed.

H.I.M. the Empress inspected the Temporary Military Hospital this afternoon. She passed through all the rooms and asked each patient about the fights in which he was engaged, and inquired into the condition of the wounds. She wished them all a speedy and thorough recovery. The convalescent patients were assembled together, and the Empress passed along their front. She expressed her pleasure at seeing the progress that each had made towards recovery. She spoke to them of the joy which their conduct had occasioned to their parents, and gave them her hearty good wishes for restored health. The Empress told the disabled Chinese prisoners that they should endeavour to recover their ordinary health so that they might return to their homes. She was greatly pleased with the services rendered by Surgeon-Generals Ishiguro and Sato.

Hiroshima, March 22.

A telegram was received this morning from a trustworthy source stating that the Japanese have occupied Fisher Island.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From America	per P. M. Co.	Sunday, April 2nd.*
From Europe, viâ Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd	Saturday, Mar. 23rd.†
From Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Sunday, Mar. 24th.
From Hongkong	per C. P. R. Co.	Thursday, Mar. 28th.‡
From Europe, viâ Hongkong	per M. M. Co.	Sunday, Mar. 31st.§
From Canada, &c.	per C. P. R. Co.	Monday, April 14th.
From America	per O. & O. Co.	Sunday, April 21st.

* *City of Peking* left San Francisco on March 14th. † *Nürnberg* left Hongkong on March 16th. ‡ *Empress of Japan* left Hongkong on March 20th. § *Oanfa* (with French mail) left Hongkong on March 22nd.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For Europe, viâ Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd	Sunday, Mar. 24th.
For Canada, &c.	per C. P. R. Co.	Friday, Mar. 29th.
For America	per O. & O. Co.	Friday, Mar. 29th.
For Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Saturday, Mar. 30th.
For Victoria, B.C., & Tacoma, Wash.	per N. P. Co.	Saturday, Mar. 30th.
For Europe, viâ Shanghai	per M. M. Co.	Saturday, April 6th.
For Hongkong	per C. P. R. Co.	Monday, April 14th.
For America	per P. M. Co.	Sunday, April 21st.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Presto, German steamer, 870, Stehr, 16th March, —Manila viâ Kobe, Sugar.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Empress of China, British steamer, 3,003, R. Archibald, 17th March,—Vancouver, B.C., 4th March, Mails and General.—Frazar & Co.

Milduva, British steamer, 1,360, Burnsen, 17th March,—Takao, Sugar.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Peru, American steamer, 2,540, D. E. Friele, 17th March,—Hongkong viâ ports, 9th March, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Calédonien, French steamer, 2,500, Flandin, 18th March,—Marseilles 3rd February, Hongkong 8th March, Shanghai 12th, Nagasaki 15th, and Kobe 17th, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

Guy Mannering, British steamer, 2,829, Walker, 18th March,—Singapore, Ballast.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Strathcarron, British steamer, 1,780, Splatt, 18th March,—London viâ ports, General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Rosie Olsen, British schooner, 38, A. Whidden, 19th March,—Victoria, B.C., Sealing Gear.—T. M. Laffin.

Doris, German steamer, 771, Petersen, 20th March,—Takao, Sugar.—Flint Kilby & Co.

Gaelic, British steamer, 2,690, W. G. Pearne, 21st March,—San Francisco 5th March, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Tantalus, British steamer, 2,199, Hannah, 22nd March,—Liverpool, viâ ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

DEPARTURES.

Winchester, American schooner, 98, F. Johnson, 16th March,—North Pacific, Sealing Gear.—T. M. Laffin.

City of Rio de Janeiro, American steamer, 2,246, J. T. Smith, 17th March,—San Francisco, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Verona, British steamer, 1,878, C. H. S. Tocque, 17th March,—Hongkong viâ Kobe and Nagasaki, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Empress of China, British steamer, 3,003, R. Archibald, 18th March,—Hongkong viâ ports, Mails and General.—Frazar & Co.

Presto, German steamer, 870, Stehr, 18th March, —Manila, Ballast.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Amaranth, British steamer, 1,753, Cliff, 19th March,—Otaru viâ ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Brenda, British schooner, 99, G. E. Locke, 19th March,—North Pacific, Sealing Gear.—T. M. Laffin.

Carlotta G. Cox, British schooner, 82, C. J. Harris, 19th March,—North Pacific, Sealing Gear.—T. M. Laffin.

City of San Diego, British schooner, 46, S. Pike, 19th March,—North Pacific, Sealing Gear.—T. M. Laffin.

Rose Sparks, American schooner, 42, J. J. Sparks, 19th March,—North Pacific, Sealing Gear.—T. M. Laffin.

Sadie Turpel, British schooner, 64, R. Anderson, 19th March,—North Pacific, Sealing Gear.—T. M. Laffin.

Umbrina, British schooner, 98, C. Campbell, 19th March,—North Pacific, Sealing Gear.—T. M. Laffin.

Viva, British schooner, 99, M. Pike, 19th March, —North Pacific, Sealing Gear.—T. M. Laffin.

Peru, American steamer, 2,540, D. E. Friele, 19th March,—San Francisco, viâ Honolulu, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Geneva, British schooner, 98, Wm. O'Leary, 19th March,—North Pacific, Sealing Gear.—T. M. Laffin.

Vera, British schooner, 62, Wm. Shields, 19th March,—North Pacific, Sealing Gear.—T. M. Laffin.

Agnes MacDonald, British schooner, 107, M. Cutter, 20th March,—North Pacific, Sealing Gear.—T. M. Laffin.

Ocean Belle, British schooner, 84, P. Martin, 20th March,—North Pacific, Sealing Gear.—T. M. Laffin.

Bowhead, American schooner, 103, W. P. Noyes, 20th March,—North Pacific, Sealing Gear.—T. M. Laffin.

M. M. Merrill, American schooner, 42, E. Cantillion, 20th March,—North Pacific, Sealing Gear. —T. M. Laffin.

Gibraltar (15), cruiser, Captain A. MacLeod, 21st March,—Hongkong.

Mildura, British steamer, 1,860, Burnsen, 22nd March,—Hongkong, viâ ports, Ballast.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Ida Etta, American schooner, W. O. Hughes, 22nd March,—North Pacific, Sealing Gear.—T. M. Laffin.

Calédonien, French steamer, 2,500, Flandin, 23rd March,—Shanghai viâ ports, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

Jane Gray, American schooner, 107, E. W. Funcke, 23rd March,—North Pacific, Sealing Gear.—T. M. Laffin.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per British steamer *Empress of China*, from Vancouver, B.C.:—Mr. H. F. Arthur, Mr. A. W. Bash, Mr. F. S. Blake, Mr. G. B. Blake, Mr. J. S. Bradstreet, Mr. E. W. Brown, Mr. A. M. Bruce, Miss E. R. Coffey, Captain Cox, Mr. F. G. Curtis, Miss Doran, Mr. Duncan Glass, Rev. J. Goforth, Miss Hardman, Mr. Joseph Ho-A-Hing, Mr. Ben Ho-A-Hing, Mr. M. Hosaki, Miss Anna P. Jacobson, Mr. M. Niclassen, Rev. W. Malcolm, Miss May Miller, Mr. W. H. Poate, Mr. H. G. Simon, Mr. Siras, Rev. J. A. Slimman, Mr. J. Austin Smith, Mr. and Mrs. N. H. Swayne, Mr. and Mrs. T. P. Terry, Miss G. E. Whiting, M.D., Mr. Frederic Winthrop, and Mr. and Mrs. Y. Yuoyeno and child in cabin; 17 passengers in steerage, and 79 passengers in steerage.

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Per American steamer *Peru*, from Hongkong viâ ports:—Mr. and Mrs. R. H. Andrews, Mr. C. F. Fearing, and Mrs. R. Marks in cabin. For San Francisco:—Captain F. Davis, Mr. G. L. Holsinger, U.S.N., Mr. E. L. Bissett, U.S.N., Mr. E. H. Campbell, U.S.N., and Mr. J. Joint in cabin, and 4 Europeans in steerage.

Per French steamer *Calédonien*, from Marseilles viâ ports:—Dr. Mècre, Mr. Miguel, Mr. Allemann, Mr. Oesman, Mrs. Sakurai Tatoa, Mr. E. A. Dening and servant, Mr. Acland, Mr. Koop, Mr. Hamm, Mr. Lee, Mr. P. Terchert, Mr. Chan Fat, Mr. and Mrs. Kurdiumoff, 2 children, and 2 servants, Mr. Noguchi, Mrs. Araki and child, M. l'Abbé Henrich, Mr. Ah Seng, Mr. Yee Too, Mr. See Loh, Mr. H. H. West, Mr. and Mrs. Oshima and child, Rev. and Mrs. Pruey and child, Mrs. Grondeff, Mr. Browne, and Mr. F. L. Lund in cabin, and 10 Chinese in steerage.

Per British steamer *Gaelic*, from San Francisco:—Mr. Edward Davis, Mr. C. S. Averill, Mr. Chester Holcombe, Mr. H. C. Wauburton, Mr. G. W. Bramhall, Mr. J. W. Copman, Mrs. H. Daniels, Mr. W. Melchers, Mrs. Alexander Center, Mrs. Alfred Moore, Mrs. B. Chandler Howard, and Mr. Hincelot in cabin. For Hongkong:—Mr. Sands W. Forman, Mrs. Forman, Miss Gertie Forman, and Mr. G. Frieseland in cabin.

DEPARTED.

Per British steamer *Verona*, for Hongkong viâ ports:—Miss T. Uta and servant, Miss O. Tsuchiya, Messrs. K. Tsutada, Z. M. Barradas, W. H. Evans, and G. Schiller in cabin, and 3 Chinese and 1 Japanese in steerage.

Per British steamer *Empress of China*, for Hongkong viâ ports:—Captain Bougouin, Mrs. Bougouin, Mrs. White, Mr. Favre, Mr. Cocksedge, Miss Ferguson, Mr. Levy, Mr. Heckert, Mr. Dart, Mrs. H. J. Sharp, Mr. Fripp, Mr. Schlessinger, Dr. and Mrs. Horsey, Mr. Daunt, and Mrs. Wilkinson in cabin; Mr. Tsuruta, Mr. Lo Dai Sang, and Mr. Lo Min in second class, and 3 passengers in Asiatic steerage.

Per American steamer *Peru*, for San Francisco viâ Honolulu:—Major J. H. Beacom, U.S.A., Mr. E. L. Bisset, U.S.N., Mr. E. H. Campbell, U.S.N., Captain F. Davis, Mr. Donald de V. Graham, Mr. and Mrs. H. M. Gillig and maid, Mr. A. J. Harland, Mr. G. L. Holsinger, U.S.N., Mr. F. E. Lund, Mrs. Pruen, Dr. Pruen and child, Mr. E. A. Sargent, Mr. P. A. Shaw, Mr. G. H. Snell, Mrs. W. S. Stone, Mrs. H. G. Treadway, Mr. Frank L. Ungeg, Mr. and Mrs. C. C. Wakefield, Mr. and Mrs. S. R. Weed, Mr. Geo. A. William, and Mr. Edward Young in cabin.

Per French steamer *Calédonien*, for Shanghai viâ ports:—Mr. Forman, Mr. J. Guggenheim, Mrs. J. Lyons, Messrs. Ah Ting, Yee Boo, See Loh, N. Kawagiri, G. Hincelor, Ed. Davis, James Duncan, Mrs. Sugiyama Kane and 4 children, Messrs. Ouchian Hara, H. Martin, Terrvaille, J. Yuza, Mr. and Mrs. E. Stanley Gibbons, Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Sanderman, Miss J. Stedall, Messrs. J. de Soliveres, Rikisaburo Go, Yoshimasa Kazai, Michitada Kawakita, and Shiyejiro Okama in cabin.

CARGOES.

Per British steamer *Verona*, for Hongkong viâ ports:—Silk, 201 bales; Waste Silk, 118 bales.

Per American steamer *Peru*, for San Francisco viâ Honolulu:—

	SILK.			
	SAN FRANCISCO.	NEW YORK.	HARTFORD.	TOTAL.
Hongkong	—	166	—	166
Yokohama	—	137	—	137
Total	—	303	—	303

Per French steamer *Calédonien*, for Shanghai viâ ports:—Raw Silk for Europe, 117 bales. Treasure for Shanghai, $280,000.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

The good feeling continues, but there is not an overwhelming amount of business doing just at the moment. Buyers appear to think that the improvement in exchange should deflect prices of goods in their favour, but holders are waiting to see if the better prices of silver are likely to last before they reduce quotations.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE.	
Grey Shirtings—8¼lb, 38½ yds. 39 inches	$2.25	to 2.90
Grey Shirtings—9lb, 38½ yds. 45 inches	2.50	to 3.25
T. Cloth—7lb, 24 yards, 32 inches	1.65	to 2.00
Indigo Shirtings—12 yards, 44 inches	1.70	to 2.35
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches	2.00	to 3.75
	PER YARD.	
Cotton—Italians and Satteens Black, 32 inches	0.16	to 0.22
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	7.25	to 9.50
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches	0.85	to 1.00
Turkey Reds—2.0 to 2.4lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.65	to 1.75
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.85	to 2.05
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.30	to 2.60
Turkey Reds—4.8 to 5lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.80	to 3.10

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.	
Flannel	$0.30	to 0.50
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches best	0.32½	to 0.37½
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Medium	0.27½	to 0.30
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Common	0.20	to 0.25
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yards, 21 inches	0.15	to 0.22½
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches	0.35	to 0.50
Cloths—Presidents, 54 @ 56 inches	0.60	to 0.65
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0.40	to 0.70
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 5lb, per lb	0.60	to 0.75

COTTON YARNS.

	PER PICUL.	
Nos. 10/24, Ordinary	—	
Nos. 16/24, Medium	$34 50	to 35.00
Nos. 16/24, Good to Best	35.50	to 36.50
Nos. 16/24, Reverse	—	
Nos. 28/32, Ordinary	—	
Nos. 28/32, Medium	36.00	to 36.50
Nos. 28/32, Good to Best	37.00	to 38.00
Nos. 38/32, Medium to Best	43.00	to 45.00
Nos. 32s, Two-fold	42.00	to 43.00
No. 32s, Two-fold	44.00	to 47.00
	PER BALE.	
No. 20s, Bombay	—	
No. 16s, Bombay	—	

METALS.

Market quiet, but with a fair undercurrent of business at quotations. Deliveries of Bars and Wire Nails go on to a fair extent, and the outlook is pretty healthy.

	PER PICUL.	
Flat Bars, ¼ inch	$3.60	to 3.65
Flat Bars, ⅜ inch	3.65	to 3.70
Round and square up to ¾ inch	3.60	to 3.75
Iron Plates, assorted	3.80	to 3.90
Sheet Iron	4.80	to 5.00
Galvanized Iron sheets	8.50	to 9.00
Wire Nails, assorted	5.90	to 6.20
Tin Plates, per box	6.00	to 6.15
Pig Iron, No. 3	1.70	to 1.72½

KEROSENE.

Prices are still being raised, and the reported combination among holders apparently stands good. Probably buyers will have to come in to the terms asked or go without Oil.

American	$2.25 per case; nominal.
Russian	

SUGAR.

Brown—The *Mildam* from Takao, has replenished stocks, but the trade goes fairly and steadily on. White—The recent splurge has reduced stocks to a comparatively insignificant figure, but fresh arrival will soon be here.

	PER PICUL.	
Brown Takao	$3.60	to 3.65
Brown Manila	4.25	to 4.50
Brown Daitong (New)	3.40	to 3.50
Brown Canton	3.50	to 3.90
White Java and Penang	6.50	to 6.75
White Refined	6.50	to 9.20

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Not a large business this week; although there has been a small daily enquiry. Prices are unchanged but firm, and with some rejections, several moderate purchases have been weighed up.

QUOTATIONS.

Hanks—No. 1	—
Hanks—No. 2 (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 2 (Joshu)	—
Hanks—No. 2½ (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 2½ (Joshu)	—
Hanks—No. 2½ to 3	—
Hanks—No. 3	—
Hanks—No. 3½	—
Filatures—Extra 10/12 deniers	Nom.
Filatures—Extra 13/15 deniers	Nom.
Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers	$850 to 870
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den	840 to 850
Filatures—No. 1½, 10/14 deniers	820 to 830
Filatures—No. 1½, 13/16, 14/17 den	820 to 830
Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers	770 to 790
Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	780 to 790
Filatures—No. 3, 1 120 deniers	—
Re-reels—Extra	—
Re-reels—(Oshu) Best No. 1	—
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 deniers	800 to 810
Re-reels—No. 1½, 13/16, 14/17 deniers	770 to 780
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	740 to 760
Re-reels—No. 2½, 14/18 deniers	—
Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	—
Kakedas—Extra	790 to 795
Kakedas—No. 1	780 to 785
Kakedas—No. 1½	760 to 770
Kakedas—No. 2	710 to 720
Kakedas—No. 2½	—
Kakedas—No. 3	—
Kakedas—No. 3½	—
Kakedas—No. 4	—
Oshu Sendai—No. 2½	—
Hamatsuki—No. 1, 2	—
Hamatsuki—No. 3, 4	—
Sodai—No. 2½	—

WASTE SILK.

No change, and not much life in this market.

QUOTATIONS.

Pierced Cocoons—Good to Best	—
Noshi-ito—Filature, Best	$130 to 135
Noshi-ito—Filature, Good	120 to 125
Noshi-ito—Filature, Medium	110 to 115
Noshi-ito—Oshu, Good to Best	120 to 130
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Best	—
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Good	80 to 90
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Medium	—
Noshi-ito—Bushu, Good to Best	100 to 115
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Best	—
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Good	70 to 75
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Ordinary	60 to 65
Kibiso—Filature, Best selected	100 to 110
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds	90 to 95
Kibiso—Oshu, Good to Best	—
Kibiso—Shinshu, Best	—
Kibiso—Shinshu, Seconds	—
Kibiso—Joshu, Good to Fair	30 to 27½
Kibiso—Joshu, Middlingto Common	25 to 22½
Kibiso—Hachoji, Good to Fair	25 to 23
Kibiso—Hachoji, Medium to Low	22 to 20
Kibiso—Neri, Good to Common	12 to 8
Mawata—Good to Best	—

TEA.

Nothing fresh. With the spring equinox, mild spring weather has come to the aid of all vegetation; and we shall soon be hearing something about "New-leaf."

EXCHANGE.

Exchange experienced a smart rise on Wednesday, then declined a point or two, and closed steady.

Sterling—Bank T.T.	2/0½
— — Bills on demand	2/0½
— — 4 months' sight	2/0½
— Private 4 months' sight	2/0⅞
— — 6 months' sight	2/1
On Paris—Bank sight	2.54
On Lyons—Private 4 months' sight	2.61
On Hongkong—Bank sight	⅛% p.
— Private 10 days' sight	⅛% d.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	71½
— Private 10 days' sight	72½
On India—Bank sight	184
— Private 30 days' sight	186½
On America—Bank Bills on demand	49
— Private 30 days' sight	50½
— — 4 months' sight	51½
On Germany—Bank sight	2.06
— Private 4 months' sight	2.13
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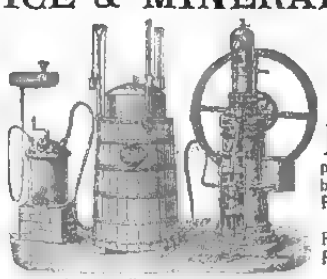
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The Japan Weekly Mail.

A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

No. 13.] REGISTERED AT THE G.P.O. AS A NEWSPAPER. YOKOHAMA, MARCH 30TH, 1895. 明治二十八年三月三十日 VOL. XXII.

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, MARCH 30TH, 1895.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

A HEAVY gale prevailed in Yokohama on Thursday, but little damage was done.

SEVENTEEN girls graduated at the Female Higher Normal School, Tokyo, this year.

THE Korean Ambassador to the Court of Japan will, it is said, leave Sôul for Tokyo on April 10th.

H.I.H. THE EMPRESS has been inspecting the military hospitals at Shimonoseki during the week.

H.I.H. PRINCE KITASHIRAKAWA, Commander-in-Chief of the Imperial Body Guards, is now in Hiroshima.

MR. SMITHERS, the U.S. Consul at Kobe, died on Wednesday morning, after an illness extending over three weeks.

A FIRE broke out in a lacquer dealer's shop in Ota, Yokohama, on Monday night, and thirty houses were destroyed.

MR. HARA, Governor, and Mr. Goto, Chief of Yamaguchi Police, holding themselves responsible for the occurrence of the Shimonoseki incident, have resigned their posts. The Government has accepted the resignations.

MR. HOSHI TORU, writes a correspondent, will shortly be appointed legal adviser to the Korean Government.

THE *Yamato Maru* of the Yokosuka Admiralty station has been wrecked off Wagu-mura, Ago District, Shima Province.

THE reports regarding the outbreak of cholera at Moji are reassuring. No fresh cases have been found for four days past.

A BIG whale, measuring over 15 *ken* (one *ken* = 6 ft.) in length, was lately caught in Miyagi Prefecture. It was sold for *yen* 577.

THE Captain and other officers of the *Chiyoda Kan* were received in audience by the Emperor on the 23rd inst. at Head-quarters.

THE Yokohama General Chamber of Commerce held its general annual meeting on Friday. The report presented was of a very interesting character.

FIFTY typhoid fever cases were reported in Hiroshima Prefecture from the commencement of the month up to the 24th inst. of which thirty ended fatally.

SIXTEEN members of the House of Peers and fifty-three members of the House of Representatives inspected the forts in Tokyo Bay on the 24th inst.

SINCE Postal Savings Bank facilities have been given to the armies afield, *yen* 1,044,424.407 has been transmitted to Japan by the soldiers and coolies at the front.

A BIG snow-slide took place at Horotakei, Yoshikuni District, Shiribeshi Province, Hokkaido, on the 19th inst. A dwelling house was crushed and four persons killed.

A GARDEN party was given by the Ministers, of State to members of both Houses of Diet, at the Akasaka Palace, on the 27th inst., after the official closing of the session.

THE Yokohama Gas Committee report that their financial year closes with a balance in hand of $1,086.63. The expenditure shows a decrease of $291.06 as compared with 1894.

OPINION is general that the Peace negotiations were proceeding so satisfactorily that they would have been concluded this week had not the attempt been made on Li Hung-chang's life.

THE family of the late Viscount Inouye, ex-Minister of Education, propose to contribute to educational and charity funds all the money presents lately received from the friends of the deceased.

MARQUIS HACHISUKA, President of the House of Peers, and Count Matsuura, proceeded to Shimonoseki on the 28th instant to visit the Viceroy Li on behalf of the members of the Upper House.

THE Japanese Government has decided to construct a railway between Port Arthur and Kaiping, and a railway corps will be organized to build a railway between Chinchow and Port Arthur.

THE man who shot Li Hung-chang at Shimonoseki on Sunday is a native of Gumma Prefecture. He purchased the revolver which he used in committing his dastardly crime, at a shop in Yokohama.

THE shareholders of Messrs. Brett & Company, Limited, in view of the unsatisfactory [illegible] presented at the semi-annual meeting of shareholders, have elected an Investigating Committee, who will report to the Managing Director the result of their inquiries.

TWELVE Chinese firms in Yokohama are at present being boycotted by the Japanese merchants. Guards have been stationed in front of these firms to prevent any breach of agreement among the Japanese merchants.

THE Shimonoseki incident has drawn forth universal expressions of sorrow from the Japanese nation. The Imperial Court sent the Emperor's own physician to attend upon the sufferer, while the Empress sent bandages rolled by her own hand.

H.E. LI HUNG-CHANG, while returning to his hotel at Shimonoseki on Sunday afternoon, was shot at by a *soshi*. The bullet entered the left cheek, under the eye, and remains imbedded. The distinguished statesman is making satisfactory progress towards recovery.

REUTER telegraphs:—Slatin Bey has escaped from Omduraman and has arrived at Cairo. Strong efforts are being made to induce the Southern planters in America to restrict the cotton growing area. It is stated that China is soliciting the intervention of Russia and Germany to protect the integrity of continental territory in China against the demands of the Japanese. Spanish troops have routed the Malay Mussulmen in Mindanao, the largest and most southern of the Philippine Islands. About one hundred were killed, including the Sultan and his son. It is stated that arrangements are already progressing in London for a new Chinese gold loan to meet the indemnity which will be required. The Emperor William has visited Friedericksruhe, where he ordered a review of all arms and thanked Prince Bismarck for his services to Germany in front of the troops.

WHILE there is a continued improvement in the tone of the Import trade, and the outlook is better than for some time past, buyers hope that the further advance in the rates of exchange will induce holders to lower prices for Yarns and Shirtings; and they hang back accordingly, thinking that competition amongst sellers will shortly enable them to come on the market. So far, however, as actual purchases are concerned, no alteration in values can be reported. In the Metal market Iron Bars and Plates have been freely taken, and little else has been enquired for. As we mentioned as probable a week ago, buyers of Kerosene have been forced to deal and pay high figures for the Oil taken —$2.20 and more for American, Russian being held for a still higher price—and at this rate holders have a free whip-hand. The Sugar trade is quiet, the demand having fallen off somewhat and arrivals exceeded sales, though a quantity of both White and Brown sorts has been moved. A fair demand has been made for Silk, and while the condition of exchange tends to weaken values for fine kinds suitable for export, coarser grades are held for full rates in consequence of the continued good demand for them for home consumption. The stock, though further reduced, is liable at any moment now to be supplemented by spring reelings. Exchange has operated against the buying of Waste Silk, holders declining to come down, notwithstanding the large stock still on the market. Nothing to report about Tea, good or bad, though the weather has been suitable for leaf growing. Exchange, which had moved upwards during the week, has fallen

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THE SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS DURING THE WEEK.

The Shimonoseki incident has given rise to much discussion in the vernacular press. Ought not the House of Representatives to send a message of condolence to the sufferer? was one of the subjects of debate. The decision of the House, or rather of such of its members as were present in Tokyo pending the closing ceremony—for the session came to an end on the 23rd inst.—was that the House had no competence to do anything of the kind, the prescribed term having expired. This evoked unfavourable criticism from many of the metropolitan papers. They admitted the decision of the members to be strictly constitutional, but they contended that the House ought not to stand idly by when the nation had suffered a heavy calamity, merely for the sake of blindly adhering to the letter of the law. If it was unconstitutional to give any such decision in the name of the House, then why not do so in the name of individual members of the House, represented through their President, Mr. Kusumoto? This they did when Mr. Boissonade departed for home. Then why not now? The *Kokkai*, edited by Mr. Suyehiro, a Member of Parliament, differed from this contention. It applauded the step taken by the members of the House. A question, says our contemporary, requiring deliberate discussion before being definitely settled, is whether, while the closing ceremony has not yet been performed, the session may be prolonged by Imperial order in the event of any necessity suggesting such a course, even though the prescribed period has expired, or whether, when a session is held in that way, it should be regarded as an extraordinary one. Evidently, after the session has come to a close, the House is incompetent to submit to the Sovereign any address asking for a prolongation, and the Government is equally incompetent, so long as there is no Bill to discuss, to order a prolongation and to invite the House to deliberate. Some may maintain that, when the nation is overwhelmed by any great calamity, such as the present one, there is no use for the House to strictly adhere to the rules of constitutional conventionalism, especially when a departure from them is likely to promote the country's interests. The *Kokkai* can not share such an opinion? It condemns it as a step totally destructive of the sanctity of the Constitution and calculated to establish a vicious precedent. When a fanatic made a murderous assault upon the person of the Russian Crown Prince at Otsu in 1891, it was proposed, by way of propitiating Russia, to regard the offence in the light of a criminal attempt against the Imperial Court, and to put the culprit to death. But the judges were inflexible. They rejected that proposal as unconstitutional. And did not public opinion go with them? Why then should a different view be taken to-day especially when it is remembered that what is now proposed is merely a matter of ettiquette offering no practical benefit, and when it is extremely questionable whether the national legislators may properly offer condolence to an embassy from a State with which Japan is engaged in deadly strife?

We note with interest that even the vernacular press, so loud in time of peace to rail against the uselessness of the Peace Preservation Regulations and to urge their abolition, is obliged to acknowledge their necessity on such an occasion as the present, thus indirectly supporting the contention of the Government. But if the papers acknowledge the necessity of that law, they are highly dissatisfied with the manner in which it was put into operation in Shimonoseki, since a would-be assassin was left free to perpetrate his heinous crime. They write in sweeping terms against the local authorities whose remissness to guard against emergencies is considered the direct cause of the miserable affair. They claim, however, that the responsibility is not confined to the Local Governor and the Chief of Police, but that it ultimately rests with the Home Office. The same opinion prevailed on the occasion of the Otsu affair, and not only the Governor and the Chief of the local Police but also the Home Minister of the day were relieved of their offices. In short, the press urges Viscount Nomura to resign his post. But the Home Minister did not wait to be advised by the press. He resolved from the first to accept the responsibility. For we are now told by the same papers that the Governor and the Chief of Police having been dismissed, the latter being even deprived of his rank, the Minister also submitted a document inquiring whether he ought not to give up his portfolio.

* * *

The *Jiji* and other journals are apprehensive lest the public may become disposed, out of sympathy with the unfortunate Chinese Plenipotentiary, to moderate their feelings towards China, and view the enemy with more leniency than before. Such an opinion is denounced as entirely womanish, and as calculated to produce no other result than that of making China more insolent than ever, and converting Japan into an object of universal derision. Should the consideration that the people feel for their brethren fighting abroad be overruled by any sentiment for the Chinese Envoy in consequence of the unfortunate incident that befell him, the act of a silly fanatic, belonging to the same category as that of a man who, being resolved to die, goes to a brothel and murders any girl he meets, simply to satisfy his fancy. It was the unfortunate lot of the Viceroy to be singled out by such a senseless knave, and from that point of view the public ought to sympathize with him. But sympathy with Li and the conduct of the negotiations for peace are distinct things; the one is individual, the other national. The two must never be confounded. The spirit of true chivalry dictates due appreciation and respect for the merits and claims of the fighting men who have obtained such glory for the nation by shedding their blood and whose achivements are about to bear fruit in the negotiations for peace.

* * *

The *Jiji* warns the people not to attach too much importance to the Peace Mission of Viceroy Li, and greatly doubts its sincerity, arguing principally on the lines laid down in a communicated article that appeared recently in these columns. In the first place, Li no longer enjoys the same power in China that he enjoyed before the war broke out. In fact the ignominious defeats that China has sustained are laid at the door of Li, and in the eyes of the Tsung-li Yamên he is a man in disgrace. The loss of his trained troops and of the Peiyang Squadron has brought his influence to the ground. That the Court should entrust him with the task of negotiating for peace is easily conceivable, for he is the only man in China who has sufficient experience in diplomacy. But the very fact that Li, who rarely condescends to go even to Pekin more than once in ten years, has volunteered to come on a humiliating mission to Japan, is a good proof of his changed position. Had he really enjoyed the same influence as before he would have sent some of his trusted followers and would have dictated the plan of the negotiations from his palace in Tientsin. Moreover, the rival faction of Hunan is now predominant at the Court of Pekin, and the faction with which he is identified is declining, wherein lies the cause of his comparative powerlessness. Thus, it is extremely doubtful whether the terms to which he may give his assent will receive endorsement in Pekin. The only thing apparently lending some air of sincerity and trustworthiness to the mission, is the alleged fact that Li has prevailed upon Prince Kung and other statesmen in Pekin to adopt the ideas he holds on the question of peace. But here again another difficulty comes in that tends to counterbalance the authority vested in Li, namely, that the statesmen in Pekin, though installed in distinguished positions have really no influence over the local magnates and not unfrequently a step decided upon by the old Ministers of the Tsung-li Yamên is entirely overruled by inferior but far abler officials in the provinces. It is impossible to place any trust in the sincerity or reliability of the Court of Pekin and its Envoy with regard to concluding peace in a way satisfactory to Japan. The time for a satisfactory peace must be said to have not yet come.

* * *

Several papers bid farewell in very warm terms to the 8th session of the Imperial Diet just closed. Since the inauguration of a constitutional system of government in 1890 the only ordinary sessions that lasted for the presented period of 90 days, were the 1st session and the session that has just been brought to a close. But the latter has other grounds to commend it to the praise of appreciative folks. The *Jiji* his pertinent observations ■ make in this respect. Since the opening of the war, it writes, the Imperial Diet was twice convoked, and on each occasion it acquitted itself admirably. On each occasion it was asked to give its consent to a large war budget, and it did so at once without one dissenting voice and amid the cheers of its members. The glorious success that attaches to the Japanese arms is attributed to many causes, but among them this hearty support that the Diet extended to the Government, especially in the matter of war funds, must be considered as occupying a conspicuous place. Nothing had given more surprise and disappointment to the near-sighted statesmen in the Tsung-li Yamên than this cordial unity between the Japanese Government and the Diet. They erroneously imagined the two to be irrevocably estranged and doomed to perpetual quarrels. Nor have Western people been less struck with surprise ■ the way in which Parliament has conducted itself since the country entered upon the crucial ordeal of a foreign war. They were wont to regard the only constitutional government in the Orient with something like ridicule. But even these cynical critics must now admit that the Japanese people are fully qualified ■ successfully put into operation the complicated mechanism of constitutional government and to avail themselves of its benefits. Thus, not only in a military capacity, but also in the field of politics, the Japanese people have given proof of ability and have asserted the reality of their progress, announcing to all the world that they are henceforth to be regarded as a Power in the Orient.

* * *

The *Mainichi* has some very strong remarks about the trouble attending the Korean loan. When the *Nippon Ginko* justly declined to furnish such a large sum as a million *yen* to such a creditless debtor as Korea, unless the interest were above 8 per cent. per annum, the question was discussed in the House of Representatives, with the result that it resolved to advance that sum out of the War Fund. What chiefly led the House to adopt such a course was the consideration that the reform of the Korean administration must be accomplished if tranquillity is to be preserved in the East, and that Japan, as far as her resources permit, ought to furnish the necessary funds to carry out the reforms. Influenced by that magnanimous idea, the House imposed only one condition with respect to the loan, namely, that the interest should be at the same rate as that on the War Loan. Such being the liberality of the House toward Korea, the *Mainichi* could not but wonder when it received news from Söul that trouble had arisen about the relative proportion of coin and notes in the loan as handed over to the Korean Government, and about the length of the term. There is no difference at all in purchasing power between silver and convertible notes in Japan. The latter ought to give silver, if silver is wanted by the Korean Government, provided the charges for transporting so much metal are paid by that Government. For does not the refusal of the Japanese Government to give the loan in coin detract from the credit of its convertible notes? And yet, it is said that the request of the Finance Minister of Korea to have two-thirds of the loan in silver and the remaining one-third in paper, was one of the causes that brought about a rup-

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ture of the negotiation. Another cause had reference to the length of the term, the Japanese Government insisting that it be fixed at 5 years, while the Korean Government wished for a much longer period. This was another strange objection on the part of the Japanese Government, seeing that the term of the Japanese War Loan is fixed at 50 years. The safety of the loan does not necessarily depend upon the term, but chiefly upon the nature of the security. Why this objection then about the length of the term? Another strange item of news is given in this context, continues the Progressionist organ, namely, that the Japanese Government is resolved not to countenance any idea entertained by the Korean Government to issue paper notes on the specie borrowed by it from Japan. The *Mainichi* concludes that all the three above points are entirely at variance with the spirit of the loan, and that should not the matter be made clear, it will be sure to become a subject of grave discussion in the next session of the Diet.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

FAMOUS SWORDS.

SOME weeks ago we had occasion to report the extraordinary exploit of a Japanese constable in Korea who, on meeting with a large number of Tonghaks, was compelled to draw his sword and finished by killing on the spot or mortally wounding considerably more than thirty of his assailants. As we noted at the time, the expert swordsman was originally one of the metropolitan constabulary, having been for several years attached to the Asakusa District Police. Remarkable as the story is, there seems to be no valid reason to doubt its authenticity. We now learn, from the *Yomiuri Shimbun*, that the weapon carried and used by the swordsman in his desperate encounter, is a very famous blade presented to him just before his departure from Japan. The sword is said to be several centuries old—over six, in fact,—and has always borne the name of *Iwa-kiri*, or the "Rock-cutter." Through a strange concatenation of circumstances the blade came into the family of a wholesale fish-merchant in Asakusa. Being on friendly terms with the constable in question, the merchant gave him the "Rock-cutter," saying that he preferred that the sword should be utilized against the enemies of Japan rather than rust away in an obscure godown. Before handing it over, however, he begged his friend to make an experiment with it, and turn its steel against some stone, alleging that this had frequently been done by others without in the slightest degree injuring the blade's keen edge. This the constable refused to do, saying that it ought not to leave the scabbard without being directed against an actual foe. According to the above story, "Rock-cutter" has since shown that its fame was merited.

* * *

We read in the *Miyako Shimbun* that another famous sword has recently been discovered in Mukojima. It is an undoubted Muramasa, and is traced directly back to Hideyori, son of the famous Taiko, who was at one time its possessor. From Hideyori the sword passed into the hands of his *karei*, or chief steward, who afterwards took service under Iyeyasu and became a petty *daimyo* with a yearly income of 20,000 *koku*. The descendants of this feudal chieftain are still living, though in somewhat reduced circumstances, in Tokyo. The sword is described as being one of the finest specimens of Muramasa's work extant. From another source we read that it will probably be sent to the Kyoto Exhibition, there to hold a prominent place among a unique collection of ancient Japanese swords.

PROPHET, OR BIRD OF EVIL.

Two or three days ago, relates a vernacular contemporary, a venerable-looking man with long white hair, clothed in white garments and wearing wooden clogs with only one strap instead of two, stopped in front of a *saké*-dealer's in Nihombashi District. He had a rather large bottle in his hand which he requested to have filled with the best *saké*. The bottle was evidently one of five or six *go* capacity, but when the shop-boy began pouring wine into it he was astonished to find that it would contain over five *sho*. Marvelling at this wholly unaccountable phenomenon, the boy followed after the strange customer to find out where he lived. The man walked on to Yotsuya and then to Okubo, at least three miles from Nihonbashi. Here the boy's patience gave out, and running up to the stranger he asked him who he was? "I have," replied the mysterious personage, "recently descended from the heavens. I prophesy that the Japanese troops will shortly gain several great victories over the Chinese, and that the whole Chinese Empire will be completely subjugated by the end of April." After this effort the sage went on to say that in the month of May a fearful pestilence would appear in many parts of the country, yet its therapeutics would be easy; it would only be necessary for the sufferer to eat rice-gruel mixed with a few red beans (*azuki*). Such treatment would speedily cure even the worst cases. After having received this startling information, the boy came running back to his master to whom he told all he had heard. The story soon spread, "and now," continues the Tokyo paper with fine irony, "many wise people believe it implicity." But if he who runs may read, it was not necessary for a celestial visitant to make appearance here below in order to known what was "prophesied." That the war will speedily terminate is believed by every reading Japanese; and moreover it unfortunately stands to reason that if the Moji cholera manages to escape bounds we may expect a sickly summer. Still it is gratifying to learn that the angels of the Japanese Paradise are on the side of their countrymen.

JAPANESE WORKMEN IN CALIFORNIA.

THE San Francisco correspondent of an Osaka contemporary has several interesting facts to narrate concerning the status of Japanese artisans and labourers now in the United States. It appears, he says, that the Japanese have won for themselves enviable fame in all work where a light touch and nimble fingers are required. Japanese hands are now employed in several large stores where ready-made clothing is produced wholesale, and here the men are generally set at work at button holes or sewing on buttons, which they do with a dexterity far greater than that possessed by Chinese tailors. Again the largest photographers in a number of cities have Japanese to retouch the negatives, or to apply the delicate touch of colour to the lips and cheeks of larger photographs. In the vicinity of Oakland and San José the fruit-grower prefer Japanese pickers to any others, they being very steady and always plucking the fruit daintily and without injuring the plant, vine, or tree. One large fruit-farmer had seventy-one Japanese in his orchards in 1893, and eighty-three last year. There is steady demand, in the season, for good Japanese pickers, who can always command comparatively better wages that even native-born Californians. In several instances Japanese carpenters and joiners have found good positions and steady paying work, earning much more than they would hope for in this country. In conclusion, the writer believes that the outlook for Japanese artisans in the United States in a decidedly promising one: they meet with little or no factional opposition, and can find employers even before they have learned to express themselves in English.

* * *

This is a much brighter picture than we should have expected. It is not so many months ago that a number of Japanese workmen, mostly navvies, were said to be without work and slowly starving in Vancouver. But if the above report is correct, there is always work ready for willing hands in California and the Western States. It was in 1888, if we remember correctly, that the experimental farm said to have been started by Mr. Fukuzawa, not far from San Francisco, proved a failure, this being principally attributed to the hostile feelings of native agriculturists as well as to the difficulty of irrigation. Farms managed by Japanese would be failures where farms on which Japanese were principally employed might be successful; for there is no more painstaking agriculturist in the world than the Japanese *hyakusho*. At all events it is pleasant to think that other courses are open to Japanese immigrants besides that of taking service as domestics: at best a precarious and not elevating means of existence.

A TREACHEROUS FIRM.

THE *Miyako Shimbun* reports that a certain German steamer was recently, while on her way to Shanghai, stopped by a Japanese man-of-war and subjected to a thorough search, as there was a suspicion that among the cargo there might be some contraband of war. The first search resulting in nothing particular, the Japanese were about to let the steamer go on her way when one of the officers noticed, or thought he noticed, something very suspicious in the captain's expression. A second search was immediately instituted, the hold this time being looked through most thoroughly. A case containing five hundred guns, destined for Shanghai, was finally discovered. The guns were of course impounded. On bringing them back to Yokohama, whence they had been shipped by a German firm, it was found that the real parties supplying the guns were Japanese: none other that Messrs. Omura & Co., of Shinzaimoku-cho, Nihonbashi District, Tokyo. Further investigations soon elicited the surprising fact that the guns were of Japanese make, being in fact a lot of condemned weapons sold by the Navy Department to the firm in question. Messrs. Omura & Co. had put in a document stating that the guns would be taken to pieces and the iron melted down; in consequence of which argument the Department in question had sold the weapons to the firm for eighty *sen* each. Instead, however, of keeping to their agreement, the Omura house had patched up the old guns and sold them, through the medium of a German firm, to Chinese in Shanghai, for no less than five *yen* apiece. As soon as these facts were elicited, gendarmes were sent to arrest every member of the firm, the arrest taking place on the 25th instant. The people of Nihombashi District, the commercial centre of the metropolis, are represented as being appalled at the discovery, which affects the credit of every merchant there. Coal, continues our contemporary, has been sold to the enemy by Japanese renegades since the outbreak of the war; but what shall we say to these men, members of a well-known and hitherto respected firm, who would deliberately put lethal weapons into the hands of their nation's enemies?

MR. ROBERT LITTLE AND THE WAR.

WHILE the *North China Daily News* was under the editorship of Mr. Robert Little, its readers in this country used to be astounded by the prejudice and partiality displayed in its columns with reference to the war, and even more surprised by its singular credulity in accepting, and want of judgment in publishing, stories of Chinese successes and Japanese reverses that were inherently ridiculous. Mr. Little recently visited Paris, and being interviewed by a representative of Dalziel, gave forth the following views:—

Mr. Little did not by any means endorse the general impression that the Japanese were likely to win in the long run. The more they penetrated into the country the more difficult their position became; and if they took Peking in the spring the seat of government would simply be removed further inland, probably to Si-ngan-fu, and the same thing could be done time after time. The war might go on for two or three years, and Japan would not be able to stand such a strain. The peace negotiations were merely devised to gain time. The Japanese armies had not done by any means as well as they had tried to make out, for their inability to march prevented them from following up whatever troops they engaged in fight. Then Chinese, if properly led, were the more formidable troops. Nearly all the telegrams published in London about the war came from Japanese sources, and were utterly unreliable. It was well known that no correspondent with the Japanese forces could transmit anything the authorities did not like, while the Japanese are constantly sending out despatches designed to influence public opinion in their favour. The war had affected foreign trade very

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little except in the north. At Shanghai there was no sign of anything unusual going on, and people had almost ceased talking about the war.

Mr. Little's opinions as to what may happen if the war continue for two or three years, are his own property, and may be put into any shape he pleases. But his assertions about so-called facts are different matters. When he says that "nearly all the telegrams published in London about the war came from Japanese sources and were utterly unreliable," it becomes plain that he lacks capacity to appreciate the simplest facts, for we can not suppose that he intended to tell a deliberate falsehood. The truth is that the vast majority of the news transmitted to London from Japan has been sent by public news agencies, and that the intelligence sent across the wires from Tientsin and Shanghai has been notoriously incorrect—so incorrect as to become at last a veritable laughing stock, to which nobody any longer pays the slightest attention. On the other hand, we can not recall a single instance of perversion of truth in a Japanese official report from either the naval or military authorities. There may have been some concealment; of that we know nothing. But there has been neither distortion nor falsification. In every case subsequent events have proved the correctness of the Japanese versions, and in nearly every case subsequent events have proved the incorrectness of the Chinese. Yet Mr. Robert Little ventures to accuse the Japanese of "constantly sending out despatches designed to influence public opinion," and alleges that news from Japanese sources is "utterly unreliable." It always seems to us that one of the most striking and humiliating contrasts suggesting itself to readers of some of the foreign local journals in the East is furnished by the wholesale charges they perpetually prefer against Japanese want of veracity as compared with the complete indifference to truth or justice that they themselves display.

THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND THE ARMY AND NAVY.

THE following is a translation of the Resolution passed by the House of Representatives on the 20th instant:—

RESOLUTION RELATING TO THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE EXPEDITIONARY LAND AND NAVAL FORCES.

The House of Representatives, in its recent Extraordinary Session, acting on behalf of the nation, thanked the Expeditionary Forces for the hardships undergone and the merits achieved by them. Since then the Army and Navy, surmounting snow-clad mountains and crossing frozen seas, have fought valiantly in scores of battles and skirmishes, with the result that Shinking has been brought under the sway of the Army, Shantung has been swept clear of all resistance, the Peiyang Squadron has been annihilated, and the glory of the National Flag has been made conspicuous on both the shores and the seas of China. It is impossible that such deeds should have been accomplished had not the Army and Navy been thoroughly inspired with the spirit of loyalty and patriotism and had they not met the enemy with those sentiments always in their breasts. Now that the sphere of action has become wider and the second stage of the campaign is about to be entered upon, still greater hardships and suffering may have to be encountered in the path to complete success. For the deeds already accomplished and for those still to be accomplished the nation feels profoundly grateful, and this House, by the present Resolution, desires to give expression to the sentiment of the people.

Presented by SUYEHIRO SHIGEYASU and 7 others.

DEATH OF CONSUL SMITHERS.

A TELEGRAM was received at the United States Consulate on Tuesday morning, informing Consul-General McIvor of the death at Kobe, at 1.30 on Tuesday morning, of Mr. E. J. Smithers, Consul of the United States, from aphasis and hemiplegia.

* * *

The *Kobe Chronicle* says that the death of Mr. E. J. Smithers, U. S. Consul at that port, has cast a gloom over the entire community. A man of the highest integrity and the most upright conduct, his loss will be sincerely mourned by all brought into public or private relations with him, and the deepest sympathy will be felt for his sorrowing family. The *Hyogo News* says:—As a public man in Kobe, Mr. Smithers had identified himself quietly but always sincerely with every good work. As Chairman of the Municipal Council he was most regular in his duties; as a member of various Committees he was painstaking and thorough. As Consul for the U.S. of America he upheld his office with dignity, administered justice with firmness, and won the respect and esteem of his colleagues, his nationals, and of all, in short, with whom he came officially, and still more personally, into contact.

* * *

A large number of prominent residents of Kobe, both foreign and Japanese, attended the funeral of the late of Mr. E. J. Smithers, U.S. Consul at that port, on Thursday afternoon. The services at the Church and by the grave were conducted by the Rev. Sydney Swann. Messrs. Hunter Sharp, U.S. Vice-Consul, J. J. Enslie, H.B.M.'s Consul, G. de Wenndrich, H.I.R.M.'s Consul, P. de Lucy Fossarieu, Consul for France, F. Thiel, of the German Consulate, W. F. K. Fearon, Belgian Consul, H. Lucas and T. F. McGrath, acted as pall-bearers. Mr. R. Von Krencki, H.I.G.M.'s Consul, and Messrs. Playfair, Griffiths and Foster, of the British Consulate, followed the chief mourners, Messrs. G. F. and H. Smithers, and A. N. Hansell, the sons and son-in-law respectively of the deceased.

THE IMPERIAL DIET.

THE Eight Session of the Imperial Diet was formally closed yesterday, the ceremony taking place in the House of Peers at 11 a.m. Mr. Watanabe, Minister of Communications, Mr. Yoshikawa, Minister of Justice, and Marquis Saionji, Minister of Education, were present. Mr. Watanabe, who represented the Premier, read the Imperial Decree authorizing the closing of the present session. A garden party was given by the Ministers of State to the members of the Diet at the Akasaka Detached Palace at 3 p.m., at which Mr. Watanabe, Viscount Nomura, Mr. Yoshikawa, and Marquis Saionji, Ministers of State, the Government Delegates in the Diet, the Presidents and members of both Houses, numbering in all over five hundred, were present.

THE GALE.

THE south-westerly Gale that raged all day Thursday did very little damage in Yokohama, beyond the stripping of plaster from the fronts of houses and the disturbing of fences in various parts of the Bluff. A boat carrying passengers capsized in the harbour about eleven o'clock in the forenoon, and the Water Police promptly proceeded to the rescue. A sampan in which were three men was dashed to pieces against the Breakwater. Two of her crew succeeded in swimming to land, but the third has not since been heard of. The police, however, think he must have effected a landing in the vicinity of Kanagawa. A good deal of rain has fallen all over Japan.

THE "KEIZAI" ON THE PEMATURENESS OF THE PEACE NEGOTIATION.

We have repeatedly maintained, writes the *Keisai* in its latest issue, that only after the Japanese Army has entered the Capital of China can negotiations for peace be started with any hope of genuine success. The Detring mission and the Chang mission ended in a fiasco, because they were found not to be properly accredited to carry on negotiations for peace, and Japan could reject them with justice on her side. But it is more than probable that the Viceroy Li has brought with him credentials complete in all essential respects, and the question is how should the Japanese Government treat him. It is a grave question. For, in opening negotiations with him, should the conditions on which Japan would consent to peace be disclosed, a very serious mistake may be committed. The relations between a Sovereign and his representative sent on a mission of the kind now entrusted to the Viceroy, is not the same in China as in Western countries. The Emperor of China may refuse to ratify a treaty concluded by the Viceroy. He may denounce his Ambassador as having acted contrary to his will. The only issue of such a transaction would be to publish to all the world the demands of Japan. That would be the case even though the Ambassador gave his consent to the conditions, and it would be the case in a still more marked degree did he withhold his consent. The disclosure of Japan's demands must therefore be strictly avoided. The thing above all others to which Japan should pay the strictest attention at this juncture is not to excite the jealousy of other Powers. Thus far, the sympathy of Western countries is on the side of Japan, seeing that she is engaged in the noble task of initiating China into the comity of civilized countries. Further, the facts that the Japanese people are magnanimous in money matters, showing a degree of disinterestedness comparable with that of the knights of old; that they extend kind treatment to their Chinese captives, and that they are generous to the enemy's people—all these things have elicited the admiration of Western peoples. But if in any way a sign be shown that Japan is intent on persecuting a beaten foe and seeks to exact undue terms, the sympathy of other countries will inevitably be enlisted on China's side. It is not in the interest of Japan, therefore, to disclose at this juncture the terms on which she will consent to terminate the war.

Needless to say, however, that demands which, preferred now, might seem excessive, will bear a different aspect when preferred under the walls of Pekin. What might now be regarded as improper, will then appear quite justifiable. Many grave points must be taken into consideration in concluding peace. Japan has just entered the comity of Western Powers, and her manner of proving herself qualified to be one of that comity, is among the foremost of these points. To effectually maintain her newly won status—Japan must at least have a navy that can cope with the British Squadrons on the China, India, Australia, and Canada stations. To procure a navy of such dimensions requires large funds; too large to obtain at home without subjecting the people to heavy burdens. It follows, therefore, that in order to establish her status, Japan must obtain land in China, thus procuring resources to support her navy. The present Manchu Dynasty is already doomed, it is beyond recuperation. Did Japan abandon it to its fate, she would simply be handing over China to European Powers, which have long been gloating over the Middle Kingdom as a desirable prey, and have been prevented from pouncing upon it merely through lack of good opportunity. Such an opportunity now presents itself to Japan; an opportunity that can never be expected to occur again. Shall such a rare opportunity be suffered to slip away unutilized? If not, in what manner should the Peace Embassy be rendered abortive? The only way is to require that China before the negotiation is entered upon shall give some conclusive proof of her earnestness in suing for peace. In other words, she should be made to surrender her most important military posts for temporary occupation by the Japanese expeditionary army. Only when that demand has been complied with should the negotiation be formally entered upon.

TREATY WITH PERU.

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* publishes a telegram from Hiroshima to the effect that a treaty between Japan and Peru was concluded at Washington on the 23rd inst., the negotiators being the Japanese Representative in that city, Mr. Kurino, and the Minister Resident for Peru. Doubtless the principal object of this treaty is to provide for the immigration of Japanese.

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IMPERIAL DIET.

FRIDAY, MARCH 22ND.

HOUSE OF PEERS.

The House did not meet.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The House met at 1.20 p.m., the Order of the Day being :—

1.—Representation relating to the Qualifications of District Headmen.
2.—Representation relating to a Grant in Aid of the Hiroshima Water Works.
3.—Representation relating to the Experimental Growth of Sugar Canes.
4.—Representation relating to the Free Education of Military Men's Children.
5.—Representation relating to a Submarine Cable.
6.—Petitions.

Various Government Replies to Questions preferred by Members were read.

Mr. Kurihara Ryosuke asked permission to say a few words with respect to the Tariff Bill. It had been a parliamentary question ever since the second session, and its importance needed no exposition. Owing to various causes, it had failed to come up for discussion this session, only one day more of which remained, and he therefore desired to bespeak the attention of the members so that the Bill should certainly receive consideration next session.

The Chairman of the Petitions Committee reported that 420 Petitions had been placed in the Committee's hands since the beginning of the session. Of these, 90 had been brought before the House; 164 had not been submitted; 140 had been forwarded for the Government's information; 22 had been handed to Special Committees for their information, and 7 had been rejected.

The Representation relating to the Qualifications of District Headmen was then passed, without debate, an amendment proposed by Mr. Kokure Budayu being adopted, namely, that the selection of such officials by examination be abandoned, and that the Government should choose suitable persons in the localities concerned.

Mr. Mayekawa introduced the Representation for a Grant in Aid of Water Works at Hiroshima. He urged that Hiroshima, apart from its own importance as the capital of the Central Provinces, was evidently destined to be a military centre. It became, therefore, of the utmost importance, to provide a pure water supply so as to protect the inhabitants and the troops against zymotic diseases. The Representation proposed that an estimate in the desired sense be presented to the House next session.

The House adopted the Representation without debate.

The Representation for the Establishment of Experimental Sugar-cane-growing Stations in Shikoku, Kiushu, and Oshima was opposed by Mr. Kusakari Shimmei on the ground that agricultural experimental stations already existed where such work could be carried on.

Mr. Oshima Shin spoke in the contrary sense, explaining that the yearly import of sugar now amounted to some 15 or 16 million *yen*, and that there was ample reason to believe that the country might become self-supplying if proper steps were taken. The required stations had to be in special localities, and the work contemplated could not be carried out at the existing Agricultural Stations.

After some discussion, the Representation was adopted.

Mr. Shito Rikuzo introduced the Representation for providing free education for the children of soldiers engaged in a foreign campaign. He urged that this duty was not less important than that of providing properly for the soldiers themselves.

The Government Delegate explained that if the Representation were intended to refer to children the pecuniary condition of whose parents precluded the furnishing of proper education, there were already ample provisions to meet such cases. Of course if the Representation contemplated aid to soldiers' children irrespective of the parents' circumstances, the question became altogether different.

The House adopted the Representation without debate.

Mr. Miyazaki Yeiji introduced the next Representation. He explained that many important lines of submarine cables—as that to Okinawa Prefecture, that between Oki and Bungo, that between the islands of Fukuye and Nakatsu and so forth—had as yet received no attention and ought to be laid as soon as possible.

The House adopted the Representation.

Three Petitions were then presented by the Petitions Committee and adopted for presentation to the Government without debate.

The House rose at 3.50 p.m.

SATURDAY, MARCH 23RD.

HOUSE OF PEERS.

The House met at 10.45 a.m., the Order of the Day being :—

1.—Report of the Petitions Committee.
2.—Bill (Second Reading) for amending the Law of Finance.
3.—Bill (Second Reading) for amending the Law of Election for the Lower House.
4.—Resolution relating to the Settled Accounts of the 25th year of *Meiji*.
5.—Petitions.

The President announced that a message had been received from the Minister President of State, to the effect that the official closing of the Diet would take place on the 25th instant.

Prince Tokugawa, on behalf of the Petitions Committee, reported that 331 Petitions had been received during the session, and gave details as to their treatment.

Viscount Tani, on behalf of the Special Committee, reported that the Committee, by a majority of one, recommended the rejection of the Bill fixing that the Settled Accounts for each year must be presented to the Diet of the year but one following. The Government Delegate had explained that such a rule could not be observed in practice.

After a brief debate, the House unanimously rejected the Second Reading of the Bill.

Viscount Tani reported that the Special Committee recommended the rejection of the Bill for amending the Law of Election for the Lower House. With some of the proposed amendments the Committee agreed, but on the whole they considered the proposals premature.

The House, without debate, unanimously rejected the Bill.

Viscount Tani introduced the Resolution relating to the Settled Accounts for the 25th year of *Meiji*. There were two points included in the Resolution. The first related to road-repairing in Miyazaki Prefecture. A certain sum had been appropriated for that purpose in the Budget. It had proved too large, and the Government, instead of returning the surplus into the Treasury, had passed it over to the general expenditures of the locality. Such a course was unlawful. The second point related to the purchase of cement for the Yokohama Harbour Works. The method of inviting tenders had been contrary to law.

Mr. Mitsukuri Rinsho, in reply to questions and speaking on behalf of the Special Committee, said that the Committee had considered the Government's procedure proper in both of the cases referred to. The grant for road repairing in Miyazaki Prefecture had been made, not because the locality was unable to bear the outlay, but because the work was of general utility. Hence there was no occasion to return the surplus, especially as the sum allowed had been a mere estimate and not an accurately calculated amount. As to the second point, the Government Delegate had explained that the method of calling for tenders in the case of the Yokohama Harbour Works had been in accordance with the supplementary clauses of the Law of Finance, and the Committee had endorsed the explanation.

Mr. Furuichi, Government Delegate, pointed out that the allowance for road repairing in Miyazaki Prefecture had been a lump sum. There was no question of its insufficiency or excess. If insufficient, it would not have been supplemented. If in excess of the work immediately undertaken, the Treasury had no title to the surplus: it belonged to the Prefecture.

After debate, the House rejected the Resolution by 75 votes to 44 so far as concerned the grant to Miyazaki Prefecture, but when an open ballot was taken with regard to the tenders for cement in the Yokohama Harbour Works, the votes were equal, 54 for and 54 against. The President therefore gave the casting vote against the Resolution.

Various Petitions were then adopted for presentation to the Government, and others were rejected, 17 in all being discussed.

The House rose at 3.45 p.m.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The House met at 1.20 p.m., the Order of the Day being :—

1.—Settled Accounts for the 25th year of *Meiji*.
2.—Bill for amending the Tax Collecting System in Cities and Prefectures.
3.—Bill for changing the Boundaries of Chiba and Ibaraki Prefectures.
4.—Representation relating to Emigration.
5.—Representation relating to the Purchase of Military Material.
6.—Petitions.

The President announced the receipt of a message to the effect that the official closing of the House would take place on the 25th inst.

Mr. Konishi Jinnosuke asked permission to say a few words before the House passed to the Order of the Day. He wished to call attention to the manner of dealing with the Settled Accounts. They had no precedent to guide them in this matter, but were called upon to establish a precedent. Hence it behoved them to proceed with the utmost deliberation. An opinion seemed to be held that the Settled Accounts were, as a whole, a subject for the House's Debate. But a moment's consideration would show that such was not the case. The House had no power to touch any item of the Settled Accounts. It could not reduce or disallow the expenditures as it did with respect to the Budget. Hence the Accounts, as a whole, did not constitute a subject for debate. All that the House was entitled to do was to examine the Accounts, and if any improper item were discovered, to make that item a subject for discussion, adopting with regard to it whatever course seemed desirable. He begged the House to consider this question of procedure maturely, and he moved that the Settled Accounts be handed back to the Special Committee.

Mr. Ozaki Yukio opposed this view. He considered that the Settled Accounts, as a whole, were submitted to the House just as the Budget was submitted, and ought to be debated in the same manner.

Several members having spoken, the House rejected Mr. Konishi's motion, and proceeded to debate the Settled Accounts.

Mr. Fuji Kinsaku, on behalf of the Special Committee, reported that the Committee had found the Settled Accounts for the 25th year of *Meiji* to be compiled in a much more satisfactory manner than the accounts for the 24th year. There were a few points needing improvement, but these would doubtless be noted by the Government in compiling the next Accounts.

Some debate ensued, and finally the House, by a large majority, voted in the sense of the Special Committee's Report.

The Bill for amending the system of Taxation in Cities and Prefectures was then passed through all its readings in the form sent down from the Upper House.

The next Bill was withdrawn, as no possibility existed of its passing the Upper House this session.

The Representation relating to Emigration was passed without debate. The Representation set forth the fact that emigration being of great importance to the people of Japan, every possible step should be taken to encourage it. Investigation had showed that Mexico, Brazil, and Nicaragua were well suited for purposes of emigration. A treaty existed with Mexico, but not with Brazil or Nicaragua. Steps should therefore be taken to conclude a treaty, or at any rate to enable emigrants to proceed without difficulty to those countries.

Mr. Suyehiro Shigeyasu, on behalf of the Special Committee, reported with regard to the Representation relating to the Purchase of Military Material, that the Government Delegate had admitted the recurrence of some abuses in the past, but did not think them sufficiently

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important to call for criminal procedure, and engaged that their re-occurrence would be prevented. Nevertheless, a sharp debate had taken place between the Delegate and the Committee, and at one time no prospect of an agreement presented itself. Reference had been made, however, to Hiroshima, and the result had cleared up many points which he regretted to be unable to explain as they had been stated in secret session. The Vice-Minister of State for War had sent a message expressing his regret at being unable to attend the House in person, and had added that as the Government Delegate was unacquainted with what actually took place on campaign, it was unlikely that he could submit any thorough explanation to the House. Despite all this, the Committee was of opinion that the passing of the Representation would have a useful effect.

The House adopted the Resolution without Debate.

Eleven Petitions were then adopted for presentation to the Government, and the President having briefly congratulated the House on the results of the session, the House rose at 5.20 p.m.

BILL RELATING TO THE AMENDMENT OF THE LAW OF ELECTION OF MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

In the Law of Election of Members of the House of Representatives issued in the 22nd year of *Meiji* (1889) by law No. III., the following amendments shall be effected :—

Art. VI.—Clauses 1 and 3 shall be amended thus :—

Clause 1. He must be a male Japanese subject not less than full *twenty* [twenty-five] years of age

Clause 3. For not less than one year previous to the date of the compilation of the electoral list, he must have been paying, in the *Fu* or *Ken*, direct national taxes to the amount of not less than *Five* [fifteen] *yen*, and must be still paying the same.

Art. VIII.—Those alone shall be eligible that are male Japanese subjects of not less than full *twenty-five* [thirty] years of age.....

Art. IX.—All Government officials shall be ineligible, with the exception of the following :—

1. *Ministers and Vice-Ministers of State.*

Art. X.—This Article shall be expunged. [Officials of a *Fu*, *Ken*, or *Gun* shall not be eligible within the limits of the jurisdiction of their respective office.]

Art. XIV.—The following provision shall be appended to clauses 4 and 5 of this Article :—Provided that an offender of political nature shall be exempted from these disqualifications.

Art. XIV.—The following provision shall be appended to clauses 4 and 5 of this Article, and the phrase in the latter, "or to imprisonment for a political offence," shall be expunged.
Provided that a political offender shall be exempted from these disqualifications.

Art. XVII.—Any person, against whom a criminal prosecution has been brought, and who is in detention or is under bail, shall be incapable of exercising the right to elect [or to be elected], until the completion of the proceedings.

Art. LXVI.—The following clause shall be appended to this Article :—When the term of four years of a member who is elected at a general election subsequent to a dissolution expires, he shall be regarded as still holding office till the next general election.

Art. C.—The following article shall be added after Art. C.

Art. C. 1—A Policeman or an Official of a *Fu*, *Ken*, or *Gun* who, on whatever pretext, interferes in the election in his respective *Fu*, *Ken*, or *Gun*, by persuasion or by any other act, shall be liable to minor confinement for not less than two months and not more than two years, with the additional penalty of a fine ranging from 10 to 100 *yen*.

Arts. C. and C. 2 of the present Law shall be changed respectively into Arts. C. 2 and C. 3.
Introduced by Mr. Yamashita Chiyoo and 2 others.
Supported by Mr. Suzuki Jyubi and 3 others.
N.B.—In the above draft bill, brackets are used to show words expunged and italics to show words introduced.

N.B.—The above Bill was passed by the House of Representatives, but did not receive one favourable vote in the House of Peers.

QUESTIONS RELATING TO THE SUSPENSION OF NEWSPAPERS.

1.—The Government has hitherto suspended the publication of newspapers several hundreds of times on the ground that they disturb public tranquillity, and has thus, on each occasion, inflicted no small inconvenience and loss on the proprietors. The latest instance of the kind was the suspension of the *Nippon*, published on the 2nd of March of the current year at the *Nippon's* Office, Kijicho, Kanda, Tokyo. On perusing the issue of that day, not an article is found that can be considered in the least degree hurtful to the maintenance of public tranquillity. The enforcement of the law by the Government can not but be strictly just and impartial, and therefore there must be in that number something calculated to disturb the public peace. What article in that number was considered obnoxious?

2.—Art. XIX. of the Press Law provides that a newspaper whose contents are deemed by the Minister of State for Home Affairs prejudicial to public tranquillity or to public morals, may be suspended or suppressed. It follows that when a newspaper is suspended, it must have been guilty of the offence of actually disturbing the public peace. Yet the Government frequently passes sentence of suspension on the ground that there is danger of the public peace being disturbed. The late suspension of the *Nippon* is considered by some to have been a hasty measure on the Government's part, dictated by apprehensions that that paper might ventilate its opinions on the Questions asked by the two Houses of the Diet with respect to the Revised Anglo-Japanese Treaty. If so, does the Government hold that the power of suspending a newspaper, as vested in it by virtue of Art. XIX. of the Press Law, may be exercised as a means of guarding against possible disturbance of public tranquillity, though no such disturbance has yet taken place? The foregoing questions are submitted in accordance with Art. XLVIII. of the Law of the Houses.

Presented by Suyehiro Shigeyasu.
Supported by Otake Kanichi and 29 others.

March 8th, 1895.

THE GOVERNMENT'S REPLY.

1. It falls within the competence of the Minister of Home Affairs to judge whether or not a newspaper's writing is prejudicial to public tranquillity, and he does not consider himself obliged to clearly set forth the particulars on which his judgment is based.

2. The Government has never suspended a newspaper unless some article already appearing in its columns has been deemed prejudicial to the maintenance of public tranquillity.

(Signed) Viscount Nomura Yasushi,
Minister of State for Home Affairs.

March 18th, 1895.

PROJECTED LAW DEALING WITH THE PREVENTION OF CATTLE EPIDEMICS.

Art. I.—When cattle disease is epidemic in a foreign country and there is a danger of its spreading to this country, the landing of diseased cattle from the infected locality, or the passage of cattle through the infected area ; or the landing of cattle suspected of having come either from or through such a district ; or the landing of any article deemed likely to spread the disease, shall be forbidden.

Art. II.—Any person who contravenes this Law shall be liable to a penalty of not less than 5 *yen* and not more than 100 *yen*. Concurrent offences shall be treated as one offence in fixing the penalty.

Art. III.—Rules relating to measures to be taken to prevent the spread of cattle diseases, as to the mode of inspecting cattle, and so forth, shall be determined by Imperial Ordinances.

APPENDIX.

The present Law shall be put into force from July 1st, 1895.

Introduced by Mr. Mori Baku and three others.
Supported by Mr. Motoda Hajime and 19 others.

LAW OF PROVISIONARY COURT-MARTIALS OF THE NAVY.

Art. I.—In times of war or emergency a Provisionary Court-Martial Council shall be established under a special Commander-in-Chief or Commander to adjudicate in the cases of the following :—

1. Officers below the rank of Commander who are subordinate to a special Commander-in-Chief or Commander, and who are guilty of delinquencies ; others who are at the seat of war, or the crew of a ship in the service of the Navy, and who are guilty of delinquencies.
2. Persons to whom examination and judgment have been entrusted in accordance with Art. II.

Art. II.—The Commander of the Fleet, the Commander of a Squadron, the Commander of a detached Squadron, and the Captain of a man-of-war belonging to the Fleet may, in accordance with Clauses 2 and 3 of Art. XXIII. of Naval Criminal Procedure entrust the examination and adjudication of delinquents to a Provisionary Court-Martial Council.

Art. III.—With the exception of Art. XXVII., Clause 2 of Art. XXVIII., and Art. XCIV. of the Naval Criminal Procedure, provisions relating to the Court-Martial Council held in places of seige shall be applied to the Provisionary Court-Martial Council.

WAR NEWS.

Saturday, March 23rd.

At the Shimonoseki conference on the 21st instant, Count Ito and Viscount Mutsu proceeded to the place of meeting on foot, reaching it before the arrival of the Viceroy Li. According to the *Jiji Shimpo*, the only business done had reference to the credentials of the Plenipotentiaries of each Power, and that occupied two hours.

The same journal says that 30 Chinese officials are lodging at Insho-ji with the Viceroy. Four of them, namely, Lord Li, Lo Tung-lo, Ma Chien-chang, and Wu Ting-fang, rank as Ministers of State.

According to the *Yomiuri*, the method of conducting the negotiations is that Mr. Inouye Katsu translates into English and Mr. Narabara renders the English into Chinese, Mr. Wu Ting-fang, who renders most of the replies, speaking in English. But that seems incomprehensible. Why should the Japanese Plenipotentiaries' statements be translated into English for Mr. Narabara, who is a Japanese? Probably the meaning is that the statements of Count Ito and Viscount Mutsu are given in both English and Chinese, Mr. Inouye rendering them into the former and Mr. Narabara into the latter, so that the English-speaking members of the Viceroy's suite may have two versions to compare.

The Viceroy Li's reported message to Tientsin, to the effect that, as there is no possibility of acceding to Japan's demands, preparations for defence must be vigorously pushed on, is interpreted by the Japanese as a mere bluff to procure some diminution of Japan's proposals.

It is stated that Captain Miyazaki of the cavalry, with three transport officials and eight artificers, set out from Hiroshima for Port Arthur on the 21st instant, in order to prepare the new Head-quarter Staff Office at the latter place.

A telegram from Amoy, published by the *Chiuo Shimbun*, says that the Japanese have effected a landing, unopposed, on one of the Panghu Islands (Fisher Island).

Monday, March 25th.

The occupation of Fisher Island on the 21st instant by a Japanese force is the only item of intelligence from the seat of war. Practically this involves the occupation of the Pescadores, a group of 21 islands lying between Formosa and the mainland. The largest of them is Panghu Island, measuring 22 miles from north to south, according to the *Hochi Shimbun*. Fisher Island is the next in size. The population of Panghu is 6,400. Amoy is 30 nautical miles distant ; and Formosa, 25. From Nagasaki the distance is 760 nautical miles. The islands are connected by submarine cable with Amoy and Formosa. Panghu Island is fortified. On the east it has two forts called Makung and Yuenting ; on the west three, Sinoteupao, Siaochipao, and Tochipao. The *Hochi* says that the forts will probably be bombarded by the fleet, and that troops will be landed behind them on the north of the island. At the time of the Franco-Chinese "state of reprisals" in 1885, Admiral Courbet, with four ships, attacked the islands on the 30th of March, and having reduced the forts on Fisher Island, bombarded the Makung fort also. At that time the Chinese garrison consisted of 2,600 men, but it now numbers 4,500. The forts, too, have been re-armed since Admiral Courbet's time :—They have now 26-cent. and 21-cent. guns mounted in them. Panghu Island is in the centre of a group of three, and is thus excellently protected against wind. On the occasion of the Japanese expedition to Formosa in 1874, it formed the anchorage for the men-of-war convoying the flotilla. The capital of the group is Fangkung-kwan. In former times the Pescadores are said to

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have belonged to Japan, from whom they were taken by China. They, as well as Formosa, were discovered by a Japanese. The celebrated Minamoto Koretsuna held the islands in the days of the Yuan dynasty, and on his return to Japan was succeeded by Saga Shumpei, who in turn was followed by Osada Sakubei. It was in the latter's time that Hamada Yahei over-ran Formosa. Subsequently the Japanese gradually left the islands and they fell into Chinese possession. The only staple of export is dried fish.

A telegram from Shanghai, dated the 21st instant, says that a Japanese Squadron attacked the forts on the Pescadores that day, but only a few shots were fired on each side. Intelligence from Hiroshima, however, is more explicit. Two telegrams are to hand, both despatched on the 23rd instant, one at 9 a.m., the other at 4 p.m. The former says that the garrison on Panghu Island had been increased to 5,000 men before the Japanese expedition arrived there, and the latter that a force led by Colonel Hishijima has landed on the island and taken possession of it without difficulty.

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* explains that the temporary suspension of the Conference at Shimonoseki was owing to a request preferred by the Viceroy Li. On the 23rd instant, however, His Excellency intimated that he desired to re-open the deliberation on the afternoon of the 24th, and in accordance with that intimation the third meeting place yesterday.

In the *Nichi Nichi* we find a statement of the Japanese casualties from the 21st of September to the 8th of March. Those killed in battle numbered 542; those that died of wounds, 131; those that died of sickness, 981, making a total of 1,654. The *Jiji Shimpo* contrasts these figures with the record of casualties in the Satsuma Rebellion of 1877, when 12,000 men were wounded and 4,653 killed on the Government side.

Tuesday, March 26th.

The attempt upon the Viceroy Li's life is the one topic of the day. So far as we can judge, the Japanese nation is almost as much excited about the affair as it was about the attack upon the Czarewitch. There is a universal sentiment of execration toward the wretched youth that raised his hand against the aged Envoy. The Japanese public understand what it means to a statesman of Li's reputation, position, and years to cross the sea on a suppliant mission, and to appear before Japan in the character of one pleading for mercy on his country's behalf. That the life of such a man should be attempted by a miserable youth, under the influence, probably, of a fanatic desire to see the war pushed to its bitterest end, is a spectacle that may well evoke feelings of disgust and regret among the Japanese.

Such further particulars as reached Tokyo by Monday evening, were these:—When Count Ito, Viscount Mutsu, and Mr. Ito Miyoji visited the Viceroy at the temple where he is lodged, they found him reclining in a long chair. His wound had been temporarily bandaged, but the bullet had not yet been extracted. Surgeon-General Ito was expected from Hiroshima the following morning, and his arrival was impatiently awaited. Great excitement prevailed on all sides. The Japanese authorities were doing everything in their power to show how thoroughly they abhorred the nefarious attempt, and the Chinese seemed to be much pleased by these efforts. Of course, no precautions taken by the police, short of closing the houses on both sides of the street and completely clearing away the people could have averted Koyama's enterprise. As for Koyama, he is stated to be the oldest son of a *heimin*, Koyama Kobachiro, residing in the Oshima Division of Kodzuke province, Gumma Prefecture. He is 26 years old this year. On the 13th of this month, he left Tokyo for Hiroshima, and from the latter place went on to Shimonoseki, which he reached on the evening of the 23rd. He obtained from the police a permit to reside, and the very next day he perpetrated the crime. His dress at the time of the affair suggested a student in impecunious circumstances—striped flannel trousers, blue socks, straw sandals, a dirty kimono, and no hat. The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* says that he caught hold of the chair in which the Viceroy was riding, and succeeded in firing one shot before the police seized him. The *Jiji Shimpo's* account of the affairs is this:—"The Viceroy had left the place of conference and advanced westward about 500 yards along Amidaji-machi, when a pistol was fired from a point immediately before a house on the right of the street. Blood was immediately observed to flow from the Viceroy's left cheek. He applied his hand to the wounded place and turned his head slightly upward. His bearers hurried along to his residence, only a hundred and twenty yard distant. The would-be assassin was a small, slight man, wearing a light-blue *kimono*, a working-man's girdle, bare-headed, and having socks (*tabi*) only on his feet. He wore no surcoat, and seemed to be a common artizan. He had a pistol in his sleeve. It was about 8 inches long "(other accounts say 5 or 6 inches) "and rusty, and when Li's palanquin passed before him at a distance of about 2 yards" (it will be observed that nothing is said here of Koyama's seizing the palanquin) "he took aim and fired. The ball struck beside the nose and pierced the cheek, but the wound was not of a fatal nature; according to the evidence of those present at the time. The miscreant was at once arrested." Supplementing this from the *Kokkai's* version, we learn that Koyama formerly advocated the Radical cause, and had already been in trouble for some violation of the law. He obtained his pistol—a six-shooter, five or six inches long—from one Kanamaru Kenjiro of Yokohama. The Viceroy's wound is under the left eye.

With regard to the Viceroy's condition, we have the following telegrams:—

Shimonoseki 24th instant, 11 p.m.

The Viceroy's wound having been bound, he is now in bed. His pulse is normal. The wound is 4 inches (centimètres) and is under the left eye, but the sight is not in any way injured.

Shimonoseki 25th instant, 10.22 a.m.

The Viceroy's condition is excellent. He went to sleep quietly at 7 o'clock last evening, and slept, without developing any fever or showing any sign of pain, until 7 o'clock this morning. He is perfectly quiet.

Shimonoseki 25th instant, Afternoon.

A wire from Dr. Sato, the Emperor's Physician, to the Head-quarters at Hiroshima, says that the Viceroy's wound is in a good condition and that there is no cause for anxiety.

Our readers remember, doubtless, that immediately after the incident, Count Ito telegraphed to Hiroshima asking that the Emperor's physician might be despatched at once to treat the wounded man. In response to that message, Dr. Sato must have been sent off by special steamer, so as to reach Shimonoseki on the morning of the 25th.

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* has the following statement about the wound telegraphed from Hiroshima at 1.05 a.m. on the 25th instant:—"Li's wound is under the left eye, about an inch from the eye. The bone is slightly fractured, and when the wound is washed, the liquid passes into the mouth. The ball has not yet been extracted. It will be removed after careful examination to-morrow morning. A French physician and Dr. Lin Lienhwai, who came in the Viceroy's suite, have done everything necessary. The Viceroy's strength is in no way impaired, and he can speak without difficulty."

It is stated that Their Majesties the Emperor and Empress were profoundly grieved by the intelligence of the Viceroy's injury, and that they immediately despatched a Chamberlain, Mr. Nakamura, to convey a message of condolence.

His Majesty the Emperor has issued the following Rescript:—

A state of war exists at present between Our Empire and China, but the latter has nevertheless despatched a duly accredited Ambassador to negotiate terms of peace, and We, on our side, have invested certain of Our Ministers with full powers to treat, and have caused a conference to be held at Shimonoseki. It was of course incumbent on Us, in observance of international usage and on account of the credit of Our country to treat the Chinese Ambassador with proper courtesy and consideration, and we appointed special officials for the purpose, instructing them to discharge that duty. Most unfortunately, however, a fanatic has come forward and inflicted injury on the Chinese Ambassador. We are profoundly pained by the incident. The fanatic will of course be punished by Our officials in conformity with law. We hereby enjoin all Our officials to carefully observe Our will, and to take care, by strict preventive measures, that the prestige of Our Empire be not injured.

A telegram from Shanghai, says that Japanese ships of war shelled the north Makong forts in the Pescadores on the morning of the 23rd, and renewed the bombardment the following day, troops being at the same time landed to attack from the rear. On the 25th, telegraphic communication ceased between Formosa and the Pescadores, from which it is assumed that the latter group has fallen into Japanese possession. The telegraph line, we may mention, runs from Amoy and Tamsui in Formosa, and from a more southerly point of the latter to the Pescadores.

Wednesday, March 27th.

Some of the metropolitan journals allege that the bullet has been extracted from the Viceroy Li's wound. We believe the intelligence to be incorrect. In view of the sufferer's great age, and, above all, of the malady from which he lately suffered, the use of an anæsthetic could scarcely be thought of, and without an anæsthetic the operation of extraction would be out of the question. Besides, the bullet may be left where it is without producing dangerous complications. The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, account, telegraphed from Shimonoseki at 5.20 p.m. on the 25th instant, is to the effect that Drs. Ishiguro and Sato, after careful examination, came to the conclusion that, in view of the impossibility of using an anæsthetic, the bullet had better be left where it is. We find it difficult to understand the course actually taken by the bullet. The report of our contemporary is that it passed between the cheek-bone and the hollow of the eye, lodging deep under the nose. At all events, it can not be extracted, and its presence gives no special cause for anxiety. The Viceroy is said to have expressed himself profoundly grateful for the consideration shown by the Emperor in sending a Chamberlain to convey expressions of Imperial regret, and the two Chief Court Physicians to attend to the wound.

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* reports that the members of the Diet now in Hiroshima have asked Count Ito to procure the prolongation of the Diet's session for one or two days in order that a resolution of regret and condolence may be passed with reference to Viceroy Li's wound. The Premier has laid their request before the Emperor.

The *Jiji Shimpo* says that there are now mounted in the batteries at Shanhaikwan over 130 pieces of artillery, 8 among them being 21-cent. Krupps. New forts have been erected and the garrison has been increased in view of the possible advent of the Japanese, but the *Jiji* adds that about one-half of the garrison have deserted.

There is no news from Formosa.

Some of the Tokyo papers say that Koyama, the would-be assassin of the Viceroy, is the son of a member of the Gumma Prefectural Assembly, and that he had already distinguished himself by administering a beating to Mr. Kokure Budayu, one of the members of the Diet for that Prefecture. If that be the case, he must be a man of some education. It is evident, however, that he had very little command of money.

Thursday, March 28th.

The Viceroy Li's condition remains satisfactory. There is no appearance of any complications, and if he progresses as he has hitherto done, he ought to be able to re-open the conference in a few days. He has himself expressed a strong desire in that sense. The Emperor's instructions were that Dr. Sato should remain at Shimonoseki in attendance on the patient, and that Surgeon-General Ishiguro

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should return to Hiroshima to report on his condition. His Majesty's injunction is of course observed, but the Viceroy naturally likes to be attended as much as possible by the Chinese doctor that came in his suite, and some fears are entertained lest the latter's practice may not be in accord with the best antiseptic principles of modern times. For the rest, no cause of anxiety seems to exist. It is said that the Viceroy, in conversation with those about him, frankly admits the weakness displayed by China, and regrets it for her sake, but at the same time thinks that her defeat will make for the cause of civilization in the East, and is therefore not altogether regrettable.

The Minister of State for Home Affairs has addressed a very strongly worded reprimand to the local authorities in Yamaguchi Prefecture, through whose want of sufficient precautions his Excellency considers that the lamentable event of the 24th instant occurred. The Governor of the Prefecture and the Chief of Police have submitted their resignations, but whether they will be accepted remains to be seen. It must be confessed that the police seem blameworthy. Considering the immense importance of preventing all such incidents, and considering that the narrowness of the Shimonoseki streets rendered its almost impossible to completely control the acts of foot-passengers if they were allowed to be present at the time of the Viceroy's going and coming, the only really efficacious course would have been to clear the street completely whenever the Ambassador's palanquin was expected. But it is easy to be wise after the event.

Many stories are told about the antecedents of Toyama, the assailant of the Viceroy, but it is difficult to determine what portion of these tales is genuine, and what portion has been discovered for the occasion. The *Nichi Nichi* says that his real name is Toyotaro, not Rokunosuke, but that item of news, though doubtless correct, is of small interest. His preliminary examination has led to the framing of a charge of premediated but unaccomplished murder and he has been transferred to the Criminal Court for trial.

An insignificant skirmish with the Tonghaks is reported by Captain Tamamura at Chyan-lyan. Several half-armed rebels were captured, together with a small store of rice. It is about time that these disturbers of the peace should be quieted completely.

The members of the House of Peers held a meeting at the Nobles Club on the 25th instant, and decided to send a telegram, followed by two delegates, expressing their profound regret for the assault committed on the person of the Viceroy Li, and their fervent hope that he may speedily be restored to health. They further resolved to despatch a telegram commiserating with the Emperor on account of the anxiety that the event must have caused His Majesty, and to send two members of the House, as representatives of the whole, to Hiroshima to inquire after the Sovereign's health. The drafting of the telegram was entrusted to Marquis Hachisuka; the delegates to be sent to the Emperor were to be chosen, one from the Princes or Marquises and one from the Counts; and the delegates to the Viceroy were to be either the President or Vice-Persident and one Count, the expenses connected with the carrying out of the scheme to be defrayed by the whole House. Steps were subsequently taken to elect the delegates, the result being that Prince Tokugawa and Count Kyosu were chosen to proceed to Hiroshima, and that the choice of the delegates for Shimonoseki was deferred until Viscount Mutsu could be consulted.

The House of Representatives is not taking any step collectively, for the session having terminated, it would be unconstitutional for the members to come together again for any such purpose.

Immediately on receipt of the news reported by Field-Marshal Nodzu that the Yingkow foreign Red Cross Hospital was treating some 600 Chinese wounded in the engagement of February 24th, the Committee of the Red Cross Society in Shanghai asked the telegraphic authorities in Japan whether it would be possible to have a money credit telegraphed to Yingkow. Inquiry having been made of the General Head-quarters at Hiroshima, an answer was received that there would be no difficulty in employing the military telegraph lines for the proposed purpose. Shanghai was accordingly so informed, and soon afterwards, at the request of the Red Cross Committee, a bank credit of five thousand taels, to meet the requirements of the Red Cross Hospital at Yingkow was sent on by telegraph. The message had to be sent, of course, in Japanese *Kana*, but the chief of the military telegraph office at Yingkow was requested to supply a translation with the original *Kana* despatch. The incident is not without interest.

Friday, March 29th.

The reports from Shimonoseki continue most favourable. Dr. Sato and the other medical attendants examined the Viceroy at 9.30 a.m. on the 27th, and found that, since their previous examination at 5 p.m. on the 26th, there had been no change. The patient's rest had not been quite unbroken during the night, but that was attributed to mental anxiety. His pulse and temperature were good, and his appetite was normal. Before changing the bandages on the wound, Dr. Sato showed Earl Li the medicated bandages prepared by the Empress herself and sent for his use, as well as the two female nurses specially despatched by Her Majesty. The Viceroy took the bandages in his hand reverentially, and said:—In truth the benevolence of Her Majesty the Empress of Japan is as profound as the sea. When I return home and tell my Imperial Mistress what has been done for me, she will be very satisfied." The bandages were then changed, and various antiseptic measures adopted as usual. The wound was found to be in a healthy condition.

The above facts are given by the *Jiji Shimpo*. In the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* it is stated that Li's condition improves daily, and that at 5 p.m. on the 27th when Dr. Sato paid his second daily visit, as usual, the Viceroy conversed with him on various topics. "The fanatic," said his Excellency, "was my enemy, but to you I owe my life. When I return to China I shall report the facts to my Sovereign and ask him to recognise your services." The Viceroy also alluded frequently to the gracious treatment accorded to him by the Emperor and Empress of Japan. Lord Li spoke, on the same occasion, privately to Dr. Sato and asked him to admonish the Viceroy. The aged statesman, Lord Li explained, when in China rose every morning at 5 o'clock and worked at his official duties the whole day, not going to bed until 11 at night. Remonstrances from ordinary folks were quite unavailing, but if a physician of Dr. Sato's reputation were to speak to him, he would probably attend. From the 28th instant it was intended to add milk, if possible, to the Viceroy's diet. There appeared to be no need of the nurses sent by the Empress, and their speedy return to Hiroshima was expected.

The finding of the magistrates before whom the would-be assassin was brought, is published by the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*. It appears that his true name is Koyama Toyotaro, and that he is registered as having no occupation. The finding runs thus: "The accused, Koyama Toyotaro, being of opinion that the complication which arose in the fall of last year with reference to China and Korea, and led finally to the outbreak of war, was due to the procedure of the Chinese Minister of State and Viceroy of Chili, Earl Li, and that unless the latter were removed, lasting peace could not be secured to the East. Therefore, with the intention of killing the Viceroy, he would have gone to China but could not. Hearing, however, that the Viceroy was to come to the town of Akamagaseki in the capacity of Peace Plenipotentiary, and deeming this a good opportunity not to be lost, he determined to proceed thither with murderous intentions. Accordingly, on the 11th of the 3rd month of the 28th year of *Meiji*, he procured a pistol from Kanamaru Kenjiro of Yokohama, and on the 12th of the same month set out from Tokyo, and proceeding overland, reached Akamagaseki on the 24th. At ten minutes past 4 p.m. on the same day, in Sotohamamachi of that town, he aimed at the breast of the Ambassador with the above pistol and fired from the outside of the palanquin, but missing his aim, struck the Ambassador at a point one centimètre below the centre of the hollow of the left eye, failing to inflict a mortal wound. The above facts being established by ample proofs, the prisoner, in accordance with such and such (here follows a recital) provisions of the Code and Criminal Procedure is remanded for trial before the Criminal Section of the Local Court."

In addition to the removal from office of the Governor and Chief of Police—Messrs. Hara, and Goto—of Yamaguchi Prefecture, the following have also been dismissed from the service in connection with the Li affair:—The local inspector and the chief of gendarmes of the place where the event occurred; the local inspector and the chief gendarme of the station that failed to note the would-be assassin's arrival overland, and the two policeman on duty near the place where the crime was committed.

From Korea another rebellious attempt by about 1,000 Tonghaks is reported. It was a repetition of the old story. The Tonghaks were driven back with a loss of 40 or 50 men, and not a Japanese killed or wounded. The "staying power" of these Tonghaks is something very remarkable.

KOREAN NEWS.

The principal subject of interest in Sōul at present is the examination of the assassins of Kin Kakun, Vice-Minister of Justice. As was already opined, the plot appears to have been hatched in the "Mysterious Mansion" and the Tai Wŏn-kun, the "King of Mystery," seems to have been the plotter. Kin Kokujen, one of his dependents, was suspected as the principal tool in carrying ont the evil deed, and the Police were determined to arrest him, but that was no easy task, for, harboured as he was in the Tai Wŏn-kun's residence, there was much difficulty in getting at him. Disguised detectives were stationed round the mansion, and Kin was lured out of his hiding-place and thus arrested. The facts brought to light during his examination have confirmed the suspicions of the Police, and it has been proved beyond doubt that the "King of Mystery" was at the bottom of the affair. He first won Kin over, and the latter, with the help of two others, got together thirteen desperadoes and perpetrated the murder of the Vice-Minister of Justice, whom the Tai Wŏn-kun hated, and dreaded on account of his ability and fearless opposition. The problem which has now to be solved is what to do with the arch plotter—a difficult question to dispose of considering the position and rank of the aged Prince. A certain newspaper correspondent writes to the effect that the crafty Prince, in order to evade the grave charges constantly being brought against him, contemplates coming over to Japan. It would be a wise step for him to take, as his existence in Sōul is, at the best, thorny. It is important that he should be prevented from doing any further mischief, if Korean affairs are to be arranged satisfactorily.

The King of Korea has despatched his War Minister to the Japanese Head-quarters in Manchuria, to convey his congratulations and thanks to the Japanese officers and soldiers. The messenger has been charged with a Royal Rescript to the effect that, the motive of Japan's declaration of war against China was her desire to maintain the tranquillity of the East, the King desired to express the congratulations and gratitude both of himself and his people for the glorious victories achieved by the Japanese officers and soldiers. The Royal messenger left Sōul on the 11th instant, accompanied by a numerous suite.

The final survey for the construction of a railway between Sōul and Niusen has been

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completed, and the line will be commenced before long under the superintendence of Engineer Sengoku. The work will take six months. It is said that an agreement has been made by Japan with the Korean Government, by which Japan has the control of the railway for fifty years, after which period the ownership is to be transferred to Korea on the payment of a certain sum by the latter country.

Mr. Suyematsu's arrival in Sōul with a portion of the loan appropriated by Japan out of the War Fund, for the use of the Korean Government, has given rise to some difficulty between the two Governments, the cause of difference being the form of money, namely, whether the loan should be in paper or silver, and what should be the relative proportion of the two. The installment carried over by Mr. Suyematsu was entirely in the form of convertible notes, at which the Korean Cabinet expressed dissatisfaction. The Japanese ambassador himself appears to share that feeling more or less, according to the *Jiji's* correspondent, although obliged to admit the justice of the conditions that Mr. Suyematsu was instructed to ask of the Korean Government in forwarding the loan to it. Count Inouye is said, therefore, to be in a painful dilemma. The Korean Government is desirous of receiving the loan mostly in the form of silver coins, or, if notes are to predominate, to have exchange offices established, not only in Sōul and the Treaty ports, but also in several important cities in the interior. Of course if the loan be advanced chiefly in the form of notes, the Japanese Government must be prepared to establish exchange offices in Sōul and in Treaty ports, but to found them in every other inland city of importance is out of the question.

A subsequent telegram says that the above difficulty has been compromised and the negotiation completed.

The Tonghaks have been suppressed, for the time at least, but the question is, is their suppression permanent? The *Jiji's* Sōul correspondent does not think so, unless radical reform is made in the local administration of the country. The Tonghaks are a sort of religious body, very difficult to eliminate entirely, and another serious disturbance is likely to be made by them if the local officials continue their oppression of the people. There is no limit to the greed and lawlessness of these men, as is shown by their conduct while the districts under them were being overrun by the insurgents. When the Japanese troops were despatched to southern Korea to suppress the rebels, they of course paid for everything supplied to them by the people. The local officials, seeing an opportunity for plunder, not to be thrown away, told the people that, as the Japanese troops had been sent to help the Korean Government and to put down the insurgents on its behalf, they should be treated with the utmost hospitality. Should it be heard at the Court that the troops had been obliged to pay for their food and so forth, while they were fighting the Tonghaks, the Governors would be severely reprimanded. The officials, therefore, made the people hand over all that they had received from the Japanese troops, on the pretence that they would overtake the latter and return the money.

The *Nichi Nichi's* correspondent sends an astonishing piece of news. About a dozen Korean women have resolved to come to Japan for the purpose of observing the domestic conditions of their patron country and of inaugurating changes in Korean family life. As it is a notorious fact that Korean women pass their existence in seclusion, seeing no men except their relations, the resolution of several of them to break loose from their domestic fetters and to cross the sea, is a very striking phenomenon. The wife of the Superintendent of Police is among the number, and her husband approves of the idea so thoroughly that he has promised to devote half of his salary for her maintenance while in Japan.

LETTERS FROM SHIMONOSEKI.

(From our Correspondent.)

Shimonoseki, March 19th.

This morning at about half-past seven a large steamer looking very much like the old favourite of the Shanghai line, the P. & O. Co.'s *Cathay*, was seen slowly steaming in from the east. Spy-glasses quickly indicated that the ship was indeed the *Cathay*, now differently named and differently owned, being the property of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha and called the *Ikaye Maru* (or *Weihaiwei Maru*). She left Hiroshima yesterday evening at five o'clock with Count Ito on board. Among the passengers were Secretary-General Mr. Miyoji Ito, of the Imperial Cabinet, and Police-Inspector Ogawa of the Metropolitan Police Bureau, besides several others Government officials of *Hannin* rank, in all about twenty.

Viscount Mutsu had arrived here a few days previously, so that the coming of the Premier this morning completed the number of Japan's peace plenipotentiaries.

Scarcely an hour had passed when another cry of ships in sight was heard from the seamen crowding the beach, and it was quickly learned that the new arrivals were the vessels carrying the Chinese Envoy and his suite. As the ships steamed in from the west piloted by a small Japanese steamer, the *Taiko Maru*, one of them was seen to have a blue ring on her funnel, and the other a white ring with a red star. Both flew at the foremast the Chinese flag, a black dragon on a yellow ground, and at the peak a German merchant flag. The ships were the *Kung-yi* and the *Lai-yu*, belonging to the China Merchant's Steam Navigation Co. When the anchors were lowered Japanese steam-launches under the Police of the Prefecture, were soon at the vessels' sides. A couple of hours later, one of these launches brought to land some of the passengers. Among them were seen the familiar faces of Mr. Wu Ting-fang and General Foster. Another foreigner with them proved to be Mr. Pethick, the private tutor to one of the Viceroy's sons. On landing, the whole company under special police escort and the guidance of officers of the Department of Foreign Affairs, drove to the Temple Injoji set apart for the Embassy's lodging. Mr. Wu Ting-fang expressed great admiration of the elaborate preparations made for receiving the Envoy and his suite. Two private houses were ready for General Foster and Mr. Pethick. The Viceroy Li, according to Mr. Wu, was not well enough to land, but Mr. Wu added:—"Seeing all the careful preparations made by the Japanese Government, I feel bound to pursuade His Excellency to come on shore as soon as his doctor will permit." The Temple, a spacious building is situated on a slight eminence to the north of the one long street forming Shimonoseki, and together with sub-buildings, will no doubt easily accommodate the whole suite of the embassy, which consists of 132 souls.

Count Ito is in the villa of the Chief Shinto Priest of the locality, while Viscount Mutsu is in an inn called Daikichi. The town is unusually full, and is placed under the provisions of the Peace Preservation Regulations. The police are always on the alert, on land and in steam launches, by the side of the Embassy's ships. The inns in Amidaji Street are closed to ordinary travellers on account of the needs of the Government officials, for whom even private houses have had to be rented. The town cannot stretch itself sufficiently for such an occasion.

The place appointed for the meeting of the delegates is the Fujino Hotel, situated on the side of the hill about midway between the residences set apart for Count Ito and Viceroy Li. The apartments where the conference will take place command a splendid view of the harbour and the blue mountains of Kyushu on the opposite shore. Adjacent to the hotel is a famous shrine dedicated to the unfortunate Emperor Antoku, who is believed by most historians to have perished in the arms of Nii no Ama in the sea not far from the place.

Shimonoseki, March 20th.

I took a walk through the streets about nine this morning. Loungers and spectators were already collecting on the roads along which the Chinese Envoy was expected to pass after landing. The hour of meeting had been appointed for three in the afternoon, and it was known in well-informed circles that the Viceroy would not land much earlier than that time. The inhabitants and most of the irresponsible visitors were not aware of this, however, and showed great impatience as they waited for the coming ashore of the Chinese Ambassador. It was believed that he and his suite would land at the pier in the part of the town known as Jinguji. In an open space leading from the pier, ropes had been stretched enclosing a place for the newspaper correspondents to see the procession. Along the streets farther on, the front rooms were thrown open and families with their relatives and friends were already beginning to take their seats there. At two in the afternoon, the street in the vicinity of the pier was filled by an eager crowd kept in order by a body of constables and gendarmes. It soon began to be whispered that the Chinese Envoy had expressed a wish to land from another pier nearer to the place of conference. The report proved well founded, for the police authorities and the gendarmes hastened at the top of their speed in the direction of the new place of debarcation below the shrine of Chinjei Hachiman. The rush of the crowd in the same direction caused much confusion and raised great clouds of dust. I had no little difficulty in forcing my way through the crowd so as to reach the top of the stone steps leading to the landing place. As I got there, a number of Chinese had just carried ashore a palanquin in which the Viceroy was to proceed to the place of meeting. This palanquin was soon brought to the top of the stone steps, in the vicinity of which I was standing in company with several representatives of the Japanese papers. The Chinese carriers were middle-aged men of fine physique. The palanquin was not particularly beautiful. When the oil cloth protecting it had been removed, the outside was seen to be covered with blue cloth to about a foot from the bottom, and on the lower part was stretched red cotton cloth, the inside being lined with brocade of light blue. On three sides there were glass windows about 15 inches square, while at the back the upper part bulged out a little with a small glass window at the end. The inside of the protruding portion was a place for keeping a pillow, and beneath it was a fur-covered seat. The palanquin was about 5 feet high. At a quarter to three a steam launch was observed to proceed from one of the Chinese ships. It was escorted by five other launches, one on each side and the rest following at a short distance. The largest launch in the middle contained the Envoy and his suite. In the space of a little over five minutes, the Viceroy and his suite, including Lord Li and Secretaries, Lo, Ma, and Wu, landed. Under the guidance of the Chief Police Inspector of the Prefecture, the Chinese Envoy at once came up the steps preceded by an official reverentially supporting with both hands a box evidently containing the Viceroy's credentials. His Excellency, on reaching the top of the steps, cast a searching glance around him as though he expected to see some familiar faces among the persons collected in the neighbourhood. He then entered the palanquin, and was briskly carried off to the Fujino Hotel, the appointed place of meeting. Lord Li and other members of the suite followed in *jinrikisha*. The Viceroy looked very young for his years, and showed wonderful vivacity in his movements. The indisposition that had prevented his landing yesterday seemed to have been of a slight nature. At all events he appeared sound and well. At the hotel, the party was met by Count Ito, Viscount Mutsu, Mr. Miyoji Ito, Mr. Nakada, Mr. Katsunosuke Inouye, Mr. Hirokichi Mutsu, and Mr. Tei, who had arrived there some time previously. The meeting between the delegates of the two

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Empires is reported to have been very cordial and friendly. The principal business of the day was the exchange of credentials. They were found to be in due and proper form, and the conference came to a close in about an hour. It was conducted in English; the Japanese Delegates, being well versed in that language, required no interpreter, while Mr. Lo acted in that capacity on the Chinese side. The Viceroy and his suite then left for the pier through a dense crowd of spectators on both sides of the street. He returned to the ship, being still advised by his doctors to remain there. It is, however, reported that he will land to-morrow morning and take up his residence at the temple Injo-ji. The next conference is fixed for half past twelve to-morrow. The foreign members of the mission landed this morning and took up their quarters at the above-mentioned temple. Among the visitors here, I may mention Mr. Koizuka, M.P., Mr. Takata, M.P., Mr. Ohigashi, M.P., Mr. Takahashi, chief editor of the *Osaka Asahi Shimbun*, and Mr. Asahina, editor of the Tokyo *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*.

Shimonoseki, March 21.

This morning at 10.30 the Viceroy Li landed at the eastern *hatoba* and took up his residence at the Injo-ji temple. Previous to his arrival, I paid a visit to the temple and, with the permission of the Japanese officials, inspected the apartments fitted up for the occupation of the Chinese Envoy. Entering by one of the principal doorways, and passing through a number of corridors, I was brought to a suite of three apartments all fitted up in European fashion. These are to be occupied by the Viceroy during his stay here. The first room, measuring eight mats, is to be the sitting-room. The alcove is adorned with a fine *kakemono* (hawk) by one of the modern Japanese masters. The sliding doors separating this from the next room are hidden by a screen with elaborate paintings of the *Shijo* school. A number of good, comfortable looking chairs, and one or two desks complete the furniture. The room is warmed by a stove. The next room contains a European bed, and a number of arm chairs brought from the Chinese ship. The third and last is the dining-room, with a long table in the middle. The way in which these rooms have been fitted up and furnished shows that the local officials have done everything in their power to lessen the inconvenience and discomfort incidental to the Viceroy's stay in such a place as Shimonoseki. The rooms for the members of the suite have also been prepared in becoming style. While I was going through the different apartments, the servants of the members of the Chinese mission were fast arriving with bundles of various descriptions on their shoulders. The baggage of the Viceroy and his suite was carried from the pier by a large number of Japanese coolies. In the kitchen, several Chinese cooks were already beginning to make preparations for dinner. They had brought from the ship everything necessary for the purpose; bags of rice; baskets containing dishes, cups, chopsticks, and other articles of the kind; pots, pans, and cooking utensils generally. The Japanese officials had erected a special cooking-place and engaged the services of a number of skilled cooks from the Osaka Hotel, and every preparation had been made for the entertainment of the party in European fashion. But the Chinese Envoy and his suite seem to prefer their own national food.

While I was making these observations, the approach of the Viceroy's palanquin was announced by the police constables stationed at the top of the long flight of steps leading from the street below. The palanquin carried by four men, was soon brought to the doorway through which I had entered. Viceroy Li, emerging from the conveyance, at once entered the house, supporting himself on each side on the shoulders of his Secretaries. He seemed to be in excellent spirits, and was smiling most contentedly. Lord Li, Messrs. Ma, Lo, and a few others were in the suite. Of the whole suite of 132, sixty-five have landed, including, besides those already named, a number of military officers and students.

At half-past two, the Viceroy proceeded to the place of conference in a palanquin, followed by Lord Li and other secretaries on foot. The conference lasted two hours. Nothing is, of course, known about the proceedings of to-day's meeting.

THE SHIMONOSEKI INCIDENT.

As on the occasion of the attempt on the life of the Czarewitch, now Emperor of Russia, so to-day the Japanese people are busily sending messages of condolence to the Chinese Ambassador. Already the representatives of 29 vernacular newspapers now at Shimonoseki, have addressed a consolatory letter to the Viceroy. The *Keiogijuku*, Mr. Fukuzawa's College, the Radicals, the Progressionists, the National Unionists, and so forth have lost no time in taking a similar step. The question has also been discussed by the members of the House of Representatives, especially as the date of performing the official closing ceremony of the Diet had to be deferred on account of the incident. Several members assembled in the House on the 25th instant for the purpose of considering the matter. It was, however, decided that though the closing ceremony had been postponed, the Diet could no longer be considered to be in session, and that, consequently, the proposed step would be unconstitutional. The members decided to manifest their sympathy through the media of the political parties with which they are respectively identified.

The *Asahi* and other papers say that the Governor and the Chief of Police of Yamaguchi Prefecture should be held accountable for the occurrence of this grave incident. When Shimonoseki was selected as the place for holding the peace negotiations, those officials were asked whether a detachment of police should be sent from Tokyo to effectively provide against emergencies, and the same question was also addressed to them from Hiroshima. They declined both offers, saying that the local Police were sufficient for the purpose. Hence they have no excuse to make for their failure to protect the Viceroy. The streets of Shimonoseki present special obstacles to the enforcement of effective police control, being very narrow. When Earl Li passed along in his palanquin only a narrow space remained on each side, and any one harbouring a murderous intention might easily approach the palanquin, as did the fanatic Koyama, before the guards could interfere. Such being the case, the refusal of the Governor and of the Chief of Police to avail themselves of the offer of reinforcements must be considered an act of grave negligence on their part. It was perfectly proper, therefore, that they should, as they have done, present a document offering to resign office.

What a high medical authority had to say to the representative of the *Hochi* about the wound of the Viceroy is worth quoting. He explains that as the bullet can not have reached the brain, since it would have caused death on the spot, or in least unconsciousness, it must have lodged at the upper jaw bone. From the descriptions thus far given of the wound, the case is apparently not serious. He thinks that the bullet will not be extracted. According to the latest practice of surgery a bullet that does not protrude externally is generally not extracted; neither is one that does not tend to cause suppuration. That is the system commonly followed by Japanese surgeons in the present war. When a bullet reaches the brain the wound generally proves fatal in 24 hours. In the case of the Viceroy, the bullet must have failed to injure the brain. The only ground of anxiety is in connection with the period of convalescence. The Viceroy being very old, may develop some other trouble, as of the lungs, for instance. If things go on as they are doing now, the patient may be so far recovered in about a week as to be able to engage in conversation on a moderate scale, and in a fortnight or so he may be so completely restored as to admit of his renewing the conference.

THE VERNACULAR PRESS ON THE SHIMONOSEKI INCIDENT.

The Tokyo papers manifest profound sorrow and regret at the murderous assault made by a fanatic upon the person of the Chinese Peace Ambassador. Japan has never been desirous of war, says the *Jiji*, and is therefore ready to receive a duly accredited envoy from China, and to negotiate for the restoration of peace. Consequently, the arrival of the Viceroy Li invested with full powers to negotiate peace, has been regarded with satisfaction, for it shows that this time at least China appears to be sincerely anxious to terminate hostilities. The prestige and position of the Ambassador, and the mission he was sent on made the Japanese Government accord to the aged statesman exceptionally warm treatment, as cordial as any foreign Ambassador ever received in Japan's hands. Under the circumstances, the public expected that the Ambassador would be highly satisfied by his reception, and that a successful termination of the negotiation would be soon reached. Hence the grave incident that happened on the 24th instant took people completely by surprise and evoked sentiments of the sincerest sorrow and regret. The issue of the negotiations depends in great part on the personality of those conducting them. The Viceroy's individuality is as important a factor as that of the Japanese Plenipotentiary. The fate of Japan and of China depends upon the issue of the conference between the Representatives of the two belligerents, and to shoot the Viceroy Li was just as heinous and mischievous as to shoot the Japanese Plenipotentiary. Any person guilty of such wickedness must be denounced as a traitor to the country. Indeed, when it is remembered that the result obtained by Japan's loyal and patriotic warriors, shedding their blood on foreign soil, and supported to the utmost by their fellow-patriots at home, was about to bear fruit in the peace negotiations, and that the people were hoping to realize their fervent prayer for the prosperity and greatness of their country,—when all this is remembered, the occurrence at such a juncture of such an unexpected incident not only compels us to abhor the fanatic as a traitor, but also fills us with an even greater and more profound anxiety on account of the calamity thus brought upon the empire. We can not but mourn at the terrible misfortune that our country suffers. It is easy to conceive with which displeasure and anger the news will be received in China, and it is important that the severest punishment sanctioned by law be meted out to the malefactor, so as to soothe, in some small degree, the feelings of the country's illustrious guest. Whatever China may feel, however, the pain and wrath of the Japanese people must be far greater, seeing that the crime was perpetrated on their own soil, and while they stood in the position of hosts to the unfortunate sufferer. The incident must in truth be regarded as one of those terrible but inevitable calamities with which nations as well as individuals are frequently afflicted. Regrets will not mend or mitigate its gravity. As for the peace negotiations, they should not be delayed even a day. If China is really desirous of peace, and if the wound of the Viceroy is likely to take long in healing, China should forthwith appoint a suitable substitute. She must not suffer a conference of such gravity to be suspended or otherwise affected because of an injury suffered by her Representative. This suggestion is made not for the benefit of Japan, but really for the benefit of China. Every day that the termination of hostilities is deferred signifies so much additional injury to China.

While expressing the profoundest sorrow and regret toward the Chinese Ambassador on account of the murderous assault made upon him, the *Nichi Nichi* can not but feel keenly pained by the reflection that now, for the first time since the war began, Japan is compelled, by the mad deed of a miscreant, to assume an apologetic attitude toward China. Her honour,

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hitherto unsullied and even greatly enhanced by the war, has been stained.

The *Kokumin* says that the character of the nation as a whole should not be impugned simply because a fanatic has attempted to commit a rash deed. The occurrence of one unfortunate incident can not justly be made a source of embarrassment to the country. At such a juncture as the present, the sincerest and keenest sympathy should be shown toward the sufferer, and the characteristic magnanimity, justice, frankness, and chivalry of the Japanese people should be manifested in the eyes of all the world. It depends upon the conduct of the Japanese people whether an apparently great misfortune shall be converted into a subject of commendation.

We do not wish, writes the *Nippon*, to wage any unjustifiable war, or patch up a temporary peace. Yet unforeseen accidents frequently lead to unexpected results. What is now to be apprehended is that Japan may be obliged, on account of this most unhappy accident, to consent to a superficial peace. Any one opposed to such a result should endeavour to repair the disgrace brought upon the country by the unpatriotic culprit. The only way of effecting that is to show the deepest sympathy with the sufferer and to extend to him every courtesy and hospitality demanded by the occasion. Shallow thinkers may secretly rejoice in the hope that the incident may prevent the two countries from continuing their peace negotiations. Such persons do not perceive that other Powers, hitherto perplexed to find any sufficient ground for interfering with the actions of Japan, will now be furnished with a plausible pretext for doing so. In this connexion, we may note a message sent to Tokyo by the Shimonoseki correspondent of the *Nichi Nichi*, under date 11.40 a.m. of the 25th instant. He wires that but for the accident of the 24th, the last conference would have been held on the forenoon of the 25th.

"LE MONDE MODERNE."

A very beautiful addition has been made to French periodical literature in the shape of "Le Monde Moderne," a monthly illustrated review. The "get up" of the magazine is irreproachable—excellent paper, clear type, and really artistic illustrations—and the matter, judged by the contents of the first number, promises to be a really valuable addition to the library of the time. The volume before us commences with a story entitled "Petite Cora"; a pretty story and plaintive, in the telling of which the writer seems to dwell upon the music of the French language as though the sound of a few simple words made his heart vibrate. A writer in French has immense advantages. Then follows an essay, "Pour fonder une Révue," from which we learn that there were already 6,263 periodical publications in France on 1st of May 1894, yet the projectors of "Le Monde Moderne" have not hesitated to add another to the long list. In this essay the editor takes his readers fully into his confidence. He tells them exactly what the Review is expected to cost, and then explains the anxiety devolving upon those that had to choose the best means of recouping the outlay. These figures will interest our readers:—

	Francs. annually.
Editing at least	60,000
Illustrations	80,000
Information, artistic designs, and special pictures	30,000
Rent and administration	40,000
Composition, printing, &c.	40,000
Advertising, interest on capital, &c. (these expenses are supposed to be defrayed by the receipts from advertisements)	00,000
	250,000

In addition to the above, there is the cost of machining, of paper, of binding, of wrapping, of addressing, and of postage. Items that at present about 10 francs annually per number. Thus, in order to recoup the mere outlay, it is necessary to have 12,500 subscribers at 30 francs (*i.e.* 20 francs net). The price, however, has been fixed at 18 francs, which makes the periodical almost the cheapest of illustrated French periodicals, other things being equal. Eighteen francs annually means eight francs net, so that 31,250 subscribers must be obtained before the magazine can pay its way. It is a bold venture.

The Magazine contains a number of other interesting essays, and concludes with three of special utility, "The Fashions of the month," "Autumnal Menus," and a "Review of Inventions." We shall allude to only one more chapter in detail, namely that describing "The Fire of Infantry." The chapter opens with a striking comparison between the infantry arm of 1854 and that of 1894. The former, with a calibre of 10 millimètres, discharged a bullet weighing 27 grammes with a charge of 9 grammes of powder. Its useful range was 200 mètres. At 300 mètres it was less exact than the present rifle is at 1,800 mètres. As for its power of penetration, its bullet could not pass through the body of a man except at a very short distance; and as for rapidity of fire, a skilled soldier could discharge it three times in two minutes. Thirty rounds per man was a sufficient supply of ammunition for a day's fighting. To-day the French Lebel repeating rifle—we mention it because it is the arm discussed in the essay before us, not because of any supposed superiority to the German Mannlicher, the English Lee-Mitford, the Italian Vitali, the Swiss Schmidt, the Danish Krog, or the Russian Modèle—with a calibre of 8 millimetres, a bullet weighing 14 to 15 grammes, and a charge of 2.5 grammes of smokeless powder, has an effective range of 2,000 metres and a maximum range of 3,500 metres; its projectile passes through four men placed one behind the other at 300 metres; an ordinarily drilled soldier fires 12 to 15 shots per minute, and 300 rounds of ammunition must be provided for each man per diem when fighting. This wonderful progress toward perfection is supplemented by a contrivance that multiplies enormously the deadliness of the rifle. A range-finder has been invented. It consists of a pair of spectacles, "Lunette Souchier," the principle of which, roughly speaking, is that two images are projected on the retina of the person using the spectacles; one is the real image of the object whose distance has to be ascertained; the other is an imaginary image. These images appear partially or wholly superposed, and by the degree of superposition the distance is determined. If the head of the real image reach to the shoulders of the visual image, the distance is 300 mètres; if to the waist, 600 mètres; if to the knees, 1,000 mètres; if the two are exactly superposed, the distance is 1,400 mètres. The officers being then enabled to fix the range with nearly absolute accuracy, the fire of a company becomes terribly destructive. The results recorded with dummies representing an enemy are such as amount to the practical annihilation of an army at a range of from 600 to 400 mètres—96 men hit out of 176, or nearly 55 per cent. According to experiences recently recorded in manœuvres on the camp de Châlons, a company commencing fire at 1,300 mètres and drawing up finally to charging distance, discharged 6,500 rounds, of which 1,897 took effect. If even one-tenth of this result were attained in actual combat, the enemy would lose 189 men out of 250. Yet, throughout all this extraordinary progress in the art of manufacturing destructive weapons, the soldier remains just as vulnerable as ever. Ships are protected but not men. Captain Danrit, the author of the essay, predicts that the infantry soldier will soon have armour as effective as his weapons are deadly.

Kipling, Barrie, Jerome, Howells, Stockton, Mark Twain, Bret Harte, are none of them above the medium height, and several of them are actually diminutive. Marion Crawford and Conan Doyle are tall, athletic-looking men, but they are the exceptions that prove the rule.

ADMIRAL ITO'S STORY.

The Hiroshima correspondent of the *Hochi* succeeded in interviewing Admiral Ito during the latter's stay of a few days in that town after the Weihaiwei affair had been duly disposed of. The Admiral observed that in the adventures he had passed through thus far since the commencement of the war, what caused him most pain was being obliged to order the torpedo flotilla to attack the enemy's fleet in Weihaiwei. Every body knows full well that to go to war is to go to probable death, and so death is regarded as an ordinary incident for fighting men. Yet in practice, it is a terrible thing for any one to tell others to go and die. This he was obliged to do. He believed that in sending his men into Weihaiwei, he was sending many of them to death. Commander Mochihara, the chief the flotilla, and all the other officers received his orders with the utmost readiness. The Admiral simply told them to go, and they with equal brevity answered that they should. Not another word was uttered either by the Admiral or his brave subordinates. They simply exchanged wine cups and drank in profound silence, believing them to be in truth farewell cups. The resolution displayed by Commander Mochihara was admirable. The attack to which this account refers was the second, the first, delivered on the previous day, having resulted in the torpedoing of the *Ting-yuen*. Hence there was every reason to expect that the enemy would be keeping a keen look-out, and it seemed morally impossible that the crews of the torpedo-boats should return alive. The Commander, thoroughly appreciating this danger, took steps, before his departure, to avert any inconvenience that might result from his death. Of his own accord, without receiving instructions, he caused to be transferred to the man-of-war that accompanied the flotilla in the early stage of the attack, all the Admiral's written instructions, the naval records, signal sheets, charts, and every other document of importance in the keeping of the flotilla. That done, he addressed his subordinates as follows:—"The chance of returning alive is practically none; death is almost a certainty. Our boats and our bodies are the enemy's, and there is no need at this juncture to have recourse to such elaborate things as secret signals. We have but to signal to port or to starboard, as the case may be. Moreover, there is no occasion to retain many articles in the boats. A hand lamp alone will do." Such an address has the ring of sincerity: it shows nothing of the braggadacio that men are often apt to indulge in on occasions of peril. The Commander's resolution was worthy of his ordinary conduct, and when the Admiral subsequently learnt of what had happened, he strongly applauded the gallant officer's acts. Nor was the behaviour of the sailors less worthy of admiration: Not only in the last battle at Weihaiwei, but also in the battle of Haiyang, they acquitted themselves admirably. They had stout hearts, and never lost their presence of mind. In the battle of Haiyang the sailors seemed to be absolutely unconscious that they were engaged in deadly strife. They laughed and joked in the hottest moments of the battle. Among all these cool and resolute men, the Admiral alone was harassed by a thousand painful thoughts. The flag-ship, moving at the head of the line, was of course the principal target of the enemy's cannonade, but it was not on account of danger to himself or to his ship that the Admiral was distressed. It was on account of the other ships in the line. No one can imagine what his feelings were when he saw one of his ships struck by the enemy or when the smoke hid it for a while. On the other hand, when, with bated breath, he gazed at the place where the ship had been, from his position of vantage commanding a view of the whole line, and when, his heart throbbing with apprehension lest she should have been sent to the bottom, he saw her emerge from the smoke, gallant and unscathed, and proudly defying the enemy, the sensation of relief and delight that he experienced was indescribable. His greatest joy,

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however, was when, after the terrible gale that blew on the 21st of January, and the 1st of February, he found the torpedo flotilla safe.

The gale was of the fiercest, and the spray that broke over the ships froze at once, so that a rope of a finger's size grew as large as a man's arm. It was impossible to walk the deck in shoes, and every body put on Korean sandals. Yet the Admiral could not leave the vicinity of Weihaiwei, lest the Chinese Fleet might escape from the harbour. The gale, however, grew so strong that the Fleet was compelled to make for the bay of Yungcheng. The British Squadron had already taken shelter there, and when the Japanese Fleet steamed in, Admiral Fremantle sent a messenger to inquire whether any accident had happened to the Japanese vessels, especially the torpedo-boats. Admiral Ito himself did not know about the boats and was very anxious about their safety. As soon as the gale abated a little, on the morning of the 2nd, the Fleet at once proceeded toward Weihaiwei and impatiently awaited the dawning of the day, for it was still dark. The Admiral then directed his telescope toward the coast of Weihaiwei, and saw close by it several objects that appeared to be small rocks, but were soon perceived to be the Japanese torpedo boats. His anxiety about them was not yet relieved, however, for it was not clear whether they were safely moored by the coast or stranded upon it. Soon a small torpedo-boat came out and signalled that all the boats were perfectly safe. The joy experienced by the Admiral and his officers after the painful suspense of the preceding two days was beyond description. The Japanese are wont to say, when speaking of any great and unexpected pleasure, that it is as though one condemned to the torments of Hell should suddenly meet the saviour Buddha. The Admiral thinks that the simile falls short of expressing the joy he felt on that occasion. He also felt considerable anxiety to know how the steps taken on his sole responsibility with regard to the surrender of Weihaiwei were regarded by his superiors. The first thing about which he spoke to Admiral Count Saigo, Minister of State for the Navy, when he reached Hiroshima was the surrender. "War has now become a troublesome affair," continued the conqueror of the Chinese Fleet, "for while in former times all a general or an admiral had to do was simply to destroy the enemy, he must now keep in view, in conducting his operations, such things as international law, the criticism of foreigners, and so forth. I was therefore much concerned to learn whether the steps I took in connection with the Chinese surrender at Weihaiwei were not faulty. My anxiety was anticipated by the Minister and the Commander-in-chief of the Navy. They specially sent Captains Yamamoto and Ijuin as Ujina to receive me, and as soon as I landed, the two officers greeted me with the exclamation "Excellently done."

A WONDERFUL FEAT OF MEMORY.

Mr. Wadamori Kikujiro, of Tokyo, claims to have discovered a set of fundamental principles, the application of which will enable anybody to achieve extraordinary feats of memory. Having been invited by Mr. Maruyama Meisei, an ex-Member of the Lower House and a well known barrister, to examine the wonderful powers of memory exhibited by his friend Mr. Wadamori, we arranged a meeting with the latter on the 8th instant at the office of Mr. Shiwoiri Daisuke, a lawyer, in Yariya-cho, Kyobashi-ku, Tokyo. Mr. Wadamori is a young man, two or three years below thirty, rather short in stature, keen and intelligent of countenance, with a slight tendency to nervousness. As early as 1886 his attention was called to the subject of memory. He was then strongly possessed with an idea that the operations of the faculty of memory are reducible to some fixed rules, and that a proper application of such rules must be of great assistance in committing things to memory. It was not, however, until 1892 that he began to investigate the subject in a scientific manner. He was then in prison, and had excellent opportunity for the prosecution of the research. He consulted most of the works treating of memory, but these, he states, were of little service to him, and he had to work out his system almost entirely by his own unaided efforts. It took him two years of prison life to complete his task. By the aid of the principles so laboriously discovered by him he can now perform incredible feats of memory. He invited us to pronounce to him any number of words in Japanese, or any other language, or in several languages; he would then repeat them in the order of their original delivery or give any of them should its position be named. We selected the following hundred words and put them down on paper:—

1—Kawa (river).
2—Iye (house).
3—Karada (body).
4—Tokyo.
5—Kaya (mosquito net).
6—Kata (shoulder).
7—Shina (China).
8—Komori-kasa (umbrella).
9—Hawk.
10—Gun (army).
11—Kaze (wind).
12—Kancho (spy).
13—Kaminari (thunder).
14—Lion.
15—Tah lei (Chinese "to thunder").
16—Karyûdo (hunter).
17—Game.
18—Gakkô (school).
19—Kazoku (family).
20—Tôhatsu (hair).
21—Umi (sea).
22—Education.
23—To (door).
24—Ten (heaven).
25—Akugane (copper).
26—Scholar.
27—Chih (Chinese for "paper").
28—Kanna (saw).
29—Abura (oil).
30—Kanakin (cambric).
31—Kaki (persimmon).
32—Shôri (victory).
33—Katana (sword).
34—Kagi (key).
35—Garasu (glass).
36—Koshi (waist).
37—Kappa (rain-coat).
38—London.
39—Shashin (photograph).
40—Hôgaku (direction).
41—Kagami (mirror).
42—Kani (crab).
43—Isu (chair).
44—Victory.
45—Kawabako (leather box).
46—Rock.
47—Poet.
48—Kawo (face).
49—Kanjo (bill).
50—Kôtai (alteration).
51—Tsushin (correspondence).
52—Heiki (weapon).
53—Heya (room).
54—Kisen (steamer).
55—Yama (mountain).
56—Hôdai (fort).
57—Eijin (Englishmen).
58—India.
59—Ichigetsu (January).
60—Ninbu (coolie).
61—Ushi (cattle).
62—Ninjin (ginseng).
63—Nichiyo-bi (Sunday).
64—Hata (flag).
65—Kodomo (child).
66—Come.
67—Pan (bread).
68—Rojin (old man).
69—Go-getsu (May).
70—Ume (plum).
71—Toshi (year).
72—Kaigun (navy).
73—Goluku (dry goods).
74—Cha (tea).
75—Mei-rei (order).
76—Coffee.
77—Chichi (father).
78—Teppô (gun).
79—Yômuki (business).
80—Aki (autumn).
81—Myonichi (to-morrow).
82—Arashi (storm).
83—Shôbô (trade).
84—Sakujitsu (yesterday).
85—France.
86—Ane (elder sister).
87—Nakôdo (middleman).
88—Fire.
89—Issakujitsu (day before yesterday).
90—Yuki (snow).
91—Lark.
92—Tetsudo (railway).
93—Mori (grove).
94—Boston.
95—Gyunyu (cow's milk).
96—Momo (peach).
97—Beer.
98—Yukai (pleasure).
99—Shoseki (book).
100—Shiro (castle).

We did not show the paper to him; on the contrary, we took particular care to keep it away from him while writing the above words as well as when we read them out to him. He requested us to pronounce each word distinctly and deliberately, and not to proceed to the next word unless he said "go on." Following those instructions, it took about 15 minutes to finish the process. He then said he had fixed all the words in his mind and that he was ready to repeat them from the beginning or the end or from the middle; in fact he could name the exact position of any particular words. "What is no 52?" we asked him. "*Heiki*" he answered, promptly and without hesitation. We then tested his accuracy on a number of other words. Lastly, he repeated the vocabulary from head to foot without the slightest hitch. Now consider what this means. Is it not truly a wonderful feat? We pronounced the words only once, though deliberately and distinctly. Try for a moment to commit these words to memory in the order in which they are written down, so that you may be able not only to repeat them in their order but also to repeat off-hand any particular word the number of which is given. Can you do that in ten hours? We doubt it. Mr. Wadamori did it in a quarter of an hour. He says that the same result could be easily obtained by any man of ordinary intelligence if he only knew the principles. He of course refuses at present to divulge the nature of those principles. But he declares them to be of a nature admitting of easy acquisition by most people. It is natural to suspect that perhaps he may have a special gift, and that what is very easy to him may prove difficult and even impossible for others differently constituted. But he is positive that the same degree of proficiency is within the reach of most persons if they devote the same attention to the principles discovered by him. He had not been in any way conspicuous for good memory before he worked out the system. "Have you turned your newly acquired faculty to some good account?" "Yes," answered he, "I have commenced the study of English and have made considerable progress in it by the aid of my principles of memory." Working according to the rules of his system, he never forgets a word once fixed in his mind. He intends to write a book on the subject and thus secure copyright. Meanwhile, he will seek to attract the attention of the public. The first of these exhibitions took place on the 17th instant, when representatives of the metropolitan dailies as well as of some of the local English journals were invited to witness the feats. The experiment above described took place in presence of Messrs. Maruyama and Shiwoiri, and also of Mr. Noguchi Motonosuke. Mr. Wadamori is willing to arrange such meetings with any honest seeker after truth. He is to be addressed under care of Mr. Shiwoiri.

FORMOSA.

The explosion in Formosa, of which we heard so much that was vague last month, is thus described by a correspondent of the *North China Daily News*:—

About two o'clock on the afternoon of the 1st of February, a tremendous explosion took place at one of the forts. For obvious reasons it is not expedient to go into details as to which one, although in truth, disastrous as the occurrence otherwise was, the fighting portion of the fort escaped all injury. At least 90, if not 100 persons lost their lives, and houses, both in native and foreign portions of the port, were more or less seriously damaged. Forty or forty-five dead bodies were discovered intact amidst the ruins, while fifty others missing, known to have been in the fort at the time, were blown into pieces and scattered all over the place. Most ghastly sights met the eye on walking round soon after the explosion had taken place, as every here and there one came on legs or arms or some other portion of the human body! One large stone was thrown for a height of 300 or 400 feet into the air, and falling on board a junk, anchored a quarter of a mile away from the scene of the disaster, crushed one of her men so badly that he died a few hours afterwards. Another stone embedded itself in a man carrying him up for a similar distance, and both fell through the roof of a house right in the midst of a party of men and women who were seated round a table playing at cards. Only about 10 persons in all were taken out alive and of these more than half died within an hour or so. It seems that a change of commandants was taking place and the retiring incumbent was collecting arms and ammunition for the inspection and acceptance of his successor. Moving about with their usual carelessness, and, of course, smoking, the soldiers engaged in this work ignited about a ton of native-made powder, thus causing all the trouble! About 25 or 30 tons of foreign ("pebble") powder was stowed in apartments not far off from that in which the explosion actually took place, the cartridges being simply piled one on top of the other like so many bags of flour. Extraordinary to relate, though the walls were blown down, and even the cloth cases in many instances ripped up, letting the powder run down, it was not ignited. Had this also gone off it is improbable that anyone in the port could have survived.

The foreign residents at Tainan seem to have

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been justly anxious about their safety during the past two months. They say with truth that in the event of any trouble the first thing to happen would be the closing of the telegraph and their consequent isolation from the outer world. Meanwhile, the soldiers gathered to oppose a Japanese invasion, are in many cases bandits or outlaws of whom the Chinese population entertain the most vivid fears, and it is rumoured that these ill-conditioned braves have made no secret of their intention to engage in the game of loot on a large scale if they find any pretext. Tainan does not appear to be of sufficient importance, or the British Squadron is not sufficiently numerous, to justify the constant presence there of a man-of-war, and the Chinese take advantage of the absence of such protection. By way of illustrating the violent and outrageous conduct of the soldiery, the same correspondent describes how they "forcibly boarded and took away from a British launch some treasure that had been brought down by way of freight," refusing utterly to pay the carriage charges.

On the Captain of the launch remonstrating against the non-payment of the freight, an officer standing by threatened to kill him if he made further objection, whereupon one of the soldiers drew his sword and said that he would promptly decapitate him "though the operation should entail the removal of eight or ten heads." The affair was eventually stopped by yielding to *force majeure* and allowing the treasure to be taken away. Subsequently the officer in charge sent back $1, which he said was all he would pay in discharge of his debt to the launch. H.M.'s Consul at once took the matter up, but affairs, which had been gradually tending to the acute condition of which the foregoing is typical, still seemed to be assuming even more threatening aspects, and it was thought best, after due consideration and full opportunity had been (apparently ineffectually) afforded the authorities for interference and reparation, to despatch the telegram which, as before said, brought the *Mercury* hither. Even while that ship was here, trespasses by the soldiers on foreign property, accompanied by theft and violent language, occurred, and one of these involving threatened brutality towards a lady-resident by a party a soldiers, who took advantage of her being alone in the house to enter it and misbehave in the grossest manner, showed that the Consul's appeal for naval protection had not been made one moment too soon.

It may be presumed that in view of the imminence of the Japanese attack upon Formosa the British Admiral has now taken ample precautions for the safety of his nationals. The time of real danger is the period that immediately precedes the organization of full protective measures by the victorious Japanese.

A COMPLICATED CASE.

A trouble of a complicated nature that happened at Kobe between certain Japanese and German merchants is reported by the *Nippon* and some others Tokyo papers. It would appear that Mr. Otachigawa, a Kobe merchant, chartered, last fall, the German steamer *Rheingold* (?), though the medium of the firm No. 25, in Kobe Settlement, who acted as agents for the owner and the captain of the ship. Mr. Otachigawa then sub-let the ship to Mr. Nishitani, a wealthy merchant of Otaru, being entitled by the terms of the original charter to hire the vessel to a third party. Mr. Nishitani placed several of his employés on board as managers and interpreters, and two trips were made to Hokkaido. On the third trip, the ship started from Kobe for Fushiki, with a cargo worth about 10,000 *yen*, and reached her destination on the 10th ultimo. She was to take on board 5,000 *koku* of rice and 200 passengers at Fushiki. At about noon on the day after her arrival the Captain, who had always showed himself—we quote exactly what the vernacular papers say—a man of rather rude disposition, suddenly declared to the chief manager, while the shipment of the cargo was actually in progress, that the lading must be stopped. He gave no adequate reasons, though repeatedly asked by the chief manager, once in the presence of an officer of the Fushiki Customs. Apparently some defects had been discovered in the ship, for the captain seems to have sent a telegram to her owners in Germany. These defects, whatever they were, the Captain wished to keep secret, lest the disclosure should affect the price of the ship when she came to be sold. The chief manager was considerably embarrassed, being unable to give any definite reply to shippers and passengers as to when the ship would start for Hokkaido. A steamer of the Yusen Kaisha happened at the time to be leaving Fushiki for Hokkaido, and the shippers transferred their goods to her, the passengers also taking passage by the same ship. The chief manager had no recourse but to give his assent to these changes, and was moreover obliged to pay the balance of freight and fares to the Yusen Kaisha. Further, Mr. Nishitani had engaged that his steamer should take over about ten thousand fishermen from Aomori to the opposite coast of Hokkaido, the herring season being on the eve of commencing. That engagement also the steamer was of course unable to keep, to the great loss of her charterer. One of the managers hastened to Kobe by land and reported the particulars of this extraordinary incident to Mr. Otachigawa who had originally chartered the ship from No. 25. Mr. Otachigawa laid the matter before the foreign agents. They, of course, could not be expected to view the matter with the impartiality of a Law Court, but the course they took was altogether extraordinary. Not only did they refuse to make good the losses incurred by Mr. Nishitani, on account of the non-fulfilment of the steamer's engagement, but they went a step farther and demanded the payment of a large sum of money by way of charges on account of the vessel. Now Mr. Otachigawa had already paid the charter money covering the period up to February 21st, for which he had received a due receipt. He had, moreover, deposited a sum of 1,000 *yen* with the agents. He therefore demanded that the charge for 11 days, that is the period extending from February 11th, when the contract became void by non-fulfilment, to the 21st, and also the sum deposited, should be refunded, the two items aggregating about 2,600 *yen*. The agents, however, flatly rejected the demand, and on their part required that the sum of 4,000 *yen* be paid by the charterer. In the meanwhile, the captain of the steamer arbitrarily steamed back to Kobe with the cargo on board, and having arrived there, presented himself several times at the German Consulate, prefering a complaint of alleged blameable conduct on the part of the charterer. He further asserted that the latter did not pay the sum of 4,000 *yen*, for which the vessel had been chartered, and he asked that, in lieu of the money due, he be allowed to dispose of the cargo and to deduct the sum out of the proceeds. The Consul sent notice to Messrs. Otachigawa and Nishitani to come to the Consulate as he had something to say to them about the ship. When the two merchants made their appearance, they were told, to their great surprise, that though the Captain demanded the sum of 4,000 *yen* as the charter price of the ship, the Consul would use his good offices to have it cut down to 2,500 *yen*. The two Japanese, somewhat excited at what they considered a totally absurd and preposterous demand on the part of the Captain, were about to state their side of the matter. The Consul, however, cut short their statement, on the ground that he had no time to hear them out, and asked them to give a simple answer, yes or no. They declared, their absolute refusal and left the Consulate. The Consul subsequently sent a similar notice to them two or three times, urging them to consent to his intercession, as he would have the sum reduced to 1,600 *yen*, but always omitting to give any adequate reasons why they should pay the money, and declining to hear what they had to say. At last the Consul definitely adopted the captain's part and sent notice to the Hyogo Local Office that as the cargo was about to be put up to public auction at 2.30 p.m. on the 11th inst., the two Japanese should be made to appear before the Consulate. Alarmed by this intimation conveyed to them from the Kencho, the charterers communicated it to the owners of the cargo, who thereupon appealed to the Local Court of Kobe for protection of their goods, depositing the necessary security. When, however, the Court sent a sheriff to the ship, the crew forcibly opposed the execution of his mandate, one of them, even presenting a pistol at the sheriff. The latter was therefore obliged to return without fulfilling the duty on which he had been sent. The shippers next applied for protection to the Kobe Police, but the latter declined, explaining that they had no competence to board a foreign ship on a mission of the kind. The two charterers of the steamer then made application to the Local Court in the sense that, as the cargo was apparently about to be landed the next day and put up to public auction, the Court should send notice to the Consulate in order to restrain the landing and subsequent sale. The Court did not acquiesce, on the ground that a provisionary order issued by the Court could not extend to the captain of the ship. But neither the shippers nor the merchants who had chartered the ship could tamely submit to be subjected to what they considered an unjust loss of no small amount. They therefore submitted a written statement to the Governor of Hyogo and applied for his protection. The Governor deemed the appeal reasonable, and transmitted the document to the Foreign Office. The Consul, too, seems to have resolved, on subsequent deliberation, to submit the case to the German Minister, which step he took at about the same time that the Governor's document reached the Foreign Office. The latter is said to be of opinion that it was not proper on the part of the German Consulate to attempt to dispose of the matter according to the provisions of German Commercial law. Further, as the German Minister's attitude is said to be strictly impartial, the affair will doubtless be settled before long in a manner satisfactory to the Japanese merchants. It does not appear that this is a solitary instance. Similar complications have happened of late between Japanese and foreigners. Another instance of the same kind is said to have occurred a short time ago, also in Kobe, between native and German shippers.

We (*Japan Mail*) do not profess to have any special information on the above subject, yet we venture to affirm that the version given by our vernacular contemporaries is incorrect. The German Consul could not possibly have had competence to take the course assigned to him. The case, as it is said to have come before him, was a claim preferred by a German subject against a Japanese. On such a case the German Consul could not adjudicate, a Japanese tribunal alone could decide it. Then, further, the German Consul is alleged to have ordered the seizure and public sale of Japanese goods on his own authority. That, too, is totally out of the question. We translate the details as they have been submitted to the Japanese public, in order to bring them to the notice of those concerned, who may think it worth while to correct the misconception.

CHOLERA AT MOJI.

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* publishes a paragraph to the effect that true cholera has broken out at Moji. There have already been 21 cases and 9 of them have ended fatally. The existence of the disease is said to have been discovered on the 17th inst. Many apprehensions have existed that an epidemic of cholera would occur this year in Japan. It looks only too likely that they will prove correct.

THE REVISED TREATY BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND JAPAN.

A telegram published by the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, says that the Ratifications of the Revised Treaty between Japan and the United States of America were exchanged in Washington on the 22nd instant.

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ATTEMPTED ASSASSINATION OF THE VICEROY LI.

THE third meeting of the Peace Plenipotentiaries was held on the 24th instant in the afternoon. At about half-past four, as the Viceroy Li was on his way back to his lodging in Iujo-ji Temple, and was turning a corner, a pistol shot was fired at him. The bullet struck him in the face, but happily inflicted no serious injury. The perpetrator of the crime was immediately seized by the police. He turned out to be a *soshi*, aged 21, a native of Gumma Prefecture, named KOYAMA (or OYAMA) ROKUNOSUKE.

It is quite unnecessary to discant upon the enormity of this crime. Indeed, we can scarcely trust ourselves to speak of it calmly so soon after the event. Japan has been exceedingly fortunate and exceedingly unfortunate in this war; fortunate in finding China unprepared to be attacked, and unfortunate because the brilliancy of her record has been marred by two indefensible acts. The first was the excesses committed by the troops at Port Arthur; the second is this shooting affair. What the world will say of her now, it is easy to predict. One *soshi*, however, does not represent a nation. That is a point to be remembered. The *soshi* are the curse and the disgrace of modern Japan. Not the mere fact that hot-headed and lawless youths exist and commit heinous crimes has to be noticed, but the fact that such lads find sufficient support to carry on their wretched occupation. Were they not maintained, in great part, by members of the Diet, their continued existence would be out of the question. KOYAMA ROKUNOSUKE doubtless belongs to the party that considers the occupation of Pekin by Japanese troops an essential preliminary to the conclusion of peace. He may, of course, be one of those fanatics that exist in every country, and are ready to lose their moral balance under the pressure of any great event. But whatever he be, his act will bring universal execration on his country among roughly judging folks. That it will be condemned and bitterly regretted by the Japanese nation in general, we cannot question. But in foreign countries the attitude of respectable Japanese will be little thought of in comparison with the event itself. Coming in the immediate sequel of the Port Arthur affair, it will seriously alienate the respect and goodwill of Europe and America.

THE CAUSE OF THE WAR.

A TIME is perhaps coming when local foreign critics will know what they believe as to the cause of the war between China and Japan. They are now highly elated by a discovery that they profess to have made. They think they have found contradictory statements in the *Japan Mail*. Eight months ago we said:—"An Oriental Power, Japan is undertaking the propagandism of Occidental civilization in a neighbouring Oriental State, and is prepared to enforce her creed by the aid of arms if necessary. That is a spectacle wholly new in the story of human progress. . . . . Japan has drawn the sword in the very cause that prompted England to send a fleet here 37 years ago—the propagandism of Occidental civilization. . . . . Japan has not shrunk from war in order to secure for a neighbouring people the benefits derived by herself from Occidental civilization." These three sentences appeared in our columns during July and August, 1894. To-day, we are accused of contradiction because we have just said:—"Of course Japan is fighting primarily for Japan. Had there been question—abstract question—simply of turning the light of civilization into the dark places of China, not a bullet would have been fired or a bayonet fixed." We cannot imagine that any reader desiring to be fair could pretend to think these statements contradictory. Even without the context in which they appeared they are perfectly consistent. With that context, their quotation in the sense implied by our critics is not honest. The first of the sentences appeared at the conclusion of an article published on July 26th, 1894. In the earlier part of that very article the following explanation of the War was given:—"Japan's procedure in Korea finds a parallel in England's action in Egypt, and is justifiable by considerations at least as powerful and logical as those that dictated the bombardment of Alexandria." The second of the sentences brackets Japan's action with that of Great Britain in sending a fleet to this country 37 years ago. Does any one imagine that Great Britain's prime purpose in bombarding Alexandria or forcing Japan to open her ports was the propagandism of Western civilization? Of course not. Her prime object was to secure her route to India and to find a new market for her commerce. Yet she did most undoubtedly represent Western civilization, and the sympathies of the Western world were with her because it was recognised that the triumph of her enterprise involved the propagandism of that civilization. No just critic can pretend to think that in placing Japan's action toward China in 1894 side by side with England's action toward Japan in 1857, we intended to claim absolutely disinterested and humanitarian motives for Japan.

However, controversy of this character serves no particularly useful end. Men whose opinions are worth consideration can not be mistaken as to the real causes of this war, and can not have misinterpreted the explanations of them given from time to time in the *Japan Mail*. That Japan represents Western civilization in the struggle, that her success will be the success of progress and liberalism as against stagnation and conservatism, is as certain as the fact that she did not draw the sword merely in the interests of Western civilization, or of progress, or of liberalism, but that she drew it primarily in her own interests. Nations fight for themselves, not for abstract ideas. What seems to us particularly curious is the complaint of one of our critics, one of Japan's constant assailants, that really if some body had been kind enough to tell him the truth about the reasons of the war at the outset, he would have adopted quite a different tone. "Had it been stated," says the *Japan Gazette*, "that Japan saw that the time had arrived when, in order to check Russia's advance on the one hand, and Chinese encroachments on the other, especially in view of the inherent weakness of Korea, it was necessary for her to take prompt and decided action, we might have questioned her judgment but never her rights. Events have proved her judgment was sound, and if ever she was to make a determined stand in relation to Russia's designs she undoubtedly chose the opportune moment."

It is impossible not to admire the naïveté of this confession. Had the *Japan Mail* only been so good as to tell the *Gazette* earlier the considerations that led to the war; had it explained that in order to avert the danger of foreign aggression and to rescue Korea from the paralysing effects of Chinese interference, it was necessary for Japan to take prompt action, then the *Gazette* "might have questioned Japan's judgment but never her rights." Now that the *Mail* has vouchsafed the required information, the *Gazette* admits Japan's rights, and admits also that events have proved the soundness of her judgment. That is one of the most remarkable retractations we have ever seen in a newspaper column. The *Japan Gazette*, which, ever since the outbreak of the war, has been reviling Japan as a selfish aggressor, an unrighteous disturber of the peace, and a wager of wholly unjustifiable wars, now declares that its verdict, forsooth, was based on ignorance; that the *Japan Mail* had not furnished it with eyes to see the truth, and that, in view of the *Mail's* recent explanation, it fully admits Japan's right to undertake the war, as well as the soundness of her judgment in doing so! We respect a writer that has the courage to take such a sharp curve when he finds that he has been on the wrong track, but we cannot allow the *Japan Gazette* to make us the peg whereupon to hang its excuses. That it had no means of its own to discover the truth, is very conceivable. But so far from our having failed to remove its ignorance, we did actually supply it with the very information that it now complains of having so long wanted. In an article published in the *Japan Daily Mail*

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and reproduced in the *Weekly Mail* of August 11th, 1894—an article 10½ columns long, entitled "The Korean Imbroglio," purporting to give a full explanation of the causes of the war, and placed before the public 10 days after the proclamation of war—we used the following words:—

> Not merely did Korea's spirit of independence languish in the shadow of Chinese interference; not merely was the development of the country's resources effectually checked by the maladministration and gross corruption of its officials; but in the struggles of rival factions and the insurrections of suffering provinces, constant opportunities for foreign aggression were furnished. Whatever interest China may have in preserving Korea from the grasp of a Western Power, Japan has at least an equal interest. The security of each empire is deeply concerned in this question, and to suffer the peninsular Kingdom to drift into a condition of such administrative incompetence and national debility that a strong aggressor might at any moment find occasion and plea for interference, would argue as blind fatuity on the part of Japanese statesmen as though England were to withdraw all supervision from the Indian Free States, and allow them to become hotbeds of intrigue and corruption. . . . . When, therefore, shortly after the Kim Ok-kyün incident and its revolting sequel, news was received of another insurrection in Korea, and when it became known that the Ming family had once more solicited Chinese armed intervention, the Tokyo Government concluded that in the interests, first of the Japanese empire, and secondly of civilization in the Orient, steps must be taken to put an end once for all to the barbarous corruption and misrule that rendered Korea a scene of perpetual disturbance, offered incessant invitations to Western aggression, and effectually checked the country's capacity to maintain its independence. . . . . To secure Korea's immunity from foreign aggression is of paramount importance to both empires. Japan believes that such security can be attained only by introducing into the peninsula the civilization that has contributed so signally to the development of her own strength and resources. China thinks that she can guarantee it without any departure from old-fashioned grooves and by the same perfunctory processes of protection that have failed so signally in the cases of Annam, Tonquin, Burmah, and Siam.

Nothing, we think, could be clearer than the above. Not only does it fully and completely dispose of the charges of inconsistency, now brought against us—"The Tokyo Government concluded that in the interests first of the Japanese empire, and secondly of civilization in the Orient"—but it also sets forth in the plainest language that Japan's great object was to avert the danger of foreign aggression in Korea. We compliment the *Japan Gazette* on its radical recantation, but we do not compliment it on its attempt to escape the pain of confession by pretending that we said what we never did say, and left unsaid what we did most distinctly say. Certainly not at our door can be laid the misfortune that our contemporary remained until the day before yesterday ignorant of the true causes of a war that began eight months ago.

"THE BIMETALLIST."

BIMETALLISM has now a publication of its own—"*The Bimetallist*, a monthly journal for the advancement of monetary reform." Early in 1884 we remember writing in these columns:—"The consideration surged by Mr. CERNUSCHI with lucidity and perseverance, and supported by Mr. LAVELYE with cleverly compiled statistics and subtle deductions, cannot, in our opinion, fail to force bimetallism into prominence, and to restore silver to the place that nature seems to have destined for it." That was said eleven years ago. It was hard then to get a hearing for bimetallism. The men that deemed themselves the financial seers of the time, and were so regarded by the public, would have nothing to do with the subject. They treated it as the rankest heresy; showed a kind of religious intolerance toward it. Fortunately for themselves and unfortunately for the world, they were able to invent a formula that appealed to the least instructed. Thus the passage from darkness to light has too often been barred by a shibboleth. "Two standards of value are an impossibility," said the monometallists, and the most superficial of their disciples thenceforth had an unanswerable argument. As well tell a man that to burn wood and coal together would give his fire-grate a dual capacity. No bimetallist ever dreamed of having two standards, but it was convenient to attribute that silly conception to them. Times have changed, however. Bimetallism is now a living question, attracting scientific, political, and parliamentary obsérvation. Many of the leading thinkers of the day advocate it. No one ventures any longer to dismiss it as a "mischievous fad." A glance at the list of men that have promised to contribute to *The Bimetallist* shows the kind of support the theory now receives. "Almost the whole array of the Professors of Political Economy," says HENRY HUCKS GIBBS in the opening article of the new periodical, are on the side of bimetallism; "on the side, not of realized and stagnant wealth alone, but of active and re-productive wealth." England, the creditor nation, in whose breast the idea of having her debts paid in silver has hitherto created such consternation—England is beginning to see "that it is better to be paid in silver than not to be paid at all; and that her silver debtors do not pay, because they see that remittances, whether of silver or goods, such as formerly sufficed to pay their debts, pay now but half, and that her gold debtors (enjoying the blessings of a gold standard) are in like case, so far as that to pay a given sum they have to sell two pounds of products now, where one would formerly have sufficed." In France great intellects are busy in the same cause. In America shrewd men of business lend it their "best aid." It will soon be the problem of the day, and that it will win the day, we entertain no doubt whatever. Meanwhile, the pages of *The Bimetallist* show that the work done in the Far East is receiving due recognition. Messrs. JAMIESON, WETMORE, TALBOT, the Eastern Bimetallic League of Shanghai,—all these figure in the new periodical. Thus we in these distant lands have the satisfaction of feeling that whatever we contribute to the great discussion will no longer be lost, but will find its way to, and produce its effect on, the public of Europe and America. We sincerely trust that Mr. GIBBS' prediction may be verified when he says of the birth of the new periodical and the entrance of a new year, "that the one will further, and the other will see, the virtual triumph of the cause of monetary reform."

ORIGIN OF THE JAPANESE.

WORDS are relics of high antiquity. Trees decay, flowers fade, animals die, books become worm-eaten and may wear out with ill usage; but words have a principle of vitality within them which withstands the assaults of time.

The history of words used for numbers is very instructive. They begin their career in the family, and it is continued and modified in the market. A demonstrative pronoun is used for one, and a bundle of ten pebbles, chestnuts, or sticks, bound together, would possibly originate a word for ten which might for example be *dek*, to bind. The Persians and Hindoos have the same names of numbers with ourselves, with the exception of "one" which in those countries is heard as *ek* or *eka*. On this word AUGUST FICK, in "Vergleichendes Worter buch, 1890," says *aikas*, one (like) S. *éka*, one, may be perhaps compared with Latin *acquus*. The *send aiva*, one, he compares with Greek *οἶος* only, alone. The modern Persian has *yak*, one. That is as far as philology has now gone, except that GEO. CURTIUS holds that the Sanscrit *ekas* and the Zend *aiva* are one word and are expanded from a root *ai*. This is not all we may learn on the subject. In fact there is much more to learn. The Aryan people came to their present homes in Asia and India from Russia. On their way they would, in markets, meet with Turkish, Mongol, and other races. It is our philological duty to ask what words are now used for "one" in those countries through which they probably passed. The Mongol has *nig*, the Turkish *bir*, the Tungus *umun*, the Tibetan *chig*. The Aryan word agrees with the Tibetan and Mongol which are reducible to a root, *dig*, and this is a demonstrative pronoun. The word was accepted by the Aryans who dropped the initial *d*. There is no doubt on the principle that market intercourse and joint occupation of territory may change the names of numbers. All who live in the far East and take interest in ethnological inquiry may well consider this point. A word preferred in the market finds its way into the family. Are not words for number liable to such changes as this as the result of nomad life? Words for one, two, or three may be ousted from use in the speech of a nomad nation in a large market centre and replaced by others. Nomad races may change their words

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quickly. Settled races may keep the same words through many centuries. The Japanese, having a polysyllable structure in their words, were nomads once, and took to agriculture and manual arts because they became possessed of a fertile country bounded by the sea which placed a limit to their wanderings.

In Tibet we find a population which uses Chinese words for names of number in the case of two, three, four, five, six, and nine. But one and seven agree with Mongol names of number, and eight seems to be Sanscrit. A nation of traders will force in their names of number among a population of nomads. The Chinese having more commercial instinct than the Hindoos or Mongols impress their arithmetic successfully on the nomads of Tibet, because these keepers of sheep have weak perceptions of number. The Japanese, on the other hand, being an educated nation and clear in arithmetical perception, maintain in constant use both their original names of number and those that they have learned from China. This renders it highly desirable to compare the names of number of other continental nations with those of Japan, to learn what nations had commercial intercourse with them in pre-historic times. Among the Japanese names of number *hito* is like the Turkish *bir*, one, and *futats*, two, is like our *both*. Nanats, seven, is like the Sungu's *nadan*, Mongol, *dolon*, Turkish *yedi*, all meaning seven, as also the Korean *nirkop*, a compound of two words. The Japanese *yats*, eight, is like the Korean *yotarp*. The Japanese *kokonots*, nine, is like the Sungu's *yagin*, and the Turkish *dokuz*, if we admit the principle that *d* changes to *g* and that in Japanese there has been a movement from *g* to *k*. The Koreans have a habit of running two synonymous words into one. As for the Japanese *towots*, ten, it probably means many, as *araban* in Mongol signifies ten, though it also means many. The Korean for ten is *yor*, and may once have been like in its sound to the Japanese and Mongol words.

What I contend for is that close resemblances are likely to be quite accidental. Slight resemblances like these now pointed out are likely to be real. The Ainu and Japanese we have the opportunity, through Mr. BACHELOR'S admirable Grammar of the Ainu, of comparing with confidence. The ten cardinal numbers differ widely, so that we are forced to seek for kindred names of number on the continent. The Japanese obtained their names of number before entering Japan. There is no resemblance between Chinese and Japanese names of number except in that for seven, and consequently the Japanese at the time when they were a continental people had no commercial transactions with the Chinese except such as were of very slight importance. They would, however, be long enough in Siberia to have the same words as the Turks for one, four, seven, and nine. This need not surprise us if we reflect on the history of the Turks. They are a military people and so are the Japanese. Both races have been successful in warlike expeditions proceeding to a distance from home. The national differences between the Japanese and Chinese are so striking that we may naturally suppose that the former people when they were on the continent were not near China, but away in the north among the Tartar races, and that there was sufficient proximity between the Japanese and the Indo-Germanic people to allow of and to account for the very large admixture of common words which exist in the European and Japanese vocabulary. Geographical proximity explains the fact that many Manchu words are also Japanese words. But if the likeness in Japanese words to those of Europe strikes the student in very many instances, there must have been ancient geographical proximity between the races. We may discover where the Japanese lived before they conquered the Japanese islands by carefully comparing their vocabulary with those of Asia and Europe as well as, by accurately estimating their national characteristics.

To sum up, the Japanese names of numbers teach us that this nation might have been at one time nomads in Siberia and neighbours to the Turks and Mongols. It was only after they reached Nippon and Kiushu that they became acquainted with the Chinese. The polysyllabic character of Japanese numerals is accounted for by nomad life which is unfavourable to monosyllabism. The Japanese prefer a soldier's life to that of a trader because they once wandered like the Turks on the grassy steppes of Northern Asia. The hereditary tendency is powerful in them still, and shows itself in the long continuance of feudal institutions in their history. To follow to the field some warlike lord they much prefer to the drudgery of book-keeping in a counting house. Nothing pleases them better than to join an army to cross the sea and invade China. The Chinese, not being of nomad origin, have no idea of invading Japan, and the probability is that they will never do so. The tendencies visible in the national life of Japan and China are curiously contrary. The philology of the languages and the mythological legends current among the people when treated from the standpoint of comparative science, show quite plainly that both belong to the common stock of primitive man, and prove with equal clearness that the cause of deviation, and the source of their unlikeness to each other were in the choice by the one of a settled agricultural life and by the other of nomadic freedom.

J. EDKINS.

THE WAR AND THE PEERS.

The old relationship between the former feudal lords and their ex-retainers has never been wiped out. Indeed, it has perhaps become more cordial since the abolition of feudalism in consequence of the removal of old conventionalities. The present war has strengthened the bond between ex-lords and their old retainers. Originally founded and subsequently maintained by military valour, war, above all things, evokes strong feelings in ex-chiefs of clans, and invariably brings them and their followers into closer relationship. Such was the effect of the civil war that broke out in Kyushu about 20 years ago, and how much more is it the case with the present conflict, a conflict against a country that has repeatedly shown a supercilious contempt for Japan and has at last provoked her into a declaration of war. The ex-feudal lords are therefore earnest in their endeavour to do everything in their power to encourage the combatants going from their former fiefs, and to inspire them with patriotism and loyalty. Any word from an old feudal master is heartily welcome, for although the Japanese soldiers are thoroughly imbued with a sentiment of fidelity to their Emperor and country, encouragement from a highly venerated lord of a clan weighs greatly with them. The farewell gatherings now being held in Tokyo, presided over by former lords of *Han*, to take leave of the soldiers departing for the seats of war are most commendable. It is already known that each *Kyu Hanshu* extends all the aid possible to the soldiers levied from his former dominion. The help mostly takes the form of gifts of money for those families left in straitened circumstances on account of the bread-winner's departure for the war. Several of the great lords, such as Princes Shimazu and Mori, have sent special messengers to convey their presents to such families. Their kindness and solicitude does not end their, however. They have even despatched stewards to the seat of war to compliment their ex-retainers or their distinguished achievements and to try to alleviate their hardships. This latter plan was taken into consideration by the Peers' Club in Tokyo and it was decided to despatch three delegates to the Chinese districts now occupied by the Japanese Army. The choice as to who should go, fell on Marquis Tokugawa (Mito), Marquis Daigo, and Viscount Nagaoka. They left Tokyo for Hiroshima in the early part of the month accompanied by a few assistants. They met Admiral Ito, Commander of the Japanese Fleet, who was staying in Hiroshima for a short while, and presented him with a complimentary letter, a refreshment fund, and packages of cigarettes for distribution among the officers and marines under his command. The Admiral tendered his thanks graciously for this considerate act on the part of the Peers. The Delegates will go next to Manchuria. The total refreshment fund to be presented to the Army and Navy is 50,000 *yen* and the number of boxes of cigarettes, 203, each containing 30,000 pieces. Of the latter, 20 boxes are to go to the Fleet, and the rest, to the land forces. The fund for refreshments is to be distributed according to the following rates:—An officer, 1 *yen*; a non-combatant whose rank is equivalent to that of an officer, 75 *sen*; a non-commissioned officer, 50 *sen*, any soldier or marine 30 *sen*. Letters and sums of money for refreshments are also to be sent to the 13 military hospitals established in various parts of the country. The total amount to be thus distributed is almost 1,000 *yen*.

Quite a profitable business is done in some of the large cities in Europe by renting turtles to restaurants. They are permitted to remain on their backs a few days before the restaurants, and are then whirled off to some other section of the city as advertisements for other eating-houses.

The Rev. Howard T. Widdemer, of the First Presbyterian Church of Asbury Park, New Jersey, says that the world will become to an end as soon as the China-Japan war is over. The reason why the Japanese are not in a hurry to make peace is therefore apparent.

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CORRESPONDENCE.

[Our readers must distinctly understand that we are in no sence responsible for the sentients or opinions of our correspondents, for the accuracy of their assertions, or for the deductions they may choose to draw therefrom.]

THE WOUNDING OF LI HUNG-CHANG.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—In the "War News" of to-day's issue of your esteemed journal, I note that you say "As far as we can judge, the Japanese nation is almost as much excited about the affair (*i.e.* the attempt upon Viceroy Li's life) as it was about the attack upon the Czarewitch. There is a universal sentiment of execration toward the wretched youth that raised his hand against the aged Envoy." As one who must come daily into contact with a large number of Japanese, and who has many opportunities of meeting with Japanese newspaper men in particular, I beg to endorse your remarks most emphatically: It really seems to me that the regret and indignation felt by the people of Japan were never deeper than they are now. Not even the most hot-blooded youth—and I meet with scores of such—but who hangs his head to think of the disgrace that Koyama's vile act has put upon the nation. The newspapers of the capital, both great and small, condemn the deed in unmeasured terms and call for swift punishment for the criminal. The *Nippon* of to-day's date translates the leader in Monday's issue of the *Japan Mail* and remarks editorially that every word is just. This is a good deal for the leading radical-independent newspaper to say. One or two journals advise a crusade against the *sōshi* of Japan and their radical removal; for Koyama is an ex *sōshi*, it appears, though he had recently resigned membership. The papers of Gumma Prefecture, which is so unfortunate as to be the home of the would-be assassin, unanimously deplore that so vile a wretch should have come from among their midst. In a word, the attempt on the Viceroy's life has called forth a storm of indignation and loud-voiced regrets from one end of Japan to the other.

With apologies for thus encroaching on your space, I am, yours, etc., W.

Tokyo, March 26th, 1895.

SILVER IN JAPAN.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—I am one of those who have been much interested in Professor Droppers' lecture and the discussion to which it has given rise, and in an amateurish way have had my thoughts and doubts on the subject, some of which I venture to set forth in your columns, not as a teacher, and hardly as a disputant, but rather as a learner. If I shall put anything in the form of assertion, this is only for the sake of convenience and brevity, and I wish to have what I have to say taken as tentative merely.

First, as to the possibility of success in the maintenance of bimetallism, supposing it to have been once established. Monometallists, we are told, are "cocksure" as to the impossibility of this. If this is a fault, it is surely not all on one side. Bimetallists are also "cocksure" that their theory is practicable. Perhaps so. But I have my doubts notwithstanding. This certainty that bimetallism is workable seems based chiefly on the experience of the Latin Union from 1803 to 1873. Unquestionably, this experience is very instructive, and gives a very strong support to the bimetallic argument. For myself, I will frankly own that the exposition of the working of bimetallism under the Latin Union by Professor Droppers, and by Helm in his "Joint Standard," for the loan of which I am indebted to Professor Droppers' kindness, has made the success of bimetallism appear much less improbable than it before seemed to me. Nevertheless, I am not wholly convinced, and for this reason. For the first fifty years of the Latin Union there was little change in the production of silver and gold. It was only about the end of that period that the new discoveries of gold brought in a disturbing factor. It was, I suppose, undoubtedly the fear of ultimate failure by reason of this that led to the abandonment of free coinage by the Union. An experiment abandoned in this way seems to me to fall short of affording absolute certainty of the success of another similar experiment, even though attempted by a much stronger combination than the Latin Union.

Next, as to the need of the bimetallic experiment. Supposing the success of bimetallism to be absolutely sure, and its adoption possible without too great disturbance, this would need no argument. But I have already expressed my doubt of the first, a doubt which is entertained also by many others, and I shall give presently some reasons for doubting the second. The great special reason at the present time for the adoption of bimetallism is the fall in prices; which is due, we are told, to the appreciation of gold. This raises the question, first, to what is this fall of prices due? Besides this alleged appreciation of gold, the continuous simplifying and cheapening of production by improvements in the use of machinery in manufactures, in agriculture, and in transportation, has certainly contributed something; some people even go so far as to say everything. Without going to this extreme, we can at least say that the fall of prices is not all due to the lessening use of silver as money. This would be conclusively proved by the assertion of the bimetallists that prices in silver have remained stable, if we could be sure that this is a fact. If silver prices have remained unchanged, in spite of lessened demand for silver, they must fall when the adoption of bimetallism increases the demand for it. Prices measured by the double standard must then, other causes apart, be between the present gold prices and the silver prices, and the difference between the prices thus reached and the present silver prices (which are supposed to be substantially the same as gold prices in the decade from 1867 to 1876), cannot be accounted for by the appreciation of gold, but must be ascribed to some other cause.

The next question calling for consideration is: Has gold really appreciated at all? And the answer to this depends upon the standard of measurement that we adopt. If it be silver, or merchandise, as in Mr. Sauerbeck's tables, quoted by Professor Droppers, we must admit of course that gold has appreciated. If, however, we measure not by the price of goods, but by the price of labour, or by the earning capacity of the average man, the case is not so clear. Helm, bimetallist though he be, has expressed the opinion that the fall in wages has been comparatively slight, though he believes this advantage to be more or less counterbalanced by a diminution in the amount of work which the average labourer can obtain. Here the burden of proof rests clearly on the bimetallist. Unless he can show that earning capacity has diminished in a similar ratio with prices, he has no case. If, while prices have decreased, the earnings of the average man have diminished (if at all) in a less ratio, the average man is better off than he was before, and not being in Egyptian slavery, does not need any bimetallist Moses to deliver him.

One argument for the desirability of bimetallism urged by bimetallists very strongly, perhaps more strongly than any other, is the hardship supposed to be caused to debtors by the appreciation of gold. To discharge a debt which, when incurred, could have been paid by a given amount of merchandise, a much larger amount we are told must be given now. This argument implies, that while money is not necessarily a just standard for determining the amount of a debt, merchandise is so. But there is still another possible standard, namely, earning capacity. And this seems to me to be decidedly the most equitable one. When a man borrows money he saves himself so many days' labour, and receives the product of so many days of his neighbour's labour. When it comes to payment of the debt, whatever be the amount of merchandise which he returns, he has suffered no hardship if he can earn this with no more labour than would have been needed to earn the sum originally borrowed at the time when he borrowed it. We are brought here to the same point as before. If the debtor's earning power has not diminished, the fall of prices is not an injury but a benefit, to him as to his neighbours.

But this is not the whole case. Earning power may fall as well as prices, and still the debtor be no worse off than before, provided the diminution of earning capacity is somewhat less than the fall of prices. A man borrows $100. At the time of the loan he is earning, we will say, $2 a day, of which $1.50 is needed to support his family, leaving 50 cents with which to pay the debt. If now wages diminish 25 per cent. and prices 33⅓ per cent., the man, if he still has steady employment, is no worse off than before, for he can now support his family on $1.00 a day, still leaving 50 cents to pay the debt. As soon as the debt is paid, he is better off than before, for his 50 cents, surplus will buy 50 per cent. more than it would originally. It is further to be borne in mind that the continous increase of productive power, due to never ceasing improvement in methods of production, also favours the debtor class.

We shall be told, no doubt, that all this is mere theorising, and that when we come down to cold bare fact, we find that the world is out of joint, and that there is no such happy state of things as I have here described. But I have not been attempting a comprehensive description of the condition of the business world, but only endeavouring to separate one factor in it from the rest, and consider the contribution made by this alone to the general result. A bad condition of the business world by no means proves the necessity of bimetallism, unless it can be shown that monometallism is the cause of this condition, and that moreover it is a continuing cause. But there are other causes, and very serious ones. First of all, I may mention the disturbance in the relations between labour and capital, due to the rapidly changing conditions of production. Modern methods make necessary larger and larger aggregations of capital in nearly every industry, thus diminishing the number of employers on the one hand, increasing the number of the employed on the other, and continually widening the breach between them. Here we have a disturbing force almost incalculably great, one which bids fair to force us to reorganize our whole industrial organism.

Another cause of disturbance, alluded to by Professor Droppers, and emphasized by Mr. Helm, is the growth of protectionism on the European continent, now happily somewhat checked, as well as the wild career which has been pursued in America by the same crazy notion that you can make people rich by taxing them.

Still another and growing cause of disturbance is the modern system of military armaments, now in most European countries taking several years out of the life of every young man, and at the same time taxing his fellows to support him in idleness or worse, and keep him supplied with more and more expensive instruments of death.

Another serious cause of disturbance, I am sorry as an American to say, is the Congress of the United States, which for these last ten or fifteen years has been a field in which crack-brained ignorance, demagogy, and corruption have been playing football with public faith and national credit, and so with the industrial peace of their own country, and of the rest of the world as well.

And then there is the bimetallic agitation itself, which, whether its object be good or bad, wise or unwise, is certainly a disturbing force of no small magnitude. You cannot call every two or three years an international conference to determine whether or not the world's standard of value shall be changed without disturbance.

And this brings me to one more point, with which I must conclude. The course of prices during the last twenty years or so is said to show a continuous appreciation in the value of gold. The figures, however, as set forth in Mr. Sauerbeck's tables, do not show a continuing decrease of prices for twenty years, but rather a marked decrease for twelve years, followed by comparative steadiness for eight years more. Mr. Sauerbeck's table is as follows, 100 indicating the average price in the eleven years from 1867 to 1877:—

AVERAGE VALUE IN RELATION TO GOLD OF 45 COMMODITIES.

1870	96	1882	84
1871	100	1883	82
1872	109	1884	76
1873	111	1885	72
1874	102	1886	69
1875	96	1887	68
1876	95	1888	70
1877	94	1889	72
1878	87	1890	72
1879	83	1891	72
1880	88	1892	68
1881	85	1893	68

Of these figures, the first four represent the period of inflation which preceded the panic of November, 1873. Starting with the next year, 1874, when prices had nearly reached the normal level, we have a decline to 72 in 1885. From this time to 1893 we have no marked decline whatever, but only slight fluctuations, the index number for 1885 being the same with that for 1889, 1890, and 1891, and that for 1887 being the same as that for 1892 and 1893. This table then, if it proves anything at all, proves that the decline of prices came practically to an end about 1885, and that from that time on to 1893 there was marked stability. In other words, the great decline of prices ended nearly ten years ago, business has had all that period in which to adjust itself to the new conditions, and bimetallism becomes a proposal, not to check a disturbance of the market, but to create a new disturbance. It seems then that even if the practicability of bimetallism were as absolutely certain as its advocates tell us, we should have to pay very dear for our whistle.

Very truly yours, T. S. T.

Tokyo, March 23rd, 1895.

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A TENTATIVE LIST OF CHRISTIAN CHARITIES.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—In response to circulars sent to a large number of missionaries, I have obtained so much information that I am very desirous of securing more and thus preparing a complete list of all charitable organizations in Japan under Christian influence. Hence this publication of a preliminary report in the hope of calling out corrections and additions. If every Christian worker who notes any errors or omissions will be kind enough at once to inform me of such, I shall esteem it a personal favour, and in return will shortly give to him and the public a fuller and more reliable list of organized Christian charities.

Ordinary Day and Sunday Schools are purposely excluded from the list, which is designed to cover only Industrial Schools, Orphanages, Asylums, Homes of Refuge, and Hospitals of all kinds.

I have a few data for Buddhist charities and for public and private charities organized by other than Christians, but full statistics are so difficult to secure that I do not press for these at present.

Thanking those who have already furnished me with information or may yet do so, and you, Mr. Editor, for your courtesy in printing the list, I will reserve explanations and comments until the full list is completed.

I remain, Sir, yours, &c., J. H. PETTEE.

Okayama, March 19th, 1895.

SCHOOLS FOR THE POOR.

English Name or Japanese Name.	Location.	Date.	Number.	By whom Organized.	Pres. Superintendent.	Denomination.	Support.	Income 1894.	Cost per Pupil.
School for Poor.....	Sapporo	1895	20	—	T. Iwanaga	Presbyterian	Mission Funds	—	$ 5.00 per year.
School for Poor.....	Sapporo	1894	40	Dr. Nitobe.....	Dr. Nitobe	Friends	Private Gifts.....	—	3.00 per year.
Commercial Night School	Otaru, Hokkaido.....	1894	35	—	Tsuda.....	Presbyterian	Tuitions	—	3.00 per year.
School for Poor Children	Ishikari, Hokkaido...	1894	30	Oshikawa of Sendai	S. Fukui.....	German Reformed..	Mission Fund	—	3.50 per year.
Rodo Kwai	Sendai	1892	64	—	M. Oshikawa	German Reformed..	Sch. Fund of Tohoku Gakuin, Sendai and Work of Inmates	$1,912.21	32.40
Youth's Self Help. Soc. Yonenji Ko Kwan	Sendai	1893	35	—	Miss F. E. Phelps..	Meth. Epis.	—	165.00	—
Kawakami Industrial School	Kanazawa ...	1893	30	Wom. Miss Soc. of Can. Meth. Ch'ch.	—	Can. Methodist	—	—	—
Jizen Gakko	Fukui, Echizen	1894	20	—	Rev. C. W. Fulton.	Presbyterian	Private Contribution	—	—
Fukuei Kwai.....	Tokyo	1894	52	Kate V. Johnson ...	Mrs. Wakayama...	—	S.S. in Louisville, Ky.	—	7.00 per month.
Kojo Gukuin.....	Tokyo	1891	52	—	R. Ouga	Presbyterian	Voluntary Contributions	—	—
Komagome no Himin Gakko	Tokyo	1894	73	M. Kobayashi	M. Naritomi	Meth. Epis.	Komagome M. E. Church	—	1.50 per year.
Ind. Dept. of Aoyama Gakuin	Aoyama, Tokyo	1892	45	—	Dr. J. O. Spencer ..	Meth. Epis.	Partially Self-sup...	3,500.00	40.00
Harrison Memorial Girls' Ind. School.	Aoyama, Tokyo.....	1893	25	—	Miss E. Blackstock.	Meth. Epis.	Partially Self-sup...	—	60.00
Jitsuyo Gakko	Hongo, Tokyo	—	—	Mrs. Dr. Draper ...	—	Meth. Epis.	—	500.00	—
Night School.....	Shiba-ku, Tokyo	—	—	For. Missionaries ...	—	—	—	—	—
Maikai Gakko	Tokyo	1890	60	Rd. P. Rey	Rd. P. Rey	Roman Catholic.....	Mission and Work of Inmates	—	36.00
Tenshukyo Jogakko	Tsukiji, Tokyo	1873	38	Institute des Soeurs du St. Enfant Jesus.....	Rev. Mère Ste. Domitille	Roman Catholic.....	Mission and Work of Inmates	—	—
Tenshukyo Jogakko	Yokohama ...	1871			Rev. Mère Ste. Mathilde	Roman Catholic.....	Mission and Work of Inmates	—	—
Tenshukyo Jogakko	Tokyo	1880	29	Soeurs de St. Paul de Chartres.....	Soeur Maris Olier..	Roman Catholic.....	Mission and Work of Inmates	—	—
Draper Christian Blind School	Yokohama ...	1892	30	Mrs. Dr. Draper ...	M. B. Griffiths.....	Meth. Epis.	Vol. Contributions.	—	—
Airin Kwai	Tokyo	1888	suspended on acct. of war. ...	T. Harada.....	T. Harada.....	Kumiai	Bancho Church.....	—	—
Airinsha Kindugarten and Night School	Tokyo	1892	40	Dr. Gordon	Dr. Gordon	Kumiai	Tuition and Vol. Contributions	—	—
Airen Gakkwai or Fukushi Char.Sch.	Osaka	1891	87	Bishop McKim ...	V. Hayashi	Amer. Episcopal....	Mission Funds	300.00	3.50
Awaza Jitsugyo Kwai.....	Osaka	1891	25	Nippon Sei-ko-kwai	T. Chikashigi	Amer. Episcopal....	Mission Funds	—	15.58
Shindan Night Sch.	Kobe	1888	120	S. Tanaka.....	S. Tanaka	Kumiai	Tamon Church and others	151.00	10.00
Shinko Ya-gakko...	Wakayama..	—	45	—	Rev. K. Tekimoto..	Presbyterian	Ladies' Aid Soc. of Wakayama Ch.....	—	33.00
Industrial & Night School	Matsuyama..	1891	60	Miss C. Judson ...	S. Nishimura	Kumiai	Miss Judson	—	10.00
Shiritsu Doshiko ...	Miyazaki ...	1890	32	—	Akita	Buddhist	Tuitions and Kyoto Hongwanjo	—	—
Women's Industrial Training School...	Miyazaki ...	1894	7	Mrs. C. A. Clark...	Mrs. C. A. Clark...	Kumiai	Supt. and Work of Inmates	—	2.20
Shiritsu Yochien ...	Miyazaki ...	1892	—	—	T. Enami	Roman Catholic.....	Tuitions and Vol. Contributions	—	5.20
Night School.....	Miyazaki ...	1893	15	Mission & Church	M. Hara	Kumiai	Vol. Contributions..	—	.50
Night School.....	Miyako-no-jo	1894	25	Members	H. Motchi.....	Kumiai	Supt. & Vol. Cont..	—	—
Night School.....	Okyama.....	1891	[redacted]	Okayama Church ..	Mrs. Tsuji.	Kumiai	Fujin Kwai	36.00	3.00 per year.

HOMES FOR THE AGED.

Tenshukyo Kwai Home for Aged ...	Aichi Ken ...	1892	12	Soeurs de St. Enfant Jesus.....	Rev. Mère Ste. Domitille	Roman Catholic.....	Mission Funds	—	18.00
Kyuroin	Nagoya	1890	32	Rev. E. C. Tulpin...	Rev. E. C. Tulpin..	Roman Catholic.....	Vol. Contributions..	—	18.00
Yoroin	Nagoya	1891	23	Rev. J. C. Robinson	I. Sukeyoshi	Sei-ko-kwai	Com. & Vol. Cont...	266.77	21.00
Jizen Kwai Home for the Destitute ..	Nagoya	1891	6	Meth. Epis. Ch. ...	Mrs. S. Yoshikawa.	Meth. Epis.	Vol. Cont. & Work.	78.69	9.00

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ORPHAN ASYLUMS.

English Name.	Japanese Name.	Location.	Date.	Organized By	Present Supt.	No. of Inmates	Denomination.	Support.	Value of Plant.	Income 1894.
Orphan Asylum..	Hokkai Kojiin ...	Monbetsu, Hokkaido	1892	T. Hayashi	T. Hayashi	30	Presbyterian	—	—	—
Morning Star Asylum.....	Gio Sei En	Mishima, Tochigi	—	—	S. Hongo	40	Presbyterian	Vol. Contributions, Work on Farm	—	—
—	Jomo Koji In ...	Maebashi, Joshu.	1892	H. Kaneko	H. Kaneko	9	Kumiai	Work of Family..	—	$198.65
Orphanage	—	Kanazawa	1893	Miss Veazey	Miss Veazey	13	Can. Methodist...	Woman Mission Society	—	—
Orphan Asylum..	—	Tokyo	1891	Mrs. Sannomiya.	—	13	—	—	—	$500.00
—	Jiyo Kwai	Nagoya	1891	T. Miyazaki	T. Miyazaki	38	Sei Ko Kwai.....	Vol. Contributions and Work of Inmates	—	—
St. John's Church, Woman's Society, Home for Orphans	Sei Yohaoe Fujin Kwai, Fuzoku Osaka Kyu Ji In	45, Ichome, Doshimachi, Osaka	1889	Woman Society of St. John's Church	Mrs. K. Kambe..	22	Episcopalian	Board of Officers of Wom. Soc. ...	$3,500	$650.00
Orphanage	—	Omuta, Fukuoka Ken	—	—	—	—	Methodist	—	—	—
Refuge for Fallen Women	—	Miyazaki	1893	U. Shirai	U. Shirai	2	Congregationalist	Superintendent and Work of Inmates	—	—
Orphan Asylum and House of Refuge	—	Chofu	1893	Mrs. Sharland and Miss H. M. Browne.....	Miss K. Shindo...	15	Baptist	Industries and Vol. Gifts.....	$10	—
—	Hakusai Kojiin...	Hiramatsu, Chikuzen	1892	T. Nishi, M.D....	Dr. Nishi	13	Episcopalian	—	—	$151.68
Sakai Orphan Industrial School..	Koji Jitsugyo Kwai	Sakai	1893	Y. Moriyama ...	Y. Moriyama ...	11	Amer. Epis.	Vol. Contributions	$70	$372.00
Orphan Industrial School	Haku Ai Sha.....	Osaka.....	1889	K. Kobashi	K. Kobashi	15	Amer. Epis.	Work and Vol. Contributions ...	$800	$381.00
—	Waikai Gakko ...	Tokyo.....	1874	Mission Catholique Romain ...	Rev. P. Rey	120	R. C. Mission ...	Mission Funds...	—	—
—	Tenshukyo Jogakko	Tsukiji, Tokyo ...	1873	Inst. des Soeurs de St. Enfant Jesus	Rev. Mère St. Domitille	732	Rom. Cath.	Mission Funds...	—	—
—	Tenshukyo Jogakko	Yokohama	1871	Inst. des Soeurs du St. Enfant Jesus	Rev. Mère St. Mathilde		Rom. Cath.	Mission Funds...	—	—
—	Tenshukyo Jogakko	Tokyo	1880	Soeurs de St. Paul de chartres	Sienr Marie Olier	169	Rom. Cath.	Mission Funds...	—	—
Kobe Orphan Asylum.....	Kobe Koji In ...	Kobe	1890	K. Yoshikawa ...	K. Yoshikawa ...	28	Protestant	Vol. Cont.	$350	$421.20
Okayama Orphanage	Okayama Koji In	Okayama (with a Farm Colony at Chausubara, Hiuga)	1887	J. Ishii	J. Ishii	250	Protestant	Work and Vol. Contributions ...	$3,500	$7,487.90

HOSPITALS.

English Name.	Japanese Name.	Date.	Location.	Superintendent.	No.	Denomination.	Support.	Ex. per Patient.	Income 1894.	Value of Plant.
Tokyo Memorial Cottage Hospital..	Akasaka Biyoin	1887	Tokyo, Akasaka Ku Hikawa Cho 17..	Dr. W. Whitney K. Kitajima...	12	Undenominational	Fees & Contributions of Friends in Eng. and America ...	$150.00 per year	From Pat. $1,390.90 ..... From Cont. 1,359.77	Land $2,500 Houses $3,000. Instruments $55.00; Capital
Saving and Healing Dispensary	Kyryō Kwai Shinsatsuyo...	1893	Tokyo, Kanda Surugadai 16 Suzuki Cho ...	K. Takata	1399	Union of Several Denominations	Voluntary Contributions	129 sen per month..	107,272	$32,878
—	Ikkei Biyoin ...	—	Shiba, Tokyo...	Dr. Takagi	—	—	—	—	—	—
Doshisha Hospital Training School for Nurses	Dōshisha Biyoin	1887	Kyoto	Dr. Berry	—	Kumiai	Fees of Am. Board Mission	—	—	—
Eternal Spring Hospital	Chōshun Biyoin	1878	Osaka Shimanouchi	Dr. Fujinaka...	25	Kumiai	Fees, Charity	—	—	$4,000.00
—	Branch of Chōshun	1894	Osaka (Namba).....	Dr. Fujinaka...	30	Kumiai	—	—	—	$1,500.00
Naniwa Dispensary	—	1875	Naniwa, Osaka	Maegami	—	Kumiai	—	—	—	$600
Hyogo Dispensary.	—	1874	Hyogo	Dr. Kawamoto.	30	Kumiai	Com. of Christian Physicians..	—	—	$800
St. Barnabas Hospital	Sei Barnabas Biyoin	1873	Osaka	Dr. H. Laning.	85	Amer. Epis. ...	—	—	$3,412.00	$1,500.00
Church Dispensary	Seiyaku In.....	—	Kyoto	Rev. A. D. Gring	—	Amer. Epis. ...	—	—	—	—
Leper Hospital.....	—	1894	Kumamoto Fujioka Mura.	—	—	Eng. Epis.....	Voluntary Contributions	—	—	—
Leper Hospital,.....	Fukusei Biyoin	1889	Shizuoka Ken..	Rev. P. Testeuide	82	Roman Cath...	R. C. Mission	—	—	—
Hospital for Sick Poor	—	1892	Odawara Cho Tokyo	Rd. P. Vigroux Rd. Mére Ste.. Domitille	12	Roman Cath...	R. C. Mission	—	—	—

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LETTER FROM AUSTRALIA.

(From our own Correspondent.)

Healesville, Victoria, February 13th.

Carbine, the greatest racehorse ever foaled in Australasia, has been sold to the Duke of Portland for 13,000 guineas. It is hardly necessary to remark that this is the record price for a thoroughbred horse in the colonies. Nordenfeldt, who is by the same sire as Carbine, fetched 5,600 guineas at public auction, while Maxim, also by the same sire as Carbine, only realised 4,000 guineas. Carbine's new owner has been a prominent figure on the English turf since 1881, and has won most of the leading races in England. In 1889 he won in stakes no less a sum than £73,858. Carbine's record in Australia is a remarkable one. He won 33 first class races, taking stakes to the amount of £30,000. He won the Melbourne Cup carrying 10st. 5lb., against 38 of the best horses in the Colonies, two miles being the distance, in 3 min. 28¼ sec., the record time in Australia for that race. Carbine was foaled in 1885 in New Zealand. He is by the world-renowned Musket, now dead, his dam being Mersey. He was purchased for 620 guineas as a yearling, and sold as a three-year-old for 3,000 guineas.

A letter of considerable interest and importance appeared in the Sydney *Daily Telegraph* in December last, and was reproduced in the *Argus*. The writer was Mr. Edward Pulsford, and the subject Australia's attitude to Asiatics. The letter has attracted no small amount of attention in the colonies and seems likely to produce some lasting results. As it gives a good idea of the tendency of thought and opinion among the more liberal-minded colonials I think it well to send you full quotations.

"It appears likely—nay, certain—that the question of the admission of Asiatics to the Australasian colonies will before long require further consideration. The subject has come to the surface of late in various quarters, and, according to a cable message, *The Times*, discussing Eastern and especially Japanese trade, recommends these colonies to admit Japanese immigrants on terms of equality with European immigrants.

"It has always appeared to me that the Chinese Exclusion Act of 1888 reflected no great honour on New South Wales. A poll-tax of £100 is practically prohibition pure and simple, and it is difficult to imagine anything more offensive to China than such legislation. While I say this, I am yet no advocate of the unrestricted immigration of Chinese or other Asiatics. I have no shadow of doubt as to the necessity for limiting such immigration. European and Asiatic races cannot coalesce: their characteristics are too divergent. The difficulty, of course, is not so apparent in the old countries of the world, where population is so thickly settled, and where, consequently, attractions for immigrants are limited. Great Britain stands in no danger of a big influx of either Chinese or Japanese, and neither China nor Japan stand in any danger of a big influx of British. But, granting the difficulty, cannot we meet it without the brutal disregard of the susceptibilities of other races shown by our existing legislation? I think we can.

"It is worth while pointing out one result of the Chinese Exclusion Act which probably was not anticipated. The Act has undoubtedly checked the departure—the return to China—of the Chinese actually resident in the colony; it has made more or less permanent residents in New South Wales of Chinese who would otherwise have returned to their native land, and so far has acted rather as an Inclusion than as an Exclusion Act. I take from Coghlan 'the numbers of Chinese arriving at and departing from New South Wales since 1871' as follows:—

Year.	Arrivals.	Departures.	Year.	Arrivals.	Departures.
1871...	496...	442	1883...	...1,936...	...1,402
1873...	890...	597	1884...	...2,191...	...2,038
1873...	496...	400	1885...	...2,909...	...2,726
1874...	803...	933	1886...	...3,072...	...1,883
1875...	685...	...1,209	1887...	...4,436...	...2,763
1876...	690...	949	1888...	...2,818...	...1,562
1877...	884...	490	1889...	7...	943
1878...	...2,485...	...1,560	1890...	15...	637
1879...	...2,079...	557	1891...	17...	581
1880...	...2,942...	876	1892...	22...	755
1881...	...4,405...	929	1893...	34...	558
1882...	...5,003...	884			

"In 1881 an Act was passed imposing a poll-tax of £10, which the Act of 1888 raised to £100. The figures in the tables are well worth studying. In the five years preceding 1888 no less than 8,458 Chinese left the colony, whilst in the five years succeeding 1888 the number was only 3,472. It appears, therefore, that but for that Exclusion Act a large number of Chinese, possibly 5,000, would have returned to China who now reside in our midst. By making residence in the colony represent £100, thousands of Chinese have remained instead of departed. It seems somewhat as if, having delayed to deal properly with the subject, we at last rushed at it in a panic-stricken spirit. At one blow we smashed to bits a steamship passenger traffic averaging, for New South Wales alone, 5,000 persons a year, which certainly brought some profit to Sydney, and we have succeeded in keeping thousands of Chinese who would otherwise have departed. In 1891 the census showed that the aggregate number of Chinese in the whole of the seven colonies of Australia, Tasmania, and New Zealand was 41,534, whilst at the census of 1881 there were 43,706. These figures show a positive reduction during the 10 years of 2,172—a fact which plays sad havoc with the Chinese invasion theory so generally held in 1888. I think the figures which I have given lead fairly to the conclusion that the Chinese who come to Australia do not desire to settle in our midst, but only to make a little money and return with it to their own land. This love of their native soil is probably an instinct of all Asiatic races, and is a factor on which we may reasonably rely in considering the whole subject.

"There is one reason—I doubt whether it is generally known—why Australia, and especially New South Wales, can afford to look with friendly eyes upon Asiatics. It is that it is due to them, and not to Europeans, that it has been possible and profitable to develop our great silver mines. It is almost entirely owing to Asia that to-day silver is worth mining, even at Broken Hill. According to a statement published by Marshall, out of a silver production valued at £520,000,000 for the 50 years ending with 1880, the 'East,' that is Asia, absorbed £351,000,000, manufacturers consumed £131,000,000, whilst Europe and America coined £38,000,000. Asia has not only taken the bulk of the production of the years named, but she has also taken large quantities that were in stock in Europe. During the eight years 1881-88 the East imported silver valued at £116,000,000. Unfortunately I have not at hand the figures since 1888, which, by a strange coincidence, was the year when our silver production became important, and when we passed that Act excluding from our shores one large section of the people who are taking our silver. Since 1888, however, silver has had more than ever to depend on 'the East.' Therefore it may be said with truth that Australia is more benefited by Asiatic commerce than Asia is by Australian commerce. Even now in many quarters efforts are being made to open new markets for Australian produce in Asiatic countries, and the time, therefore, seems ripe for this question of the exclusion of Asiatics to be looked at afresh."

Through the clumsiness of our British law, all the prisoners charged with the murder of the infant of Margaret Chrosier, of the gruesome details of which I gave an account in my last letter, have been acquitted. The prosecution, though conducted by very able hands, utterly broke down. Some of the witnesses were too young to testify on oath or unwilling to testify truthfully. According to a technicality of the law, the damning confession of the youngest prisoner could not be used against any of the accused not present when it was made. The Chief Justice, before whom the case was tried, after the jury had acquitted three of the parties concerned, remarked that the prisoners had been acquitted, "not perhaps because they deserved to be acquitted, but because the evidence was not forthcoming which the law required to fasten guilt upon them." Such glaring miscarriages of justice under British law are, according to experts, not uncommon.

Some very curious facts were elicited by a trial that took place in Sydney in November last. Two persons pleaded guilty to practising the ancient art of fortune-telling and were informed by the judge that they had narrowly escaped a sentence of 12 months' imprisonment. The principal personage was a blind and ignorant old woman, who to ordinary people would seem to have no title whatever to veneration. Yet such are the credulity and gullibleness of a large section of the Sydney community that this old hag had a medical practice such as no fashionable surgeon could boast of, and more converts and admirers than are possessed by half a dozen orthodox divines. Her *clientèle* included "half of the fashionable ladies of Sydney." Among those who testified to the reality of her powers so-called religious people were conspicuous. A clergyman, for example, related how by simply feeling his hand she discovered an internal and dangerous complaint which had baffled all the doctors and so saved his life. The witnesses called were for the most part educated men and women of social influence. One lady, the wife of a police magistrate, informed the astonished judge that her own husband had been a clairvoyant and had turned the art to professional use. "My husband," she said, "sat for 3 weeks in this very court in the Alderson case, while in a clairvoyant trance." If this experience is common it may account for some of those legal decisions which puzzle the lay mind. This trial furnishes material for serious meditation to those who argue that the present generation has reached a stage of civilisation unapproached by the ancients. To find a descendant of the Witch of Endor driving a flourishing trade in a fashionable colonial city among habitual church and chapel goers, and numbering among her converts civil servants, members of the legal profession, clergymen, and others equally influential in society, comes as a shock to one's sense of the importance of Nineteenth Century Civilisation. And these followers of the witch are the earliest to scowl on the Asiatic as a being of inferior cult. The belief that nothing can be known about the unseen world is the only true safeguard against such imbecilities as were revealed by the Sydney trial.

The following ■ of interest:—From the report on the trade of Japan for 1893, recently published by the Foreign Office, we learn that during the year the imports from Australia amounted to £43,033, being an increase of £2,258 as compared with 1892, and the exports to Australia amounted to £220,446, being an increase of £114,890. The import of raw wool amounted to 1,518,720 lbs. The export of coal is rapidly increasing, 653,000 tons having been shipped during the year. Japanese coal is gradually ousting Australian from Eastern ports. In matches Japan is doing an active trade, but the quality is reported to be generally bad. The export of tea is falling off, the quantity being 1,750,000 lb. less in 1893 than in 1892.

The proprietor of one of the largest vineyards in the colony, Mr. Hans Irvine, of Great Western, received not long ago a telegraphic order from P. B. Burgoyne ■ Co. of London for 100 hogsheads of wine. The condition of the order was that the wine was all to be shipped the day following the arrival of the message. Though the casks had to be cleaned, filled, and loaded in seven trucks, the order was executed and the wine safely shipped the following day. Such a feat could not have been accomplished anywhere else in the colony. Mr. Irwine has spent some £70,000 on the Great Western vineyard. He has now 183 acres in bearing and is still extending the plantations. He has 90 acres of the Pineau variety of grape, planted solely for the manufacture of champagne. The bottling and maturing of champagne are superintended by French experts in the employ of Mr. Irvine. The bottling this year occupied over two months, the total number of bottles, though less than that of previous years, was nearly 5,000 dozen. No less than a quarter of a million bottles are stored underground at the vineyard. The wines of this vineyard are not only noted for maintaining a high standard of quality but for a uniformity of flavour and an unvarying consistency of type. Taste the Great Western clarets and hocks where you will, there is an unmistakable *cachet* about them which is never missed. Strenuous efforts are being put forth to make these wines better known in India, China, Japan, Java, Singapore, and other places in the East.

The keenest interest is being taken in the Test Cricket matches now being played between Stoddart's English team and teams selected from the best of Australian cricketers. Four of the five matches to be played are over and have resulted in 2 wins for England and 2 for Australia. The first test match played at Sydney was most exciting. The Australians made 586 in their first innings, and felt confident that the match was theirs. The Englishmen made 325 in their first innings and followed on, adding 437 to their previous score. With 586 in hand, the Australians considered that the game was in their hands. But the weather favoured the Englishmen. On the evening before the final day of the match heavy rain fell and the wicket was entirely spoilt for batting, so that Peel, the last English bowler, had it all his own way. With eight wickets to go down and only 63 runs to make, however, the Australians were confident to the end, but the Englishmen never lost heart and pulled off the match in the most plucky manner, winning by only 10 runs. The takings for the match were £2,950. The proceeds at subsequent matches have been correspondingly larger. The Australians seem to have lost the match by over excitement and nervousness at the close, the last two or three batters were too afraid of getting out to play the ball with their usual skill. The next match was played in Melbourne and was won by the Englishmen in a most brilliant fashion. In Adelaide and afterwards in Sydney the Englishmen were defeated. A youthful and hitherto little known cricketer, A. E. Trott, has scored a great success as a bowler against the Englishmen, having ac-

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complished the remarkable feat of taking 8 wickets for 43 runs. The final match is to be played in Melbourne next week.

Australia has just celebrated the anniversary of her foundation as a civilised state. On the 26th of January one hundred and seven years ago the *Sirius* man-of-war was guided by Governor Philip to the Sydney harbour. She was followed by a long line of lumbering transports which carried no less than 700 criminals. More than half of these criminals, owing to the undue severity of British law and the imperfect way in which it was then administered, were serving unjust sentences and when their time was up made excellent colonists. The other half have no doubt left a taint on Colonial Society, but it must be admitted that this taint is growing less and less perceptible as years roll by. So that the Colonies to-day need look back with no feeling of shame on the manner of their origin.

Important meetings of the Federal Council and a Conference of Premiers have been held at Hobart. The Premiers have agreed to a scheme of federation, of which the following are the chief outlines:—

1. That the conference regards federation as the great and pressing question in Australasian politics.

2. That a convention, consisting of ten representatives of each colony directly chosen by the electors, be charged with the duty of framing a federal constitution.

3. That the constitution, when framed, be submitted to the electors for acceptance or rejection by direct vote.

4. That such constitution, if accepted by the electors in three or more colonies, be transmitted to Her Majesty the Queen by addresses from the Parliaments of those colonies praying that the necessary legislative enactment may be passed by the Imperial Parliament.

5. That a bill be submitted to the Parliament of each colony for the purpose of giving effect to the foregoing resolutions.

Thanks to the Legislative Council of Victoria, the obnoxious Land Tax of which I wrote in my last is not to be levied. The Turner Government, which is still in, has to be content with an income tax, reduction of municipal subsidies, and other devices for filling the empty coffers of the Treasury. The prospects of Banking business have greatly improved, the prices of shares and Bank Deposit Receipts has risen. The financial horizon is no longer dark.

LETTER FROM PHILADELPHIA.

(From our Correspondent).

Philadelphia, February 23rd.

We are but just past our city election. A new Mayor and new Councilmen have been chosen. The office of Mayor of such a city as ours is, in its opportunities, in its power, in its salary, one of more importance than even that of Governor of the State. This has been a peculiarly bitter election. The "Combine" of politicians had picked out a candidate, Senator Boies Penrose, as their choice for Mayor, but there was such a clamor raised, reflecting on the moral character of Mr. Penrose, that the "Combine" could not push its way in the nominating Convention. That Convention selected for its candidate Mr. Charles Warwick to represent the Republican party; Mr. Warwick was elected by about 61,000 majority. The Democrats chose ex-Governor Pattison. Mr. Pattison has a most brilliant record and is a man of thorough probity, save only that the Republican newspapers declare that he is under the thumb of an eminent politician named Harrity. After Mr. Warwick's selection the candidature of the Mayor became a matter of secondary importance and all attention was turned to the selection of Councilmen. The Councils of Philadelphia have tremendous power. Of late they have been spending money by the millions, and, unquestionably, an unprincipled lot of corporations have used the Councils to further their ends. Almost every newspaper in the city was against the re-election of a lot of these Councilmen on the score of their having been concerned in certain "jobs." A Municipal League, a committee on purity of elections, and scores of other energetic measures were resorted to. But all was in vain. The old Councilmen were returned in almost every instance and there was little difference in the vote from former years. This is not at all to the credit of the citizens of Philadelphia. And moreover it demonstrates that to head off politicians some other method than newspaper clamor is necessary. The people have got so used to newspaper lying at the expense of candidates, and to the [illegible] that they repose little confidence in the papers.

Business is still very flat. No revival has begun as yet. The factories (and Philadelphia is a city of factories) are not yet running in any number. The trade-papers all complain of the dull outlook. One most striking instance of the slackness of business and of the stringency of the times is shown in the matter of liquor-drinking. The applicants for the renewal of saloon licenses have just finished filing their applications. No more can be entered now. Last year there were in Philadelphia 2,729 saloons, this year the number of applicants for renewal is 2,387, showing a falling off of 342. There has been no temperance agitation of any unusual sort, nor can it be accounted for in any other fashion than as due to the hard times. Liquor is about the last thing men will give up in hard times. Added to the above is the fact that a number of the brewing corporations, who advanced the $1,000 for the license fee to saloon-keepers, are now suing to obtain back their advance. There are multitudes of other signs that no improvement has taken place. In Congress our legislators are doing nothing to relieve the situation. One of our Philadelphia ministers prayed last Sunday in his pulpit petition that the Lord might pardon the foolishness of our Congressmen, that He might break up their excessive partisan zeal, and that He might yet grant that Congress should do something for civic righteousness ere it should adjourn. In the congregation were many eminent men of business and politics, and I bear witness that there was a responsiveness to his prayer that was very distinct.

Political discussion has for the time being abated the general interest in the Japanese-Chinese War. The newspapers daily give space to news as to the War, but editorial comment is scant and scarce. I think the general idea over here is that the sooner the War is now over the better, and that China has probably learned what the War was intended to teach her. Unbounded admiration is incessantly exhibited for the bravery and skill of the Japanese army and its officers and for the shrewdness of the diplomacy of its officials at court.

Philadelphia, in common with the rest of the country, has been interested in the death of two men eminent in missionary matters. Dr. William M. Taylor, of New York City, was prominent in the affairs of the American Board C.F.M. As an author of books of Bible biography, as a great preacher, and as counsellor of the Board Dr. Taylor was noted. He came to America from Great Britain about 25 years ago. Dr. A. J. Gordon, of Boston, Mass., was chairman of the Executive Committee of the American Baptist Missionary Union, another of the great missionary organizations of the the Protestant world. He had been pastor in Boston for 25 years. His church gave annually from $12,000 to $20,000 for foreign missions. Dr. Gordon was an eminent author. His death has profoundly affected American Christians. Dr. Edward A. Lawrence, whom many in Japan will remember as having visited the missions in that country a few years since, passed away some little while ago, and now his mother issues an account of his visit to Asia and his impressions of missions, as he gave them in a series of lectures to the students at Yale. The book is "Modern Missions in the East," which Harper and Brothers published a day or two since.

TREATY OF COMMERCE AND NAVIGATION BETWEEN JAPAN AND THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Signed at Washington, 22nd day of the 11th month, 27th year of Meiji. Ratifications exchanged at that City, 21st day of the 3rd month, 28th year of Meiji.

His Majesty the Emperor of Japan and the President of the United States of America being equally desirous of maintaining the relations of good understanding which happily exist between them, by extending and increasing the intercourse between their respective States, and being convinced that this object cannot better be accomplished than by revising the Treaties hitherto existing between the two countries, have resolved to complete such a revision, based upon principles of equity and mutual benefit, and, for that purpose, have named as their Plenipotentiaries, that is to say: His Majesty the Emperor of Japan, Jushii Shinichiro Kurino, of the Order of the Sacred Treasure of the Fourth Class, and the President of the United States of America, Walter Q. Gresham, Secretary of State of the United States; who, after having communicated to each other their full powers, found to be in good and due form, have agreed upon and concluded the following Articles:—

Art. I.—The subjects or citizens of each of the two High Contracting Parties shall have full liberty to enter, travel, or reside in any part of the territories of the other Contracting Party, and shall enjoy full and perfect protection for their persons and property.

They shall have free access to the Courts of Justice in pursuit and defence of their rights; they shall be at liberty equally with native subjects or citizens to choose and employ lawyers, advocates, and representatives to pursue and defend their rights before such Courts, and in all other matters connected with the administration of justice they shall enjoy all the rights and privileges enjoyed by native subjects or citizens.

In whatever relates to rights of residence and travel; to the possession of goods and effects of any kind; to the succession to personal estate, by will or otherwise, and the disposal of property of any sort and in any manner whatsoever which they may lawfully acquire, the subjects or citizens of each Contracting Party shall enjoy in the territories of the other the same privileges, liberties, and rights, and shall be subject to no higher imposts or charges in those respects than native subjects or citizens, or subjects or citizens of the most favoured nation. The subjects or citizens of each of the Contracting Parties shall enjoy in the territories of the other entire liberty of conscience, and, subject to the laws, ordinances, and regulations, shall enjoy the right of private or public exercise of their worship, and also the right of burying their respective countrymen according to their religious customs, in such suitable and convenient places as may be established and maintained for that purpose.

They shall not be compelled, under any pretext whatsoever, to pay any charges or taxes other or higher than those that are, or may be paid by native subjects or citizens, or subjects or citizens of the most favoured nation,

The subjects or citizens of either of the Contracting Parties residing in the territories of the other shall be exempted from all compulsory military service whatsoever, whether in the army, navy, national guard, or militia; from all contribution imposed in lieu of personal service; and from all forced loans or military exactions or contributions.

Art. II.—There shall be reciprocal freedom of commerce and navigation between the territories of the two High Contracting Parties.

The subjects or citizens of each of the Contracting Parties may trade in any part of the territories of the other by wholesale or retail in all kinds of produce, manufactures, and merchandize of lawful commerce, either in person or by agents, singly or in partnerships with foreigners or native subjects or citizens; and they may there own or hire and occupy houses, manufactories, warehouses, shops, and premises which may be necessary for them, and lease land for residential and commercial purposes, conforming themselves to the laws, police and customs regulations of the country like native subjects or citizens.

They shall have liberty freely to come with their ships and cargoes to all places, ports, and rivers in the territories of the other, which are or may be opened to foreign commerce, and shall enjoy, respectively, the same treatment in matters of commerce and navigation as native subjects or citizens, or subjects or citizens of the most favoured nation without having to pay taxes, imposts, or duties, of whatever nature or under whatever denomination levied in the name or for the profit of the Government, public functionaries, private individuals, corporations, or establishments of any kind, other or greater than those paid by native subjects or citizens or subjects or citizens of the most favoured nation.

It is, however, understood that the stipulations contained in this and the preceding Article do not in any way affect the laws, ordinances, and regulations with regard to trade, the immigration of labourers, police and public security which are in force or which may hereafter be enacted in either of the two countries.

Art. III.—The dwellings, manufactories, warehouses and shops of the subjects or citizens of each of the High Contracting Parties in the territories of the other, and all premises appertaining thereto destined for purposes of residence or commerce, shall be respected.

It shall not be allowable to proceed to make a search of, or a domiciliary visit to such dwellings and premises, or to examine or inspect books, papers, or accounts, except under the conditions and with the forms prescribed by the laws, ordinances, and regulations for subjects or citizens of the country.

Art. IV.—No other or higher duties shall be imposed on the importation into the territories of the United States of any article, the

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Emperor of Japan, from whatever place arriving; and no other or higher duties shall be imposed on the importation into the territories of His Majesty the Emperor of Japan territories of the any article, the produce or manufacture of the of United States, from whatever place arriving than on the like article produced or manufactured in any other foreign country; nor shall any prohibition be maintained or imposed on the importation of any article, the produce or manufacture of the territories of either of the High Contracting Parties, into the territories of the other, from whatever place arriving, which shall not equally extend to the importation of the like article, being the produce or manufacture of any other country. This last provision is not applicable to the sanitary and other prohibitions occasioned by the necessity of protecting the safety of persons, or of cattle, or of plants useful to agriculture.

ART. V.—No other or higher duties or charges shall be imposed in the territories of either of the High Contracting Parties on the exportation of any article to the territories of the other than such as are, or may be, payable on the exportation of the like article to any other foreign country; nor shall any prohibition be imposed on the exportation of any article from the territories of either of the two High Contracting Parties to the territories of the other which shall not equally extend to the exportation of the like article to any other country.

ART. VI.—The subjects or citizens of each of the High Contracting Parties shall enjoy in the territories of the other exemption from all transit duties, and a perfect equality of treatment with native subjects or citizens in all that relates to warehousing, bounties, facilities, and drawbacks.

ART. VII.—All articles which are or may be legally imported into the ports of the territories of His Majesty the Emperor of Japan in Japanese vessels may likewise be imported into those ports in vessels of the United States, without being liable to any other or higher duties or charges of whatever denomination than if such articles were imported in Japanese vessels; and, reciprocally, all articles which are, or may be, legally imported into the ports of the territories of the United States in vessels of the United States may likewise be imported into those ports in Japanese vessels, without being liable to any other or higher duties or charges of whatever denomination than if such articles were imported in vessels of the United States. Such reciprocal equality of treatment shall take effect without distinction, whether such articles come directly from the place of origin or from any other place.

In the same manner, there shall be perfect equality of treatment in regard to exportation, so that the same export duties shall be paid, and the same bounties and drawbacks allowed, in the territories of either of the High Contracting Parties on the exportation of any article which is or may be legally exported therefrom, whether such exportation shall take place in Japanese vessels or in vessels of the United States, and whatever may be the place of destination, whether a port of either of the High Contracting Parties or of any third Power.

ART. VIII.—No duties of tonnage, harbour, pilotage, lighthouse, quarantine, or other similar or corresponding duties of whatever nature, or under whatever denomination levied in the name or for the profit of Government, public functionaries, private individuals, corporations, or establishments of any kind, shall be imposed in the ports of the territories of either country upon the vessels of the other country which shall not equally and under the same conditions be imposed in the like cases on national vessels in general or vessels of the most favoured nation. Such equality of treatment shall apply reciprocally to the respective vessels, from whatever port or place they may arrive, and whatever may be their place of destination.

ART. IX.—In all that regards the stationing, loading, and unloading of vessels in the ports, basins, docks, roadsteads, harbours, or rivers of the territories of the two countries, no privilege shall be granted to national vessels which shall not be equally granted to vessels of the other country; the intention of the High Contracting Parties being that in this respect also the respective vessels shall be treated on the footing of perfect equality.

ART. X.—The coasting trade of both the High Contracting Parties is excepted from the provisions of the present Treaty, and shall be regulated according to the laws, ordinances, and regulations of Japan and of the United States, respectively. It is, however, understood that Japanese subjects in the territories of the United States and citizens of the United States in the territories of His Majesty the Emperor of Japan shall enjoy in this respect the rights which are, or may be, granted under such laws, ordinances, and regulations to the subjects or citizens of any other country.

A Japanese vessel laden in a foreign country with cargo destined for two or more ports in the territories of the United States and a vessel of the United States laden in a foreign country with cargo destined for two or more ports in the territories of His Majesty the Emperor of Japan, may discharge a portion of her cargo at one port, and continue her voyage to the other port or ports of destination where foreign trade is permitted, for the purpose of landing the remainder of her original cargo there, subject always to the laws and custom-house regulations of the two countries.

The Japanese Government, however, agrees to allow vessels of the United States to continue, as heretofore, for the period of the duration of this Treaty, to carry cargo between the existing open ports of the Empire, excepting to or from the ports of Osaka, Niigata, and Ebisuminato.

ART. XI.—Any ship-of-war or merchant vessel of either of the High Contracting Parties which may be compelled by stress of weather, or by reason of any other distress, to take shelter in a port of the other, shall be at liberty to refit therein, to procure all necessary supplies, and to put to sea again, without paying any dues other than such as would be payable by national vessels. In case, however, the master of a merchant vessel should be under the necessity of disposing of a part of his cargo in order to defray the expenses, she shall be bound to conform to the regulations and tariffs of the place to which he may have come.

If any ship-of war or merchant vessel of one of the High Contracting Parties should run aground or be wrecked upon the coasts of the other, the local authorities shall inform the Consul General, Consul, Vice-Consul, or Consular Agent of the district of occurrence, or, if there be no such Consular officers, they shall inform the Consul-General, Consul, Vice-Consul, or Consular Agent of the nearest district.

All proceedings relative to the salvage of Japanese vessels wrecked or cast on shore in the territorial waters of the United States, shall take place in accordance with the laws of the United States; and, reciprocally, all measures of salvage relative to vessels of the United States, wrecked or cast on shore in the territorial waters of His Majesty the Emperor of Japan, shall take place in accordance with the laws, ordinances and regulations of Japan.

Such stranded or wrecked ship or vessel, and all parts thereof, and all furnitures and appurtenances belonging thereunto, and all goods and merchandize saved therefrom, including those which may have been cast into the sea, or the proceeds thereof, if sold, as well as all papers found on board such stranded or wrecked ship or vessel, shall be given up to the owners or their agents, when claimed by them. If such owners or agents are not on the spot, the same shall be delivered to the respective Consuls-General, Consuls, Vice-Consuls, or Consular Agents upon being claimed by them within the period fixed by the laws, ordinances, and regulations of the country, and such Consular officers, owners, or agents shall pay only the expenses incurred in the preservation of the property, together with the salvage or other expenses which would have been payable in the case of a wreck of a national vessel.

The goods and merchandize saved from the wreck shall be exempt from all the duties of the Customs unless cleared for consumption, in which case they shall pay the ordinary duties.

When a ship or vessel belonging to the subjects or citizens of one of the High Contracting Parties is stranded or wrecked in the territories of the other, the respective Consuls-General, Consuls, Vice-Consuls, and Consular Agents shall be authorized, in case the owner or master, or other agent of the owner, is not present, to lend their official assistance in order to afford the necessary assistance to the subjects or citizens of the respective States. The same rule shall apply in case the owner, master, or other agent is present, but requires such assistance to be given.

ART. XII.—All vessels which, according to Japanese law, are to be deemed Japanese vessels, and all vessels which, according to United States law, are to be deemed vessels of the United States, shall, for the purposes of this Treaty, be deemed Japanese vessels and vessels of the United States, respectively.

ART. XIII.—The Consuls-General, Consuls, Vice-Consuls, and Consular Agents of each of the High Contracting Parties, residing in the territories of the other, shall receive from the local authorities such assistance as can by law be given to them for the recovery of deserters from the vessels of their respective countries.

It is understood that this stipulation shall not apply to the subjects or citizens of the country where the desertion takes place.

ART. XIV.—The High Contracting Parties agree that, in all that concerns commerce and navigation any privilege, favour, or immunity which either High Contracting Party has actually granted, or may hereafter grant, to the Government, ships, subjects, or citizens of any other State, shall be extended to the Government, ships, subjects or citizens of the other High Contracting Party, gratuitously, if the concession in favour of that other State shall have been gratuitous, and on the same or equivalent conditions if the concession shall have been conditional; it being their intention that the trade and navigation of each country shall be placed, in all respects, by the other on the footing of the most favoured nation.

ART. XV.—Each of the High Contracting Parties may appoint Consuls-General, Consuls, Vice-Consuls, Pro-Consuls, and Consular Agents, in all the ports, cities, and places of the other except in those where it may not be convenient to recognize such officers.

This exception, however, shall not be made in regard to one of the High Contracting Parties without being made likewise in regard to every other Power.

The Consuls-General, Consuls, Vice-Consuls, Pro-Consuls, and Consular Agents may exercise all functions, and shall enjoy all privileges, exemptions and immunities which are, or may hereafter be, granted to Consular officers of the most favoured nation.

ART. XVI.—The subjects or citizens of each of the High Contracting Parties shall enjoy in the territories of the other the same protection as native subjects or citizens in regard to patents, trademarks, and designs, upon fulfilment of the formalities prescribed by law.

ART. XVII.—The High Contracting Parties agree to the following arrangement:—

The several Foreign Settlements in Japan shall, from the date this Treaty comes into force, be incorporated with the respective Japanese communes, and shall thenceforth form part of the general municipal system of Japan. The competent Japanese authorities shall thereupon assume all municipal obligations and duties in respect thereof, and the common funds and property, if any, belonging to such Settlements shall at the same time be transferred to the said Japanese authorities.

When such incorporation takes place existing leases in perpetuity upon which property is now held in the said Settlements shall be confirmed, and no conditions whatever other than those contained in such existing leases shall be imposed in respect of such property. It is, however, understood that the Consular Authorities mentioned in the same are in all cases to be replaced by the Japanese Authorities. All lands which may previously have been granted by the Japanese Government free of rent for the public purposes of the said Settlements shall, subject to the right of eminent domain, be permanently reserved free of all taxes and charges for the public purposes for which they were originally set apart.

ART. XVIII.—The present Treaty shall, from the date it comes into force, be substituted in place of the Treaty of Peace and Amity concluded on the third day of the third month of the seventh year of Kayei corresponding to the 31st day of March, 1854; the Treaty of Amity and Commerce concluded on the 19th day of the 6th month of the 5th year of Ansei, corresponding to the 29th day of July, 1858; the Tariff Convention concluded on the 13th day of the 5th month of the 2nd year of Keio, corresponding to the 25th day of June, 1866; the Convention concluded on the 25th day of the 7th month of the 11th year of Meiji, corresponding to the 25th day of July, 1878, and all Arrangements and Agreements subsidiary thereto concluded or existing between the High Contracting Parties, and from the same date such Treaties, Conventions, Arrangements, and Agreements shall cease to be binding, and in consequence, the jurisdiction then exercised by Courts of the United States in Japan and all the exceptional privileges, exemptions, and immunities then enjoyed by citizens of the United States as a part of, or appurtenant to such jurisdiction shall absolutely and without notice cease and determine, and thereafter all such jurisdiction shall be assumed and exercised by Japanese Courts.

ART. XIX.—This Treaty shall go into operation on the 17th day of July, 1899, and shall remain in force for the period of twelve years from that date.

Either High Contracting Party shall have the right, at any time after eleven years shall have elapsed from the date it goes into operation, to give notice to the other of its intention to terminate the same, and at the expiration of twelve months after such notice is given this Treaty shall wholly cease and determine.

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ART. XX.—This Treaty shall be ratified and the ratifications thereof shall be exchanged at Tokyo or Washington as soon as possible, and not later than six months after its signature.

In witness whereof, the respective Plenipotentiaries have signed the present Treaty in duplicate and have thereunto affixed their seals.

Done at the City of Washington the 22nd day of the 11th month of the 27th year of Meiji, corresponding to the 22nd day of November in the eighteen hundred and ninety-fourth year of the Christian era.

(Signed) SHINICHIRO KURINO. (L.S.)
" WALTER Q. GRESHAM. "

AMENDMENT TO THE FOREGOING TREATY PROPOSED BY THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND RATIFIED WITH THE TREATY.

ART. XIX.—Clause 2, after the world "time" insert the word thereafter and strike out all after the world "time" down to and including the word "operation," so that the clause will read: "Either "High Contracting Party shall have the right, at "any time thereafter, to give notice to the other "of its intention to terminate the same, and at the "expiration of twelve months after such notice is "given this Treaty shall wholly cease and deter-"mine."

PROTOCOL.

The Government of His Majesty the Emperor of Japan and the Government of the United States of America, deeming it advisable in the interests of both Countries to regulate certain special matters of mutual concern, apart from the Treaty of Commerce and Navigation signed this day, have, through their respective Plenipotentiaries, agreed upon the following stipulations:—

1.—It is agreed by the Contracting Parties that one month after the exchange of the ratifications of the Treaty of Commerce and Navigation signed this day, the Import Tariff now in operation in Japan in respect of goods and merchandize imported into Japan by the citizens of the United States shall cease to be binding. From the same date the General Statutory Tariff of Japan, shall, subject to the provisions of Article IX. of the Treaty of March 31, 1854, at present subsisting between the Contracting Parties, so long as said Treaty remains in force, and thereafter, subject to the provisions of Article IV. and Article XIV., of the Treaty signed this day, be applicable to goods and merchandize, being the growth, produce, or manufacture of the territories of the United States upon importation into Japan.

But nothing contained in this Protocol shall be held to limit or qualify the right of the Japanese Government to restrict or to prohibit the importation of adulterated drugs, medicines, food, or beverages; indecent or obscene prints, paintings, books, cards, lithographic or other engravings, photographs or any other indecent or obscene articles; Articles in violation of patent, trademark, or copyright laws of Japan; or any other article which for sanitary reasons or in view of public security or morals, might offer any danger.

2.—The Japanese Government, pending the opening of the country to citizens of the United States, agrees to extend the existing passport system in such a manner as to allow citizens of the United States, on the production of a certificate of recommendation from the Representative of the United States at Tokio, or from any of the Consuls of the United States at the open ports in Japan, to obtain upon application passports available for any part of the country and for any period not exceeding twelve months, from the Imperial Japanese Foreign Office in Tokio, or from the Chief Authorities in the Prefecture in which an open port is situated, it being understood that the existing Rules and Regulations governing citizens of the United States who visit the interior of the Empire are to be maintained.

3.—The undersigned Plenipotentiaries have agreed that this Protocol shall be submitted to the two High Contracting Parties at the same time as the Treaty of Commerce and Navigation signed this day, and that when the said Treaty is ratified the agreements contained in the Protocol shall also equally be considered as approved, without the necessity of a further formal ratification.

It is agreed that this Protocol shall terminate at the same time the said Treaty ceases to be binding.

In witness whereof the respective Plenipotentiaries have signed the same and have affixed thereto their seals.

Done at Washington the 22nd day of the 11th month of the 27th year of *Meiji*, corresponding to the 22nd November, in the eighteen hundred and ninety-fourth year of the Christian era.

(Signed) SHINICHIRO KURINO. (L.S.)
(Signed) WALTER Q. GRESHAM. (L.S.)

IN MEMORIAM.

There came a call upon the crystal air;
Like broken harps it wept;
Across the slumb'ring sea, it travelled here;
Soft in my soul it slept.
Thy loving lips, that lonely message sang,
Thy plaintive voice through storm-tossed water rang,
Farewell! farewell!

And 'cross those 'wild'sing waves, I sob replies,
Like restless Autumn breeze,
That wildly, wierdly, wanderingly sighs,
Through naked Maple trees!
My words go forth, Beloved! and meet thy song,
Which on the wind's wan wing is borne along,
Farewell! farewell!

Thy voice is silent: never more again
'Twill cross the shimm'ring sea;
Nor pant, dear heart, with passion and with pain
Its sombre song to me.
So fair were't thou, Death willed thee for his own,
And from that land, thou waf'st a whisp'ring moan,
Farewell! farewell!

And as for me! who linger here behind,
Beloved! and weep for thee,—
I listen silent to the wistful wind,
That sighs in every tree.
For in that sound of sorrow and of pain,
I hear the voice I loved, weep once again,
Farewell! farewell!

E. M. D'A.

A LECTURE.

'Ere, listen to me! There's a stupid mistake
Which ignorant folks is accustomed ■ make:
In men of full age and of any pretence
To culture it's reckoned a 'angin' offence;
In schoolboys a blunder so bad, I have heard,
That, even in standards as low as the third,
It's the kind of be'aviour they treat with a switch
—The damnable error of writin' "*and which.*"

You may say there is authors for whom people claim
A place, high or low, in the temple of Fame,
But who seem to have ended where duffers begin
If usin' these words is a cardinal sin:
You may cite to me essayists, earlier, later—
Haddisou, Johnson, Macaulay, or Pater:
Not a man of them all has a right to a niche,
—Bein' tried and found guilty of writin' "*and which.*"

In the temple of Fame not a writer may stand
Who has coupled a "which" to a "which" by an "and;"
But I rather imagine that I shall be there,
With my scissors and paste and my Editor's chair,
For I trust, my good friends, that I'm not such a fool
As (hexcuse me for smilin') to break my own rule;
I may trip 'ere and there, but I'm clear of the ditch
—The damnable error of writin' "*and which.*"

D.

BRETT AND COMPANY LIMITED.

The semi-annual general meeting of shareholders in the above-named Company took place in Kiel's Building on Tuesday afternoon. There were present, Mr. J. F. Lowder (Managing Director), in the chair, Messrs. S. D. Hepburn, M. Russell, F. G. Woodruff, H. Moss, C. W. Ure (Auditor), R. Home Cook, and A. T. Watson (Manager).

The CHAIRMAN said that he had to ask the meeting to make a slight alteration in the accounts which were laying before them. It was in the profit and loss account, the first item on the debit side of which mentioned a 5 per cent. dividend paid in September, 1894. This should be March, of that year. The alteration was merely verbal and made no alteration in the accounts at all. With the permission of the meeting he would take the accounts as read. It was seldom that a Company in Yokohama had so unsatisfactory a statement of account to present to its shareholders. He could offer no other explanation for this bad condition of affairs than that which was given in the report. Nobody, no shareholder, could have been more surprised than he was when he first saw the accounts as prepared by their auditor, Mr. Ure. It was reasonable to suppose that if it was possible for any one to have known how things were going it should have been the managing director. The managing director, they might reasonably say, at all events, should have been in a position to have checked the neglect which has evidently taken place. He did not wish to excuse himself from any portion of the blame which might properly devolve upon him; he would only say this, that he took the position of managing director during the temporary absence of Mr. Donald Fraser from Yokohama, simply because no other shareholder in the Company would come forward to fill the place. Neither did he wish it to be understood that he had any desire, now that the business of the Company had got into a difficult position, to shirk the duties properly falling upon him. But at the same time, it was in the interests of the shareholders that some one should be appointed—some one who had more time and a business knowledge of retail business such as he never possessed or ever pretended to possess—to take the post of managing director. So far as he could see, the business ought to be a good one. So far as he could see, the management of the business required a very much more thorough oversight than a professional man could give. Therefore, somebody who had a knowledge of the working of a retail business should be appointed to the position. He did not wish it to seem that he wanted to retire from a difficult position, but he placed his resignation in the hands of the shareholders in the hope that they would appoint some one with practical business experience to assist Mr. Watson in the management of the business. In the few remarks which he had just made, he had no intention whatever of finding fault with Mr. Watson. He (Mr. Watson) was one of the most energetic men which he (the Chairman) had ever met. He had done all that he could to develop their business. In fact, the only thing that could be said against the Company was that there was a lack of business management which required supplementing. Perhaps it would facilitate matters if he, as Chairman, moved the adoption of the accounts. Then, if some one would second the proposal, the accounts would be open for discussion and remarks.

REPORT.

The statement of Assets and Liabilities, and the Profit and Loss Account for the year ended the 31st December, 1894, accompany this report.

The profit on sales for the year 1893, amounted to $15,733.81, whereas in the year under review, it was only $10,809.64, showing a decrease in gross profit of $4,914.71; and this notwithstanding the fact that the gross sales for the year 1894 exceeded those for 1893 by $5,061.85. There was a slight increase in expenditure for the year 1894: but not enough to account for the enormous falling off in profit, which can only be attributed to the impaired purchase-power of the yen in procuring drugs that have to be paid for in gold, and to neglect in not adding to the selling price of stock the difference in value between the two currencies. In other words, the Company has sustained a loss, by reason of its customers having been supplied under cost.

This seems to be the true and only explanation of the unsatisfactory nature of the accounts presented; in which case it will be apparent that the stability of the Company as shown by its earning power remains unaffected.

J. F. LOWDER,
Managing Director.

STATEMENT OF LIABILITIES AND ASSETS ON 31ST DECEMBER, 1894.

WORKING ACCOUNT.

Dr.

Wages and Salaries	$ 7,727.38
General Expenses	1,602.59
Interest	2,038.95
Advertising	28.35
Commissions, Discount and Loss on Exchange	117.90
Duties	408.53
Lighting and Water	367.50
Fire Insurance	282.88
Rent ■ Premises	1,350.00
	$13,887.02

Cr.

Profit on Sales	$10,819.64
Transfer to Profit and Loss Account	2,467.37
	$13,287.02

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.

Dr.

5% Interim Dividend paid in September, 1894	$ 2,500.00
Balance Working Account, 1893	2,467.37
	$ 5,867.37
Balances brought down	$ 2,409.53

Cr.

Balance on 31st December, 1893	$ 2,367.84
Balance carried down	2,409.53
	$ 5,867.37

LIABILITIES.

Capital: 2,800 Shares (fully paid up) at $20	$28,000.00
Overdraft at the National Bank of China, Limited	12,031.44
Debentures Subscribed for, ■ at $200	5,800.00
Due to Sundry Creditors	2,058.14
	$47,889.58

ASSETS.

Value of Drugs and Chemicals in Store and Godown on 31/12/94	$30,723.01
Value of Godown Fixtures	125.00
Value of Goodwill	4,500.00
Value of Furniture and Store Fixings	2,767.62
Value of Aerated Water Plant and Stock	2,007.67
Value of Drugs Venture Account	833.00
Value of Unexpired Fire Insurance Policies	206.52
Due by Sundry Debtors on 31st Dec., 1894	3,884.11
Balance of Cash in hand on 31st Dec., 1894	333.25
Balance at Dr. of Profit and Loss Account	1,490.53
	$47,889.58

I have compared the above Statement with the Books and Vouchers of the Company, and find the same in accordance therewith.

CHAS. W. URE, Auditor.

Yokohama, March 12th, 1895.

MR. WATSON said that if he was in order he should like to make a few remarks. It was not, he thought, quite sufficient to put the present position of the Company all down to neglect. That did not cover the thing exactly. During the last two or three years all businesses here had had a peculiar position to meet—a constant fall in exchange. It must be remembered that goods were not sold at once after being landed here. Therefore, when a price was put on an article which was put in stock

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it resulted that when it came to be sold the dollar had fallen in value, thus entailing a loss. The position of importing retailers had consequently been something terrible. For instance, when the dollar was at 3/4 goods were marked accordingly; but the dollar fell to 3/ and the result was a lose of four pence in every dollar. Now when they came to take $30,000 it could easily be seen that the loss of thirty thousand four-pences amounted to a considerable sum. Mr. Russell, one of their shareholders there in the room, could bear him out that heavy losses were incurred through the fall in exchange. Things were better now, the position being very different. There was a prospect of a hardened exchange, and consequently he was confident that making their calculations accordingly the position of the Company would be very different at the end of the ensuing twelve months. One thing he would recommend: they must cut down expenses, and he might perhaps be allowed to point out where this could be done. The post of Managing Director, as their Chairman would doubtless allow, was in their Company, quite a sinecure,

The CHAIRMAN—Quite so.

Mr. WATSON (continuing)—By taking away his remuneration $600 a year—$50 a month—a considerable saving would be made. Then their auditor, Mr. Ure, had consented to make an audit of their books at the rate of $50 per audit. This would effect another saving of $250. By reducing expenses in other directions he had full confidence in earning a dividend next year. And, should the amount for distribution be above that required for the dividend, the remainder might then be divided between the managing director and the auditor. Or, if they so wished it, pro rata among the shareholders. He would give them figures to prove this if they desired; but he thought it best not to have the figures reported in the newspapers—it would be giving the details of their business away. He appealed to the Chairman.

The CHAIRMAN—If you appeal to me, I can only say that I am distinctly in favour of the most frank explanation being given to the public that it is possible and advisable to make.

Mr. WATSON—I ask the shareholders, shall I give the figures?

Mr. RUSSELL—No.

Mr. URE—I agree with Mr. Russell.

Mr. RUSSELL—They can be given after the meeting.

The CHAIRMAN—I don't think that it will serve any purpose to give explanations in private which could not be told in public.

Mr. WATSON thought that the shareholders did not require the figures being stated in public.

The CHAIRMAN—Very well; then I ask if any gentleman present will second my proposition that the accounts be passed.

Mr. WATSON—I second it.

Mr. COOK—The discussion being in order, I rise as a shareholder to express my surprise at the accounts of the company as here set out. The very explanation that is given of the cause of the Company's position—that goods were supplied to customers under cost price—is sufficient to damn any company. He could not accept the excuse at all, and he was surpised at their manager expecting that such an excuse would ever be taken by the public. A more probable explanation of their loss, would, he thought, be found in the large running expenses of the Company. He would beg them to look for a moment at the original prospectus of the Company wherein it was stated that the estimated expenses of the business was $7,170 per annum. Yet look at the amount placed under the various heads of expense in their present balance sheet. Some reduction must be made in them somewhere; the expenses must be cut down with all rigour attendant with safety if they ever expected to occupy a position different to the one they held at present. If this could not be done, he did not see the use of going on with the business any longer.

Mr. WATSON said he thought he could see his way to reducing the expenses by something between $1,600 and $2,000.

The CHAIRMAN—That will be delightful, if it can be done.

Mr. WATSON—If the managing director forgoes his fees, and Mr. Ure's fees are reduced to $50, a big reduction will at once be made. I think we can still compare favourably with Messrs. North and Rae, our competitors, in the matter of expenses, if you eliminate the extraordinary expenses which had to be met in December. In that month we had to expend $400 in sending an assistant home, and $600 in bringing another out. Now the agreement of the assistant runs for five years, but the $600 has not been spread over that period; it is all put down in December. I don't think it should have been. We have an opposition to fight, and fight it for you. You will see that when this $1,000 extraordinary expenditure is eliminated there has not been much loss. The going down of exchange of course affected us very greatly.

Mr. COOK said he would like to know the details of the salaries and wages account—$7,700.

The CHAIRMAN referred the questioner to the Auditor, who had all the items to hand.

Mr. RUSSELL—If a Shareholders' Committee be appointed and instructed to draw up a report, to be presented to days' hence, all these items can be gone into and explained. Then this meeting can be closed and another meeting called which will not be public, but at which the report can be presented.

Mr. HEPBURN thought that the present meeting was called to pass the accounts. He thought that this could be done: then the public meeting could adjourn and a private meeting be afterwards called. It would prevent the publication of the details of their business in the newspapers. By doing as he suggested they could easily avoid publicity.

The CHAIRMAN—I fear no publicity, let us discuss our affairs in public. I am sure there is nothing that we need be ashamed of. This meeting is public, and having once been declared public can not be turned into a private assembly of shareholders. I believe in every publicity being given to our business. I firmly believe that the accounts now before you are absolutely correct.

Mr. HEPBURN quite agreed that their affairs so far were satisfactory, only some persons seemed to be questioning different items of expense.

The CHAIRMAN—I hope Mr. Russell will accept the office of Managing Director. If he will, there will be no necessity for a Shareholders' Committee, nor of a subsequent meeting. He was sure that all the shareholders were agreed that Mr. Russell would do all that he could for them, having himself a knowledge and experience of a retail business.

Mr. RUSSELL could not entertain the suggestion. It would conflict with his own business; and he felt that he could not act in a dual capacity.

Mr. HEPBURN said Mr. Russell had spoken to him in a similar strain before the meeting commenced. For himself he could not see where the conflict would come in between a chemists' business and Mr. Russell's, still he gathered that their business could sell anything from a pair of boots to a ship.

Mr. RUSSELL said that both business had runners engaged in soliciting business on board the ships, and on that account he could foresee a conflict.

Mr. URE.—In that case why should we not have a combination, we could then reduce the wages account.—(Laughter.)

The CHAIRMAN—If Mr. Russell is referring to the aërated water business, I must say that I should feel inclined—I don't say that I really would—to adopt Mr. Russell's view. But I feel sure the shareholders would be fully convinced of the perfect honesty of Mr. Russell's actions in any report he might present to them.—(Hear, hear.) I feel sure that by appointing Mr. Russell managing director we should be affecting a saving for shareholders.

Mr. RUSSELL—I must decline the position. I propose instead that a Committee of Shareholders be appointed, consisting of Messrs. Hepburn and Cook, to report to the Managing Director.

The CHAIRMAN—I have no doubt, Mr. Russell, that Messrs. Hepburn and Cook would agree to serve on a Committee with you.

Mr. URE—I second the proposal that a Committee of three be appointed, and that it consists of Messrs. Russell, Cook, and Hepburn.

The CHAIRMAN—The Committee to have full power of inspection to report?

Mr. RUSSELL—Yes, to report to the managing director.

The CHAIRMAN—Who would act upon it and call another meeting? I may here say that when the Articles of Association were drawn up, a question arose as to the expense attendant upon running public companies in Yokohama, and it was upon my suggestion that only one Director was appointed, the object being to pursue economy in regard to the business. When a public company is formed a Board of Directors must be constituted, and I thought that a managing director would be cheaper than a Board. Should you desire me to fill that position in the coming year, I beg to state here, that I shall forego any fee whatsoever. I had wished to make the move before, but, as you are aware, I was really appointed merely as a *locum tenens* while Mr. Fraser was away. I was then under the impression that Mr. Fraser was about to return to Yokohama and therefore I did not wish to take any step which he might think would conflict with the good of the company. I now know, on good authority, that Mr. Fraser is not returning to Yokohama, and now I am free to state that I will not receive any fee all. I think you have come to the best decision you could have done in appointing a Committee of Inspection. Now we must all do our best to devote our attention to the business, to save where we can, and to knock off altogether any branch of the business which it is advisable, so as to devote ourselves to the business of chemists and druggists.

Mr. URE—I should like to say, should it be the wish of the Company to retain my services as auditor during the coming year, that I shall charge nothing at all for auditing your accounts.

The CHAIRMAN—The generous offer of Mr. Ure, is one, I think, which the Company cannot properly accept. Mr. Ure is a professional man, and as such is entitled, I hold, to charge his fees for work done in his professional capacity. With the managing director it is different, he is not there professionally. I vote that Mr. Ure's generous offer be not accepted.

Mr. URE—Thank you, Mr. Chairman. But I would rather not take any fees. I am one of the largest shareholders—with the exception of Mr. Watson—together with my wife, and at a time like this I feel that I should like to do something in the way of making a sacrifice for the common good.

The CHAIRMAN—A most excellent spirit has been shown by shareholders to-day. I take it that the accounts have been passed and an Investigating Committee appointed. We will now endeavour to work together to achieve a better showing in the future than we have been able to do in the past.

Mr. WATSON proposed a vote of thanks to the Chair, which was carried, and the meeting separated.

YOKOHAMA GENERAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

ANNUAL MEETING.

The annual general meeting of the Yokohama General Chamber of Commerce was held on Friday afternoon, but owing to it being mail-day the attendance was small, and the discussion remarkably short. There were present, Mr. J. Lindsley (Chairman), Messrs. J. D. Hutchison, W. W. Till, Jas. Walter, G. Buchanan Dunlop, J. P. Mollison, M. Kaufman, H. C. Pigott, E. Flint Kilby, A. S. Garfit, H. Pinckney, J. A. Fraser, M. W. Kochen, and O. Kiel (Secretary).

The SECRETARY read the notice convening the meeting, and the minutes of the previous meeting were taken as read.

The CHAIRMAN then read the following:—

REPORT.

Whereas last year the report of the Chamber showed a decrease of about $1,500,000 in the foreign trade of Yokohama, as compared with that of 1892, it will be seen from the tables appended to this year's report that the volume of trade, expressed in currency, has exceeded that of 1893 by $32,000,000, and that the total increase at all ports has amounted to nearly $53,000,000. It may be thought that this great increase in the foreign trade was due chiefly to the unusual demand for vessels and munitions of war; but upon reference to the tables it seems that less than $12,000,000 of the total gain can be attributed to such purchases.

So far as Yokohama is concerned, the greatest gain is in the export of Raw Silk and Silk Fabrics, which has exceeded that of 1893 by $16,000,000. It must be borne in mind, however, that the tables cover transactions made between the beginning and the end of the year, instead of those between the beginning and the end of the season.

It should also be mentioned that the statistics showing the total volume of trade do not include movements of specie and bullion, of which roughly $34,400,000 in value were exported in 1894, against $12,300,000 in 1893, very nearly three-fourths of which went to British India. On the other hand, nearly $27,000,000 were imported, against $11,000,000 in 1893, more than half of which was imported from Great Britain.

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.—The total export from Yokohama to Europe and the United States during the year 1894 exceeded that of the previous year by 16,831 bales in quantity, and by $11,051,700 in value.

The respective figures are as follows:—

		Average Price.
For 1893	36,363 Bales, valued at $28,275,800	=$776 per Bale.
For 1894	53,194 Bales, valued at $39,267,500	=$738 per Bale.

But in comparing the two seasons as a whole, there will not be the same excess, as the total export from the opening of the new season on the 15th of last June until its end next June, will probably not exceed 50,000 bales against 44,017 bales exported last season.

The large increase during last year is due to the

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resumpti on of purchases for the United States, following the long period of depression there, which lasted until the end of 1893.

The export to the United States during 1894 was more than double that of 1893, being 30,205 bales against 14,809 bales; whilst that to Europe shows an increase of only 1,435 bales, being 22,989 bales against 21,554 bales.

The crop for the present season has been a good one, and it is estimated that 50,000 to 55,000 Bales will be available for export. An unsold stock of 5,300 Bales was carried over from the previous season, but this and whatever increase there has been in the total production have been absorbed by the Japanese looms, owing to the increased demand from Europe and America for silk piece-goods of Japanese manufacture. There are, however, no means of obtaining accurate returns of the quantity used by Japanese looms.

The following table will show the course of prices for No. 1 Filatures during the years 1893 and 1894:

	1893. Filatures No. 1.		1894. Filatures No. 1.	
	Coarse Size.	Fine Size.	Coarse Size.	Fine Size.
January	$ 860	$ 910	$780	$780
February	880	960	800	800
March	—	980	820	840
April	1,020	1,175	800	780
May	900	1,060	710	730
June	—	—	680	730
July	800	930	680	748
August	750	880	820	820
September	750	830	740	760
October	730	780	760	770
November	740	770	760	770
December	780	780	800	800

From the foregoing table the prices it will be seen that there have no great fluctuations in value excepting in May, when prices declined $50 to $90 per picul, but recovered again in August.

Waste Silk.—The year opened with low prices in the consuming markets; quotations on the 1st of January being fcs. 7½ per kilo. for good Oshu Noshi, and fcs. 4½ per kilo. for Joshu Noshi (ordinary classification).

The stock on hand at the beginning of the year was heavy, amounting to 20,000 piculs, and the low quotations for Raw Silk favoured its consumption, there was a corresponding decrease in the demand for spun yarns. The trade consequently languished all through the first half of the year, prices in the manufacturing centres showing a decline of ten per cent on those current at the beginning of the year. August, September, and October brought some improvement in the demand for Japan Wastes; but this afterwards fell away, and the year closes with the market dull as it began.

The course of the Waste Silk trade in 1894 has not been favourable to the exporter, with constantly declining values in the selling market. For the producer, things have been better and he has little of which to complain; the fall in Exchange has enabled him to keep the dollar price of his produce practically unchanged throughout the year.

Manufactured Silk Goods.—The export of these goods continues to increase at a rapid rate. Available statistics,—which are, however, not very reliable,—show that the greatest increase has been in plain goods of light weight, such as are made in the province of Echizen, of which Fukui is the chief town.

Of these goods 570,000 pieces, of varying lengths and widths, were made during the year 1894, of which 516,195 pieces were exported from Yokohama against 237,682 pieces in 1893. Other districts also produce large quantities of this material; and in addition some 45 to 50,000 pieces of 50 yards each must have been used in the manufacture of handkerchiefs, and similar articles for export.

The Export of Hankerchiefs, on the other hand, appears to be diminishing, having only amounted to 1,418,973 dozen in 1894, against 1,700,000 dozen in 1893.

Considerable interest has been taken in the production for export of Fancy Silks, such as Brocades, etc., and a fair quantity has been made, but in quality the goods leave much to be desired, especially in respect to finish. With proper organisation and under better conditions for manufacturing, the Japanese looms would soon become formidable competitors in Europe and America for the trade in such goods.

Tea.—Exports for Yokohama exceeded those of the previous year by one million lbs. and $95,000 in value. Kobe increases this excess by half a million lbs. and $135,000 in value.

The market for New Teas opened in Yokohama about April 20th, and a very large business resulted in May, June, and July.

The quality of the crop was decidedly superior to that of the previous season, there being a marked decrease in common grades, which as a rule help to swell up the figures of Export and bring Japan Teas into disfavour in the consuming markets.

The first dollar cost averaged from 20 to 25 per cent. over that of the preceding season, but this was offset by much lower rates for Sterling Exchange.

The outbreak of the war between China and Japan coupled with the settlement of the labour strikes in America, caused a sudden spurt in the United States and Canada during the months of August and September, when considerable profits were realised. The prevailing idea in America, at that time, was that the war might interfere with the export of Tea from both countries, instead of which it seemed rather to stimulate it. The general result of the past season has been fairly satisfactory to shippers, and probably the best the Japanese have had for many years.

There is a smaller stock of old leaf on hand to be carried over than in any previous year.

Owing to the advance in the cost of Labour and all Tea-firing Material it has been found necessary by firms engaged in this trade to make an increase in their charge for firing.

Copper.—The low rates of exchange ruling during 1894 have enabled producers in Japan to obtain remunerative prices for their production, and the export from Yokohama shows an increase of about 10 per cent, as compared with 1893. Prices have been well maintained at $20 to $21 per picul for slabs, and $22 to $23 per picul for ingots and tiles.

Most of the Copper shipped from Yokohama is the production of the Ashiwo mines.

Fish Oil.—The export of Fish Oil for the year under review has increased to 154,000 piculs against 117,000 piculs in 1893. This may be attributed partly to the better arrangements made by fishermen in the North for producing the article, and partly to the greatly enhanced prices exporters could pay on account of the lower exchange. From $3.80 pe picul in January they have gone up to $4.40 and $50 at the end of the year, which prices must pay the fishermen handsomely.

The Herring catch in April and May was a heavy one, while Sardines were caught in October and November only in small quantities, and in poor condition, so that the yield of that catch was smaller than usual.

A special feature of the last year's business has been the trial of shipments in bulk in tank steamers. It remains to be seen, however, whether Fish Oil can be obtained regularly in sufficient quantity and good quality to make this way of transporting pay.

IMPORTS.

Sugar.—The Sugar trade again shows development, but this year chiefly in the direction of Brown sugars which have been attracted hither on account of the high prices ruling for refined sugar nearly throughout the year. The usual supplies from Formosa have been augmented by receipts from Manila and elsewhere. The first sugar from Formosa arrived on the 9th February, when the price was $4.40 to $4.45. In April it rose to $4.75/80, and fell to $4.30 in December. During 1893 prices opened and closed at about the same rates as above; they, however, advanced in July to $5.15 per picul.

The production of Sugar in the province of Satsuma and in the Liu-Chu Islands is large, but the returns are difficult to obtain. This product finds a market mostly in Kiushiu and Osaka, comparatively little coming to Tokyo. The relative quantities of Refined and Brown Sugar imported will be found in the tables annexed.

Raw Cotton.—Imports at the port of Yokohama for 1894 exceeded those for 1893 by about 10 per cent. But for all Japan the increase is considerably greater, amounting to 40,000 piculs in quantity, and nearly 3½ million dollars in value.

Cotton Yarn.—Two powerful influences were at work during 1894 against the successful transaction of business in imported Cotton Yarn; first a declining Manchester market throughout the year, and secondly almost continuous weakness in Silver and Exchange, the combination preventing the determination of anything like fixity of values from month to month, and rendering all operations treacherous and uncertain.

Thus the Manchester quotations for certain Standard Spinnings in the month of January and December were as follows, c.f.i. :—

	January. per lb.	December. per lb.
16/24s	7 1/16d.	5 3/16d.
28/32s	7 15/16d.	6 7/16d.
38/42s	8 5/16d.	7 7/16d.
32s. two-fold	8 3/16d.	6 11/16d.
42s. two-fold	9 3/16d.	7 7/16d.

whilst exchange, which stood at 2s. 3d. for Bank Demand paper when the year opened, closed in December at 1s. 11⅛d.

Besides these difficulties, the war with China had to be reckoned with, and there is no doubt it exercised a very deterreut influence on the operations of Japanese Merchants, and consequently a depressing effect on business generally, and under all the circumstances it is not to be wondered at that the volume of trade shows a marked decrease as compared with 1893. At the same time from an examination of figures the falling off cannot be entirely attributed to the causes mentioned above, because it would appear to have been greatest in those yarns chiefly affected by the competition of the Spinning industry in Japan. For instance, the deliveries of 16/24s. and 28/32s. together barely reached one half of what they were in 1893; 38/42s. also showed a decrease, whereas 32s. and 42s. two-fold, which are not yet produced in any quantity in Japan, just about held their own; the inference being that as time goes on 16/24s. and 28/32s. will disappear from the list of imports altogether, just as Bombays have already done.

Grey Goods were of course affected by the same influence as Cotton Yarns, viz., declining values in Manchester and declining Exchange, and although figures perhaps do not show it very clearly, the business was of a dragging and unsatisfactory nature, specially after the outbreak of the war.

Fancy Cottons and Woollens.—The trade in Velvets, Prints, Woollens, Italians, and Blankets shows a marked falling off, and prices throughout the season have been extremely unsatisfactory. The difficulty of transportation and reduced consumption owing to the war have led to several failures of Japanese dealers in the fancy import trade.

Native Manufacturing Industry.—In connection with the foregoing remarks it has to be noted that several Cotton Mills have been enlarged and new ones erected; and the same is true regarding the Woollen Spinning and Weaving industries.

Metals.—Increases are shown in all articles under this heading except rails, which have fallen off 15 per cent. in quantity, and 2 per cent. in value. The difference in these percentages is due to some extent to the decline in silver and the consequent enhanced cost in Japanese currency.

The increases are due in several instances to special causes, *e.g.* the large import of Pig Iron is owing to the requirements of the Tokyo Waterworks, and the Government demands for war material. The Japanese production has become much larger also, and is believed to yield handsome profits, while importers, as a consequence of this competition, have to work on the scantiest of margins.

Bars, Rods, and Hoops show little change as compared with 1893, but Plates and Sheets increased 50 per cent. in quantity, mainly being employed in the construction of boilers for manufactories—these being now made in the country instead of being imported as formerly—and for iron chimneys, which, since the earthquakes of June 1894, have been largely substituted for brick ones.

The increased imports of Corrugated and Flat Galvanized Iron were in excess of requirements, and the year closed with considerable stocks in native hands, and the same remark applies to Wire Nails.

The import of Tin Plate has been larger than in any previous year, and is accounted for by the canning of bulk-imported Kerosene, and by the Government's demands for tinned meats for the Army.

The influence of the war is also shown in the augmented import of Steel,—60 per cent above 1893.

Speaking generally, the rise of prices in Japanese currency, naturally to be expected in consequence of the fall in silver, has not been observable, owing to the steady decline in the home sterling prices of metals and the conservative policy of dealers, who have been short of cash.

The consumption of Ingot Iron has increased, while that of ordinary Iron has declined, and it is a noteworthy fact that the import of English makes of Iron of all kinds is on the wane, being replaced by Belgian and German brands.

Kerosene Oil.—The total importation of Kerosene Oil into Yokohama during 1894 has greatly exceeded that of 1893, that of American oil having increased 50 per cent. But on the other hand the importation of Russian oil shows a decrease of about 6 per cent. The consumption has been in about the same proportion.

The average prices ruling in 1894 show an advance over those of 1893 especially during the first six months when they were to to 15 cents higher.

Silver and Exchange.—Silver rose slightly during the first half of January and Exchange followed, but early in February a decline set in which continued during three weeks, when a smart drop in silver of ¼d., viz: from 28⅜d. to 27⅛d. took place, and rates declined in sympathy. The fall continued until March 7th when silver touched 27d., the lowest rate on record. A slight reaction then set in, followed by the usual fluctuations, when in April a smart rise to 29⅛d. occurred, rates for Bankers' Sight Drafts on London advancing from 1s. 11⅞d. to 2s. 1⅛d. During May, June, and July silver fluctuated between 28d. and 29d., and exchange between 2s. 0⅛d. and 2s. 1⅛d. In August silver rose to 30⅛d., and exchange to 2s. 2⅛d. From that time until the end of the year a steady decline set in, rates falling in December to 1s. 11⅛d., the lowest ever known. Up to the middle of November exchange and silver had kept fairly well together, the former being if anything above the parity, but a strong demand for Bankers' Sight Drafts and Telegraphic Transfers arising, rates were forced down considerably below silver, 4 months Credit Bills being bought at 2s., with silver at 27½, as against 2s. 0⅛d. in March when silver was quoted at 27d.

The recent agitation Germany, Great Britain, and the United States in favour of Bimetallism, and the prospect of another Silver Conference, may result in a permanent advance in rates.

The issue of the new British Dollar by the Bombay Mint for use in the Straits, Hongkong, and China will probably diminish greatly, the demand for the Japanese silver *yen*, and imports into Japan of Bullion are likely to fall off correspondingly.

Memorial to the London Chamber.—In accordance with the resolution passed at the last General Meeting, a memorial in favour of International Bimetallism was drawn up by a sub-committee, and, after being approved by the committee as a whole, was duly circulated among the members and others interested, and was very generally signed, when it was forwarded to the London Chamber, and to the principal Chambers of Commerce in other parts of the world.

TREATY REVISION.

The revision of the treaties, so long deferred, has made great progress since our last meeting, and the Japanese statesmen concerned have good reason for believing that their work is in a fair way to be finished without much

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further delay. The treaties recently made with Great Britain and the United States give to Japan practically all that she asked for, and are certainly a triumph for her diplomats, but to what extent they will prove beneficial to this country, and how far the substance has been sacrificed to the shadow, remains to be seen.

The extra-territorial clause in the old treaties, which has been considered by many as a grievance, and by some even as a humiliation, has certainly been productive of some benefit to the Japanese nation.

The treaty ports have afforded, free of expense to Japan, an epitome of the civilisation of Europe and America, as an object lesson from which she has learnt much and benefited correspondingly; and not a small factor in the gradual evolution of freedom and enlightment has been an untrammelled foreign press.

And with reference to the much abused tariff, it seems certain that the growth of foreign commerce—which, fostered by low duties, has developed rapidly, having increased nearly fourfold during the past ten years alone, viz, from $61,800,000 to $136,7000,000, and enriched the country beyond all precedent,—could not have taken place had the duties been subject to sudden and unforeseen changes.

WAR WITH CHINA.

The war which Japan declared against China last August has been vigorously waged on the part of the former power, and with unvarying success.

The disturbance to other than the trade between the countries engaged, including Korea, has been less than was anticipated.

The war has created a great demand for foreign steamers, of which 38 have been sold, realising over eight million yen, and many others have been chartered.

That Japan has been able to carry on such an expensive war for nearly nine months without a foreign loan, and maintain the value of her paper currency, seems highly creditable to those in charge of her finances, and would imply that the steadily growing demand for her products abroad, and the remarkable industrial development during the past decade have enriched the country beyond expectation.

DISCRIMINATION AGAINST FOREIGNERS IN THE PAYMENT OF CUSTOMS DUES.

Early in the year the attention of the Chamber was called to the fact that Customs dues were accepted from Japanese at the rate of 317.44 *Bus* per $100, whereas foreigners were obliged to pay at the rate of 311 *Bus*,—a discrimination of over 2 per cent. in favour of the Japanese. Proof of this practice here was not immediately available, but on the 7th August, when the requisite documents had been obtained, a letter was addressed to the *doyen* of the Consular Body, Dr. Schmidt-Leda, regarding the matter, and on the 9th October notice was received from the Superintendent of Customs through the British Consul that from 15th October the exchange value of the *ichi bu gin* would be calculated at 31 *sen* 5 *rin* when duties are levied upon imports and exports—thus doing away with the discrimination complained of.

CODE TO BE ISSUED BY THE TELEGRAPH COMPANIES.

Information has been received to the effect that a compilation of 200,000 words is being made by the Associated Telegraph Companies, and it is intended to limit senders of telegrams to the use of those words. This Chamber has joined those of Kobe, Hongkong, and Shanghai in a memorial to the London Chamber protesting against such a restriction on the part of the Telegraph Companies, and it is to be hoped that this part of the scheme will be abandoned. Such a complication, however, if printed with distinguishing numerals and issued at a moderate price, would be a boon to all merchants.

RAILWAYS.—Considerable activity was manifested through the first half of the year to increase the railway system of the country; six new lines, aggregating ■ miles, were opened in 1894, whilst extensions to existing lines, aggregating 70 miles were also made, the most important of which was that of the Sanyo Railway from Itozaki to Hiroshima, 46 miles, bringing that city into direct connection with the Capital within 30 hours.

HARBOUR WORKS.—The Iron Pier is finished, and will be open for use on the April 1st next. Rails have been laid on it and extended to the Customs compound to connect with the Export and Import sheds.

The Breakwater is still unfinished, but repairs are going on constantly, and the sum of $160,000 has been voted by the Diet to be spent on it during the present year.

CUSTOM HOUSE.—With the exception of the Kerosene Godowns at Ishikawa, where a reservoir has been built for leaky cases, saving the leaking oil, no new erection has been made in 1894. It is, however, expected that the railway tracks connecting all the sheds with the Pier will greatly facilitate the handling of goods.

THE ANNUAL ACCOUNTS are submitted herewith.

The expenditures have been less than those of 1893 by nearly $300, but receipts have fallen off by more than twice this amount, reducing the cash balance from $761.91 to $396.61. Members' subscriptions exceed those of 1893 by $55, and it is in the sale of circulars that the main difference occurs, as this source of income is less by $453.38, the remainder being due to a sale of furniture and paper during the previous year.

The thanks of the Chamber are due to Messrs. Garfit and Pinckney, who have kindly audited the accounts.

The number of Members stands at 61 against 63 at this time last year.

JOHN LINDSLEY, Chairman.

YOKOHAMA GENERAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.
STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR 1894.

RECEIPTS.

To Balance from 1893		$ 761.91
Members' Subscriptions ... ... 63 at $25		1,575.00
Circulars sold :—		
To Members ... ... 13,666 for	$270.72	
To Non-members ... ... 3,792 for ...	338.64	
		2,355.36
Half-yearly Statistics sold ... ... 448 for		86.83
Sundry Publications sold		14.70
Interest allowed by Hongkong and Shanghai Bank on Current Account		7.23
		$4,801.03
Balance. Cash in hand...		$ 396.61

EXPENDITURE.

Salary of Secretary and Staff	$3,000.00
Rent	480.00
Printing Circulars, Statistics, Reports, etc.	678.90
Advertising, and subscriptions to local newspapers ...	69.00
Returns of Imports and exports	163.00
Stationery	60.10
Books of reference	8.42
Petty disbursements, fuel, lighting, collector's fees, postages and sundries	145.00
	$4,604.42
Balance, carried to new account	196.61
	$4,801.03

E. & O. E.

Yokohama, March 13th, 1894. O. KIEL, Secretary.

Examined and found correct, March 19th, 1895.

A. S. GARFIT,
H. PINCKNEY. } Auditors.

On the motion of Mr. J. P. MOLLISON, seconded by Mr. J. D. HUTCHISON, the report and accounts were adopted.

Mr. MOLLISON moved that a vote of thanks be accorded to Mr. Kiel for preparing the interesting tables accompanying the report.—(Hear, hear.)

Mr. E. FLINT KILBY seconded.

The motion being put to the meeting was carried unanimously.

Mr. KIEL bowed his thanks.

Mr. PIGOTT said that he had one point which he wished to bring before the Chamber; it was in reference to the accommodation at the Customs House. The exporters had one shed of 300 *tsubos*, but the importers' shed was more than double that size, 860 *tsubos*. Now as steamers were frequently only in port one day this caused a great deal of inconvenience, more especially to the exporters of teas. Now that various fresh arrangements were about to be made in regard to the Customs House, he thought that this subject should be brought before the authorities, who might then be able to do something towards providing further accommodation. I might mention, the speaker continued, that six small godowns are also at the disposal of importers upon the payment of special fees, but these godowns are useless so far as exporters are concerning owing to the authorities declining to collect duties there. As a matter of fact, one firm of stevedore's can in three quarters of a day fill up the exporters shed. When three mail-steamers are in port on one day, the inconvenience arising from this state of things can be easily seen; and on a wet day the loss through tea having to be left outside, is very considerable.

The CHAIRMAN—Mr. Pigott's point is well taken. But I must say that the Customs authorities experience a great deal of difficulty owing to their room being limited; and importers are also of opinion that they cannot spare any of their room. I hope that when the land which it is proposed to reclaim from the Bay is ready, that the Customs authorities will provide more room for the exporters. I had a conversation with Mr. Okoshi only the other day about this matter, and he said that he would do all that lay in his power to help us. I think that he will do all that is possible in the matter. With reference to our accounts, some step must be taken for increasing the income of the Chamber, unless our returns from the sale of circulars increases, of which there appears to be no prospect. It has been suggested that an increase in the annual dues should be made.

Mr. MOLLISON said that if it was necessary to make a formal proposition at the annual meeting, he would propose that the subscription to the Chamber be raised by the incoming committee to such an amount as they considered necessary under the circumstances.

The CHAIRMAN—It is not absolutely necessary to make such a proposition, but the incoming committee would no doubt like something of the sort carried before they move in the matter.

Mr. WALTER—I second Mr. Mollison's proposition.

Mr. BUCHANAN DUNLOP asked what amount would probably be required.

The SECRETARY—About $600, if we go on at the present rate. In 1893 the return from the sale of circulars showed a decrease of $400; in 1894 it was $500, and so far as I can see it will continue to go down. Nearly every mail day sees a decrease in the sales.

Mr. MOLLISON—I believe that formerly the subscription was $50 a year; now it is $25. This leaves ample room for the committee to raise the dues without causing any dissatisfaction. From $10 to $15 would no doubt be all that was necessary.

The CHAIRMAN—The Secretary says that $10 or $15 will be ample.

Messrs. MOLLISON and KOCKEN were then appointed scrutineers of the ballot for Chairman and Committee. After the votes had been cast,

The CHAIRMAN said that he had much pleasure in announcing that Mr. James Walter had been chosen Chairman of the Chamber.—(Loud applause.)

Mr. WALTER—I thank you for the honour which you wish to confer upon me, but I must decline. I have several reasons, but the first is that I am not *au fait* with the general business of this port.

The CHAIRMAN—The other name on the list is Mr. Mollison.—(Applause.)

Mr. MOLLISON—I must also decline the honour. I am on several committees in Yokohama, and Chairman of two, and I feel that the claims of my own business will not allow me to take the position of your Chairman. I am very sensible of the honour you wish to confer, but really I must decline.

The CHAIRMAN—Nothing remains then, but to elect the nine members of the Committee and to leave to them the appointment of a Chairman.

The voting for a Committee resulted as follows:—Messrs. J. A. Fraser, J. D. Hutchison, Jas. Walter, Jas. Dodds, J. P. Mollison, W. W. Till, H. Baelz, E. Flint Kilby, and J. Lindsley.

Mr. KILBY proposed a vote of thanks to the Chairman for his services during the past year; and a vote of thanks to the outgoing Committee.

The motion was carried by acclamation and the Chairman bowed his thanks.

The meeting then terminated.

Value of Exports and Imports for all Japan during the Years 1894 and 1893.

Total Value of Exports.	1894.	1893.	Increase of Exports
Yokohama	$ 73,015,698	$ 55,209,586	$ 17,806,092
Kobe and Osaka	30,002,482	26,182,866	4,020,613
Nagasaki, Hakodate, and other Ports... ...	10,017,907	8,321,425	1,696,514
	$113,246,086	$ 89,713,865	$ 23,533,221

Total Value of Imports.	1894.	1893.	Increase of Imports.
Yokohama	$ 50,447,538	$ 36,305,069	$ 14,142,393
Kobe and Osaka	60,925,376	47,799,274	13,126,042
Nagasaki, Hakodate, and other Ports... ...	6,209,167	4,152,889	2,056,458
	$117,482,955	$ 88,257,272	$ 29,324,783

Total Exports and Imports 1894... ...	...	$230,728,041
Total Exports and Imports 1893... ...	...	$177,970,037
Total increase of the trade of 1894... ...	...	$ 52,758,004

Comparative table of Deliveries and Stocks of the Principal Imports at Yokohama during the years 1894 and 1893.

	Deliveries.		Increase or Decrease of Deliveries	Stocks.		Increase or Decrease of Stocks
	1894.	1893.	in 1894.	1894.	1893.	1894.
Raw Cotton pls.	246,649	231,503 †	15,146	—	—	—
Cotton Yarns						
English ...pls.	45,894	69,594 *	23,700	4,900	12,570 *	6,410
Bombays. pls.	1,018	5,918 *	4,907	—	90 *	90
Grey Shirtings... ...pcs.	388,150	456,280 *	68,130	26,500	69,500 *	43,000
T. Cloths ...pcs.	62,800	75,100 *	12,300	5,000	7,000 *	2,000
Indigo Shirtings, etc...pcs.	102,900	90,280 †	12,700	21,500	53,000 *	31,500
Prints... ...pcs.	176,950	208,969 *	32,019	23,000	44,000 *	21,000
Cotton Italians ...pcs.	62,840	46,350 †	16,490	20,400	10,000 †	10,000
Turkey Reds pcs.	77,860	114,400 *	36,540	27,400	70,800 *	43,400
Velvets ...pcs.	28,590	33,190 *	4,600	6,300	9,680 *	3,380
Victoria Lawns ...pcs.	46,800	36,730 †	10,070	7,500	20,000 *	12,500
Silk-faced Satins ...pcs.	4,974	6,900 *	1,926	2,400	900 †	1,500
Flannel ...pcs	32,020	53,120 *	18,900	7,990	14,900 *	13,910
Italian Cloth pcs.	34,600	122,650 †	22,950	25,000	32,000 *	8,000
Mousselines pcs.	342,700	299,980 †	42,720	50,000	50,000	—
Cloth ... ...pcs.	21,080	9,250 †	11,830	1,760	5,150 *	3,390
Blankets ...pcs.	247,230	192,200 †	54,980	25,000	63,800 *	38,800
Iron, all denominations pls.	612,237	500,399 †	111,808	13,000	4,455 †	8,565
Wire Nails ..pls.	241,568	215,790 †	25,766	12,000	5,700 †	6,300
Tin Plates. box.	32,090	51,544 *	26,546	3,300	800 †	2,500
Kerosene... ...cs.	2,332,533	2,042,119	290,414	489,624	297,422	385,795
Sugar ... ...pls.	2,208,290	2,224,485 †	73,805	47,008	29,941 †	17,067
Window Glass ...box.	35,393	56,815 *	21,572	1,500	4,000 *	2,500

† = Increase, * = Decrease of Deliveries and Stocks.

Table showing Increase and Decrease in the principal articles of Export from the port of Yokohama in 1894, as compared with 1893.

EXPORTS.

	1894. Quantity.	1894. Estimated Value.	1893. Quantity.	1893. Estimated Value.
Silk ... ...pls.	54,320	$39,967,500	37,097	$28,247,400
Waste Silk and Cocoons ... ...pls.	38,473	3,267,350	33,746	3,005,600
Tea ... ...lbs.	29,807,806	4,920,700	28,801,377	4,885,730
Tobacco ... ...pls.	16,168	215,800	4,156	51,950
Rice ... ...pls.	18,712	68,500	2,058	7,350
Fish Oil ... ...pls.	154,379	617,100	127,028	457,350
Copper... ... ...pls.	137,040	2,849,100	123,999	2,116,180
Silk Handkerchiefs ...doz.	2,428,973	3,582,000	2,706,079	3,861,750
Silk Pce goods...pcs.	434,260	7,247,590	200,370	3,567,280

	Increase. Quantity.	Increase. Value.	Decrease. Quantity.	Decrease. Value.
Silk ... ...pls.	17,023	$11,120,100	—	—
Waste Silk and Cocoons ... ...pls.	4,727	261,750	—	—
Tea ... ...lbs.	1,006,429	34,950	—	—
Tobacco ... ...pls.	12,012	230,150	—	—
Rice ... ...pls.	21,456	50,850	—	—
Fish Oil ... ...pls.	27,351	159,750	—	—
Copper ... ...pls.	13,241	432,949	—	—
Silk Handkerchiefs ... ...doz.	—	—	287,106	719,700
Silk Pce goods...pcs.	235,587	3,696,420	—	—
		Total $	$15,896,020	Total $	1,791,700

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Table showing Increase and Decrease in the principal articles of Import at the port of Yokohama in 1894, as compared with 1893.

Imports (*Re-exports deducted*).

	1894. Quantity.	1894. Customs Value.	1893. Quantity.	1893. Customs Value.
Raw Cotton ... ...pls.	246,849	$6,543,999	231,503	$6,017,262
Cotton Yarn, including Fine Yarns not quoted in the Chamber's Circular ...pls.	77,727	4,359,073	90,493	5,724,769
Grey Shirtings, all weights at 38½ yds, per piece ..pcs.	538,694	1,619,932	528,700	1,852,705
T. Cloths ... ...pcs.	60,899	125,552	92,000	202,896
Indigo Shirtings, Silesias, and Twills ... ...pcs.	98,400	195,965	109,200	253,840
Prints ... .pcs.	255,064	374,982	236,969	468,690
Cotton Italians and Sateens ... ..pcs.	75,838	380,030	53,850	225,055
Turkey Reds... ...pcs.	54,064	94,307	232,200	387,005
Velvets, all colours pcs.	29,605	283,085	40,333	366,232
Victoria Lawns ...pcs.	34,330	20,834	82,730	51,297
Silk-faced Satins ...pcs.	6,435	145,321	4,000	88,766
Flannel ... ...pcs.	20,820	353,811	60,520	622,098
Italian Cloth ... ...pcs.	228,800	2,064,064	135,650	960,937
Mousselines de Laine (at 24 yds per piece) ... ...pcs.	348,200	2,386,470	272,980	1,921,682
Cloth... ... ...pcs.	9,800	289,201	10,950	242,235
Blankets all kinds ..pairs	210,422	485,805	252,020	444,044
Iron, all denominations quoted...pls.	620,702	1,500,440	482,734	1,009,246
Iron Wire Nails ...pls.	149,826	798,866	209,490	464,080
Tin Plates ... ...bxs.	34,590	200,744	5,744	25,827
Kerosene ... ...cases	2,528,156	9,320,189	2,109,762	1,998,208
Sugar, Brown ...pls.	800,309	3,229,284	710,801	2,458,336
Sugar, White Refined ... ...pls.	495,108	3,692,995	498,555	3,672,258
Window Glass ...bxs.	32,792	90,134	59,885	160,140

	Increase. Quantity.	Increase. Value.	Decrease. Quantity.	Decrease. Value.
Raw Cotton ... ...pls.	25,346	$406,837	—	—
Cotton Yarns including Fine Yarns not quoted in the Chamber's Circular ... ...pls.	—	644,304	12,636	—
Grey Shirtings, all weights at 38½ yds per piece ...pcs.	19,994	367,193	—	—
T. Cloths ... ...pcs.	—	23,656	10,262	—
Indigo Shirtings, Silesias, and Twills ... ...pcs.	—	—	16,800	357,875
Prints ... ...pcs.	—	—	81,005	93,692
Cotton Italians and Sateens ... ...pcs.	22,588	164,075	—	—
Turkey Reds ...pcs.	—	—	97,136	92,726
Velvets, all colours pcs.	—	17,554	20,728	—
Victoria Lawns ...pcs.	—	—	47,400	24,498
Silk-faced Satins ...pcs.	2,384	76,985	—	—
Flannel ... ...pcs.	—	—	39,910	408,276
Italian Cloth ... ...pcs.	—	83,227	5,090	—
Mousselines de Laine (at 24 yds per piece) ... ...pcs.	70,220	365,389	—	—
Cloth ... ...pcs.	—	—	1,360	—
Blankets all kinds pairs	39,034	41,761	41,609	—
Iron, all denominations quoted...pls.	138,968	493,194	—	—
Iron Wire Nails ...pls.	42,336	314,780	—	—
Tin Plates ... ...bxs.	28,846	164,027	—	—
Kerosene ... ...cases	474,474	322,981	—	—
Sugar, Brown ...pls.	109,508	660,648	—	—
Sugar, White Refined ... ...pls.	—	321,770	3,447	—
Window Glass ...bxs.	—	—	27,092	63,006
Total...		$4,416,160	Total...	$759,067

Table showing Increase and Decrease in the principal articles of Export from Japan in 1894, as compared with 1893.

EXPORTS.

	1894. Quantity.	1894. Customs Value.	1893. Quantity.	1893. Customs Value.
Raw Silk ... ...pls.	54,842	$39,353,136	37,120	$28,267,421
Waste Silk and Cocoons ...pls.	42,998	3,538,082	30,932	3,420,280
Tea ... ...lbs.	30,657,000	7,930,254	48,592,407	7,902,688
Copper ... ...pls.	254,047	4,000,754	955,665	4,574,709
Antimony ... ...pls.	26,828	254,262	22,896	253,854
Camphor ... ...pls.	20,774	1,023,956	24,895	2,308,611
Rice ... ...plz	2,425,780	5,589,968	1,580,973	3,002,768
Fish-Oil ... ...pls.	1266,031	661,808	136,587	530,104
Vegetable Wax.pls.	44,022	561,135	31,320	382,766
Tobacco ... ...pls.	29,928	259,675	5,446	65,768
Silk Handkerchiefs ... ...doz.	1,435,674	3,628,190	1,723,075	3,899,648
Silk Piece Goods (Habutae and others) ... ...pcs.	568,160	8,309,494	255,290	4,074,083
Coal ... ...tons.	1,701,230	6,578,461	1,305,413	4,817,929

	Increase. Quantity.	Increase. Value.	Decrease. Quantity.	Decrease. Value.
Raw Silk ... ...pls.	17,719	$11,285,715	—	—
Waste Silk and Cocoons ... ...pls	2,097	117,902	—	—
Tea ... ...lbs.	1,466,573	228,566	—	—
Copper ... ...pls.	—	326,045	1,684	—
Antimony ... ...pls.	4,932	70,407	—	—
Camphor ... ...pls.	—	—	4,121	284,655
Rice ... ...plz	—	592,690	1631,093	—
Fish-Oil ... ...pls.	29,444	125,504	—	—
Vegetable Wax.pls.	12,690	178,369	—	—
Tobacco ... ...pls.	24,482	193,907	—	—
Silk Handkerchiefs ... ...doz.	—	—	287,401	271,517
Silk Piece Goods (Habutae and others) ... ...pcs.	312,962	4,324,591	—	—
Coal ... ...tons.	195,717	1,760,548	—	—
	Total $19,123,734		Total	$ 556,172

Table showing Increase and Decrease in the principal articles of Import into Japan in 1894, as compared with 1893.

Imports (*Re-exports deducted*).

	1894. Quantity.	1894. Customs Value.	1893. Quantity.	1893. Customs Value.
Raw Cotton ... ...pls.	2,198,977	$29,605,040	2,158,328	$26,151,370
Cotton Yarn, including Fine Yarns not quoted in the Chamber's Circular ...pls.	159,093	5,964,263	214,052	7,284,243
Grey Shirtings, all weights at 38½ yds. per piece ... ...pcs.	1,073,013	2,928,286	1,012,930	2,326,224
T. Cloths... ... ...pcs.	107,776	209,295	241,934	208,673
Indigo Shirtings, Silesias and Twills...pcs.	148,650	293,150	179,210	324,364
Prints ... ...pcs.	214,414	320,350	323,880	635,903
Cotton Italians and Sateens... ... ...pcs.	254,835	1,240,340	208,230	855,368
Turkey Reds... ...pcs.	60,520	170,782	250,240	362,587
Velvets ... ...pcs.	21,788	300,132	72,418	489,663
Victoria Lawns ...pcs.	102,965	83,426	283,320	214,662
Silk-faced Satins ...pcs.	12,465	235,278	6,930	121,087
Flannel all kinds...pcs.	28,512	205,698	122,610	2,389,724
Italian Cloth ... ...pcs.	214,414	1,747,810	206,930	1,489,305
Mousselines de Laine (at 24 yards per piece).pcs.	793,335	3,310,362	642,670	2,305,506
Cloth ... ...pcs.	28,680	290,615	14,200	328,790
Blankets ... ...pairs	245,613	562,098	451,250	811,023
Iron, all denominations quoted ...pls.	1,346,394	3,088,286	929,740	1,964,901
Iron Wire Nails ...pls.	251,452	1,312,134	202,300	887,790
Tin Plates ... ...bxs.	53,544	296,268	8,422	38,833
Kerosene ... ...cas.	5,488,735	5,008,597	4,604,599	4,272,634
Sugar, Brown ...pls.	2,137,848	4,550,403	989,692	3,514,790
Sugar, White Refined ... ...pls.	2,089,040	8,653,333	1,091,928	7,037,305
Window Glass ...bxs.	77,916	249,286	230,264	359,315

	Increase. Quantity.	Increase. Value.	Decrease. Quantity.	Decrease. Value.
Raw Cotton ... ...pls.	40,659	$ 3,453,470	—	—
Cotton Yarn, including Fine Yarns not quoted in the Chamber's Circular ...pls.	—	679,930	34,959	—
Grey Shirtings, all weights at 38½ yds. per piece ... ...pcs.	58,985	603,362	—	—
T. Cloths ... ...pcs.	—	580	34,158	—
Indigo Shirtings, Silesias and Twills...pcs.	—	—	33,460	$ 32,812
Prints ... ...pcs.	—	—	109,466	115,583
Cotton Italians and Sateens ... ...pcs.	46,605	385,342	—	—
Turkey Reds... ...pcs.	—	—	183,724	189,806
Velvets ... ...pcs.	7,270	210,486	—	—
Victoria Lawns ...pcs.	—	—	78,355	31,246
Silk-faced Satins ...pcs.	4,535	123,592	—	—
Flannel all kinds...pcs.	—	—	93,428	1,984,096
Italian Cloth ... ...pcs.	7,504	298,323	—	—
Mousselines de Laine (at 24 yards per piece), pcs.	250,665	844,856	—	—
Cloth... ... ...pcs.	—	—	1,580	59,144
Blankets ... ...pairs	—	—	205,497	249,985
Iron, all denominations quoted ...pls.	426,654	1,123,384	—	—
Iron Wire Nails ...pls.	50,251	474,344	—	—
Tin Plates ... ...bxs.	44,722	257,332	—	—
Kerosene ... ...cas.	884,056	729,873	—	—
Sugar, Brown... ...pls.	178,176	1,035,703	—	—
Sugar, White Refined ... ...pls.	—	726,028	2,388	—
Window Glass ...bxs.	—	—	52,346	116,309
Total ...		$10,846,330	Total...	$1,892,851

Table showing Value of Exports from the port of Yokohama during the Years 1894 and 1893.

	1894.	1893.
Books and Paper.	$ 248,580	$ 266,965
Drugs, Medicines, Dyes and Paints.	805,812	441,192
Grain, Beverages, and Provisions.	1,818,258	2,143,002
Metals :—		
Copper ...$2,549,120	$7,117,312	
Others 326,822	2,875,942 42	2,117,354
Oil and Wax :—		
Fish Oil 617,114	437,596	
Others 11,431	628,545 9,085	466,681
Silk, Waste, etc. :—		
Raw 39,367,487	28,147,411	
Waste and Cocoons ... 3,287,961	3,019,045	
Silk Worm Eggs 1,515	42,556,963 4,245	31,270,701
Skins, Hair, Shells, Horns, etc.	123,613	111,707
Tea	4,943,508	4,820,707
Textile Fabrics and Clothing :—		
Silk Handkerchiefs 3,582,007	3,861,673	
Silk Piece Goods (Habutae and others).. 8,257,874	4,017,211	
Sundries ... 2,300,239	1,280,939	
	$14,140,120	9,159,823
Tobacco	225,841	55,050
Sundries (Porcelain, Curios, etc.)	4,649,596	4,426,404
Total	$73,015,678	$55,209,586

Table showing Value of Imports into the port of Yokohama during the Years 1894 and 1893.

	1894.	1893.
Arms, Clocks, Watches, Machinery, Instruments Vessels, etc.	$ 9,577,547	$ 2,390,571
Beverages and Provisions...	1,354,518	688,517
Books and Stationery	514,066	469,859
Clothing and Apparel	954,581	398,424
Drugs, Medicines, and Chemicals.	1,533,626	1,475,452
Dyes and Paint.	1,203,107	1,097,249
Glass and Glass Ware.	137,515	205,498
Grain and Seeds.	1,717,311	874,884
Hair, Horn, Ivory, Skins, etc.	897,733	571,984
Metals and Metal Manufactures.	5,080,411	3,652,404
Oil and Wax :—		
Kerosene ...$2,311,079	$1,998,288	
Others 174,625	2,485,704 108,710	2,106,998
Sugar	7,161,070	6,197,792
Raw Cotton ...	2,545,037	2,047,162
Raw Wool	483,470	296,838
Raw Silk Cocoons and Floss-silk.	100,269	43,641
Textile Fabrics :—		
1 Cotton..... 8,070,451	6,746,084	
2 Woollen ... 4,464,422	4,441,235	
3 Silk 183,313	112,471	
4 Hemp 388,875	235,804	
5 Sundries, mixed... 328,786	342,297	
	$13,433,848	11,878,891
Tobacco, Cigars, etc.	338,059	375,050
Wines and Liquors	405,062	340,916
Sundries.....	1,224,438	1,196,699
Total	$50,447,371	$36,305,069

Table showing the Value of Exports from Japan during the years 1894 and 1893.

	1894.	1893.
Books and paper	$ 364,067	$ 382,267
Drugs, Medicine, Dyes and Paints :—		
Camphor $1,023,956	$1,308,611	
Others ... 1,437,676	2,461,632 1,037,867	2,346,478
Grain, Beverages, and Provisions :—		
Rice $5,505,198	$5,001,768	
Others ... 5,217,299	10,813,197 5,584,112	10,586,890
Metal :—		
Copper ...$4,900,754	$4,574,709	
Others ... 1,129,618	6,030,372 437,293	5,012,002
Oil and Wax :—		
Fish Oil... 665,808	530,104	
Vegetable Wax ...$ 562,135	$ 383,766	
Others ... 51,248	1,279,191 136,523	1,050,593
Silk, Waste, etc. :—		
Raw $30,333,156	$28,167,411	
Waste and Cocoons 3,538,080	3,420,180	
Silk Worm Eggs... 1,515	42,892,751 4,245	31,591,936
Skins, Hair, Shells, Horns, etc.	315,252	333,603
Tea	7,930,287	7,708,088
Textile Fabrics and Clothing :—		
Silk Handkerchiefs.. $3,628,128	$3,899,646	
Silk Piece Goods ... 8,399,494	4,074,903	
Others... 5,707,866	17,735,488 2,613,948	10,588,587
Tobacco ...	259,675	65,768
Coal	6,578,461	4,817,912
Porcelain, Curios, and Sundries..	1,658,715	15,354,841
Total	$113,246,086	$80,712,865

Table showing the Value of Imports into Japan during the Years 1894 and 1893.

	1894.	1893.
Arms, Clocks, Watches, Machinery, Instruments, Vessels, etc.	$15,908,608	$ 6,035,994
Beverages and Provisions...	1,588,687	995,214
Books and Stationery	889,198	735,059
Clothing and Apparel....	328,049	710,914
Drugs, Medicine and Chemicals.	3,545,261	3,309,451
Dyes and Paints.	1,934,025	1,817,949
Glass and Glass Ware.	363,050	467,524
Grains and Seed.	11,695,040	7,015,959
Hair, Horn, Ivory, Skins, etc....	1,802,607	1,426,896
Metal and Metal Manufactures.	10,855,755	6,791,034
Oil and Wax :—		
Kerosene ...$ 5,003,157	$4,401,041	
Others 350,547	327,530	
	5,353,004	4,728,691
Sugar	13,186,934	11,561,419
Raw Cotton..	19,605,040	16,151,570
Raw Wool ...	567,197	485,120
Raw Silk, Cocoons & Floss-Silk.	132,426	61,491
Textile Fabrics :—		
1 Cotton ... 14,927,931	13,079,258	
2 Woollen.. 7,374,633	7,879,120	
3 Silk 352,886	240,429	
4 Hemp .. 806,448	558,435	
5 Sundries, mixed ... 551,498	556,349	
	24,013,398	22,315,791
Tobacco, Cigars, etc.	365,173	473,039
Wines and Liquors	497,220	461,091
Sundries	4,452,165	2,368,376
Total.....	$117,481,955	$88,257,172

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Table showing the value of Silk Handkerchiefs and Silk Piece-goods (Habutae and others) exported during the years 1887 to 1894.

	Silk Handkerchief.		Silk Piece-goods.	
	All Japan.	Yokohama.	All Japan.	Yokohama.
1887...	$1,146,280	$1,127,005	$ 135,224	$ 52,305
1888...	1,233,927	1,214,942	258,033	186,705
1889...	2,104,459	2,061,450	623,456	557,385
1890...	2,516,946	2,482,219	1,167,868	1,040,780
1891...	2,811,820	2,788,995	1,763,716	1,646,270
1892...	3,494,417	3,460,168	4,434,078	4,309,965
1893...	3,899,646	3,861,673	4,074,993	4,017,211
1894...	3,628,128	3,582,007	8,399,494	8,257,874

Import of Alcohol during the years 1894 and 1893.

	1894. Lbs.	$	1893. Lbs.	$
All Japan.....	2,591,164	174,186	6,271,112	379,476
Of which to				
Yokohama...	1,838,660	122,645	4,957,802	308,047

Table showing the Import of Kerosene both from America and Russia during the years 1894 and 1893.

Yokohama.	Cases. 1894.	Cases. 1893.
From America	1,468,406	988,497
From Russia	1,049,830	1,115,265
Total	2,518,236	2,103,762
All Japan.		
From America	3,595,404	2,723,867
From Russia	1,968,968	2,252,472
Total	5,564,372	4,976,339
Less Re-export, origin not designated	75,617	71,640
Net total	5,488,755	4,904,699

Import of Raw Cotton into Japan during the five years 1890 to 1894.

	1890. Quantity. Piculs.	Value. Yen.	1891. Quantity. Piculs.	Value. Yen.
India	75,063	1,114,580	265,641	3,382,061
China	398,710	3,764,559	459,960	3,697,042
America	17,941	354,576	53,044	1,011,518
Korea	7,310	29,087	4,718	18,297
Other Countries.	22,394	102,351	17,478	90,333
Total	521,418	5,365,153	800,841	8,199,251
	1892.		1893.	
India	362,257	4,692,245	365,924	6,052,048
China	661,826	6,063,918	713,364	8,622,335
America	91,853	1,435,862	61,603	1,273,421
Korea	915	4,333	1,101	5,199
Other Countries.	16,631	128,296	16,326	198,567
Total	1,133,482	12,324,654	1,158,318	16,151,570
	1894.			
India			446,203	8,144,264
China			621,400	8,561,935
America			120,568	2,680,671
Korea			144	685
Other Countries			10,662	217,485
Total			1,198,977	19,605,040

Table of total value of Exports to various countries during the years 1894 and 1893.

	Yokohama. 1894.	1893.	All Japan. 1894.	1893.
To United States	$36,002,807	$21,301,095	$43,123,557	$27,739,458
To France	18,716,721	18,582,623	20,498,776	19,631,975
To Hongkong ...	4,007,288	3,883,575	26,199,481	25,683,875
To China	3,413,132	1,879,886	8,813,987	7,714,420
To Great Britain	3,808,883	3,957,187	5,050,196	4,995,974
To India	1,565,925	1,086,705	3,688,130	2,471,079
To Canada	1,438,150	1,282,554	2,211,687	1,780,159
To Italy	2,840,087	2,554,784	2,900,390	1,631,998
To Germany ...	1,075,251	752,690	1,517,549	1,380,040
To Korea	37,480	10,903	2,365,118	1,301,243
To Australia ...	96,728	77,262	1,098,066	890,637
To Russia	212,095	47,058	1,020,349	621,858
To Austria	284,943	292,256	465,287	322,120
To Switzerland...	708,635	207,142	703,022	227,141
To Hawaii	200,274	14,360	323,908	206,284
To Other countries	896,608	1,182,609	3,276,659	3,349,214
Total ...	$73,015,676	$55,309,586	$123,246,286	$89,712,865

Table of total value of Imports from various countries during the years 1894 and 1893.

	Yokohama. 1894.	1893.	All Japan. 1894.	1893.
From Great Britain	$22,990,475	$14,264,866	$ 42,289,874	$27,929,628
From China ...	4,681,533	3,882,555	17,511,507	17,095,975
From India ...	2,415,718	2,152,026	10,560,448	8,679,029
From Hongkong.	4,020,799	3,820,389	8,999,728	8,868,072
From Germany...	4,535,295	3,973,840	7,999,542	7,328,134
From United States	4,864,986	2,561,238	10,982,558	6,090,408
From France ...	2,282,332	1,895,089	4,348,058	3,305,377
From Korea ...	1,089	6,069	2,183,313	1,999,439
From Russia ...	631,390	1,056,856	1,273,774	1,871,333
From Belgium ...	786,991	721,950	1,201,121	935,001
From Switzerland	528,950	613,898	629,208	669,301
From Philippine Islands	982,327	504,738	1,608,819	567,733
From Australia...	355,769	212,142	534,763	319,034
From Other countries... ...	427,112	939,617	736,256	3,209,629
From Annam, Tonkin, etc. ...	1,042,449	†—	6,204,147	†—
From Siam ...	20,673	†—	618,859	†—
Total ...	$50,447,372	$36,305,069	$127,481,955	$88,457,272

† Not enumerated.

Table showing total value of the Trade of Japan with various Countries during 1894 and 1893.

	Yokohama. 1894.	1893.	All Japan. 1894.	1893.
With United States	$40,867,883	$23,015,333	$54,306,116	$33,829,866
With Great Britain	26,553,358	17,222,493	46,140,072	32,925,602
With China	6,096,156	5,762,401	26,325,494	24,810,395
With Hongkong..	8,018,087	7,693,958	25,199,199	23,956,946
With France	20,960,953	20,388,312	23,849,824	22,837,252
With British India	3,981,637	3,241,731	14,248,607	11,150,108
With Germany...	5,610,546	4,725,530	9,427,091	8,698,174
With Annam, Tonkin, etc. ...	1,062,045	* —	6,228,670	n.c.* —
With Korea	38,571	17,872	4,548,425	3,300,682
With Italy	2,847,900	1,619,972	3,070,729	1,718,485
With Canada ...	1,473,899	1,194,469	2,257,681	1,737,188
With Russia	743,485	1,103,914	2,394,293	2,459,951
With Philippine Islands.....	2,023,665	525,742	1,919,406	687,550
With Australia...	452,487	269,304	1,632,289	1,209,671
With Switzerland	1,231,585	841,039	1,332,289	856,442
With Belgium ...	798,739	736,112	1,220,600	1,161,285
With Siam	20,973	5,426	622,813	60,793
With Austria.....	303,451	308,059	485,006	346,329
With Hawaii ...	205,190	169,328	320,056	201,213
With Holland ...	41,854	59,607	167,045	173,302
With Other Countries	1,039,686	1,731,964	3,236,626	5,775,802
Total.....	$123,463,050	$91,514,655	$230,728,041	$177,970,037

* Not enumerated.

Table showing the total value of Specie and Bullion Exported from and Imported into Japan during the years 1894 and 1893.

	Export. 1894.	1893.	Import. 1894.	1893.
British India—	$25,697,535	$ 3,755,717	$ 400,000	$ 3,500
China—	3,780,120	4,611,915	1,273,617	346,587
Great Britain—	3,146,790	1,613,234	14,688,479	6,486,310
Hongkong—	1,061,387	2,116,457	488,431	1,110,823
Korea—	531,214	85,280	682,429	561,761
Germany—	106,122	...	...	...
United States—	...	58,616	9,113,755	2,667,310
Other countries—	55,943	47,969	136,942	10,196
	$34,379,111	$12,289,188	$26,783,653	$11,186,487
Yokohama—	$13,228,450	$ 6,445,554	$ 1,678,972	$ 909,989
Kobe and Osaka—	20,800,440	5,725,425	24,847,397	10,160,870
Nagasaki and other Ports—	350,221	118,209	257,284	115,628
	$34,379,111	$12,289,188	$26,783,653	$11,186,487

Table showing the fluctuations in the rates for Sterling Bills on London during the years 1892 to 1894.

Bank Sight.

	1894. Highest.	1894. Lowest.	1893. Highest.	1893. Lowest.	1892. Highest.	1892. Lowest.
January	2/3 3/8	2/2 5/8	2/8 7/8	2/8 1/8	3/1 1/8	2/11 3/8
February	2/2 5/8	2/0 1/8	2/8 1/8	2/8 3/4	2/11 5/8	2/11 1/8
March	2/0 1/8	1/11 1/4	2/8 1/8	2/8 1/8	2/11 1/8	2/9 3/8
April	2/1 1/8	2/0 1/8	2/8 1/8	2/8 1/8	2/10 3/8	2/9 5/8
May.....	2/1 5/8	2/0 5/8	2/9	2/8 1/8	2/11	2/10
June	2/1 1/8	2/0 3/4	2/8 3/4	2/6 3/4	2/11 1/8	2/10 3/8
July	2/1 1/8	2/0 7/8	2/6 3/8	2/4	2/10 3/4	2/10 1/4
August	2/2 1/8	2/1	2/5 3/8	2/5 1/8	2/10 3/8	2/9 7/8
September	2/2 3/8	2/2	2/5 3/8	2/5	2/10 3/8	2/10 1/8
October	2/2	2/1 1/8	2/5 3/8	2/4 3/8	2/11 1/8	2/10 1/8
November	2/1 3/8	1/11 1/8	2/4 3/8	2/3 3/8	2/10 3/8	2/9 1/8
December	2/0 5/8	1/11 3/8	2/4 3/8	2/3 3/8	2/9 1/8	2/8 3/8

Credit 4 m/s.

	1894.		1893.		1892.	
January	2/4 1/8	2/3 1/8	2/9 3/8	2/9 3/8	3/1 1/8	3/0 3/8
February	2/3 3/8	2/0 7/8	2/9 3/8	2/9 3/8	3/0 3/8	3/0
March	2/1	2/0 3/8	2/9 1/8	2/8 1/8	3/0 1/8	2/10 1/8
April	2/2 1/8	2/1	2/9 1/8	2/9	2/11 1/8	2/10 3/8
May.....	2/2 1/8	2/1 1/8	2/9 1/8	2/8 1/8	2/11 1/8	2/10 1/8
June.....	2/1 1/8	2/1 3/8	2/9 1/8	2/7 3/8	3/0 1/8	2/11 1/8
July	2/1 1/8	2/1 1/8	2/7 1/8	2/5 1/8	2/11 1/8	2/10 1/8
August	2/3 1/8	2/1 3/8	2/6 1/8	2/6 1/8	2/11 1/8	2/10 1/8
September	2/3 1/8	2/2 1/8	2/6 1/8	2/5 1/8	2/11 1/8	2/10 1/8
October	2/2 1/8	2/1 1/8	2/6	2/4 1/8	3/0	2/10 1/8
November	2/2	2/0 3/8	2/5 3/8	2/4 1/8	2/11 1/8	2/9 1/8
December	2/0 1/8	2/0	2/5	2/3 3/8	2/10 1/8	2/9 1/8

Mr. Gresham, United States Secretary of State, has sent a communication to the Senate announcing that France, Germany, Holland, Portugal, Sweden, Spain, and Russia have promised to promulgate regulations to prevent collisions at sea. Japan has already promulgated regulations. The Governments of Great Britain, Austria, and Italy have expressed a desire for a postponement. Great Britain at first agreed to a plan for an international understanding; but in October last Lord Kimberley concluded that as all maritime Powers had not signified their acceptance, it had been found impossible to put it into effect on the 1st of March.

CHESS.

(All Communications to be addressed to the Chess Editor.)

The Yokohama Chess Club meets at the Club Hotel, No. 5, Bund, on Monday and Thursday in each week from 5 to 11 p.m.

The Tokyo Chess Club meets at the Tokyo Hotel every Friday from 1 to 7 p.m.

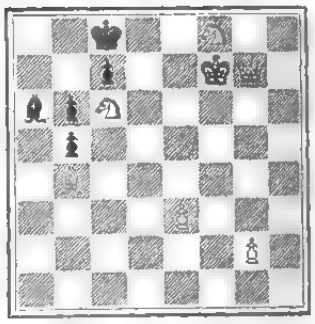
Solution of Problem No. 169.

White.	Black.
1—Q to K sq.	1—K × B
2—B to B 4 dis, ch.	2—Any
3—Mates accordingly, &c., &c.	

Correct solutions received from Digamma, Shogi, Omega and W.H.S.

Additional correct solution of No. 168 received from H. Renault.

Problem No. 171.
By P. Klett.



White to play and mate in three moves.

We take the following excerpts from some recent copies of the excellent column in the *Times, Weekly Edition*.

Game No. 237.

Curious play in the match, Mieses v. Janowski in Paris. Second game of the series.

Alapin's Opening.

White. Mieses.	Black. Janowski.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—Kt to K 2	2—B to B 4
3—P to Q 4	3—P takes P
4—Kt takes P	4—Kt to K B 3
5—Q Kt to B 3	5—Castles
6—B to K 3	6—R to K sq.
7—B to Q B 4	7—B to Kt 5
8—P to B 3	8—P to Q 4
9—B to Q 3	9—P to B 4
10—Castles	10—P takes Kt
11—B takes P	11—P takes P
12—B takes Kt	12—Q takes Q B
13—P takes P	13—Q to R 3
14—P to K 5	14—Kt to B 3
15—Kt to Q 5	15—B to B 4 ch.
16—K to R sq.	16—R takes P
17—Kt to B 7	17—R to Kt sq.
18—B to B 4	18—B in B 4
19—Q to B 3	19—B to Q 3
20—Q R to K sq.	20—R takes R
21—R takes R	21—Q mates.

Leonardo da Cutri and Ruy Lopez.

There is doubtless a good deal of romance connected with the early history of Chess in Europe, but there are certain matters upon which the old writers are pretty generally agreed. One of these concerns the two celebrities named above. Mr. J. A. Leon repeats the story told by Professor Tomlinson, George Walker, and others, 50 years ago, but first recorded by Alessandro Salvio about 1634. Leonardo, a young law student, a native of Cutri, in Calabria, appeared at Rome during the Pontificate of Gregory XIII. (1572-1585). He evidently took a much more real interest in chess than in his serious studies, and attained to great proficiency. Being very young, he was known as *Il Puttino*—the boy.

About the same period Ruy Lopez, an ecclesiastic, then considered the foremost European player of the time, visited Rome to solicit of the Pope a benefice which had become vacant at the Court of Philip II. of Spain. Ruy Lopez heard of Leonardo, sought him out, and conquered him two following days. This caused Leonardo much vexation, and he retired to Naples, devoting himself for two years to closer study and practice. There is a story at this period, which may or may not be

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true, that Leonardo heard of his brother's capture by corsairs and rescued him from the condition of galley slave. Leonardo noticed a chess board on the pirate vessel, and showing his interest, and finding the captain was a chess enthusiast, they played together, with the result that Leonardo won sufficient to rescue his brother and 200 crowns besides. Leonardo returned to Naples, where he met the celebrated player Paolo Boi, and having visited Genoa, Marseilles, and Barcelona, proceeded to Madrid, and had the satisfaction of beating Ruy Lopez in presence of the chess-loving king, Philip II. Here all accounts agree. Leonardo received 1,000 scudi, besides jewels, &c., and continued a conqueror, beating Paolo Boi, of Syracuse, in a set match.

It is said that on revisiting Calabria at a subsequent period Leonardo was poisoned by some envious person in the palace of Prince Bisignano at the age of 45.

Game No. 238.

A well-played game in the tournament of the Melbourne C.C.

WHITE. Loughran.	BLACK. Hodgson.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—Kt to K B 3	2—P to Q 3
3—P to Q 4	3—P to K B 4
4—P takes K P	4—B P takes P
5—Kt to Kt 5	5—P to Q 4
6—P to K 6	6—B to B 4
7—Kt takes K P	7—B to K 2
8—Kt to Kt 3	8—B takes P
9—B to Q 3	9—Kt to K ■ 3
10—Kt to B 5	10—Castles
11—Kt takes ■ ch.	11—Q takes Kt
12—Castles	12—Kt to Kt 5
13—Q to K 2	13—Q to Q 3
14—P to K B 4	14—Kt to Q B 3
15—P to B 3	15—Q R to K sq.
16—Q to Q B 2	16—P to K R 3
17—P to K R 3	17—Q to B 4 ch.
18—K to R sq.	18—Kt to B 3
19—P to Q Kt 4	19—Q to Kt 3
20—P to Q R 4	20—P to R 3
21—P to R 5	21—Q to R 2
22—B to R 3	22—Kt to R 4
23—K to R 2	23—R takes P
24—R takes R	24—Kt takes R
25—Kt to Q 2	25—B takes R P
26—R to K B sq.	26—Q to K 6
27—R to B 3	27—Q to K 4
28—R takes Kt	28—Q takes R ch.
29—K takes B	29—R to K 6 ch.
30—Kt to B 3	30—P to K Kt 4
31—B to R 7 ch.	31—K to Kt sq. and wins.

Game No. 239.

Fourth game of a match. Score:—Vazquez, 3; Ettlinger, 2; drawn, 1.

FRENCH DEFENCE.

WHITE. Ettlinger.	BLACK. Vasquez.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 3
2—P to Q 4	2—P to Q 4
3—Kt to Q B 3	3—Kt to K ■ 3
4—B to Kt 5	4—B to K 2
5—B takes Kt	5—B takes B
6—P to K 5	6—B to K 2
7—Q to Kt 4	7—Castles (a)
8—P to K B 4	8—P to Q B 4 (b)
9—P takes P	9—P to B 4
10—Q to R 5	10—P to Q 5 (c)
11—Castles Q ■	11—B takes P
12—Kt to B 3	12—P to K R 3
13—B to B 4 (d)	13—Kt to Q B 3
14—P to Q R 3	14—P to Q R 3
15—P to K R 4	15—P to Q Kt 4
16—B to R 2	16—R to K 2 (e)
17—P to ■ Kt 4	17—P takes ■
18—Q takes Kt P	18—Q to K 2
19—Kt to Q Kt sq. (f)	19—Q to K B 2
20—Q Kt to Q 2	20—B to Kt 3
21—Q R to B sq.	21—Kt to K 2
22—Kt to Kt 5	22—P takes Kt
23—B P takes P	23—Kt to B 4
24—P to Kt 6	24—Q to Q Kt 2
25—Kt to K 4	25—P to Q 6
26—P to B 3 (g)	26—B to K 6 ch.
27—K to Kt sq.	27—K to R sq.
28—Kt to Kt 5 (h)	28—B to B 4
29—P to Kt 4	29—B to K 2
30—K R to Kt sq.	30—Kt to R 3
31—R takes R ch.	31—B takes R
32—R to ■ B sq.	32—Q to K 2
33—Q to B 3	33—Kt to B 4
34—Q to R 5 ch.	34—Kt to R 3
35—Kt to R 7	35—P to Q 7
36—B to Kt 3	36—B to Kt 2
37—R takes B ch.	37—Q takes R
38—Kt takes Q	38—B to K 5 ch.
39—B to B 2	39—B to Q 4
40—Q to K 2	40—K to Kt sq.
41—Q takes Q P	41—Resigns (i)

a. So far the moves are pretty fully in accord with modern principles and the theories of experts, and this move is now generally approved, White having no Q B with which ■ attack the King's position.

b. A move of vital import in all French Defence games. White is almost compelled to capture, and his centre is thus at once disturbed.

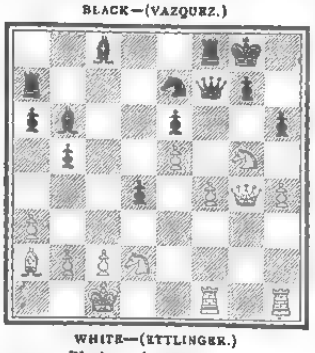
c. As White had a good reply, this is scarcely to be commended, the pawn being separated from its supports.

d. Another consequence of Black's pawn advance is this strong move.

e. Q to K sq. seems necessary about this period, forcing the exchange. The text move caused much difficulty later, and White has now time to carry on his attack by opening the K Kt file.

f. It was necessary to prevent B x R P. Otherwise Kt to K 4 was more attacking.

BLACK—(VAZQUEZ.)



WHITE—(ETTLINGER.)

Black to play at move 22.

g. We fail to see any objection to R x Kt now, the K P being pinned by the B. Previously it was not feasible on account of the reply Q x ■ ch.

h. And here Kt to Q 6 or Kt to B 6 might be played. The text move threatens to win immediately by Q to R 5 ch., Kt interposes; K x R, mate. The position is highly interesting and suggestive.

i. If K x Kt, White wins the R by Q to B 2 ch. A game of rare interest.

Game No. 240.

A very finely played consultation game from Russia, two amateurs consulting against Messrs. Jewlifejew and Schiarski:—

SCOTCH GAME.

WHITE.	BLACK.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—Kt to K B 3	2—Kt to Q B 3
3—P to Q 4	3—P takes P
4—Kt takes P	4—Kt to B 3
5—Kt takes Kt	5—Kt ■ takes Kt
6—B to Q 3	6—P to Q 4
7—P to K 5	7—Kt to Kt 5
8—Castles	8—B to Q B 4
9—B to K B 4	9—P to K Kt 4 (a)
10—B to Kt 3	10—P to K R 4
11—P to K R 3	11—P to R 5
12—B to R 2	12—Kt takes K B P
13—R takes Kt	13—P to K Kt 5
14—P takes P	14—Q to Kt 4
15—K to B sq.	15—P to R 6
16—R to K B 5	16—P takes P ch.
17—K takes P	17—Q to R 5
18—B to Kt 3	18—Q to R 6 ch.
19—K to B 3	19—R to K Kt sq.
20—K to B 4	20—R to Q Kt sq.
21—P to Q R 3	21—R takes Q Kt P
22—Kt to B 3	22—B to Q Kt 5
23—P takes ■ (b)	23—R takes Q Kt P ch.
24—K to K 3	24—Q R takes K Kt P
25—K to Q 2	25—Q to R 3 ch.
26—K to K sq.	26—B takes R
27—Kt to K 2	27—R takes ■
28—Kt takes R	28—R takes Kt
29—B to B sq.	29—R to K 6 ch.

The Black allies win. (c).

a. A variation quoted from the Handbuch by Mr. Séguin *(Times Democrat)* runs as follows:—9—Castles; 10.—P to ■ R 3, Kt x K B P; 11.—R x Kt, B x R ch.; 12,—K x R, Q to R 5 ch.; 13,—B to Kt 3, Q to Q 5 ch; 14—K to B sq, Q x Q Kt P; 15,—Kt to Q 2, P to K B 3; 16, P x P, Q x K B P ch, and then 17—B to K B 4, and Black has a superior game.

b. Kt to Q R 4 is very tempting at this point, but the reply is B to Q 7 ch, followed by Q x P ch, &c.

c. *Novo Vremya* remarks that Mr. Jewlifejew, who was mainly responsible for the many well-calculated brilliances of this game, is a young student at St. Petersburg University. His play here justifies the brightest anticipations (Séguin).

Young Players.

From a strictly scientific point of view the intercollegiate match won by Harvard was of no great importance; but the winning college was represented by two young men of whom nothing had previously been heard. The prominence of mere youths in several recent chess events is a feature of high interest and importance. Once get the rising generation interested in chess and we are convinced nations will be benefited and elevated. Rowdyism and chess can never go together. We may note in this connexion the success of Mr. Hymes, a very young player, who recently won the Championship Tournament of the Brooklyn C. C. To come out first in such a contest means a good deal more than appears at first sight. Our English clubs are constantly telling the same tale, which seems to speak most hopefully as to the future of the game. We all honour the veterans, but if the truth must be told, some are played out, and we long for something breezy and fresh.

There was a delightful freedom from constraint and the beaten tracks in some of the play at Harvard. It is refreshing to go over these games. The irregularities in the openings would positively shock some wiseacres full of book knowledge. And yet, who can say the play is dull or wanting in point and effect?

Game No. 241.

Played in the Students' Match, N.Y.

WHITE. Ballou.	BLACK. Ross.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 3
2—P to Q 4	2—P to Q 4
3—Kt to Q B 3	3—Kt to K B 3
4—B to K Kt 5	4—B to K 2
5—P to K 5	5—K Kt to Q 2
6—B takes ■	6—Q takes B
7—B to Q 3	7—P to Q R 3
8—Q to Kt 4	8—P to K B 4
9—Q to R 3	9—P to B 4
10—B takes B P	10—P takes B
11—Kt takes P	11—Q to Q sq.
12—Q takes B P	12—Kt to Kt 3
13—P to K 6	13—Q takes Kt
14—Q to B 7 ch.	14—K to Q sq.
15—P to K 7 ch.	15—K to Q B 2
16—P Queens ch.	16—B to Q 2
17—Q takes Q	17—R takes Q ch.
18—Q to K 5 ch.	18—R takes Q ch.
19—P takes ■	19—Kt to B 5
20—P to K B 4	20—Kt to K 6
21—K to B 2	21—Kt takes B P
22—R to Q B sq.	22—B to K B 4
23—Kt to K 2	23—Kt to Q B 3
24—Kt to Kt 3	24—B to Q 6
25—K R to Q sq.	25—P to Q B 5
26—R to Q 2	26—Kt (B 7) to Q 5
27—Kt to R 5	27—R to K B sq.
28—P to ■ Kt 3	28—Kt takes P
29—Kt takes P	29—Kt to Kt 5 ch.
30—K to Kt 2	30—K to Kt sq.
31—R to K sq.	31—R to K B 2
32—Kt to K 8	32—Kt to Q B 7
33—R to Q B sq.	33—R to K 2
34—Kt to Q 6	34—R to K 3
35—Kt to B 7	35—Kt to K 8 ch.
36—K to R 3	36—B to B 4
37—R to Q 8 ch.	37—K to R 2
38—R to Q 5	38—Kt to B 7 ch.
39—K to R 4	39—Kt to B 6 ch.
40—K to R 5	40—B to Kt 5 mate

Note.—White, one of Harvard's representatives, got a great advantage early in the game. Then at move 17, with two Queens to his credit, he made a curious oversight, and lost both. Black, Mr. R. L. Ross, of Yale, now took over the attack, and won in a splendidly played ending game which at one time seemed hopeless.

The final scores in the New York inter-collegiate match were as follows:—

		Won.	Lost.	Total.
Columbia	J. Binion	1½	4½	
	A. M. Price	1½	4½	... 3
Harvard	M. Ballou	4½	1½	
	Van Kleeck	4½	1½	... ■
Yale	A. Bunstead	2	4	
	R. L. Ross	4	2	... 6
Princeton	W. V. Beldon	2½	3½	
	E. B. Seymour	3½	2½	... 6

Early Enthusiasts.

Other some saye that there were two brethren, the one named Lidie and the other Tirrhene, who, being afflicted with great hunger and famine, did invent this playe to the end that in playing it they might employ their spirits so vehemently that they might the more easily pass the famineall affliction, and, indeede, they passed the time so well that they made but three meales in two days.—Damiano (Rowbotham's Translation).

It is worth noting that the Bank of England has fewer notes in circulation than it had fifteen years ago, and the total active note circulation of England is hardly greater than when the Act of 1884 was passed. Banknotes are much less used in business than formerly other means of exchange having taken their place.

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LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[REUTER "SPECIAL" TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

London, March 27.

The Emperor William has visited Friederickaruhe, where he ordered a review of all arms and thanked Prince Bismarck for his services to Germany in front of the troops.

["SPECIAL" TELEGRAM TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

Hiroshima, March 28, 5 p.m.

Surgeon-General Ishiguro reports:— The Viceroy's wound is one centimetre below the middle edge of the left ophthalmic cavity. It is of an oval shape and about eight millimetres long: the sidewise edges are irregular and the œdema reaches the eyelid. There is a swelling close to the eye. The bullet entered the haimours cavity through the anterior wall of the left superior maxillate bone. The extraction of the bullet by opening the cheek is objected to by Li and his attendants. According to reports up till to-day the wound is progressing favourably, the antiseptic treatment being fully effectual. There is no discharge and the temperature and pulse are normal. The nurses sent by the Empress are helping in the bandaging. No apprehension need now be felt.

(FROM THE "N.-C. DAILY NEWS.")

London, March 20.

Slatin Bey has arrived at Cairo in safety. In his opinion the Dervishes will not attack Kassala, but will try to prevent the Italians from advancing towards the North-west of Nubia.

The loss of the Spanish cruiser *Reina Regente*, with all hands, in Trafalgar Bay, is now confirmed, the vessel having been found submerged.

Mr. Fowler, Secretary of State for India, is still confined to bed owing to influenza.

London, March 22.

Mr. Fowler, Secretary of State for India, has informed the Viceroy that he fully approves of the steps taken for the relief of Dr. Robertson's force in the Chitral.

Mr. Wills (Liberal) has been elected Member of Parliament for Bristol, defeating Mr. Gore, the Labour candidate.

(FROM JAPANESE PAPERS.)

Shanghai, March 28.

The *North China Daily News* has issued the following extra:—The Pescadores were occupied by the Japanese on the 24th inst. after a short fight.

Hiroshima, March 29.

Count Ito, the Premier, left his hotel at 7 a.m. to-day for Ujina, whence he started for Shimonoseki in the *Yayeyama Kan*. Messrs. Ito, Chief Secretary of the Cabinet; Oura, newly appointed Governor of Yamaguchi, and Sameshima, Secretary, accompanied the Premier. Count Saigo also proceeded to Shimonoseki in the same ship.

Viscount Enomoto, Minister of Agriculture and Commerce, left for Kyoto to-day.

Shimonoseki, March 29.

The trial of the ruffian Koyama takes place in the Yamaguchi Local Court to-morrow. Mr. Ogawa Genichi will defend him.

Akita, March 29.

The Omono river has overflowed, and Ani and Nambu are inundated, many buildings being submerged. The water is a little over three feet in the deepest parts.

Shanghai, March 29.

The Hongkong Government has denied the statement that the plague had broken out there.

Hiroshima, March 28.

H.I.H. Princess Komatsu, who was ordered by H.I.M. the Empress to visit the disabled soldiers at Kokura, Kumamoto and Sascho, leaves here to-morrow for her mission.

Shanghai, March 29.

Rumour has it that the Japanese have landed at Hai-chow (Kiang-su Province), about one hundred miles to the north of the Yangtsze.

The Commander-in-chief of Nankin has dispatched 7,500 soldiers to enforce Hai-chow

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From America	per P. M. Co.	Tuesday, April and.*
From Europe, viâ Hongkong	per M. M. Co.	Sunday, Mar. 31st.†
From America	per P. M. Co.	Sunday, April 14th.‡
From Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Sunday, April 7th.
From Canada, &c.....	per C. P. R. Co.	Sunday, April 14th.
From Europe, viâ Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd	Wed'day, April 17th.
From Hongkong	per C. P. R. Co.	Thursday, April 18th.
From America	per O. & O. Co.	Sunday, April 21st.

* *City of Peking* left San Francisco on March 24th. † *Oanz* (with French mail) leaves Kobe on March 30th. ‡ *China* left San Francisco via Honolulu on March 26th.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For Victoria, B.C., & Tacoma, Wash.....	per N. P. Co.	Saturday, Mar. 30th.
For Europe, viâ Shanghai	per M. M. Co.	Saturday, April 6th.
For Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Saturday, April 13th
For Hongkong	per C. P. R. Co.	Sunday, April 14th.
For America	per O. & O. Co.	Thursday, April 18th.
For Canada, &c.	per C. P. R. Co.	Friday, April 19th.
For Europe, viâ Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd	Friday, April 19th.
For America	per P. M. Co.	Sunday, April 21st.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Dardanus, British steamer, 1,507, 23rd March,—Kobe 22nd March, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Changsha, British steamer, 1,830, 23rd March,—Australia viâ ports, Sugar.—Butterfield & Swire.

Nürnberg, German steamer, 2,007, Hugo Walter, 23rd March,—Hongkong 16th March, Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.

Umbria (17), Italian cruiser, Captain Bertolini, 23rd March,—Kobe.

Brenda, British schooner, 99, C. E. Locke, 24th March,—Put Back, Sealing Gear.—T. M. Laffin.

Ancona, British steamer, 1,880, W. D. Mudie, 25th March,—Hongkong viâ ports, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Esmeralda, British schooner, 130, J. T. Harrison, 27th March,—Guam, Copra.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Coptic, British steamer, Lindsay, 28th March,—Hongkong viâ ports, 20th March, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Niobe, German steamer, 1,666, 28th March,—Hamburg viâ ports, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Glengarry, British steamer, 1,985, Selby, 28th March,—London viâ ports, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Empress of Japan, British steamer, 3,003, G. A. Lee, R.N.R., 29th March,—Hongkong viâ ports, 20th March, Mails and General.—Frazar & Co.

Pakshan, British steamer, 1,460, 29th March,—Takao, Sugar.—Dodwell, Cardill & Co.

Rhodora, British steamer, 1,692, J. C. Williams, 29th March,—Cardiff 28th January, Coals.

S. P. Hitchcock, American ship, 2,178, Gates, 29th March,—New York 10th November, Oil.—Standard Oil Co.

DEPARTURES.

Gaelic, British steamer, 2,690, W. G. Pearne, 23rd March—Hongkong viâ Nagasaki, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Strathcarron, British steamer, 1,780, Splatt, 23rd March,—New York viâ ports, General.—Dodwell, Cardill & Co.

Brenda, British schooner, 99, C. E. Locke, 26th March,—North Pacific, Sealing Gear.—T. M. Laffin.

Dardanus, British steamer, 2,557, Gregory, 26th March,—London viâ ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Nürnberg, German steamer, 2,007, Hugo Walter, 26th March,—Hongkong viâ ports, Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.

Tantalus, British steamer, 2,199, Hannah, 26th March,—Kobe, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Changsha, British steamer, 1,830, 27th March,—Australia viâ ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Com. T. H. Allen, American ship, 2,271, R. L. Merriman, 27th March,—New York viâ Kobe, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Lauderdale, British steamer, 1,870, Williams, 29th March,—Kobe, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Ancona, British steamer, 1,880, W. D. Mudie, 30th March,—Hongkong viâ Kobe and Nagasaki, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Bentala, British steamer, 1,767, Filmer, 30th March,—Yokosuka, Ballast.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Coptic, British steamer, 2,840, Lindsay, 30th March,—San Francisco, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Empress of Japan, British steamer, 3,003, G. A. Lee, R.N.R., 30th March,—Vancouver, B.C., Mails and General.—Frazar & Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per German steamer *Nürnberg*, from Hongkong:—Mr. M. Aoki, Mr. Reif Randa, Miss L. E. Chopin, Mr. Stoffregen and family, Mr. H. Takata, Mr. B. Augu, Mr. Y. Aibara, Mr. Issa Tanimura, Mrs. Motyer and child, Mr. Alfred Nirenheim, Mr. Low Wing and children, Miss Murashii, Miss H. Acheu, Mrs. Misaaki Osimo, Mr. Thomas Barrie Wilson, Mr. Charles Robert Singan, Mr. Ching Yim, Mr. Luk Ah Hon, Mr. Kau Yu Sing, and Mr. Man Ah Yue in cabin, and 60 Chinese on deck.

Per British steamer *Ancona*, from Hongkong viâ ports:—Mr. J. H. D. Jones, Mr. J. S. Watte, Mr. and Mrs. Buttery, Mr. and Mrs. St. John, Miss Smith, Mr. R. C. K. Johnson, Mr. and Mrs. Carcia, Mr. G. Marshall, Mr. G. B. Marshall and valet, Mr. G. Matsuda, Mr. H. Uchida, Mr. W. H. Crawford, General Le Gendre, Mr. and Mrs. Dundry, Jun., Mrs. E. S. Dundry, Miss Dundry, Mr. John North, Mr. Sin Min Chu, Mr. Pang Tan Yin, Mr. John Lawle, Mr. T. McWilliams, Mr. S. Broadfoot, Mr. David Beele, Mr. D. G. Welsh, Mr. Geo. Geddis, Mr. Fred. Cross, Mr. W. Daniel, and Mr. Arne Arntzen in cabin.

Per British steamer *Coptic*, from Hongkong viâ ports:—Mr. and Mrs. Playfair, Mrs. Ah Tan, Mr. W. S. Crosley, Mr. W. G. Powell, Mr. K. J. Griffin, Mr. C. E. McLane, Mr. A. M. Byers, Mr. W. G. Waterman, Mr. L. K. G. Smith, Mr. Pablo Hilligo, Mr. Hugo Faeggi, Mr. and Mrs. Chang Woo, Mr. H. H. Ward, Mr. C. J. Long, Mr. C. C. Fewel, and Mr. H. B. Price in cabin.

Per British schooner *Esmeralda*, from Guam:—Mr. W. H. Krumm in cabin.

Per British steamer *Empress of Japan*, from Hongkong viâ ports:—Professor and Mrs. M. Sommerville, Messrs. H. A. Meyer, E. Johnson, McKay, Wriesmuller, Puissant, S. Kistler, F. W. Johnson, M. F. Lesh, P. W. Whitney, C. Wells, J. R. Potter, J. B. Jobling, A. M. Proctor, Brady, J. P. J. Ryan, J. M. Murray, W. Ballard, L. J. Magill, A. M. Proudget, W. B. Peuguet, R. B. Pollock, Mr. and Mrs. G. H. Mairs, Miss M. Gallagher, Miss H. T. Sjodahl, Mr. R. F. Trevithick, Miss F. A. Duffield, Miss Barlow, Mr. K. Sugawa, Mrs. A. Munroe, Mr. L. H. Cocksedge, and Mr. and Mrs. H. J. Mason and daughter in cabin, and Mrs. and Miss Rangel, Mr. N. S. Johnson, and Mr. Hry. Burkhardt in second class. For Vancouver, B.C.:—Mr. Douglas Dick, Mr. F. H. Walker, Mr. S. Ross Johnson, Mr. J. E. Evans, Mr. A. Overbeck, Rev. and Mrs. Judson and 2 children, Miss Peters, Mrs. Geo. Kerr, Miss E. R. Church, Dr. and Mrs. Burton, child and infant, Masters Jas. and Thos. Burton, Miss Wilson, and Mrs. Burton's nurse in cabin: Mrs. E. and Miss E. Balfour in second class, and 413 Chinese and 27 Japanese in Asiatic steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per German steamer *Nürnberg*, for Hongkong viâ ports:—Captain J. Sharp, Mr. D. C. J. Stansby, Mr. C. B. Davies, Captain J. Walker, Mr. Botcharoff and servant, Mr. Wallmann, Mr. Chan Shing, Mr. Ah Yue, Mr. Mang Gai, Mr. C. Weinberger and Japanese servant, Mr. Arthur Hyde Lay, H.E. N. Zabouguine, H.E. R. Gulouheff, Mr. Obshklarewitch, and Mr. F. Holm in cabin; Messrs. George Williams, J. S. Meria, E. H. Jones, J. S. Peters, Joshua Reed, S. H. Bunn, James Todd, Hall, A. E. Dubbing, Thos. Therry, Wm. Littlejohn, Geo. Edgecumbe, A. Byerkman, J. B. Baty, Nelson, John Clark, Patrick Kiernan, W. B. Haggard, W. S. Thompson, J. M. Gracey, L. Book, W. Burwell, W. Kullaz, E. H. Pratt, Campbell, and Fr. Lohe and servant in second class; 47 Europeans and 5 Arabs in third class, and 13 Chinese and 40 Lascars on deck.

Per British steamer *Coptic*, for San Francisco:—Mr. George S. Arpold, Mrs. Bostwick and child, Mr. J. L. Brady, U.S.N., Mr. S. Brou, Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Chapman, Mr. W. S. Crosley, U.S.N., Mr. and Mrs. E. S. Dundy, Jun., Mrs. E. S. Dundy, Miss Dundy, Rev. and Mrs. Van Dyck and 4 children, Mr. H. Faeggi, Mr. C. C. Fewel, U.S.N., Mr. K. F. Griffin, U.S.N., Mr. George Hagaden, Mr. P. Hilliges, Mr. J. B. Jebting, Rev. and Mrs. E. Kingman and child, Mr. C. J. Lang, U.S.N., Mr. L. J. Magill, U.S.N., Mr. Percy de C. Morriss, Mr. M. B. Peuguet, U.S.N., Mr. E. R. Pollock, U.S.N., Mr. J. B. Potter, U.S.N., Mr. W. G. Powell, U.S.N., Mr. H. B. Price, U.S.N., Mr. A. M. Proctor, U.S.N., Mr. J. P. J. Ryan, U.S.N., Mrs. C. V. Sale, infant and amah, Paymaster C. W. Stamm, U.S.N., Mr. and Mrs. C. L. Smith, Mrs. E. O. Tuttle, Mr. H. H. Ward, U.S.N., Mr. C. Wells, U.S.N., and Count Wickenburg in cabin.

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Per British steamer *Empress of Japan*, for Vancouver, B.C. :—Mr. Agnew, Mr. A. S. Aldrich, Miss Alexander, Mr. R. H. Andrews, Mrs. R. H. Andrews, Mr. Arakawa, Dr. Burton, Mrs. Burton and 2 children, Mr. Jas. Burton, Mr. Thos. Burton, Miss E. R. Church, Mr. Douglas Dick, Mr. J. C. Evans, Mr. E. J. Freson, Mr. A. Harris, Mr. Z. Horikoshi, Mrs. Leigh Hunt, Mrs. Irish and child, Mr. Ross Johnson, Rev. Mr. Judson, Mrs. Judson and 2 children, Mrs. Geo. Kerr, Mr. Fernando Koop, Mrs. Large, Miss Large, Mr. C. J. L'Estrange, Mr. G. Marshall, Mr. G. B. Marshall, Mr. McKay, Mr. Morimura, Mr. Arthur Ory, Mr. A. Overbeck, Miss Peters, Mr. Puissant, Miss K. Shimmi, Mr. H. G. Smith, Mr. S. P. Stratton, Mr. F. H. Walker, Miss Webster, and Miss Wilson in cabin.

CARGOES.

Per German steamer *Nürnberg*, for Hongkong viâ ports :—Raw Silk for Europe, 152 bales; Waste Silk for Europe, 267 bales.

Per British steamer *Coptic*, for San Francisco :—

TEA.

	SAN FRANCISCO.	NEW YORK.	CHICAGO.	MONTREAL.	OTHER CITIES.	TOTAL.
Yokohama	21	—	—	—	—	21
Hongkong	372	—	—	—	—	372
Total	393	—	—	—	—	393

SILK.

	SAN FRANCISCO.	NEW YORK.	HARTFORD.	TOTAL.
Shanghai	—	45	—	45
Hongkong	—	76	—	76
Yokohama	—	344	—	344
Total	—	465	—	465

REPORTS.

The British schooner *Esmeralda*, Captain J. T. Harrison, reports :—Left Yokohama the 11th February at 3 p.m.; had light northerly and easterly winds to Sunaki; thence moderate E.N.E. winds and fine. Arrived at Agrigan the 18th and left the following morning for Guam, called at Pagan, Saipan, Thian, and Rota. Arrived at Guam the 24th at 9 a.m.; American whaler *Calafornia* in port. The Spanish mail steamer arrived from Manila viâ Caroline Islands, reported heavy typhoon on January 21st, devastating the whole Island of Jap. Government and all other buildings totally destroyed. Captain O. Keefe had left three days previously on a voyage to the Eastern Island and had not been heard of since. Left Guam the 28th February for Yokohama. Arrived at Rota the 1st March and Saipan the 3rd; left the 5th for Alimagan. Arrived the 6th, communicated, and proceeded to Pagan. Arrived at 8 p.m. and left the 8th for Alimagan. Arrived the same day and lay off and on until the 11th at 2 p.m. receiving cargo proceeded to Anatakan. Arrived the 12th at 6 a.m. and left the same day for Pagan. Arrived the 13th at 6 a.m. and left at 10 a.m. for Agrigan. Arrived at 6.30 p.m., took in cargo and left the 14th at 2 a.m. for Assumption. Arrived the 15th and landed people and proceeded for Yokohama. The whole time at the Islands and thence to lat. 22 N. alternate light and moderate E. and N.E. winds and fine; thence to 30° N. strong N.N.E. winds increasing to N.E. gale, followed by 2 days calms and light airs; 32 N. to Rock Islands light to moderate S.W. winds and changeable weather; at 8 p.m. on the 27th Rock Island abeam light southerly winds freshening to strong S.W. gale. Arrived at Yokohama the 28th March at 5 a.m., blowing hard; barometer 29.60.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

As noted last week, the tone of the market generally is distinctly better, but a further advance in Exchange makes buyers pause in the hope that holders will accept less money for Yarns and Shirtings. We leave quotations unchanged, but competition among holders will surely have the effect which buyers desire unless Exchange should decline soon. Fancies and Woollens are dull as ever.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirtings—8½ lb., 38½ yds. 39 inches	$2.25 to 2.90
Grey Shirtings—9lb, 38½ yds. 45 inches	2.50 to 3.25
T. Cloth—7lb, 24 yards, 32 inches	1.65 to 2.00
Indigo Shirtings—12 yards, 44 inches	1.70 to 2.35
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches	2.00 to 3.75
Cotton—Italians and Sattaens Black, 32 inches	PER YARD. 0.16 to 0.22
	PER PIECE.
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	7.25 to 9.50
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-5 inches	0.85 to 1.00
Turkey Reds—2.0 to 2.4lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.65 to 1.75
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.85 to 2.05
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.30 to 2.60
Turkey Reds—4.8 to 5lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.80 to 3.10

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.
Flannel	$0.30 to 0.50
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches best	0.32½ to 0.37½
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Medium	0.27½ to 0.30
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Common	0.20 to 0.25
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 21 yards, 21 inches	0.15 to 0.22½
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches	0.35 to 0.50
Cloths—Presidents, 54 @ 56 inches	0.60 to 0.65
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0.40 to 0.70
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 5lb, per lb	0.60 to 0.75

COTTON YARNS.

	PER PICUL.
Nos. 10/24, Ordinary	—
Nos. 16/24, Medium	$34.50 to 35.00
Nos. 16/24, Good to Best	35.50 to 36.50
Nos. 16/24, Reverse	—
Nos. 28/32, Ordinary	—
Nos. 28/32, Medium	36.00 to 36.50
Nos. 28/32, Good to Best	37.00 to 38.00
Nos. 38/42, Medium to Best	43.00 to 45.00
No. 32s, Two-fold	43.00 to 45.00
No. 42s, Two-fold	47.00 to 49.00
	PER BALE.
No. 20s, Bombay	—
No. 16s, Bombay	—

METALS.

Bars and Plates move freely, other sorts dull and slow of sale. The higher Exchange has reduced prices of Metals and we lower all quotations except those for Bars.

	PER PICUL.
Flat Bars, ½ inch	$3.60 to 3.65
Flat Bars, ¾ inch	3.65 to 3.70
Round and square up to ¾ inch	3.60 to 3.75
Iron Plates, assorted	3.70 to 3.80
Sheet Iron	4.70 to 4.90
Galvanized Iron sheets	8.25 to 8.80
Wire Nails, assorted	5.80 to 6.10
Tin Plates, per box	5.80 to 6.00
Pig Iron, No. 1	1.65 to 1.70

KEROSENE.

At last some business has been done, and about 40,000 cases American Oil have been sold at $2.20 and over. Russian is still held for an advance on this figure, and the market generally is firm with strong holders.

American	$2.20 to 2.22½
Russian	2.22½ to 2.25

SUGAR.

Brown—Arrivals have been on a fair scale, exceeding sales to some extent. Market closes quiet, with a tendency to lower prices. White—Demand has fallen off considerably but prices well maintained.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Takao	$3.60 to 3.65
Brown Manila	4.40 to 4.60
Brown Daitong (New)	3.40 to 3.50
Brown Canton	3.50 to 3.90
White Java and Penang	6.30 to 6.75
White Refined	6.50 to 9.20

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

A fair demand for fine Filatures and Kakeda for Europe. Prices are unchanged nominally, but the high rate of Exchange tends to weaken those kinds which must be exported. Coarse descriptions are getting high figures as the Home consumption is active. Present stock of all kinds 3,300 piculs and no Spring Reelings to hand yet.

QUOTATIONS.

Hanks—No. 1	—
Hanks—No. 2 (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 2 (Joshu)	—
Hanks—No. 2½ (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 2½ (Joshu)	—
Hanks—No. 2½ to 3	—
Hanks—No. 3	—
Hanks—No. 3½	—
Filatures—Extra 10/12 deniers	Nom.
Filatures—Extra 13/15 deniers	Nom.
Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers	$850 to 870
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den	850 to 850
Filatures—No. 1½, 10/14 deniers	820 to 830
Filatures—No. 1½, 13/16, 14/17 den	820 to 830
Filatures—No. 2, 10/13 deniers	770 to 790
Filatures—No. 2, 13/18 deniers	780 to 790
Filatures—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	—
Re-reels—Extra	—
Re-reels—(Oshu) Best No. 1	—
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 deniers	800 to 810
Re-reels—No. 1½, 13/16, 14/17 deniers	770 to 780
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	740 to 760
Re-reels—No. 2½, 13/18 deniers	—
Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	—
Kakedas—Extra	800
Kakedas—No. 1	790 to 795
Kakedas—No. 1½	770 to 780
Kakedas—No. 2	750 to 760
Kakedas—No. 2½	—
Kakedas—No. 3	—
Kakedas—No. 3½	—
Kakedas—No. 4	—
Oshu Sendai—No. 2½	—
Hamatsuki—No. 1, 2	—
Hamatsuki—No. 3, 4	—
Sodai—No. 2½	—

WASTE SILK.

A "sticky" market, the rising Exchange stops business, for holders will not yet concede anything in price to assist shippers in filling their orders. Present stock 13,000 piculs.

QUOTATIONS.

Pierced Cocoons—Good to Best	—
Noshi-ito—Filature, Best	$130 to 135
Noshi-ito—Filature, Good	120 to 125
Noshi-ito—Filature, Medium	110 to 115
Noshi-ito—Oshu, Good to Best	120 to 130
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Best	—
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Good	—
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Medium	70 to 80
Noshi-ito—Bushu, Good to Best	100 to 115
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Best	—
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Good	70 to 75
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Ordinary	60 to 65
Kibiso—Filature, Best selected	100 to 110
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds	90 to 95
Kibiso—Oshu, Good to Best	—
Kibiso—Shinshu, Best	—
Kibiso—Shinshu, Seconds	—
Kibiso—Joshu, Good to Fair	30 to 27½
Kibiso—Joshu, Middling to Common	25 to 22½
Kibiso—Hachoji, Good to Fair	25 to 25
Kibiso—Hachoji, Medium to Low	22 to 20
Kibiso—Neri, Good to Common	12 to 8
Mawata—Good to Best	—

TEA.

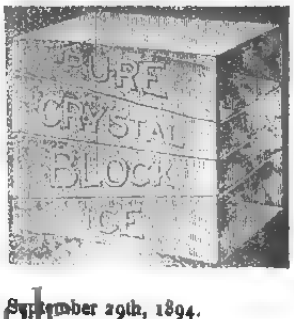
A few retail purchases of Old Common leaf chiefly for San Francisco, and the settlements for the season to date are very nearly identical with those of last year, viz. :—228,500 piculs against 228,000. Nothing fresh about new crop; but the weather seems eminently favourable for all vegetation.

EXCHANGE.

With the advance on Silver rates rose several points; but upon receipt of news of lower quotations for the White Metal on the London market, Exchange feel quickly in sympathy.

Sterling—Bank T.T.	2/0½
— — Bills on demand	2/0½
— — 4 months' sight	2/0½
— Private 4 months' sight	2/1½
— — 6 months' sight	2/1½
On Paris—Bank sight	2.59
On Lyons—Private 4 months' sight	2.66
On Hongkong—Bank sight	½% P.
— Private 10 days' sight	½% d.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	71½
— Private 10 days' sight	72½
On India—Bank sight	188
— Private 30 days' sight	190½
On America—Bank Bills on demand	49½
— Private 30 days' sight	51
— — 4 months' sight	52
On Germany—Bank sight	2.08
— Private 4 months' sight	2.15
Bar Silver (London)	29½

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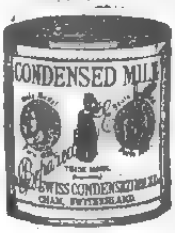
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Printed and Published for the PROPRIETOR at 51, Main Street, Settlement, by JAMES ELLACOTT BEALE, of No. 58, Bluff, Yokohama, March 30, 1895.

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The Japan Weekly Mail:

A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

No. 14.] REGISTERED AT THE G.P.O. AS A NEWSPAPER. YOKOHAMA, APRIL 6TH, 1895. 明治二十五年三月十三日 可郵便物認可 VOL. XXII.

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, APRIL 6TH, 1895.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

H.I.M. THE EMPRESS still remains at Hiroshima.

THE Pescadores have been completely occupied by the Japanese forces.

THE Hongkong Government denies the presence of plague in the colony.

THE approach of the tea-season is attracting a large number of Chinese back to Yokohama.

THERE will be 4,290 candidates in the forthcoming examination for physicians in Tokyo.

THE price of gas supplied by the Yokohama Gas Works has been decreased by 10 per cent.

MR. JAB. WALTER is the Chairman of the Yokohama General Chamber of Commerce for the year.

RAILWAY loan bonds to the amount of two million *yen* were issued by the Government on the 28th ult.

THE wound of the Viceroy Li has nearly healed. He attended at the conference chamber on Wednesday.

THE [illegible] vessels-of-war are in contr[illegible]

Prince Yamashina, acting in the capacity of representative of H.I.H. the Emperor, on the 1st inst.

THE fifth children's concert given in the Public Hall, Yokohama, on Wednesday evening, was very enjoyable.

THE Naval Department had received public subscriptions to the amount of *yen* 528,082 up to the 31st ult.

AT the end of last year the residents of Tokyo numbered 1,856,915, an increase of 289,437 over the previous year.

TEN thousand letters of inquiry and condolence are said to have been received by the Viceroy Li during the past week.

THE rowing season of '95 was formally opened in Yokohama on Saturday. The weather was all that could be desired.

KOYAMA TOYOTARO, the would-be assassin of the Viceroy Li Hung-chang, has been sentenced to penal servitude for life.

THE Emperor of Japan has granted an unconditional armistice for 21 days in the districts of Mukden, Shantung, and Chihli.

THE new pier at Yokohama was opened on April 1st. Up to the present no ship has availed itself of the facilities afforded.

SEVERAL shocks of earthquake have been felt in Yokohama this week. They have been of a minor character, causing no damage.

THREE buildings of the Omi Cotton Spinning factory, owned by Mr. Shimozato Dembei, at Otsu were destroyed by fire on the 28th ult.

THE Ibaraki Prefectural Assembly has been dissolved. It attempted to pass a vote of censure on the Governor and the President of that body.

THE Itabashi Powder Factory is said to manufacture the best smokeless powder in Japan. The Government has placed large orders with the firm.

VISCOUNT AOKI, Japanese Minister to Germany, will arrive in Japan by the *Empress of India*, which is expected to reach Yokohama on the 14th inst.

A SMALL fire was discovered in the roof of a house on the Bluff on Wednesday morning. It was extinguished before much damage had been done.

THE *Kosuge Maru*, which sank off Tamashima, Korea, the other day, has been raised. She was towed into Nagasaki on the 1st inst. by the steamer *Amoy*.

LIEUTENANT GUNJI, leader of the Chishima settlers, was released from duty as Chief Torpedo Officer at Talien, on the 25th ult., to continue his work in Chishima.

THE Imperial Meteogological Central Observatory, formerly under the control of the Home Minister, was transferred to the Educational Department on the 30th ult.

OVER four hundred railway coolies from Saga, Fukuoka, and Kumamoto, passed the physical examination on the 25th ult. at the Kokura Hospital, Fukuoka Prefecture, and have since been sent to Chinchow.

VISCOUNT NOMURA, Minister for Home Affairs, has been instructed not to resign his portfolio, the responsibility for the Shimonoseki incident resting solely with the Governor and Chief of the Yamaguchi Prefecture.

by the end of 1897. Three, two battleships and a cruiser, are building in England, two, cruisers, are being built at Yokosuka, and the other, a dispatch-vessel, has been laid down at Kure.

THE HON. P. LE POER TRENCH, the British Minister to the Court of Japan, is in such indifferent health that, on the advice of his medical attendants, he has applied for leave of absence. He will probably leave Japan for home on the 10th proximo.

IT IS stated that some Directors of the Yokohama Exchange for Yarn, Raw Cotton, and Metal, and the Exchange for Silk and Four other Staples, are consulting upon the advisability of amalgamating the two Exchanges.

THE members of the Red Cross Society at Yokohama visited the disabled soldiers at the Military Sanitarium at Kumenuma on the 31st ult., and presented some cigarettes to them. They took a Band along with them to add to the pleasure of the patients.

REUTER telegraphs:—A large British column is being organised with all speed at Peshawur, to relieve Dr. Robertson, the British Resident, and the garrison at Chitral. Lieutenant Ross and fifty-four Sikhs, who were advancing to reinforce an outpost, were surroundedand killed. Mr. Allen, M.P., has brought forward a resolution that members of the House of Commons should receive payment for their services. The resolution was carried by a majority of eighteen. The Peruvian insurgents, under Piérola, have captured Lima after severe fighting. Habibulla, son of the Ameer of Afghanistan, is to visit England. Lord Elgin, the Viceroy of India, announcing to Mr. Fowler, Secretary of State for India, the junction of the Burmese and Chinese Telegraph systems, states that he trusts it will promote the friendly relations and commercial advantage of Great Britain and China. The Spanish Government is sending Marshal Martinez Campos with seven thousand troops to quell the revolt in Cuba. Seven thousand of the Reserves have been called out in Belgium owing to an ominous agitation which is being fanned by Socialists in the industrial centres. Lord Rosebery and Mr. Fowler are both slowly improving in health. The Viceroy of India wires that the position of the enemy at Chitral is closely invested and attacked nightly. The Czarevitch, who is now in Algiers, is worse.

THERE is very little to be said about the Import trade on account of the fluctuations in the rates of exchange, which have been of such a nature as to upset all calculations and deter business that certainly would be done were this factor absent. Quotations for Manchester goods are consequently nominal in the absence of business, and the same may be said with regard to Metals of all descriptions. Of the latter there have been large arrivals, though probably the greater portion have been either on Government account or private bargains. The Kerosene trade is also unsettled by the instability of exchange, and not much has been sold. There have been imports of both American and Russian oil. There is not much demand for Sugar, and the stock is being increased by fresh arrivals. The Silk trade has been insignificant, exchange having worked against shippers, while holders make no concessions. Nothing to report in Waste Silk. There is nothing doing in the Tea Trade, the next movement being the exhibition of hand musters of new Leaf, which are now being looked forward to as near. Exchange fluctuations from day to day have been a great drawback, and business generally has been

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THE SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS DURING THE WEEK.

The discussion of the Shimonoseki incident is now virtually over, and the vernacular press has returned to other topics incidental to the war. Whether the Li mission can reach a successful issue is one of these topics. The press has nothing new to say on the subject. It simply repeats its old inability to place any confidence in the mission, and adds that even if Li be induced to give assent to the terms demanded by Japan, nothing can yet be counted final, since there are the strongest reasons to doubt whether the Chinese Government will endorse or abide by the agreement. Thus, on the whole, the Tokyo papers think that the prospects of peace are as remote as ever.

* * *

The *Kokumin* and a few other journals strongly maintain that during the existence of the temporary armistice in the north, the southern expedition should be pushed on with redoubled vigour. They argue that there being no unity among the different parts of China, but each being in practice an independent unit, southern China is still indifferent as to the issue of the war, and careless about the disasters, however severe, to which the north may be subjected. Thus southern China maintains its old attitude of arrogance toward Japan, as stubbornly as ever, and there is urgent necessity that its people should be taught by actual suffering to appreciate the strength of this empire. These considerations acquire added force when it is remembered that the cession of Formosa and its adjacent islands to Japan is one of the inevitable conditions of peace, and that, consequently, the Japanese will be brought into close contact with the Southern Chinese. It is a point of prudence to educate the latter as early as possible to a due appreciation of the kind of men they will hereafter have to deal with. At the same time, the *Kokumin* has something to say about England and the island of Chusan. To occupy the Pescadores, it says, leaving Chusan untouched, would not be a prudent policy, for that would be to leave the island, not to be held by China, but to be annexed by England, who has been looking at it with hungry eyes for a long time. Suppose that the island fell into the hands of England, what would the consequence be to Japan? The consequence would be the creation between Port Arthur and Talien on the one hand, and Formosa and the Pescadores on the other, of a great obstacle to Japan's maritime supremacy; Chusan must therefore be occupied and absorbed by Japan.

* * *

The *Mainichi* contends that the surrender of China being the surrender of the Court and Government, the mass of the people, generally ignorant even about the events of the war, will probably continue as before to despise the Japanese as *Wojen*. It is therefore imperatively necessary that Japan should demand a surrender not only material but also moral. The cession of territory, the payment of an indemnity, and so forth, are all forms of material surrender. But such things are defective unless supplemented by a moral lesson. How than can China be made to morally acknowledge her defeat? The *Matuichi* suggests that on the day of the day of the conclusion of peace the Emperor of China should issue a proclamation announcing to all the subjects in his realm the details as to the causes and results of the war, thus acknowledging that justice was on Japan's side and that China's action was unjust. Such an edict may be regarded by some as a mere form of apology, but it would assuredly have great importance as a means of making China morally own her defeat, and, at the same time, of imposing on her the responsibility of hereafter maintaining peace in the Orient. The *Mainichi* advises the Japanese Plenipotentiaries to make the above suggestion one of the conditions of peace.

* * *

The *Jiji* returns once more to the discussion of anti-English feeling in Japan. It does not itself believe, as the local English papers assert, that this sentiment has lately and suddenly acquired strength. But it alleges that if such be the case, it must be chiefly attributed to the writings of those English papers themselves. The Japanese people are now passing through a momentous national crisis; so momentous that nothing similar is to be found in their history. They are therefore keenly sensitive to what other people say of their doings, and if they are extremely grateful for any favourable opinion expressed, they are equally distressed by any adverse criticism, and are provoked perhaps out of proportion to what the criticism is really worth. Now what has been the tone of the majority of the English local papers since the opening of the war? They have written as though their editors had lost their moral equilibrium, and had become blindly jealous of Japan. Their utterances have been spiteful, abusive, and calumnious. The general mass of the Japanese people, not knowing how devoid of influence these papers are among the foreign community, hastily conclude that they must represent the ideas entertained by British subjects toward Japan in connexion with the war. Whether the Japanese are to be disabused of such a misconception, or whether their umbrage against England is to grow deeper and deeper, depends almost entirely upon the tone that the local English papers adopt in the future.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

LIEUT.-GENERAL KAWAKAMI AND THE DELEGATES OF POLITICAL PARTIES.

Some days ago, writes the Hiroshima correspondent of the *Nichi Nichi*, delegates representing over 60 members of the Lower House called upon Lieut.-General Kawakami, Vice-Chief of the Central Staff, for the purpose of exchanging views in connection with the peace mission. After having stated their opinions on the problem, they asked the General for his ideas on the subject and also with regard to foreign interference. The General replied gravely that military men simply obey the commands of the Generalissimo and are not supposed to hold individual views on any subject. A newspaper rumour at present current to the effect that such and such officers entertain different notions from those prevalent at the Central Head-Quarters, cannot be correct, as there can be no choice when a mandate from His Imperial Majesty is concerned. A General, continued Kawakami, simply undertakes, in obedience to the Emperor's orders, the responsibility of carrying out various military operations, and there is, therefore, no occasion for him to express his own views on the matter. It appears that politicians not in the employ of the Government are considerably exercised about the latter's policy with respect to the peace problem, but although not at all unreasonable, being actuated by genuine patriotism, those fears are quite unnecessary. The Premier is not an inexperienced lad, said the General, and it is not likely that he is ignorant of the general tendency of public opinion. Then again, he has taken part, since last year, in all the discussions held at Head Quarters and is, therefore, intimately acquainted with the opinions prevalent there. He will neglect nothing in connection with the peace negotiations that would conduce toward arriving at satisfactory results. As to foreign interference, the same equanimity may be entertained, for has the Premier not been able thus far to do without foreign interference? No statesman could have done better, and the success thus far attained in the country's foreign relations with respect to the war may with justice inspire confidence and security for the future in the minds of the public at large. In short, concluded the General, the delegates would do well to relieve themselves of any anxiety entertained by them respecting the peace negotiations.

SNOW SCENES.

Mild as generally are the winters in this country, the Japanese are fond of the snow and their poets have, from ancient times, revelled in the description of winter-landscapes. The delights of coasting, sleighing and skating are, however, practically unknown; but to make up for these the Japanese are not only adepts in making "snow-men" but are also keenly appreciative of snow-fights and snowballing. Near the Mizaki Theatre, in Tokyo, some weeks ago, an unknown artist had made snow-busts of a number of the leading actors: Danjuro, Kikugoro, Fukusuke, and several others. Nothing but compressed snow and bits of charcoal were use, yet the likenesses were striking and inimitable. During the last rather heavy snow-fall a snow fight of an amusing nature was, according to the *Yomiuri Shimbun*, inaugurated on the premises of Lieut.-General Takashima, in Kioi-cho, Kojimachi District, the promoter of the revel being the General's mother. The male servants, grooms, ladies' maids, kitchen wenches, etc., numbering sixteen all told, were made to take part in a grand melée. They divided into two "armies," male and female, the men being dubbed the "Manchurian Division," while the women were styled the "Girls' Regiment." The "Manchurians" wore *hachimaki* around their heads, while the Amazons had the sleeves of their robes fastened up with cords (*tasuki*) and their tresses covered with the national *tenugui*. *Au reste* we quote the *Yomiuri*:—"As soon as the noble matron, who was looking on from a room in the upper storey, saw that the combatants were properly arranged, she gave the signal to commence firing. A breathless and impetuous battle ensued, each army throwing snowballs at the other with admirable vigour. In a little while all was confusion: some running away in affright while others were encouraged by success. The Amazon captain was a tall and corpulent maid who fought with undiminished ardour in the midst of the flying (snow) balls and ever exhorted her followers to 'March on!' with a loud, stern voice. At the outset the 'Manchurians' made light of their opponents but were soon forced to give way before the fearful volleys of their antagonists and were speedily thereafter put to utter rout. Loud cheers from the 'Girls' Regiment' announced their victory. Madame Takashima's delight was unbounded, and on the spot she awarded numerous *obi*, hairpins, and kerchiefs to the victors. On the other hand the 'Manchurians' were compelled, in token of their defeat, to cook rice and rub *miso* for as well as serve at the table of their vanquishers. With their hang-dog faces they looked for all the world like Chinese captives."

ATTEMPTED FRAUD ON A GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENT.

A very villainous attempt was made on the 24th ult. to defraud the War Department in a contract for coal. According to the *Yomiuri Shimbun* and several other metropolitan journals, Yamamoto Yoshizo, a coal-merchant of Kanda District, has been for some time favoured with occasional orders from a merchant named Tanaka, resident in Kyobashi District, who is well-known as a Government contractor. The other day Yamamoto received an order for 1,500 *kwamme* of coal, which Tanaka requested him to deliver at the War Department on the above mentioned date. The coal was promptly sent under convoy of Yamamoto's son, one of his employés, and a member of the Tanaka firm. According to custom, the coal had to be weighed out under the supervision of a Department inspector, a Mr. Hayashi in the present instance. Just before the coal was to be dumped into the scales the inspector noticed that Yamamoto's employé began to fiddle with the weighing machine in a rather suspicious manner. When the weighing began Hayashi was surprised at the apparently enormous weight of the coal. His suspicions being thoroughly aroused, he requested to be put on the scales himself, as he knew his own weight to a fraction; and when this was done he found that instead of his usual nineteen *kwamme* he was supposed to weigh twenty-four! He immediately began to minutely inspect the scales and discovered finally that a small bar of iron

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about 1½ lbs. in weight, had been slipped under the beam, thus completely falsifying the weight on behalf of the treacherous coal-dealer. So soon as this was verified the inspector sprang to arrest Yamamoto's employé, who was evidently the culprit; but the latter raced off at the top of his speed and made for the premises of the adjoining General Staff Office. Here he ran through a number of corridors and finally emerged at the main entrance is a dishevelled and breathless state. Some *kurumaya* who were waiting in front of the gate, noticing the man's wild appearance, at once seized him, under the impression that he must be a robber of some sort. The man fought furiously to free himself, but was at last captured by several gendarmes who had followed him on from the War Department. All of Yamamoto's men, ■ well as his son, were promptly arrested and will shortly be tried. Investigation showed, however, that the Tanaka firm neither knew of nor connived at the attempted fraud; so their employé was subsequently released from custody. But it ■ rare that such fraudulent dealers are caught *in flagrante delictu*, and it is to be hoped that the punishment will be exemplary.

A JAPANESE PAPER ON THE WOUNDING OF THE VICEROY LI.

As indicative of the manner in which the vernacular press have spoken on the subject of the attempted assassination of the Viceroy Li, we quote the following sentences from the *Yorozu Choho*, now the leading metropolitan *ko-shimbunshi*, and having the second or third largest circulation of all Japanese journals:—From the august Emperor down to the humble cottager, there is not one who does not feel mortified at this incident, which casts the greatest stain on Japan. The whole country is overcome with the sense of shame, horror, and remorse. The enormity of the would-be assassin's crime is so great and no palliation whatever is possible. Instantaneous death on the spot would have been but a small atonement, and all the dreadful penalties meted out under like circumstances in the days of yore—supposing they were to be revised for the sake of punishing the ruffian—seem inadequate, altogether too light. And cursed be the day on which the miscreant was born to the country! . . . Our own feeling is so intense that we cannot write of the affair calmly; and the only consoling feature, if there be one, is that the event is viewed by the whole people in its full gravity."

SCREENED FROM POVERTY.

SEVERAL metropolitan journals tell of a *Kurumaya*, living in Shiba District, who was, the other day, rescued from dire poverty in a wholly unexpected way. It appears that he was originally the son of tolerably affluent parents, but they experienced so many reverses that, upon their decease, he was compelled to ply the trade of a jinrikisha-puller. Some months ago the man borrowed a small sum from a local money-lender. When the date of repayment came, he found himself wholly unable to meet the obligation, and asked for a renewal of the note. This was done several times, until the money-lender's patience was worn out, and he caused the few belongings of his debtor to be seized. They consisted of sundry wooden and other kitchen utensils, some bedding, and an old screen, tattered and worn. On asking a dealer in second-hand articles to make an offer for the lot, the dealer said he would give thirty five *sen* but not a penny more. Somewhat disappointed at this result, the money-lender had the poverty-stricken household gods removed to his own place. The next day he once more visited the *Kurumaya*, who was not a little surprised to see his unwelcome guest so soon again, expecting, of course, to be unmercifully dunned. On the contrary, this time the usurer wore a beaming face and exclaimed:—"I have brought you good news, and come with money for you. That screen of yours had on it ■ picture by the famous artist Chodensu. I showed it to an expert yesterday who paid me three hundred *yen* cash for the painting. Of this sum I keep one hundred, and give the rest to you, wishing you better fortune and long life." The poor man was overjoyed at this unlooked-for good luck. He thanked the honest money-lender repeatedly and then went straightway to release his daughter from servitude of a deplorable kind. This done he rented a small shop, and is now fairly started in a line of business that promises no anxiety in future. The story is a true one.

CHINESE REPORTS.

A METROPOLITAN contemporary gives a number of most amusing excerpts from various Chinese papers published in Shanghai and Hongkong. We learn from these, and for the first time, that a great battle was fought not far from Chefoo a few days before the end of January. The Chinese won a complete and overwhelming victory, no less than thirteen thousand Japanese being left dead on the field. Among the spoils taken were nine cannon of large calibre, twelve Gatlings, and an innumerable quantity of *impedimenta*, such as horses, carts, tents, provisions of all kinds, and no less than five thousand excellent rifles. The Chinese vernacular paper publishing these interesting details naïvely concludes that the battle "must have taken place just after the Japanese were driven back from Weihaiwei."

* * *

Another Chinese journal tries to explain why it is that Japan has so far come off victorious in the war. Japan ■ a little country and the people are so poor that they are ■ their wit's end to supply their daily food. For this reason the youths are trained to arms from an early age in the hope that they will be able to thus conquer some wealthy and less martial nation. "We Chinese have had thirty years of peace; we are rich, and our land is a delightful place to live in; we have thus no need to resort to arms for the sake of food, ■ the Wo-jen must. That they have been victorious hitherto is ascribable to this cause alone. And what does it matter if they have won a few battles and sunk a few ships? They can never conquer our whole Empire; only a few outposts at best: and we can afford to pay for the war. It is impossible that they should take Tientsin. Our militia alone will suffice to drive them back. It is not necessary to take the trouble of spitting on our hands and preparing for a serious conflict. The Japanese are even now at the end of their resources."

* * *

A third, equally truth-loving, paper is quoted as saying that, after the battle of Weihaiwei, a band of ten Japanese troopers was surrounded and defeated, after desperate resistance on their part, by a large body of Chinese soldiers. One trooper was killed on the spot; another was severely wounded; while a third was taken prisoner. The captive, a young man of twenty-one years only, is described as saying that it was not of his own will that he had taken part in the war. He had frequently appealed to the Emperor of Japan to be let off, but all to no avail. His government was the severest and most pitiless in the world, and the Japanese the most malcontent of people. He thereupon pleaded to be let live, stating that it had ever been his desire to live under the benign rule of China. In proof of his voluble assertions, he had shaved his head and adopted Chinese apparel, and was "waiting for some good opportunity to be of service and thus show his gratitude to his new Government." There is a spice of truth in this narrative; it is a fact that such a band of Japanese scouts was surrounded and cut down, as reported at the time in these columns. But even if one trooper was taken alive, we do not believe that any Japanese exists who would act as this prisoner is said to have done.

CHARITY BAZAAR AND CONCERT AT THE CENTRAL TABERNACLE.

THE Central Tabernacle at Hongo, Tokyo, is certainly one of the most earnest, hard-working churches in Japan. In the hands of Dr. Eby, and no less in those of the Rev. Mr. Coates, the Central Tabernacle has been from first to last a centre of good works, successful Christian organization, and a host of charitable schemes whose beneficent effects have been felt near and far. On Saturday, March 30th, a Bazaar and Concert were held in behalf of the Komagome Charity School founded by the Rev. M. Kohayashi, another enthusiastic worker in the good cause. It is hardly necessary to say that both were eminently successful, and a goodly sum netted for the School in question, which the founder hopes to make a kind of "Girard College" in future. The Bazaar was well-attended, the many pretty articles exposed for sale meeting with ready purchasers; but the Concert was far and away one of the most successful ever held in Tokyo. The audience numbered over eight hundred, among whom we were pleased to see many of the highest circle in society. The programme was a pleasing one and well-adapted to a mixed audience, each number being greeted with prolonged applause. The gem of the evening was undoubtedly Prof. Dr. von Koeber's piano solo. The audience refused to remain content with the musician's bowing his thanks, and he finally yielded to the cries of *encore!* from every part of the building and gave another no less skilful rendering of a musical masterpiece. We are requested to state that the projector is fully satisfied with the result of the Bazaar and Concert and that he feels grateful toward those who took part in the programme as well as to the audience, knowing that their presence was a token of their appreciation.

ON A WRONG FOOTING.

THE *Yomiuri Shimbun* has an amusing incident to relate that befell a captain of cavalry in Tokyo on the evening of the 24th instant. He was to leave the capital on the following day, and called on an intimate friend to say farewell. According to the Japanese custom, he left his high boots at the entrance, and while he was talking with his friend and the family, one of the maid-servants, a recent importion from the country and as "green" as possible, went to take a look at the wonderful boots that were going to carry their wearer to China. She had never seen such things before; how did he get his feet in? she wondered. While pondering over this, an irresistible desire seized her to try them on herself. Now the captain had delicate aristocratic feet, while Oseki, for so the maid was called, had truly elephantine limbs. It took all her strength to force the boots on, and then she found it almost impossible to walk. Just at this moment the voice of the officer was heard; he was about returning. Oseki hastened to the corridor in an agony of shame and apprehension, but fell over a stone and hurt herself severely. On the family appearing with their guest, Oseki was discovered in a half-comatose condition. After being brought to her senses, the maid was ordered to remove the boots, but this she was wholly unable to do. Two men-servants then seized the boots, while the captain held the damsel round the waist, and in this manner they hauled at the unfortunate Oseki, who was vociferously screaming the while, until after several minutes' hard pulling the boots were finally jerked off. Oseki's ankle-joints were much cut in the struggle, but she was otherwise uninjured. On getting his boots back again and noticing the blood-stains on them, the captain clapped his hands with glee; "this," said he, "is a sure token that my campaign in China will be successful, for I have seen blood before starting!" The family were profuse in their excuses, but the gallant captain expressed himself as rather pleased than annoyed. Oseki has since returned to her childhood's home and will probably not tamper with other people's belongings in future.

BRAVE OFFICERS.

THERE are, remarks the *Miyako Shimbun*, three different opinions concerning the sinking of the *Ching-yuen* in the harbour of Weihaiwei. Some say that the *Akagi Kan* fired the fatal shell; others allege that it should be ascribed to a ball from one of the forts which had been captured by a party of marines; while a third opinion is that the sinking of the warship is attri-

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took the *Hyakushakugai*. It has, however, now become evident that the real hero of this exploit was none other that Lieutenant Fukuda, of the Artillery. He had already won for himself enviable fame in the attack on Port Arthur. When the horses dragging the guns were shot down on that occasion, he encouraged his men to pull the cannon onward, shouting out "One! two! three!" to make them keep step and pull in unison. It is for this reason that his immediate command has received the nickname of the "One-two-three" company. When Weihaiwei was assaulted, Lieutenant Fukuda was one of the first to enter the above-named fort, and one of the three guns was put under his charge. With this cannon, a 24 cent. Krupp, he managed to sink the *Ching-yuen*. Lieutenant Fukuda is a silent and reserved young man, about twenty-five years old.

* * *

Deeply lamented is the fate of Lieutenant Suzuki, who was with Fukuda on this memorable day. After taking part in the storming of the fort, he determined to cross over to Liukung Island in order to spike the guns of the principal fort there. Under cover of the night he started in a Chinese boat across the bay, accompanied by a fearless band of eighteen picked men. Somehow or other, however, the boat was upset before they managed to reach the opposite shore, and every man was drowned. A few only of the corpses were subsequently recovered.

GERMANY AND THE EAST ASIATIC WAR.

From the beginning of the East Asiatic war, says the Berlin *Echo*, German sympathies have been with Japan. Among all classes of the population, from the Court down to the lowest, among the conservatives and liberals—in fact every one has been favourably disposed towards the Japanese and sincerely wished them success. Some time ago we set forth the various causes which led up to this friendly disposition towards the Japanese. Only here and there an individual note of warning was heard, chiefly in the larger seaports which could not fully concur with this enthusiasm in the interior. One of the few, in Germany, who have constantly taken an energetic stand against the Japanese and who have watched the course of the East Asiatic war with much concern, is the former German Minister, Herr von Brandt, who for several decades was accredited as German diplomat, first to Japan and afterwards to China. Herr von Brandt is regarded as exceptionally well informed on East Asiatic affairs. His diplomatic post he left but a short time ago. With regard to the East Asiatic war and the attitude of the European cabinets, the political views of Herr von Brandt take an essentially different standpoint from those of the Berlin Foreign Office. In *Deutschen Rundschau*, a few days ago, he again published his opinion with regard to the conflict between China and Japan, and it is no doubt of interest to make the aquaintance of his views. For, as already stated, he is one of the few men in Europe who really know something about the affairs in Eastern Asia. Whether or not he is influenced by personal interests or through spite against the present German Administration because of his discharge, is of course not within the reach of a layman's eye. In his remarks nothing of the kind can be seen, and they are without personal points. Herr von Brandt wrote before the capitulation of Weihaiwei was known. In his opinion China is still far from collapsing. The Japanese are, for instance, still farther from Pekin than were the English and French troops in 1860, after the landing at Petang. The real danger of China and the neutral Powers lies not in the military success of the Japanese, but in the fact, which Europe has by no means properly estimated, namely that the policy of the present leaders of Japan is influenced by the pressure of the Radical party whose progress consists in boastfulness and hatred towards foreigners. The present government will not venture to come before the Japanese parliament with peace propositions which would not satisfy the demands of the Radicals, namely the capture of Pekin, heavy war indemnity, the concession of Formosa and the southern part of Manchuria. This will cost the Japanese a heavy sacrifice and will perhaps induce the Chinese to continue the war in a desultory way, in order to exhaust the Japanese. In examining whether it is advisable for Europe and advantageous to Germany that Japan should succeed in this way, Herr von Brandt comes to the conclusion that it is not; he answers with no. The whole modern civilization of Japan is but a thin veneer easily scratched off, and the Asian at once makes his appearance, who hates and dispises the European even more than does the Chinaman. Without considering here the possibility that large concessions of land to Japan may induce Russia, England, and France to take other portions of Chinese territory, the great danger would present itself that the Monroe doctrine in Eastern Asia would be at an end. "Asia for the Asiatics." Japan possesses the elements, vanity, thirst for glory, and greed for land, to become in Eastern Asia, like France in Europe, to all neighbouring States a constant source of anxiety. Europe is therefore acting very unwisely in allowing the uncontrolled self-consciousness of Japan unhindered, to proceed in this war against China, which it originally provoked in a most frivolous manner. Herr von Brandt can also see no advantage for the civilized world in China being shaken up in a way which will transform her into a military and industrial state, in the European sense of the word. Only a few bankers, who would loan money to China, and a few industrial works which would sell machinery to China, would do a good business. Then however, this giant empire would become a rival of Europe and America. Just see how Japan is already endeavouring to compete with Europe! According to this, Herr von Brandt represents the opinion that the wakening of China, in consequence of this war, would transform her into a dangerous rival for the whole civilized world of Europe and America, and that in consequence of her victories, Japan would become over proud and thus cause great anxiety to foreigners and their commercial interests in East Asia: and as Europe—being disunited—does not command a halt in the conflict between China and Japan, both dangers are augmented. So far Herr von Brandt has preached to deaf ears in Germany. The official policy of Germany, which is averse to all interference, notwithstanding the repeated requests of England, enjoys the complete endorsement of public opinion in Germany. On New Year's Day the German Emperor and the Mikado exchanged the highest orders of both countries, the Chrysantemum-Order and the Black Eagle. Count Aoki, the Japanese ambassador at Berlin, is a very able gentleman and well aquainted with German affairs, and his countrymen at home are a smart and a very polite people. True, Krupp has meanwhile been selling some cannon to China and some Hamburg merchants have been selling cartridges, but this is of no great consequence over against the sympathies of the German Emperor and the official policy of Germany. But for the sake of honest neutrality some voices have loudly protested against the selling of weapons to China; moreover, the selling of Krupp cannon has been in part declined and it is announced that the enlisting of German officers has been forbidden.

YACHTING AT KOBE.

The members of the Kobe Yacht Club find themselves with a balance in hand of $141 at the close of their first year's work. In the report submitted at the annual meeting the other day, it was stated that the first yacht race sailed in Kobe took place on the opening day of the Kobe Regatta and Athletic Club on the 24th December, 1870, and was sailed under the auspices of that Club. The competing yachts numbered two only, the *Hilda* and the *Black Bess*, now known as the *Shamrock*, the former winning. For 19 years yacht racing was conducted under K.R. & A.C. auspices with considerable spirit, and it was not until the Spring of 1894 that it was felt that the fleet had sufficiently grown to warrant the establishment of an independent Club. Mr. H. L. Baggalay has been re-elected Commodore of the Club, with Messrs. Sim, Dimock, Buschell, and Head as Committee. The season opens at the southern port on Sunday, April 21st, with a social cruise.

GRATUATION EXERCISES.

Last Saturday the Graduating Exercises of the Seisoku Jinjo Chugakko were held in the fine building and beautifully laid out grounds of the school in Shiba Park. In the morning diplomas were given to seven graduates, and addresses were delivered by the Principal, Prof. Kanda, and Prof. Toyama, both of the Imperial University; Mr. Watanabe, former President of the Imperial University, and Mr. Koba, chief of the Bureau of Ordinary Education. The sentiments of the students were fitly expressed in Japanese and English by a speech of thanks to the faculty and by a valedictory entitled, "Farewell to my Second Home." Of still greater interest to the public were the Athletic Sports in the afternoon. These, and probably also Momijiyama, with the fine view over the Shinagawa Bay, had attracted a large number of visitors, Japanese and foreigners, among them the teachers and students of the Morning Star School, and throughout the sunny afternoon the whole side of "Maple Hill" presented a picturesque and animated scene. The races came off in good style. The course is 200 yards, and there were 200, 400, and 600 yards races, in which Providence was, on the whole, evidently on the side not only of the swifter but also of the longer limbs. The orange, flag, and sack races afforded great delight, and many a boy lost his prize—a silver medal with the name of the school and a maple leaf, an allusion to Momijiyama, engraved on it—owing to an orange slipping from his grasp at a critical moment. The "comical procession" was the most amusing feature of the afternoon. Nearly everything of prominence in Japanese life found its representative there. Commanded by a general, who ought to have stooped under the weight of the decorations hanging from his breast, and headed by a huge dragon-fly, the procession was formed of a number of *samurai*, a statesman, a priest, two *daruma*, a mandarin, a common Chinaman, a farmer and many others, not to forget a fine-looking "gentleman" with a grand mustachio and in evening dress, with a heavy *pince-nes* on his nose, that required a great deal of balancing, and thus gave the swaggering gentleman the appearance of boundless self-confidence. The antics, which the members of the procession tried to keep in harmony with the sweet strains of music that filled the garden, were most amusing, and peals of laughter and loud applause rewarded their efforts to please the public. For the polejump the score stood at 9 feet 5 inches; for the long jump 16 feet 9 inches. Considering that the University average for the latter is about 18 feet, this is an excellent score for the lads. The students delight in sports of every kind, and the percentage of those that take an active part in them seems very large indeed. This being the only middle school in Japan where singing is taught throughout the course, it was quite fitting that the sports should be concluded with the singing by the students of a Japanese song to the tune of "Marching through Georgia" and of a song in English, the "Glory! Glory! Hallelujah!" For "John Brown," "Odera Shōshō" was substituted in the first, and "Sakamoto Kanzo" in the second verse, and thus army and navy were alike remembered and honoured. Thus ended the exercises of the day. The school itself, the establishment of which a little over five years ago by Professors Toyama, Kanda, and Motora was reported in the *Mail* at the time, has from the beginning enjoyed the hearty support and co-operation of men like Mr. Tomita, then President of the Nippon Ginko, and lately Governor of Tokyo; Mr. Suzuki, Vice-Minister of the Department of Communications; Mr. Yajima, former President of the Electric Light Company, and other public-spirited men of the capital, especially of Shiba. The object of the founders,

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as announced at the time, was to establish a model school—*seisoku* means "regular" or "correct principle"—that should bridge over the chasm between the lower schools and higher schools, such as the Koto Gakko and special schools of a like grade. The Seisoku Jinjo Chugakko has therefore charged higher tuition fees than any other private school, and admission to it is possible only to those that really came up to its standard of scholarship. As a result, progress, as measured by mere numbers, has been necessarily slow; but the excellence of the discipline maintained at the school is attested by the condition of the beautiful garden, the daily recreation-ground of the boys, by the freedom of the walls from defacement of any kind, and by numerous minor and yet equally characteristic matters and incidents, a state of affairs such as cannot easily be paralleled elsewhere. The school now numbers two hundred students, its progress is steady, and its future bright.

THE VICEROY LI.

A SHIMONOSEKI journal reports that so soon as the miscreant Koyama fired at the aged Viceroy, a bystander, with surprising presence of mind, flung a handkerchief into the palanquin. It was this handkerchief that Li picked up and held to his cheek, in order to stanch the blood. All endeavour to trace the owner of the handkerchief has proved fruitless; he evidently prefers anonymity to receiving the thanks of the Chinese statesman. Still the act was a prompt and kindly one.

* * *

As reported by our Shimonoseki correspondent, Koyama was at once seized, after firing his pistol, by a gendarme and a police-constable. The culprit struggled frantically to free himself, it is now said, but the two men kept firm hold of him until he was safely lodged in strong quarters. The gendarme has since been promoted to the rank of sergeant, while the other has been given the grade of first-class constable. Viceroy Li, it is said, has expressed a wish to reward both men in some tangible fashion.

* * *

China has produced three heroes in the present war, says the vernacular press. The first is that Chinese general who committed suicide after the battle of Phyŏng-yang; the second is Admiral Ting, of undying fame; and the third is Viceroy Li, who, despite his severe wound, never lost consciousness and walked unaided from his palanquin to his own rooms at the Injo-ji.

INFLUENZA.

VERY many cases of influenza have quite recently made their appearance in Tokyo, and it is evident that the disease is assuming an epidemic form. According to the testimony of Japanese physicians, the parts most liable to be affected this season are the throat, lungs, and stomach, particularly the first-named. Bronchitis and similar affections of the respiratory organs are said to be unusually prevalent, and in nearly all cases the disease is stubborn and refuses to yield to ordinary therapeusis. This year's influenza is described as being peculiarly infectious and great caution is urged on all; for scarlet-fever and small-pox are already at work in the metropolis, though happily kept within bounds hitherto; and it is well-known that influenza so enfeebles the physique as to render the patient liable to contract any other prevalent disorder. In Yokohama, among the foreign residents, the worst part of the influenza epidemic seems to have passed. The malady was peculiarly infectious but comparatively mild in form.

A CENTENARIAN STUDENT.

IN Sanshu, gossips the *Yomiuri Shimbun*, there is an old woman who has this year, at the age of one hundred, for the first time started out to learn at least two of the "three R's." There is a somewhat derisive saying current in Japan: *Hachi-ju no te-narai*, "learning penmanship at eighty." But this veteran, after having spent a full century in utter ignorance of the rudiments of learning, began to study the alphabet in January of the present year. She is described as being remarkably apt, and has not only learned the *kana* syllabaries but quite a number of Chinese ideographs as well, so that she can already peruse understandingly an ordinary newspaper. Some of her specimens of handwriting are really excellent—*ikite tru yo ni mieru*, the ideographs "look as if they were alive." She is said to excel in writing the character *Kotobuki* ("joy" or "congratulation.")

CUSTOMS RETURNS.

THE following is a summary of the Customs Returns for February showing the foreign trade of the empire for the month:—

	1894: SILVER YEN.	1895. SILVER YEN.
Exports	6,513,746,710	8,633,963,380
Imports	7,825,479,090	8,239,136,430
Total exports and imports		16,873,099,810
Excess of exports		394,826,950

CUSTOMS DUTIES.

Exports	79,193,460
Imports	280,037,896
Miscellaneous	10,874,305
Total	370,105,661

TOTAL VALUE OF EXPORTS TO AND IMPORTS FROM VARIOUS FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

	Exports. Silver Yen.	Imports. Silver Yen.	Total. Silver Yen.
Hongkong	2,707,965,580	396,773,360	2,194,578,940
China	367,123,270	1,183,483,980	1,550,607,250
British India	391,984,030	304,273,400	1,695,657,430
Korea	902,820,180	85,352,890	287,373,070
Annam & other French India	923,500	150,672,820	160,586,320
Philippine Islands	27,576,000	28,654,560	56,230,560
Russian Asia	29,549,820	23,316,160	54,805,980
Siam	—	10,000	10,000
Great Britain	1,055,878,940	3,456,408 810	4,512,287,750
France	1,251,493,010	388,837,130	1,640,810 140
Germany	292,850,390	764,687,490	957,537,880
Belgium	69,109,000	202,825,480	271,934,480
Italy	137,805,920	5,501,950	143,307,870
Austria	94,958,680	2,444,840	96,403,460
Switzerland	21,345,000	54,571,770	78,916,770
Turkey	16,566,940	—	16,566,940
Holland	3,621,250	3,083,780	6,706,030
Spain	2,301,300	917,440	3,218,740
Russia	1,462,500	35,000	1,497,500
Portugal	—	100,000	100,000
Denmark	25,000	—	25,000
United States of America	2,497,914,200	779,609,830	3,277,524,030
Canada & other British America	86,271,420	182,000	86,393,420
Peru	2,484,800	—	2,484,800
Australia	135,491,680	62,208,080	197,699,760
Hawaii	44,033,560	856,020	44,889,580
Other Countries	30,963,600	34,093,910	64,997,510
Total	8,444,450,700	8,239,136,430	16,683,587,130

TOTAL VALUE OF EXPORTS AND IMPORTS FROM AND TO EACH PORT.

Yokohama	4,005,108,700	4,874,244,570	8,879,348,070
Kobe	3,546,721,480	3,559,031 570	7,105,789,050
Osaka	4,860,000	60,873,570	65,733,570
Nagasaki	209,057,180	329,989,160	539,046,340
Hakodate	54,706,050	—	54,706,050
Shimonoseki	464,380,940	1,275,900	476,096,840
Moji	138,431,600	—	138,431,600
Hakata	491,230	—	491,230
Karatsu	24,505,000	—	24,505,000
Kuchinotsu	279,965,000	—	279,965,000
Idzugahara	9,183,570	2,777,000	4,960 570
Shishiki	662,060	512,760	1,178,860
Sasuna	462,050	54 200	515,170
Muroran	22,382,500	—	22,382,500
Specie and Bullion	Exports 4,038,056 350	Imports 1,136,636,290	
Total			5,174,692,640
Excess of exports			2,901,420,060

VALUE OF EXPORTS AND IMPORTS BY JAPANESE MERCHANTS AND GOVERNMENT.

By Japanese Merchants	Exports	2,003,480.320
	Imports	3,170,462.990
Imported by Government		58,851.550

VALUE OF COMMODITIES IMPORTED INTO AND EXPORTED FROM JAPAN EACH MONTH THIS YEAR.

	Exports.	Imports.
January	13,704,459,990	22,566,879,670
February	8,633,963,380	16,873,099,810
Total	22,338,423,370	39,439,979,480

AN OLD NOTE.

THE *Meiamashi* and one or two other Tokyo *ko-shimbunshi* have a remarkable story to tell of an *amma*, or professional massageur, in Asakusa. The man is represented as being, like most of his tribe, very poor, yet he is the son of a *Kengyo*, or *amma* of the highest rank: such as were much esteemed in feudal days and ranked with physicians. During a recent house-cleaning this shampooer happened to find in one of the *tatami* a receipt for some five hundred *yen*, at one time loaned by his father to a well-known nobleman. He took the receipt to the house of the nobleman's family, where he learned that the borrower, like his own father, had died twenty years ago. There was a son, however, and he offered the *amma* thirty *yen* to have the document returned, moreover, in order to keep his father's name from reproach the nobleman engaged to provide for the indigent shampooer in future and see that he suffered no want: an offer that was of course once joyfully and gratefully accepted. The *Meiamashi* adds that the Asakusa shampooers have had an epidemic of house-cleaning since the occurrence of this incident, probably in the hope of unearthing similar documents.

THE STUDY OF KOREAN.

SEVERAL schools or classes for the study of the written and spoken Korean language have recently been opened in the metropolis, and nearly all are well attended. This increase of interest is particularly noticeable in the Higher Commercial School, where German and French are gradually becoming neglected in favour of the nearer tongue. A member of the Korean Legation recently visited this school during the recitation of the Korean classes, and delivered a short address in his native language; much to the edification of the young men, the majority of whom could follow the speaker's remarks. In Kojimachi District alone there are now three places where Korean is taught. Students from the Peninsular Kingdom are at a premium and their services as teachers are eagerly sought. It is said, however, that native Koreans pick up Japanese much more rapidly than Japanese do Korean; and this is ascribed to the difficulties of pronunciation which the Japanese student has to overcome: the frequent *l's*, the curious *ŏ* and *yu* sounds, which are not familiar to the Japanese tongue. It is decidedly gratifying to mark this increase of interest in a language which a large percentage of the Japanese must, sooner or later, acquire.

POLICE VIGILANCE AT SHIMONOSEKI.

THE Police control at Shimonoseki has become most strict, writes a correspondent of the *Mainichi*. Every person visiting Shimonoseki has to undergo a thorough search, both on land and at sea, for at least half an hour. When Mr. Fujita Tatsuyoshi, M.P., returned to Shimonoseki, on the 25th ult., from his travels in Kyushu, he was subjected at Moji to an examination that lasted about three hours. Again, Mr. Komatsu Sansho, another M.P., on landing at Shimonoseki had, most unluckily for himself, a razor in his trunk. That lethal weapon cost him three hours' detention. Another case was that of Mr. Takahashi Kenzo, editor of the Osaka *Asahi*. Going back to Shimonoseki after an excursion to Chofu, a small knife found in his purse condemned him to two hours' search and inquiries. In short, Shimonoseki is virtually in a state of seige. Even fish and vegetable dealers, who used to come in every day from the suburbs are now subjected to equally rigid control. The place presents the aspect of a pest-ridden district. After the incident of the 24th, quite a number of inquirers after the health the Viceroy flocked to the town, only to be sent away before entering the gate of the Injo Temple, the temporary residence of the Viceroy. "The unceremonious reception awaiting sympathizers is worth publication in the newspapers. Before the gate of the temple a curtain is hung, and at each side of the curtain stand a gendarme and a constable. As soon as a caller, desirous of inquiring after the health of the Viceroy, reaches the gate he is required, either by a gendarme or constable to give his name and business. The caller produces his card and states his business. One of the guard at the gate then goes in, the caller being required to wait at the gate. After some quarter of an hour's delay, the guard comes back and admits the caller within the gate, where another office stands with a number of police on duty. The porch of the Temple faces this office, but the caller is seldom allowed to proceed as far as the porch. His business is almost invariably disposed of at the office. He is made to wait there while one of the guard on duty proceeds to the porch with the visitor's card, and after a further delay of five or six minutes a Japanese civil official emerges from the porch attired in an antiquated frock coat, and having his feet invariably thrust into wooden clogs. This functionary approaches the visitor and

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produces his card, whence the information is obtained that he is a clerk of Yamaguchi Prefecture. He asks the visitor whether he has brought with him a letter of condolence, or whether he wishes to convey his respects by word of mouth. In either case he declares his conviction that the Chinese Ambassador will make a suitable reply in due time, and then leaves the visitor. When the latter puts a question about the condition of Viceroy, a constable standing near invariably warns him to desist from further inquiries." Hitherto, writes the correspondent of the *Jiji*, travellers coming to Shimonoseki were inspected by the police at each entrance to the place, and when nothing suspicious was discovered, a passport was given entitling its bearer to enter the town. On the 28th ult. some changes were effected in this method. Thereafter only persons possessing certificates from a Government office or guaranteed by sureties known to the police of Shimonoseki, are permitted to enter or stay in the town. The Government offices referred to signify those of higher grade than Police offices. Consequently, in future, any one who intends to go to Shimonoseki should provide himself with a certificate of a competent Government office or otherwise he will suffer the misfortune of being sent away ■ the entrance of the city.

A GIFT FOR THE CZAR.

KITAGAI ITSUTARO was, it will be remembered, one of the two fortunate *jinrikisha*-pullers who happened to render a service to the present Emperor of Russia when his life was attempted by a fanatic near Otsu. Both he and his fellow were pensioned for life by the grateful sovereign. Of the other *kurumaya* various unpleasant tales have been circulated, notably that he had grown dissipated and disreputable. It was at one time stated that the Russian Government, through its Representative, threatened to withdraw the pension unless the man mended his ways. However this may be, Kitagai, at all events, has kept himself straight. He has always longed to make some offering to his munificent benefactor, and has now ordered the well-known metallurgist Yamada Sōkō to make a large incense-burner. It is to be of hammered iron, with various patterns in bas-relief, and inlaid with gold and silver. This burner (*kōrō*) he desires to present to the Emperor of Russia in token of his gratitude. The thought is a pretty one, especially ■ the *kōrō*, if really made according to the description which we find in the *Yoniuri Shimbun*, will be a very valuable gift.

FIGHTING IN THE PHILIPPINES.

A FEW days ago Reuter briefly mentioned that the Spanish forces had defeated the rebellious natives in Mindanao. From Manila papers we learn that the battle took place on the 10th March. The Spaniards made an advance in force on the rebel position and carried it after a desperate is resistence. The loss on their side was 15 killed and 172 wounded, while the natives had 23 of their chiefs (including the Sultan, who had declared a holy war) and 103 others killed. After the battle natives came in from all sides to make their submission to the Governor-General. It is believed that the war, which has lasted many months, will now be brought to a speedy conclusion.

THE "RHEINGOLD" CASE.

WE are glad to be able to state, says the *Kobe Chronicle*, that there are hopes of a settlement being shortly arrived at in the dispute between the Captain of the *Rheingold* and the Japanese sub-charterers of the vessel, both sides having consented to the appointment of an arbitrator, who will be a foreigner. The difficulty hitherto has been that the Japanese would not consent to the appointment of a foreign arbitrator, but insisted that the arbitrator should be a Japanese —a condition which could not be acceded to in view of the points of maritime law involved. We had intended dealing with this case at some length in contradiction of the statements which have appeared from time to time in the Japanese press, as it raises questions which intimately concern every shipping firm in Japan, but in view of the fact that the case is now practically *sub judice* we think it better to hold over our remarks. We are at liberty to state, however, that the long article which appeared in the *Nippon* on the *Rheingold* difficulty, and was translated from that journal by the *Japan Mail*, is a tissue of misstatements from beginning to end. All that the Captain has done has been to hold the cargo until the charter-money was paid, as he was empowered to do by the terms of the charter-party. For insisting upon the fulfilment of the contract, and resisting the forcible removal of the cargo by the sub-charterers, the vessel has been detained here for more than a month.

HONKONG PROMOTIONS.

A PRIVATE telegram has been received in Shanghai from Honkong conveying the intelligence that the Hon. J. H. Stewart Lockhart, lately Registrar-General of the colony, has been appointed Colonial Secretary. This is a well-deserved honour and will give much satisfaction, Mr. Lockhart having spent all his official life in the service of the Hongkong Colony, which he joined as a cadet, and he is still comparatively a young man; it is said he is probably the youngest Colonial Secretary in the service of the Crown.

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The Hongkong correspondent of the *N.C. Daily News* writes:—Mr. A. J. Leach, Q.C., has just been the recipient of a gratifying offer. He has been appointed one of the Puisne Judges of the Straits Settlements. Mr. Leach was at the time of his appointment, Acting Attorney-General, and has several times acted in that capacity and as Puisne Judge in this Colony. It was in recognition of these services that he was made a Q.C., and his substantive appointment is a further mark of appreciation from Downing Street. Mr. Leach is well-known in Shanghai and his numerous friends there as well as in this Colony will be pleased to hear of his promotion to the judicial bench. He is a good, sound lawyer, extremely conscientious and painstaking, though hardly a brilliant advocate, and will make an excellent judge. He will also be greatly missed on the cricket field.

A SECOND SOLOMON REQUIRED.

THE metropolitan papers relate a very curious case which was recently brought up before the Nihonbashi District Police Court for decision. On the 27th ultimo, a man passing through a street in Shitaya District, suddenly rushed toward a child playing by a doorstep and crying, "Little Mankichi! Have I found you?" clasped the child to his breast with every demonstration of joy. The attention of the neighbours was roused by the act and the joyful cries of the man. On being questioned he replied that the child was his own son, not quite four years old; that he had strayed from the house on January 21st, and despite the most stringent inquiries nothing had ever since been heard of him; that his mother, the man's wife, had almost lost her senses from excessive grief, and so forth. The tale was circumstantial, and the listeners were puzzled. Finally one of them said that the child was the son of a woman in the vicinity, whose husband had gone to the wars; he would, at all events, call the mother. This he did, when quite a painful scene ensued, the woman claiming the child as her own, while the strange man as stoutly protested that this was his long-missing son. Finally, the police had to interfere, and the two rival claimants with the child were taken to the Nihonbashi Police Court. Here the strictest cross-examination failed to elicit the truth; the little boy seemed to recogise both parties, and called one "father" and the other "mother;" he answered equally to the name of "Hideuchi," under which the woman claimed him; and to that of "Mankichi," which the man swore was his real appellation, and, strange to say, he resembled both claimants. The case was adjourned until the next day, all the parties being detained at the Station. When the claim was reopened, the man said he had at home a photograph of the boy, ■ well as some of the material of which the child's dress was made; he was permitted to fetch both, and the photograph proved to be indubitably that of the perplexing infant, while the material was evidently part and parcel of the clothing worn. On her side, the woman called in her father as a witness, who was positive that the child was his own grandson. Finally, the magistrate asked the claimants if there was any mark on the child's body by which they might recognise him. The man promptly replied that there was: a small discoloration, like a nævus, on the upper left arm; the woman was silent when so questioned. The child's coat was then removed, and the mole discovered. On this the woman was subjected to a still severer inquiry, in the course of which she made a clean breast of her crime. She really had had a son the exact counterpart of the little boy in question. When her husband had left for China she had made up her mind to abandon the child, "fearing that she might not be able to feed and cloth it unaided." So she had taken her own child to a distant Shinto shrine and there left it to its own resources, believing that the attendant *Kanushi* might be moved to look after the forlorn little fellow. A day or so after, the thought of her husband's anger, should her act be discovered, gave her great anxiety; and on walking through Nihonbashi District she had met with a little runaway, almost an exact copy of her own deserted child, whom she had taken home with her without exciting any one's suspicion. It was in this way that the real father, who is a well-to-do pawnbroker in the district in question, had never obtained any clue of his lost son. Of course the child was returned to the real parent, and after remanding the woman for future trial, inquiries were instituted about her abandoned boy. It was found that the *Kanushi* had lodged the child in an orphan asylum, where it was doing as well as could be expected. The Tokyo journals state that a case of this description has not hitherto been recorded in the annals of the country.

PISCATORIAL CATALEPSY.

THE *Yorozu Chōho* publishes a fish-story of such tall dimensions that our contemporary is moved to doubt the veracity of the narrative, yet states that the particulars come from an authentic source. It relates to the poison of that ugly fish the Tetradon, better known under the common style of *fugu*. Some weeks ago a maker of *Kamaboko*, or edible fish-paste, of Okazakieki in Sanshu, was poisoned by partaking of some *fugu*. Despite all the local physicians could do, death ensued and preparations for the funeral were made by the sorrowing survivors. It happened, however, that an elderly druggist from Tokyo was in the town at the same time, and he heard of the case. He at once repaired to the house of the defunct *Kamabokoya* and begged the relatives to defer the obsequies. The man was not dead, he positively asserted, but merely in a cataleptic trance. People never did die of *fugu*-poison; it merely suspended animation for a week or so, whereupon the supposed dead person would invariably recover. He, the druggist, believed that thousands of people had thus been ignorantly buried while alive; and therefore implored the relatives to trust to his words. If the *Kamabokoya* did not revive within a week, then he was really and truly dead. The season being still very cold at the time, and fear of decomposition being therefore small, the family of the supposed dead man consented to make the experiment. *Rigor mortis* at no time set fully in, although the limbs continued stiff and there was not the slightest sign of life. On the sixth day the cataleptic gave signs of returning animation; restoratives were promptly employed, and in another twenty-four hours the man was in the enjoyment of his usual health. This much sounds credible; at all events it is not beyond the bounds of belief; but unfortunately for its credit the story fails to terminate at this point. The *Kamabokoya*, being excessively fond of *fugu*-flesh and learning that he could thus

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partake of his favourite dainty with impunity, has several times since then eaten the forbidden food. Each time the cataleptic periods have been of less duration. He has now got things down to such a fine point that a *fugu*-carouse means simply three days' oblivion, during which he is apparently dead though really alive and aware of all that is going on. But the powers of human belief have their limits. In spite of the fact that the addresses of the druggist and cataleptic are given in full, the story is incredible—unless indeed we emulate the example of the Red Queen, in "Through the Looking-glass," and get so skilful as to be able to believe "six wholly impossible things before breakfast."

THE FORTUNES OF THE MINS.

THE Söul correspondent of a Tokyo contemporary states that the Korean Mins, for so many years the autocrats of that vexed Peninsula, are now in great straits for the want of ready money. They have landed estates in various parts of the Kingdom but in view of the unsettled state of affairs there are no purchasers, at least none who offer a tithe of the real value of the property. This once proud and great family now appears humbled to the dust, though while the Queen is alive they are always certain of one powerful friend at Court. Some members of the family resident in Söul sold the other day a comparatively large quantity of miscellaneous art-treasures to a local Japanese merchant, for the paltry sum of one thousand one hundred *yen*. In Japan, the correspondent avers, they would fetch almost if not quite ten times that amount. These *takara* included some extraordinarily fine pieces of jade and soapstone carving; a number of ancient and rare vases and platters; and over thirty pictures and calligraphic scrolls. But all these were not originally the property of any one Min; they were, the correspondent declares, forcibly taken from less powerful people, and represent the heirlooms of quite a large number of one time wealthy Korean families. He goes on to state that the Min faction does not even yet despair of regaining power in the government; that it is their firm and final resolve to repossess themselves of what they have lost, as soon as Count Inouye's back is turned. The only way to deal with these unprincipled political harpies is, he holds, to exile them, or to cause them to settle in Japan under the Argus eye of the law. If this be not done, the Mins will prove a constant menace to whatever Government is in power. And they have so large a following that it is very difficult to deal properly with them. Stripped of their honours, they have by no means lost either their ambition or their hopes.

DECEPTIVE APPEARANCES.

ONE of the finest and best-built bridges in the metropolis is that known as Ochanomizu-bashi, a beautiful and lofty iron arch which spans the canal running between Hongo and Kanda, and connects the two districts by a broad roadway from the top of Surugadai. This used, forty or fifty years ago, to be one of the most noted places in Tokyo, as it is still one of the most picturesque. On the flank of the steep slope there was formerly a famous *unagi-ya*, or restaurant where eels are served up in various styles. One day, some ten decades ago, a visitor came to the restaurant. After having eating sparingly he began to inspect the house and garden with evident interest, and finally made a rough sketch of the place. That same night a thief broke into the restaurant and managed to get off with a large quantity of booty. Suspicion of course alighted on the inquisitive visitor of the foregoing day, so that when a week or so later, he again made his appearance the police were informed and he, to his great astonishment, was promptly arrested. Among the constables was a man who knew the prisoner and recognized him at once as being the celebrated artist Hasegawa Settan. On his suggestion, Hasegawa was asked why he had made his secret sketch and thus brought suspicion on himself? He replied that a friend of his Saito Gesshin, was about to publish a guide to Yedo and that he had been commissioned to make illustrations for the work. The place had struck him as so picturesque that he had taken several views of the restaurant and its surroundings. This statement found full credence; Hasegawa was immediately released from custody and the master of the restaurant overwhelmed him with apologies for his rudeness. The guide-book appeared shortly thereafter, and was for many years a standard work.

SCHOOLS IN TOKYO.

IT is perhaps due to the belief that the end of the war is nigh that the number of applicants for admission to Government schools in the metropolis is unusually large at present. The new term, the first of the academic year, either began on the 1st instant or will begin on the ninth, and hundreds of students from the interior have come up to enjoy the high-class educational privileges of the great city. In the case of the Merchant Navy School—a most praiseworthy and admirably conducted establishment—there have been one hundred and fifty applicants for admission. Of these forty-five only were present on the last day of the entrance examination, all the rest having either been rejected on account of physical disabilities or having found the test too great a one for them. Twenty-two only were finally admitted. The four or five *Yinjo Chugakko*, or private middle schools with special privileges, of which the Meiji Gikwai, Kinjo Gakko, Nippon Chugakko, and Ikubun Kwan are most famous, have all had an unprecedented number of applications for admission: two hundred and over in the case of the Meiji Gikwai alone. The Shikan Gakko, or Military Academy, has had more than four hundred applicants, but of these less than fifty came up to the required standard. Two hundred is, we believe, the extreme limit of the Academy at present. The course is one of three years, open only to such as have graduated from Ordinary Middle Schools or are able to pass an examination equivalent to this standard. The alumni rank as ensigns, and their record in the War has been an enviable one. Several hundred students likewise applied for admission to the Naval Academy. There, however, the physical tests are exceptionally severe, and the majority generally fail in this particular, only the best and strongest lads being selected. The First Higher Middle School has had an increase of nearly three hundred pupils; the School of Technology, in Asakusa, over one hundred; the Higher Commercial School, whose accommodation is limited, more than two hundred applicants, with less than fifty admissions. The Postal and Telegraphic School has done equally well. On the whole, the outlook for the new academic year is distinctly encouraging.

UNITED STATES CONSULATE-GENERAL FEES.

THE following was issued over the signature of the U.S. Consul-General on April 3rd:—Until further notice the following tariff is established for the collection of fees at this office. Invoices should be made out in silver *yen*, which for the purpose of this notice are estimated as equivalent to forty-seven and six-tenths ($0.476) cents. U.S. Currency:—

	Yen.
For Invoice Certificate	5.26
For Extra Copy of Invoice	4.21
For Currency Certificate	2.10
For Landing Certificate	5.26
For Bill of Health	5.26
For Endorsement to Bill of Health	1.05
For Personal Effects Certificate	1.05
For Emigration Manifest	.53

To avoid delay in transacting business at this office, persons paying fees are requested to present the exact change.

YOKOHAMA LITERARY SOCIETY.

A MOST entertaining programme was presented at last evening's meeting of the Yokohama Literary Society. After the opening overture, from "Caliph of Bagdad," by Mr. and Miss Griffin, Mr. A. J. Wilkin read an original paper on the various chemical forms into which carbon enters, under the caption of "The Brightest and Blackest Thing on Earth." Naturally Diamonds and Coal were dealt with at length, and that in a most interesting manner. The musical portion of the evening fell in the second half and consisted of the following numbers; String Quartet, Adagio (Beethoven), Messrs. Ramseger, Kaufmann, Danenberg, and Schmid; pianoforte solo, "Polonaise" (Chopin), Miss Orth; Part Song, "In this hour of softened splendour" (Pinsuti), Mrs. Read, Miss Rice, Mr. Nicholas, and Mr. Walford; String Quartet, "Allegro in F. Major" (Beethoven), Messrs. Ramseger, Kaufmann, Danenberg, and Schmid.

THE "RHEINGOLD" DIFFICULTY.

ACCORDING to Japanese papers, the difficulty concerning the cargo of the *Rheingold*, an attempt to remove which by force led to a somewhat serious affray two or three weeks ago, is in the hands of Mr. Crosse for the captain, and Mr. Sakurai for the sub-charterers, who are endeavouring to come to some satisfactory arrangement.

THE SPANISH CABINET.

THE *Nippon* states that the Spanish *Chargé d'Affaires* in Japan has intimated to the Japanese Government that a new Spanish Cabinet has been organized. Senhor Canovas del Castillo has succeeded Senor Sagasta as Premier, and the Duke of Tetuan has been appointed Minister of Foreign Affairs.

DESTRUCTIVE FIRE IN TOKYO.

DURING the gale on the morning of the 29th inst. flames burst from the house of a carpenter at Kojimachi, Shichome, Kojimachi, and despite the exertion of the firemen soon spread to the adjacent buildings. Sixty-seven houses were destroyed, and 9 damaged. The fire originated through a lamp being upset by an employé.

RAISING THE FIRE TEST.

A BILL has been introduced in the Pennsylvania legislature to raise the fire test of petroleum, naphtha, etc., from 115 degrees Fahrenheit to 150 degrees. This action is based upon the fact that owing to the present low test in Pennsylvania, the poorest quality of oil is dumped there and sold.

THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

AT a meeting of the newly elected Committee of the Yokohama General Chamber of Commerce, Mr. James Walter was elected Chairman, and Mr. E. Flint Kilby, Vice-Chairman, of that body for the current year.

THE LIMIT OF HUMAN LIFE.

Is that limit determinable? It may be assumed that the limit of human life is the life-time of the human being who has lived the longest. In a forest of ancient date there will probably be found a few specimens of trees that have looked down upon their congeners for hundreds of years. The age of these patriarchs is the life-limit of the trees of that wood. In Doré's twelve studies of The Wandering Jew, of which the first design is in illustration of

> "Since thou art pitiless, thy weary way
> Thou'rt doomed to wander till the Judgment Day;

the third is

> Spell-bound, they gather far and near to scan
> The weird senescence of that wondrous man.

Of course the notion that for these eighteen hundred years one has wandered up and down the earth with no rest for the sole of his foot has long been given up by intelligent men.

But in ancient writings, sacred and profane, men are said to have attained extraordinary longevity. In the fifth chapter of Genesis we read of a number of men who passed beyond the limits of nine hundred years. After the Flood of Noah's time, the ages of the patriarchs were much reduced. How are we to account for the wonderful ages of the antediluvians? It is contended that Adam and Eve fed upon the fruit of the Tree of Life, and that in virtue of its life-giving properties, they and their descendants till the Flood lived and flourished well nigh a millenium. But the very text quoted seems to

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disprove the contention, for Adam had not yet put forth his hand to eat of the fruit of this life-imparting tree. Dr. Delitzsch, in the last edition of his Commentary on Genesis, regards the long periods of over 900 years allotted to Adam and to those who came after him, as "periods of antediluvian history which are named after their chief representatives, and that the period of these epochs is allotted to the individual life of these chief representatives, as though it had extended over the whole period." This is probably about the same method of disposing of the difficulty as that of Dr. Crawford of China. Of several methods of resolving the difficulty allusion may be made to one which attempts to find a way of being at once faithful to the teachings of the Bible and true to the deductions of science. Hensler furnishes reason for believing that before Abraham the year consisted of only three months, and that from then till Joseph's time it was only 8 months, but that in Joseph's time the Egyptian method was adopted by the Jews and the year became 12 months. "This assertion," says Hufeland, a still higher authority, "is to a certain degree confirmed by some of the Eastern nations who still reckon only three months to the year." And he thinks that man can still attain to the same age as ever. On one or other of these theories the age of Methuselah is relieved of difficulty.

Come we now to consider accounts in profane writings of many who in ancient times lived to very advanced years. The Greeks and Romans were wont to chronicle all remarkable cases of longevity, for the simple reason that long life was so far from being the rule that it was only the exception. Pliny tells us that in the year A.D. 76 there were 124 men (living in a limited region) of 100 years and more, three of whom were 140, and four over 135 years. Cicero, in his De Senectute, makes Cato says that Isocrates wrote the Panethenaican in his 94th year and he lived five years afterward; while his master, Gorgias of Leontium, filled out 107 years. He makes mention also of one of the Kings of the Tartessii, who reigned 80 years and lived 120. These are but a few of many who lived to very old age.

In modern times instances of great longevity are very numerous, despite the *dictum* of the late Sir George Cornewall Lewis that the evidence of the past to him sufficed to raise a presumption that a human life under existing circumstances is never prolonged beyond a hundred years. And some one else has affirmed that "when the alleged centenarian is believed to be a centenarian or a year or two more, error may not be unreasonably *suspected*, but when the age is extended beyond, say to 106, error so certainly exists that no trustworthy evidence can be produced in support of it." While Buffon confidently affirmed that the man whose life is not cut short by accident or disease reaches everywhere the age of 90 or 100 years. Faraday also adopted the theory that the natural age of man is 100 years. In Prof. Owen's comparative table of longevity man is put at 100 years. Prof. Humphrey of Cambridge University, who has given this subject much study, has shown that the frequent attainment of the centenarian age is fully established. The *British Medical Journal* in 1887 gave 3 cases of persons who had passed the age of 100 years. The present writer well knew an old lady, Mrs. Mary Bogart, of Adolphustown, Ont., Canada, who celebrated her centenary in a grove in the midst of a large concourse of friends, many scores of whom were her own posterity. Mrs. Bogart lived about a year and a half longer. M. Chevreul, the celebrated French chemist, was unable on his 102nd birthday to receive the friends who desired to do him honour, while Mrs. Rebecca Snyder celebrated her 103rd birthday by a picnic, and danced the Virginia reel with the oldest man in the neighbourhood. Count Jean Waldeck died at Paris in 1875, aged 109 years. According to the census of the United States in 1880 there were 4,016 persons in the country 100 years old or over. Mr. James Easton of Salisbury, England, published a list containing the names of 1,712 persons who had reached the age of 100 years and upwards. In 1826 Mr. Charles Babbage collected 1,750 cases of a like sort. Thus far the evidence is overwhelming in favour of the position of Faraday, Buffon, and Owen against that of Sir George Cornewall Lewis.

But as we proceed to cite cases of much greater longevity the evidence must be closely scrutinized. It is on the authority of Professor Hufeland stated that a Prussian soldier, who served 67 years under both Fredericks, fought many battles, endured much hard campaigning and married successively three wives, died at last at the age of 112. A well authenticated case is that of Madame Hulsenstein, maid of honour to Maria Theresa, who died in 1876 at the age of 119. A list prepared by the late Cornelius Walford contained the names of 208 persons who died at or above the age of 120 years. The next story is a little harder to credit. The Countess of Desmond, born in 1464, in her 139th year was able to go every week on foot 4 or 5 miles to her market-town, and during that year journeyed on foot from Bristol to London to appeal to the King against some injustice. The King granted her suit, and she trudged her weary way home again. In the following year "the frisky old girl," as Tom Moore called her, met her death by falling from a tree into which she had climbed to gather nuts. Jean Noel, a great favourite of the first Napoleon, died in 1829 at the age of 148 years. The story goes that at a masked ball given by Napoleon about 1812, general attention was attracted to an amazon whose splendid costume and graceful movements excited the wondering admiration of all. When the time came to unmask, all eyes were turned toward her, and when the mask and wig were removed the well known features of Jean Noel were brought to light. Another historic case is that of Thomas Parr, of Shropshire, England, a day labourer, who lived to the age of 152 years. He married his second wife at the age of 120, and till 130 he could swing the scythe and wield the flail with the best of his fellow labourers. In his 152nd year he went up to London to exhibit himself to the King, when unfortunately he feasted so sumptuously as to bring on some affection that soon ended in death. Probably the most authentic instance of advanced age in modern times is that of Henry Jenkins of Yorkshire, England, who died in 1670, 169 years old. He was a fisherman, and at the age of 100 easily swam across rapid rivers. We need some evidence for all this, and it is forthcoming. It is said that he declared that in his boyhood he was employed to carry a horseload of arrows from his native place to North Allerton for the use of the Earl of Surrey at the battle of Flodden Field, which was fought in the year 1513. He used also to say that whilst in the service of Lord Conyers, of Hornby Castle, he had often seen the Abbot of Fountains, a very jolly priest, at his master's table. But as this monastery was suppressed about 1537 we have another indication of his age. Surely we are not so incredulous and so wicked as to doubt this disinterested testimony of a very old man! But this is not all. How conclusive is the following testimony borne by an outsider, who went one day to visit him. Finding in the garden a very old man, evidently beyond a century, he concluded that this was the man he was in quest of, but was quickly set on the right track by the old man exclaiming: "It's my fayther, you want; he is yonder," and farther on found the genuine Henry Jenkins. Nor is this all. It is asserted that the registers of the Court of Chancery prove that he gave evidence 140 years before his death. If we are able to believe all this, possibly we can credit the story of the Peteraburg *Gazette* in 1812, of a man who died in the diocese of Ekateroios, at an age between 200 and 205, and the account of Thomas Cam, Shoreditch, England, confirmed by the parish registers, who died in 1588 at the age of 207.

Haller, who has collected the greatest number of instances of longevity, thus tabulates them:—

Of men who have lived from 100 to 110 there have been	1,000
110 to 120	60
120 to 130	29
130 to 140	15
140 to 150	6
169	1

"Hufeland generalizing from these facts, thinks that the organization and vital powers of men are able to support a duration and activity of 200 years!" His judgment was based partly on the general principle that the life of a creature is eight times the years of its period of growth. This is a very modest estimate as compared with that of Roger Bacon, who believed that man could live a thousand years if he only knew how to economize his provision of vital force. And Descartes was equally sanguine for he assured Sir Kenelm Digby that he had reflected long upon the subject, and though he dared not promise immortality, he was certain he had the power of enabling men to attain the age of the patriarchs. How came it to pass that with such amazing power he should himself die at the early age of 54?

One thing seems to be conclusively proven, viz, that the average duration of life is steadily increasing. The records of Geneva, which have been kept for more than 400 years, show that the average has gone up from 21 years in the 16th century to over 40 in the present century. In England two centuries ago the annual mortality was one in thirty-three, now it is one in forty-two. Our ancestors regarded a man as old at 50, now he is not looked upon as old before 70. And as men come to know the laws of hygiene and sanitation better, and observe them more strictly, life will continue to be lengthened. We are safe, then, in saying that 100 years is within the limits of human life, which may be attained by our race in the most favourable circumstances. But 100 years is not the *ne plus ultra*, beyond which we shall not pass; it is merely a scientific frontier to be pushed on by the victorious march of the race toward perfection. The natural term is about a century, but the extreme limit of life may be extended perhaps to 200. Meanwhile, the average term will be pushed on to 75 or 80 and beyond, and the word of the Second Isaiah at last be fulfilled: "There shall be no more thence an infant of days, nor an old man that hath not filled his days; for the child shall die an hundred years old."

MAJOR VON HANNEKEN AND MR. DETRING.

One of the most hopeless acts yet committed by China seems to have been her treatment of Major von Hanneken and Mr. Detring. We have no direct information of our own on the subject, but take our facts from the Shanghai press. A certain mystery has hitherto surrounded the proceedings of Major von Hanneken, but it is dissipated by the details now published. Last October, after China's second failure to save herself by foreign intervention, the Pekin Government sent for Major von Hanneken and sought his advice. He availed himself of the occasion to expose the whole faults of China's military system, and to urge that nothing could save the empire except the organization of an army of 100,000 men, on a European or a Japanese model, officered by 2,000 Westerners—the Major naturally suggested Germans. The Pekin folks asked him whether he would undertake the task, and he replied in the affirmative, under certain conditions which were accepted. But no sooner did he commence preparations for carrying out this task, than the weight of Chinese officialdom was thrown into the scale against him. Reforms, such as he proposed, meant the closing up of innumerable roads to peculation and corruption. The Pekin Government found itself inundated with representations, the authors of which offered, in some cases, to carry out the proposed scheme at one-third of von Hanneken's estimate; in others, accused him of contemplating treachery such as had been practised in former years by General Burgevine, and in all, strongly opposed the idea of entrusting such work to a foreigner. The Government weakened in the face of this opposition, and Major von Hanneken, after waiting three months, found that none of the conditions upon which he had insisted were ful-

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filled. He accordingly resigned. Mr. Detring, a man of rare ability and the highest probity, had been cooperating throughout with Major von Hanneken, and both had the earnest support of Sir Robert Hart, who saw in their project the only sound hope of regenerating the Chinese military service. The better to push the scheme, Sir Robert temporarily detached Mr. Detring from the Customs Service. But it was all in vain. Major von Hanneken's army has perished in the embryo stage, and Mr. Detring is quietly seated once more at his desk in the Tientsin Custom House. If China can not raise herself from the conservative rut under the pressure of such calamities as she has recently suffered, what hope is there for her after peace is restored?

SHIPPING BUSINESS IN JAPAN.

No other Japanese business has been recently subjected to such varying fortunes as shipping. Changes in the rate of freight have been considerable, and these can be divided into three stages. The first stage covers the period commencing with the winter of 1893 and ending in the spring of last year, when, in consequence of active exportation of coal to Hongkong, Shanghai, and Singapore, the demand for ships became unusually great, causing a gradual rise in freights. The second period began when the war broke out, and lasted for several months. Freights rose extraordinarily owing to the sudden requisition by the Government of a large number of steamers. The third period was the time when, in consequence of the purchase or charter of a large number of foreign vessels, the supply began to exceed the demand, resulting in a reaction and in the fall of freights.

The *Shogyo*, from which paper we quote the above remarks, dilates thus upon them:—The increase of the demand for Japanese coal in the East was due to the strike of coal-miners in England, and also to the gradual depreciation of foreign exchange. The freights of the coasting trade were so much influenced that while the freight for 100 *koku* of rice on the occasion of the last voyage from Niigata in the winter of 1893, was 40 *yen*, it rose to 55 *yen* by the time of the first voyage from the same place in the following spring. The rise in freights during the few months subsequent to the commencement of the war was even more extraordinary. This was felt most in Hokkaido, as it was the season for the shipment of herring guano. The freight for 100 *koku* of guano rose to the unprecedented figure of over 150 *yen*, while that for the same quantity of beans was only 10 *yen* less. A reaction soon set in owing to the purchase or charter of a large number of steamers and also to the decline of the coasting trade. The latter is very marked in consequence of the war, especially in Hokkaido. A steamer destined for Hokkaido is never laden up to its full capacity. A ship capable of carrying 1,000 tons usually gets less than 100 tons of goods; sometimes only 70 tons or so. The terms at which foreign steamers have been chartered is very high, about one shilling per ton, and for vessels of good dimensions as much as five or five and a half shillings per ton. The fall of silver has also affected the interests of charterers of ships, so that, driven to extremities by such adverse circumstances, they began to undersell each other in their eagerness to procure cargo. The result was that the freight of 100 *koku* of fish guano fell to less than 40 *yen* and that of the same quantity of beans to 35 *yen*. Subjected to such losses, some of the charterers of steamers gave up their charters before the expiration of the prescribed term. Only the Yusen Kaisha, that is under an obligation to undertake certain lines, kept up its contracts with the owners of chartered ships. The balance between the demand and the supply has been gradually restored and freights have again risen somewhat. Thus the price of a shipment of coal, that at first stood at 3 *yen*, then fell to 2 *yen*, has now risen to 2½ *yen*. The *Shogyo* warns shippers to be prepared for a great change in their business when the war is over, as the supply is then likely to exceed the demand.

THE NEW AID TO MEMORY.

We spoke in a recent issue of a system for developing powers of memory, the invention of a Japanese, and we have now to add that an exhibition was given on the 17th ultimo the Imperial Hotel in the presence of representatives of the Tokyo and Yokohama press. The inventor, as we recently mentioned, is Mr. Wadamori Kikujiro, who was confined for about three years in the Kajibashi prison on a charge of implication in the money affairs of M. Tanaka Heihachi, and was only recently released. To occupy his endless leisure the prisoner devoted his time chiefly to reading books. A work on divination, written by Mr. Takashima Kayemon, was one of those eagerly perused. A chapter in that famous book led him to turn his attention to the development of some efficient system of strengthening the memory, and subsequently, for about two years, he became absorbed in attempting to discover the best mode of making the memory retentive. After numberless failures and indescribable difficulty he at last succeeded, as he thought, in developing a successful method. His own memory was not in any way excellent, but, assisted by his new method, he found that he could remember anything with ease astonishing to himself. Thus, he committed to memory the whole first book of the "Bunshokihan" (a collection of typical Chinese essays), a work extending to about 400 pages. The first thing that he told his friends, on being liberated from prison, was about his discovery. His friends, however, laughed at what he had to say; and well they might, for so called aids to memory are one of the most fruitful fields of imposition by charlatans. Mr. Wadamori then insisted on being subjected to a trial, and to that they were obliged to consent. The first experiment gave them food for reflection, and subsequent tests more and more astonished them. It was thought that the method should be disseminated to the public at large, and Messrs. Maruyama Meisei, ex-P.M., Nomoto Honnosuke, and Shioiri Tasuke, all members of the Tokyo bar, acted as projectors and invited the representatives of the Tokyo and Yokohama press to the Imperial Hotel. There were about 30 newspaper men, our representative being one of them, and the experiments began. At the outset everybody present wrote upon given sheets of paper 5 or 10 words, nouns, adjectives, verbs, or phrases, all entirely unconnected in meaning with each other. The papers were of course kept strictly concealed from Mr. Wadamori. A hundred words were thus written out. To show how totally devoid of continuity of meaning they were, we may quote a few of them. They ran in this way; *mukimi* (shell-fish), baby, running stream, Rothschild, marshal, to study, men-of-war, whereas we witness, Tomsk, and so on, till the whole amounted to 100. This done, Mr. Wadamori sat beside the table and one of the visitors read the words aloud one by one. Mr. Wadamori listened with his hands pressed on his head, as if he were trying to push what he heard into his brain. The words were not to be read in rapid succession but at intervals varying from 5 to 20 seconds, the reader to pause after each until Mr. Wadamori directed him to proceed to the next. After 20 words or so had been read, Mr. Wadamori would make a short pause of about half a minute's duration, apparently to arrange in some systematic order what he had thus far heard. In that way the hundred words were recited, and he was ready at once to answer any question put to him about them. He was asked to give the 11th word as counted from the first, the 20th as counted from the other end, and so forth, and he gave the correct answer at once in every case. He then repeated all the words from the beginning in due order as easily as if he were reading them from a written list. The next experiment was then tried. This was somewhat more difficult than the first. One of those present read a number, say No. 79 or No. 18, and another then read the name of a person out of a list. The list used was that of the members of the House of Representatives. When from the numerical list No. 79 was read, Shimada Saburo was read from the nominal; No. 20 from the numerical gave Awaya Shinzo from the nominal, and so on. The numbers were not in any kind of order. In such fashion the names of about 30 members were given out, and that being considered enough for purposes of experiment, the reading was stopped. Mr. Wadamori was then asked to give the name corresponding to No. 79, or any number read to him, and after a few seconds pause he gave the right answer in every case, to the surprise of all in the room. The first characters in each line of a newspaper column were next read in the same way, and the same remarkable result was attained. Mr. Wadamori told the press representatives that he could not forget even such meaningless names as he had committed to memory that evening for about a week. His statement was tested on a small scale that very evening. While the guests were seated at dinner some three hours after the first experiment, questions were propounded to Mr. Wadamori out of the sheets first used, and he replied with the same readiness and accuracy as before. He stated that he had tried the efficiency of his method while in prison. In the same cell was confined an English student who had worked at English for about 14 years. Mr. Wadamori only knew at that time the rudiments of English. He therefore asked his fellow prisoner to teach him that language. The lesson were begun, and it proved so easy for Wadamori to learn, in virtue of his system, that he was able in less than two months to master what an ordinary student would have required at least a year to acquire. In one respect he even surpassed his teacher, for while Wadamori accurately remembered every word he was taught, the treacherous memory of the teacher frequently obliged him to have recourse to a dictionary. Asked whether he thought that his method would not overtax the brain, Wadamori replied in the negative. He had studied English from morning to evening, and he did not feel any particular fatigue. The committing to memory of sentences is done, said he, in a somewhat different manner. When he wishes to memorize any fine passage or essay, instead of proceeding to remember one word after another, he subdivides it into several periods, masters the drift of their respective meanings, and then the whole composition can be remembered with comparative ease. It was thus that he committed to memory several hundred pages of the Chinese book containing selections from noted authors. Would it be possible to make another person's memory as retentive as that of Mr. Wadamori, was another question. He replied in the affirmative, seeing that his own memory had not at first been in any way excellent and seeing that the principles he had succeeded in developing, were very easy. Mr. Wadamori has not yet revealed his secret, though this much he told that evening, namely, that there are four cardinal principles so easy as to be capable of being mastered by any ordinary person in about a week. He further said that he had read all the English books he knew treating of aids to memory, but had found principles contained in them entirely distinct from his own. It is too soon to estimate the true value of the so-called discovery. We must wait to see whether the memory of other folks can be made as retentive as Mr. Wadamori's. If that be so his system must be considered a great boon to mankind. He is still undecided how to convey his secret to the public at large. Mr. Wadamori does not appear to be in any way a man of erudition. He studied law at a private law school in Tokyo, and had become a member of the Tokyo bar at the time he was thrown into prison. He seems to have read a book or two on mental physiology, and what knowledge he possesses on the organization or functions of the human brain was obtained from brief study. He is a little above 30 years of age.

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WAR NEWS.

SATURDAY, MARCH 30TH.

The reports of the Viceroy's condition continue most satisfactory. The wound gets better daily, the temperature and pulse are normal, and the appetite is good. There ought to be no further cause for anxiety. In certain vernacular papers we find childish recitals of some expression of pleasure or gratitude uttered by the Viceroy, but we presume that our readers are not particularly interested in such tales.

The *Hochi Shimbun* re-produces a report current in Shanghai to the effect that a Japanese force landed at Haichang in Formosa on the 27th instant. Haichang is on the south-west coast of Formosa, about mid-way between Taiwan and Takow. It is a promontory, said to have formerly been an island. But it is generally believed that no landing in Formosa itself was immediately contemplated by the troops sent against the Pescadores. We must therefore await further intelligence before attaching any credence to the rumour.

The official report of the capture of a part of the Pescadores, as forwarded to the Naval Department, is now published. It says :—"The staff of the united squadron under Captain Dewa, reporting under date of the 24th instant at noon, says that this morning at 5 o'clock, the naval brigade landed. After several attacks, a detachment succeeded, at half-past six, in capturing the fort on an eminence north-east of Heuchue Bay, and the heights to the north-west of that place. The whole detachment then advanced against Makung. The naval brigade took charge of the fort, in which three 15-cent. guns were mounted, and held the enemy in the Yuen-ting peninsula, being assisted in that task by some of the ships. No loss was experienced in the taking of the fort. If Makung is taken to-day, the fort on the Yuen-ting peninsula will be attacked to-morrow."

The *Nichi Nichi's* war correspondent gives the following account of the taking of Newchwang on the 4th instant :—On the 3rd of March the Third Division marched from Pangkang-tsz in the direction of Newchwang, and the Fifth Division advanced in the same direction by a road on the left. The main body, under Lieut.-General Oku, set out at 7 a.m. and by sunset reached Tsuichia-chang, 45 Chinese *li* (15 miles) from Newchwang. The 4th was the day fixed for the attack. Yamaguchi's Battalion, with cavalry and artillery, a portion of the main body, worked independently on the left flank, heading for the enemy's line of retreat to Yingkow. At about 9 a.m. the sound of firing was heard on the right. It came from the Third Division, which had already encountered the enemy. When our advance guard got to within about 2½ miles of Newchwang, it opened fire. Lieut.-General Oku, placing himself on an eminence under a willow to the west of Tszfang-tung, examined the state of affairs in Newchwang, and gave orders to Major-General Oshima, who commanded the van, to attack from the front. The mountain artillery attached to the van now took up a position on the north-west of Tung and opened fire, under cover of which the van pushed forward, Okuyama's Battalion being in front. The ground in front of Tung, through a space of several hundred mètres, was level, and the enemy, taking advantage of this, had erected parapets or cut loop-holes in the walls of houses. They used smokeless powder, and placed Gatlings and six quick-firing guns on elevated positions so that, had their troops been of the same quality as ours, it would have been impossible to cross this level space. But our men, strong in the sense of continued victory, took no heed of the enemy's fire but pushed straight on to the attack, followed by the supports, Mori's Battalion. Other batteries of field and mountain guns now came into action on the south west of Tung, and the Divisional reserves with a company of engineers, advanced on the west. The thunder of the artillery at this stage was terrific. Imada's Battalion now marched through a storm of bullets against the enemy's right flank, and Major Imada was shot through the neck. Simultaneously the main body of the Division advanced. Lieut.-General Oku was in front with the staff. Riding through the snow he established his temporary head-quarters in the first detached building taken from the enemy. The place was covered with dead bodies, to the number of several hundreds, the majority of them Chinese, but many also belonging to our forces. Newchwang being without walls or outworks of any kind, the enemy had thrown up parapets of considerable thickness, and posted their first line of defence there. They had also loop-holed the houses. After 22 hours' hard fighting, the Battalions of Okuyama and Imada managed to dislodge the enemy from the parapets, but those that had taken refuge in the houses and were fighting for their lives were difficult to drive out, they being under cover, while our men were completely exposed. Our losses at this stage of the battle were very heavy, but our troops, nothing daunted, succeeded in getting possession of several of the houses. The most stubborn resistance was made by some troops in a wine shop to the east of Taping Bridge, and by others lying behind a wall near one of the gates. Lieut-General Oku, perceiving the difficulty of dislodging these, ordered the engineers to employ dynamite. A company of sappers under Captain Takeda thereupon fired a charge of dynamite at the foot of wall near the wine-shop, a proceeding so terrible to the enemy that before another charge could be fired, they surrendered, to the number of nearly 300. A large quantity of weapons of war were captured at this point. At the same time half of a battalion of infantry passing by Muten Bridge, opened fire on the enemy near the gate. It was now sunset and the attack was suspended. The Third Division, emerging on the enemy's left so as to cut his line of retreat, fought late on into the night. Meanwhile, orders were issued to the various bodies forming the Fifth Division to assemble at the commanding officer's head-quarters, where they received orders to march toward Yingkow. They moved by the main road, while the First Division advanced from Kaiping, and the Third Division moved between them, this advance being commenced at midnight. The heaviest casualties were in the Okuyama and Imada Battalions : they had 18 killed and 118 wounded. In addition, Major Imada—promoted to be Lieut.-Colonel before he expired—and three lieutenants were killed. Mori's Battalion had 10 wounded, and Colonel Sato of the Third Battalion was badly wounded in the foot, the Battalion itself suffering heavily. As for the enemy, over 1,800 corpses were found in the field after a rough examination, and doubtless had careful search been made 2,000 would have been forthcoming.

MONDAY, APRIL 1ST.

Koyama Toyotaro—for such is his real name, not Koyama Rokunosuke as he at first stated—was sentenced on the 30th ultimo to penal servitude for life.

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* reports that Dr. Scriba paid two visits to the Viceroy Li, one at 6 p.m. on the 30th and the second at 9 a.m. on the 31st. But he did not attempt to probe the patient's wound, as it has already healed too far to permit of such an operation. The Viceroy appears to suffer from some species of catarrh of the stomach, but the exact nature of his malady is not clear. His temperature on the morning of the 31st ult. was 37°, his pulse 72, his general health good, and his appetite as usual. It is added that he eats two chickens daily, presumably in the form of soup. From the same authority we learn that Dr. Sato conveyed to the Viceroy on the morning of the 31st ultimo the special message of condolence sent by his old friend Viscount Yenomoto, Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce, who is a relative Dr. Sato, and that the Viceroy was much pleased. If all the accounts published by correct, the Viceroy must have experienced an unusual number of pleasurable sensations since his mishap.

The *Mainichi Shimbun* says that in addition to the guile with which he committed his nefarious crime, Koyama Toyotaro had in his possession a sixteen-page document called a *Zan-Kanjo*, that is to say, a document relating to the "removal" of wicked folks, and that he also possessed a photograph of Count Itagaki. We must confess that the general tone of the *Mainichi Shimbun* of late has not impressed us with very strong confidence in its moral balance. Count Itagaki's photograph may probably be omitted from the inventory of Koyama's belongings without any serious violence to truth.

The Viceroy is said to have invited Dr. Sato to Tientsin, promising to show him, not indeed such scenery as Japan offers, but at any rate some novel varieties of river views. It is an honest promise. The mud banks of the Peiho can be guaranteed as unique specimens of dirt decay, and dreariness.

It appears that the *Kwang-chi*, which vessel Admiral Ito restored to the Chinese, after the surrender at Weihaiwei, in order that the bodies of Admiral Ting and other high officials who died at Weihaiwei, as well as the liberated officers, might be carried away in her, was again captured at sea by the Japanese sloop *Teuriu*. On examination it was found that the *Kwang-chi* had on board 13 coffins, including that of Admiral Ting, the Admiral's son, 84 civil and military officials, and 96 rank file who had been released at Weihaiwei. She was *en route* for Shanghai, and it appeared that the engagements given by the officers to Vice-Admiral Ito were being faithfully carried out. The Japanese might have held the ship, of course, but they decided to let her go, as that course seemed more consistent with the original intentions of Vice-Admiral Ito.

In the *Official Gazette* we find the following : —"The expeditionary force, setting out from Sasebo on the 15th of March, and experiencing very bad weather all the way, arrived at Tsang Island on the afternoon of the 20th. On the same day the *Yoshino* and the *Naniwa* proceeded to reconnoitre Panghu Island and reported that there was a good landing-place in the Bay of Lichangchue, and that there appeared to be a fort on an elavation to the north-east of Heuchue Bay. It was therefore decided that a landing should be effected at Lichangchue, and that the First Flying Squadron, by way of preliminary, should shell the fort, the result of which operation should be taken as a guide for the approach of the Main Squadron and the transports to the landing place. On the 21st and 22nd an attempt was made to carry out this plan, but the weather proved too tempestuous. At 6 a.m. on the 23rd the ships put out of port, and the Flying Squadron shelled the fort as arranged. The enemy immediately replied, but it appeared that they had not more than two or three 15-cent. guns in position. Accordingly, while this was in progress, the Main Squadron convoyed the transports to Lichangchue, where they anchored. The First Squadron continuing to engage the fort, the landing of the troops was commenced at 11.40 a.m. and by 2.45 p.m. they were all ashore. The Main Squadron then joined the Flying Squadron in bombarding the fort. With a view to capturing Makung and turning its guns on Yufan Island, a force of 42 men with three field-pieces was landed from the fleet, and it was decided to land two companies with three more field guns on the 24th, one of the companies to be employed holding Yuen-ting Bay, while the rest of the force with three field guns advanced against Makung in order to get possession of its guns and use them."

The above report is from Vice-Admiral Ito. It is supplemented by a report from Sub-Lieutenant Hosaka, who says that, on the 23rd ultimo, the Japanese casualties were 8 wounded and one killed ; that on the 24th, the fort on the north of Henchue Bay was taken without loss ; that 3 French men-of-war were in the harbour at Tsang Island, and that the Chinese gunners did not succeed in hitting the Japanese ships once. The First Flying Squadron consists of the *Naniwa*, the *Takachiho*, the *Yoshino*, and the *Akitsu*, but the *Yoshino* does not seem to have taken part in the bombardment on the 23rd. The Japanese transports anchored about 3 miles from the Port, and some shells

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from the latter fell near the ships but did no damage. The enemy, as soon as they saw that a landing had been effected, sent a force of about 500 to oppose the Japanese advance, and a fight ensued, in which the Chinese had 20 killed and wounded, the Japanese loss being only 1 according to the *Jiji Shimpo*, but 8 wounded and 1 killed according to the report quoted above. The fort was captured by 5 p.m. and the troops bivouacked there. It contained six guns, of which three only had been used in the defence. There were still two other forts on the same island (Panghu). Makung was captured without difficulty on the 24th, and on the following day the Chinese on Yuenting peninsula surrendered. The spoils were 9 large guns, and a great quantity of ammunition and other articles. The enemy's casualties were 20 or 30 killed and 50 or 60 prisoners. The Japanese had 1 killed and 16 wounded, including a Lieutenant. The enemy fired the magazine in one of the forts and fled. The latest report is from Vice-Admiral Ito, under date 2.30 p.m. on the 26th ultimo. It says that the fleet took the last fort on Panghu Island on the afternoon of that day, so that Panghu is now entirely in Japanese possession.

Tuesday, April 2nd.

According to the vernacular press, Dr. Sato has instructions to telegraph daily to the Emperor the state of the Viceroy's Li wound. The doctor does so when he gets back to his inn after his morning visit to the patient, and the telegram, on reaching its destination, is at once handed to the Emperor and Empress.

Every conversation that passes between the Viceroy and Dr. Sato is reported by the vernacular press with a degree of fidelity that seems almost comical. Even the *Jiji* recounts how the illustrious patient stroked the celebrated physician's uniform and asked him whether he knew anything about war; to which Dr. Sato replied that the sword he wore was not to take men's lives but to save them. Of course there are various accounts of the delight with which the news of the Emperor's magnaminity in granting an armistice without conditions was received, but descriptions of such sentiments are clumsy affairs at best.

Vice-Admiral Ito, telegraphing from the Pescadores at 3 p.m. on the 26th ultimo, says:—"This afternoon I caused the ships to pass round to —— Bay, where we found the enemy in full retreat: A reconnoitring party proceeded to the fort and raised the naval ensign over it: Thus the whole of the Pescadores came into our possession. We are now engaged raising the torpedoes at the harbour's mouth. The British ship *Leander* arrived here on the 21st and fired a salute of 21 guns, which we returned."

Another report, also from Vice-Admiral Ito, dated at 11 a.m. on the 26th, says:—"On the 24th instant at 11.30 a.m. the mixed force, meeting little resistance, gained full possession of Makung. We had about 20 men wounded. I have not yet received any report of the enemy's casualties. The Chinese seem to have fled for the most part. Occasional shots were fired from Fisher Island at Makung. A skirmish also took place between a force of the enemy and the detachment of land troops posted by us to guard Yuenting peninsula. Several of the enemy were killed, but not one of our men was seriously wounded. The same evening the Chinese in the peninsula sent word that they wished to surrender to Major Tanji, who commanded the land forces on our side, and on the following day (25th March) the fort, armament and garrison were taken over. The enemy had stated that they numbered a thousand, but as they had no regular barracks, being scattered about the village, it was found difficult to collect them, and up to the evening of the 25th only 300 had been brought together. The officers, to the number of 10, will be sent to Japan in a few days. The men will be taken in junks to the mainland and set free. Yesterday, the fort taken by us at Makung fired several shots at the Fisher Island fort, but the latter did not reply. According to a report received yesterday from the *Naniwa*, which had been sent to reconnoitre, neither on Fisher Island nor in the neighbourhood were any of the enemy visible. From Siaveh' fort smoke was observed to ascend as though the powder magazine had been blown up, and it was presumed that no resistance would be encountered there. From the 20th instant until yesterday I purposely avoided sending any ships to the neighbourhood of Fisher Island, and it is therefore possible that some of the enemy may have taken advantage of the opportunity to escape in Chinese junks. To-day the ships are to steam up to the outside of Panghu harbour. The naval brigade will be withdrawn to-day as soon as the mixed force sends a detachment to relieve it from garrison duty."

Wednesday, April 3rd.

A report was received at Takushan on the 29th of March, from the officer commanding the commissariat station of the Second Army at Yangchiatun, that a force of the enemy was assembled at a place some 5 miles eastward from the Pili river (flowing into the Yellow Sea near Pitsuwo in the Liaotung peninsula), and that they had obtained arms and were secretly drilling the able-bodied men of the neighbourhood. The report went on to say that as yet no appearances of disturbance were visible, but that the eventualities of the situation could not be foreseen. Accordingly, Captain Nagase, of the Gendarmerie, proceeded thither at the head of a small force from Chwangho, and returned on the 30th ultimo, having taken 40 rifles, 13 *fusils de rempart*, 20,000 rounds of ammunition, 55 boxes of gunpowder, 16,000 fuzes, and 2 flags. He also arrested the chief of the insurgents, who is now undergoing examination.

In the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* we find the following detailed account of the capture of Yingkow (Newchwang):—"The order of the First Army's advance against Yingkow on the 5th of March was that the Third Division should march by the main route and the Fifth by a road on the left. There were said to be about 40 *yings* (20,000 men) of Chinese troops in Yingkow. That night the General and Divisional Head-quarters stopped at Tatsili, the van going into quarters on the south, and the infantry of the main body on the west, of that town. On the 6th the advance was resumed toward Kaokan, but soon the cavalry videttes reported, first, that no sign of the enemy was to be seen in Kaokan, and secondly, that the defenders of Yingkow had retreated to the northern bank of the Liao River, and were now at Tienchwangtai. This intelligence was received with much disappointment. The sound of artillery now became audible in the direction of Yingkow, and the Fifth Division advanced *en masse* to the neighbourhood of Fenghwangtien, where a report was received that the First Division had already captured Yingkow without difficulty. Scouts were accordingly sent forward. From Fenghwang-tien to Yingkow the distance is 11½ miles. The news of the fall of Yingkow not having been received until evening, the General and Divisional Head-quarters were established for the night at Fenghwang-tien. The main body of the enemy had retired to Tienchwangtai, and the garrison left in Yingkow numbered only 3,000. With these the First Division had fought. Whether the 3,000 effected their escape and joined the force at Tienchwangtai, or whether they were killed by the First Division, we have not yet learned. On the following day (7th) the sound of big guns was heard in the direction of Tienchwangtai, and we conjectured that the Third Division had marched to the attack of the place. The garrison at Yingkow had proved exceptionally weak, allowing itself to be defeated by one detachment of the First Division, and the First Army, moving down with all the *elan* of its victory at Newchwang, found nothing to do except to listen to the recital of its comrades. The remnants of the Newchwang Army together with the Yingkow Army and 5 *yings* (2,500 men) of the regular garrison, being assembled at Tienchwangtai to the number of 20,000, and having entrenched themselves there with the evident intention of giving battle, the Commander-in-chief gave orders that the Third Division should take steps to ascertain the enemy's force and his plan of defence. On the 8th Lieut.-Colonel Tanioka, with a battallion of infantry and some field guns and rifled mortars, marched out of Chung-sin-pao and having got within about 2½ miles of Tienchwangtai, heard the sound of firing in that direction. The Lieut.-Colonel pushed on rapidly to assist the Third Division, the troops of which became visible on entering Niuchuentsz. It was then learned that the *reconnaissance* in force made by the Third Division had unmasked the enemy's dispositions, and Lieut.-General Katsura was able to report the facts to the Commander-in-chief. It appeared that the enemy's strength was about 10,000, that he had over 30 pieces of artillery, and that he had made the Liao River his line of defence. The plan of attack was now arranged; namely, that 7 a.m. the following morning (9th) the Third Division, with 50 guns, should attack from the front; the Fifth Division, moving out of Shangchiuntai, was to threaten the enemy's line of retreat, and the First Division, marching from the south-west, was to attack from the enemy's right flank, the assault being thus delivered on three sides. Accordingly, the Third Division camped in the neighbourhood of Changchiaken, and the Fifth in that of Tingtuitsz, both in order of battle. On the 9th, the 22nd Regiment became the van the Fifth Division and advanced to the left bank of the Liao, by which time the First and Third Divisions had already come into action. About 100 guns were engaged on both sides. Lieut.-General Oku now moved to the front, and after surveying the situation for a few minutes, directed that, as the 22nd Regiment, crossing the river higher up, was moving to attack the enemy's left wing and to threaten his route of retreat, the field mountain guns should take up a position on the east and open fire, which order was quickly executed, the enemy's guns replying. At first the enemy's shells were seen to burst at a distance of about 1,000 metres, but they afterwards got the range better and several of the gunners were hit. The infantry of the 22nd Regiment came up at this stage and threatened the enemy's line of retreat, while our artillery also pushed forward. But the enemy did not stand to be attacked. For every 10 paces advanced by us, they fell back 100, showing remarkable alacrity in getting out of the way. The 22nd Regiment finally succeeded in getting possession of the route of retreat, and the enemy, forcing their way through the snow, fled toward the sea-coast, heading for Chinchow. Our casualities were some 20 killed and wounded in the First Division, 40 in the Third, and 19 in the Fifth. The enemy left over 2,000 dead, it is said.

Thursday, April 4th.

From Ninsen, under date 8.08 p.m. on the 31st ultimo, a telegram describes another encounter between a body of about 1,500 Tonghaks and some Japanese soldiers under Ensign Shoi. It is unnecessary to describe the occurrence in detail, as the names of places mentioned can not be familiar to our readers. It would seem, however, that the Tonghaks showed more power of resistance than usual. They separated into five parties and occupied strong positions on elevated ground, from which they were dislodged with difficulty. No mention is made of Japanese casualties, but the Tonghaks are reported to have lost 40. They were also driven from a temple that had served as their head-quarters, and were obliged to burn some 200 *koku* of rice stored there, not having time to remove it. Truly it is a weary business this Tonghak rebellion.

We published yesterday a telegram saying that a meeting had taken place in the Conference chamber in Shimonoseki, Viscount Mutsu and Chief Secretary Ito Miyoji being present on the Japanese side, and Lord Li on the Chinese. The *Nichi Nichi* says that Messrs. Inouye, Secretary of the Foreign Office, Nakada Private Secretary, Mutsu, Interpreter, and Narahara, employé, were also present, as were the Chinese members of the Mission, Messrs. Lo

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Fung-lo, Wu Ting-fang, and Ma Chien-chang. The conference lasted from 10 a.m. to noon.

The *Choya Shimbun* says that the telegrams and letters of condolence addressed to the Viceroy Li since the occurrence on the 24th ult., from all parts of Japan, number over ten thousand.

The accounts of the Viceroy's condition continue most favourable. His complete recovery is evidently only a matter of days. Various details are published by the vernacular press—as that the two nurses sent by the Empress being quite unneeded, have returned to Hiroshima; that Dr. Sato has been showing the Viceroy some photographs of an operation of amputation, and of an artificial leg given by the Empress; that the Viceroy has a Chinese translation of a book on international law beside his pillow, and so forth—but we do not suppose that such minutiæ can have much interest for our readers.

There is an absolute dearth of War news.

Friday, April 5th.

The presence of the Viceroy Li in the Conference Chamber on the 3rd instant was not in any way connected with a renewal of the peace negotiations, according to a telegram published by the *Hochi Shimbun*. The Viceroy went there merely for the purpose of expressing his thanks for the concession made by Japan in the matter of the armistice. But we may presume that this demonstration of his Excellency's ability to visit the conference chamber was intended as a prelude to the resumption of the negotiations, which was to take place yesterday morning.

The *Jiji Shimpo* has a paragraph saying that the Viceroy is much startled by Japan's demands and that it greatly exceeds his powers to accede to any such terms. But we do not see how the *Jiji* can have sufficient grounds for the statement. In the first place, the Viceroy can not yet be fully acquainted with Japan's terms. The assertion that he learned them at the third meeting of the Plenipotentiaries is now known to be incorrect. The business discussed at the second and third meetings was that of the armistice only. Besides, the Viceroy must have had a very shrewd idea of what Japan would ask for before he left China. He knew that an indemnity and a declaration of Korea's independence would not suffice, and he must consequently have been prepared and empowered when he set out to make some territorial concessions. But as soon as an indemnity and territorial concessions are admitted to form part of the basis of negotiation, Japan's remaining demands can contain nothing to "startle" the Viceroy. It is to be expected, just now, that a great many curious items of intelligence will be published for the purpose of influencing the share market, which is in a decidedly sensitive condition.

In the *Jiji Shimpo* we find the following with respect to the relations between the Japanese troops and the foreign residents of Yingkow:—"The foreign residents of Yingkow consist entirely of American citizens and British subjects. It is said that there are also two or three French citizens, but the statement is not to be believed. When the First Division of the Japanese Army entered Yingkow on the 7th of March and took possession of the place, messengers were at once sent to convey intelligence of the fact to the foreign residents. The Japanese honorary Consul and the officers in command of the American and British men-of-war in port, gave to these messengers a most courteous reception. Subsequently, learning that there was a Red Cross Hospital in the place, the Japanese officers desired to visit it. They made application in the first place to the British military surgeon, but he would not grant their request, even though twice preferred. His explanation was that if the patients saw the Japanese, they might be alarmed to an injurious extent. Application was then made at the hospital under the control of the Americans, and there they were not only readily admitted, but had explanations of the cases given to them, and were handed photographs illustrating the treatment recently pursued. As for the patients, they showed no alarm whatever." (We, *Japan Mail*, find difficulty in crediting this story. There is only one Red Cross Hospital in Newchwang, and we are not aware that it is under divided control of Americans and Englishmen. Moreover, it is not likely that, even supposing such division did exist, the American physicians would have agreed to an application that had been twice refused by their English colleagues.) "With regard to this procedure on the part of English doctors we have a word to say. In a house near the Chinese camp were found 500 *koku* of rice and 60 boxes of ammunition. Our soldiers took possession of these articles, and bringing up carts, loaded into them 100 *koku* of rice. When they were about to move the carts away, however, an Englishman came up in a great state of alarm, protested that the rice was his, and asked by what right Japanese soldiers seized the property of a neutral. A controversy arose, and finally the officer in charge of the party said that as he was acting under orders from the Commander-in-Chief, and as there was immediate need of the rice, the 100 *koku* already loaded on the carts must be carried away, but that the remainder would be left pending fuller investigation, when if it was found to be really the property of the Englishman, he would be duly remunerated for the portion taken. The matter ended there for the moment, but it seems to us that there are three reasons for concluding that the rice was certainly stored as provisions for the Chinese troops. In the first place, it was stored side by side with the enemy's ammunition. In the second, what could be more unlikely than that an Englishman would have placed 500 *koku* of rice in an uninhabited house just within the gate of the town at a time of war, no one being left to guard it. In the third place, after our troops entered Yingkow, they put a guard over this rice and ammunition, but the Englishman never asserted any claim to it until it came to be removed. As to this last point, his explanation was that he had heard much of the kind conduct of the Japanese troops and that he imagined they were merely protecting the rice against depredators. It was replied to him that he could scarcely have imagined that rice found stored with the enemy's ammunition and having no mark or name on the bags could be considered private property, and that the Japanese would put a guard over it. If he did believe anything of the kind, had he expected to be allowed to carry off 500 *koku* of rice without a word of explanation or thanks to those that had guarded it for him? This is not the only case of such conduct on the part of Englishmen. After our troops entered Yingkow, a project seems to have been suddenly evolved. On the houses of all the Chinese merchants outside the foreign settlement, notices were posted indicating that the house belonged to such and such a British subject. A Chinaman and an Englishmen were then put on watch at the gate, and whenever any Japanese soldiers attempted to enter, the notice was pointed out to them and they were excluded. In contradistinction to that behaviour on the part of Englishmen, the Americans were most kind and courteous. When our forces entered Yingkow, there were a British and an American man-of-war at anchor there. The former took not the slightest notice of our coming, but the crew of the latter assembled on the deck from the morning, and clapped hands and cheered as our men passed along. Again, previously to the entry of our troops, the Chinese officials, as a matter of course, and the greater part of the inhabitants fled, the dregs of the population only being left. These last began to break into the offices as well as into the houses of opulent merchants, and to commit all kinds of excesses. The Americans were so disgusted at this conduct that they put guards of marines at important buildings, handing over the latter to us immediately on our entry, and explaining that although they might be blamed for exceeding their competence, they had found it impossible to stand idly by while outrages were committed that were not only disgraceful in themselves, but would also be assuredly ascribed to the Japanese soldiery. What a contrast such conduct presents to that of the British residents! Meeting our troops in the streets and cheering them, the Americans have been asked whether they were really so pleased at our victories. They replied that they had in us the same kind of interest as a parent takes in a child; that they watched our growth with interest and were delighted when we achieved big things. When our scouts were sent to reconnoitre Yingkow, they met an American officer named Brandy (?), who told them that there was a large store of American arms and ammunition in the place, and that, if they needed such things as they probably did, they were welcome to use them. This story may have been a misapprehension on the part of our interpreter, but at all events the goodwill of the Americans is not to be forgotten."

Commander Ito Sukeyoshi of the Artillery, telegraphing to the War Department from the *Matsushima Kan*, in one of the bays of Panghu Island, says:—"The ships of the squadron, on the afternoon of the 26th of March and on the 27th, made a thorough search for torpedoes at the mouth of Panghu harbour, but found that none had been laid. Thereupon the transports moved up to the north of Peotien Island and anchored eastward of the wharf outside the south gate of Makung. Steps were immediately taken to land their cargoes of war material. It seems certain that the enemy's total force in Panghu Island numbered some 5,000. With the exception of the troops on the Yuenting peninsula, the Chinese soldiers all effected their escape in junks. Of those that surrendered on the Yuenting peninsula, the rank and file were carried to the mainland and set free, the officers only being retained. The number of large guns captured in the forts is 15. Their breech-closing apparatus is slightly damaged in some cases, but can be rendered serviceable by slight repairs, which have already been commenced. The people of the islands show an excellent disposition towards us, those on Fisher Island having already resumed their regular avocations. The inhabitants of these islands will be very easy to govern."

The apprehension entertained by us from the outset, namely, that the Chinese in the field could not be induced to observe the conditions of the armistice faithfully, and that it would consequently cease to be operative, seems likely to be speedily confirmed. The following telegram from Field-Marshal Nozu to the War Office, dated 3rd April, 11 p.m., shows how things are proceeding in Shinking:—"On the 1st of April Chief of Staff Aoki sent a despatch from Kansienpao by a Chinese bearer to the officer in command of the Chinese forces, intimating that he, Aoki, desired a meeting, indicating the time and place of meeting, and asking for an immediate reply. On the following day another messenger, carrying a despatch in the same sense, was despatched to Nganshan-chan. Each despatch said that the Japanese officers would approach the place of meeting carrying a white flag and blowing a bugle, and asked that due notice of such intention be given to the Chinese troops. The messenger sent on the 1st ought to have returned during the course of the 2nd inst., and the messenger sent on the 2nd should have got back by the morning of the 3rd at latest, but as neither of them had made his appearance at noon on the 3rd, it was concluded that any longer delay would be disadvantageous" (it will be remembered that the terms of the armistice required its mutual intercommunication by the Generals in the field) "and Staff Officer Aoki set out from Nganshan-chan, his escort carrying a white flag and blowing a bugle. When they had proceeded to a distance of about 2½ miles north of Naganshan-chan, three troopers and five or six infantry soldiers of the enemy appeared and opened fire on them. The party of Japanese thereupon halted and waved their white flag, but the Chinese, paying no attention, approached to a distance of some 300 metres, and kept up a hot fire, by which a Chinaman that was with Captain Aoki's party was severely wounded. It being evidently useless to try and advance peacefully, the party

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returned to Nganshan-chan. The enemy's utter ignorance and disregard of usage make it hopeless to try and communicate with him. Captain Aoki has therefore resolved to remain in Nganshan-chan and await the coming of a messenger from the other side." To the above account Field-Marshal Nozu adds:—"Whether the Chinese Peace Plenipotentiary has communicated to his Government the fact of an armistice having been concluded seems doubtful in view of the fact that the Chinese troops in this district are behaving just as they did before."

The following report from the Pescadores to the War office in Tokyo is published:—"The detachment, landing from Lichang-chue on the 23rd of March, after a short skirmish, proceeded to the attack of the enemy's littoral forts on the north-east of Heuchue and took possession of them. By 11.30 a.m. on the same day, they had taken Makung. The enemy's forts on Fisher Island kept up a cannonade against Makung until sunset. On the 25th they blew up their magazine and made their escape. The men of the Yuenting peninsula surrendered to the number of 13 officers and 560 men, and the Pescadores came entirely into our possession. Our casualties are 1 officer and 18 men wounded and 2 men killed. The enemy had 70 killed and wounded, and 80 taken prisoners. Great quantities of war material were taken and are now being catalogued. The inhabitants are gradually returning to their peaceful avocations."

CHINA'S FOREIGN EMPLOYÉS AT WEIHAIWEI.

The Chinese Government is said to have dismissed all its foreign *employés* that were connected directly or indirectly with Weihaiwei. There is one very obvious reason for this step. Weihaiwei has been demolished and the Peiyang Squadron no longer exists; therefore China has no special need of the services of men engaged originally for the sake of her ships and forts. But it seems that her method of dismissing them has not been generous. A month's pay and a passage home are the *solatium* meted out to the most fortunate, and many complain that they have not received, and can not obtain, large arrears of pay due to them. We do not believe the latter allegation. The Chinese Government has always honourably discharged its obligations of that nature, and unless unimpeachable evidence be furnished, no one will credit its sudden lapse from a standard so invariably observed hitherto. But there appears to be some dissatisfaction among the dismissed *employés*. A new band of hostile critics has come forward to abuse China. Her *ex-employés* begin to publish sweeping accusations as to the cowardice, incompetence, and insubordination of her soldiers. They say, in effect, that the garrison at Weihaiwei was in a perpetual state of semi-mutiny. The soldiers, unless they were driven almost by force, could never be induced to make any effective preparations for defence. From the moment that the landing of the Japanese expedition took place, they became utterly demoralized, and schemed only to get the foreigners away in order that there might be no outside witnesses of their disgraceful behaviour. Of the sailors, on the contrary, the foreign *employés* speak in high terms. They say that the common seamen were braver and more intelligent than their officers. In the forts on Zhih Island the troops, on two occasions, abandoned the guns, refusing to fight any longer, but were shamed into resuming their posts by the resolute behaviour of a squad of 25 blue-jackets.

A severe hailstorm occurred at Haoi, Kita-Saitama District, Saitama Prefecture, on the night of the 30th ult. The hail-stones accumulated to the depth of a little over two inches, and some were as large as a 5-*sen* nickel coin. Great damage was done to the barley.—*Shogyo Shimpo.*

CHINESE NEWS.

The *North China Daily News* is publishing a series of essays on "The Origin of the War." They are cleverly written and for placid perversion of facts and radical one-sidedness, they "take the cake."

Naturally the "searching" operations undertaken by Japanese vessels in the northern part of the Gulf of Pechili were at first interpreted as indications of a landing at Shanhaikwan. The Japanese are said to be very courteous but very thorough in the art of searching.

A correspondent from Shansi writes:—

One really would on many accounts prefer to live among a people with a little more fire in their blood. To work among a people that can look on with perfect composure while their country is being bolted whole by a foreign invader seems like a shaking of dry bones. We expect to be able to work here with little or no visible changes even should the Japanese take the Capital and the dynasty be changed. As to whether a change of dynasty or a partition of China would be beneficial, there seems to be a difference of opinion, but the majority of us are probably on the side of a thorough-going change.

The *Pekin and Tientsin Times* of March 6th says:—

On the 6th inst., a Special Meeting was held at which all the foreigners at or near Tong-shan were called upon to attend. Seventeen employés of the Chinese Railway Company, Mining Company, and Imperial Railways were present, Mr. Kinder acting as Chairman. The result of the meeting was that the foreigners decided to remain at their posts until the Japanese have effected a landing or are certain to do so before many hours. In case the Chinese troops became mutinous, or rather more so than usual, it may be dangerous to proceed to Tientsin, especially if the line is cut. The foreigners then decided to remain in Tong-shan and if necessary defend themselves in the strongest compound available for the purpose, and which is now being rapidly got ready for a possible seige. A document binding each one to abide faithfully by this determination was then signed by all present so that the foreign staff will act together whatever may occur.

Fugitives from Kinchow are streaming into Shanhaikwan. They report Japanese rapidly advancing, driving Sung and Wu before them. Fugitives state they have left their families behind because the Japanese take rice from the Chinese troops and feed the people with it. The men fly because many of them have been soldiers and fear the Japanese will shoot them. From this it appears the Japanese intend to advance overland, clearing the Chinese entirely out of Southern Manchuria. Mukden is quite cut off and probably lost. Four so-called "Korean priests" were taken as spies at Shanhaikwan and are now in prison.

The snow fall in Tientsin during the week has been exceptionally heavy. It must have been at least six inches deep where it had not drifted.

In our War News columns during the past few days we have published translations of official report showing with what ease the Pescadores fell into Japanese possession. It will interest and amuse our readers to compare these with the following extract from the leading Shanghai paper:—

Considerable excitement of a pleasurable nature—long unknown since the disastrous day of Pingyang—was felt by the local mandarins on Saturday evening by the receipt at 5 o'clock that afternoon of a telegram from the Formosan authorities announcing that a cablegram had been received from the General commanding at the Pescadore islands reporting, "On morning of the 23rd inst. a fleet of twelve Japanese vessels attacked Pênghu, the principal harbour of the islands. The forts made very good practice with their 32 centim. guns driving the enemy away, with actually very small damage to the former." Shortly after the receipt of the above, another despatch, sent later by the Taipehfu authorities, was received by the same parties containing the following:—"Cause of enemy's retreat and repulse was the destruction of two of their ships and a like number badly damaged; the former ran ashore and were literally pounded to pieces by the heavy guns of the Pênghu forts. Strict discipline prevails amongst the fort gunners and troops covering the forts, many of whom are veterans of the war of 1883-4. Good spirits exist and warlike enthusiasm is felt amongst the troops."

The Chinese synopsis of the state of affairs in Shinking on the 24th of March is as follows:—

Shanhaikwan, March 24th.

Governor Wu Ta-cheng's army has retreated to Shisanshan, about twenty odd miles north-east of North Kinchow on the left bank of the West Shaho river, where the army commissariat had been transferred from Tienchuangtai. General Sung's army is now marching through the hill country called P'anshan, about eighteen miles east of Wu Ta-cheng's army. The enemy's advanced posts are known to be in the vicinity of the East Shaho river and are expected to march against the Chinese army within a few days, as the recent snowstorms have been too severe for active movements of any dimension. A battle will probably take place for possession of North Kinchow in the vicinity of Shisanshan. The Hunan troops of Governor Wu will form the centre; the Generalissimo, Liu K'un-yi's army the right wing; and the Huai army under General Sung Ching, the left wing of the Chinese forces. Governor Wu will probably be unable to taken part in the expected battle as he has been ordered to leave for Pekin, although Liu K'un-yi has asked that his departure should be deferred. Cavalry reconnaisances of the coast to the south of N. Kinchow have been made every day, despite the weather, and this morning it is reported that Japanese ships and troops have been observed at Taohua island, about 140 *li* south of N. Kinchow. The island has been taken possession of by the enemy but no attempt on the mainland has, up to date of despatch of telegram, been made by them.

The Pekin correspondent of *North China Daily News* writes a most interesting letter to that journal under date March 4th. We make some extracts:—

The most important Imperial utterance perhaps ever delivered, and one which if carried out will create a new Chinese world, when the present order of things which has now reigned for several thousands of years will give place to a better system, and which may, and doubtless will have important and far-reaching issue for the world at large, was communicated to the Viceroy Li this morning at his last audience with the Emperor previous to his departure to-morrow morning for Tientsin *en route* to Japan in a third attempt on the part of China to secure peace. The Emperor plainly and emphatically declared that reforms of an extensive and comprehensive nature must at once be undertaken when peace is secured, and that these reforms must not be confined to Pekin only but extended to the whole empire. This impression is also beginning to take hold of the official mind. Reform is in the air. With the view of helping to initiate and carry out these contemplated changes in the administration of the empire, the Viceroy it is believed will be retained in the capital. He has now had all his honours restored and stands to-day stronger than ever, the strongest man in China, despite the memorials of Censors and his enemies which keep pouring in upon the Dragon Throne. Foreigners have always looked forward to some such result of the present war. The universal belief in view of the widespread corruption of the officials has been that no change was possible from within, that the officials who live and fatten on the country would resist reform to the death and that without the intervention of foreigners, China's position was hopeless. The present war has opened their eyes to their weakness and to the urgent and dire necessity of doing something to improve their position. The progress of their despised neighbour is at last going to react upon China. That the task set before his Majesty is herculean no one can doubt, his youth and weakly constitution must tell against him; his uncle Prince Kung is now over sixty years of age and the Viceroy Li is over ten years his senior. The Empress-Dowager has reached her three score and it is said is now so indisposed that she was unable to grant an interview to the Viceroy. It is all nonsense the belief that she sits behind the Dragon chair and hears all that passes. Prince Kung when he returned to power stipulated, doubtless, that the Empress-Dowager should retire as she has nominally done since the Emperor's marriage, into the background and content herself in her own palace by the lake. The youthful Empress has not yet made any figure in the councils of the Emperor and must so remain so long as the Empress-Dowager lives. By the way in *The Times'* obituary for 1894 the death of the wife of the Emperor of China is noted. The name given *Ye-wo-na-la*—her Manchu name, should read *Ye-ho na-la*. There was a rumour of her death here about the time of the 60th birthday celebrations last autumn but it had, we are happy to say, no foundation in fact.

The Viceroy arrived here on Thursday the 21st. He saw the Emperor the following morning, again on the 23rd, then on the 25th, and for the last time this morning. On the morning after his arrival he paid his first visit to the Russian Lega-

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tion, then crossed the street to the United States Legation, and afterwards passed the German Legation to visit the French Minister. The order and objects of the visits caused considerable speculation here. On the second day he paid visits, of two hours duration, to the British and German Ministers. On Sunday afternoon he was again at the French Legation where it was arranged he should meet the Russian Minister. On Monday evening, the 25th, he was once more at the French Legation. On Tuesday morning he visited the Inspector General and Italian Minister. The foreign Ministers returned his calls at the temple where he puts up when he comes to Peking.

The great question of the hour is—Will peace be secured? The general opinion here, and we believe also at Tientsin, is that peace will not be obtained, and that the Japanese will not stop short of dictating terms in the capital of China. The Japanese, it is thought, do not yet believe that the humiliation of China is complete. The insolent term from the vanquished "dwarf pirates," still disfigures Chinese official documents. A memorial from the Viceroy, the new peace envoy, even contains this language. The officials and people buy and sell, marry and are given in marriage, feast and resort to the theatres as if nothing were taking place. The officials, outside the Foreign Office, are as haughty and conceited and detest the foreigners as much as ever. They still believe China cannot be conquered by the "dwarfs." * * * The Chinese say the Viceroy will not accept Japan's terms. Japan however, has to guard against foreign intervention in the war and this seems almost inevitable if she declines to accede to peace which on this occasion at any rate seems to be sought sincerely, but whether with sufficient humiliation is for the Japanese to judge. The Viceroy will, of course, at the outset admit freely and fully that China has been beaten and cannot resist Japan. He will then remonstrate with Japan upon the delay in coming to terms and her refusal to treat with the former missions and finally inform them that if they still refuse peace on reasonable terms, Japan must take all the consequences of the proposed march on Peking, the possible overthrow of the dynasty and widespread anarchy which will cause intervention by the foreign Powers. This seems to be the *rôle* he intends to play.

The Korean correspondent of the *N.C. Daily News*, in a letter published in that journal on March 26th, says that the Bank of Japan has at length agreed to lend Korea three million dollars. This is on a par with the proverbial inaccuracy of all that gentleman's statements—statements that have furnished many a hearty laugh to readers on this side of the water. Our Shanghai contemporary, too, should know more of what has really happened than to publish such an assertion.

Some accounts of the Viceroy Li's mission represent him as by no means restored to Imperial favour, and say that he will have a heavy reckoning to pay hereafter. If that be so his success in the negotiations may be doubted.

The *Pekin and Tientsin Times*, after noting how each account, given by Weihaiwei warriors now in Tientsin, is contradicted immediately afterwards, says:—

There seems however to be unanimity about the heroism of the three old British Tars, Messrs. Thomas, Walpole, and Clarkson. These three were very early deputed to take charge of the small island E-kung-tao, which was armed with Armstrong disappearing guns. On arrival there they found some forty men with three loaded shells for the big guns and 300 rounds for the quick-firing guns. Immediate application was made to the General for rifles, ammunition, &c., but no attention was paid; and it was only after the matter had been submitted to Admiral Ting that men, rifles, ammunition, and all the other necessaries were supplied. Although exposed to the continuous fire of the Japanese fleet, and the Eastern forts, the three men worked their guns indefatigably and harassed the Japanese very considerably. When the guns were finally disabled, and retreat became a necessity, the three, with true British Tar facetiousness decorated the disabled fort with the saying, "Do you use Pears' soap?" and a warning to "Mind the wet paint."

Another paragraph in the same journal says:—

We hear that nothing demoralized the sailors of the Chinese Fleet at Wei-hai-wei so much as the capsizing of the man-of war *Lai Yuen*. This ship turned completely over with her whole crew within about ten minutes after being struck by a torpedo, and nearly all hands were drowned. The sailors of the fleet got it into their heads that, if any of the other ships were torpedoed, an immediate capsize would be the result, and it is said that most of the crews there and then refused duty. This ship, it will be remembered, was condemned by Admiral Lang as being too crank to be seaworthy, and by his orders ceased to carry her boats on the usual davits.

The *North China Daily News* has the following two telegrams about the Pescadores:—

Taipehfu, March 25th.

General Wang, chief in command at the Pescadores, was killed by a bullet yesterday morning and this caused demoralisation amongst the troops. The three forts were later on captured in succession, although brave defence was made against large odds. Prefect Chu and his division of 2,500 men have retreated to the hills four miles to the rear of P'ênghu harbour. The enemy is reported to be preparing to attack him. Large quantities of grain and ammunition have been lost with the P'ênghu forts. The Japanese lost two ships. They were disabled at first by torpedoes and then sunk by fort guns. Chinese loss, 1,365 men killed.

Amoy, 28th March, 3.37 p.m.

The Pescadores were taken on the 24th with little fighting, one Japanese war vessel being badly ashore.

Takow will be taken on the 29th.

As to the destruction, or running ashore, of any Japanese vessels, we have heard nothing whatever from Japanese official sources.

The Shanghai morning journal says that "with that ineradicable propensity for perversion of truth which disgraces Chinese officials, members of the Viceroy's suite have telegraphed to high authorities in this country that the Viceroy is in imminent danger and that his life is despaired of." Our contemporary adds that "telegrams from Pekin announce that the news of the attack on the Viceroy created the greatest consternation in the capital."

There is a report in Shanghai that a force of Japanese has been carried over-sea to the neighbourhood of North Chinchow. A telegram from Shanhaikwan, dated March 25th, and published by the *North China Daily News*, says:—

A telegram was received from N. Kinchow this morning reporting that some of the enemy's ships had anchored in a cove or harbour near Tienchiaochang, about twenty miles south-east of N. Kinchow, and that about 2,000 men were landed yesterday obviously to attack the right flank of H.E. Liu K'un-yi's forces on the banks of the West Shahu river. There is considerable activity at this place and the troops have all received extra rations and ammunition with orders to be ready to march to the assistance of Kinchow whenever called upon to do so. General Sung's forces are expected to fall back on this place leaving the Hunan troops to fight at Kinchow.

We do not attach credence to this news, inasmuch as the movement described would be intelligible only on the hypothesis of cöoperation with an over-land march of the First Army from Tienchwangtai, and such a march could scarcely have been effected by the 25th of March, Tienchwangtai having been captured on the 9th of that month, and the distance then to North Chinchow being 90 miles.

China, it has been said, is an extraordinary mixture of childishness and senility. Too old to undertake any useful national enterprise, she is still young enough to take a childish delight in toys. Thus a Mongol Duke, having voluntarily contributed the sum of 5,000 Tls. to the war fund, has been authorized, by Imperial Decree, to wear a double-eyed peacock's feather, and use purple reins for his riding horse. But a Chinaman might with justice retort that in the West great public merit is rewarded by the privilege of pinning a disk of metal and a coloured ribbon on the breast of one's coat.

We take the following from the Tientsin correspondence of the *North China Daily News*:—

It appears that the reported removal of the Viceroy's family to Paotingfu some time ago was a mistake. Instead, they went up the Grand Canal a week ago in a dozen or more boats in tow of two small steam launches. At or near Tehchou a grandson of the Viceroy became seriously ill, and Dr. Mai, one of Dr. Mackenzie's former students, was called from the hospital here to attend the case.

Placards have been posted in Shanghaikuan, and in Tientsin, very likely in other places as well, offering rewards for Japanese captured or killed, and for property belonging to them destroyed. These posters are issued by Liu Kun-yi. This is another case of zeal without knowledge, and will greatly damage the cause of China, not only in the negotiations now pending, but before the whole world. The essential barbarism of the Chinese character is here again brought to the front, wholly unmodified by their connection with the civilisation of the West during these many years. Another incident which recently occurred at Shanhaikuan illustrates in a different way the same point. Four Korean priests were found one day looking at some of the temples, and were seized at once as Japanese spies. Their protestation that they were Koreans, and in full sympathy with and loyal to China, and other favourable circumstances, had no effect whatever. They were taken into custody and each received 1,000 strokes of the bamboo, from the effects of which it seems likely that they will not recover. About this same time, the *hsien* magistrate and the Niehtai made a sudden descent in force on the American Methodist Mission premises, searched every nook and then turned out the contents of all boxes, etc., and carried off several tens of taels of sycee, under pretence of having heard that some Japanese spies were secreted there. Although they found absolutely nothing of a suspicious nature they dragged the native preacher, chapel keeper, and other men on the premises off to the *yamên*, and detained them till about midnight trying to elicit something from them to justify their conduct. "Kill the spies" often greeted the ears of the innocent men as they passed along the street. The women and children of two families were left, frightened and defenceless, against any outrage the rabble might attempt, while this was going on. The next morning the preacher hung out the signboard and opened the doors as usual for morning service as if nothing had happened, to the surprise of all the neighbours, many of whom took occasion to express to him their opinion of the officials. It remains to be seen whether any satisfaction for this outrage can be obtained. All the officials sought could have been secured in a quiet and respectful manner for the asking. Such men have yet many lessons to learn.

"Our readers will remember," writes the *N.-C. Daily News*, "having read a telegram from Shanhaikuan which appeared in these columns last week stating that the Generalissimo Liu K'un-yi had memorialised the Throne requesting that Wu Ta-cheng should be allowed to retain his place at the head of his own army corps instead of being ordered back to Pekin in disgrace. This memorial has apparently been successful, as an edict of the 25th instant orders Wu Ta-cheng to retain his post, but strips him of his rank and honours, until he shall have regained them by future success. For the loss of Newchwang, the foreign settlement at Yingkow and Tienchwangtai, the penalties proposed by the Pekin Boards upon General Sung Ch'ing and Wu Ta-cheng were that they should be cashiered and transferred to some other place. The Emperor has shown leniency once more and has now ordered both Sung and Wu to retain their places at the head of their respective army corps, with the loss of rank and honours. These two officials will thus have an opportunity to redeem the vows made to Liu K'un-yi after the loss of Tientchwangtai, of their determination that the enemy should walk over their dead bodies before they be allowed to enter Shanhaikuan.

A correspondent of the *Shanghai Mercury*, writing from Chefoo under date of March 25th, says:—

Some weeks ago I had an opportunity of witnessing the behaviour of Chinese troops in the presence—in this instance probably imaginary—of their foes. On the night of February 12th, about 7 o'clock, I was on the hills east of Chefoo, star-gazing, &c., when suddenly the forts to the south and east began to pour forth volley after volley of rifle shots, and the big guns opened fire, but in what direction the shells were thrown I could not see. Between the volleys I could hear the yells proceeding from the throats of hundreds of excited soldiers, and instinctively drew a mental picture of the scores of wounded and dying men which I conceived to be lying weltering in their blood, with none to help them!

The roads leading to Chefoo were crowded with all sorts and condition of men and women, fleeing for their lives. Soldiers threw off their uniforms

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and rushed from their quarters, and the whole population were in a state of the most abject fear.

The following morning I looked for the Japanese flag flying over the Chinese forts, but was surprised to see the *dragon* still wagging his tail and opening his jaws defiantly at all enemies. Now what was all that fun about?

Such was the question I put to many who were supposed to know, but they all seemed inclined to give evasive answers.

The military men declared that a party of Japanese scouts had been seen, but the majority of the witnesses declared that the supposed enemies were only farmers, returning from a wedding feast, and giving vent to their joyous feelings by sundry shouts and falsetto songs!

Any way, the Chinese were thoroughly scared, and I was told that one battalion of recruits broke camp, and fled to Foo-san, ten miles away, for refuge. What chance can a country have in time of war, whose defenders are made of such soft metal? * * * * The Japanese who occupied the city of Ninghai seem to have behaved kindly toward the poor, and left a good impression behind them. Most of the inhabitants would gladly have become Japanese subjects, for their own officials treat them very badly.

TROUBLE IN NINSEN.

The *Niroku's* correspondent sends a very minute account from Talien of a rupture that occurred in Ninsen on January 1st between a French missionary and a number of Japanese. We give the following *résumé* of the letter, although we cannot vouch for its strict accuracy. On January 1st of this year three Japanese postmen employed at the Ninsen Post Office were out walking in the neighbourhood of the French Church that stands in a certain quarter of the city. At the south of the building a number of Korean boys were flying kites. One of the Japanese asked a boy in jest to let him have his kite for a little while, upon which the lad addressed abusive language to the postman. The three Japanese then feigned anger and pretended to pursue the boys, who fled in the direction of the church. A Korean seeing this, came out of the church and struck one of the men. While another of the postmen was hastening to the spot to find out what was the matter, a French missionary ran behind him, collared him, and slapped him in the face. The Japanese thereupon clasped his hands and begged the missionary to pardon him. The Korean servants in the church next began to appear upon the scene and to cause great disturbance. They threw stones at the three Japanese, one of whom was so much frightened that he ran away. A Japanese constable and a clerk of the Ide Shokai, seeing what was going on from a distance, went to the spot, and the clerk asked the missionary in Korean why he had assaulted a Japanese, while the constable caught hold of the Korean who had been the first to strike one of the postmen, and handed him over to a Korean policeman. By that time quite a number of Japanese had collected, and the constable, fearing that some trouble might occur if he were to discuss the matter in their hearing, went with the priest into the church. As he could not speak Korean, however, he called out to the Japanese still standing outside, asking any one who could talk Korean to come in. The clerk at once volunteered his services, but when he made his appearance the missionary became greatly excited and even went so far as to take out a pistol and level it at him. The constable checked him, and with the clerk's aid, questioned him as to the particulars of the incident, but the Frenchman had apparently lost his presence of mind, and behaving like a madman would not answer any questions. Seeing that a conference was out of the question, the constable and the clerk left the church, dispersed the Japanese outside and caused the Korean who had been handed over to the police to be released, calling at the Local Office of Ninsen for the purpose. The affair did not end there, however. The missionary submitted a complaint to the French Consul to the effect that the Japanese constable had trespassed into the church followed by a number of Japanese whom he had instigated, that he (the missionary) had had his beard rudely pulled, and his clothes torn, while a nun had been kicked and wounded, and that stones had been thrown at the window, breaking three panes of glass. On receiving the above communication, the Consulate at once opened negotiations with the Japanese Legation, even threatening to ask the Commander of the French Squadron to send a band of marines on shore for the protection of the church. The Japanese Consulate in Ninsen received instructions from the Legation, to enquire into the affair, and Inspector Ogawa was sent to ascertain the precise nature of the trouble. The inspector met the missionary, but failed to to elicit any satisfactory information from him, as his remarks were obscure and difficult to follow. He admitted that his report about the wounding of the nun was incorrect, and said, moreover, that the throwing of stones at the windows of the church occurred after the constable had left the premises, thus impugning his previous allegation that it was due to the instigation of the constable. The missionary said that the panes had been mended at once, so that no damage could be visible to the inspector. The latter noticed that a brick wall, more than a foot higher than the window stood at a distance of 4 or 5 feet away, so that a missile thrown from outside would be very unlikely to reach the window. The inspector reported to the Consulate that he thought that the allegations of the missionary were not sufficiently substantiated. The Japanese Vice-Consul next asked a sergeant of gendarmes stationed in Ninsen to institute enquiries into the matter, but he, too, arrived at no satisfactory result. The Vice-Consul and a Police-inspector specially despatched from Sŏul for the purpose, held conferences on the affair and are said to have decided to punish both the constable and the clerk. The latter was charged with having attempted to discuss in a church an incident that happened outside, and with having neglected to disperse the mob collected in the vicinity—or in other words, with not having discharged his duty properly. The clerk was accused of having overstepped his competence in cross-examining the missionary, as such matters are under the control of the Police, and not of ordinary civilians. The *Niroku's* correspondent does not say clearly whether the two were really punished, but he seems highly dissatisfied with the steps taken by the Vice-Consul and the Sŏul Police.

THE PEACE CONFERENCE.

It is plain that the peace conference has been resumed, Lord Li acting as the Chinese Plenipotentiary. A meeting of an informal character is said to have taken place between him and Viscount Mutsu in the Shunpan-ro (place of conference) at 4.30 p.m. on the 28th instant. Doubtless the Viceroy telegraphed at once to Pekin, urging the advisability of not delaying the negotiation until his recovery. To wait for that would have involved a delay of fully three weeks, and the Japanese could not have kept their troops idle during so long a period at the commencement of spring, however unwilling they might be to launch 70,000 men at Shanhaikwan and Taku just as peace was about to be concluded. Lord Li, who during his brief term of office as Chinese Representative in Tokyo, won the friendship of many foreigners and became a *persona gratissima* with the Japanese, is a man of great ability, tact, and liberality, He has an intimate knowledge of the English and the Japanese languages, and is eminently fitted to negotiate. But of course his responsibility will not be great. The conference chamber is only 600 yards from the Viceroy's lodging. Thus although the Viceroy will not be present in person at the negotiations, he will be within consultation distance, and nothing will be concluded without his consent. China, by sanctioning this arrangement, gives evidence of earnestness. Japan, of course, was under a moral obligation to agree to anything that might mitigate the effects of the terribly disgraceful Shimonoseki incident.

LETTERS FROM SHIMONOSEKI.

(From our Correspondent.)

Shimonoseki, March 26th, 1895.

The commonly circulated statement that the would-be assassin of the Viceroy Li stood quietly in front of a house and fired as the palanquin passed, is not correct. What really happened was this:—Just at the corner of the street in front of the Viceroy's lodging, a man clothed in the garments of a labourer, sprang out of the crowd, and laying his left hand on the shoulder of one of the carriers of the palanquin, discharged with his right a pistol at the Chinese delegate, aiming at his heart. As to the course taken by the bullet, your readers are doubtless well informed already. The Viceroy at once applied a white handerkerchief to his face, which was bleeding profusely. The palanquin-bearers turned the corner rapidly, and when they reached Injo-ji, the Viceroy immediately stepped out of the conveyance and proceeded to his own apartments, the vigour shown by him being regarded by the onlookers as a sign that the wound was not very serious. The ruffianly firer of the pistol was seized on the spot. Indeed, when he emerged hastily from the crowd, a policeman and a gendarme on duty in the vicinity sprang upon him and seized him. It was only a question of a second or two whether he succeeded in discharging his pistol at all. Rumour says that he arrived here on the morning of his nefarious attempt from Chofu, a small sea-side town about three miles to the east. The sincerest sorrow is manifested by everybody here, and the would-be assassin is execrated and denounced in the bitterest language. The incident is all the more regrettable in view of the fact that the police and gendarmerie had adopted every possible precaution against the influx of men of suspicious character. I myself will not easily forget the uncomfortable ordeal to which I was subjected on first landing here from my steamer. But there are cases that lie beyond the limits of human precaution and vigilance.

Concerning the suspension of the conference on the 22nd and 23rd instant, various rumours are in circulation. Some say that the Chinese Envoy having asked for an armistice, the Japanese Delegates stated the conditions on which this country would be prepared to suspend military operations, and that the Viceroy Li then asked time for consideration. Other stories, of an incredible character, are told, but the above appears to be the rational explanation.

Shimonoseki, March 30th.

A local armistice has just been agreed upon by the Plenipotentiaries of the two Powers. At eleven this morning the Japanese Plenipotentiaries, Count Ito and Viscount Mutsu, proceeded to the place of conference, Fujino Hotel, and in the presence of Lord Li signed the document, which was then taken by Mr. Ito, Secretary General of the Cabinet, to the Injoji Temple, where it received, in his presence, the signature of Viceroy Li. I need not refer to the particulars of the armistice, as they must have been made public before this letter reaches you. It will be more interesting to describe, as far as my information permits, the steps that led to this unexpected event. I say unexpected, because it had been generally believed that Japan would insist upon certain important conditions before the suspension of military operations. At the second meeting, namely that on the 21st March, the Chinese Ambassador asked for an armistice. Thereupon the Japanese Plenipotentiaries declared the conditions upon which they were ready to accede to that request. Those conditions were, first, that Shanhaikwan, Tientsin, and Taku, with their forts, armaments, ammunition, etc., should be delivered up to the Japanese army; secondly that the railway between Shanhaikwan and Tientsin should be placed under Japanese control; thirdly, that China should pay the expenses of maintaining the Japanese armies of occupation during the period of the armistice; and fourthly, that, in the event of peace not

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being restored, the above mentioned places should continue to be held by the Japanese as prizes of war. The Viceroy Li was evidently not prepared for these terms. He requested a week for consideration, but his request was not granted. The Japanese Plenipotentiaries finally agreed, however, to allow three days for a reply. The answer was given at the meeting on the 24th, when the Viceroy declared his inability to agree to the terms proposed by the Japanese Plenipotentiaries, and withdrawing his request for an armistice, asked for the immediate opening of peace negotiations. It was then agreed that the negotiations should be commenced at 10 a.m. the following day. On his way home from this meeting on the 24th, the deplorable attack on the Viceroy took place. Had it not been for the act of a dastardly *soshi*, the negotiations would in all probability have been brought to an end by this time, one way or the other. The lamentable incident placed Japan in a very awkward position. It is true that the request for an armistice had been withdrawn by the Chinese ambassador. But it would have been manifestly unfair and unmanly for Japan to push on her warlike operations while the Viceroy Li was incapacitated by the lawlessness of a Japanese to conduct negotiations that might possibly have been satisfactorily concluded in a few days. The Japanese Plenipotentiaries took due notice of these circumstances, and decided voluntarily to grant a local armistice without imposing any conditions whatever other than those inseparable from transactions of the kind. While the drawing up of the necessary documents and the communications with the Chinese Ambassador was going on under the direction of Viscount Mutsu, the Minister President, attended by Secretary-General Ito and a few other officials, left for Hiroshima by a transport on the 25th instant, to make a report to the Emperor on the unhappy incident of the preceding day, and on the progress of the negotiations. At Hiroshima a Council of War was at once convoked, and the measures consequent upon the contemplated suspension of military operations were discussed. Meanwhile, Viscount Mutsu had a meeting with Lord Li at the Fujino Hotel on the 28th. Count Ito returned here yesterday afternoon at five, in company with Admiral Count Saigo, on board H.I.M.'s ship *Yayeyama*, and the formal signing of the papers took place to-day, as stated above. The point to be specially noted is that this armistice has been granted by Japan voluntarily in consideration of the regrettable incident that took place on the 24th of March.

When the negotiations for peace will be commenced, I am not in a position to state. Viceroy Li's condition promising speedy recovery, it may be presumed that the date is near at hand. The question asked here by everybody relates to the issue of the negotiations. On that point, it is obviously dangerous to venture any prophecy. There does not exist sufficient ground for hope one way or the other. It may, however, be stated that thusfar nothing has taken place to warrant a gloomy view of the situation. That is the utmost I can say now. Perhaps in a few days, it may become possible to hazard a more definite opinion one way or the other.

THE VERNACULAR PRESS ON THE ARMISTICE.

The vernacular papers express in strong terms their admiration and respect for the step taken by the Emperor in granting an unconditional armistice of three weeks to China. The incident of the 24th ult., writes the *Nichi Nichi*, caused the Imperial Court profound pain. The Emperor despatched a special messenge to convey his condolences to the Chinese Plenipotentiary, and sent two Surgeons-General to attend to the wound. Nor was the Empress less horrified at the incident. Her Majesty prepared bandages with her own hands and sent them to the Viceroy, together with two experienced nurses. Further, the sympathy that the Emperor feels with the unfortunate sufferer led His Majesty to take a remarkable step, namely, that of granting an unconditional armistice to China for the space of three weeks. Such a measure announces to all the world that Japan is not averse to terminating the war, and that she is free from the imputation of being in sensible to the calamities of her foe. This act of Japan should suffice to impress China with respect for her antagonist, and convince the neutral Powers of Japan's magnanimity and generosity.

"It is not to be doubted," writes the *Kokkai*, "that the wounding of the Chinese Plenipotentiary by an unpatriotic fanatic has conferred more or less advantage on China by enabling her to plead, with some justice, for a modification of the terms prescribed by Japan. The present armistice, however, completely removed all ground for such a plea. By the receipt of this great boon China is precluded from advancing any excuses when the negotiations are renewed. Japan will be under no obligation to make any concession, and should China refuse to comply with the just demands advanced by Japan, the latter, with perfect justice, may suspend the negotiations, and after the expiration of the stipulated three weeks, may renew hostilities with more vigour than before." (The *Kokkai* does not seem to have read the text of the armistice carefully, or it would know that failure of the negotiations warrants the immediate resumption of hostilities.)

"Thus the situation has been completely reversed by the timely decision that Japan adopted at this crisis. Whether the armistice prove preliminary to the opening of the second stage of the hostilities, or whether it prefaces the termination of the war, entirely depends upon China's conduct during the three weeks of grace. Should China, emboldened by this act of exceptional leniency, show herself simply insolent, and should she be guilty of a display of ingratitude, then Japan will be obliged to subject her to very severe chastisement. If, on the contrary, struck by the liberality and special favour shown by Japan, she is induced to appreciate the real aspect of the situation and repent of her former perversity, then the armistice may pave the way to the conclusion of peace. The result depends entirely upon the presence or absence of conscience on China's part."

The tone of the *Kokkai* reminds us of the mood of Dinah Shad's lover after his first kiss—he could have plucked the sun from the sky to make a coal for his pipe "he was that magnificent." It must be admitted that Japan has reason to assume a defiant mien toward China, but as a mere question of art, it is miserable that an act of grace, like the granting of an unconditional armistice, should be marred by supercilious loftiness like that of the *Kokkai*. Generosity to be real must be neither contemptuous nor self-advertising.

THE "RHEINGOLD" CASE.

With regard to the case of the German steamer *Rheingold*, referred to in our issue of the 29th ultimo, we understand that the action of the German Consul in Kobe in sanctioning the preliminaries for the sale of the ship's cargo, was based on a provision of the German Commercial Code, which he had to apply, the steamer being under his jurisdiction. The German Commercial Code, in accordance with a universally acknowledged principle of maritime law, gives to the owners of a chartered ship a lien, or perhaps we should say a right of pawn, on the cargo as security for the payment of their charter money, and allow them to administer that right by a simple administrative order of the Consul, without obliging them to sue the owners of the cargo for their assent. In consequence of that provision, it would seem that the shippers of the cargo have to sue the captain of the ship after the sale, if they think that they have a claim for damages. As to the particulars of the dispute between the parties concerned in this case, we are informed that the statements of the vernacular press are totally one-sided, and consequently do not supply material for forming a clear view as to the merits of the question.

THE KYOTO EXHIBITION.

The Kyoto Exhibition was duly opened on the 1st instant at 9 a.m. His Imperial Highness Prince Yamashina, representing the Emperor, read the following Imperial Message:—

The Fourth Domestic Industrial Exhibition having been organized, We hereby declare it duly opened. We believe the Exhibits to be much better than those at the last Exhibition, and we enjoin you to promote the business of production, thereby strengthening the foundations of the national wealth and power, and furthering the country's prosperity.

His Imperial Highness Prince Yamashina, President of the Exhibition, had previously made to the Emperor the following report, which was read out by H.E. Viscount Enomoto, the Vice-President:—

I, Akihito, with all reverence, beg to state that the preparations for the Fourth Industrial Exhibition are now complete, and that the opening ceremony is to day performed. As for the number of exhibits, it exceeds anything witnessed at previous Exhibitions. Abroad the naval and military forces have conquered in every fight, and have raised the country's prestige in the eyes of the world; at home, the best and most beautiful of the various products of progressive industry have been selected and brought together, so as to encourage the people's industry and increase the wealth and strength of the country. These evidences of success and prosperity are sources of the utmost satisfaction. With all humility, I venture to offer a plan of the arrangements for exhibiting the various exhibits in their sections, as forwarded from the whole country, together with a catalogue of exhibits, and I humbly solicit Your Majesty's gracious consideration and pray for the prosperity of the country.

THE SENTENCE UPON KOYAMA TOYOTARO.

The following is the verdict rendered in the case of the Viceroy Li's would-be assassin:—

In the case of Koyama Toyotaro, *Heimin* of Oora District, Oshima Division, Gumma Prefecture.

In consequence of the finding of the Tribunal of Examination in the case of the above Toyotaro, charged with a crime of unaccomplished murder, the case has been duly heard and the depositions taken. It appears that the said Toyotaro, believing that the rupture between this empire and China and the War that followed, were due to the unfortunate policy of the Viceroy Li Hung-chang (here follow Li's titles), and that unless the said Viceroy's life were brought to an end, the peace of Eastern Asia could not be preserved for any lengthened period; and learning further that the said Viceroy, by order of his Sovereign, was about to visit this empire and conduct negotiations for peace at Akamagaseki in Yamaguchi Prefecture, determined to kill him there; and with that purpose, on the 11th day of the 3rd month of the 28th year of *Meiji*, purchased from one Kanamaru Kenjiro, in Yokohama, Kanagawa Prefecture, a five-chambered pistol and some ammunition and set out from Tokyo on the 12th day of the same month, travelling overland to Akamagaseki, which place he reached on the 24th of the same month; and, watching his opportunity, at about 4.40 p.m. on the same day, encountered the said Viceroy riding in a palanquin in Sotohama-cho of the same town, took aim at his heart and fired at him with the said five-chambered pistol, striking, him at a point about one centimetre centrally below the hollow of his left eye, but not inflicting a mortal wound.

The above facts are fully established by the said Toyotaro's confession, by the statements elicited at his examination before the Tribunal of Examination, by the testimony of 1st class Gendarme Abe Tsunejiro, and 2nd class Assistant-Surgeon Kuroda Nobuchika, and by the pistol and ammunition. The Criminal Code (here follows recital by Articles) provides that in a case where the killing of a man is premeditated and the crime is carried to perpetration, but owing to some unexpected miscarriage is not consummated, the punishment of death shall be reduced by one degree, the weapon shall be confiscated and the other articles taken from the culprit shall be returned to him;

Therefore, the said Koyama Toyotaro is hereby sentenced to penal servitude for life; the pistol and ammunition found on his person are confiscated, and the other articles taken from him are restored.

(Dated) 30th day of 3rd month of 28th year of *Meiji*.

(Signed) Here follow signatures of three Judges, and a Clerk of Yamaguchi Local Court.

In the Public Hall of Justice of the Yamaguchi Local Court, in the presence of Public Procurator Kurobe Chimpei,

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CONCLUSION OF AN ARMISTICE.

A TEMPORARY and local armistice has been concluded between Japan and China. This chapter of the war is certainly one of the most interesting and at the same time picturesque of the whole record.

The first meeting of the Peace Conference took place on the March 20th, and the business was limited to mutual examination of credentials. These being found perfectly satisfactory, the Plenipotentiaries separated, agreeing to come together again at 2 p.m. the following afternoon. So soon on the second meeting opened, the Viceroy LI proposed that an armistice be declared as a step preliminary to negotiating terms of peace. Such a proposal had, of course, been anticipated. The Japanese Plenipotentiaries replied that they were not averse to an armistice, but that, before agreeing to it, they should require China to comply with certain conditions. Those conditions were, first, that Japanese troops be placed in occupation of Tientsin, Taku, and Shanhaikwan; secondly, that all the forts, barracks, and armaments at those places should be handed over; thirdly, that China should withdraw her troops from their positions there; fourthly, that Japan be given control of the railway from Shanhaikwan to Tientsin; and fifthly, that China should pay all expenses incurred by Japan in carrying out the above conditions. The Viceroy took exception to these terms as too stringent, but asked permission to consider them maturely, which request was of course complied with. An interval of two days consequently ensued, and when, on the 24th ultimo, the Plenipotentiaries met again, the Viceroy urged that Japan should modify her demands. Receiving a firm refusal, he declared, after some further expostulation, that under such circumstances he desired to withdraw his proposal for an armistice and to commence the peace negotiations at once. It was therefore decided that the Conference should re-open for the latter purpose the following day. But on the way back from the place of meeting, a fanatic attempted to take the life of the Viceroy, and succeeded in inflicting a wound so serious as to incapacitate the aged statesman for a considerable time. The Emperor of JAPAN then took a remarkable step. In consideration of the fact that the Viceroy had been wounded by a Japanese, and that the progress of the peace negotiations had thus been suspended by an incident for which Japan was responsible, HIS MAJESTY directed his Plenipotentiaries to withdraw all the conditions previously advanced by them, and to agree to an unconditional armistice for a fixed period. The necessary agreement was at once drafted, and on the 30th of March it received the signatories of both sides. Lord LI, acting on behalf of the Viceroy, proceeded to the Conference chamber, and there received the signatures of their Excellencies Count ITO and Viscount MUTSU, and Mr. ITO MIYOJI, Chief Secretary of the Cabinet, repaired to Injoji and there received the signature of the Viceroy LI. The convention itself and the proximate cause of its conclusion are thus given in the *Official Gazette*:—

His Majesty the Emperor of Japan, in consideration of the fact that the progress of the Peace Negotiations has been interrupted by an untoward incident, issued instructions to the Empire's Peace Plenipotentiaries to agree to a temporary armistice. Consequently, His Imperial Majesty's Plenipotentiaries, Count Ito, Minister President of State, &c., and Viscount Mutsu, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, &c., have concluded the following Convention with Earl Li, Viceroy of Chihli, &c., the Plenipotentiary of His Imperial Majesty the Emperor of China:—

Art. I.—The Governments of Japan and China hereby agree that the land and sea forces of the two countries shall observe an armistice in the districts of Mukden, Chihli, and Shantung, in accordance with the stipulations of this Convention.

Art. II.—The forces required to cease fighting in virtue of this Convention, shall be entitled to retain possession of all the places now in their occupation. Provided that, under no circumstances whatever shall any advance be made beyond the aforesaid places during the period covered by this Convention.

Art. III.—The Governments of the Empires of Japan and China hereby agree that, during the period covered by this Convention, neither party, whether for offensive or defensive purposes, shall augment its armies now in the field, or shall send re-inforcements, or shall in any other way increase their combative capacity. It shall, nevertheless, be within the competence of the Government of either empire to make redistribution or transportation of its troops provided that such redistribution or transportation be not intended to augment the armies now actually engaged in the field.

Art. IV.—With regard to the maritime transport of military necessaries or other contraband of war, seizures made in accordance with the laws of war, shall be permissible.

Art. V.—The Governments of the two Empires of Japan and China agree to carry into effect the armistice agreed upon by this convention for a period of 21 days counting from the day of signature. With respect to positions now occupied by the troops of each Empire and not within reach of communication by telegraph, rapid methods of transmitting the order to cease hostilities shall be employed, and the officers in command of the forces of the two Empires, upon receipt of such order, shall mutually convey information of the fact to each other, and shall make arrangements for an armistice.

Art. VI.—It is agreed that, without any further intercommunication, this convention shall cease to have binding force at noon on the 20th day of the fourth month of the 28th year of *Meiji*, namely, the 26th day of the third month of the 21st year of Kwang-su. But should the Peace Negotiations be broken off before that date, this convention shall simultaneously terminate.

(Dated) Shimonoseki; the 30th day of the 3rd month of the 28th year of *Meiji*; namely, the 5th day of the 3rd month of the 21st year of Kwangsu.

(Signed) Here follow the signatures and seals of Count ITO Viscount MUTSU, and the Viceroy LI.

It will be observed that the above Convention does not effect any regions other than those of Chihli, Shinking, and Shantung. Japan's operations at the Pescadores and Formosa will not be interrupted. For the rest, it is a complete armistice, and the manner of granting it reflects great credit on Japan. From the conditions that she insisted on imposing when the Chinese Plenipotentiary originally asked for a truce, we can infer with certainty the price she set upon such a concession. It was a high price. Perhaps no serious apprehensions need have been entertained about any preparations for defence that China might make during an interval of truce. But it was believed by many that one of the devices employed by her plenipotentiaries would be to ask for a cessation of hostilities with a view to such preparations, and the Japanese on their side, were resolved to make the granting of her request a means of testing her sincerity. Thus the abandonment of all conditions is a sacrifice of considerable magnitude. Japan was under no obligation to make such a sacrifice. The world would not have held her nationally accountable for the mad crime of a solitary fanatic. But she has evidently been deeply pained by the incident of the 24th of March, constituting, as it did, a violent breach of the laws of hospitality and international good faith, and has voluntarily resolved to impose upon herself a penance that shall leave no room to doubt her sentiment of abhorrence for deeds like that of KOYAMA TOYOTARO. She is to be congratulated on the course she has taken. It establishes a standard of inter-state morality rarely to be found in any page of history, and its effect will be to completely remove the disgrace of KOYAMA'S crime.

All this, however, drives us to conclude that the armistice must not be interpreted in the sense attaching to such a measure under ordinary circumstances. Had it been accompanied by the conditions originally demanded by Japan, peace might have been considered certain. But as things stand now, it is a special step which Japan has been impelled to take in deference to considerations that have no connection whatever with the anticipated sequel of the peace negotiations.

A CONTRAST.

IT can not be denied, we think, that Japan's conduct in connection with the Shimonoseki outrage has been very creditable. The whole nation was moved to indignation by KOYAMA'S deed. He found no sympathisers in any class or party. Naturally, the inclination of many critics, ourselves among the number, was to infer that the unhappy fanatic represented the military section of the people, and that his purpose was to interrupt the peace negotiations in order that warlike operations might not be suspended. He seemed, in short, to be a delirious representative of the class of men whose constant cry is "to Pekin," and who hold that China will never credit her defeat until the Japanese flag floats over the walls of her capital. But KOYAMA'S magisterial examination does not bear out that view. According to his account of his own motives, it was LI HUNG-CHANG, not China's Peace Plenipotentiary, that he wanted to kill. The Viceroy of Pechili has for many years been virtual King of

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Korea. YUAN, the exceedingly anti-Japanese Resident in Sŏul, was the Viceroy's nominee. Korea's foreign affairs were practically controlled from Tientsin. Thus, for the Korean complications that plunged the two empires into war, LI HUNG-CHANG seemed primarily responsible, and so long as he lived there could be no real peace in the Orient. That was KOYAMA'S creed. He wanted to kill the Viceroy not in the interests of prolonged war but in the cause of permanent peace. It is possible, of course, that the story told by him to his judges was insincere. But we can detect no valid reason to suspect its sincerity. Had he desired to evoke the sympathy of the military class, he would have represented his crime as an attempt to prevent any interruption of warlike operations. But in the light of LI'S murderer he could not reasonably hope to win the approval of any section of his countrymen, for all regard the Viceroy with respect, and credit him with a friendly disposition toward Japan. Inherently, therefore, the analysis given by KOYAMA himself of his motives appears more credible than that formed by the public at first. What is certain, however, is that he has found no sympathisers or apologists anywhere. Every political party has denounced him; every journal of whatever complexion, execrated him. On the other hand, condolences have poured in upon the wounded Viceroy from all quarters; he has been the recipient of the whole nation's regret, and in deference to his misfortune the Government has made to China a concession that will cost the country many millions, and that could not have been purchased, under ordinary circumstances, without the fulfillment of very onerous conditions on China's side. Japan, in short, has washed her hands generously and astutely of KOYAMA'S crime. She probably stands better in public estimation to-day than she stood before the 24th of March. But many foreigners are now asking why she did not exhibit a similar temper with regard to the Port Arthur excesses. Stripped of all sensational hyperbole and selfish exaggeration, the stories recorded about the doings at Port Arthur still contain a large residuum of facts discreditable to Japan. Why did not the country emphatically disavow all disposition to condone such practices? Why was not the stigma upon Japan's reputation removed as vigorously and unanimously in the case of Port Arthur as in that of Shimonoseki? It appears to us that these questions are easy to answer. In the first place, the Port Arthur incident was a military affair. The responsibility of dealing with it rested primarily with the Commander-in-chief of the Second Army. So long as he, with the fullest and most trustworthy evidence before him, did not consider that the circumstances called for any exceptional measures, the Government could not have been expected to disavow him by ordering a court of inquiry or adopting any other disciplinary procedure. Civil interference with troops in the field is always avoided as far as possible, and it could scarcely have been expected that, in deference to foreign criticism, the Japanese Government would have imperilled its relations with its generals and damped the ardour of its troops by a too severe scrutiny into acts dictated by a spirit of retaliation against ferocious and brutal foes. The attitude of the nation and the utterance of the press are, however, distinguishable in such a case from the acts of the Government. As to the nation at large, we doubt very much whether to this day it believes that any real excesses were perpetrated at Port Arthur. Those that do believe constitute a small minority, and it is easy to understand that, while regretting and condemning the incident, they have not attempted to employ it as a means of agitating against the fair fame of their country. Finally, with regard to the vernacular newspapers, we have to ask ourselves whether any journals would be likely to add their voices to foreign censure of the nation's soldiers. As a matter of fact the Japanese newspapers were not informed of the circumstances by their own correspondents, whose letters were subject to censorship. They had no independent knowledge of their own. What they saw was that the country's troops were scathingly censured and the country itself relegated to the ranks of barbarism by foreign journals notorious for hostility to everything Japanese. Was it not natural that they should adopt a defensive tone and attempt to minimize or extenuate instead of exposing and condemning? No newspapers in any country, however devoid of patriotism, however subservient to foreign opinion, would be willing to follow alien leadership in an outcry against their own nationals who are fighting the country's battles and winning a succession of victories. There are ample reasons to differentiate the attitude of Japan toward the Port Arthur affair from her attitude in the recent crisis.

THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE REPORT.

THE interest attaching to the unexpected conclusion of an unconditional armistice compelled us to leave unnoticed for a moment the exceptionally excellent Report of the Yokohama Chamber of Commerce for 1894, but we trust that the compiler of the elaborate tables accompanying the Report as well as the writer of the Report itself will not construe our silence as an evidence of want of appreciation.

It is unnecessary to speak of the arithmetical results recorded in the document: they have already received attention. Japan's foreign trade is growing vigorously, and there is no reason to anticipate that its development will be checked. From 1880 to 1884, the general cry used to be that the foreign commerce of this country had no margin of elasticity, and that the country itself had neither a tradal nor a national future before it. That, indeed, was one of the favourite arguments of the opponents of Treaty Revision: they maintained that no good could come of opening the country completely, since its partial opening had yielded such insignificant results. If they ever look back now, the error of their contention must strike them forcibly. Japan's foreign commerce quadrupled during the decade succeeding their predictions of evil, and speaking nationally, she now indisputably holds the position of the leading Power in the Orient. Our own writing, in a sense contrary to the verdict of the pessimists, was always treated with contempt in those days, and we must frankly confess that, confident as we were, we did not look for so speedy a vindication of our faith. Another point already of interest at that time but receiving little attention was the prospect unfolding itself for Japanese industries. There can no longer be much doubt on the subject. The Report now before us contains some instructive statements. Perhaps the most remarkable is the cotton-spinning industry. The importation of raw cotton increased by forty thousand piculs in quantity and nearly 3½ million *yen* in value in 1894 as compared with 1893, and the sale of Manchester yarns that come into direct competition with Japanese spinnings, showed a decrease of 50 per cent., while the market for those as yet without rivals in Japan was not affected. The Report notes that several cotton mills were enlarged and several erected during the year, and that the same is true of woollen spinning and weaving industries. Then again it is noted that the Japanese are now making their own boilers. They have still to import plates and sheets for the purpose, but seeing that their production of pig iron has become much larger and that they are on the eve of establishing a steel and iron foundry, there can be no doubt that in this direction also the foreign importer will suffer. Very noteworthy, too, is the development of the export trade in manufactured silk goods, especially those of plain, light type. More than twice as great a quantity of these was shipped away in 1894 as in 1893—568,160 pieces valued at 8,399,494 *yen*, against 255,199 pieces valued at 4,074,993 *yen*—and with regard to fancy silks, as brocades and so forth, the Report says that "with proper organization and under better conditions for manufacturing, the Japanese looms would soon became formidable competitors in Europe and America for the trade in such goods." Altogether it is no longer possible to doubt that the great staples of

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Japan's export trade in the future will be manufactured goods in cotton, silk, and wool. But although the changes thus effected may disturb existing arrangements in some respects, we see no reason to apprehend any elimination of foreign middle-men from Japan's trade. Business naturally gravitates to the best agents as goods do to the dearest markets. That the Japanese, for sentimental reasons, should be anxious to discharge all the functions of their commerce without foreign aid, is perfectly natural. But a long interval must elapse before they can organise machinery so perfect as that presented by foreign agents, who pay ready money in Japan for Japanese staples; who take upon themselves all the risks of finding a market for them; who understand thoroughly how to deal with them to the best advantage, and from whose mutual competition Japan derives the benefit of getting the highest possible prices for her goods. We do not suppose that any foreign merchant pretends to have laid Japan under the smallest obligation to him for the part he has played in developing her trade. He frankly admits that his work has always been prompted by the desire of obtaining profit for himself. None the less is it indisputable that without the intervention of foreign agents and without the remarkably favourable conditions created by their share in the task, Japan's foreign commerce could never have attained its present dimensions in so short a time.

The observations made by the compiler of the Report under the heading of "Treaty Revision," seem in the main just. We should hesitate to say confidently that life at the treaty ports has been a very useful object lesson to the Japanese as an epitome of Occidental civilization; or that the writings of an "untrammelled foreign press" have proved large "factors in the development of freedom and enlightenment." But it may be conceded that these things have had their uses, and it certainly must be admitted that without the low tariff imposed by the old treaties the country's foreign trade would have been most unlikely to develop as it has done. From the point of view of justice, we have always been in favour of restoring tariff autonomy to Japan, but the imposition of increased duties upon a growing trade that greatly enriches the country, seems to resemble the killing of the gold-egged goose. We could wish that the Report had added one comment which must now have become evident to all, namely, that if the treaties had been revised in the days when the inevitability of revision became apparent, terms might have been obtained which would not only have been incomparably more satisfactory to the foreign residents than the basis now adopted, but would also have worked very greatly to Japan's advantage.

GREAT BRITAIN AND JAPAN.

BLUE BOOKS are supposed to be the driest of all publications, but certainly the volume recently issued on the subject of Treaty Revision presents one feature of interest that deserves to be brought prominently to the attention of the Japanese nation. We allude to the evidence it offers of unvarying patience, courtesy, and goodwill on the part of Great Britain. Four times within seven years the Japanese Government changed the basis of negotiations. In the first instance the negotiations had been carried within sight of completion, but their result had assumed a form so complicated that its acceptance by Japan would have been most ill-judged. Nevertheless, the breaking off of the negotiations at such a stage must have created a feeling of umbrage on the part of any Power not thoroughly well disposed. A little more than a year later, the Japanese Minister for Foreign Affairs re-opened the question, and approached the British Government with a scheme of Revision much more liberal to Japan than that laid before the previous negotiators. Great Britain might well have hesitated to consider these new proposals, not merely on account of their nature, but also because the method of bringing them forward involved a radical departure from the traditional policy of combination hitherto maintained and promoted in the East by HER MAJESTY'S Government even at the cost of considerable sacrifices. Instead of negotiating with all the Treaty States simultaneously, Japan now contemplated independent conference with each. It was a wise change, for experience had amply proved the utter hopelessness of bringing 17 Powers to a unanimous attitude toward a subject in respect of which their several interests varied materially. Still, were such a change to be made, Great Britain, about whose claims to prior consideration there could not be a shadow of doubt, and who, also, acting in concert with Germany, had put forward the first project of Revision, based on the restoration of Japan's Tariff and Judicial Autonomy, might reasonably have expected to be consulted before all others. Such, however, was not the order chosen by Japan. She approached the United States and Germany in the first place, and when she came to England the American Government had already signified by telegraph its acceptance of the new basis. Thus Great Britain had two valid seasons for hesitation. Yet she did not hesitste. When Count OKUMA submitted the proposals to HER MAJESTY'S *Chargé d'Affaires*, the Honourable P. LE POER TRENCH, the latter declared that "the sentiment of the British Government toward Japan remained unchanged," and that "they would always give their friendly attention to any proposals on this subject that might emanate from Japan." Far to any Japanese publicist to consider ther, when Lord SALISBURY, at the end of January, 1889, received the draft proposals, he immediately gave them favourable consideration, and five months later transmitted to the British Minister in Tokyo a draft of counter-proposals differing so little from the original that a satisfactory adjustment of the two could be confidently foreseen after a little negotiation. But within three months of the arrival of the counter-draft in Tokyo, the Japanese Cabinet fell to pieces, and once more the subject of Treaty Revision was allowed to lapse. Very shortly afterwards, however, a new set of proposals were put forward by the Government in Tokyo; proposals differing very essentially from those forming the last basis of conference. Still Lord SALISBURY'S friendly and patient tatitude was not affected. He agreed entirely with the Japanese Government in deprecating the abandonment or indefinite postponement of the results already obtained by the negotiations "that had gone before," and he once more caused a convention to be drafted, such that the Japanese Minister of State for Foreign Affairs was constrained "to express, in very warm terms, his sense of the liberality and friendliness which HER MAJESTY'S Government had evinced both in the character of their proposals and in the language of the covering despatch." It will be observed, therefore, that the British Government had now gone to the trouble of drafting no less than three separate bases of Revision, all dictated by a desire to meet Japan's wishes. The first, put forward conjointly with Germany, had formed the subject of the negotiations broken off by Japan in 1887. The second had barely reached the stage of discussion when again the subject was dropped by Japan in 1889. The third, sent out to Tokyo in 1890, after another change on Japan's side, was not seriously discussed owing to political complications in Japan. Finally, in 1893, the Japanese Government, through their Representative in London Viscount AOKI, submitted to the Foreign Office a fourth set of still further modified proposals, and these, the never wearied and always friendly Foreign Secretary of the QUEEN, received as urbanely as ever, the result being the conclusion of the Revised Treaty signed last July, restoring to Japan her Tariff and Judicial Autonomy on terms more favourable than the most sanguine could have anticipated five years previously.

It is justifiable, we think, to call this a very remarkable record. Without Great Britain's consent, Treaty Revision could never have been amicably secured by Japan. In February of last year, Viscount MUTSU, at an interview with the English Representative in Tokyo, "repeated his conviction that no treaty negotiation could be satisfactory from which England stood aloof." Has it ever occurred, we wonder,

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what a test of friendship Great Britain was subjected to by these re-iterated changes of front on Japan's part, and to ask himself whether Japan would have behaved with equal good-will had the positions been reversed? Japan owes the Revision of the Treaties, in other words, owes her admission to the comity of Western nations on equal terms, to the unvarying friendship and imperturable magnanimity of Great Britain. Yet almost before the ink on that charter of her international liberties is dry, we have a section of her people—happily a small section—chafing about imaginary obstructive movements on the part of a few British vessels, and we have some of her most intemperate journals speaking as though war with Great Britain might at any moment become a welcome undertaking. Such a want of discernment, such a marked lack of the sense of proportion, argues ill for the successful discharge of the functions of empire that the Japanese nation is now essaying to undertake. We have nothing to say about Great Britain's strength. Japan may estimate that as she pleases. Neither do we make any professions of Great Britain's friendship. If Japan chooses to be the first nation that has ever despised it, that is her misfortune. But as sincere well-wishers of this nation, with its vividly striking past and its eventful future, we would say that the first element of national greatness is the faculty of distinguishing between actual friends and potential foes.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[Our readers must distinctly understand that we are in no sence responsible for the sentients or opinions of our correspondents, for the accuracy of their assertions, or for the deductions they may choose to draw therefrom.]

WOMAN SUFFRAGE.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—It is not I, as some one seems to think, but a pronounced woman suffragist, who is the author of that senseless quotation about a "troublesome amount of affection in woman's composition," and about her power to "drive man into a corner of the universe," which appeared in my letter in the *Japan Mail* of January 26th. I quoted it only to ridicule it. I had hoped, too, that not many of those intelligent, politically-minded women were capable of writing anything so silly as that is, but on reading the proceedings of the recent annual convention of the American Woman Suffrage Convention, I come across about as big a display of unstrained bosh as one can find in a day's reading anywhere. The following, for example, is found in an address by Miss Susan B. Anthony, President of the Convention:—

THE DEGRADED WOMAN.

The women, she said, were entirely dependent upon the men and would be degraded in her own estimation until she was given the ballot.

That little adjective male in the constitutions of different states says that every man, whether foreign or native born, rich or poor, black or white, drunk or sober, is the equal of every man, but the women, it matters not how good and gentle and noble, are their inferiors. She never saw a poor, unlettered man, a foreign born one, may be, clad in ragged clothes going to the ballot box in her own city but she rejoiced to think that on this one day of the year his opinion was worth as much as that of any man in the land if he was a millionaire. That word male says to every woman that her opinion is not worthy to be counted.

"Shame, shame!" cried Miss Clay, of Kentucky, at this. Miss Anthony said she only wished she had the spiritual power to stand before the people another forty years and work for this great cause.

She closed by telling the women not to be frightened by the bugbears set afloat, that they wanted to be men, for it was not true—they did not want to be men.

Another "Miss" made a telling speech. And by the way, four out of the six leading officers of the Association are "Misses," on which fact, however, I will not attempt to make any "out-loud" comments for simple prudence's sake. The speech referred to above is reported to have began as follows:—"She held up a photograph and said it represented woman and her political peers. In the centre was a picture of Miss Francis Willard, in the upper left hand corner was an idiot, in the upper right hand corner was a convict, in the lower left hand corner was a painted Indian, and in the lower right hand corner was a lunatic. The picture, and its explanation, created quite a flutter of excitement among the delegates."

Now any ordinary ignoramus knows that neither an idiot, a convict, a painted Indian, nor a lunatic is allowed to vote in the United States or to have any voice whatever in the affairs of government. And a woman that is capable of trying to gull an intelligent audience with such sophistry would not have far to go to become a political demagogue that would be a rival to a Tammany boss. And the mischief of it is that this woman was perfectly honest and sincere in what she was doing.

And again one could easily imagine the following wail to come from some "poor unfortunate weary of breath" in an Indian *zenana* or a Turkish *harem*, rather than from the famous blue-grass regions of America where women have such supreme homage and precedence from men as no other women in the world have:—

THE WOMAN WITHOUT A COUNTRY.

Mrs. Josephine K. Henry, of Kentucky, was the next speaker. In a voice that showed the deepest grief she said, as if at any moment she might burst forth into tears, that she believed that she had been born a patriot, and although she was a southern born woman, who loved her people and all they had accomplished, she felt cast down at times to the lowest depths to think that she had no country. It affected her beyond expression to read that word male in the constitution of the country, and to realize that it was a crime for her to be born a woman. All these things wounded her deeply, and she had often asked her husband why it was that she had been born a woman and on this account had been put down below the meanest and most degraded man on earth.

The arguments and methods of attack used by certain classes of women in assailing that little word "male" in our state and national constitutions are both amusing and pitiable.

The following editorial in one of our leading American daily papers expresses my own opinion so well and strikes the truth of the woman suffrage question so squarely that I must beg space for it:—

WOMAN'S SUFFRAGE.

The New York *Advertiser* scores a good point when it says that the advocates of woman's suffrage are wide of the mark when they contend that men oppose the movement because they do not consider women mentally fit to exercise suffrage. No intelligent man holds that opinion. Women have proved that they are fully qualified intellectually to receive the ballot. Women have become eminent in almost every department of intellectual labour, and in every-day life we see convincing evidences that women need not fear comparison with men from an intellectual standpoint.

The objections to woman's suffrage are based on very different grounds from an alleged mental inferiority of the gentle sex and a fact which must not be overlooked is that the most determined apponents of this idea are women themselves.

If it were left for women alone to decide the question, woman's suffrage would be defeated by an overwhelming majority in nearly every state, and the vote of the women in the United States, as a whole, would be tremendously against it.

In none of the older states has this subject been agitated to such an extent as in Massachusetts, and nowhere have abler champions of woman's suffrage been found. Yet we are told by the Boston *Herald* that not ten per cent. of the women of Massachusetts would vote for the proposition if they had the opportunity.

When the late New York constitutional convention was considering the proposition to submit this question to the people, the strongest protests against it went up from women. The woman's suffragists are merely wasting their ammunition when they fire at those imaginary enemies who oppose their idea on the ground that women have not sense enough to use the ballot.

In these modern days a certain class of people are holding up Joan of Arc as the highest type of a true woman instead of Mary the Mother of Jesus, because the former, by riding astraddle a prancing war-steed at the head of a victorious army, demonstrated that a woman can do anything a man can.

The well known New York preacher, Dr. Charles H. Parkhurst, has recently coined a new word—"Andromania," which means "a passionate aping of every thing that is mannish. It is an attempt on the part of those affected with the disease to minimize distinctions by which manhood and womanhood are differentiated, whether as regards their culture, their interests, or their activities." He also says a few wise things to those ambitious women who think the millenium will be near at hand as soon as that little obnoxious word "male" is erased from our national constitutions:—"Any civilization that transforms or tends to transform a woman into the female duplicate of a man is a false civilization. If women want to retain the supremacy which belongs to their sex they will have to keep it by making more and more of their womanliness, and not in trying to be mannish. If they succeed in convincing men by the quality of their ambitions and interests, by the mode of their training and by the character of their pursuits, that the only difference between them and man is an affair of physical structure, there is an end to their queenliness and to masculine respect for it."

Most women suffragists seem to believe that all things will be righted when all women are allowed to vote. And on this point Dr. Parkhurst drives home another truth to be written on the walls of every home in the world:—"If our homes were all right everything would be right, and until our homes are right nothing can be right. A more glaringly erroneous idea never took possession of a reformer than this modern belief that all evils are to be rectified through the ballot box and legislative halls."

On this question Mrs. Katrina Trask in *The Forum* for January sets forth some argument that cannot be refuted until God creates a new Adam and a new Eve different from the first. In reference to the statement that "men are not wise enough, nor generous enough, nor pure enough to legislate fairly for women," she says:—"Every man who legislates has been conceived of woman, has been influenced by her life, her thoughts, her spirit, during his pre-natal existence; has had her impress on his dawning soul: has been led and guided through the first unfolding of his life by her hand; has had his susceptible young heart first in her keeping, his awakening thought first beneath her sway. And if, at last, he grows up to make laws which depress and degrade her, there must be some lack of grace or wisdom, some error of nature or of life in woman, which had better be met and overcome as the first step toward her emancipation; that when it comes it may stand upon a firm foundation, upon the impregnable rock of her own fitness and character."

Again the same writer says:—"The discussion that echoed through the land a few months ago failed to touch the vital point,—it lost the reality of woman's mission and high destiny, which she herself has helped to minimize. Much of the complaint that is poured forth as argument for woman's enfranchisement is a tacit admission on her part of inappreciation of her own present opportunities. * * * * To woman is given the mission of maternity, the basic fact of mortal life; not the mere bearing of children in an accidental, incidental way, but the mission of the perpetuation of the race; the directing and shaping of the race; and, until she understands and studies to fulfil her trust to the utmost, she has failed in her obligation and privilege. As long as men are unjust to women, carelessly selfish and cruel as they too often are, woman is sending forth proofs to the world of her own incapacity and failure."

Again Mrs. Trask writes:—"Many women have asked with scorn, 'Is the whole duty of woman that of child-bearing?' Some women have even been heard to ask, 'How much better am I than an animal?' Little better, if she can ask this question. The physical burden laid upon woman in the economy of nature must be a factor in the argument that woman's mission is distinct and separate from that of man; for it hampers women with limitations, which increase with the delicacy and fineness of their organisms, setting them in a measure apart; but it is only a detail of the larger function of maternity. The full, wide, spiritual mission of motherhood is the dignity and the opportunity of the sex."

Then she makes this wonderful admission concerning the modern education of women:—"How do women fulfil the mission of their lives, which—be it welcome or unwelcome—has been divinely ordered? By a false and foolish sophistry and a shallow prudery, it is some times too often approached in ignorance, concealed and veiled as they draw near to it;—this mighty mystery which

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is the portal for the race. The whole education of women is often a tissue of half-truths, ever the blackest of lies. Girls trained by mothers for wife-hood are kept in ignorance of the real design of their lives. The preparation for marriage in an equipment, greater or less, for all things worldly and unworldly; but instruction or mention that marriage 'was ordained for the procreation of children' has seldom been given. If the young woman has not been too busy with the bridal garments, and the preparation for the feast, she may have read the old and solemn form of the Holy Ordinance, and wondered vaguely what these words meant; or she may have had an embarrassing secret knowledge gathered from unwise sources—of the wonderful economy of nature, and is half ashamed of knowing what she should have investigated with more zeal, and with as pure interest as she had studied the flowers, or followed the courses of the stars."

Now concerning all these questions, I can sum up my own opinions and convictions in one sentence. If all mothers were wise enough and free enough from a pernicious false modesty to teach their sons and daughters those great and vital lessons in the "economy of nature" as regards their own physical beings,—lesson which they learn sooner or later from unwise and sometimes damnable sources,—this world of wickedness, of unhappiness; of lunatics imbeciles, drunkards, deformaties, and diseases, would blossom into a paradise a thousand years before it would through universal woman suffrage.

WILL PATTILLO.

March 22, 1895.

THE RING OF SILVER IN THE AIR.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—The American Bimetallic League has given voice to the sentiment of the silver advocates in the United States, and will remain so until settled rightly. Other questions, however important, must wait for this, which, to a greater or less extent, involves all others. The issue is between the gold standard, gold bonds, and bank currency on one side and the bimetallic standard, no bonds, and government currency, on the other.

"First.—On this issue we declare ourselves to be unalterably opposed to the single gold standard and demand the immediate return to the constitutional standard of gold and silver, of the restoration by this Government, independent of any foreign power, of the unrestricted coinage of both silver and gold into standard money at the ratio of 16 to 1, and upon terms of exact equality, the silver coin to be full legal tender, equal with gold in the payment of all debts and dues public or private.

"Second.—We hold the power to control and regulate a paper currency inseparable from the power to coin money, and hence all the currency intended to circulate as money should be issued and its volume controlled by the general Government only and should be legal tender.

"Third.—We are unalterably opposed to the issue by the United States of interest bearing bonds in time of peace, and demand the payment of all coin obligation of the United States, as provided by existing law, in either gold and silver coin at the option of the Government and not at the option of the creditor."

This is a clear and direct issue, there is no equivocation or fence-straddling in the propositions set forth. Other political issues are avoided as being secondary in importance. The rehabiliation of silver is the grand question that will be the theme of discussion from now until the election for President takes place. As the advocates of free silver coinage are republicans as well as democrats, this new silver party will cause both the old national parties to rearrange their platforms, causing them to declare in plain and unmistakable terms their position in regard to silver coinage. In general terms both the democratic and republican parties have placed themselves before the people as the friends of silver in their party platforms prior to election and both have failed to act up to their declarations.

The present movement, by placing a third party in the field pledged to the free coinage of silver and gold at a ratio of 16 to 1, independent of any foreign power, will necessitate the adoption of a clear cut declaration in both the republican and democratic platforms regarding the policy the parties will pledge themselves to adopt in relation to this question. Neither party can afford to ignore the situation, the peril of defeat would be too great. The South is largely in favour of free coinage of silver, so also is the Western portion of the union. The Southern States are overwhelmingly democratic, while the Western are correspondingly republican. The new party will, if the present national parties do not face the situation by declaring for free coinage, cause a complete disintegration of old party lines. The ticket the new party will place in the field will be non-partizan so far as all old issues are in question, the only issue upon which its candidates will be presented being that of the free coinage of silver and gold, all other questions being of minor importance upon which the members elected to congress will be guided by their several proclivities.

The writer has ever been the advocate of the proposition that the United States would eventually settle the question of free silver coinage at the old ratio of 16 to 1, and that the time would come when the people would demand that the gold standard nations be left to their own devices and the old order of things should be restored despite all the gold interests that have wrought such wide spread disaster in the United States.

The action of the American Bimetallic League presages momentous consequences to the financial and commercial worlds. The movement inaugurated will gather force as the months roll by. The proposed international congress, to be convened to consider the relation of gold and silver, will take note of the situation, and the gold standard advocates will possibly conclude that their day is passing away. American grit and determination will solve the problem regardless of what other nations may determine.

Yours, &c., X.

Yokohama, April 4th, 1895.

AUSTRALIAN NOTES ON JAPANESE TOPICS.

By John Plummer, M.J.S.

Sydney, Feb. 20th, 1895.

As might have been expected, several of the leading Australian newspapers have commented unfavourably on the proceedings in connection with the capture of Port Arthur, and the forcible language employed by the Melbourne *Argus* induced Mr. Marks, the Japanese Consul in that city, to publish a short but remarkably effective reply, pointing out that British soldiers in India and elsewhere have acted, under gross provocation, exactly as the victorious Japanese troops are reported by the correspondent of the London *Times* to have done at Port Arthur. Human nature, after all, is human nature, no matter what may be the colour of the skin. What Australians do not seem to fully comprehend, is the apparent sudden development of naval and military ability on the part of a people hitherto treated by them with a feeling akin to contempt. Indeed, it is doubtful whether even in the Mother Country the great mass of population have learned the full significance of the rapid emancipation of Japanese thought and action from the enervating influence of ancient tradition and antiquated customs. To a thinker watching from afar, the progress of events in Korea and China, nothing can be more clear than the fact that a new chapter in the history of the world has been commenced, and that among the possibilities of the future is the return of a large share of its long-lost power to the awakening East. Political philosophers have long contended that when the peoples of the Orient became possessed of the knowledge to which the nations of the West owe so much of their strength and power, the seeds would be sown of one of the most stupendous revolutions the world has ever beheld.

The practical collapse of Chinese power was wholly unexpected in Australia, not only by the colonists, but also by the Chinese and Japanese residents. It has come as a surprise to everybody. The general opinion, when trouble arose between Japan and China, was that the latter nation, with its enormous wealth and teeming millions, would speedily vanquish its presumptious opponent, and that Japan would become, as it were, only a tradition. "Yet," says the Melbourne *Age*, "in six months of a single campaign little Japan has so completely doubled up her big adversary that the boastful giant has had to sue for mercy and peace. The country whose internal wealth was greater than all the rest of the world, dollar for dollar, has put a paltry loan of a couple of millions on the London market and been refused. Such are the opinions of the experts regarding Chinese strength a few months, or at most, a few years ago. Such the collapse of to-day. When great generals and statesmen are thus bamboozled concerning the forces under their ken, Oxenstiern may well be excused for his reflection—'My son see with how little wisdom the world is governed.' The Sydney *Daily Telegraph*, alluding to the return of His Excellency Li Hung-chang to Chinese Imperial favour, sarcastically says:—"Things are assurredly in a very bad way with the Chinese as a fighting nation. By the appearance of the situation as presented to us at this distance, the Emperor of China seems to be working hand and glove with the truculent Mikado to assure the defeat of his own cause. He has messed things up to such a degree with his bedizenings and denudings of high officials to begin with, that it is said those under them can never be sure whether it is the right thing to obey their orders or call them Raca or its pagan equivalent. Only the other day, Li Hung-chang hadn't an article of official attire fit to be seen in left to him. He had been stripped of all the properties that made him a ruler of men and was bidden to prepare his head for the executioner's sword if he could not use it to bring confusion upon the enemies of China. Since then he has been rigged out in the Yellow Jacket again, reinvested with the Peacock's Feather, and set once more in the highest place next the Emperor, who has disrobed and beheaded lots of his other prominent subjects. The Admiral, after surrendering Weihaiwei, knew he would, at least, have some of his clothes dragged off, so he committed suicide, as did several of his best men. And by way of showing the survivors what to do in future, the Emperor has ordered that all officers who are left are to be executed without further reference to him. With the Japanese winning every battle, and the Chinese Emperor executing all the officers they don't kill, his own army doesn't seem the kind of one to attract recruits and make them work hard for promotion."

The capture of Weihaiwei has created a deep impression throughout Australia, illustrating, as its does, the invincibility of Japan and the almost helpless vulnerability of China. Commenting on this further success of the Japanese forces, the *Sydney Morning Herald* says:—"The total prostration of China is now placed beyond peradventure, and people may legitimately indulge in conjecture on what the ultimate result will be to the East. That enormous levy will be made on the wealth of China goes without saying, and that this will go to enlarge the powers for offence of the Eastern Empire may be as surely expected. With the possession of all that remains afloat of the Chinese fleet, with the arsenals and material of war converted to the use of Japan, with the power to squeeze the life blood out of an empire that is really one of vast richness, it is difficult to set limits to the growth of strength of an energetic, intelligent, and ambitious Power like Japan. The difficulties that surround actual intervention on the part of the Western Powers, whatever moral influence they may seek to apply, are sufficiently great to prevent them from interfering except as a last resort; and when the hour of necessity seems to have come, Japan will probably have so established itself over the prostrate Power, and turned its resources so to account, that the active intervention of the Western Powers would involve a struggle from which they might reasonably shrink. Everything at the present hour seems to point to the East as passing through a crisis that will leave a memorable mark in history; and it is quite conceivable that this sudden uprising of Japan and its ultimate possession and control of the enormous resources of China may affect the fortunes and the destinies of the whole world."

The reported determination of Britain, France, and Russia to prevent any annexation of Chinese territory by Japan, has been received with disfavour in Australia. The Melbourne *Argus* thinks that such a decision, if really arrived at, would be calculated to cause serious uneasiness and misgivings as to the wisdom of Lord Rosebery's foreign policy. Says the *Argus*,—"It is not easy to see how British interests call for any such intervention. The Japanese have incurred an immense expenditure of men and money in their war against China, and they will certainly not be satisfied with a pecuniary indemnity and the permission to retain such Chinese war-ships as may fall into their hands. They aim at extending their rule over a considerable portion of the mainland, certainly Korea, and probably Manchuria, or part of it. It is easy to see why Russia should desire to prevent a formidable power like Japan from gaining a foot on the mainland, but why England should thus play into the hands of her most dangerous rival in Asia passes comprehension. China has proved her entire inability to develop the resources of [illegible] or raise the [illegible]

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ed condition of the people, and the only hope of improvement for them lies in the introduction of the enterprise, capital, and skilled administration of Japan. For England to step in and, in conjunction with Russia and France, forbid her to retain possession of the country she has conquered means not only to make a deadly enemy of Japan, but to condemn Korea to a condition of anarchy and misgovernment worse than the state she was in before the war—a condition that must sooner or later invite, if not necessitate, Russian aggression. England has hitherto shown a well-grounded jealousy of Russian encroachments on the North Pacific, and it seems therefore incredible that she should suddenly reverse her old policy. To many Englishmen the prospect of the extension of Japanese power to the Asiatic continent has seemed a veritable interposition of Providence by providing a strong barrier against the dreaded advance of the Muscovite, and it is very difficult to believe that any British Government will be allowed to deliberately prevent the erection of a bulwark so advantageous to the empire. Fortunately many things may happen before any occasion for the threatened interposition arises, and as the Imperial Parliament is now sitting a policy so momentous is sure to meet with opposition and give rise to discussion."

The possibilities of a large export trade with Japan continue to engage the attention of Australian producers, but the colonists are somewhat slow in availing themselves of the facilities for opening new markets. Each seems to prefer waiting while the initial work is done by somebody else. The Sydney *Evening News* says:—That Japan might present a good field for Australian trade was a suggestion rather strongly urged even before Japan's position and prospects had become matters of so much general interest as they have of late. The suggestion derives tenfold force from some particulars recently given with respect to Japanese requirements in the commercial and industrial way. It is said that the country would afford a splendid market for Australian horses. Our mutton, too, should be in ready demand in that quarter, as well as many other things which Australia possesses in abundance. The opportunity should not be lost. In any case Australia is certain to hear more of the Asiatic power which in so surprising a manner has availed itself of the resources of western civilisation. It is only to be hoped that our future relations with it will always be as friendly, as they are tolerably sure to be intimate. But if a market for Australian produce is to be found in Japan, it can only be with the assistance of Japanese merchants, and for the energy and enterprise of these there is unlimited scope in the Australian Colonies.

If any friction occurs in the near future between Australia and Japan, it will probably be in connection with the Treaty between great Britain and Japan, a possibility pointed out by the London *Times* when its advised Australia not to do anything to imperil Oriental trade "for the sake of race prejudice." The *Sydney Morning Herald*, alluding to the warning uttered by *The Times*, not only endorses it, but also says that the great London journal "takes a singularly inadequate view of the situation," and then goes on to observe.—"That so-called race prejudices, or rather prejudices against alien labour, do affect a certain section of our population is true. But if this were all, it might with safety be said that the difficulties in the adoption of the Treaty by Australia would sooner or later be overcome. But to those who look at great public interests from a higher plane a much more serious aspect present itself. The United Kingdom, with its densely populated area, and its distance from the East, the possibility of being swamped by the populations of Oriental countries is a remote one—so remote that it need hardly be taken into account. With the vast area of Australian territory, at present barely fringed with settlements, lying over against the teeming populations of Eastern Asia, and in comparative proximity, the case is different. With us it is not a mere matter of sentiment or of racial prejudice, but the grave question of whether we shall preserve our existence as an Anglo-Saxon people, and prevent the Australian continent from being swarmed over by races that do not assimilate, but might in their multitudes alter or sweep away the institutions we are so carefully building up for ourselves and our children. We have seen the difficulties created in the United States by the presence of a race that cannot amalgamate, and which, with its rapid increase, presents a social and political problem for the future that causes the gravest apprehensions. The presence of the negro race in America is but a bagatelle compared with the possibilities of a migration of Asiatic races into the continent of Australia, and [illegible] the London *Times*, no commercial [illegible] can conceive would be commensurate with the evils that might come upon Australia from an unrestricted influx of Asiatics, such as would be rendered possible by the acceptance of the Treaty as it stands. That the Japanese are actively migratory we know. There are already 20,000 of them in the little group of the Hawaiian Islands. Any treaty concluded with Japan might have, for reasons explainable, to be extended sooner or later to embrace China, and it might practically mean free entrance to all Asiatics. That a treaty with different conditions and limitations may sooner or later be concluded with Japan, by which all the advantages of commercial interchange may be obtained by Australia without the evils incident to the present Treaty, is possible, even probable. But in the meantime it cannot be too distinctly understood that Australia is not actuated in this matter by mere race prejudice, but by a profound desire to retain the whole continent for planting there the institutions of Western civilisation, and for building up Anglo-Saxon rule in the Southern hemisphere.

LETTER FROM PEKIN.

(From our Correspondent.)

March 12, 1895.

It is just a week since Viceroy Li Hung-chang left here on his mission of peace to Japan, and today he is reported as leaving Tientsin, taking a steamer direct.

What will be the outcome? That is the question being asked now, with a predominance of faith in the possibilities of peace, mingled with slight fear that failure will be the result. It is certainly a more favourable outlook than either of the other missions. That Japan had reason for spurning the Detring attempt, blazoned with so much self-importance, we can understand; though even in that case, if Japan really wanted peace, and Mr. Detring would have remained, an informal conference might have been granted as a preliminary effort. Concerning the second attempt of Chang and Shao, we can easily understand why objections were made to the form of their credentials. For any mistake in this matter, blame may be placed on the Chinese Imperial Government, but not on the United States Minister, if he is really acting, as he represents, the part of intermediary and adviser. We understand that the form prepared by him was faultless, but the Chinese simply pigeon-holed it. But whether this or that, the Envoys were willing to have their credentials modified, and full powers were telegraphed them from here.

This third mission seems to be starting out with better credentials and a better understanding. The arrangements have been made by the transmission of despatches through the United States Ministers in Pekin and Tokyo. It seems as if the Chinese were acting for themselves in this case, listening to suggestions from others, but shaping their own plans by these prior arrangements. Viceroy Li has full powers to negotiate, and decide, and what he grants will include the independence of Korea, cession of territory, and a money indemnity. On the other hand, it is understood that he will be allowed to communicate with his government. Li, however, is a man very much accustomed to decide for himself, where given the power; and, not caring to be bothered with the objections of his secret enemies, he will go straight through the business and act for himself, leaving it for his return to bring the Central Government to terms.

The return of Viceroy Li to power is a marked feature of Chinese capabilities to turn a somersault, when emergency requires. With all the enemies which he had he would not have again risen to the top wave of glory and authority, if he had not secured a few important backers. While the smaller officials, some of whom he had aided, were turning against him, owing to the growing power and favour of the war party surrounding the Emperor, he was gradually growing again into favour with a few of the most powerful. These were none other than the Empress-Dowager and Prince Kung. Probably all along they were inclined to settle up on the best terms possible, and so agreed with Viceroy Li. He futhermore had been associated with one or both of them as a strong ally in many another perplexity, and naturally they thought of him as the best and only man, when the second mission failed and some other higher official should be appointed. There were only two persons of international reputation who stood high and had arranged treaties, Prince Kung and Viceroy Li, and it is quite reasonable to suppose that Prince Kung preferred Viceroy Li. Whatever doubts either the Empress-Dowager or Prince Kung had held concerning Viceroy Li were also removed. A quiet work had [illegible] to restore the confidence of Prince Kung, and so when the right moment came, he and the Empress-Dowager united in again ordering through the the Emperor his immediate presence in Pekin, and to secure this he was restored his honours and was told he was needed to go as Special Envoy. His enemies had all along been trying to bring him to Pekin to be either reproved, degraded, or punished even more severely; hence they could not very well object to his coming now.

On reaching Pekin, Li arose to his full strength and courage, and faced his enemies—the whole Court, and the Emperor—as to the charges brought against him for the failure of the war. By one catastrophe after another, while at first sight tending to discredit him as military leader all these years, he managed to silence those who had maligned him. The failure of the war, he set out to prove, was not due to him, for he had favoured more preparation, but to the Pekin Court which had hindered him time and time again and through whose backwardness China was now humiliated. As another attempt at peace seemed desirable, as military victories seemed impossible, as none of Li's objectors cared to go themselves to sue for peace and submit to shameful loss, they quietly nodded assent, and even united in hearty approval of Li's appointment. The Empress-Dowager and Prince Kung now came forward to favour and aid him, and so the somersault was completed. Some of these opponents of Li are among the most upright and patriotic men that China has; but by the force of events they are again meekly dwelling in obscurity and passivity. The thousands of soldiers who have gone to the front have been suffering through the winter; hundreds of wounded have been left to die; others have now and then made an assault on the Japanese forces; Weihaiwei has been lost; the Northern Squadron and its faithful Admiral are no more; and now let peace be arranged by him who has sat quietly in his viceregal *yamin*, requiring an immense payment of money from the already poverty-stricken country; and we will then hear the first mutterings of discontent and even of indignation, intensified when the soldiers are disbanded and ordered to return to their distant homes.

Peking is still as dull and secure as ever, and yet foreign marines have come, and missionaries from other places are advised to come to a place of safety. When the new treaty is signed in Pekin we will have excitement.

THE YOKOHAMA GAS WORKS.

It will be agreeable news to gas consumers of the Settlement to hear that the Yokohama Gas Works have decided to reduce the price of gas to per cent. from the rate at present charged, and it may interest our readers to know something about the considerable repairs and extension works lately undertaken by the company. A new gas holder of 100,000 cubic feet capacity made by the Bartonfield Iron Works (late Laidlow and Sons) of Scotland, which arrived on September last has now been completed and will be in working order in a few weeks. The Gas furnaces have been entirely reconstructed and all the appertaining apparatus either renewed or enlarged. The principal main, which is of 8 inches diameter, has been supplemented by a new 10-inch main, and the old branch mains both in the native town and and Settlement are now in process of being relaid, which will be completed at the end of April. The plan of main extension on the Bluff Settlement, and some parts of the native town, which has been under the consideration of City Municipal Council of late, has been adopted and the work will be commenced in a short time. The extension on the Bluff will include a main through Honmoku dori from the British Naval Hospital to the front of No. 157. Another line will extend from the front of the Public Hall along the Bluff Main road to Jizozaka and a branch main along Daikanzaka. The portions of the native town where the main extensions will be made are Moto-machi, Kamenohashi-dori, Horai-cho, Furu-cho, Isezaki-cho, and Noge-cho.

The insufficient capacity of the gas-holder, scarcity of demand in daytime, and the insufficient number of valve arrangements in the street-mains have, up to the present, prevented the Works from supplying gas in the daytime, but as the above mentioned inconveniences have now been rectified and of late there have been many applications, the works have decided to turn on gas both day and night from about June next, which, accompanied with the reduction in gas rates, will offer gas consumers a fine opportunity of utilizing gas for other purposes than lighting, such as gas engines for motive power, gas stoves, and gas cooking apparatus for domestic purposes, so widely in use in Western countries.

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REPRESENTATION RELATING TO AID TO COMPANIES UNDER THE SPECIAL PROTECTION OF GOVERNMENT.

(As passed by the House of Representatives.)

Though the necessity of granting aid from the Treasury to the Nippon Railway Company, the Japan Mail Steamship Company, and the Hokkaido Colliery and Railway Company, is recognized, the process pursued does not appear to be quite satisfactory. Further, the rate of interest paid on the war loans borrowed from the 15th National Bank is considered exceedingly high. The Authorities should therefore amend the charters of each of these companies and the agreement with the Bank in accordance with the following principles:—The subsidy granted to the Nippon Railway Company by way of supplementing its profits is determined with reference to each separate section, so that while such sections as the 1st and 2nd, which yield an annual profit of above 20 per cent. are omitted from the account, others, the net earnings of which do not amount to 8 per cent. per annum receive a subsidy sufficient to bring their profit to that sum. This should be amended. The net earnings should be supplemented on the basis of the whole line, and no grant in aid should be made by the Treasury unless the profit on the whole line fall short of 8 per cent. As for the subsidy to the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, with the exception of the Hokkaido and Okinawa lines, it should be discontinued in respect of voyages undertaken along the coasts of Japan, and should be granted with respect to foreign voyages only, the number of miles being taken as a basis of computation.

With regard to the subsidy to the Hokkaido Tanko Tetsudo Kaisha, the profit does not reach 5 per cent. because the freight charged for the transportion of coal is exceptionally cheap. Should the freight be raised to a rate commensurate with that charged by other companies, the profit would be increased and the subsidy from the Treasury might be diminished. The Company should therefore be made to revise the rate of freight to a proper figure.

The interest on the War Loans borrowed from the 15th National Bank being exceptionally high, it should be reduced to 5 per cent. a year on the amount remaining unpaid according to the original contract.

Introduced by HIRASHIMA MATSUO, and 5 others.
Supported by HONO HIRONAKA, and 31 others.

REPRESENTATION RELATING TO THE PURCHASE OF WAR MATERIAL.

Our land and naval forces are carrying on warlike operations at different places undeterred by difficulties of whatever kind arising. The Imperial Diet, despite the fact that it maintains the necessity of retrenching official expenditures, has given its consent to the spending of a vast war fund, being desirous of the accomplishment of the original object of the expedition. So deeply imbued are the people with a warlike spirit that they are striving to outdo each other in sending contributions to the War or Relief Fund, or by sending gifts in kind, and in various other ways manifesting their sympathy with the soldiers fighting abroad. The responsibilities of the Authorities in purchasing war material and provisions must therefore be all the more weighty and serious. They should exercise great care in purchasing war material and provisions, and for the better control of this department certain fixed rules should be rigidly enforced. They should not suffer the so-called "official merchants" to indulge their cupidity and to reap undue profits from the war. Yet, with respect to this branch of the war, various strange rumours are circulated, and the Government has, to a certain extent, even acknowledged that these rumours are based on fact. Now, to meet the demands of the occupied districts and to keep the market price of the various stores and provisions at a proper level, transportation and the means of communication should be free. Yet this does not appear to have been provided, as witness the Regulations issued some months ago on this subject to merchants going to the occupied districts for the control of mercantile transactions there. These Regulations are entirely at variance with the spirit of the people and are not unlikely to produce a bad result. Then again, the use of cunning artifices by coolie agents and other fraudulent practices—employed with the selfish object of obtaining undue profits—are already matters of flagrant scandal [illegible] longer to be disregarded. It is the earnest desire of the House of Representatives to promptly amend any law that is found defective and to enforce a strict control over the operation of any law or regulation, to the end that no waste may attend the War expenditure; and to efficaciously stamp out all abuses due to the selfish designs of dishonest merchants.

Introduced by SUYEHIRO SHIGEYASU and TANAKA SHOZO.
Supported by KONO IWAKICHI and 29 others.
February 22nd, 1895.

QUESTIONS RELATING TO EXHIBITIONS.

1.—It requires no lengthy argument to demonstrate that an exhibition is an important medium for giving impetus to the development of industry and for bringing about means of promoting the prosperity of a country. Yet inspection of national exhibits appears to be chiefly based on a standard of fine arts, and the practical side of the subject, which relates to the national economy, appears to be more or less neglected. What policy does the Government contemplate adopting with regard to the inspection of goods send to Exhibitions?

2.—It not infrequently happens that persons who are not professional manufacturers, manufacture certain articles with the object of gaining a prize at an Exhibition, and, by specially raising the quality of their goods they obtain prizes of a higher grade than those won by the legitimate manufacturer. What course does the Government intend to pursue in such cases? Professional manufacturers also expressly manufacture articles of a high quality merely for the purpose of exhibiting them at an exhibition, and by marking them at an uncommonly low price strive to cause a temporary surprise. Is not that of the nature of a fraud upon society? What restraint does the Government intend to impose upon such exhibitors?

3. The inspection of exhibits should be conducted with the utmost impartiality, so as to lead the way to the true encouragement of art and trade. Yet with respect to the inspection of goods sent to exhibitions, strange rumours are frequently circulated as to the partiality exhibited by the judges. How are the Commissioners selected by the Government, and what methods does it intend to pursue in providing against such abuses in the future?

Presented by KOMURO SHIGEHIRO and MATSUDA KICHISABURO.
Supported by NOGUCHI KEI and 31 others.

THE GOVERNMENT'S REPLIES.

1.—In regard to the first question, the main essential is to see that the inspection of exhibits is carried out in strict accordance with the Inspection Regulations. These Rules are of many descriptions and vary in accordance with the class and nature of the exhibit. In each section an Inspector is appointed, who examines the exhibits and the explanatory documents accompanying them, and by inquiring into the cost of production and the price obtained by the sale, he always keeps in view the prime essentials of inspection. Each section of the exhibits must of course be differently treated. Thus, in the 2nd section, which is connected with fine arts, the inspection should be carried out from an artistic point of view. Similar artistic judgment is required for a portion of the 1st section; but for the 3rd section (agriculture and botany), the 4th section (marine industry), the 6th section (mining and metallurgy), and the 7th section (machinery), the chief thing to be kept in view is the promotion of national economy, and the practical benefits to the country. No special predilection to the artistic side of exhibits, as referred to in the question, has been shown.

2.—To provide against the abuse mentioned in the second question, provisions have been drawn up for the present exhibition so that exhibitors may be confined to professional manufacturers, or to those who, though not professional manufacturers, have made or caused others to make articles by employing special designs. In the present Exhibition, exhibitors must either be professional manufacturers or else have devised special designs, and those who intend to obtain higher prizes by making special articles of refined quality will find no room in the present exhibition. Again, for professional manufacturers or producers who only make an article of a specially refined quality for the purpose of exhibition, the minimum limit of exhibits has been changed with a view to put a stop to such abuses. For instance, the minimum limit of quantity of grain to be exhibited was increased from one *sho* to one *to*, while table salt was fixed at six *sho*, the quantity having previously been optional. In this way, in the case of articles for which special selection or artificial improvement is possible, abuses are provided against by increasing the quantity to be sent to the exhibition. In order to provide against the abuse of placing an unusually low value on goods simply to win temporary fame, the utmost care has been exercised in selecting the Committees. In short, the rules governing exhibits to be displayed in the present Exhibition are all based on the Exhibition Regulations framed for the guidance of exhibitors. All exhibits intended for this exhibition were first inspected and carefully selected by the Local Governors in accordance with Art. XX. of the Exhibition Regulations, and their relative merits were next determined by Committees of thoroughly experienced men.

3.—As provided for in the Official Organization, the Committees are selected from among persons distinguished either for scientific attainments or practical experience, and they make inspection and deliver judgment only on the particular exhibits assigned to them. No instance of partiality has ever been found in their awards. The most rigid supervision is exercised so as to effectively stop any abuses, as, for instance, the exclusion of selection committees from the prize conference on exhibits placed under their care, and the adoption of a system of double inspection in deciding the relative merits of an exhibit where opinion may be at first divided.

(Signed) Viscount ENOMOTO TAKEAKI,
Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce.
March 18th, 1895.

QUESTIONS RELATING TO HOKKAIDO.

THE ADMINISTRATION OF HOKKAIDO.

Owing to the vacillation displayed in the Government policy with regard to the administration and opening of Hokkaido the system is greatly out of order, and public works are not undertaken according to the order of their relative importance. Nor are inquiries into and the control of public works carried out as they ought to be. Local economy is deranged, and great differences exist in the relative burdens imposed upon the people; the mode of leasing land to immigrants is very partial, and the relative advantages enjoyed by immigrants are said to be widely divergent according to localities. What is the Government's proposed future policy in regard to these affairs? In answer to a question put by a member of the House in the fourth session, the Home Minister replied that thenceforth, with regard to the system of opening Hokkaido, he would pay special attention and would fix the system on a definite basis by carrying out necessary investigations. Is the system of opening up Hokkaido now fixed on a definite basis?

FOREIGN POACHERS.

Rumours of foreign poachers entering the territorial waters of this country and carrying on poaching operations have been very prevalent of late years. Recently the number of poachers has increased, so that, the year before last, with Vancouver, Victoria, San Francisco, and other Pacific ports as a base, the poachers carried on their clandestine business at Omura-jima in the Bonin group, off Inuboye and Kinkasan, and as far as Cape Erimo, Daikoku jima, and the Kuriles, and caught a considerable quantity of seals and sea-otters. This is a fact that cannot be denied. Nay more, some of these poachers went a step further. The *Walter P. Hall* anchored at a place only 1½ miles off Iturup jima in the vicinity of Nemuro, and carried on poaching; while another ship did the same thing in Volcano Bay. Such actions on the part of foreign poachers are attributable to the contempt with which these foreigners regard international laws; their operations now present a grave problem affecting the sovereignty of this Empire. Yet, how is it that the Government appears to neglect this important question and suffers poachers to carry on their lawless operations with impunity? Does the Government intend to take up the matter?

HOKKAIDO PENITENTIARIES.

To the question put in the fourth session of the Diet, as to whether it is disadvantageous to the successful opening of Hokkaido, if the number of convicts liberated from the penitentiaries increase, the Government replied that the matter, together with others of like nature, was in course of investigation. What is the result of this investigation? According to inquiries carried out during the year before last, the number of convicts set free from Hokkaido penitentiaries by the 27th year of *Meiji* will amount to 4,512. Does the Government intend to set them

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in Hokkaido? Is it the intention of the Government to regard Hokkaido as a field of penal service where the provisions set forth in Art. XVII. of the Criminal Code are to be put into operation, and will criminals be transported thither as before?

It is said that out of the total convicts employed in coal mining by the Hokkaido Colliery and Railway Company, *from* the 19th year of *Meiji* to January of the 24th year of *Meiji*, 82 were killed, 32 were afflicted with serious illness, and about 55,000 were wounded by explosions. A convict is a criminal, but as men have not two lives, so in law there should not be a double punishment for one offence. Yet does it not amount to this when convicts are employed in work of such a dangerous nature, and are likely at any time to meet with a terrible fate? Moreover, as the jailers simply carry out their duties of superintendence outside the pits, and can not exercise control over what happens within, it follows that any precision in awarding rewards or dealing out punishments is out of the question. As it is, convicts in the pits are said to intermingle with free labourers, and, to obtain liquor, tobacco, and other articles from the latter; and moreover, the stronger oppress the weaker and compel them to work for them. Are not such acts entirely at variance with the spirit of judicial punishment? The daily wage of a convict employed in this dangerous business is only 11 *sen*. Now, according to an inquiry carried out the year before last, the number of convicts employed in the Poronai Colliery was 1,300. Should these convicts be employed in agricultural pursuits it would be easy for them to obtain a daily wage of 20 *sen*. May not the action of the Government in neglecting to impose proper supervision over the convicts be regarded as wilful inattention to the country's interests?

THE HOKKAIDO COLLIERY AND RAILWAY COMPANY.

In answer to a question put in the 4th session as to the Hokkaido Colliery and Railway Company, the Government replied that the sale of the Colliery Railway was simply a conversion of a Government work into a private concern, and that with respect to promoting the interests of opening Hokkaido and developing its resources no difference in regard to the Government's policy had been occasioned. Should that be the case, it follows that the Colliery and Railway Company should be in duty bound to promote the opening of the land and the development of its resources. Nor was it on any other ground that the Government guaranteed the profits of the Company. Yet, if the present proceedings of the Company be inquired into, it appears that the Railway is entirely engaged in conveying the coal of the Company; while there are many indications which go to show that the Company does not attend to the important duty of promoting the opening of Hokkaido and the development of the island's resources. One train only is run per day, thereby subjecting emigrants to no small inconvenience. About the 23rd year of *Meiji*, owing to the high freight charged on goods conveyed by railway between Sapporo and Otaru, attempts were made to ship goods as far as Zenibako by sea, and thence to Sapporo overland; but the company did not regard this as any grievance but charges as high rates as ever. Owners of good are in fact at the mercy of the Company. The freight charges of the Company for the exclusive use of a goods waggon is virtually prohibitive. A certain Mr. Fujimura secured a Government license to undertake the trial extraction of coal in a bed in the vicinity of the Yubari Colliery. The Company is now secretly endeavouring to decline the conveyance of this coal, as the applicant is unable, it is said, to carry out his original plan of trial coal mining. In view of these facts, does the Government still maintain that the original purpose of promoting the opening of Hokkaido and developing the resources is maintained?

The Government has declared that in regard to the alterations of routes in the Railway line extending from Mororan to Sorachibuto, and the branch from the Yuban-Sorachi coal beds, the Company did not apply for Government sanction until after the completion of the works,—a misdemeanour for which the President of the Company should be held responsible—still as the alterations were considered necessary and proper the Government granted retrospective sanction. But to effect an alteration in a programme of an authorised public work without previously securing the sanction of the Government, is a violation the provisions of Art. XXVIII of the Private Railways Construction Regulations, and must not be considered as simply due to a fault of the President. Is it not provided in the written orders which the Government gave to the Company that when the provisions set forth therein are violated, the Company shall be liable to incur a penalty and have the Government's subsidy—the guaranted profits—withdrawn?" Yet the Government simply confined its action to discharging the President and did not subject the company to punishment. Is it the idea of the Government that although a violation of a law occurs, no action need be taken in the matter so long as the public interests are not violated. Even if the alteration in the two branch lines to Sorachi and Yubari be admitted as justifiable, what can be said about the shortening of the trunk line between Mororan and Sorachi by 2 miles in order to save the trouble of constructing a bridge over the Sorachi river, thereby subjecting the people going toward Kamikawa to serious disappointment? The alterations in the route can not therefore be considered justifiable even from the standpoint of practical requirements. The Government should withdraw the guaranteed profits for the 2 miles, to say nothing of suspending the guarantee altogether. How was it that the Government did not take this step?

In answer to a question as to whether the freight charges of the company for the transportation of coal are not out of proportion to the charges of freight on other kinds of goods, the Government replied that "the freight on coal could not be said to be unduly light. It is true the Nippon Tetsudo Kaisha charges 1.925 *sen* per mile for a ton of coal; but this is because the company has not much occasion to transport coal and is only required to carry a small quantity now and then. That its freight on coal is comparatively high is therefore not to be wondered at. On the contrary, the Kyushiu Tetsudo Kaisha fixes the rate at .8 *sen* per ton when the coal is to be carried less than 100 miles, and at .55 *sen* when the distance is above 100 miles. Now the Hokkaido Tanko Tetsudo Kaisha carries continuously an enormous quantity of coal, and it is only natural that the rate of freight should be low." With regard to the freight of the Kyushiu Tetsudo Kaisha the foregoing citation must be considered as a misstatement of an already perverted fact. The introducer of the question made inquiries of the Company specially upon this matter, and has received the following authentic statement of the rates charged by the Company on the transportation of coals.

For a distance of above 20 miles and under 45 miles 2.5 *sen* per miles per ton.
For a distance under 100 miles 2 *sen*.
For a distance above 100 miles 1.5 *sen*.

Special reductions are made when the quantity is very large.

From Omuda to Moji (91 miles). 55 *sen* per ton under special contract.
From Omuda to Moji (18 miles) 20 *sen* per ton under special contract.

In the above table the freight on coal from Omuda to Moji is relatively low. This is because Omuda enjoys shipping facility, and competition is very keen among ship owners to obtain cargoes. Even under such special conditions the rate per mile is above .6 *sen*. How can the Government explain that freight is fixed at the rate of 55 *sen* per ton?

The Tanko Tetsudo Kaisha has gradually reduced the freight on coal since the 23rd year of *Meiji* (1890), though no such reduction has been effected in freight for other kinds of goods. This is in short an abuse attributable to the combination of railway and colliery interests in the same Company. Other abuses too numerous to mention are traceable to the same cause. The Government, it is true, gave permission to the Company to combine the two businesses, perhaps in the interests of Hokkaido. The Company, however, does not appear to attend to the public benefit or attempt to develop the resources of Hokkaido. When the Company was organized the Government gave written orders to the Company to keep the accounts of railway and of colliery seperate, and not to mix the two. This was a plausible provision, only observed on paper, and really disregarded altogether. It is therefore considered that unless the spirit of the Railway Regulations be strictly enforced and, by severing the accounts and interests of the railway and colliery—the two to be kept rigidly apart, and not allowed to encroach one upon the other—the profits of the whole of Hokkaido are in danger of being monopolized by one private Company. Does the Government think that the combination of railway and colliery businesses is not contrary to the spirit of the Railway Regulations, and that no evil result has arisen from the combination?

Introduced by HYAKUMAN UMEJI.
Supported by KURIHARA RYOICHI, and 29 others.

THE GOVERNMENT'S ANSWERS.

THE ADMINISTRATIVE POLICY OF HOKKAIDO.

The Government's policy with regard to the administration of Hokkaido is carried on in accordance with a fixed plan, and no deviation from the lines laid down has ever been made with regard to the system of colonization and the order in which public works are undertaken. However, more or less alterations are unavoidable, according to time and circumstance. A question on this subject was asked in the 4th session of the Diet and was duly answered by the Home Minister. By reflecting on the results thus far obtained in Hokkaido, and also by prosecuting inquiries into the actual state of affairs, the present Minister has decided to establish a system in accordance with measures to be hereafter pursued in Hokkaido, as set forth in the accompanying document (a long memorandum on the future policy of Hokkaido was transmitted to the House at the same time); to arrange each measure more precisely, and then to take steps for carrying out these measures in due order. Especially with regard to the local government system of the lowest grade, the necessity for prompt amendment is recognized, and already a draft set of regulations is drawn up. It is the intention of the Home Minister to conduct the administration of Hokkaido in conformity with the system established in this manner. The system being yet only roughly sketched, when it comes to be applied to practical purposes, more or less alterations may be unavoidable. Moreover, its practical application must be in harmony with other State affairs and should be adapted to the financial condition of the country; and therefore the measures based on the system will be gradually carried out and in conformity with the requirements of the times. Thus public works expenses, drainage expenses, and harbour investigation expenses in Hokkaido asked for by the Diet in the 28th fiscal year are some of the contemplated measures considered of urgent importance.

HOKKAIDO PENITENTIARIES.

As to the relative merits or demerits of transporting convicts to Hokkaido and the increase of their number in that island, a clear exposition of the system is given in an accompanying document. With regard to the convicts whose terms have expired, it was decided to transport them back to penitentiaries in the interior, prior to the expiration of their terms; and then to set them free. The practice is already carried out. In April of last year 91 convicts were sent back to the penitentiary at Tokyo.

The employment of convicts in the mines of the Hokkaido Colliery and Railway Joint Stock Company has been abandoned and the convicts employed in that business were all recalled on December 20th of last year.

THE HOKKAIDO COLLIERY AND RAILWAY JOINT STOCK COMPANY.

Not only does the Colliery Railway carry free of charge all emigrants and their affects vouched for by Government, but it also reduces the freight on agricultural products (Agricultural products were carried free till 1894, but from this year quarter rates were charged), but it also has decided from this year to reduce fares by one-half when the distance is beyond 60 miles. Thus the facilities which the railway affords for the improvement of industry in Hokkaido and for emigration business generally must be said to be considerable. As to the other points raised—the furthering of the public benefits by works of colonization and industry, the Government has already specified them in the written instructions given to the Company and it maintains a vigilant superintendence over the Company in regard to the fulfilment of its promises. The Government is not aware of and does not recognise the facts alleged in two or three other points mentioned in the questions. The alteration of the route of a railway to be constructed by the Colliery and Railway Company was brought about through a further survey. This new route was discovered to be superior to the old one, and the reason why the Government gave a retrospective approval to this alteration was because its own experts thoroughly inspected the two routes and the change was unavoidable. In short, in such an affair as the survey of a railway route it is not a rare thing for a subsequent survey of a selected route to bring defects to light and thus cause changes to be made. It would not have been right for the Government to have made this change of route a cause for withholding the promised guaranteed subsidy.

(Signed) Viscount NOMURA YASUSHI,
Minister of Home Affairs.

REPLY TO THE QUESTION REGARDING FOREIGN POACHERS.

The Government does not neglect to exercise a suitable espionage of all foreign ships that come to the vicinity of the Japanese coast to carry on hunting operations. Each year, as the season approaches, a man-of-war is ordered

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to cruise along the eastern coast of the main island as far as the coast of Hokkaido and the Kuriles, in order to prevent foreign ships from pursuing seals within the territorial waters of this country. With regard to the cases mentioned in the question, not only has the Japanese cruiser not noticed them, but no report regarding such cases has ever been received from any other quarter. It is therefore impossible to answer them. With regard to the superintendence of hunting-at-sea, the distinction to be made between territorial waters and the open seas depends upon the nature of the physical configuration, and can not be decided in any positive way. Moreover, as to the pursuit of game beyond territorial waters, the only mode of exercising effective control upon foreign ships coming to hunt, is to contract special treaty with foreign countries. The only alternative is to encourage our fishermen to compete with these foreign ships in order to prevent the latter from enjoying the sole benefit of the trade. And in regard to this, it may be stated that since the establishment of the Marine Products Investigation Institution in 1893, sealing-vessels have been fitted out from the eastern coast of the main island as far as the Kurile archipelago to study the hunting grounds, test the mode of hunting, and thus to develop seal hunting in the open seas, and to leave no space for foreign sealers to creep in.

(Signed) Viscount ENOMOTO TAKEAKI,
Minister of Agriculture and Commerce.

REPLIES TO QUESTIONS 3 AND 4 ABOUT THE COLLIERY RAILWAY.

The freight of 55 *sen* per ton of coal for a distance of 91 miles between Omuda and Moji, on the line of the Kyushu Railway Joint Stock Company, amounts to 6 odd *rin* per mile. It is therefore less than the 8 *rin* per mile for freight for a distance less than 100 miles, mentioned in the reply to questions asked in the 4th session of the Diet. The freight of 5½ *rin* per mile mentioned in the same reply referred to a section that is above 100 miles in length and not to that under 100 miles, as set forth in the questions.

As to whether or not a private railway company may combine another business with its railway work, there is no provision bearing on the point. As to whether it is not injurious to combine railway work and coal extraction in one company, it is not easy to positively decide the point, for the cases would vary according to circumstances.

(Signed) Count KURODA KIYOTAKA,
Minister of Communications.

QUESTIONS ABOUT THE COMMISSARIAT CORPS.

Since the commencement of the Japan-China War letters from the seat of war published in various newspapers report that great difficulties have been experienced with respect to the transport and supply of provisions and clothing. What arrangements does the Government intend t pursue hereafter about these matters?

Apart from the articles supplied by the commissariat, are the needs of the troops in the occupied territories to be supplied by the system of free competition, or by companies, or by specially privileged private individuals?

What mode is followed in purchasing provisions, clothing, and other war necessaries, and what is the nature of the agreement made with contractors?

What mode is pursued in engaging military coolies, and what form of agreement is made with the contractors?

Presented by SUYEHIRO SHIGEYASU.
Supported by OZAKI YUKIO, and 31 others.

January 19th, 1895.

THE GOVERNMENT'S REPLY.

With reference to the Questions regarding the provisioning of the Expeditionary Army,—such matters as pertain to future arrangements or that touch upon military strategy excepted—the present Minister of War is desirous of setting the facts before the public. The following answers are therefore given to the three points raised in the questions:—

The first point refers to the difficulty of transporting provisions and clothing, and seeks for information as to the plans which the Government intends to adopt in the matter. Refraining for the present from dwelling on the distinction between the Government and the various organizations which conduct the respective transport work; or upon the relation between the Government and the commissariat, the organization of the Commissariat will be first explained in order to make the answer lucid. The Commissariat is divided into four organisations, 1st, the Commissariat attached to Battalions; 2nd the Commissariat of Divisions, 3rd, Commissariat of Armies; and 4th, Commissariat under the direct control of the Commissariat-General. In the Battalion Commissariat the command is vested in the Commander of the Battalion; in the Division Commissariat in the Commander of the Division, in the Army Commissariat in the Commander-in-chief of the Army; and its management in the Commissariat Superintendant of the Army, and in the fourth department to the Commissariat-General and its management in the Chief of Transports and Communications or in a Commissariat-Superintendent specially appointed. As to limits of transport, in a Commissariat under the control of a Commissariat-General, distribution of stores commences at the store-houses situated in various districts and extends to the Central Commissariat Station of an Army, while in a Commissariat under the control of the Commander-in-chief of an Army transport commences from the Central Commissariat Station and extends to the terminal point of an advancing Commissariat line of a Division. The limit of transport of a Commissariat under the control of a Division distribution of stores commences at the terminal point of the line and ends with the Commissariat of each battalion. In this way there is regular system at work among the divisions of the Commissariat throughout the occupied localities, and the distribution of stores being so regular no hitch should occur in the arrangement of the Commissariat corps. And yet in the Commissariat arrangements along the route tending from Söul to Fenghwan *viâ* the Yalu river, many indescribable difficulties were encountered for which no precedent can be found in war waged in the interior of Japan nor in the annals of modern warfare elsewhere in the world.

The difficulties can be grouped under various heads; such as bad roads, defective implements used for transportation purposes, and lack of men and horses. These are the essentials requisite for properly carrying out the work of transportation, and if one of them is defective the operation of the others are impeded. The lack of all these essentials was experienced in Korea, and it was entirely on this account that the troops experienced no small privations. Moreover, another reason why those privations had to be experienced was that the movements of the enemy and the condition of the localities for military operations did not admit of any delay in the manœuvres of the Army. The introducer of the questions seeks to prove the complete breakdown in the commissariat by statements published in three or four newspaper articles. But these newspaper articles can not be credited. Even if one or two instances were given in the newspapers which actually did occur, to condemn the whole of the Commissariat system because of these slight mishaps is to judge too hastily. For it is no easy work to provision tens of thousand of troops engaged on an expedition in a foreign country; and when it is remembered that the quantity of clothing to be furnished to the troops numbered tens of thousands of suits, the bad roads to be traversed, the various obstacles presented by seas, hills, and rivers, so that at times the pack of clothing had to be carried upon waggons, or on board ships, or borne on the shoulders of men and the backs of beasts, while the places of distribution were always changing and the number of men to whom commissariat supplies were to be distributed was ever varying—under such circumstances, it is not strange that even during the month of December a portion of the troops was still in summer clothes. That this was a fact will not be gainsaid by the present Minister of War. A recital of these facts will convince any person most forcibly of the hardships experienced by the troops, and the Minister of War can not but feel, as the introducer of the questions does, extreme regret at what has happened. The breakdown in the distribution of winter clothing, however, was due to unavoidable circumstances, and the Minister of War hopes that the members of the House of Representatives impartially judge of the state of affairs at that time and acknowledge that the cause of the unfortunate affair was entirely due to unavoidable causes. The questioner quotes a private letter sent by a certain officer in the Second Army. To this the Minister of War emphatically replies that the transport difficulties mentioned in that letter have never been referred to in the official reports. In fact, the blankets, overcoats, and other articles of winter clothing had already been distributed to the troops, and each division found the supply sufficient to protect all the men from the severity of the season, as was already shown by several official reports. The Minister of War is decidedly of opinion that the state of things set forth by the questioner exists no longer. It is the same with regard to the First Army. More than 80 different articles of winter clothing have been given to each soldier and nothing has been left undone in providing the men with clothes as a protection against the cold.

The second question is a little difficult to understand. It seems, however, that the questioner wishes to ascertain how other articles not supplied by the Government are to be obtained by the army. The perusal of the Trade Regulation Rules relating to merchants entering the territories now occupied by the Japanese troops, given in the *Official Gazette* of the 17th of Jan., will make the whole thing clear. The Rules plainly show that the sale of articles of food or clothing is not to be monopolized by any single firm or individual but is to be left to free competition. It is, however, needless to say that persons without capital or stock who wish to follow the army without any set purpose must be restrained in order to prevent them from causing mischief.

The third question relates to the mode of purchasing provisions, clothing, and such other articles as are needed by the troops. The system adopted in purchasing war necessaries is solely one of free contract. Only when the articles sent in exactly correspond with the samples previously shown, and when both the quality and price are deemed reasonable, is an order given to a contractor. The questioner in explaining the points raised in the questions, observes that among articles so purchased some were defective either in quality or quantity while some articles of diet were so rotten as to be entirely unfit for human food; and that such abuses were due to the artifices of dishonest contractors and to the acquiescent negligence of the authorities. There is no need for saying that could leisure be found and sufficient hands be available to examine one by one all the articles purchased, it would be possible to declare that not a single article of food supplied to the Army was in the condition described. But as it is, articles, amounting to tens of thousands were purchased in a short space of time and examined by only a limited number of commissioners, and many of the articles were of such a nature as to preclude inspection by opening them all. The Minister of War can not, he regrets to say, assure the questioner that the allegations contained in the question are entirely unfounded. Whenever a case of the kind described was detected, steps were at once taken to discover the cause. As to the alleged cases of rotten meat and vegetables, rice and fodder, which the questioner says were defective in quantity and quality—an attempt being made, it is alleged, to pass off horse-flesh as beef, or the packing of canned-beef cases with stones,—these cases are either being inquired into, or due steps have already been instituted in regard to them.

With regard to the fourth question relating to the engagement of coolies; as already stated in the reply given to the first question, there being great differences in the scope and limit of the commissariat system, the coolies employed by different commissariats are respectively engaged by them, those attached to a battalion commissariat are engaged by it, and so forth, coolies, mechanics, fire-men, carpenters, well-diggers, and so forth employed by the advancing commissariat are engaged by free contract by the; Accountants-General of the respective Divisions, by the superintendants of commissariat stations, or military commanders. At first the wages given to such men were not uniform, nor were the various rules framed for determining the relations between coolies and their inspectors the same. At present, however, a systematic set of rules to be observed by coolie contractors and others are kept in view by the different commissariats when engaging coolies, and according to the condition of the localities, the kinds of work and services to be rendered, the remuneration is fixed. More or less differences in pay and work are unavoidable until better modes of engaging such men can be conceived.

(Signed) Count SAIGO TSUKUMICHI,
Minister of War.

February 3rd, 1895.

CONCERT AT THE PUBLIC HALL.

Great as has been the success attendant upon the concerts given by the Yokohama Juvenile Tonic Sol-fa Society in the past, the one given in the Public Hall on Wednesday evening, the fifth of the series, has eclipsed them all. From both instrumental and vocal points of comparison the improvement is most marked, and this notwithstanding the great drawbacks which the Society has had to contend with this season.

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Persistent colds and attacks of influenza, which have befallen teacher and pupils alike, retarded the practises up till the last moment; yet the various items were given without a hitch, thus reflecting an additional credit on all concerned, and particularly upon Mrs. Patton and Miss Bloxham. The pianoforte pieces were each and all given with remarkable fidelity, and the degree of expression thrown into the work was very true. Miss Eyton has improved greatly in this respect since the last concert, and gives promise of developing into an artistic performer of no mean merit. Another of the pianists who has also advanced quickly is Miss Batavus. This little player had the great misfortune to cut a finger a day or so before the concert, but notwithstanding the accident, she gave a clever and pleasing rendering of the numbers allotted to her on the programme. The other instrumentalists were the Misses Johnstone, Diack, M. and N. Schwabe, J. Loomis, and C. Sargent: they all merited to the full the applause awarded their various pieces. The Choral March, "Forward gaily together," and the double vocal trio, "Good Night," were sweetly given, and pleased the audience better than the chorus "Doh, me soh," with which the second part opened. The unaccompanied chorus, "O, hush thee, my baby," was very praiseworthy. A genuine treat was afforded by little Miss Sargent in the song "The sweetest Scotch lassie," and so delighted was everybody with the singer that she had to repeat one verse: her reward was a beautiful bouquet.

The greatest interest in the evening's entertainment was manifested, however, in the third part, when the young performers appeared in character. The first of these numbers was the dainty ballad of "The three old maids of Lee." The parts were taken by Misses E. Bennett, Bessie Burns, and E. Kuhn. Dear old souls they looked in the old-fashioned coal-scuttle bonnets of the far back forties: certainly not unlovable, very far from being the unprepossessing creatures they represented themselves to be; the trio was very much enjoyed. The well-known Venetian song, "Funiculi, Funicula," was taken by Master Mollison, with the members of the society as chorus. A very pleasing picture was presented in this item, the lads and lassies being attired in the conventional garb associated with operas possessing an Italian background. "Caller Herrin'," the duet which was so great a success last year, was again repeated by Misses J. Loomis and C. Sargent. This so pleased the house that the last verse had to be given again. The duet on two pianos, a Spanish Dance, by Misses Batavus and Eyton, was accompanied by tambourine, castanets, and triangle (Misses M. and N. Schwabe and Diack); one would have liked to have seen this number danced, so pretty and graceful was the musical effect. The Gensdarmes Duet was again given, by special request, by Masters Mollison and Carsl, and was a great improvement upon the initial performance. An encore was demanded and given. Just before the last number was rung on, Mr. Jas. Troup, H.B.M.'s Consul, rose and addressed a few words of congratulation to Mrs. Patton and the children. He said the concert spoke for itself, and the improvement shown by the performers was something marvellous when one considered the adverse circumstances which had prevailed since the beginning of the year. Mrs. Patton, in returning thanks, spoke of the great work which Miss Bloxham had done during the year in training the children's voices: she also returned her thanks to Mr. Beart for his assistance in preparing the children for the concert. The finale, a solo and chorus from "Les Cloches de Corneville," went splendidly, Miss C. Sargent taking the solo. At its close Miss Bloxham was presented with a bouquet.

A WISH FULFILLED.

I.

The streets were full of white uniforms, and the calling of bugles, and the rumbling of artillery. The armies of Japan, for the third time in history, had subdued Korea; and the imperial declaration of war against China had been published by the city journals, printed on crimson paper. All the military powers of the empire were in motion. The first line of reserves had been summoned, and troops were pouring into Kumamoto. Thousands were billeted upon the citizens; for barracks and inns and temples could not shelter the passing host. And still there was no room; though special trains were carrying regiments north, as fast as possible, to the transports waiting at Shimonoseki.

Nevertheless, considering the immensity of the movement, the city was astonishingly quiet. The troops were silent and gentle as Japanese boys in school hours; there was no swaggering, no reckless gaiety. Buddhist priests were addressing squadrons in the courts of the temples; and a great ceremony had already been performed in the parade-ground by the Abbot of the Shinshu sect, who had come from Kyoto for the occasion: Thousands had been placed by him under the protection of Amida; the laying of a naked razor-blade on each young head, symbolizing voluntary renunciation of life's vanities, was the soldier's consecration. Everywhere, at the shrines of the older faith, prayers were being offered up by priests and people to the shades of heroes who fought and died for their emperor in ancient days, and to the gods of armies. At the Shintō temple of Fujisaki sacred charms were being distributed to the men. But the most imposing rites were those at Honmyōji, the far-famed monastery of the Nichiren sect, where for three hundred years have reposed the ashes of Kato Kiyomasa, conqueror of Korea, enemy of the Jesuits, protector of the Buddhists; Honmyōji, where the pilgrim chant of the sacred invocation, *Namu-myō-hō-renge-Kyō*, sounds like the roar of surf; Honmyōji, where you may buy wonderful little *mamori* in the shape of tiny Buddhist shrines, each holding a minuscule image of the deified warrior. In the great central temple, and in all the lesser temples that line the long approach, special services were sung, and special prayers were addressed to the spirit of the hero for ghostly aid. The armour and helmet and sword of Kiyomasa, preserved in the main shrine for three centuries, were no longer to be seen. Some declared that they had been sent to Korea, to stimulate the heroism of the army. But others told a story of echoing hoofs in the temple-court by night, and the passing of a mighty Shadow, risen from the dust of his sleep, to lead the armies of the Son of Heaven once more to conquest. Doubtless even among the soldiers, brave, simple lads from the country, many believed, just as the men of Athens believed in the presence of Theseus at Marathon. All the more, perhaps, because in no small number of the new recruits Kumamoto itself appeared a place of marvels hallowed by traditions of the great captain, and its castle a world's wonder, built by Kiyomasa after the plan of a stronghold stormed in Chōsen.

Amid all these preparations, the people remained singularly quiet. From mere outward signs no stranger could have divined the general feeling. The public calm was characteristically Japanese; the race, like the individual, becoming to all appearance the more self-contained, the more profoundly its emotions are called into play. The Emperor had sent presents to his troops in Korea, and words of paternal affection; and citizens, following the august example, were shipping away by every steamer supplies of rice wine, provisions, fruits, dainties, tobacco, and gifts of all kinds. Those who could afford nothing costlier were sending straw sandals. The entire nation was subscribing to the war fund; and Kumamoto, though by no means wealthy, was doing all that both poor and rich could help her do to prove her loyalty. The cheque of the merchant mingled obscurely with the paper dollar of the artisan, the labourer's dime, the coppers of the *kurumaya*, in the great fraternity of unbidden self-denial. Even children gave; and their pathetic little contributions were not refused, lest the universal impulse of patriotism should be in any manner discouraged. But there were special subscriptions also being collected in every street for the support of the families of the troops of the reserves—married men, engaged mostly in humble callings, who had been obliged of a sudden to leave their homes and little ones without the means to live. That means the citizens voluntarily and solemnly pledged themselves to supply. One could not doubt that the soldiers, with all this unselfish love behind them, would perform even more than simple duty demanded.

And they did.

II.

Manyemon said there was a soldier at the entrance who wanted to see me.

"O, Manyemon, I hope they are not going to billet soldiers upon us: the house is too small. Please ask him what he wishes."

"I did," answered Manyemon; he says he knows you."

I went to the door and looked at a fine young fellow in uniform, who smiled and took off his cap as I came forward. I could not recognize him. The smile was familiar, notwithstanding. Where could I have seen it before?

"Teacher, have you really forgotten me?"

For another moment I stared at him wondering; then he laughed gently, and uttered his name.

"Kosuga Asakichi."

How my heart leaped to him as I held out both hands! "Come in, come in!" I cried. "But how big and handsome you have grown! No wonder I did not know you."

He blushed like a girl, as he slipped off his shoes and unbuckled his sword. I remembered that he used to blush the same way in class, both when he made a mistake, and when he was praised. Evidently his heart was still as fresh as then, when he was a shy boy of sixteen in the school at Matsue. He had got permission to come to bid me goodby: the regiment was to leave in the morning for Korea.

We dined together, and talked of old times,—of Izumo, of Kitzuki, of many pleasant things. I tried in vain at first to make him drink a little wine; not knowing that he had promised his mother never to drink wine while he was in the army. Then I substituted coffee for the wine, and coaxed him to tell me all about himself. He had returned to his native place, after graduating, to help his people, wealthy farmers; and he had found that his agricultural studies at school were of great service to him. A year later, all the youths of the village who had reached the age of nineteen, himself among the number, were summoned to the Buddhist temple for examination as to bodily and educational fitness for military service. He had passed as *ichiban* (first-class) by the verdicts of the examining surgeon and of the recruiting-major (*shōsa*), and had been drawn at the ensuing conscription. After thirteen months' service he had been promoted to the rank of sergeant. He liked the army. At first he had been stationed at Nagoya, then at Tōkyō; but finding that his regiment was not to be sent to Korea, he had petitioned with success for transfer to the Kumamoto division. "And now I am so glad," he exclaimed, his face radiant with a soldier's joy: "we go to-morrow!" Then he blushed again, as if ashamed of having uttered his frank delight. I thought of Carlyle's deep saying, that never pleasures, but only suffering and death are the lores that draw true hearts. I thought also—what I could not say to any Japanese—that the joy in the lad's eyes was like nothing I had ever seen before except the caress in the eyes of a lover on the morning of his bridal.

"Do you remember," I asked, "when you declared in the school-room that you wished to die for his Majesty the Emperor?"

"Yes," he answered, laughing. "And the chance has come,—not for me only, but for several of my class."

"Where are they?" I asked. "With you?"

"No: they were all in the Hiroshima division, and they are already in Korea. Imaoka (you remember him, teacher: he was *very* tall), and Nagasaki, and Ishihara,—they were all in the fight at Sōng-hwan. And our drill-master, the lieutenant,—you remember him?"

"Lieutenant Fujii, yes. He had retired from the army."

"But he belonged to the reserves. He has also gone to Korea. . . . He has had another son born since you left Izumo."

"He had two little girls and one boy," I said, "when I was in Matsue."

"Yes: now he has two boys."

"Then his family must feel very anxious about him?"

"*He* is not anxious," replied the lad. "To die in battle is very honourable; and the government will care for the families of those who are killed. So our officers have no fear. Only—it is very sad to die if one has no son."

"I cannot see why."

"Is it not so in the West?"

"On the contrary, we think it is very sad for the man to die who has children."

"But why?"

"Every good father must be anxious about the future of his children. If he be taken suddenly away from them, they may have to suffer many sorrows."

"It is not so in the families of our officers. The relations care well for the child, and the government gives a pension. So the father need not be afraid. But to die is sorrowful for one who has no child."

"Do you mean sorrowful for the wife and the rest of the family?"

"No: I mean for the man himself, the husband."

"And how? Of what use can a son be to a dead man?"

"The son inherits. The son maintains the family name. The son makes the offerings."

"The offerings to the dead?"

"Yes. Do you now understand?"

"I understand the fact, not the feeling. Do military men still hold these beliefs?"

"Certainly. Are there no such beliefs in the West?"

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"Not now. The ancient Greeks and Romans had such beliefs. They thought that the ancestral spirits dwelt in the home, received the offerings, watched over the family. Why they thought so, we partly know; but we cannot know exactly how they felt, because we cannot understand feelings which we have never experienced, or which we have not inherited. For the same reason, I cannot know the real feeling of a Japanese in relation to the dead."

"Then you think that death is the end of everything?"

"That is not the explanation of my difficulty. Some feelings are inherited,—perhaps also some ideas. Your feelings and your thoughts about the dead, and the duty of the living to the dead, are totally different from those of an Occidental. To us the idea of death is that of a total separation, only from the living, but from the world. Does not Buddhism also tell of a long dark journey that the dead must make?"

"The journey to the Meido,—yes. All must make that journey. But we do not think of death as a total separation. We think of the dead as still with us. We speak to them each day."

"I know that. What I do not know is of the ideas behind the facts. If the dead go to the Meido, why should offerings be made to ancestors in the household shrines, and prayers be said to them as if they were really present? Do not the common people thus confuse Buddhist teachings and Shinto beliefs?"

"Perhaps many do. But even by those who are Buddhists only, the offerings and the prayers to the dead are made in different places at the same time,—in the parish temples, and also before the family *butsudan*."

"But how can souls be thought of as being in the Meido, and also in various other places at the same time? Even if the people believe the soul to be multiple, that would not explain away the contradiction. For the dead, according to Buddhist teaching, are judged."

"We think of the soul both as one and as many. We think of it as of one person, but not as of a substance. We think of it as something that may be in many places at once, like a moving of air."

"Or of electricity?" I suggested.

"Yes."

Evidently, to my young friend's mind the ideas of the Meido and of the home-worship of the dead had never seemed irreconcilable: and perhaps to any student of Buddhist philosophy the two faiths would not appear to involve any serious contradictions. The Sutra of the Lotos of the Good Law teaches that the Buddha state "*is endless and without limit,—immense as the element of ether.*" Of a Buddha who had long entered into Nirvana it declares: "*Even after complete extinction, he wanders through this whole world in all ten points of space.*" And the same Sutra, after recounting the simultaneous apparition of all the Buddhas who had ever been, makes the teacher proclaim: "*All these you see are my proper bodies, by kotis of thousands, like the sands of the Ganges: they have appeared that the law may be fulfilled.*" But it seemed to me obvious that, in the artless imagination of the common people, no real accord could ever have been established between the primitive conceptions of Shintō and the much more definite Buddhist doctrine of a judgment of souls.

"Can you really think of death," I asked, "as life, as light?"

"Oh yes," was the smiling answer. "We think that after death we shall still be with our families. We shall see our parents, our friends. We shall remain in this world viewing the light as now."

(There suddenly recurred to me, with new meaning, some words of a student's composition regarding the future of a just man: *His soul shall hover eternally in the universe.*)

"And therefore," continued Asakichi, "one who has a son can die with a cheerful mind."

"Because the son will make those offerings of food and drink without which the spirit would suffer?" I queried.

"It is not only that. There are duties much more important than the making of offerings. It is because every man needs some one to love him after he is dead. Now you will understand."

"Only your words," I replied, "only the facts of the belief. The feeling I do not understand. I cannot think that the love of the living could make me happy after death. I cannot even imagine myself conscious of any love after death. And you, you are going far away to battle,—do you think it unfortunate that you have no son?"

"I? Oh no! I myself *am* a son,—a younger son. My parents are still alive and strong, and my brother is caring for them. If I am killed, there will be many at home to love me,—brothers, sisters, and little ones. It is different with us soldiers: we are nearly all very young."

"For how many years," I asked, "are the offerings made to the dead?"

"For one hundred years."

"Only for a hundred years?"

"Yes. Even in the Buddhist temples the prayers and the offerings are made only for a hundred years."

"Then do the dead cease to care for remembrance in a hundred years? Or do they fade out at last? Is there a dying of souls?"

"No, but after one hundred years they are no longer with us. Some say they are born again; others say they become kami, and do reverence to them as kami, and on certain days make offerings to them in the *toko*."

(Such were, I knew, the commonly accepted explanations, but I had heard of beliefs strangely at variance with these. There are traditions that, in families of exceeding virtue, the souls of ancestors took material form, and remained sometimes visible through hundreds of years. A *sengaji* pilgrim* of old days has left an account of two whom he said he had seen in some remote part of the interior. They were small, dim shapes, "dark, like old bronze." They could not speak, but made little moaning sounds, and they did not eat, but only inhaled the warm vapour of the food daily set before them. Every year, their descendants said, they became smaller and vaguer.)

"Do you think it is very strange that we should love the dead?" Asakichi asked.

"No," I replied, "I think it is beautiful. But to me, as a Western stranger, the custom seems not of to-day, but of the more ancient world. The thoughts of the old Greeks about the dead must have been much like those of the modern Japanese. The feelings of an Athenian soldier in the age of Pericles were perhaps the same as yours in this era of Meiji. And you have read at school how the Greeks sacrificed to the dead, and how they paid honour to the spirits of brave men and patriots?"

"Yes. Some of their customs were very like our own. Those of us who fall in battle against China will also be honoured. They will be revered as *kami*. Even our Emperor will honour them."

"But," I said, "to die so far away from the graves of one's fathers, in a foreign land, would seem, even to Western people, a very sad thing."

"Oh, no. There will be monuments set up to honour our dead in their own native villages and towns, and the bodies of our soldiers will be burned, and the ashes sent home to Japan. At least that will be done whenever possible. It might be difficult after a great battle."

(A sudden memory of Homer surged back to me, with a vision of the antique pain, when "the pyres of the dead burnt continually in multitude.")

"And the spirits of the soldiers slain in this war," I asked,—"will they not always be prayed to help the country in time of national danger?"

"Oh yes, always. We shall be loved and worshiped by all the people."

He said "We" quite naturally, like one already destined. After a little pause he resumed:—

"The last year that I was at school we had a military excursion. We marched to a shrine in the district of Iu, where the spirits of heroes are worshipped. It is a beautiful and lonesome place, among hills; and the temple is shadowed by very high trees. It is always dim and cool and silent there. We drew up before the shrine in military order; nobody spoke. Then the bugle sounded through the holy grove, like a call to battle; and we all presented arms; and the tears came to my eyes, I do not know why. I looked at my comrades, and I saw they felt as I did. Perhaps, because you are a foreigner, you will not understand. But there is a little poem, that every Japanese knows, which expresses the feeling very well. It was written long ago by in the great priest Saigyo Hōshi, who had been a warrior before becoming a priest, and whose real name was Sato Norikyo:

Nani go to no
Owashimasu ka wa
Shirane domo
Arigata sa ni so
Namida koboruru.[1]

[1] "What thing (cause) there may be, I cannot tell. But [whenever I come in presence of the shrine] grateful tears overflow."

It was not the first time that I had heard such a confession. Many of my students had not hesitated to speak of sentiments evoked by the sacred traditions and the dim solemnity of the ancient shrines. Really the experience of Asakichi was no more individual than might be a single ripple in a fathomless sea. He had only uttered the ancestral feeling of a race, the vague but immeasurable emotion of Shinto.

We talked on till the soft summer darkness fell. Stars and the electric lights of the citadel twinkled out together; bugles rang; and from Kiyomasa's fortress rolled into the night a sound, deep as a thunder-peal, the chant of ten thousand men:—

Niski mo higashi mo
Mina teki so,
Minami mo kita mo
Mina teki so:
Yose.kuru teki wa
Shiranuki no
Tsukushi no kata mo
Satsuma gata![1]

[1] This would be a free translation in nearly the same measure;—

Oh? the land to south and north
All is full of foes!—
Westward, eastward, looking forth,
All is full of foes!
None can well the number tell
Of the hosts that pour
From the strand of Satsuma,
From the Tsukushi's shore.

"You have learned that song, have you not?" I asked.

"Oh yes," said Asakichi. "Every soldier knows it."

It was the Kumamoto Rojo, the Song of the Siege. We listened, and could even catch some words in that mighty volume of sound:—

Tenchi no kuzuru
Bakari nari
Tenchi wa kuzure
Yama kawa wa
Sakuru tameshi no
Araba tote
Ugokaru mono wa
Kimi ga mi yo.[1]

[1] What if Earth should sundered be?
What if Heaven fall?
What if mountains mix with sea?
Brave hearts each and all,
Know one thing shall still endure,
Ruin cannot whelm,
Everlasting, holy, pure,
This imperial realm.

For a little while Asakichi sat listening, swaying, his shoulders in time to the strong rhythm of the chant; then, as one suddenly waking, he laughed and said:—

"Teacher, I must go! I do not know how to thank you enough, nor to tell you how happy this day has been for me. But first," taking from his breast a little envelope, "please accept this. You asked me for a photograph long ago:—I brought it for a souvenir."

He rose, and buckled on his sword. I pressed his hand at the entrance.

"And what may I send you from Korea, teacher?" he asked.

"Only a letter," I said, "after the next great victory."

"Surely, if I can hold a pen," he responded. Then straightening up till he looked like a statue of bronze, he gave me the formal military salute, and strode away in the dark.

I returned to the desolate guest-room and dreamed. I heard the thunder of the soldiers' song. I listened to the roar of the trains, bearing away so many young hearts, so much priceless loyalty, so much splendid faith and love and valor, to the fever of Chinese rice-fields, to gathering cyclones of death.

III.

The evening of the same day that we saw the name "Kosuga Asakichi" in the long list published by the local newspaper, Manyemon decorated and illuminated the alcove of the guest-room, as for a sacred festival; filling the vases with flowers, lighting several small lamps, and kindling incense-rods in a little cup of bronze. When all was finished, he called me. Approaching the recess, I saw the lad's photograph within, set upright on a tiny *dai*; and before it was spread a miniature feast of rice and fruits and cakes, the old man's offering.

"Perhaps," ventured Manyemon, "it would please his spirit if the master should be honorably willing to talk to him. He would understand the master's English."

I did talk to him; and the portrait seemed to smile through the wreaths of the incense. But that which I said was for him only, and the gods.—LAFCADIO HEARN in the *Atlantic Monthly*.

* A sengaji pilgrim is one who makes the pilgrimage to the thousand famous temples of the Nichiren sect; a journey requiring many years to perform.

Caycay, a West India island, is inhabited exclusively by turtles, some of which grow to an enormous size. Attempts to establish human habitations on the island have always failed.

Search-lights are such good targets for the enemy's guns that the Germans are arranging to throw the light first on a mirror and thence on the enemy, thereby concealing its real source.

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TRIAL OF KOYAMA TOYOTARO.

The full report of the trial of Koyama Toyotaro, for his attempted assassination of the Viceroy Li Hung-chang at Shimonoseki on the 24th March, is published in the *Nippon* of the 4th inst. The following translation deals only with the salient points of the case :—

The Judge—For what object did you buy that pistol?

Prisoner—I intended at first to kill Li with a Japanese sword, but, on reconsideration, feared that I should be interfered with by the police or his attendants ere I could accomplish my object, so, to my extreme regret, I altered my plans and gave up the idea of letting Li taste the sharpness of a Japanese blade, and substituted a pistol for the other weapon.

The Judge—Why did you conceive this idea of killing Li?

Prisoner—Because I was perfectly convinced that Li was the disturber of the tranquillity of the Orient.

The Judge—When did you conceive this idea?

The Prisoner—About the 10th of March, when I purchased the pistol.

In answer to further questions, the prisoner described his movements from his starting out from Yokohama till his arrival at Bakan.

The Judge—How did not conduct yourself after arriving at Bakau?

The Prisoner—When I reached Bakan, Li had just landed and was proceeding in a palanquin to the Conference. I could not carry out my intentions then. I thought that what I was about to do was a matter of grave moment to my country, and one which did not justify me in taking any hasty step. If I failed in carrying out my intention before I had ascertained the progress and prospects of the Peace negotiations, I felt that I should be held up to decision, besides being a traitor to my country, whose interests alone I was striving to promote. For three days, the 22nd, 23rd, and 24th March, I did not see a newspaper, and being penniless I could not buy one for myself. On the 24th March I went to the office of the Bakan *Mainichi Shimbun* in the hope of getting a peep at the paper, but in this I failed. While I was walking away from the premises I heard a bystander say that Li would shortly leave for home, or at any rate the negotiations, however protracted, would be of no avail. I thought that I must not miss the opportunity, and at once directed my steps to the Post Office. From thence I shifted to a corner near the Insho Temple. I found that this spot was not suited to my purpose, and I moved a little forward in a position about a step on two in front of the Gendarmes' station. I stood in front of a man, whom I subsequently learnt was Yemura Nintaro. I examined my pistol once more.

The Judge—How were you carrying the pistol at that time?

Prisoner—I folded my arms and concealed the pistol under my sleeves. Meanwhile, the palanquin of Earl Li approached. I narrowly examined the palanquin as it drew near, and observed that the side windows were thickly glazed and might prevent the passage of a bullet. The front window, however, was left open, and I determined to aim at Li through the opening. The palanquin came nearer and nearer, and when it was about one *ken* and one *shaku* (6ft. 11in.) away I could clearly see the breast of Li. I thought the moment had arrived, and I fired at Li's breast.

The Judge—Long poles are attached to the palanquin, did you not come into contact with the bearers at this moment?

Prisoner—I do not remember exactly, but I think my left hand did come in contact with a bearer. As I fired I saw Li fall forward, and I also felt a shock in my right hand, then I knew the bullet had left the barrel and taken effect.

The Judge—Were you seized at once, and did you attempt any opposition? Did you see who seized you?

Prisoner—I could not say who arrested me, as I was seized from behind. I allowed myself to be arrested without any struggling. Li's palanquin was at once borne away to his temporary residence.

The Judge—When you obtained 25 *yen* from your father, did you intend to take up some practical business as you pretended; or had you already made up your mind to kill Li?

Prisoner—I had partly resolved to do so, but for the moment I hesitated. Of course, practical business pursuits not being in my line, I never intended to engage in them.

The Judge—When was it that you really came to your resolution?

Prisoner—About 11 a.m. on the 20th inst.

The pistol was then shown to the prisoner and he identified it as belonging to him. The affidavits of the gendarmes who effected his arrest were then read, as well as that of the physician who had examined Earl Li's wound. Prisoner had no objection to urge against any of these documents. He then asked the Presiding Judge if he might be allowed to state his motives for attempting the life of Li Hung-chang.

Permission was granted.

Prisoner—I had been convinced for some time that Li Hung-chang, the Viceroy of Chili, was a traitor, and a persistent disturber of the tranquillity of the East. I thought that his presence was inconsistent with the preservation of the peace of the Orient, and therefore I must get rid of him. This idea was not accidental and hastily formed; it dates from the time when my intellect was sufficiently developed to allow me to think for myself. The conviction has gradually strengthened during the past year. I thought that if I could grow my hair long enough I could disguise myself as a Chinaman, and then if I became sufficiently proficient in the dialect to pass as a native of that country, I might go over to China and finished Li with one blow of a sword. I was highly delighted, therefore, when I heard that Li was coming to Japan in March to sue for peace. I thought, when I heard that intelligence, that the negotiations would bear no fruit; and that to restore the peace of the East and to put a stop to its disturber's mischievous actions, Li must be killed. My resolution thus grew and strengthened. I was actuated by five considerations. 1.—With profound reverence, I may venture to conjecture the will of His Imperial Majesty. Since his dominion has been lightened by his presence it has never been contaminated by aliens nor has it suffered foreign insult. The relations between the Court and the people is as between parents and children; and from the southern extremity of Kyushu to the northernmost point of Hokkaido, not one subject has ever brought trouble to the August mind. The constitution expressly provides that the Emperor is sacred and inviolable. Yet China, or more especially Li and his colleagues, disregarding the magnanimity of Japan keept Korea in a state of poverty and weakness, and looked toward Japan with hostile intent. I heard that since His Imperial Majesty left his castle at Tokyo and temporarily removed to Hiroshima—(here a blank of some 60 characters' length follows, and the reporter remarks that the prisoner wept when he read this part of his plea)—This is entirely to be ascribed to the insolence and unneighbourly actions of China, and Li must be regarded as an inveterate foe of Japan, who has caused our Emperor much trouble. 2.—The disturber of Oriental tranquillity is China and China alone. Recently Japan was put to considerable trouble on four different occasions through the actions of China. Again, China has been at war with England and also with France, and thus, whenever any difficulty occurs in the East, China is sure to be involved in it. This is all due to the actions of Li Hung-chang. My intention was to be avenged upon Li as the representative of the whole Chinese nation. The Formosa affair, the anti-Korean Expedition agitation in 1874, and the rising at Sŏul in 1884, and the present war, have all come about through Li. The civil war in Satsuma was his doing. It was through him that the Japanese people living in Korea had their settlements pillaged and their women dishonoured. Even in the present war, Japanese taken alive by the Chinese were cruelly disembowelled or had their eyes dug out. The survivors of these poor men are consoling themselves by saying that it was owing to their patriotism and loyalty that they met their death. But even the survivors cannot but mourn in tears of blood when they think, in the depth of night when all the world is still, of their murdered husbands and sons. What is the prime cause of the tradal depression which continually subjects this country to great misery? China. In other words, Li and his associates disturb the Peace of the East and attempt to plunge Korea into confusion and anarchy. When I thought of all these things I could not but conclude that, unworthy as I am, I must offer myself as a sacrifice and must destroy Li by any means presenting, in order to console the spirits of those who suffered death on his account. 4—(Another blank of about two lines now occurs in the report.)—In this connexion, I have two causes of dissatisfaction. The first is in reference to the internal administration of the country. Though it may not become me to speak of such things, I venture to say that..... (Ministers of State?) are all statesmen of first class calibre;.....(Premier?) is reputed for his ability and tact.....(Foreign Minister?) is noted for his shrewdness and has earned the nickname of "Razor Minister." It is well that such statesmen were appointed.....(Plenipotentiaries?) though I do not know how the negotiations are proceeding. Another cause of dissatisfaction [illegible] is made of it. is our foreign policy. Such a person as Li, judging from the prevailing disposition of the Chinese and from his personal predilections, is far from suing for peace in a sincere manner. From my own observation and experience in Tokyo and Yokohama, a Chinaman may offer an apology at times, but this is not a characteristic of the nation, and he is sure to use abusive language as he runs away. When extreme pain is occasioned him he remembers the face of the person who has caused him that pain, and characteristically refrains in future from behaving towards that person in any rude manner. So must it be with Li. Therefore I thought it was unnecessary to conclude peace, the proper time not having arrived, and that should Li be killed the negotiations must come to an end, at least for a while. 5.—The present war victories have been gained everywhere through the August virtue of the Emperor and by the bravery of his soldiers. Is not this the time to enhance the prestige of the country? Some say that when one country is engaged in war with another country, it is a national disgrace for the victorious party not to advance its triumphant soldiers to the capital of the conquered people, and to trample it down to the ground. The Japapese Army is irresistible, and to conclude peace before the soldiers are in Pekin is not a commendable step. China does not sincerely desire peace. Should the war be terminated now, not only the contempt of China would be invited, but those countries who boast of being strong Powers would become more arrogant than ever towards Japan. Some say that should the war be continued without listening to the prayers of China for peace, other Powers will step in and interfere, thus making the situation one of great difficulty. Yet, it must be remembered that Japan need never fear foreign conquest. Viceroy in war does not depend upon the size of a nation, but rather upon the stamina of a nation. Should the national feeling be aroused, Japan might, without fear, fight western countories. Therefore, as set forth in the Declaration of War, unless the great objects for which the war was declared be attained, Japan ought not to retreat even by one step. What I have now stated is the utterance of a mere student, but it is the outcome of my sincere convictions and ought not be considered in the same light as the vain talk of others. Mine is a responsible statement.

The Public Procurator then addressed the Court upon the legal aspect of the case, and said that though the action of the prisoner might come under Art. 294 of the Penal Code—for he deserved capital punishment — yet in consideration of the fact that the crime was not consummated, prisoner should be sentenced either to penal servitude for life or for a set space of time, in accordance with Arts. 112 and 113 of the same Code. The Procurator further stated that as the prisoner had murderously assaulted the Representative of China, who had come to Japan on certain official business, and who as such deserved the most hospitable treatment, though the two countries are still engaged in war, and as the prisoner had caused the whole nation extreme grief and pain by his actions, his offence should be commuted by only one degree. He should be sentenced to penal servitude for life.

The prisoner was asked by the presiding Judge if he had anything to urge why sentence should not be passed upon him. He replied that he was prepared to receive any punishment which the Court might inflict.

Mr. Ogawa, who appeared for the prisoner, pleaded for leniency. He was one who personally look upon prisoner's actions with extreme disapprobation and disgust; but the law must not be influenced by outside considerations. He urged that his client's sentence should be commuted by four degrees, and that he receive a sentence of 6 years' penal servitude.

The Court refused to entertain this plea, and prisoner was sentenced to penal servitude for life.

The Hon. G. Curzon lectured on 18th inst. before a considerable audience of the Royal Geographical Society on his recent journey in the Pamirs. The first part of his address was given to a description of the Pamirs, so erroneously described as plains, but in reality nothing other than valleys framed in mountains, and having no resemblance whatever to plains downs, or steppes, or plateaux. The second part of the lecture was given to proving, with some picturesqueness of expression, that the one undeniable source of the Oxus was in the Pamir-i-Wakhan. This source, Mr. Curzon visited. He described to the audience his impression of it, as the river issues out of two caverns in the snout of a great glacier; and he had thrown upon a screen a reproduction of the

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CHESS.

(All Communications to be addressed to the Chess Editor.

The Yokohama Chess Club meets at the Club Hotel, No. 5, Bund, on Monday and Thursday in each week from 5 to 11 p.m.

The Tokyo Chess Club meets at the Tokyo Hotel every Friday from 1 to 7 p.m.

Solution of Problem No. 170.

WHITE.	BLACK.
1—B to R 7	1—Any
2—Mates accordingly.	

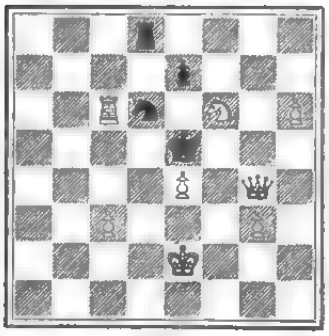
Correct solutions received from Digamma, Omega, W.H.S., Kr., J.D., W. Barrie, and E. J. King.

Additional correct solutions to Problem No. 169 received from J.D. and E. J. King.

Problem No. 172.

By Jan Drtina.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in two moves.

Game No. 242.

DR. TARRASCH.

This celebrated master has just given to the world 300 of his games. The games extend from his college days to the great Tchigorin-Tarrasch match, and form a grand collection with lifelike portrait and autobiographical notes. Here is a pretty early game (No. 4 in the book) :—

WHITE. Dr. Tarrasch.	BLACK. Herr von Scheve.
1—P to K 4	1—P to Q 4
2—P takes P	2—P to Q B 3
3—P to Q 4	3—P takes P
4—B to Q 3	4—Kt to Q B 3
5—B to K 3	5—Kt to K B 3
6—Kt to K B 3	6—B to K Kt 5
7—P to K R 3	7—B takes Kt
8—Q takes B	8—Q to Kt 3
9—Castles	9—Q takes Kt P
10—Q Kt to Q 2	10—Kt takes Q P
11—Q to B 4	11—Kt to K 3
12—Q to R 4 ch.	12—Kt to Q 2
13—Q R to Kt sq.	13—Q to B 6
14—R takes Q Kt P	14—Kt to ■ 2
15—B to Q 4	15—Q takes Kt
16—R takes Kt	16—R to Q sq.
17—Q takes Kt ch.	17—R takes Q
18—R to B 8 ch., and mates next move.	

Words of Wisdom.

Chess has never been and never can be aught but a recreation. It should not be indulged in to the detriment of more serious avocations—should not absorb the mind or engross the thoughts of those who worship at its shrine, but should be kept in the background and restrained within proper limits. As a mere game, a relaxation from the severe pursuits of life, it is deserving of high commendation.—Paul Morphy, 1859.

Game No. 243.

RUY LOPEZ.

WHITE. Tarrasch.	BLACK. Taubenhaus.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—Kt to K B 3	2—Kt to Q B 3
3—B to Kt 5	3—Kt to B 3
4—Castles	4—Kt takes K P
5—P to Q 4	5—P to Q R 3
6—B to R 4	6—P to Q Kt 4
7—B to Kt 3	7—P to Q 4
8—Q P takes P	8—Kt to K 2
9—P to Q R 4	9—B to K 3
10—Q to K 2	10—P to Q B 3
11—P to Q B 3	11—Kt to K Kt 3
12—Kt to Q 4	12—B to Q 2
13—P takes R P	13—R P takes P
14—R takes R	14—Q takes R
15—B to B 2	15—Kt to Q B 4
16—P to K B 4	16—B to K 2
17—P to B 5	17—Resigns (a)

(a) Black must lose a piece. If Kt to B sq, P to B 6 follows, and that pawn cannot be captured without leaving the K B pinned and attacked by the pawn. Otherwise, 18. P to B 5, Kt to B sq. (if Kt to R 5, P to Kt 3 wins it); 19, P to B 6, B to Q sq.; 20. ■ takes P, attacking R and Kt.

Pawn-Grubbing.

The kind of game which, however masterly, I call radically bad in style, may be simply illustrated by a game in 60 moves, in which the combatants exchange first their bishops, then their knights, and afterwards their rooks, and pass the rest of their time in skulking about the board with their odd rooks in search of each others' pawns.—John Ruskin.

Game No. 244.

NEW ZEALAND CONGRESS.

Appended are two of the games played at the Wellington meeting of the New Zealand Chess Congress.

THE RUY LOPEZ.

WHITE. Mr. W. Mackay (Wellington).	BLACK. Mr. A. Gifford (Rangitiki).
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—Kt to K B 3	2—Kt to Q B 3
3—B to Kt 5	3—P to Q 3
4—P to Q 4	4—B to Q 2
5—Kt to B 3	5—Kt to B 3
6—Castles	6—P takes P
7—Kt takes P	7—Kt takes Kt
8—Q takes Kt	8—B to K 2
9—R to K sq.	9—Castles
10—B to Q 3	10—Kt to K sq.
11—B to Q 2	11—P to Q B 4
12—Q to K 3	12—Kt to B 2
13—Kt to K 2	13—R to ■ sq.
14—B to B 3	14—B to K B sq. (a)
15—Q to Kt 3	15—Q to B sq.
16—P to B 4 (b)	16—P to Q Kt 4
17—P to Kt 3	17—P to B 4
18—P takes P	18—B takes ■
19—Q R to Q sq.	19—P to Q 4
20—B to K 5	20—B takes B
21—Q takes ■ (c)	21—P to ■ 5 (d)
22—Q to K B 3	22—B to B 4 ch.
23—K to R sq.	23—R to Q sq.
24—B takes Kt	24—Q takes B
25—R takes P	25—R to K sq.
26—R (K sq.) to Q sq.	26—R to K 6 (e)
27—R takes B	27—R takes Q
28—R takes Q	28—R to K 6
29—Kt to Kt 3	29—Q R to K sq.
30—K to Kt sq.	30—R to K 8 ch.
31—R takes R	31—R takes R ch.
32—K to B 2	32—R to Q B 8
33—R takes R P	33—R takes P ch.
34—Kt to K 2	34—P to B 6
35—R ■ Q B 7	35—P to Kt 5
36—R to B 4	36—R takes R P
37—R takes Kt P	37—R to Kt 7
38—R to B 4	38—R takes P
39—R takes P,	

And Mr. Gifford resigns.

NOTES (CONDENSED.)

BY MR. HENRY HOOKHAM.

(a) 14.....B to K B 3 seems preferable.
(b) More forcible would have been 16 Kt to B 4, threatening Kt to R 5.
(c) Finely played, winning a Pawn by force.
(d) Better would have been :—21.....R to Q sq.; 22 B takes Kt, Q takes B; 23 Q takes Kt P, R to Kt sq; 24 Q moves, R to Kt 3, &c.
(e) A fatal oversight.

Game No. 245.

IRREGULAR OPENING.

WHITE. Mr. R. J. Barnes (Wellington).	BLACK. Mr. A. Gifford (Rangitiki).
1—P to K 4	1—P to Q B 3
2—P to Q 4	2—P to Q 4
3—P to K 5	3—P to K 3
4—B to Q 3	4—P to Q B 4 (a)
5—P to Q B 3	5—P takes P
6—P takes P	6—B to Kt 5 ch.
7—Kt to Q B 3	7—Q to Q Kt 3
8—P to K B 4	8—Kt to Q B 3 (b)
9—Kt to B 3	9—B to Q 2
10—P to Q R 3	10—B takes Kt ch.
11—P takes ■	11—P to B 4
12—Castles	12—K Kt to K 2
13—Kt to Kt 5	13—Castles (K R)
14—R to Kt sq.	14—Q to B 2
15—P to Q R 4	15—P to K R 3
16—Kt to R 3	16—Q R to Kt sq. (c)
17—B to R 3	17—Q R to K sq.
18—B to Q 6	18—Q to B sq.
19—Q to R 5	19—Kt to Q sq.
20—P to Kt 4 (d)	20—Q takes P
21—R to B 3	21—Q takes P ch.
22—K to Kt 2	22—B to B 3 (e)
23—P to Kt 5	23—Kt to B 2
24—B takes Kt	24—R takes B
25—P takes P	25—Kt takes P
26—R to K Kt 3	26—■ to R sq.
27—B to Kt 5 (f)	27—Q to K 5 ch.
28—R to B 3	28—Q takes R (Kt sq.)
29—B takes ■ (g)	29—P takes B
30—Q to Kt 6	30—Kt to B 2
31—Kt to B 2	31—Q to Kt 7
32—R to R 3 ch.	32—Kt to R 3
33—R to R 5	33—R to B 2
34—K to Kt 3	34—Q to B 6 ch.
35—K to Kt 2	35—Q to Q 7
36—K to B 3	36—R to Kt 2
37—Q takes K P	37—R to Kt 6 ch.
38—K to Kt 2	38—R to Kt 7
39—Q to K 8 ch.	39—K to R 2
40—K takes Kt ch.	40—K takes R
41—Q to R 8 ch.	41—K to Kt 3
42—Q to R 4	42—Q takes Kt ch.,

And Mr. Barnes resigns.

NOTES (CONDENSED.)

BY MR. HENRY HOOKHAM.

(a) It is obvious that Black has lost a move.
(b) Of course, if 8.....Q takes P, then 9 B to Kt 5 ch, &c.
(c) Another case of loss of time.
(d) Apparently failing to note that his Q B P is now *en prise*.
(e) His best course was 22.....P takes P; 23 Q takes P, Kt to B 3.
(f) Overlooking the forced win by 27 Kt to Kt 5 &c.
(g) 29 Kt to Kt 5 would have been a trifle better.

Game No. 246.

LADIES' CHAMPIONSHIP.

The following, from the *St. James's Budget*, is the score of the fifth game in the match between Mrs. J. W. Showalter and Mrs. H. Worrall for the Ladies' Championship of the United States :—

"THE GIUOCO PIANO."

WHITE. Mrs. Worrall.	BLACK. Mrs. Showalter.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—Kt to K B 3	2—Kt to Q B 3
3—B to B 4	3—B to B 4
4—Castles	4—Kt to B 3
5—Kt to B 3	5—Castles
6—P to Q 3	6—P to Q 3
7—P to K ■ 3 (a)	7—P to K R 3
8—B to K 3	8—Kt to Q 5 (b)
9—B takes Kt	9—B takes B
10—Kt takes B	10—P takes Kt
11—Kt to K 2	11—P to B 4
12—P to K B 4	12—R to K sq.
13—R to B 3	13—P to Q Kt 3
14—P to B 3	14—P takes P
15—Kt takes P	15—B to Kt 2
16—Q to Kt 3 (c)	16—R to K 2
17—P to K Kt 4	17—Q to Q 2
18—P to Kt 5 (d)	18—Kt to K sq.
19—Kt to Q 5 (e)	19—B takes Kt
20—B takes B	20—R to Q sq.
21—P ■ Kt 6	21—Kt to B 2
22—P takes P ch. (f)	22—K to B sq.
23—Q R to K B sq.	23—Kt takes B
24—Q takes Kt	24—R takes B P
25—P to B 5	25—R to B 3
26—Q to Kt 3	26—R to K sq.
27—K to R sq.	27—P to Q 4 (g)
28—Q to B 2	28—P takes P
29—P takes P	29—Q to Kt 2 (h)
30—R to B 4	30—R to K 4
31—Q to Kt 2	31—R to Q 3
32—R to K Kt sq.	32—R to K B 3
33—R to Kt 4	33—R to K 2
34—R to Q sq.	34—R to Q 2
35—R to K Kt sq.	35—R (B 3) to Q 3
36—P to K 5	36—Q takes Q ch.
37—R (Kt sq.) takes Q	37—R to Q 8 ch.
38—K to R 2	38—R (Q 8) to Q 7
39—R takes R	39—R takes R ch.
40—R to Kt 2	40—R takes R ch.
41—K takes ■	41—K to B 2
42—K to B 3	42—P to Q Kt 4 (i)
43—K to K 4	43—P to B 5
44—K to Q 5	44—K to K 2
45—K to B 5	45—P to R 3
46—P to R 3	46—K to B 2
47—P to K R 4	47—P to K R 4
48—K to Kt 6	48—P to Kt 3
49—P takes P ch.	49—K takes P
50—K takes P	50—K to B 4
51—K takes P	51—K takes P
52—P to R 4	
(130 minutes.)	(205 minutes.)

And Mrs. Showalter resigns.

NOTES (CONDENSED.)

(a) 7 Q B to Kt 5 would have been useful.
(b) The White Knight not having been pinned by the Black Queen's Bishops, what was to be expected from 8.....Kt to Q 5?
(c) To prevent Black from getting rid of the weak Pawn by playing.....P to Q 4.
(d) If now 18.....P takes P, 19 P takes P, and the White Rook would be brought to bear on the Black King's Bishop's Pawn.
(e) Better to keep the Knight, and to play 19 P to Kt 6 at once.
(f) It would have been stronger to capture the Pawn with the Bishop.
(g) A bold and clever assault.
(h) Much better for attack would have been 29.....Q to Q 5.
(i) Weakening the Pawns and hopelessly compromising the game. Black ought to have made an effort to arrest the threatened advance of the White King by way of King's fourth and Queen's Kt.

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Bad Form.

Doe not, at no time that thou playest at this game (out of a conceit, as I said, that anything becomes thee well), stand singing, whistling, knocking, or tinkering, whereby to disturb the minde of thy adversary, and injure his projects; neither keepe thou a callinge on him to playe or hastening of him thereunto, or a showing of much dislike that hee playeth not fast enough; remembering with thyselfe that besides that this is a silent game, when thy turne is to play, thou wilt take thine own leasure; and that it is the royall law so to deal with another as thou thyself wouldst be dealt withall,—"The Famous Game of Chesse Play, a Princely Exercise," by Arthur Saul, 1672.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[Reuter "Special" to "Japan Mail."]

London, March 31.

The Viceroy of India wires that the position of the enemy in the Chitral is closely invested and attacked nightly.

The Czarevitch, who is now in Algiers, is worse.

London, April 3.

Mr. Balfour, at a meeting of the Bimetallic League, said that the present Indian currency system combined all the disadvantages of every system that had ever been tried in that empire, and that a change was imperative. He said that it was impossible that England could act alone, since she was dependent on the world for food supplies.

["Special" Telegram to "Japan Mail."]

Shimonoseki, April 1, 8.20 p.m.

At the Conference Chamber to-day, Lord Li met Viscount Mutsu and Mr. Ito Miyoji, and a resumption of the negotiations is likely to come about very soon.

(From the "N.-C. Daily News.")

Peking, March 27.

After forty days interval an edict has been issued referring to the war, and condemning General Sung Ching and Wu Ta-cheng. The former retains his post and the latter returns to Hunan as Governor. This policy of leniency shows the hand of Prince Kung.

London, March 27.

At a luncheon given at Friedrichsruhe Castle, the Emperor's toast to Prince Bismarck was followed by a salute of twenty-one guns.

The result of the Lincolnshire Handicap is as follows:—

Euclid	1
El Diablo	2
Amandier	3

The garrison at Chitral was reported safe up to last Thursday, the 21st inst.

(From Japanese Papers.)

Hiroshima, April 4.

A seaman, who returned from Ujina on the 2nd inst. to Ogaki-mura, Saiki district, has been affected by a disease resembling cholera. A resident of Tomoyecho, Numasumi District, who returned there from Ujina on the 3rd inst. has been attacked by cholera.

Shimonoseki, April 5.

A severe epidemic of cholera is prevailing in Formosa.

Mr. Kusumoto, President of the House of Representatives, arrived here to-day.

Hiroshima, April 5.

Some cases of cholera have been discovered on board two transports at Ujina, and these vessels have been ordered to stay outside the port.

Kobe, April 5.

Koyama Toyotaro will reach here to-morrow in a steamer, and will be sent to Aomori by train.

Shimonoseki, April 5.

No meeting of the peace commissioners was held to-day.

The Viceroy Li suddenly summoned Mr. Foster to his residence at 8.30 a.m. to-day, and a private conference is likely to have been held with Lord Li, Messrs. Mr. Wu, and others.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From America	per P. M. Co.	Sunday, April 14th.*
From Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Sunday, April 7th.†
From Europe, viâ Hongkong	per M. M. Co.	Friday, April 27th.‡
From Canada, &c.	per C. P. R. Co.	Sunday, April 14th.§
From Europe, viâ Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd	Wed'day, April 17th.
From Hongkong	per C. P. R. Co.	Thursday, April 18th.
From America	per O. & O. Co.	Sunday, April 21st.

* *China* left San Francisco via Honolulu on March 26th. † *Prome* left Hongkong on March 30th. ‡ *Salazie* (with French mail) left Hongkong on April 4th. § *Empress of India* left Vancouver on April 1st.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For Europe, viâ Shanghai	per M. M. Co.	Saturday, April 20th.*
For Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Saturday, April 13th.
For Hongkong	per C. P. R. Co.	Sunday, April 14th.
For America	per O. & O. Co.	Thursday, April 18th.
For Canada, &c.	per C. P. R. Co.	Friday, April 19th.
For Europe, viâ Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd	Friday, April 19th.
For America	per P. M. Co.	Saturday, April 27th.
For Victoria, B.C., & Tacoma, Wash.	per [redacted] P. Co.	Saturday, May 4th.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Else, German steamer, 747, Christiansen, 30th March,—Handa, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sabino Rickmers, German steamer, 640, Sanders, 30th March,—Hongkong, Oil.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Sikh, British steamer, 2,735, J. Rowley, 30th March,—Hongkong viâ ports, 20th March, Mails and General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Boynton, British steamer, 1,630, Irving, 31st March,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Evandale, British steamer, 2,046, Buyers, 31st March,—Antwarp viâ ports, Iron.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Macduff, British steamer, 1,882, E. Porter, 31st March,—Liverpool viâ ports, General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Orono, British steamer, 1,321, Hancock, 31st March,—Hongkong viâ ports, General.—Dodwell, Carlill [redacted] Co.

Oxus, French steamer, 2,500, Dupont, 1st April,—Marseilles viâ ports, 17th February, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

Else, German steamer, 747, Christiansen, 2nd April,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

City of Peking, American steamer, 3,128, Wm. Ward, 2nd April,—San Francisco 14th March, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Amaranth, British steamer, 1,753, Cliff, 3rd April,—Otaru viâ ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Doris, German steamer, 771, Petersen, 3rd April,—Handa, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Strathdon, British steamer, 1,720, C. Johnston, 3rd April,—Kobe 2nd April, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Merionethshire, British steamer, 1,960, Davis, 3rd April,—London viâ ports, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Sakura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,827, C. Young, 3rd April,—Yokosuka, Ballast.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Bentala, British steamer, 1,767, Filmer, 4th April,—Yokosuka, Ballast.—Samuel Samuel [redacted] Co.

Kin Yeki, Korean steamer, 760, 4th April,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Cosmopolit, German steamer, 760, 4th April,—Otaru, Coal.—Japanese.

Admiral Korniloff (18), Russian cruiser, Captain Elchaninoff, 5th April,—Target Practice.

Priok, German steamer, 1,635, Christiansen, 5th April,—Hamburg viâ ports, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

DEPARTURES.

Cam, British steamer, 1,630, Mathias, 30th March,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Else, German steamer, 747, Christiansen, 31st March,—Handa, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Moji Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,489, Thomas, 31st March,—Ujina, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Produce, Norwegian steamer, 1,360, Berguson, 31st March,—Otaru, Ballast.—Mitsui Bussan Kaisha.

Sikh, British steamer, 2,735, J. Rowley, 31st March,—Tacoma, Wash., viâ Victoria, B.C., Mails and General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Strathesk, British steamer, 1,454, Foulds, 1st April,—Otaru, Ballast.—Hokkaido Tanko Tetsudo Kaisha.

Meiji Maru, Japanese steamer, [redacted] Maru and sundries.—[redacted] W. Crawford, Mc. J. W. kiyo, 1st April,—Yokosuka, Ballast.—Light-house Department.

Admiral Korniloff (18), Russian cruiser, Captain Elchaninoff, 2nd April,—A cruise.

Boynton, British steamer, 1,630, R. Irving, 2nd April,—Otaru viâ ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Liddesdale, British steamer, 1,716, A. Clarke, 2nd April,—Yokosuka, Ballast.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Niobe, German steamer, 1,666, E. J. Pfaff, 3rd April,—Hamburg viâ ports, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Sabino Rickmers, German steamer, 640, Sanders, 3rd April,—Hongkong, Ballast.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Else, German steamer, 747, Christiansen, 3rd April,—Handa, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Pakshan, British steamer, 1,460, 3rd April,—Hongkong viâ Kuchinotz, Ballast.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Haksan Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,829, 3rd April,—Ujina, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Rosie Olsen, British schooner, 30, A. B. Whidden, 4th April,—North Pacific, Sealing Gear.—T. M. Laffin.

Wm. H. Conner, American ship, 1,454, J. Pendleton, 4th April,—New York viâ Kobe, General.—Smith, Baker & Co.

City of Peking, American steamer, 3,128, Wm. Ward, 4th April,—Hongkong viâ Nagasaki, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Doris, German steamer, 771, Petersen, 4th April,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Glengarry, British steamer, 1,985, Ferguson, 4th April,—London viâ ports, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Orono, British steamer, 1,320, Hancock, 4th April,—Fushiki, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Umbria (17), Italian cruiser, Captain Bertolini, 4th April,—A cruise.

Sakura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,827, J. W. Ekstrand, 5th April,—Ujina, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Strathdon, British steamer, 1,720, C. Johnston, 5th April,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Oxus, French steamer, 2,500, Dupont, 6th April,—Shanghai viâ ports, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per British steamer *Sikh*, from Hongkong viâ ports:—Messrs. C. T. Collyer and Eugene Mahl in cabin, and 57 Chinese and 66 Japanese in steerage.

Per French steamer *Oxus*, from Marseilles viâ ports:—Mr. Perry, Mr. Gosook, Mr. and Mrs. Payan, Mr. Hetzel, Mr. Meynard, Miss Holman, Miss Tucker, Mr. J. de Worch, Mr. Oposa, Mr. Valery, Comte Barber, Mr. H. W. Andrews, Mr. and Mrs. Siemssen and 2 children, Mr. Duberg, Mr. Simpson, Mr. Hammond, Mr. H. Loomis, Mr. W. Verney, Mr. Flink, Mr. Boag, and Mr. Hempel in cabin, and 3 Chinese and 1 Japanese in steerage.

Per American steamer *City of Peking*, from San Francisco:—Mrs. Harriet Carpenter, Mrs. John A. Cockerill, Mr. A. Phelps, Mrs. Alex. P. Waugh and son, Mr. F. Lutcher, Mr. and Mrs. A. G. Davis, Mr. F. H. Loring, Mr. Geo. Mudge, Mr. M. Lehman, Mr. Erwin Buller, Captain T. Matsukawa, Captain E. Yamamoto, Captain T. Tsuneyoshi, Captain M. Okashi, Captain K. Oi, Captain T. Hayashi, Captain O. Ohara, Captain K. Monaka, Captain K. Soto, Captain T. Kitigawa, Captain K. Osawa, and Captain O. Minake in cabin, and Mr. W. H. McGowan and Captain N. D. Nicholas in European steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per British steamer *Ancona*, for Hongkong viâ ports:—Mr. H. C. Warburton, Miss Hogg, Miss C. G. Hogg, Mr. G. Holmes, Colonel R. Alexander, Messrs. S. B. Watte, Tindall, S. Dannenberg, P. Terashima, T. W. Hellyer, E. J. Melhuish, Miss Eldridge, Miss F. Eldridge, Mrs. Fardel, Mrs. Goddard, Messrs. F. H. Hooper, Watt, Handelmann, and J. North in cabin, and 9 Chinese in steerage.

Per American steamer *City of Peking*, for Hongkong viâ Nagasaki:—Mr. D. McNeill, Lieut. T. Popoff, Mr. Geo. Macondray, Captain N. Nicolas, Mr. B. Mason, Mr. Henry Burkhardt, Mr. E. H. [redacted]racken, and Mr. B. H. Connell in cabin.

Per French steamer *Oxus*, for Shanghai viâ ports:—Dr. Tilden, Mr. C. F. Fearing, Rev. C. Macauley, Mr. and Mrs. S. Fried, Mr. H. H. Littel, Mr. J. H. Rosenthal, Mr. Frank Suzuki, Mr. E. Favre Brandt, Miss Withecell, Mr. F. S. Hardenbrook, Mr. H. Binley, Mr. D. R. Robison

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Copmann, Mr. C. H. M. Marques, Mr. A. J. G. Pereira, Mr. O. Voigt, Mr. F. H. Loring, Mr. Bullotionund, Mr. J. Nunes, Mr. and Mrs. Francisco Rebeiro and 2 children, Mr. Tsuda, Mr. Thomas Davenport, Mrs. Sotoyama, Mr. E. C. Fox, Mr. V. Kamamoto, M. l'Abbe Seneutz, Mr. M. Lolman, Mr. J. Smedley, Mrs. Kumayama, Mr. Watanabe and 2 children, Mr. Ah Sing, Mr. Ah Sam, Mr. Selvary d'Aguilar, Mr. J. H. D. Jones, Mr. Kotaro Konishi, Mr. Brandenburg, Mr. E. Machiyama, and Mrs. Nicolas in cabin, and one Japanese and one Chinese in steerage.

CARGOES.

Per British steamer *Empress of Japan*, for Vancouver, B.C.:—

TEA.

	CANADA.	CHICAGO AND WEST.	NEW YORK AND EAST.	PACIFIC COAST.	OTHER CITIES.	TOTAL.
Hongkong ...	—	21	4	28	38	91
Calcutta	—	—	—	55	—	55
Colombo	95	—	—	—	—	95
Hyogo	—	288	—	30	—	318
Yokohama ...	121	—	—	—	—	121
Total	216	309	4	113	38	680

SILK.

	NEW YORK.	OTHER CITIES.	TOTAL.
Hongkong & Canton	131	—	131
Shanghai	411	—	411
Yokohama	273	—	273
Total	815	—	815

Per British steamer *Ancona*, for Hongkong viâ ports:—Silk, 172 bales; Waste Silk, 207 bales.

Per British steamer *Sikh*, for Tacoma, Wash., viâ Victoria, B.C.:—

TEA.

	PACIFIC COAST.	NEW YORK.	CHICAGO.	CANADA.	OTHER CITIES.	TOTAL.
Hyogo	—	—	450	—	—	450
Hongkong ...	138	—	50	—	2	190
Total	138	—	500	—	2	640

SILK.

	NEW YORK.	OTHER CITIES.	TOTAL.
Hongkong	384	—	384
Yokohama	22	—	22
Total	406	—	406

RATES.

Tea ..... ¼ cent. per lb. gross.
Silk ..... 3 cents. per lb. gross.
Measurement ..... $14 per ton.

Per French steamer *Oxus*, for Shanghai viâ ports:—Raw Silk for Europe, 64 bales; Waste Silk for Europa, 66 bales. Treasure for Hongkong, $5,600.

REPORTS.

The British steamer *Sikh*, Captain J. Rowley, reports:—Left Hongkong the 20th March, and left Kobe the 29th at noon; had moderate and fine weather.

The American steamer *City of Peking*, Captain Wm. Ward, reports:—Left San Francisco the 14th March at 4 p.m.; had strong westerly winds and heavy westerly swell; crossed the meridian March 26th lat. 37° N.; thence to long. 150° E. fresh S.W. and moderate westerly swell; to port variable winds and fine weather.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

The rapid fluctuations in Exchange have much interfered with business generally. Buyers and sellers have both felt inclined to pause and see what would come of it all. After the middle of the week exchange began to decline and everything seems far from settled yet. We leave quotations unchanged, but they are more or less nominal and irregular.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirtings—8¼ lb, 38½ yds. 30 inches	$2.25 to 2.90
Grey Shirtings—9lb, 38½ yds. 45 inches	2.50 to 3.25
T. Cloth—7lb, 24 yards, 32 inches	1.65 to 2.00
Indigo Shirtings—12 yards, 44 inches..	1.70 to 2.35
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches..	2.00 to 3.75
	PER YARD.
Cotton—Italians and Satteens Black, 32 inches	0.18 to 0.22
	PER PIECE.
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22inches ...	7.25 to 9.50
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches..	0.85 to 1.00
Turkey Reds—2.0 to 2.4lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.65 to 1.75
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.85 to 2.05
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.30 to 2.60
Turkey Reds—4.8 to 5lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.80 to 3.10

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.
Flannel	$0.30 to 0.50
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches best	0.32½ to 0.37½
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Medium	0.25 to 0.30
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Common	0.20 to 0.25
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.15 to 0.22½
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches	0.35 to 0.50
Cloths—Presidents, 54 @ 56 inches ...	0.60 to 0.65
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0.40 to 0.70
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 5lb, per ½	0.60 to 0.75

COTTON YARNS.

	PER PICUL.
Nos. 16/24, Ordinary	—
Nos. 16/24, Medium	$34.50 to 35.00
Nos. 16/24, Good to Best	35.50 to 36.50
Nos. 16/24, Reverse	—
Nos. 28/32, Ordinary	—
Nos. 28/32, Medium	36.00 to 36.50
Nos. 28/32, Good to Best	37.00 to 38.00
Nos. 38/42, Medium to Best	43.00 to 45.00
No. 32s, Two-fold	43.00 to 45.00
No. 42s, Two-fold	47.00 to 49.00
	PER BALE.
No. 20s, Bombay	—
No. 16s, Bombay	—

METALS.

Not much business passing. Plenteous arrivals from the Continent and North of England, but these are said to be mostly contracts on Government and private account. Prices nominally unchanged, although some sales are said to have been made at a reduction through the rise in silver. Exchange has now turned downwards from the highest point.

	PER PICUL.
Flat Bars, ½ inch	$3.60 to 3.65
Flat Bars, ¾ inch	3.65 to 3.70
Round and square up to ¾ inch	3.60 to 3.75
Iron Plates, assorted	3.70 to 3.80
Sheet Iron	4.70 to 4.90
Galvanized Iron sheets	8.25 to 8.80
Wire Nails, assorted	5.80 to 6.10
Tin Plates, per box	5.80 to 6.00
Pig Iron, No. 3	1.65 to 1.70

KEROSENE.

No special change to note. There are fresh arrivals of American Oil per ship *S. P. Hitchcock* and a small tank steamer came up from Hongkong. Prices as before: exchange tending to unsettle trade to some extent.

American	$2.20 to 2.22½
Russian	2.22½ to 2.25

SUGAR.

Brown—Arrivals continue to come in from the south, and there is some demand but no very large trade. Some of the patriotic Japanese are eagerly anticipating the day when they will be able to grow their own Sugar in the favoured isle of Formosa. White—No change, but holders are trying to maintain prices.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Takao	$3.60 to 3.65
Brown Manila	4.40 to 4.60
Brown Daitong (New)	3.40 to 3.50
Brown Canton	3.50 to 3.90
White Java and Penang	6.50 to 6.75
White Refined	8.50 to 9.00

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

A quiet week with small doings. Exchange has worked against shippers, and holders are averse to making concessions believing that there will be a turn in their favour yet. So far they seem to be right, as quotations for silver are now declining again.

QUOTATIONS.

Hanks—No. 1	—
Hanks—No. 2 (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 2 (Joshu)	—
Hanks—No. 2½ (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 2½ (Joshu)	—
Hanks—No. 2½ to 3	—
Hanks—No. 3	—
Hanks—No. 3½	—
Filatures—Extra 10/12 deniers	Nom. —
Filatures—Extra 13/15 deniers	Nom. —
Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers	$850 to 870
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den	840 to 850
Filatures—No. 1½, 10/14 deniers	820 to 830
Filatures—No. 1½, 13/16, 14/17 den	820 to 830
Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers	770 to 790
Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	780 to 790
Filatures—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	—
Re-reels—Extra	—
Re-reels—(Oshu) Best No. 1	—
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 deniers.....	800 to 810
Re-reels—No. 1½, 13/16, 14/17 deniers.....	770 to 780
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers.....	740 to 760
Re-reels—No. 2½, 14/18 deniers	—
Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	—
Kakedas—Extra	800
Kakedas—No. 1	790 to 795
Kakedas—No. 1½	770 to 780
Kakedas—No. 2	750 to 760
Kakedas—No. 2½	—
Kakedas—No. 3	—
Kakedas—No. 3½	—
Kakedas—No. 4	—
Oshu Sendai—No. 2½	—
Hanamaki—No. 1, 2	—
Hanamaki—No. 3, 4	—
Sodai—No. 2½	—

WASTE SILK.

Nothing worthy of note. Sellers and buyers do not agree about quotations and there is, consequently, very little done. Quotations nominally unchanged.

QUOTATIONS.

Pierced Cocoons—Good to Best	—
Noshi-ito—Filature, Best	$130 to 135
Noshi-ito—Filature, Good	120 to 125
Noshi-ito—Filature, Medium	110 to 115
Noshi-ito—Oshu, Good to Best	120 to 130
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Best	—
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Good	—
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Medium	70 to 80
Noshi-ito—Hushu, Good to Best	100 to 115
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Best	—
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Good	50 to 75
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Ordinary	60 to 65
Kibiso—Filature, Best selected	100 to 110
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds	90 to 95
Kibiso—Oshu, Good to Best	—
Kibiso—Shinshu, Best	—
Kibiso—Shinshu, Seconds	—
Kibiso—Joshu, Good to Fair	30 to 35½
Kibiso—Joshu, Middling to Common	25 to 29½
Kibiso—Hachoji, Good to Fair	25 to 25
Kibiso—Hachoji, Medium to Low	22 to 30
Kibiso—Neri, Good to Common	12 to 18
Mawata—Good to Best	—

TEA.

Nothing doing. The trade waiting for samples of New Leaf.

EXCHANGE.

Exchange has fluctuated considerably, the latest movement being on the downward line.

Sterling—Bank T.T.	2/1
— —. Bills on demand.....	2/1⅛
— — 4 months' sight	2/1⅛
— Private 4 months' sight ...	2/1⅛
— — 6 months' sight ...	2/1⅛
On Paris—Bank sight	2.63
On Lyons—Private 4 months' sight ...	2.70
On Hongkong—Bank sight.....	⅛% p.
— Private 10 days' sight.	⅛% d.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	71½
— Private 10 days' sight.	72½
On India—Bank sight	188
— Private 30 days' sight.....	190½
On America—Bank Bills on demand.	50½
— Private 30 days' sight..	52
— — 4 months' sight	53
On Germany—Bank sight	2.12
— Private 4 months' sight...	2.19
Bar Silver (London).....	29⅞

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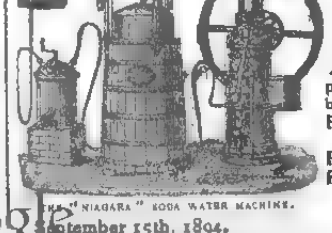
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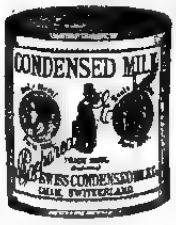
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No. 15.] REGISTERED AT THE G.P.O. AS A NEWSPAPER. YOKOHAMA, APRIL 13TH, 1895. 明治二十五年四月十三日 可認書信通 VOL. XXII.

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NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

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YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, APRIL 13TH, 1895.

BIRTH.

At 144, Bluff, Yokohama, on the 8th inst., the wife of M. ENGERT, of a daughter.

DEATH.

On the 10th inst., the infant son of Mr. and Mrs. RAYMOND POLLOK.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

THE Viceroy Li's wound is reported completely healed.

THE construction of a railway between Söul and Ninsen commences on the 20th.

THERE has been an outbreak of cholera at the Pescadores of a severe character.

MR. DOI MICHIO has been elected President of the Osaka Chamber of Commerce.

SEVERAL earthquake shocks are again recorded in Tokyo and Yokohama for the past week.

DIPHTHERIA prevails at Kojimachi, Shiba, Shinagawa, Susaki, Fukagawa, and Honjo, Tokyo.

UP till the 6th inst., the Chinese Envoy of Peace had paid *yen* 15,000 for telegrams from Shimonoseki.

A TELEGRAM received by the Italian Legation, Tokyo, states that the ex-Italian Minister to Japan, Cav. R. de Martino arrived at Naples on the 5th inst. and was expected to reach Rome the following day. It is said that he will immediately leave for Brazil.

LI YO-SHUN, the new Korean Minister to Japan, will probably leave Söul about the 15th inst. for Japan.

MR. KOMATSU SANSEI, M.P., proposes to start a newspaper in Osaka in the interests of the Radical Party.

SOME Japanese silk merchants are said to be entertaining a project for the direct export of silk to Russia.

THE Japanese Government has decided to establish a Consulate at Tacoma, United States of North America.

MR. KURINO, Japanese Minister to the United States, is negotiating a special emigration treaty with Guatemala.

HONGKONG papers allege that the torpedoes laid down by the Chinese in the harbour of Tamsui were filled with peas!

THE Mitsu Bishi Company's *Suma Maru* on her trial trip made 11¼ knots. She was in command of Captain Tornoe.

THE President of the Lower House, Mr. Kusumoto Masataka, visited the Viceroy Li in the early part of the week.

SOME influential residents of Yamato and Osaka propose to construct a private railway between Totsugawa and Gojo, in Yamato Province.

THE Peace Conferences at Shimonosekt have not yet reached any definite result. The Chinese Plenipotentiaries have asked for a few days to deliberate.

THE cherry blossoms in Tokyo, Yokohama, and neighbourhood have been at their best this week, and the more famous resorts have been crowded with sightseers.

THE occupied districts in North China have been declared infected regions, and all ships and persons coming from thence to Japan have to submit to quarantine.

THE Bible House, No. 26, Yokohama, has sent two hundred thousand pocket gospels to the seat of war, with a view to distributing them among the Japanese soldiers.

VESSELS will not be allowed to anchor closer than 600 yards to the new pier at Yokohama, unless they wish to avail of the privileges afforded by discharging at the pier.

THE Kokura-Yukihashi Section on the Kiushu Railway was opened for traffic on the 1st inst. The section between Soga and Yezaki on the same line will be completed by May next.

THE total catch of the Imperial Marine Products Co. last year was 815 seals. All the skins were exported to England, where they were sold at an average price of 13 *yen* each.

LORD LI, the adopted son of Li Hung-chang, and formerly Minister to the Court of Japan, was formally acknowledged as a Plenipotentiary for Peace by the Japanese plenipotentiaries this week.

TWO important railways are being promoted in the capital. One is to be called the Tobu Railway. This will start from Honjo, Tokyo, and run to Ashikaga, *viâ* Tatebayashi, Kawamata, Haoi, Kuki, and Senju. The length is 52 miles, and the capital will be *yen* 1,500,000. The other line will start at Mita, Shiba, Tokyo, and run to Odawara, on the Tokaido.

TENDERS for the contract to supply 3,000 tons of cement to the Yokohama Harbour-works Office were received and opened on the 5th inst. at the Harbour-works Office. The following offers were made:—*yen* 61,407 by the Asano Cement Factory, *yen* 51,400 by the Japan Cement Co., *yen* 61,410 by the Suzuki Cement Factory, and *yen* 50,984 by the Aichi Cement Co. The contract was given to the last company.

REUTER Telegraphs:—The charge brought by Mr. Oscar Wilde against the Marquis of Queensberry has been tried, and the defendant acquitted, but the evidence produced was of such a damning nature that Mr. Wilde was taken to Bow Street Police Court and charged, the case being remanded till Thursday next and bail refused. The Chitral Garrison is well and amply supplied and is safe. Señor Canovas has stated that the situation in Cuba is grave, and that two thousand further troops will proceed there. He also stated that the country was prepared to send a hundred thousand men if it was found necessary. Sir Edward Grey, Parliamentary Secretary to the Foreign Office, has made an important statement as to the relations between Great Britain and France. In reviewing French actions in the course of the events of the last two years in Africa and Siam, some uneasiness was created; but Sir Edward Grey stated that Britain has striven, and will continue to strive, to maintain good relations with France. The recent Armenian atrocities have been confirmed from all quarters. Speaking in Committee of Supply, Mr. Sydney Buxton, Parliamentary Colonial Secretary, stated that he regretted the friction regarding Military contributions by the Straits Settlements and Hongkong. He said that a Departmental Committee was now sitting, and that he believed the enquiry they were making would result in an arrangement, satisfactory alike to the Government and the Colonies.

THE Import trade continues to be affected by the rates of Exchange, which have been on the upward grade for several days past, rising a point or more each day. Thus both buyers and sellers appear unwilling to make contracts, and the consequence is that quotations all round are almost nominal. This applies to nearly all commodities in the Fictile and Metal trades, and no business on an extended scale can be looked for until something like stability can be infused into the factor of disturbance. When this will be it is impossible to indicate with any degree of certainty, though were peace with China concluded, and an agreement with Japan arrived at whereby the war indemnity is payable in silver, an increase in the value of that metal and a consequent rise in the rate of exchange would be sure to follow. Later, when exchange has reached its maximum, trade will boom for several reasons, not the least of which is that there are buyers in plenty who at present are compelled to keep out of the market. Manchester Goods, Metals, and Kerosene are in good supply at this port, and two cargoes of the latter—one case and one bulk—arrived from Batoum this week. Sugar keeps coming in faster than it is sold, and stocks accumulate, although this trade does not appear to be so much affected by the Exchange trouble. It has been almost a blank week for the principal Export, the dealings in Raw Silk having been of the most meagre description. Waste Silk is in similar plight. The weather has been favourable to the Tea crop, but nothing has been seen yet but a few hand musters, which give no clue whatever to the quality of the crop. Exchange has risen day by day, and everything points to a further rise in rates. With prospects

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THE SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS DURING THE WEEK.

The action of the Chinese soldiers that fired on a Japanese flag of truce at Ngan-shan-chan has evoked strong and indignant comment from several of the vernacular papers. The *Nippon*, of course, says that the incident ought to be regarded as an unpardonable act really tantamount to a violation of the armistice, and that China having thus nullified the convention, Japan would be fully justified in resuming hostilities. Generosity extended by Japan to China is never acknowledged. On the contrary, she often, as in the case under consideration, requites it with deeds of a vindictive nature. In short, acts of grace are out of place in dealing with China. The only method efficacious with her is to resort to force.

* * *

The *Mainichi* regards as very weak the explanation of the Viceroy that the firing must have been the doing of soldiers ignorant of international laws and usages. If military ignorance of laws and usages may be pleaded as a valid excuse for breach of a treaty mutually binding, where is the use of concluding any such convention?

* * *

The vernacular press strongly urges the Government to take decided steps for controlling the spread of the epidemic diseases that have already made their appearance among the troops now occupying the Pescadores. Cholera or dysentery is a more terrible enemy than the Chinese, says the *Kokkai*, but Japanese soldiers, who have strength and ability to easily overwhelm Chinamen, must show to the world at large that they are equally competent to cope with this other enemy. Strict enforcement of quarantine regulations is attended by divers inconveniences in time of peace, but the state of things at present existing particularly facilitates the enforcement of radical measures.

* * *

Two or three months hence, says the *Jiji*, the troops in Manchuria are not unlikely to be attacked by the fearful diseases from which their comrades in the Pescadores are now suffering. There is, consequently, urgent necessity that Japan should settle the negotiations as promptly as possible, so that, in the event of their rupture, the Army may have time to enter the field of final action at Pekin, before the epidemic season sets in. To lead the Army to the Capital of China and to bring it back in triumph to Japan about the month of June or July at farthest, its strength, supposing it now aggregates 100,000, should be increased to 150,000 or even to 200,000. The nation is willing to provide funds to any extent necessary for accomplishing such a programme.

* * *

The spread of cholera in the Pescadores, says the *Kokumin*, may be ascribed, according to correspondence received from persons with the troops occupying that archipelago, to the absence of good medical arrangements. Three things indispensable for the successful treatment of such a disease appear to be wanting; namely, surgeons, medicines, and nurses. The Government is bound to make good those defects so as to provide against the loss of Japan's brave soldiers.

* * *

A rumour that the Chinese Plenipotentiary is hesistating to give his assent to the terms demanded by Japan because he considers one out of the eight conditions specially hard, has awakened great curiosity among metropolitan journals as to what may be the nature of that condition. The *Nippon* and the *Kokumin* surmise that it is very likely to be the cession of territory on the continent, Manchuria being specially precious in the eyes of the Manchu Dynasty as its cradle. To say the truth, writes the latter paper, the Chinese Plenipotentiary thinks it conducive to the interests of the country he represents, to delay the negotiations within the limit of time covered by the armistice, as a telegram from Bakan says. He hopes to secure, in the interval, various devices calculated to serve the interests of China, and he also wishes to strengthen the defences of Shanhaikwan and so forth.

* * *

One of the devices on which Li and the Court of Pekin may be secretly relying, says the *Jiji*, is foreign intervention, for which China, contrary to her wonted arrogance toward foreign Powers in time of peace, is said to be agitating, her solicitations being accompanied by the offer of certain tempting conditions. This appeal is said to be specially addressed to a certain Western Power, to which the cession of certain territory has been promised—so the story runs—as the reward of interference. Rumour goes even a step farther, and says that a secret alliance has been arrived at between the two Powers. The *Jiji* declines to place credit in such tales. Even supposing, for the sake of argument, that a certain Western Power had been appealed to; that the appeal had been supported by a strong temptation, and that, deluded by so attractive an offer, the Power in question were inclined to interfere, could it be indiscreet enough to provoke the enmity of Japan merely for the sake of a bribe, and to side with worn out and decayed China, especially when the bribe is no genuine bribe at all? Is not China already doomed to be the prey of Western Powers and to be partitioned among them, and under such circumstances would it not be an altogether losing venture to incur Japan's enmity merely in consideration of an offer of territory, which, sooner or later, will become the property of the Power in question. The *Jiji* considers that the rumor of a secret alliance between China and a certain Western Power is entirely incredible.

* * *

The various proceedings that England has taken since the commencement of the war, says the *Mainichi*, have not been prompted by a desire to promote the tranquillity of the East or to display goodwill towards China, but solely by jealousy of triumphant Japan, and because she thinks that the rise of Japan's power is inconsistent with the preservation of the prestige and interests that she now possesses in the East. This idea, which the *Mainichi* has held from the first, is confirmed, it says, by recent utterances of the London *Spectator*, a journal conducted in the interest of the Conservative Party. Such a sentiment is considered by the Progressionist's organ to be entirely unreasonable. What Japan is now doing is simply a natural outcome of the progress she has made. She wishes merely to assert her rights and to promote her interests. If that is to be blamed as unprincipled, is not the attempt of England to exert her influence in the far East, from a distance of thousands of miles, still more unprincipled and selfish? The law of the survival of the fittest determines every human action, and if Japan can not properly interfere with the expansion of England, the latter must be equally considerate toward Japan. Jealousy is out of place in such matters. No country ought to interfere with the rise of another country, when that rise is due to the justifiable and proper exercise of the latter's power and right.

* * *

In another article the same paper deals with a similar topic, especially in connection with the annexation of Formosa by Japan. The principal reason why England enjoys such influence in the Orient is because she has the most powerful fleet there. Suppose that Japan annex Formosa, what would be the consequence to the ascendency of England? Undoubtedly, she would cease to exercise the same maritime supremacy north of Formosa that she enjoys at present, and she would be superseded in that respect by Japan. That is the reason why she regards Japan's successes with such jealous eyes. England is best informed as to the true value of Formosa, and hence she is afraid and jealous beyond any other country of the annexation of that island by Japan.

* * *

The *Kokkai* maintains that the entry of the whole expeditionary army into Pekin should be one of the most important conditions for the conclusion of a treaty of peace. This it considers necessary not merely for the purpose of dealing a death stroke to the vital part of China's frame, in case, true to her wonted perfidy, she does not carry out the terms of peace, but also to impress the arrogant and perversely ignorant Chinese with a just idea of the real strength of Japan, and to convince them of their incapacity to oppose their once-despised antagonist. As a sort of moral chastisement, that condition of peace is at least as essential as any other.

* * *

In this context the *Kokkai* is surprised to find that a section of the public appear to hold the above condition too severe to China. Was not, it asks, the ultimate aim of the expedition to chastise China out of the supercilious arrogance that she used to display toward Japan, and to permanently maintain the tranquillity of the Orient? To attain those ends, it is absolutely necessary to lead the Japanese expeditionary army in triumph to Pekin. The French are also a proud and self-asserting people, though those defects are greatly redeemed by their sagacity and cleverness. Yet the victorious Prussians thought the triumphant entry of their troops into Paris an indispensible condition of peace, by way of chastisement. How much more must that be necessary in dealing with the Chinese, who are not only the very embodiment of arrogance and perversity, but also lack any other qualities to redeem these defects?"

* * *

The *Nippon* has a long article addressed to Viceroy Li. The article recounts the former greatness of China, so great, indeed, that her influence was felt all over the world; describes her present insignificance, and the total eclipse under which the East has long been suffering by the rise of the West. Then it dwells on the affinity of race and literature of the only three Asiatic countries that still enjoy independence, Japan, China, and Korea; and on the mission devolving on them in common —the mission of recovering the position that the Orient once enjoyed. Thus, it is the will of Heaven that the three should be united cordially and should exert themselves for their common greatness and benefit, any artificial estrangement among them is sure to be followed by the punishment of Heaven, as shown significantly in the present case. It was unfortunate that this, the deeply seated desire of Japan was not recognized by China, so that nothing remained but for the two to confront each other in actual warfare. If, therefore, on the consummation of the mission for which the Viceroy is sent to Japan, he will meet Japan's statesmen with amity and frankness, he will have his suspicions and doubts entirely cleared away. Why does not the Viceroy pay attention to the general tendency of the world and exert his ability in that more important cause, the raising of the Orient from its present insignificance? He ought not to complain of the hardness of Japan's demands, for is not Japan now in a position to conquer and absorb the whole of China if she pleases? What Japan asks for lies within the limits of the preservation of Oriental tranquillity, and the Viceroy must therefore acquiesce in her terms, so that, while Heaven grants him time, he may initiate the grand work of restoring the prestige of the East to its ancient place. Prince Kung is said to have declared that the collapse of China was ascribable to the conservative policy hitherto pursued by her. If so, the war must be considered to have afforded a rare opportunity for the progressive policy of the Viceroy and for augumenting his influence. But if by conservatism is meant imperfect military equipment, nothing can be more fatally erroneous. For was not the Peiyang Squadron perfectly equipped, and were not Port Arthur and other strongholds also complete in the matter of equipment. Yet they were destroyed or taken by Japanese in a summary manner. The disasters that invariably overtake Chinese troops are not due to want of modern arms or other engines of war, their cause lies far deeper.

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The system of administration pursued by China has led her people to respect their individual interest above anything, and has rendered them entirely unconscious of the existence of the nation. The State system must be entirely re-organized, and unification of the national interests must be brought about. Military reforms are altogether secondary. In this regeneration of China the Viceroy will find in Japan a most suitable model, because Japan has assimilated whatever is excellent in Western institutions, rejecting the accompanying evils, and because the direct adoption of Western money-worshipping principles would simply make the Chinese worse than ever, and would end in anarchy and the splitting up of the country. China regenerated as here indicated, and consolidated by a sentiment of common patriotism and common interests, it would not be difficult for the two Oriental States to recover the power and influence that Eastern Asia once enjoyed.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

PROVISIONAL MILITARY QUARANTINE.

THE Department of War has decided, says the *Jiji*, to enforce provisional quarantine in various places, and is now busily engaged in purchasing materials required for the practical carrying out of the scheme, and also in despatching the necessary officials to places where quarantine is to be enforced. It has been decided to establish quarantine offices at Moji (Fukuoka Prefecture), Nijima (Hiroshima Prefecture), Tempozan (Osaka Fu), and Otaru (Hokkaido), and the expense is estimated at about one million *yen*. The station at Nijima will be the largest, and will require fully six months to properly equip. The matter, however, requires the utmost promptitude, and the building of the station will be pushed forward as fast as possible. Steam engines will be erected at all the stations and the disinfecting processes will be most thorough. The clothes and personal effects of persons arriving from any infected region or from the seat of war will be steamed, while individuals themselves will have to take a bath in which disinfectants of a special quality are held in solution. The enforcement of such a quarantine should surely prevent the introduction of any germs of the dreaded maladies. The system has been followed by other countries with success, but lately great improvements have been effected, especially in the system of bathing. Steam disinfection would not be complete unless ablutions were enforced up on individuals. It is said that one steam-engine can disinfect 60 to 70 persons per hour, and each quarantine establishment will be able to purify from 3,000 to 6,000 persons in 24 hours. The organization of a quarantine corps is contemplated.

* * *

The *Jiji* speaks of the project in warm terms in a leading article. The outbreak of dangerous epidemics has usually followed upon the termination of a great war. One of the principal reasons of this perhaps was that no efficient system of anticipating and combatting the epidemics was devised, while the world was also but imperfectly acquainted with the principles of hygiene. Recently, however, medical science has made considerable progress in Japan, and more especially in the field of bacteorogical researches has greater precision been attained. This system of steam disinfection will be more particularly enforced when the Japanese troops return home in triumph. Should it prevent the outbreak of dangerous epidemics in this country, the *Jiji* contends that Japan will again have taught a lesson to the rest of the world of which she may be proud.

CURIOUS TRADES AND GUILDS.

TOKYO, like all other great cities, has its shady side. But unlike the capitals of other lands, there is absolutely no part of the Japanese metropolis in which one may not walk with impunity at any hour of the day or night. There are a few, a very few, street-walkers, but they frequent the suburbs, and their solicitations are nearly always mute, a gentle touch on the arm or pull of the sleeve being the extent of their suggestive invitations. There are *bimbo-ba*, or "poor districts," where the people live in tumble-down houses, in abject poverty and, for Japanese, unusual filth; but all such places are under strict and efficient police control, and the pedestrian is never molested. There are gambling-dens, but these forever change their place, detectives being always on the watch to discover them. Despite the stringent laws against gambling, unquestionably a good many men make their living in that way. And here is one of the most curious occupations of the metropolis. Certain districts are apportioned to well-known gamblers, by mutual consent of the law-breakers; these then act as the heads of the gambling "guilds," if such a term is permissible, there being one or more "guilds" to each district. Every gambling-house within the quarter in question must pay a percentage to the local headmen, who generally lives in a good deal of comfort on the proceeds. These headmen will sometimes sell their "parish," the price of a good district often running as high as four or five hundred *yen*. Of course this is all absolutely illegal and in every way discouraged by the police, who are at great pains to root out the evil. The beggars, too, have their guild; the chief, or *oyakata*, of such an institution is often a man in comparatively comfortable circumstances. He allots the stations to the various mendicants and pockets a tithe of the receipts. Any intruder is soon made to feel the force of the guild's resentment. Another strange institution is that of the *atoshi*, or men who help to push up kurumas on a number of the longer and steeper slopes of Tokyo. Such *atoshi* are to be found on Ando-zaka, in Koishikawa District; Kiku-zaka, in Hongo; and especially on Kudan-zaka. Each of these men is registered at the District Office as a regular *atoshi*; those on Kudan wear coats bearing the ideographs *ai-rtiki fu*, or "strength-adding coolie." The charge to push up the long slope is only one *sen* per man, a very small sum for a hard if short job. On Kudan alone there are five of these men, and they have their own guild, to prevent the entrance of unauthorised outsiders. Their earnings are from 30 to 50 *sen* daily, and no matter how much or how little they receive they must each pay five *sen* per diem to the *oyakata* of the guild, who is thus in receipt of a monthly income of nearly eight *yen*. The *oyakata* does nothing but look after the interests of the guild; he is not himself an *atoshi*. Vegetable, fish, and other mongers all have their respective guilds. Each hawker has certain streets allotted to him, outside of which he is not permitted to sell his wares. And he must pay quite heavily for this privilege. Well-to-do "beats" sometimes fetch as much as fifty or even one hundred *yen*. It thus comes about that residents deal year in year out with the same hawkers, so long indeed as they do not move elsewhere. The *amma* are distributed in the same way and under similar regulations. All these guilds are, of course, private affairs, *i.e.* they are not recognised by the authorities. The *oyakata* are very often rich people. They may, it is true, live, for obvious reasons, in a very mean style; but they are well supplied with funds for all that. Indeed, to be an *oyakata* is considered a most enviable thing, no matter of what guild so long as its members are law-abiding. And these headmen are autocrats; their word is law; their decisions are final. Of course all of these strange customs are the result of centuries of similar observances. In former times the guilds were even more numerous and powerful than they are to-day.

THE CHERRY-BLOOMS OF YEDO.

As had been expected, the cherry-trees in the metropolis and suburban resorts have blossomed this year nearly ten days earlier than is their wont, a fact ascribable to the exceedingly mild and pleasant weather of the last two or three weeks. On Tuesday, the 2nd instant, it was rapturously announced that "no less than forty-five in Uyeno Park were in bloom." On the 3rd instant, despite overcast sky and occasional drops of rain, a large portion of the good people of Tokyo wended their way to Uyeno and Mukojima, the latter place proving somewhat of a disappointment. Exceedingly pretty and well worth a visit is the little park surrounding the Yasukuni Shrine, at the top of Kudan-zaka. Back of the shrine the *kobai*, or "red plums," have not yet ceased to bloom, and several gorgeous peach-trees are running riot with deep-red blossoms, the whole presenting a most attractive sight, while the air is redolent with flowery scents. One of the largest magnolias in the capital is there also, and is at present covered to the topmost boughs with flowers of unparalleled fragrance. About the middle of this week Koganei and Horiuchi will be at their best, and the Kobu Railway announces a constant succession of extra-trains until long after dark. One can take the train from Ushigome and reach Kokubuji (changing cars at Shinjiku, where one generally has to wait nearly half an hour), the station nearest Koganei, inside of an hour. Thence to Koganei is about thirty minutes' walk. Tokyo is at its best now, and will so remain for another ten or twelve days. At Kameido the wisterias are opening tentatively, as if in doubt as to the proper date for blooming; while Asuka-yama is clad with young budding maples that run through all the gamut of colour from a tender shade of green to a blush-red. By taking the cars at Uyeno one may reach Omiya in less than an hour; and the wistarias in the great and beautiful park there will be in full blossom by the 15th inst. The vicinity of the *Fuji-no-ta*—a most picturesque little inn—is indescribably attractive.

HORINOUCHI AND KOGANEI.

As mentioned in our issue of Saturday, the Kobu Railway Company announce a special service between Iidamachi, Shinjiku, Kokubuji, and Hachioji for ten days, the idea being to provide additional facilities for visitors to Horinouchi and Koganei, where the cherries are said to have blossomed with unusual splendour this year. Koganei, an ancient pleasaunce of the Shoguns, is really a sight worth seeing, both sides of a limpid and rapid stream (afterwards the Yedo-gawa), being lined with cherry-trees of great age, unusual girth, and countless millions of faintly odorous blooms. The following is the time schedule:—

DOWN TRAINS.

Leave Iida-machi.	Leave Ushigome.	Leave Shinjiku.	Arrive Kokubuji.
6.17 a.m....	6.21 a.m....	6.42 a.m....	7.28 a.m.
7.00 a.m....	7.04 a.m....	7.27 a.m....	8.10 a.m.
9.08 a.m ...	9.12 a.m....	9.37 a.m....	10.22 a.m.
9.55 a.m....	9.59 a.m....	10.32 a.m....	11.14 a.m.
12.00 m. ...	12.04 p.m....	12.32 p.m....	1.18 p.m.
12.49 p.m....	12.53 p.m....	1.15 p.m....	2.00 p.m.
2.58 p.m....	3.02 p.m....	3.27 p.m....	4.12 p.m.
3.48 p.m....	3.52 p.m....	4.14 p m....	4.58 a.m.

There are two other still later tains, leaving Iidamachi at 5.55 and 8.32 p.m.:—

UP TRAINS.

Leave. Kokubuji.	Shiojiku.	Ushigome.	Arrive Iida-machi.
6.14 a.m.	7.10.....	7.28	Four minutes after leaving Ushigome.
8.30 a.m.	9.19.....	9.37	
9.09 a.m.	10.02.....	10.24	
11.29 a.m.	12.14.....	12.32	
12.04 p.m.	12.56.....	1.18	
2.18 p.m.	3.09.....	3.27	
2.59 p.m.	3.57.....	4.19	
5.13 p.m.	6.06.....	6.24	
5.57 p.m.	6.52.....	7.10	
8.38 p.m.	9.26.....	9.48	

The trees will be at their best between the 10th and 13th instants.

A LIFE FOR A LIFE.

THE *Miyako Shimbun* has a sad story of heroic devotion to tell. It appears that on the evening of the 16th ultimo a fire broke out, in consequence of an overturned *kotatsu*, in the house of a villager residing at Amatsu-mura, Niigata Prefecture. The master of the house and his eldest son were unfortunately absent from home, where remained the old mother, an invalid of 71 years of age, the wife, Yae, and five children between the ages of four and thirteen. The house was already filled with

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smoke when Yae discovered that it was on fire. Panic-stricken she at once sprang to the bed of her venerable mother-in-law and carried the sick woman out of the now blazing house. She then ran back through the flames for her children, but while she was searching for them in the blinding smoke the house collapsed, the devoted wife and her little ones thus being burnt to death. After the flames had been extinguished the charred remains of Yae, clasping her youngest boy, were found, and close beside her lay the almost unrecognisable corpses of the other children. The old grandmother was also severely burned while being carried out of the house and it is feared that she will not survive her injuries. The grief of the father and the eldest son, on their return, is said to have been terrible to behold; while the villagers talk of erecting a monument to the memory of the brave though unfortunate wife.

THE JUVENILE TONIC SOL-FA CHORAL SOCIETY.

At a meeting held in the vestibule of the Public Hall on Thursday afternoon, the President made the gratifying announcement that after paying all expenses, the concert realized the sum of $137.30 for the benefit of the Society. The Hon. Treasurer also "reported a fair balance in hand from members' subscriptions; therefore the Society may be said to be in a flourishing condition. In a few words, Mrs. Patton congratulated the members upon the concert having been financially, as it certainly had been musically, a success, and remarked that every concert they gave only tended to prove more conclusively the value and importance of the Tonic Sol-fa system of musical education. She regretted having to announce the approaching departure of Master Mollison, but said there would shortly be several additions to their numbers. Mrs. Patton then proposed a vote of thanks to those whose kind assistance and liberality had materially aided the efforts of the young people—namely, Miss Bloxham for voice-training, Mr. Beart for directing rehearsals, Mr. Brown of Moutrie & Co. for the hire of two pianos—one a grand, on extremely liberal terms, Mrs. Jarmain for floral decorations, and the four daily journals for large reductions in their advertising rates. This was seconded and carried unanimously. The Hon. Secretary then proposed a vote of thanks to Mrs. Patton, which was heartily responded to, and the meeting terminated.

ATTEMPTED ESCAPE OF THE "AUSTRIAN COUNT."

The Austrian Lloyd's steamer *Marie Valerie*, which arrived from Kobe this morning, says the Calcutta *Daily News* of the 6th ult., brought an Austrian prisoner, *en route* for Trieste. At Hongkong the prisoner made his escape but was recaptured. After leaving Colombo, between Trevandrum and Quilon, and in close proximity to a fleet of fishing boats, the prisoner jumped overboard. A cutter was at once lowered, but before the man could be reached, he had been picked up by a fishing-boat, whence he was taken back on board. The man could not swim, but before taking a "header" into the briny deep he had concealed a life-buoy round his waist. This is doubtless the gentleman who posed as an Austrian Count, and was accused at Yokohama of robbing a passenger who came up with him from Hongkong on the same steamer.—*Chronicle.*

NOTICE TO MARINERS.

The following notice to mariners in reference to the Buoyage of Hainan Strait, in the Kiungchow District of the China Sea, has been issued from the Coast Inspector's Office of the Imperial Chinese Maritime Customs:—Notice is hereby given that the Riversdale Rock, which lies to the south-eastward of Hainan Head, with Single Palm bearing S. 69½° W., magnetic, distant about $18\frac{6}{10}$ cables, and which has a depth of 3¼ fathoms on it at low water of spring tides, is now marked by a *black* conical Buoy, surmounted by a black triangular cage. The Buoy is moored in 9¼ fathoms, about 1½ cables to the north-eastward of the rock, and must be left on the port hand by vessels entering the Strait from the eastward. The Magpie Rock Buoy has been removed. Directions.—With the Riversdale Rock Buoy in the position above described, and the Hainan Head Bank Buoy and Hainan Reef Buoy in their advertised positions, vessels using the South Channel should steer to pass the two former Buoys at about 3 cables, taking care to guard against being set towards the shore, and remembering that it is safe to borrow towards the banks on the starboard hand—of which the lead, which should be kept going, will give warning—while on the other side the bottom is rocky and uneven and the lead gives no warning. The Hainan Reef Buoy may be rounded at a distance of 1 cable or more at discretion.

THE "MIYAKO SHIMBUN."

On the 7th instant the *Miyako Shimbún*, probably the cleanest and most carefully edited of all the metropolitan journals of the second rank, issued its three thousandth number. During the eight years of its existence the paper has flourished exceedingly, and it is now very popular not only in Tokyo but in the interior as well, the circulation being said to be considerably over twenty thousand. In accordance with Japanese journalistic custom, our contemporary issued a very pretty lithographic supplement, composed of a number of poems, in the *waka* style, on the subject of the "Great Victories in the Japan-China War." These were followed by a score or so of congratulatory odes, all of them being very prettily worded and sincerely complimentary. Among the names of the contributors we noticed several of the best writers of the day, notably those that stand in the first rank of modern Japanese poets. The *Miyako Shimbun* is certainly to be congratulated upon the success hitherto achieved, and we wish it a prosperous future.

THE WAR FROM A CHINESE STANDPOINT.

The *Yomiuri Shimbun* translates a number of paragraphs from Chinese papers published in Shanghai and elsewhere. They give an excellent idea of the way in which war news is placed before the Chinese reading public. We select a few of the most striking paragraphs:—

March 24th.—Twelve Japanese men-of-war to-day attacked Makung. Two of them were sunk and two others badly injured, the rest of the fleet making their escape in great confusion. Though the fighting was very hot and severe, we are glad to announce that no harm was done to our forts. Our forces have won a complete victory this time. We have no doubt that our brave soldiers will annihilate the Japanese hereafter, and that we shall receive the news of a long succession of victories.

March 25th.—The inhabitants of Tientsin have ever avoided lighting signal-fires in the vicinity of the foreign settlements, which is considered as a "Cave of Peace." Nearly all the houses in the British settlement are now filled with people who desire to avoid anything connected with the horrors of war. In the French Concession rents have gone up to double what they were. Many people have left Chihli for the southern provinces, and all passenger-boats on the canals and rivers are crowded. Fares have risen considerably in consequence.

March 26th.—Our Envoy Plenipotentiary to Japan, Viceroy Li, who has been consulting daily with the Japanese Premier about the terms of peace, has been shot by one Koyama. Li was wounded severely in the face. Koyama is said to be a young man of about twenty-one years of age. He was instantly arrested by the Japanese police. From the fact that so young a man should commit such an atrocious crime we can easily see how unrighteous are the acts of the Japanese people. We do not yet know whether our Ambassador will recover, or whether indeed the conferences will continue.

March 27th.—Koyama, the would-be assassin of the Viceroy, is, we now learn, a *soshi*. We suppose what the Japanese call *soshi* are similar to the "vagabonds" of Shanghai, only the former are plainly worse than the latter, for they openly violate the laws in the name of righteousness. It was a member of this class who attempted the life of the present Czar of Russia while His Majesty was in Japan.

We all joined in a joyous shout on hearing that two Japanese war-vessels had been sunk by the Makung forts. But now news of an alarming nature has been received. A telegram from a foreign resident in Amoy states that Panghu Island has been occupied by the Japanese. The plan of attack adopted by the Japanese was a very deceptive one it appears. At first their ships steamed to and fro at a great distance from the island, and so managed to make our forts exhaust all their ammunition at an impossible range. Then, suddenly approaching the coast, they made a heavy attack, and it was at this moment that two of their ships were sunk, as we have already informed our readers.

Several hundred female soldiers have recently passed through Cho-ka-wan. They were all very tall and each had copper rings in her ears. They were divided into bands of ten each, and marched steadily in the direction of Shantung. People say that this is an Amazonian regiment led by the widow of General Sa-ho-ki, for the purpose of taking vengeance on the Japanese for the death of her husband, who, it will be remembered, fell in the battle of Phyöngyang. We cannot vouch for the truth of this report.

March 28th.—The Pescadores are in the hands of the Japanese. The defence of Formosa is now of the most urgent importance. Those who are charged with the responsibility of defending our southern littoral, must check the invaders in time. Tientsin and Taku are, of course, safe; but not so Foochow and Amoy.

A NUMEROUS FAMILY.

We read in the *Miyako Shimbun* that a wealthy farmer of Matsuye, in Shimane Prefecture (Izumo), the other day celebrated his eighty-eighth birthday—which is one of the few birthdays in a life-time that the Japanese do think worthy of special observance. The old man is in robust health and accustomed to work daily in the fields, though he is far beyond any possibility of want. On the day in question no less than sixty-three direct descendants of the veteran were present: seven children, thirty-eight grandchildren, and eighteen great-grand children. The whole neighbourhood turned out to make the celebration as effective as possible. A special feature were some *no*-dances got up by the old man's family, representing various scenes in the life of their progenitor. The aged farmer himself took active part in all that was going on; indeed "acted more like a young man of forty than an octogenarian," remarks our contemporary in conclusion.

THREE PORTUGUESE ARRESTED.

During the course of Friday, as the result of investigations, three well-known members of the Portuguese community of Yokohama were arrested for alleged swindling in conjunction with Japanese, and lodged in Tobe gaol, where their case is awaiting investigation. The parties charged with the alleged fraud are A. C. Barradas, an *employé* of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, V. C. Barradas, a clerk in the employ of Mr. W. J. S. Shand, and J. A. da Fonseca, doing a small curio and commission business. The brothers Barradas were arrested at their own residence shortly after eleven o'clock, Fonseca in the afternoon at 3 o'clock on his return from a tiffin party.

THE WRONG PARTY.

That great confusion can result from near-sightedness is amusingly illustrated in a story told by a vernacular paper. In a certain household in Tokyo there are two sisters both rather good-looking, though the elder is described as being a bit *passée*. The younger sister, a month or so ago, plighted her troth to an eligible young man, and a few days ago the wedding ceremony was celebrated, at the bride's house, contrary to custom. The *nakodo*, or middle-man, to whose adept agency the marriage was due, was of course present on the occasion, in all the glory of success. Unfortunately, he chanced to be extremely short-sighted, and so when the time came for the bride to empty the *san-san-ku*, or thrice-three mystic cups of *saké*, with the bridegroom, he called up the elder sister instead of the younger. The bridegroom was considerably mystified at this proceeding and went on with the ceremony, while the elder sister, nothing loath, smilingly filled the goblets and proceeded to play the blushing bride to the life. The real bride looked on a few moments in horror and then sprang to her feet in a rage. What! was she to be discarded for her elder sister? Had not the bridegroom promised to marry her and no one else, and was she to see another chosen before her very eyes? But enough! she would at once leave this heartless world; and then her spirit should come back to torment her faithless lover and treacherous

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supplanter. This brought everybody to their senses. The bridegroom emphatically declared that he would wed none but the lady of his choice, and was about to give the middleman striking proofs of his real predilection when the latter, consumed with shame, said that it had all been a mistake of his wretched eyes. The mutual resemblance of the sisters had misled him; there was no attempt on his part to deceive. He begged that the real bride might be substituted at once for her deputy, and that the ceremony should proceed. It took some time, however, to smooth the ruffled feathers of the younger sister; she finally did consent to take her proper place. The nine cups of wine were once more filled and emptied, and the episode was over.

THE NATIONAL MARINE INSURANCE ASSOCIATION, LIMITED.

THE following is the Report presented at the twelfth ordinary General Meeting, held on 13th February last:—The Directors beg to place before the Shareholders the Accounts for the past year, duly examined and certified by the Auditors. Underwriting Account, 1892.—This Account was closed on 31st December last, with a balance of £14,167. 6s. 0d., and after making the usual adjustments, for Interest and charges, there remains a Credit balance of £6,015. 18s. 7d. Underwriting Account, 1893.—The Claims paid in the second year have amounted to £70,707. 14s. 1d., leaving a Credit balance of £28,640. 14s. 10d. on the 31st December, 1894. Underwriting Account, 1894.—The Net Premium were £137,999. 5s. 3d., and the Claims paid amounted to £43,124. 6s. 0d., equivalent to 31·25 per cent., leaving a balance of £94,874. 19s. 3d. The Board recommend a Dividend of 5 per cent. to the Shareholders, free of income tax.

POWDERED AND PAINTED.

THE *Mesamashi* complains that students nowadays are not what they used to be. They think too much of personal adornment and too little of their books. Quite recently, says our contemporary, the pupils of a certain high-grade establishment in Tokyo have taken to the use of cathamine and face-powder. So prevalent has the fashion become that the directors have had to issue a stringent order against the use of cosmetics, threatening with expulsion those who, in future, enter a class-room with rouged lips and whitened complexions. This sounds incredible, yet may be true; but so far as our (*Japan Mail*) experience goes we have found the average Japanese student anything rather than dressy or mindful of his personal appearance. On the contrary, a decided disorderliness of dress is the rule rather than the exception.

TWO EASTER HYMNS.

THE Rev. E. Champneys Irwine, M.A., Rector of Christ Church, Yokohama, has composed two Easter Hymns of exceptional devotional charm. One is set to Ralph Harrison's tune, "Warrington," and is based on "The resurrection of life"—John 5.-29. The first and last verses are as follows:—

O Christ, arisen from the tomb
With light and life immortal crowned,
Returning from the realms of gloom
We hail Thee, Traveller renowned.
* * * * *
O Risen Saviour! hold us fast,
That we may conquer in the strife:
Waking or sleeping find at last
The Resurrection and the Life!

The second Hymn, entitled "The Garden of God," is set to the tune "Amaranth." The poetical similes are peculiarly appropriate both to the season of the Church's year and the subject treated.

THE EDUCATIONAL MUSEUM.

WE understand that unusual activity prevails at present in the Educational Museum at Uyeno Park. The various cabinets and specimens are undergoing a thorough inspection, while new and much more complete catalogues are shortly to be issued. The Museum is rich in the possession of a fine site and buildings capable of exhibiting three or four times the number of specimens now on view; it does not, indeed, attract the attention it deserves, for several of the departments are unique in their way and admirably classified. Besides this, the staff is exceptionally energetic and the management leaves nothing that could be desired. Under the circumstances, an average of two hundred visitors daily is comparatively small, and ought to be increased. And here again the entrance-fee is disproportionate to the interest of the Museum. It ought either to be double or even treble what it is, or free to all.

DEATH OF A NAGASAKI RESIDENT.

THE death is announced of Mr. William Hooper, of the Medical Hall, Nagasaki. He only arrived at Kobe a few days ago to be treated in the International Hospital there. It is almost twenty years since Mr. Hooper came out to Yokohama to join the firm of Brett & Co., and seventeen years since he went into business for himself at the southern port, where by industry and care he succeeded in building up an excellent connection. His funeral was conducted on Saturday according to Masonic rites by Wor. Bro. Enslie.

THE BELGIAN VICE CONSULATE IN TOKYO.

WE are asked to state that Mr. Alexander G. Mosle has been appointed Belgian Vice-Consul in Tokyo.

VICEROY LI AND THE PRESIDENT OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The Viceroy Li is represented as having declared, on the occasion of the visit of Mr. Kusumoto, President of the House of Representatives, that the prospect of the latter's coming had been a daily source of pleasure to him. Very likely it had. In the eyes of Li Chung-tang a Parliament is probably a kind of legislative toy, very apt to get out of order and to defy the controlling efforts of its manufacturer. There is no doubt that one of the mistakes made by China in the days preceding the war, one of the misconceptions that betrayed her into allowing matters to drift beyond the range of peaceful management, was a notion that political dissensions disabled Japan from showing a united front toward any foreign nation. Many foreign observers shared that error, forgetting the most emphatic lesson taught by the history of Parliamentary institutions in Japan, namely, that nothing except the fire of a common animosity seems capable of fusing party differences into a homogeneous whole. The one aim of every political leader seeking to organise an effective opposition, has been to find a nexus that could bind together the heterogeneous elements of the anti-Government wing, without requiring them to make any sacrifice of their mutual antipathies. A foreign war was absolutely certain to still the voices of party dissension, but China failed to appreciate the fact. However, the Japanese Diet presents a curious spectacle to an old Oriental Autocrat like the Viceroy of Chili, and since he could not hope to see the Lower House in session, he must have been pleased to interview its President at all events. The Viceroy is proverbial for the directness of his methods. He exercises the privilege of greatness to the full by propounding to his visitors questions of the most horribly embarrassing character, not so much perhaps, with the intention of eliciting information, as for the purpose of observing their adroitness or clumsiness of evasion. According to the *Yomiuri Shimbun*, he inquired Mr. Kusumoto's opinion about the Oriental Problem, not an unnatural question to address to the President of the House of Representatives. Mr. Kusumoto, however, unwilling to be interrogated on such a subject, replied that the time was not opportune for its discussion, an answer betraying more bluntness than tact. Then the Viceroy went on to ask what sentiment the Japanese nation entertained with reference to the declared purpose of the would-be assassin, Koyama, and there, of course, Mr. Kusumoto was at liberty to be diffusive. The interview is described as having ended with a suggestion from the Viceroy that the President of the Lower House should take a trip to China, the old statesman's covert notion being, perhaps, that Mr. Kusumoto might derive some instruction and profit from observing, at firsthand, the usages and customs of a huge empire where the "useful trouble" of parliaments has never obtruded itself upon the hoary-headed traditions of government, and where, none the less, individual liberty is enjoyed on a tolerably large scale. It was altogether a one-sided interview. We do not read that the President of the House of Representatives put any questions to the Viceroy or attempted to elicit any opinions from him. Li always does contrive to play the *rôle* of questioner, and apparently he found no difficulty in adhering to his habit in Mr. Kusumoto's case.

COUNT SOYEJIMA ON CHINA'S CAPACITY TO AVENGE HERSELF.

A Representative of the *Hochi* waited upon Count Soyejima to hear what that much respected authority on China had to say about the situation.

Among other things, the Count observed that from what he knew of China and the Chinese, he did not think it possible for that country to attempt any effective revenge for the miserable defeat sustained by her in the present war. People say that China is a big country, a rich country, and a country having at its command plenty of fighting men. But the Count does not think so. In his opinion China is neither big nor rich, nor has she command of any great quantity of fighting material. Years ago he told Earl Li that there is no unity in China; that each province is, as it were, an independent country, the whole forming a congeries of States within one frontier, and nothing has since occurred to change that view. China, therefore, cannot be called a big country in the ordinary sense of the expression. Then again, the Chinese Government does not enjoy the people's confidence. No one steps forward to offer assistance when a domestic loan is floated. Can such a country be considered rich? She is populous, certainly, containing from 300 to 400 million souls. But not being joined together by any common interest, these multitudes are merely a congregation of people each intent on pursuing his individual interest, which too often conflicts with that of others. They are not one mass, inspired with fidelity to one ruler and love of one country. It is on account of their want of common interest and common sentiment that the Chinese soldiers, numerous as they are, sustain miserable defeats wherever they fight. Should China, by any possibility seek to wreak vengeance upon Japan, she must first change all these divided sentiments, and bring the country and the people into one homogeneous whole. Then arises the question, is such a unification of China possible? Count Soyejima does not think so. He does not believe that there is now in China a man capable of accomplishing the gigantic task. Li Hung-chang alone might hope for success did he inaugurate the grand work, but there is none to succeed him. The Chinese have studied the ethics of Confucius wrongly. What they know of the cult tends rather to injure than to benefit the country. Stubbornly adhering to the ancient teaching of Confucius, and without any idea of adapting it to present requirements, the Chinese can never be made to learn what the civilization of the West has to teach, unless acquaintance with Western science becomes a qualification for appointment to high and lucrative office. Thus, all things considered, the Count is decidedly of the opinion that it is impossible for China to attempt any formidable revenge upon her foe.

Major-General Black was directed to start on 28th ult. to take up the command of the troops in Hongkong, in succession to Major-General Barker.

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WAR NEWS.

Saturday, April 6th.

All reports agree that the Viceroy's wound is now sufficiently healed to permit of his resumption of business. The *Kokkai* reproduces a conversation said to have taken place between Surgeon-General Sato and the wounded Statesman, in which the physician described the character of the Emperor's residence at Hiroshima and the noble acts of the Empress on behalf of the wounded, both Chinese and Japanese. The Viceroy expressed great admiration of such conduct and said that he now for the first time understood the cause of the bravery shown by the Japanese troops in battle.

We have already re-produced, from correspondence appearing in the vernacular press, tolerably full accounts of the First Army's operations against Newchwang, of its subsequent march to Yingkow after the capture of the latter by Yamaji's force, and of its participation in the battle at Tienchwangtai. From the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* we now take an account of the First Division's (Second Army) advance against Yingkow on the 6th of the March :—"At 5 a.m. on the 6th of March, Yamaji's Division, with the Second Brigade under Major-General Nishi and a Battalion of Cavalry, set out for Keuchiayin-fang, Major-General Nogi being in command of the left wing. The First Brigade, reaching Chiangchia-fang, formed order of battle and advanced towards Yingkow. Colonel Oki commanded the van, which consisted of the First and Second Battalions, a force of Suppers, and Field Artillery. The army as it proceeded reconnoitered the enemy's position, and the Division went into quarters for the night at Keuchiayin-fang, Nogi's Brigade halting at Kanchiakio-fang. The following morning (7th) a junction was to be effected with the First Army for the purpose of a general attack, but so soon as our advance guard reached Kanchiakio-fang, the Yingkow garrison, training the littoral guns on us from the west, opened fire. Their shells fell wide, but as it was not known what force held the place and what the plan of defence was, Colonel Oki halted the Kanchiakio-fang force, and sent Lieutenant Shiki with a company to reconnoitre Yingkow. The Lieutenant had advanced five or six hundred metres when three of the enemy's troopers appeared, but without firing a shot they rode off at full speed in the direction of Yingkow. The Lieutenant's party pursuing these men, forced their way into the eastern gate of Yingkow. Immediately on seeing this, Takenaka's battalion and Kagawa's force advanced against the eastern front of the place and effected an entry. Takenaka then dispatched Captain Hongo to take possession of all the gates and of the telegraph office, and causing the rest of his troops to advance in front of the eastern gate, posted them so as to command the road leading to Tienchwangtai. The enemy seeing their line of retreat thus cut off, had to choose, as it seemed, between attempting to force a passage through the Japanese troops or simply acting on the defensive. What they did was to make their way out on the northern side, and crossing the Liao River on the ice to fall back upon Tienchwangtai. Major Takenaka, perceiving this manœuvre, sent two companies to cross the river higher up and open fire on the retreating Chinese. The distance was from a thousand to 1,500 metres, but several hundred of the enemy were killed or wounded. It was now noon. The numbers of the enemy escaping from the west or north by the bank of the river were constantly increasing. Major Takenaka therefore pushed his men farther on so as to bring the fugitives under closer range, but their speed in retreat saved them from effective pursuit. Kagawa's troops were by this time within about 5,000 metres of the east gate of Yingkow. They received orders from Colonel Oki to attack the Yingkow forts on the Western shore. Pushing on at once to the forts, they found them abandoned, not a Chinese soldier being in sight, and occupied them without firing a shot. The attack was now directed against the northern face, but the gate being shut and securely fastened, the Japanese troops made their way into the enemy's barracks and opened the gate. Encountering no resistance, and seeing only uniforms of the enemy thrown away here and there, our men advanced against the fort but when they got within about 50 metres, two mines burst, and blew two of the assailants to fragments. Another exploded in the neighbourhood and wounded one man. At the same time the five pieces of artillery in the litteral fort opened fire on our men, but the shells flew harmlessly over us. The guns were soon silenced by Kagawa's battalion. A search having been instituted at this stage by the Suppers, a number of mines were found before the fort. Captain Saito of the Engineers undertook to remove these and render the route safe. Kagawa's battalion, seeing the disadvantage of delivering an immediate assault, and waiting until 5.30 in the afternoon, delivered their assault from the rear. Kagawa's battalion operated against the fort on the west coast, and Major Takenaka, perceiving that the task of subduing it was difficult, added his forces to those of the assailants, intending to concentrate a number of guns on the enemy, but owing to the lateness of the hour, they waited until the next day. (Here follow some details of the work of the several battalions.) Our total loss was only two men. The Taotai Shan and the two Generals Fu and Chiao took refuge in the Western fort, but when our men came to attack it the following morning, the enemy had retreated and not a single brave was in sight. The spoils taken that day by the First Regiment were :—45 large guns ; 580 stand of rifles ; 73 barrels and boxes of gunpowder; 4 boxes of lead balls ; 500 suits of military uniforms ; 200 caps ; over 5 bags of rice ; 1 vessel-of-war, and 2 small steamers.

Monday, April 8th.

Lord Li has been appointed Plenipotentiary for the purposes of the Peace Conference, and his appointment has been formally recognised by the Japanese Government. This arrangements sems to have been contemplated by the Viceroy soon after he was wounded, but a certain time was of course necessary to effect such an important change. From the medical bulletins daily received in the capital, it would seem that the Viceroy himself should very soon be able to resume the negotiations in person, but as to that there is probably no certainty.

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* publishes a telegram sent from Bakan at 2.25 p.m. on the 6th instant, to the effect that, although the conferences have not yet been resumed, Japan's terms of peace have been made known to the Viceroy, and that an answer from him as to the re-opening of the conference, was expected that day. The *Yiji Shimpo* undertakes to give the terms, but explains that its information has no better basis than a telegram sent from London to a certain merchant. The terms are :—(1) Recognition of Korean independence ; (2) surrender of Formosa and the Pescadores ; (3) surrender of a portion of Shinking ; (4) payment of an indemnity of 300 million Taels ; and (5) grant of certain trading privileges, which are to form the subject of a special convention. These terms coincide, in effect, with those given recently by the London *Times* and telegraphed to the East. The interest of the indemnity depends, of course, on the amount, since the fact of an indemnity's being exacted is a foregone conclusion. Three hundred million Taels is equivalent to about 420 million *yen* in round numbers. It is not conceivable that China could pay such an amount at once. Certain speculators, whose names we hesitate to refer to however indirectly, are said to be eagerly watching the turn taken by the negotiations, their project being to act as China's financial representatives on the London market. Doubtless the opportunity, should it come, will be golden for them, but London will not respond largely to a loan placed for such a purpose by China in her hour of defeat. There must always remain a considerable residuum unpaid, and the manner of securing its payment will be keenly scrutinized by the world. Evidently when the London telegram speaks of a portion of the province of Shinking, it means the Liaotung peninsula and Port Arthur. As for the tradal advantages referred to, since all the Treaty Powers must profit by them in an equal degree with Japan, their inclusion in the terms made by the latter will be a general boon. We do not pretend to confirm or deny this information published by the *Yiji Shimpo*, but merely comment on it as it stands. It is to be noted, however, that an idea prevails pretty generally at Hiroshima that the Viceroy Li will return to China *re infecta*.

Two cases of cholera have occurred in the gendarmerie barracks at Hiroshima. Stringent sanitary measures have been adopted, and it is hoped that the spread of the feil disease may be checked. But accounts—non-official—from the Pescadores indicate that the malady has made its appearance on a large scale among the troops at Makung. If the numbers of deaths and seizures stated by telegram—100 of the former and five or six hundred of the latter—be correct, it will probably be necessary to put the troops into the transports and take them out to sea, a sure method of checking the spread of cholera. Probably the water in Makung is radically bad. In the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* we find a statement that the force sent ashore at the Yuenting peninsula has been relieved by a guard of infantry, but no mention is made of cholera. The prisoners that surrendered when the peninsula was invested, were in process of being conveyed to the mainland and released, at the time (March 26th) when Captain Dewa despatched the telegram from which we quote. The same message says that although the search for topedoes at the entrance to the harbour revealed nothing, and although no torpedo station or connections were found, there were nevertheless discovered in a store-house at Makung 27 electric torpedoes of Russian manufacture, and 20 submarine torpedoes with their various appliances.

The act of the Chinese soldiers in firing upon Captain Aoki, of the Japanese Staff, has naturally caused some excitement in Japan. Captain Aoki, it will be remembered, despatched two messengers, at an interval of 12 hours, to intimate to the Chinese Commander-in-chief that an armistice had been concluded, and that a meeting between the commanders in the field for the purpose of arranging details, being included in the articles of the convention, he desired to have a convenient time and place fixed for such a meeting. No answer being received from the Chinese, though ample time was allowed, Captain Aoki set out with a flag of truce flying and a bugle sounding, the result being that at a distance of about 2½ miles from the point of departure, his little party was attacked by the Chinese and compelled to beat a retreat, one of the number being severely wounded. The conclusion first arrived at by the Japanese press was either that the Chinese Government had failed to comply with the conditions of the armistice by giving notice to its forces in the field, or that the notice having been duly given, the troops had not been sufficiently disciplined to obey it. If the former, then of course the Pekin Government stood convicted of failure to carry out the convention which, therefore, *de facto*, ceased to be binding ; if the latter, then Japan was entitled to demand the punishment of the offending officers and soldiers. There was also, however, the contingency that sufficient time had not elapsed for conveying the stipulated information to the Chinese troops in Manchuria. The armistice was signed on the 30th of March; the Aoki incident happened on April 2nd—an interval of three days. One of the articles of the convention stipulated that in cases where telegraphs were not available, the swiftest alternative means of communication should be availed of. Nganshan-chan, whence Captain Aoki set out, is on the road from Liaoyang to Newchwang and Tienchwangtai. There is a line of telegraph from Pekin to the Chinese positions on the coast road westward of Tienchwangtai, and there is also a line *via* Mukden to Liaoyang. That there should have been any difficulty in conveying the necessary

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intimation from Pekin is, therefore, somewhat incomprehensible. It appears, however, that on the 4th instant, the enemy sent a reply to Captain Aoki's communication, in the sense that they knew nothing about an armistice, but that a definite answer would be sent after consultation with General I. Later on, a squadron of cavalry came from the officer in command of the Heiranchan force, and asked that Captain Aoki should accompany them. But since they still professed ignorance of the armistice, Captain Aoki declined to go with them. About the same time a communication arrived from the Governor of Liaoyang. It was couched in rude language, and declared that the writer knew nothing of an armistice. As soon as these facts were telegraphed to Shimonoseki, from the Commander-in-chief of the First Army, the Minister President of State and the Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, communicated them to the Viceroy and asked him to telegraph again to Pekin. The Viceroy explained that there was no telegraph at the place where the incident had occurred—a singular assertion as it seems to us, seeing that both Liaoyang and Tienchwangtai are in telegraphic communication with Pekin—and that, consequently, it must have been necessary to forward the intelligence by horsemen from the nearest telegraph station. Doubtless at the time when Captain Aoki started from Nganshan-chan, no news of the armistice had yet reached the Chinese in that district. As to the firing on a flag of truce, Li could only say that it was the act of Tartars ignorant of the modern usages of war. He expressed sincere regrets. The *Nichi Nichi*, from which we take these particulars, denies the story that the messengers sent by the Japanese were made prisoners by the Chinese.

It is stated that H.I.H. Prince Komatsu, Commander-in-Chief of the Forces in the Field, will set out for the Liaotung peninsula on the 10th instant, and that he will be accompanied by Vice-Admiral Viscount Kabayama, Lieut.-General Kawakami, and the rest of His Imperial Highness' Staff.

Tuesday, April 9th.

The Viceroy Li, in an interview with Lieut.-General Kawakami on the 9th instant, is said to have expressed admiration of the fighting qualities shown by the Japanese Navy and Army, and to have added that he longs to see peace restored. He also asked the Lieut.-General to convey to the Emperor and Empress his profound thanks for their Majesties' solicitude on his behalf and for the medical assistance that they had caused to be given to him—assistance to which he attributes his speedy recovery.

Telegrams from the Pescadores say that since the capture of the islands, the inhabitants are gradually resuming their occupations, and seem quite reconciled to their change of rulers. Eight Chinese officers and three assistants have been sent to Japan by the *Kagoshima Maru*. We learn from the same telegrams that the spoils taken in the islands are 18 cannon, 2,463 rifles, 1,990 rounds of large-arm ammunition, 103,300 rounds of small-arm ammunition, 797 barrels of gunpowder, 550 *koku* of rice, and over 530 articles of sorts.

The *Kokkai's* account of the taking of Tienchwangtai on the 9th of March is as follows.

On the night of the 8th of March, Field-Marshal Katsura issued the following General Orders:—

1.—To-morrow the First Army, joining forces with the First Division, will attack the enemy at Tienchwangtai. The Fifth Division will form the right wing.

2.—The First Division will advance by the main road.

3.—At 5 a.m. to-morrow morning, the Independent Cavalry will set out from its quarters and, working in combination with the Fifth Brigade on the right wing, will reconnoitre Tienchwangtai.

4.—The Advance Guard, mustering on the south-east of Lakwo, will reconnoitre the enemy's position at Tienchwangtai.

5.—The various forces composing the main body of the First Division will muster at 4.30 a.m. in the fields at Newchwangtsz.

6.—The Field Artillery, composing the Third Battalion of the Third Regiment and the Sixth Battery of the main body, will muster at 2.30 a.m. on the west of Heiyingkow, and will be under the orders of Major-General Nishi. The Mortar Battery will muster at 5.30 a.m. at Lakwo.

Here follow directions relative to the various Trains, and the Orders conclude by stating that the General Staff will assemble at 4.30 a.m. with the main body.

The arrangements resulting from the above Orders were that the Third Division became the central attacking body; the First Division, the left wing, and the Fifth Division, the right wing. The van of the Third Division reaching Lakwo at 5 a.m., drew near to the left bank of the Liao river. The Main Body, mustering at Newchwangtsz, followed toward Lakwo. The First Division, forming the left wing, also pushed forward to a considerable distance. Meanwhile, the Artillery of the three Divisions, joining forces, formed one body, the number of guns, including the reserve artillery and the mortars, being 92. By 8 a.m. the guns had taken up a position on the left bank of the Liao. The enemy's artillery having already opened fire from the intrenchments, our batteries came into action, and before long the roar of the cannon reverberated like thunder. While this fierce artillery duel was in progress, our van, the Sixth Brigade of Infantry, deployed into fighting order, the First Division performing the same manœuvre, so that the attack commenced from two faces. The Sixth Brigade of Infantry, advancing along the left bank of the Liao, confronted the enemy and a hot exchange of rifle fire ensued. This had not long been in progress, when a portion of the Seventh Regiment under Major Suzuki and the Nineteenth Regiment under Major Fujimoto, each pushing to get ahead of the other, crossed the right bank of the Liao river, and leaping down on the ice, advanced over it against Tienchwangtai. The enemy at this point, demoralized by such an onset, broke and fled, heading at first for the town of Tienchwangtai, whither own troops, pursuing hotly, shot down the greater part of them. Turning now to the Fifth Division, the right wing—it had crossed the river higher up on the preceding night, and advancing in the morning, reached the north east of Tienchwangtai. There the enemy, to the number of several thousands, assembled previously at Tsaichiatien, stood on the defensive. The Fifth Division attacked vigorously and after a brief struggle the enemy retreated toward Tienchwangtai. Just at that time, the Eighteenth Regiment of the Main Body was advancing against Tienchwangtai from the north, so that the enemy found themselves caught between two fires. Thrown into great disorder, they well nigh lost all line of escape, but finally fled westward. It was now 11 a.m. Tienchwangtai was entirely in our possession. The troops entered it cheering. It had been one of the stoutest fights of the war, General Sung having put forth his whole strength to defend the place. The force under his command was 15,000 men, with 50 field-pieces—Krupps of the latest type. The infantry were armed with Mauser rifles, the greater part of which were repeaters. As for the enemy's casualties, it is difficult to ascertain them exactly, but about 1,000 corpses were found in the town of Tienchwangtai, and on the side where the First Division's attack was delivered, 250 or 260 were killed. Probably several thousands were wounded. Our casualties were 50 wounded, including a Captain and a Lieutenant, and 5 killed. Twenty or thirty thousand *koku* of rice were taken, but of the large store of arms in the town our troops did not take any, the place having been burned to the ground. Fourteen Krupp guns represented our total capture. After a rest of some hours, the troops marched back, the First Division to Yingkow, the Fifth to Haicheng, and the Third to Newchwangtsz, amid shouts of victory.

It will be observed from the above that the fighting was all over by 11 a.m. Evidently the greatest slaughter took place within Tienchwangtai after the rush made by the Seventh and Nineteenth Regiments down the Liao river on the ice, and after the pêle-mêle flight of the enemy at this point. But the *Kokkai's* correspondent leaves much to be desired in his account. He tells us nothing as to the cause of the burning of the town, nor anything about the unfortunate inhabitants. Frankly speaking, the accounts sent by Japanese correspondents to the papers they represent are the baldest and most unsatisfactory work conceivable. No one could begin to draw a map of the attack on Tienchwangtai by means of the above translation only. To this day we remain ignorant of the details of a battle that took place a month ago. The spirit of Xenophon in his most intolerable mood has possessed all the Japanese correspondents since the commencement of the war. Very remarkable, too, is the silence of the foreign correspondents. There was at any rate one foreign correspondent in Haicheng when Field-Marshal Katsura commenced, at the close of February, the series of brilliant operations that ended, on March 9th, with the battle of Tienchwangtai. But that correspondent remains silent. It is an inexplicable situation.

Wednesday, April 10th.

Public interest now centres on the cholera and the Peace negotiations. As to the latter, satisfactory progress seems to be made. Nothing official is yet published, but the general opinion appears to point to a satisfactory settlement pretty much on the basis mapped out a few days since by the *Jiji Shimpo*. The 9th instant is named by the *Yomiuri Shimbun* as the day when an agreement between the Plenipotentiaries may be looked for, but we are not disposed to credit such a hard and fast estimate. It may, however, be accepted that the negotiations are advancing, though formal conferences between the Plenipotentiaries have not yet been re-commenced. The Viceroy is now quite competent, physically, to conduct the negotiations himself. Dr. Scriba returned to Tokyo yesterday, and reports that when he left Shimonoseki, the Viceroy's speedy restoration to complete health was assured.

With regard to the cholera, there are grounds to apprehend that China may send Japan such a dose of the scourge as will avenge all the defeats suffered by the former. The Pescadores are the great source of danger. Up to the 3rd instant, according to a Hongkong telegram published by the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, there had been a thousand cases and about four hundred deaths there. Doubtless the two transports reported as arriving at Shimonoseki on the 7th instant with several cases on board, had come from the Pescadores. Japan's troops suffered terribly from cholera when they invaded Formosa over twenty years ago. The most drastic measures are being adopted to check the spread of the malady, and as the Japanese authorities are now thoroughly well equipped for such work and fully experienced in carrying it out, they may succeed. There has been no recurrence of the malady at Moji, and the cases that have occurred at Hiroshima are as yet only sporadic. The *Nichi Nichi* says that the Government was prepared for much sickness among the troops when it despatched an expedition to the Pescadores.

Thursday, April 11th.

Beyond the fact that the peace negotiations are evidently reaching their final stage, we are without information from Shimonoseki. But the tendency to believe that the conclusion of peace is near at hand grows stronger daily among the general public. The armistice, although the circumstances under which it was granted divested it, to a great extent, of the character usually attaching to such truces, and forbade the hope that it might be regarded as a tolerably sure precursor of peace, has nevertheless been of service by accustoming the nation to gradually wean itself of the craving for warlike excitement created by the events of the past eight months. Then, again, we have the satisfactory certainty that Japan is not attempting to withhold her terms from China. Many persons supposed that, since the integrity of the

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Viceroy's mission was open to grave doubt; since there was reason to suspect that his object might be merely to arrive at a knowledge of Japan's aims in order to employ them as the ground of another appeal to Occidental interference, the Plenipotentiaries of this Empire might hesitate to show their hand until they could extract some assurance of China's honesty of purpose. For ourselves, we never entertained any such apprehension. So soon as the Japanese Government consented to receive the Viceroy in the character of a peace envoy, it was bound to treat him with frankness, and not to place in his path any difficulties other than those inseparable from his function. To receive him as a Peace Plenipotentiary and then to conceal from him any part of this country's demands would have been unworthy of the Cabinet, and above all of men like Count Ito and Viscount Mutsu. Such a course would also have given colour to the falsehoods circulated by Japan's enemies in connection with the Chang mission, namely, that the reception of the Envoys was a mere farce and that even though their credentials had been in due form, instead of being palpably faulty, the Japanese would have found some other excuse to send them home unsuccessful. In truth, Japan was just as ready to conclude peace when Chang came to Hiroshima, as she was when, a few days later, she consented to receive the Viceroy Li in the same capacity. One very childish critic inferred that because certain baskets of coal littered the Kobe wharf when Chang and his suite embarked for Hiroshima, Japan was determined to reject his overtures of peace. But apart from that silly person, there were certainly some rational observers who thought that no peace mission could have succeeded at that time. The best evidence that could be furnished of their error is the fact that Japan has frankly and fully submitted her demands to the Li mission, and that they have also been communicated to all the Foreign Powers. She would have done precisely the same in Chang's case had he come duly accredited. It is significant, also, that we hear nothing of interference on the part of any Western State. There has been great talk among irresponsible journalists about the extravagance of Japan's pretensions and the certainty that they would provoke a vigorous protest from Europe, or at least from one or two European Powers. But it seems that these prophets were entirely mistaken, both as to Japan's excessive ambition and as to European interference. The Powers appear content. In fact, it might easily have been inferred that if they shrank from stepping between two belligerents during the progress of the war, they would leave them equally uninterrupted to settle the terms of peace. No Power appears to have taken any step in the slightest degree objectionable to Japan except that "north-European State," alluded to by the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, which alone has revealed the terms to the press, all the rest regarding the communication as confidential. To China this tacit acquiescence must mean a great deal. If she learns from Europe's attitude that the consequences of rejecting the terms now formulated by the Japanese Government must be on her own head, she will hesitate to isolate herself from the sympathy on which she counted so much in the last resort. Thus, on the whole, everything seems to make for peace. Japan's action about the armistice undoubtedly produced an excellent effect in Europe, as witness the telegrams of congratulation sent to her by various Powers—telegrams, we may note *en passant*, that ought to have effectually silenced the foolish suspicion that the armistice had been granted by Japan involuntarily, in consequence of a peremptory demand from the European Powers collectively. That effect has certainly been increased by learning that one of Japan's terms is the granting by China of additional tradal privileges, by which all the world will benefit, and that the terms—which we believe to be pretty much on the lines recently indicated by the *Fiji Shimpo*—are, on the whole, temperate. A good deal is said about the fact that Japan is moving large bodies of troops toward her basis of operations against the coast of Pechili. But it is perfectly plain that until peace is assured, Japan must not relax her warlike preparations. Failure of the present negotiations would mean that an army must be directed against Pekin at once. Already invaluable time has been lost—nearly a month of the very best season for campaigning in Pechili. If peace is not to come yet, Japan must not lose another week in pushing on. Nothing could be more thoughtless or unjust than to infer that because she shows ordinary wisdom in preparing for very possible contingencies, she has no serious intention of making peace now.

The departure of His Imperial Highness Prince Komatsu and his staff has been postponed for three days—from the 10th to the 13th instant. It looks very much as though these postponements had some connection with the Peace Negotiations.

The *Fomiuri Shimbun* says that China's purchases of war material from a certain foreign state—presumably Germany—since the commencement of the war, have amounted to 70 millions of dollars, and the fact has been clearly indicated by some circumstances—of which no explanation is vouchsafed—in connection with the spoils taken by Japan. The figure is too large to be accepted unhesitatingly.

The arrest of Tonghak rebels continues in Korea. The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* reports that a hundred were made prisoners on the 6th instant, and that a further capture was expected the same night.

We have no further intelligence as to the cholera in the Pescadores. There *is* hope that it is abating.

THE PROSPECTS OF THE TEA MARKET.

According to a certain authority on the tea industry, the tea market is likely to present a brisker appearance this year than last, on account of the steady widening of the channel of disposal. This is chiefly due to the greater attention that the producers have devoted to the processes of their industry and to their earnest desire to cater for the tastes of foreign customers. The various tea guilds, for instance, have striven to ascertain the opinions of important foreign tea markets, and have, with that object, sent samples of various descriptions and even despatched special committees. All such exertions have had satisfactory results, says the *Mainichi*, and the orders from foreign countries for tea have steadily increased within the last few years. The happy idea of opening tea shops at the World's Fair in Chicago did much towards bringing Japanese tea to the notice of foreign customers. Japanese tea has come to be greatly talked of and its flavour highly relished by the higher classes. This is specially the case in America, and in Russia also, to a certain extent. What is now desirable is that stricter attention be paid to the production and preparation of the leaf in Japan, and that the exportation of inferior tea be carefully avoided. Last year, owing to the unusual fluctuations of the silver market, tradal depression was felt all over Europe and America, but now that the disturbance is fairly over, and trade has more or less regained its former activity, the tea market will also feel the improvement. The chief thing to be apprehended in this connection is want of cōoperation among the wholesale merchants, and between them and the producers, tending, at times, to hostility. It is to be regretted that the efforts of the Central Guild last year to restrain the rivalry between wholesale merchants, and its advice to local manufacturers and goods owners, more or less embittered the tea men and only resulted in trouble. If the matter continue unremedied, prices will become irregular, and the shrewd foreigner will step forward and take advantage of the rivalry between Japanese tea men. It is feared, therefore, that although the prospects of the tea industry are, thus far, very bright, want of cordial cōoperation on the part of the tea men may lead to disastrous results.

THE KOREAN LOAN COMPLICATIONS.

The trouble between Japan and Korea in connection with the loan that the former offered to furnish out of its War Fund, has been compromised. The exact facts are as follow, according to a telegram despatched by the *Shogyo's* correspondent in Sōul at 5 p.m. of the 1st instant:—

The negotiations about the loan were concluded by mutual concession and the agreement was signed on the 31st ult. Of the loan of three million *yen*, one half is to take the form of silver coin and the other of convertible notes, and the interest is to be 5 per cent. per annum. The sum is to be repaid in yearly instalments from the 6th year, and Japan's security is to be the Korean land tax. Customs duties are excluded. The much discussed question appears, therefore, to have been settled favourably for Korea. The particulars of the failure of the first negotiations, as sent by the Sōul correspondent of the *Asahi*, are worth translating, as they are interesting in many respects.

The participators in the negotiations were Count Inouye and Mr. Suyematsu, on Japan's side, and the Home Minister and Vice-Minister of the Treasury on the part of Korea. The chief terms offered at first by the Japanese Commissioners were that they should hand over the loan of three million *yen* entirely in convertible notes and that their security should be the customs duties of the three treaty ports and the land tax of certain provinces. The Korean Commissioners asked that the loan should take the form of silver coin only, and that, as the Customs duties were already hypothecated for a foreign loan, the land tax of all the eight provinces of Korea should be pledged to Japan. Repeated conferences ensued between the representatives of the two countries, and at last, on the 23rd ult., the following resolutions were arrived at: (1) that half of the loan be paid in silver and the other half, in notes; (2) that as long as the Customs duties are security for another foreign loan, the land tax of all the eight provinces of Korea shall be pledged to Japan; (3) that, as an act of special concession, expenses incurred in handing over the sum of three millions to the Korean Government be borne by Japan; (4) that the loan be left unpaid for three years, but be redeemed within two years from that time. The two Korean Commissioners declared themselves satisfied with the generous terms offered by Japan, and promised to give a definite answer after deliberation with the other members of the Cabinet. The Japanese Commissioners were therefore greatly surprised and displeased when, on the evening of the same day, the Minister of the Treasury sent his subordinate with a letter to Mr. Suyematsu, retracting the consent to the terms given by himself and his fellow Commissioner only a few hours previously. The letter said that the Korean Cabinet desired to have two-thirds of the loan in silver and only one-third in notes, and also that the term of repayment be prolonged to 10 years, if Korea, on the expiration of the period prescribed by Japan, should find it difficult to redeem the loan.

Mr. Suyematsu replied by letter to the effect that he could not comply with the demands of the Cabinet. The Minister of the Treasury then sent a remarkable despatch to the Japanese Minister, saying that as the Cabinet could not arrive at any other resolution, Mr. Suyematsu should, after consultation with the Japanese Ambassador, return home and acquaint his Government with the wish of the Korean Cabinet, so that Japan might exert herself on Korea's behalf and procure the funds necessary for the accomplishment of Korean reforms, on more favourable terms. Mr. Suyematsu replied briefly that he did not understand the Korean Government, and that, as there was no further reason for him to negotiate with the Finance Minister on the subject, the latter should do so in future with the Japanese Ambassador. Mr. Suyematsu left for home on the morning of the 24th ult. and the negotiations were broken off. The extent of the gratitude of the Korean Government

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Japan for the aid extended to it may be judged by its action on the occasion of Mr. Suyematsu's departure. On his arrival in Korea, he was heartily welcomed, ostensibly, at least, but when he set out on his return journey, not one of the Ministers condescended to see him off. The sudden change in the attitude of the Korean Cabinet in connection with the loan is attributed to the artifices of the Home Minister, Boku, who, although himself a Commissioner, did not take part in the important conferences, but is said to have busied himself in taking over the other members of the Cabinet, so that the negotiations might fail. He was not displeased with any special condition in the terms, but was opposed to the whole scheme, for his policy appears to be to reject, as far as possible, anything that might lead Japan to interfere in Korean affairs. Even he, however, was convinced that money must be obtained from Japan in order to reform the administration of his country, but he seemed to think that more favourable terms might be obtained if Korea held aloof a little. Boku considered that Japan was bound to assist Korea for the sake of maintaining her own dignity in the eyes of the world, and was, therefore, obliged to furnish the funds required for Korean reform. Count Inouye also is supposed to be eager to get the money for Korea. Be that as it may, if the *Shegyo's* telegram is authentic, and we see no reason to doubt it, Boku's cunning policy seems to have been more or less successful, for the terms given are more favourable to Korea than those at first offered by Japan.

* * *

Mr. Hoshi Toru is again in Sōul. Opinions differ as to why he has been called there, some saying that he is to become a legal adviser of the Korean Government, others that he is to relieve Count Inouye of his post of Japanese Representative in Korea. At any rate, it seems probable that he will not return home for some time, and the Tokyo papers report that Mr. Hoshi intends to resign his seat in the Lower House.

THE SHIMONOSEKI INCIDENT.

It is interesting to read how the news of the Shimonoseki affair was received by the Cabinet Ministers of Japan or by others of equal importance. It is said that when the intelligence reached the Premier, who had parted with the unfortunate Chinese Plenipotentiary only a few minutes before the occurrence of that regrettable incident, he became highly indignant, and exclaimed to those around him that had the culprit been dissatisfied with the negotiations, he should have shot him, the Premier, not the Chinese Envoy. For did not the issue of the negotiations depend almost entirely upon the Japanese Plenipotentiaries who were in a position to dictate terms of peace, and not upon the Chinese Envoy, who was a suppliant for peace? The Premier then hastened to call upon the wounded Ambassador, and returning from the latter's residence, said, with profound dejection, that though the affair was simply the act of a fanatical individual, the stain inflicted upon the nation's honour and reputation would assuredly be great. Had the bullet entered Count Ito's body and not that of the Viceroy Li, the matter would have been comparatively trivial, for the death of the Premier under such circumstances would inflict no particular loss on Japan.

When the news was telegraphed to Field-Marshal Count Yamagata, Minister of State for War, he happened to be in his study perusing some important documents. The telegram at once plunged him into the greatest sorrow and indignation. He hurridly rose from his desk, and cried out in a voice choked with anger:—"The scoundrel has undone the great achievements of the nation." He then called for his carriage and proceeded to Head-quarters. On receipt of the news Viscount Kabayama, Commander-in-chief of the Navy, left his hotel in haste for Head-quarters, and when he came back he seemed to be harassed with painful thoughts, for he sat up all night absorbed in meditation. We take these details from the vernacular press.

KOREAN NEWS.—CONFESSION OF KIM'S ASSASSINS.

At last the assassins of the late Vice-Minister of Justice have made a clean breast of their doings, and the particulars of their nefarious scheme have been revealed. Everybody supposed, writes the correspondent of the *Asahi* and the *Kokkai*, that the assassins of the late Vice-Minister of Justice must be common murderers, tools of the Machiavelian old statesmen of Korea who sought to remove, in that summary way, obstacles standing in his path. Sōul has therefore, been taken by surprise on learning that the assassination of Kim was merely a preliminary, and that underlying the act was a grave plot of treason. The particulars have been obtained by strict examination of two of the gang, and as the accounts independently given by them tally with each other, there are no good grounds for doubting their authenticity. Kan Kiyo, one of the two assassins now in prison, when closely questioned, confessed that in October last he was forced into the secret confederation. The plot must have been already concocted at that time and its main object, as disclosed with all reserve to Kan and his associates, was to discrown the King. This was to have been accomplished in the following manner. A secret messenger was to be despatched to the Tonghaks to induce them to advance as far as Kang-hwa. When they had reached that point, Li Shunyo, Commander of the Bodyguard, was to be despatched, ostensibly to oppose their progress. A sham encounter would then take place, and Li, feigning to be defeated, would retreat to Sōul hotly pursued by the Tonghaks. The latter were then to set fire to the Southern Gate of the Castle so as to facilitate their attack against the Japanese troops. A body of picked insurgents was to lie in ambush at Puk-sŏng, with the object of rushing into the palace as soon as they saw the flames rise from the gate. Li would then hasten to the Palace as if to rescue the King and the Court from danger, and would induce His Majesty, the Queen, and the Heir-Apparent to fly to Chhun-Chhŏn. When the Royal family had thus been induced to leave Sōul, the Tongaks were to declare that the Government must not be without a ruler for even a day, and were to force Li, ostensibly against his will, to undertake the function of supreme ruler of Korea. The sovereignty thus provisionally assumed was to be enjoyed permanently, the Royal family having been disposed of by means common among Korean politicians. The list of men that should fill important posts under the new Government has been already prepared, and Kan himself was promised a certain high local position. The mission to the Tonghaks was at first entrusted to Ko Sochu, but he declining, another messenger was appointed in his place. Ko was then asked to undertake the task of getting rid of such members of the Korean Government as were considered obstacles to the consummation of the revolution. More than ten of these "obstacles" were to be assassinated. Kim Koshu, the Premier, Kim Kokun, the late Vice-Minister of Justice; Kin Kachin, the acting Minister of Public Works; and An Keiju, the Vice-Minister of Finance, were to be the first batch of victims. The murder of the late Vice-Minister of Justice was successfully perpetrated on the 30th of October; but though another section of the assassins told off for the work intended to mete out a similar fate to the Premier and the acting Minister of Public Works, they encountered so many difficulties that they dared not consummate the scheme.

When Ko Sochu was first subjected to examination, he simply declared that he had been tempted by promise of pecuniary reward to undertake the assassination of the Premier and of the late Vice-Minister of Justice, the sum to be paid to him being 1,000 *ryo*. He was, however, re-examined after Kan had disclosed the particulars of the plot, and, in the face of the evidence furnished by one of his associates, he could not but confess what he had at first concealed. His confession did not differ in essentials from that of Kan. He was at first asked to undertake the mission of persuading the rebels to move towards Sōul. When he declined to go on that errand without being more fully admitted to the confidence of the plotters, Li laid before him in a secret chamber a brief account of the conspiracy, and promised that if success were attained, he, Ko, should be made a Minister of State. He asked for time to deliberate, and left Li that day. On his way home, he concluded that the mission was beyond his capacity, and that it would be wise for him to decline. A few hours later, having imbibed a large quantity of liquor, he called on Li once more, and made known his resolution, adding that if he were pressed by Li, he should prefer to die then and there by taking poison rather than be sent on such a mission, with the certain prospect of being seized and put to death by the Japanese. Li had no choice but to rescind his mandate, but he strictly enjoined Ko to keep silence about what he heard, otherwise he would be instantly put to death. Such was Ko's confession. The mission to the Tonghaks ended in failure. On the 9th of November, the letters that the Tai Wŏn-kun and his son intended to send to the Tonghaks came into the possession of Count Inouye, who, on the strength of such undisputable evidence, severely censured both father and son. Of course Count Inouye did not then know the full extent of the grave crime in which the old statesman was implicated. He therefore simply rebuked them for taking measures to incite the rebels. Conscious of the grave plot in which they were involved, they seem to have arrived at the hasty conclusion that the whole affair had reached Count Inouye's ears, for they appear to have thenceforth abandoned the conspiracy.

The examination of this case is far from being ended. No one can tell whither its ramifications may lead or what they may involve.

LETTER FROM SHIMONOSEKI.

(From our Correspondent.)

Shimonoseki, April 1.

This morning a conference took place at the usual place of meeting, the Fujino Hotel, or, as men of letters call it, the Shumpan-ro (Spring Sail House). It lasted nearly two hours, from ten a.m. to twelve, and was attended on the Japanese side by H.E. Viscount Mutsu, Secretary-General Ito, Private Secretary Nakada, Secretary Inouye, and Translator Mutsu; and on the Chinese side by Lord Li, and Messrs. Lo Fung-lo, Go Wei-ho, Lo Ko-rei, and Ma Ken-chu. The nature of the consultation is, of course, kept secret, but it is evident that at to-day's meeting no negotiations can have taken place about the question of peace, for Lord Li is not invested with full powers to treat on that subject. It seems, as far as I can gather from the information that has thus far reached me, that to-day's conference related to arrangements essential to the future conduct of negotiations between the Plenipotentiaries of the two Powers.

This places beyond all doubt what has indeed been evident from the moment the treaty of armistice was signed, namely, that the Chinese Ambassador has decided to stay and resume negotiations for peace. Two courses were open to him to pursue at the time of the recent regrettable incident—either to bid farewell to these shores, and, returning home, make strong appeal to the European Powers for intervention; or to stay and continue the negotiations, trying to make the most of the genuine sympathy which the cowardly attack upon him had excited in the hearts of the Japanese from the highest to the lowest. Had he been so inclined, there could have been no better opportunity for him to resort to the former course of action. It was indeed apprehended at the time that such might be his decision. Evidently the conjecture was not without a basis, seeing that China had more than once endeavoured to procure the interference of foreign Powers. We may be sure

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not resolve to forego such a unique opportunity without good hopes of ultimately succeeding in the mission on which he has come to Japan. What is certain is that by adopting the second line of procedure, he obtained what he had failed to get by means of negotiation, namely an armistice on the easiest of terms, or rather without any conditions whatever. This must be regarded entirely in the light of a voluntary concession by the special grace of the Emperor of Japan.

It would, however, be a serious mistake to suppose that, because the whole nation has as one man manifested spontaneous and genuine sympathy with the distinguished Chinese statesman on account of the recent attempt upon his life, further concessions will be made by the Japanese Plenipotentiaries in the impending negotiations. The sagacity of the Chinese Ambassador is too well known to suppose that he is capable of building any hopes on such grounds. However much the nation may sympathize with his misfortune, the empire cannot be expected to sacrifice public interests to personal sentiments.

It is, however, idle to argue this question, seeing that speculation will be replaced by certainty on the re-opening of the negotiations within a few days. Viceroy Li has so far recovered as to justify the expectation that he will be able in two or three days to attend to business.

THE KYOTO EXHIBITION.

Although the number of exhibits to be seen at the Kyoto Exhibition cannot yet be ascertained accurately, as alterations will be unavoidable for some time to come, writes the *Nippon's* correspondent, the total number of articles counted on the last day of March was 208,713, exhibited by 86,060 persons. The following table shows the numbers of exhibits and exhibitors at the three preceding Domestic Exhibitions:—

	Exhibits.	Exhibitors.
1st Exhibition	14,455	16,174
2nd Exhibition	85,370	27,523
3rd Exhibition	271,673	77,432

Of the exhibits, 109,995 are arranged in the Industry Hall, 33,896 of which belong to the class of textile fabrics. Kyoto occupies the first place in this branch, then come Tokyo, Gumma, and so on. There are 22,350 articles pertaining to dress in which Osaka comes first, then follow Tokyo, Kyoto, and Nara, the exhibits from each of those places exceeding 1,000. Stone ware and kiln productions amount to 9,616, Aichi, Saga, Kyoto, Ishikawa, Hyogo, and Miye having sent the most exhibits of this kind. Chemical wares and medical stuffs in which Osaka, Tokyo, Kyoto, and Tokushima predominate, number 7,781 items. Metallic wares in use in work-shops total 6,785, chiefly produced in Kyoto, Osaka, Niigata, Gifu and Tokyo. Of lacquer wares there are 5,276, mostly from Ishikawa, Tokyo, Fukushima, Shizuoka, and so forth; of wooden and bamboo wares, 5,174, from Osaka, Kyoto, Aichi, and so forth. There are 4,727 exhibits in the paper line, from Kochi, Ehime, Osaka, Tokyo, &c.; 2,234 metallic articles from Osaka, Kyoto, Toyama, &c.; of yarns and threads, 2,116 items, from Kyoto, Osaka, Tokyo, Nagano, Yamagata, &c.; of weights and measures, 1,717 from Osaka, Tokyo, and Miye; of leather and bone wares, 562, from Osaka and Tokyo; of glass wares, 478, mostly from Osaka; of rifles, saddlery, &c., 316 items, chiefly from Tokyo, Osaka, and Fukuoka; and of engineering works, 39, from Osaka, Tokushima, and Fukuoka. The exhibits connected with education, science, and art, number 2,507, in which those from the three cities and from the Department of Education predominate, while of exhibits connected with mining and metallurgy there are 2,056, chiefly from the three cities and the Noshomusho.

The total number of articles in the Agricultural and Dendrological Hall is 80,492. Of these, cereals, vegetables, and plants for special uses amount to 49,663, Ehime occupying the first rank, after which come Tokushima, Shiga, Osaka. Manufactured articles of food number 15,187, chiefly from Kyoto and also from Osaka, Hyogo, Kagawa, Tokushima, and Aichi. Other exhibits arranged in the same hall are as follow:—Animals, birds, and insects, 7,048, chiefly from Nagano, Gumma, Saitama, Shiga, &c.; agricultural implements, 2,369, from Fukui, Niigata, Osaka, &c.; horticultural exhibits, 2,473, from Tokyo, Osaka, Hyogo, &c.; manures &c., 1,487, from Hokkaido, Chiba, Awomori, &c.; timbers, &c., 1,835, from Miyazaki, Kochi, Nara, &c.; agricultural designs, 145, from Tottori, Fukuoka, Akita, &c.; tools for use in forests, 75, from Kochi; forestry designs, 51, from Gifu, Hiroshima, Nagano, &c.

The exhibits in the Machinery Hall number 818, mostly from the three cities and the Departments of State.

The exhibits in the Fishery Hall number 12,390, consisting of articles of food (10,432), chiefly from Aomori, and also from Iwate, Hokkaido, Tokushima, Kagawa, &c.; implements used in fishing and curing (1,258) mostly from Hyogo, Kochi, Hiroshima, Iwate, &c.; miscellaneous exhibits connected with fishery amounting to 552, chiefly from Osaka, Okinawa, Kochi, &c.; fish produced by artificial fecundation of the ova, shell-fish, and seaweeds numbering 51, from Miye, Nara, and Niigata, and designs connected with fishery totalling 81, from Tokyo, Hokkaido, Nagasaki, &c.

In the Fine Arts Hall, pictures occupy the first place, then come art wares, and finally engravings.

A commendable step has been taken with regard to the Exhibition. Hitherto officers connected with the exhibitions have been apt to make bargains with exhibitors for articles remarkably cheap, before the opening of the affair, thus precluding the general public from buying such exhibits. It has been decided not to allow any such practice in the present case, and private instructions to that effect have been issued under the signature of Mr. Kaneko, Vice-Minister of Agriculture and Commerce and Head of the general business of the Exhibition.

THE GOVERNMENT OF THE CONQUERED TERRITORY.

It is difficult to determine a precise English equivalent for the term designating the officer appointed to the supreme place in the districts conquered by Japan. The Japanese word is "*Sotoku*," which we have been accustomed to translate "Commander-in-chief." Thus the title of H.I.H. Prince Komatsu, who has been appointed Generalissimo of the forces in the field, is "*Dai-sotoku*," or "Great Commander-in-chief." Since it is evident, however, that the "*sotoku*" of the Liaotung peninsula and the territory lying along the coast of Manchuria from Tienchwang-tai to Kwantien, is not to have active command of the troops campaigning there at present, we must adopt some other translation for the name of his office. Probably "Governor-General" is the most correct equivalent to be found. The Regulations just published with respect to his office show that although all military matters relating to the defence of the district under his jurisdiction are to be directed by him, as well as all military matters connected with civil jurisdiction, and although he is himself to be a military man—either a Field-Marshal or a Lieutenant-General—his civil functions are at least as important as his military. Doubtless inferences of more or less sweeping character as to Japan's intentions of permanent occupation, will be drawn from this appointment, but as a very brief period must suffice to interpret Japan's purposes precisely, it is idle to conjecture at the present stage.

The first Governor-General is Lieut.-General Baron Sakuma, hitherto Commander-in-chief of the Second, or Sendai, Division; an officer reputed to possess not only high military skill but also administrative capacities of an exceptional order. The Governor-General's office will be at Chinchow; and civil offices, under his general control, will doubtless be established at Antung, Newchwang, Haicheng, Chienlung, and so forth. It seems to be concluded by some of the vernacular papers that his sway is to extend to the Pescadores and Formosa, also, should the latter island come into Japanese possession. But that hypothesis seems to us unlikely. It is said that the civil and military officials forming the staff of the Governor-General's Board and sub-offices will aggregate seven hundred. Major-General Fukuhara is to be his Chief of Staff; Major-General Ibaraki, his Chief of Civil Administration; Colonel Sezaki, his Commander of Artillery, and Lieut.-Colonel Kokuni, his Commander of Engineers. We may add here that the Command-in-chief of the Second Division falls to Major-General Nogi, who becomes a Lieut.-General, and that Major-General Nogi's command—the First Brigade—has been given to Colonel Oki, hitherto in command of Thirteenth Regiment, who becomes a Major-General.

COUNT OKUMA ON THE SITUATION.

The other day, writes the *Nippon*, a certain gentleman called on the "Oracle of Waseda," to hear what he had to say on the situation. The Count replied in his usual affable manner that the peace negotiations would be satisfactorily concluded and that peace would be restored to Japan and China. The conclusion of peace must not be thought due to the conference between the Premier and the Viceroy: the time was already ripe for it when the two statesmen came together. The moment had really come to restore the light of peace to the clouded sky of the Orient. The negotiation at Bakan was a mere formality. Had it not been for the regrettable act of a ruffian, the conference would have been completed by this time, and the voice of joy would be ringing through the Empire. The wound of Li was now completely cured. He could resume the negotiations suddenly interrupted by that most untoward incident. The Count was, therefore firmly convinced that the conference would terminate successfully, and that the demands of Japan would be accepted in about a week, simultaneously with the conclusion of peace between the belligerents, an alarming piece of news would appear in the press of Europe; news of a character to take the public at large completely by surprise. That the Count could say without any hesitation, but as to the nature of the news, he thought it prudent not to speak fully. Then again, there were many topics to deliberate about on the conclusion of peace, the most urgent having reference to the policy to be pursued by Japan in the occupied districts. The Count thought it very easy to govern the Chinese living in those districts, chiefly because they are absolutely devoid of what may be called national ideas, and because there is much identity between them and the Japanese in race and literature. The first administrative step taken should be to institute a rigid police system. For that purpose gendarmes should be employed, as is the case at present. But it would be necessary to go a step further in the organization of these military-police; they should be entirely re-organized on the footing of cavalry. Such a change would make them more efficient in the discharge of their duties, and would, at the same time, render it possible to reduce their number. The Count enumerated in the end some of the points that he thought essential in administering the occupied districts. They were as follow:—1. To introduce Japanese; 2, to make the people employ the Japanese language; 3, to put into force the Japanese system of education; 4, to forbid communication with the Chinese living beyond the occupied districts, or to allow communication only with certain limited places, 5, to devise means for afforestation, 6, to facilitate communications; 7, to open a regular service of big steamers between important ports at the rate of about once a week.

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THE ARMISTICE AND ITS JOURNALISTIC CRITIC.

THE *Japan Gazette* has again published one of those malevolent articles, the statements contained in which are intrinsically so impossible that their endorsement by any newspaper editor, however giddy and ignorant, can not be associated with the smallest sentiment of respect for truth. The statements have reference to the recently concluded armistice and are contained in the following paragraph :—

> This armistice then is not unconditional, and we have very good reasons indeed to believe it was not voluntary. On March 30th we wrote that pressure was being brought by the Powers to compel Japan to grant an armistice. We see no reason, from subsequent information we have gleaned, to doubt the truth of that statement. We understand, though we do not guarantee absolute authenticity, that pressure was immediately applied, on the news of the attempted assassination being made public, and when that pressure was resisted the demand became peremptory. To satisfy the Powers interested Japan granted the alleged armistice. The facts largely substantiate this statement. Had the Emperor of Japan been so benevolent as some sycophants would have us believe, the armistice would not have been tardy but immediate.

Now, in the first place, the assertions that the Powers of Europe commenced by exerting pressure on Japan to induce her to grant an armistice, and that when she resisted, their demand became peremptory so that she had no choice but to accede, are obviously irreconcilable with possibility. The Shimonoseki incident occurred on the evening of March 24th. Shimonoseki is a day's steaming from Hiroshima, whither the Minister President of State had to proceed to consult with the SOVEREIGN and with the other members of HIS MAJESTY'S Cabinet. The consultation involved a question of the most vital character; the preparation of the convention of truce demanded careful thought; its final drafting had to be preceded by reference to the Chinese Plenipotentiary. Yet, within the brief space of 5 days all these preliminaries were concluded, and on the 30th of March, the convention received the signatures of the Japanese and Chinese Plenipotentiaries at Shimonoseki. It was a remarkably rapid piece of work. The *Japan Gazette* can not be sincere when it calls the armistice "tardy;" or if it intends to be sincere, must be incapable of the most ordinary process of reasoning.

But although extreme giddiness and superficiality may account for much in a journal so notoriously without moral balance, what are we to say of the glaringly absurd pretence that within the space of five days the Powers of Europe, first, combined to exercise most unjust and unwarrantable pressure on Japan, and, secondly, finding themselves resisted, agreed to convert that pressure into a peremptory demand? Is it conceivable that any writer of the commonest intelligence could honestly advance such a monstrously ridiculous statement? All through this war the Powers of Europe have never once obstruction.

been able to combine for the purpose of intervening between the belligerent states. They have not been without a semblance of plausible pleas for intervention, but one and all they have shrunk from adopting toward Japan a course that the circumstances did not warrant. Yet suddenly, because a solitary Japanese fanatic perpetrates a deed that might happen in any country; a deed repudiated and abhorred by the Japanese nation, the Powers join hands and "peremptorily demand" that Japan shall grant to China an unconditional armistice! The man that credits such a plain impossibility is not fit to be at large; the man that pretends to credit it, plays the part of a buffoon. And the cream of the absurdity is the supposition that between March 25th and March 29th the various Powers could communicate with each other; could agree upon a common course of action; could instruct their several Representatives in Tokyo to adopt that course; could receive a refusal from the Japanese EMPEROR and the Japanese Cabinet in Hiroshima; could then combine to convert their pressure into a "peremptory demand"; could prefer that demand, and could finally secure Japan's consent. Such a series of international proceedings might perhaps, if exceptional celerity were exercised, be accomplished in the space of five weeks. To suppose that they could be crowded into the space of five days would over-tax the credulity of a school-girl. We refer to these points because they indicate the charactor of the *Japan Gazette's* writing. Nothing short of a fanatical mania to strip Japan of all credit, to minimize her good deeds and magnify her bad, could betray a writer into such extravagant silliness. For the rest, we are authorized to state that the grant of an armistice by Japan was absolutely voluntary, and that no scintilla of pressure was brought to bear upon her by any Power, still less by any combination of Powers.

It is almost superfluous to refer to the *Japan Gazette's* ignorant assertions that "Chili is now a vast morass over which it is impossible to move troops with precision," and that, "until about the fourth week in April, further operations must, armistice or no armistice, have been practically suspended." As a matter of fact, March and April are the best months in the year for moving an army in Chili against Pekin. The whole country from the mouth of the Peiho to the capital is then a huge level plain, free from crops or obstructions of any kind, and almost everywhere fit for the passage of infantry, cavalry, or even artillery. If the Japanese want to go to Pekin, the loss of the first three weeks of April is incalculably great. Starting at the end of April, they would have to encounter the summer floods, the summer heat, and the summer crops of millet, a terribly hampering

We do not think it possible to denounce in too strong terms the disgracefully reckless and untruthful attempts persistently made by the *Japan Gazette* to injure this empire's reputation and detract from its successes. Fair and ingenuous criticism, even though couched in trenchant terms, can never be objected to. But a writer that eagerly snatches at every shred of idle rumour to build a cruel calumny; that never has the manliness to correct one of the thousand falsehoods of which he is convicted; that pursues one *métier* and one only, that of blackening the country's fame and libelling its people—such a writer is a public nuisance, and the British community, whose mood towards Japan he so foully misrepresents, may well object to be the objects of the umbrage provoked by such journalism. The armistice in question was undoubtedly a generous and praiseworthy act on Japan's part, as it was also a costly and unwelcome act. The EMPEROR could not have made a finer or more signal *amende* for the outrage of which the Chinese Envoy had been the victim at the hand of a lawless fanatic. That it was also a politic act, we readily admit. Japan did not consult her own conscience or sense of honour only; she consulted also her reputation with the world of the West. But whatever allowance be made on that score, nothing could be meaner, more obnoxious, or less excusable than the miserable devices employed by the *Japan Gazette* to deprive the country of credit fairly belonging to it, and to bring its doings into contempt and disrepute.

ONE LAW FOR ME ANOTHER FOR THEE.

THE denunciation of Japan's claims by foreign local critics, and the assertion of their own country's claims by the same critics, constitute an object lesson at once instructive and amusing. Recently a Japanese newspaper suggested that as China would certainly be unable to pay at once the indemnity demanded by Japan, the latter's best plan would be to temporarily occupy the provinces of Kiangsu and Chêkiang as guarantee for the payment. The leading Shanghai journal found that the most charitable description of that suggestion was to call it "a piece of blatant nonsense." There is certainly no fault to be found with the strength of such language, but its propriety is another question. Why should not Japan occupy Kiangsu and Chêkiang as guarantees for the ultimate payment of the indemnity? If she is to demand an indemnity at all, she must have some security for its payment, unless the demand is to be a mere empty formality. We have not the slightest conception whether the occupation of the two provinces for such a purpose ever entered the brain of any Japanese statesman.

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men, but as a mere abstract question of right or wrong we ask why on earth Japan should not occupy them? The Shanghai journal responsible for the pretty epithet "blatant nonsense," justifies its language by alleging that the occupation of the provinces "could hardly be regarded as otherwise than a challenge to European interests." That is one of those vague generalities so satisfying to persons lacking energy to think for themselves. What are these indirect "European interests" that are to stand between Japan and her rights of conquest? Whence did Europe derive the mandate to step in without invitation and interfere between two Oriental Powers in the sequel of a war that has not cost Europe a dollar or a life? "European interests" in China have been acquired solely by the sword. Whatever interests Europe possesses in China are based primarily on the right of might. If that right is to be claimed for Europe—and we are not so silly as to imagine that *fin-de-siècle* morality will deny the claim for an instant—then surely the same right must be conceded to Japan. She has conquered China. Embarking boldly in a war from which other nations shrunk, she has beaten her enemy by an effort costly and surprising. Yet now, forsooth, any attempt on her part to reap the fair fruits of her victory, to assert the interests that, as a successful belligerent, she has undoubtedly acquired, is denounced as "blatant nonsense," on the hypothesis that some shadowy obstacle might thereby be offered to the realization of "European interests," similarly acquired in times past by the edge of the sword. If she exacts an indemnity from her conquered foe, as she is unquestionably entitled to do, she must accept China's bare promise to pay—China's promise!—and must not resort to any of the methods commonly employed by Western States to secure themselves against final loss under such circumstances. Evidently, according to the creed of some Western critics, there are never two sides to any question in which an Oriental country is concerned: there is only one side and that is the Occidental. Very strikingly is the fact illustrated by the tone of the Russian journals since the war broke out. Their utterances have been a constant menace to Japan. If she venture to retain any part of the Chinese territory that she has conquered, or to show any intention of permanently occupying the little Kingdom on whose account she has fought this war, then she is warned that she must reckon with a Russia no longer neutral but hostile. But what conceivable title does Russia possess to act as the guardian of Chinese territory or the arbiter of Korea's destiny? It is true that she herself has taken a good deal of territory from China in the past, but does the fact that she has appropriated one slice endow her with a title to regulate the disposition of the whole loaf? From the point of view of abstract morality the thing is wholly indefensible; but if Russia believes that her own tranquillity and safety would be imperilled by this or that transfer of Chinese or Korean territory, the international code of the nineteenth century undoubtedly warrants her interference. If she, however, derives from such considerations a warrant to interfere, why should the same warrant be denied to Japan? We have not observed that the menaces of the Russian press are denounced as wantonly aggressive or extravagant. It seems to be tacitly admitted that since Korea is contiguous with the borders of the great Northern Empire, the latter is justified in attempting to control the occupation of the peninsula. If so, why is not Japan similarly justified? Korea in the possession of a strong aggressive Power might signify Japan's national extinction, and would certainly constitute a perpetual menace to her peace. Has she not, therefore, a practical right to interest herself actively in Korea's fate; to take care that the little kingdom shall not sink deeper and deeper into a condition of helplessness and unrest inviting Western aggression, and to contrive that the development of its capacity for self-defence shall not be fatally checked by the dominance of an Oriental Power opposed to all progress and quite incompetent to protect its so-called dependency? But no: it is the old principle of mediæval times—one law for me, another for thee. Japan acquires Formosa by force of arms, and is immediately denounced as an unscrupulous aggressor, impelled by vain-glorious ambition and pretdatory instincts. But in the same breath her highly civilized judges cry out that if Japan perpetrates the great wrong of seizing Formosa, then Great Britain must have a part of the island—one of its most important parts, too, the Keelung coal mines and harbour. To despoil one's neighbour of his possessions is a grievous deed in the eyes of the righteous man, but since two wrongs always make a right, the righteous man becomes entitled to a part of the spoils. Does not the story read curiously when set down in simple terms?

But what, after all, are these European interests, concerning which we hear so much? They are of two kinds, the interests of aggression and the interests of progress. China has been demonstrated to be a helpless giant. Her huge territories lie at the mercy of any resolute invader. If Europe wants to take advantage of this demonstration by gradually parcelling out the big realm among her own Powers, then, of course, her interest is concerned in not allowing the Japanese to appropriate any part of her projected perquisite. But it is scarcely credible that Europe has framed such a design. She still, in profession at any rate, adheres to her constantly avowed purpose of leading China into the path of progress. Dealing with an inscrutable problem like the mood of the Chinese nation and the possibilities of the Middle Kingdom's regeneration, no one can venture to make any confident assertion. But it does seem fair to conclude that now, if ever, the chance offers of forcing China out of the groove of stagnation. If defeat at Japan's hands cannot awaken her to the advantages of Western civilization, can she ever be awakened? We discover no hope, and therefore we believe that if Europe desired to see the Chinese develop their resources and open their markets fully to the outer world, she should be pleased at the thoroughness of Japan's victory. Here, then, arises the question, how far should that victory be carried? Will it suffice to pause at the present stage, or should the Japanese arms be carried to Pekin? Suffering things to rest as they are now, may mean, and probably does mean, that the very fact of their country's having been attacked will remain wholly unknown to the great bulk of the Chinese nation, and that even the better informed, while admitting that her outworks have been proved vulnerable, will retain their faith in the impregnability of her citadel. The Shantung promontory, the Liaotung peninsula, some remote portions of Manchuria—these, indeed, they will say, have suffered, but Taku, Tientsin, Pekin, and even Mukden have defied attack. Thus, in their eyes, China proper will seem as stout as ever, nor will they discover any sufficient reason to alter the systems under which they have lived safely so long. Some allege that even the capture of Pekin by the Japanese would not seriously move China. If so, China is not to be moved at all. But that, we think, depends greatly on the measures adopted by Japan. It is a profound problem. We do not pretend to do more than indicate its outlines. But we should like to know what prospect is really contemplated by Japan's critics. Do they fear lest she may inconveniently anticipate them by swallowing large morcels of the cake that they would fain preserve for European consumption; or are they jealous lest she should be the means of achieving the task of civilization so long essayed unsuccessfully by the West?

THE JAPANESE PRESS AND THE GOVERNMENT.

IT seems to us that a great deal too much importance is attached to the utterances of the Japanese vernacular press on such a subject as the terms to be demanded by Japan in concluding peace with China. The *North China Daily News*, for example, quoting from our weekly summary of the Spirit of the Vernacular Press, refers to the terms propounded by the *Kokkai* and the *Yomiuri*

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Shimbun, and finds it "somewhat incomprehensible that any journal so long under bondage as the *Kokkai*, and still in the power of the Press Censor, should be permitted to publish sentiments likely to promote difficulties at a time of such great moment to Japan, unless those sentiments are officially approved." The more one scrutinizes this utterance, the stranger it seems. Surely the *North China Daily News* does not imagine that newspapers in Japan can be suspended for causes so slight as it suggests. The Minister of State for Home Affairs has competence to suspend a journal should its writings seem calculated to disturb public peace or to injure good morals, but he can not take any such a step merely because a newspaper states the terms which, in its opinion, ought to be exacted by Japan from a conquered State. Possibly the Shanghai journal imagines that the Press Censor sees the matter intended for publication in Japanese newspapers, and that he is thus in a position to control it beforehand. If that were the system, there could, of course, be no suspending of journals on account of the matter appearing in their columns. The fact is that, if it were desired to check the writings of the vernacular press with regard to the topic of peace negotiations, a special order in that sense would have to be issued by the Minister of State for Foreign Affairs. But why should they be checked? Surely if newspapers have any use at all, it is in their capacity as exponents of public opinion, and the Japanese Government naturally finds it important at the present juncture to acquire the clearest possible information about the views held by the people on the subject of peace. An analysis of the Tokyo journals would show them to be, for the most part, representatives of various political parties. The views they express about the war and its issue are coloured by party considerations and cannot for one instant be regarded as expressions of official opinion. We do not include the *Kokkai* in that category. It is an independent journal, and the terms of peace that it formulates are doubtless in accordance with the views of the editor and of the circle of his immediate friends. But it does not in any way reflect official sentiment, and to infer that it does because it is not suspended for saying that Kiangsu and Chêkiang should be temporarily occupied as gurantees for the payment of a war indemnity by China, is to show very flagrant ignorance of the Japanese press laws and of the conditions existing in Japan. Certainly one of the chief objections to press laws such as those operative in Japan is that, in the eyes of superficial folk, they put the indirect stamp of official endorsement upon every newspaper utterance that does not evoke official condemnation. But when it is remembered that official condemnation can take the form of suspension or suppression only, and that sentence of suspension or suppression can be passed only in the case of matter deemed prejudicial to public peace or morality, there is no difficulty in perceiving that editorial utterances have a wide margin secured against official interference, and that the matter contained in their free margin is not by any means to be regarded as reflecting official views simply because it fails to provoke official interference. The *North China Daily News*, under its present editorship, evidently tries to hold the scales evenly between the two belligerent empires, and we regret that it should fall into an error so palpable as to say of the peace terms published by the *Kokkai*, the *Yomiuri*, and so forth:—"It is difficult to believe that such things can be written without Government approval, if not inspiration, seeing that they are not stopped."

REGULATIONS FOR THE OCCUPIED DISTRICTS.

We hereby give Our sanction to the present Ordinance relating to the Governor-General's Board of the Occupied Districts and order it to be promulgated.

(His Imperial Majesty's Sign-Manual.)
(Privy Seal.)

Dated March 30th of the 28th year of the *Meiji*.

(Countersigned.)

Count YAMAGATA ARITOMO,
Minister of State for War.

IMPERIAL ORDINANCE No. XXXVIII.

REGULATIONS RELATING TO THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL'S BOARD OF THE OCCUPIED DISTRICTS.

Art. I.—For the convenience of controlling the Occupied Districts, the Central Office of the Governor-General's Board shall be located at Chinchow.

Art. II.—The Governor-General's of the Occupied Districts shall be either a Field-Marshal or Lieut.-General, under the direct control of the a General Head-quarters. The Governor-General's Board shall control the various sections of troops quartered in the Occupied Districts, and its chief shall preside over all military matters having relation to the civil administration of the Occupied Districts.

Art. III.—The Board will be held responsible for the guarding and defence of the Occupied Districts, shall maintain the tranquillity of the districts placed under its control, and supervise the various duties arising out of the Guard Regulations. The limit of jurisdiction of the Governor-General's Board of the Occupied Districts will be determined by the General Head-quarters.

Art. IV.—The rights and competence of the Governor-General's Board as to provisioning, sanitation, and the maintenance of discipline in the various sections of the army and the troops under its control, shall be equal to those invested in a Commander-in-Chief of an Army.

Art. V.—The Governor-General's Office shall be under the control of the General Head-quarters in all matters either military or civil. Matters relating to *personnel* are to be dealt with in accordance with the Military Officers' Promotion Regulations and the Promotion Regulations of Military Officers in the 1st and 2nd Reserves. The Head of the Office may be specially invested with the right of promoting officers in accordance with Art. XVI. of Military Officers Promotion Regulations, and Art. IX. of Promotion Regulations of Military Officers in the 1st and 2nd Reserves.

Art. VI.—In accordance with civil necessities, the Governor-General's Office may establish a branch civil administration office and determine its jurisdiction limit.

Art. VII.—The organization of the Governor-General's Board will be according to the appended schedule.

Art. VIII.—The Chief of the Staff will arrange all matters relating to the Board; staff officers and aides-de-camp shall be under the supervision of the Chief of Staff, and attend to the respective duties alloted to them.

Art. IX.—Before submitting matters to the Governor-General's Office the chiefs of the various sections must first obtain the approval of the Chief of the Staff.

ORGANIZATION OF THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL'S BOARD OF THE OCCUPIED DISTRICTS.

	Central Offices.				Branch Offices.														
	Governor-General.	Staff Section.	Aide-de-Camp Section.	Accountant.	Artillery Section.	Engineering Section.	Gendarmes.	Accountant Section.	Military-chief Sub-section.	Commissariat Sub-section.	Surgery Section.	Judge's Section.	Telegraph Section.	Post Section.	Civil Administrative Sect.	Gendarmes under C.A.S.			
Field-Marshal	1																		
Lieut.-General																			
Major-General																			
Colonel or Equivalent		*1				*1	*1		*1		*1								
Lieut.-Col. or Equivalent		1	2												1	1			
Major or Equivalent						*1													
Captain or Equivalent		1	2	1	1	1	1		1	1									
Lieut. or Equivalent					1	1	1				1†				1				
Ensign or Equivalent									2	2	4				1	1			
Non.-Com. Officers and Clerks		4	4	3	3	3	4	3	3	5	3	3	3	3	3	30	5		
Soldiers of the Higher Grade								4									38		
Attendants	2	2		2					2	2	2	2		2	2	4			
Grooms	3	6	4		3	3	3	3	3	3	3	1	3		4	1			
Total	5	23	22	6	7	7	13	22	9	15	10	6	6	4	26	37			
Horses	4	7	4		3	3	7	3	3	3	3	3	3		3	3			

* Chief. † Surgeon and Chemist.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[Our readers must distinctly understand that we are in no sence responsible for the sentients or opinions of our correspondents, for the accuracy of their assertions, or for the deductions they may choose to draw therefrom.]

THE PARLIAMENT OF RELIGIONS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Inclosed I take the liberty of sending you a clipping about which I should be glad to receive more information. I am unable to learn anything among my friends here, either Japanese or foreigners, regarding this proposed competitive exhibition of religions, and, moreover, I doubt it "in toto." But before writing an article requested by Dr. Barrow, the chairman of the Chicago Parliament of Religions, I wish to make sure of what there is to this report. May I ask you to favour me with a line of information regarding it, either in your esteemed paper or privately? You will place me under great obligation.

While I am writing, I will make free to express another wish: could you not give us in your paper a criticism of Professor Ladd's "Mental Characteristics of the Japanese" in the Jan. number of *Scribner's Magazine*? If you do not have this magazine at your disposal I should be glad to send you my copy. I am sure many people, both in Japan and in the West, would be glad to know your opinion of this analysis and characterization of the Japanese mind by Professor Ladd.

With the assurance of highest respect,

I remain, yours,

Doshisha University, GEO. E. ALBRECHT.
Kyoto, April 3rd, 1895.

LECTURE VI. BY JOSEPH COOK.

THE CONQUERING CROSS OF CHRIST; OR, A PEERLESS BIBLE IN THE WORLD'S PARLIAMENT OF RELIGIONS.

I.

Among the echoes of the Word's first Parliament of Religions there has come to us from beyond seas nothing more suggestive and resonant than the news that the Mikado of Japan, a consecrated ruler whose family line antedates the Cæsars, has ordered a competitive exhibition of the religions in his empire. In the list of these he includes Christianity. Each faith is to justify itself by its history, its best books, its characteristic doctrines and institutions, its harmony with conscience, its reasonable expectations for the future, and especially by its acknowledged effects when transmuted into life. The Emperor has caught with large, if not entire accuracy, the key-note of the Word's Parliament of Religions. His scheme is novel and almost startling, but no one fears that Christianity, if fairly represented in this original method of studying its contrasts and contacts with rival faiths,

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can fail to seem absolutely peerless to educated and conscientious men. Of course, no such exhibition can cause a final verdict to be given, for centuries of experience will yet testify to the merits and demerits of religions, and Christianity fears no rivalry before the court of the ages. This competitive examination of creeds and the resulting deeds is to be held in Kioto, a noble and venerable city, the joy of the whole empire, always spoken of by the Japanese with reverential tenderness and exulting pride. This town is the Jerusalem of Reformed Buddhism. It is crowded with classic and sacred associations. It, or its vicinity, has been for seventeen centuries the residence of the Mikado. Nearly all the members of the distinguished committee in charge of the exhibition are well known in America. (The Boston *Herald*, February 24, 1894.) It was my own fortune, by invitation of officials of Kioto twelve years ago, to stand for three hours, with Professor Ichihara as interpreter, before an eager and crowded assembly in that city, on an afternoon of the Japanese May, fit symbol of spiritual spring-time, and speak on the Relations of Christianity to the Future of Japanese Civilization. (Boston Monday Lectures, Orient, pp. 311-340.) The proposed Japanese exhibition is the first instance in the history of the world in which a large and impartial examination of the merits off competing religions has been ordered by the head of any non-Christian nation.*

This intelligence that the Mikado of Japan is to hold a Parliament of Religions, is almost the actualization of the suggestions made by the distinguished head of Boston University, in the now famous baccalaureate address which he delivered in 1886, and which was soon after translated into Japanese, Chinese and European languages. President Warren, ■ you may remember if you have read that classic, imagined a Parliament of Orientals raising the question, What are the traits of a perfect religion? And the result of their discussions was to show that only a perfect God, maintaining the honour of a perfect law, coming into as perfect as possible relations with men through an incarnation, can satify the demands either of the religious life or of philosophy.

What are we to say was the meaning of Dr. Barrows' entirely justifiable remark that the World's Parliament of Keligions ended at Calvary? It meant that no religion knowo to man except Christianity teaches how we are to be delivered from the guilt of sin. Without denying self-evident truths and really axiomatic propositions, no faith except Christianity shows us how to wash Lady Macbeth's red right hand. (See address on Strategic Certainties of Comparative Religion, Barrows, P. of R., pp. 536-542.)

*On account of the war between China and Japan, and other causes, the Japanese Parliament of Religions has been postponed to 1895, but the calling of such a Parliament by the Mikado remains a significant event.

[We have herrd nothing whatever of this "competitive exhibition of religions." Further, we believe the rumour to be entirely baseless. It is the Japanese Government's policy, openly avowed and adhered to as strictly as circumstances permit, to eschew all interference in religious affairs. Religion being a matter of conscience and individual conviction, is considered by Japanese statesmen to be entirely beyond the pale of official control or influence. Nothing seems to us more unlikely than the step attributed to the Emperor by Mr. Cook. We have not *Scribner's Magazine* for January at hand, but if our correspondent will kindly send the book, we shall be glad to follow his suggestion.—Ed. *J.M.*]

THE TERM "FU."

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—Sometime ago I asked in your columns whether the term *City* was a suitable rendering for the Sinico-Japanese word *fu*, as it appears in such compounds as *Tokyo Fu*, *Kyoto Fu*, etc. I contended that a section of country larger than the State of Rhode Island, and which stretches from Kyoto to the Japan Sea, could hardly be called a *City* without departing very widely from both British and American usage, especially since in the case of Kyoto Futhere is clearly no such commercial or social unity as would seem essential to a single municipality.

Since the question was discussed, the limits of Tokyo Fu have been extended so as to include Hachioji. Is it not now equally out of place to render the compound *Tokyo Fu* so as to imply that Hachiōji is a part of the City of Tōkyō?

The true solution of the difficulty is to be found in abandoning the attempt to represent the distinction between *fu* and *ken* in our English translations and render both words by the term *prefecture*. The distinction in Japanese is simply historical and represents no essential difference in the make up of the *fu* and *ken*. The sole difference lies in the fact that the *Chiji* of a *fu* is *ex officio* mayor of the central municipality, *i.e.*, the *shi* which corresponds approximately to the English terms *city*, while the *Chiji* of a *ken* has no direct connection with the government of the central municipality under his jurisdiction.

This difference chiefly affects the subordinate organization, the *shi*, and certainly is not sufficient to warrant in a translation the use of a different term to designate the *fu* and *ken*; indeed this sole peculiarity in the *fu* organization is not likely to remained long. It has [illegible] attention of the Diet, and will in all probability soon pass away.

Thanking you in advance for the space I have taken, I remain,

Yours, &c., G.
April 5th, 1895.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—I do not wish to be "previous," but the Governor of a *Fu* is called a *Chiji*, whereas the Governor of a *Ken* is known as a *Kenrei*. A *Fu* is a large city in which are many corporations, taking them in the same sense as the City is to London. J.M.B.

Osaka, April 7th, 1895.

The distinction of *Chiji* and *Kenrei* was long ago abandoned. The head of the local administration in either *Fu* or *Ken* is now a "Governor."—Ed. *J.M.*]

THE JAPANESE NEW TESTAMENT TRANSLATION.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—That there are many interpolations in the New Testament now in common use is apparent to any casual reader, and I think this feeling is pretty generally felt. I ask permission, however, to make further inquiry of a somewhat different nature in regard to Matt., 28: 19. The Japanese is as follows:—*Kono yue ni, nanjira yukite banboku no tami ni baptisma wo hodokoshi, Kare wo chichi to, ko to, Sei-rei no na ni tote deshitoshi.* The Greek says, πορευθεντες ουν μαθητευσατε παντα τα εθνη, βαπτιζοντες αυτους εις το ονομα του πατρος και του υιου και του αγιου πνευματος. The different English translations are as follow:—King James: Go ye therefore and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Revised Text: Go ye therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them into the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost; Living Oracles: Go, convert all nations, immersing them into the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit; Rotherham's Translation: Going, therefore, disciple ye all the nations, immersing them into the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. It will be observed that these four translations, following the Original, are uniform in connecting the teaching, converting, or discipling with "all nations," and connect baptism with "in (or into) the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit," and that the Japanese alone has baptism connected with "all nations" and discipling connected with the last clause "into the name of the Father," etc. The English of the Japanese translation seems to be about this: Therefore you going, to the people of all nations deliver baptism, discipling them in the name of the Father and Son and Holy Spirit. I am not prepared to say this is altogether a mistake; it seems to me however not to be a true rendering.

My only apology for often reverting to these matters is that unless the thoughts of the Spirit are given in adequate language to that the Spirit used we cannot hope that the people among whom we labour will have the mind of the Spirit.

Most sincerely, J. M. M'CALEB.
April 9th, 1895.

QUESTIONS RELATING TO THE MANAGEMENT OF FORESTS.

The following Questions and Replies were presented during the last session of the Imperial Diet:—

(These Questions were put in regard to Replies made by the Ministers of State for Agriculture and Commerce to Questions put by Messrs. Tsunematsu Ryukei and Saito Ryosuke upon the Arrangement of Forests.)

1.—In the Replies it is stated that works connected with State Forests are based upon the estimated receipts, and that the areas and quantity of cutting are determined by the Conservators of State Forests. If so, by what standard are the estimated receipts calculated and how are the areas and quantity of tree-felling determined?

2.—The estimated receipts of State Forests for the 28th fiscal year were 940,150.093 *yen*, or a little above 11 *sen* per one *cho*. At such a time as the present, when national outlays are unusually large, receipts accruing from State Forests should be considered a most important source of national revenue. Is the Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce satisfied with such a petty yield as 11 *sen* per *cho*? Is these any hope that the receipts will be augmented in the 29th fiscal year?

3.—The Minister issued a private instruction on March 30th, 1894, to the effect that the work of [illegible] State Forests, and State Fields and Mountains should be suspended. Now special sales of State Forests, State Fields, and Mountains were announced in April, 1890, by Imperial Ordinance No. LXIX.; their sale by previous contract in July of the same year by Notification No. 34; the exchange of land in Sept., 1891, by Instruction No. 385; and the Shrines and Temples Trust Regulations in April, 1891, by Notification No. 5. For many years before these dates there were many cases in which State forests had been disposed of, accomplishing, on the one hand, the object of rearrangement, and on the other, augmenting the productive capabilities of the country, so that the people who participated in these arrangements enjoyed the benefits, a result which does not fail to redound to the promotion of State economy. Yet, in March of last year, the Government suddenly changed its policy with respect to State Forests and so forth, and no inquiries and applications made by the people, submitted in virtue of the rights invested in them by Imperial Ordinance and Regulations, have been attended to, nor has any decision been given as to whether their applications will be entertained or not. Some Local Dendrogical Offices have, in compliance with instructions sent by the Central Government, rejected all such applications. The reason assigned for such a step was vague; namely, that an investigation of the whole Forestry system was at present being carried out. Since the suspension of the Notifications and Instructions was announced, a year has passed and the Government's policy is still undetermined, with the result that rights invested in local people by express provisions of law are practically annulled, thereby subjecting them to no small damage. It needs no arguing that so long as the express provisions of law are neither rescinded nor altered the people ought to enjoy the benefits derivable *from* them. By what authority does the Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce suspend the practical operation of Imperial Ordinances and other rules by private instruction; neglect to carry out proper investigations within limits fixed by Ordinance and other rules; and disregards the rights and interests of the people? Wherein arises this so-called "necessity for investigating the dendrogical system?" It is said that the system of re-arrangement is suspended temporarily; but already a year has passed since the issue of the private instruction. How many more months will be included in that expression "temporarily"?

4.—In the Replies it is stated that an exact discrimination between State forests and private forests is extremely difficult; that it is complicated because more than 10 years have elapsed since the re-assessment of land was carried out, and that a considerable length of time is therefore required for a complete investigation. Yet, what has happened since that re-assessment was carried out more than 10 years ago is not stated; nor is the public allowed to judge whether there-arrangement incidental to that investigation was proper or not. Such matters should not increase in difficulty simply because of the lapse of years, if the first investigation was properly conducted. Was not the great business of the re-assessment of the land-tax, which involved an investigation of the usages and customs of several hundred years, concluded in three years? Yet to rectify mistakes and omissions in investigations carried out at that time, and to determine precise proprietorship, a period varying from three to six years is required for one case. Are not such methods unusually dilatory? It is said that a case in which inquiries have been concluded is still left undecided, while others in which inquiries ought at once to be instituted are left neglected. If so, the Minister must be considered as failing to fulfil his the duties; to hold the rights of the people in contempt, and to disregard their interests. Is this allegation founded on fact? Is the policy hitherto followed to be adhered to in the course of the investigations to be carried out in the future with regard to the proprietorship of forests? If not, what policy will be pursued?

Presented by Nakamura Yaroku.
Supported by Saito Ryosuke and 30 others.

The Government's Replies.

1.—First as to the basis upon which investigations with respect to the compilation of the estimated receipts of the staple products of State forests are conducted: In those localities where works are to be carried out a programme is laid down and the quantity of trees to be felled in a given year is determined in accordance with a fixed routine of periodical cutting, the area of cutting being determined upon the basis of the estimated receipts. In localities for which the compilation of the estimated receipts is still incomplete, investigations as to the felling of forest trees are specially carried out, and the quantity of trees to be felled in the given year is

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determined by the conservators of the forests. In cases where, in accordance with ancient usages the sale of the staple products of State forests is necessary, to satisfy the demands of the people of the localities, or for the furtherance of mining and other enterprises, the demand is generally satisfied within the limits of the capacity of the forests; the profits accruing from such sales is of course entered in the estimated receipts. The mode of determining areas of tree felling and the quantity of trees to be cut down, varies according to the size of the forests, relative accessibility of localities, relative uniformity of trees, species of trees, and their ages; typical grounds and typical trees are regulated in accordance with their nature and species. On the datum obtained the amount of receipts is estimated.

2.—The inadequate receipts from forests is already regarded with dissatisfaction by the present Minister. Yet as the increase or diminution of the receipts is vitally connected with the relative prosperity of the forests, great prudence has to be exercised with regard to their management. If this consideration is overlooked and attention is only given to the mere augmentation of receipts, the evil of excessive felling would be incurred and the damage done would far exceed the temporary gain. The estimated receipts from State forests in the 29th fiscal year being now in course of compilation it is not possible to state with precision whether the receipts will be increased or not.

3.—The temporary suspension of the system of re-arrangement of State forests and fields by a private instruction issued in March, 1894, was perfectly within the competence of the present Minister. The rights of the people are far from being infringed by it, and it is also untrue to say that the interests of the people are being disregarded, for the precautions taken in regard to the re-arrangement of forests will conduce to the permanent interest of the State. In short, the instruction was issued as a temporary measure to accomplish the object of adjusting the proprietorship of the grounds and to develop the productive power of the land so as to enable the people to enjoy, on the one hand, the benefits accruing from its increased productive powers and, on the other, to promote the progress of State economy. It was to secure these objects with greater certainty that the instruction was issued as a temporary measure. The investigation, however, will, it is hoped, be concluded before long.

4.—The decisions regarding forests—whether State or private—whose titles were not complicated, were duly given within five or six years after the conclusion of the re-assessment of the land-tax, and those now in course of investigation by the Department are mostly cases of re-arrangement petitioned for subsequent to 1890. Forests connected with defective investigations are very rare. Yet documents relating to such cases and reports upon the actual condition of affairs are extremely complicated, while there also exist documents the authenticity of which are difficult to ascertain. Again, there are cases in which two different applications have been submitted from one locality. To satisfactorily arrange such cases repeated investigations are required before a decision can be given. This is the principal reason why the arrangement of forests is not more promptly accomplished. In connection with the policy to be hereafter pursued in investigations of this kind, inquiries are being instituted at present as to the best mode of entertaining such applications and judging them; but so long as the inquiries are uncompleted the policy hitherto followed will be maintained.

(Signed) Viscount ENOMOTO TAKEAKI,
Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce.

March 18th, 1895.

QUESTIONS RELATING TO THE ADMINISTRATIVE POLICY IN SANINDO.

1.—THE SUBMARINE CABLE TO OKI ISLAND.

The province of Oki, forming a part of Shimane prefecture, is composed of four islands in the Japan Sea. The nearest island to the main land is about 20 nautical miles distant. The number of houses on the islands is over 7,000, and the population consists of 34,000 souls. The islands are far from deficient in marine products, while farming prospects are hopeful. Yet, owing to the want of communication with the mainland everything is in an imperfect state of development. There are excellent anchorages for ships at Saigo, Fukuura, and Nishigo, and should the means of communication be increased, the progress of the little insular province may be attained in a comparatively short space of time. The harbour of Saigo is especially suited for the accommodation of ships. The bay is deep and would furnish excellent shelter for steamers of several thousand tons. A better harbour would be difficult to find in the Japan Sea, while it is of extreme importance for the defence of the northern coast of the main island. The want of telegraphic communication between it and the mainland is a serious defect, both from the point of view of national defence and national economy. The Government introduced in the 6th session of the Diet an estimate for telegraphic communication between the two places. It was carried through the House of Representatives, but owing to dissolution failed to obtain the consent of the Upper House. How is it that the Government has not introduced this estimate before the present session of the Diet? What policy does the Government intend to pursue in regard to this matter in the future?

COMMUNICATION AFFAIRS.

It needs no argument that telegraphs and posts play a conspicuous part in the development of trade and industry. Yet, in those provinces lying along the Sanindo, especially in the two prefectures of Tottori and Shimane, owing to the inconvenience in the means of communication, enterprises and industries are in a backward state. As it is, the additional construction of telegraphs and the establishment of ports are eagerly desired in those prefectures and, for that purpose, petitions and applications have been submitted to the Government, which, however, still neglects them. What policy does the Government intend to pursue?

THE CONTROL OF RIVERS.

Of the rivers in Sanindo the largest are Gogawa in Iwami, Hii-gawa in Izumo, Hino-gawa in Hoki, and Sendai-gawa in Inaba. These are all of large dimensions and measure from 20 to 50 *ri* from source to mouth. The Go river runs through the three districts of Aki, Bitchu, and Iwami, and is the largest of the rivers in Chugoku. Though the above named rivers do more or less facilitate communication, still they often overflow their banks and devaste surrounding plains. The Go river, for instance, rises as high as 30 *shaku* above the normal level, even when the rainfall is of no exceptional character. During the year before last the inundation caused by the Hii, the Hino, and the Sendai rivers were terrible, inflicting indescribable misery. Such accidents are due to the defective management of the forests lying at the head-waters of the rivers, and the want of a regular system for the re-construction of the river-bed. Yet the Government bestows no attention whatever on these rivers. What policy will it pursue in future in regard to them?

Presented by TSUNEMATSU RYUKEI.
Supported by WATANABE SHINTARO and 29 others.

THE GOVERNMENT'S REPLIES.

The financial exigencies of the war is the sole reason why the Bill relating to the estimate for the construction of a submarine cable at Oki has not been introduced in the present session of the Diet.

As to the additional establishment of posts and telegraphs, the Government has hitherto devised suitable arrangements as occasion required and has not failed to ask the Diet for the needed supplies. That this has not been followed in the present Session of the Diet is due to the reasons specified above.

(Signed) WATANABE KUNITAKE,
Minister of State for Communications.

March 20th, 1895.

The Banks of the Go, the Hii, the Hino, and the Sendai rivers are still being examined. The Government intends, on the completion of this inquiry, to carry out suitable arrangements in accordance with the exigencies of the occasion and the condition of the finances of the country.

(Signed) Viscount NOMURA YASUSHI,
Minister of State for Home Affairs.

March 20th, 1895.

QUESTIONS RELATING TO THE HOKKAIDO ABORIGINES.

1.—It is asserted that the School Fund and the Fund for Encouraging Work among the Hokkaido Aborigines received some time ago grants of money from the Imperial Household, the Departments of Education, and of Agriculture and Commerce. Yet it is said that the Hokkaido Aborigines have never derived any benefits from the money and that they are not only ignorant of its disposal but are even unaware of its receipt. Now, if the money was really given, how much did it amount to, and in what way was the money distributed?

2.—The aborigines living along the banks of the Otsu River in Tokachi province of Hokkaido leased or sold to others between the years of 1870 to 1875 fishing grounds which they owned along that river, and obtained for them the sum of over 30,000 *yen*. In order to increase the amount, the money was handed over to the care of the Colonial Department, which is said to have invested it in the shares of a certain steamship company existing at that time. Yet, up to the present date, the aborigines have never received any of the profits arising from that investment and are even ignorant of what has become of the money. Were the shares really purchased and how were their dividends disposed of? A clear explanation is required.

3.—The aborigines of Hiraga-mura, Shinukotsu-mura, and Sarupo-mura, Saru district, Hadaka province, were engaged some years since in agriculture, for which purpose they opened up land to a certain extent. In 1892, when the Regulations relating to the leasing of land in Hokkaido were amended, and a notification was issued by the Authorities to the effect that intending lessees should send in applications in due form, the aborigines living in those villages asked the village officer and a man named Otani Hakuai to submit applications on their behalf, and each family sent in towards the cost of such application the sum of 20 *sen*. The Headman of the time, named Fukushima Koso, conspiring with two or three others, simply endorsed the applications of the aborigines but did not enter them in the office book. He put them aside and then secretly submitted an application and himself obtained a lease of the land which the aborigines had applied for. The applications from the aborigines were then rejected by him on the ground that they were refused by the Central Authorities. Fukushima and his confederates this leased the land and told the aborigines that unless they paid them rent they must surrender the area they had opened, thereby subjecting them to extreme hardship. Now, though it was pretended by the village office that the applications were sent to the central office, it was apparent that the statement was an utter falsehood, for no seal of the village office or of the geographical section of the Hokkaido Board was affixed its the documents. In leasing land in Hokkaido the ordinary procedure is for competent officials to inquire whether such and such applications have been sanctioned. For what reason was the land opened by the aborigines, and upon which they were subsisting, arbitrarily leased to others? Is this really a fact? A clear explanation is required.

4.—A common fund of 1,600 *yen* belonged to the aborigines living in Shiunkotsu and one other village in Saru district, Hidaka province, and was entrusted to a Government office. The official note acknowledging the receipt of the money was kept by the chief of the tribe of that time, named Isanashira. Since the demise of the chief, however, nothing could be discovered about the fund. It is said that only about 300 *yen* remains of the original amount, and that even this sum was arbitrarily used by the Headman of the village and others toward building new houses. If so, the the whole transaction must be considered as extremely unjust. Besides this common fund there are others of a similar nature which are also said to have similarly disappeared. What system is generally followed by the Hokkaido Board when a common fund owned by aborigines is held in trust? A plain explanation is required.

Presented by SUZUKI JYUBI, and 5 others.

Supported by SAKURAI BEN, and 33 others.

THE GOVERNMENT'S REPLY.

The questions concerning the Hokkaido aborigines being now in course of investigation, no explanation can be given at present. Whenever the Government discovers that anything is amiss it will devise means to properly deal with the case.

(Signed) Viscount NOMURA YASUSHI,
Minister for Home Affairs.

March 20th, 1895.

The total amount of Australasian revenue obtained in 1893 from Customs, Excise, and other taxation was £29,164,286. Of this amount £10,536,504 was obtained by New South Wales, the remaining £18,627,782 being furnished by Queensland, Victoria, South Australia, Western Australia, Tasmania, and New Zealand, a fact which illustrates the superior resources of the parent colony; the proportion of revenue obtained from Customs alone being lower than in any of the other colonies, with the exception of South Australia.

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FORMOSA, THE "BEAUTIFUL ISLAND."

(Translated from the *Kokumin no Tomo.*)

It is perhaps in a measure due to the inaccessibility of the inland mountain ranges as well as to the well-known hostility of the aboriginal inhabitants, that Formosa is, beyond her broad and picturesque western seaboard, hardly known to the outer world. As far as the eastern littoral is concerned one well-known traveller compares it with the dark hemisphere of the moon: we know it is there, but nobody has ever seen it or can, at all events, properly describe it! Despite these evident drawbacks, the island has received the name of *Formosa*, or the "Beautiful," a Latin word which still survives in the modern Spanish *hermosa*, with the same signification. And this appellation has been given to the island because of its luxuriant and remarkable vegetation, its superabundantly fertile soil, and the wonderful semi-tropical climate that is said to be one of the chief attractions of the interior, about which so little is really known.

To judge from the fragmentary history of the island, such as can be gleaned from the works of ancient writers, there seems to be no doubt that Formosa, centuries ago, was inhabited by a race of people very different from the untamed hordes that now infest the interior. They were a race with a high degree of mental development, thoroughly acquainted with the rudiments of the textile and fictile acts, and, above all, adepts in ship-building. The Formosa Channel, that troubled reach of sea between the Chinese mainland and the island proper, has for ages been in ill-repute because of its rapid and perplexing currents, its frequent storms, and the severity of the monsoons. Under these circumstances, it follows that in order to cope properly with the dangers of wind and wave, the early inhabitants of Formosa were compelled to build ships of unusual magnitude for those times. And such indeed was the case. Until three or four centuries ago we read of wonderful pieces of marine architecture: ships more than one hundred feet in length, with two decks, and capable of supporting several scores of people. Nor were these vessels used for peaceful purposes only. Their prime employment was in piracy, in which they and their bold mariners won an unenviable notoriety and became finally the terror of the eastern seas, their raids extending undoubtedly past Cape Cormorin and probably as far west as the Persian Gulf. There may be reason also to attribute the strange appearance of Buddhist symbols and un-American animals—such as the elephant—on the walls of Aztec (*i.e.* ancient Mexican) temples to some very old connection between the Formosans, the Japanese, and the then inhabitants of Mexico. Tumuli have been found on the Mexican coast, in which Japanese armour and weapons were discovered. It is a well-known fact, moreover, that a marine current, which starts south of Japan, sweeps across the ocean to Mexico; in which case it would be a not-too-difficult task for even the comparatively clumsy craft of ancient days to reach the opposite shore. That connection there was, is indisputable.

Formosa, geologically as well as geographically, is an integral part of the Japanese Empire. There can be absolutely no doubt that the Formosa Channel, so shallow and so full of shoals, was once above water. Moreover, it is most easy to trace a distinct geological connection between the whole range of islands that wind northwards from Hainan to the Kuriles. The links in this great insular chain are Hainan, the Pescadores, Formosa, Ryukyu, Ogasawara, the Japanese Archipelago, and the northern isles. Everywhere we find practically the same geological formation, the same fossil shells and fossil plants. Nor was this connection one of very olden times, at least geologically speaking. I have elsewhere endeavoured to prove that the island chain was properly a huge peninsula, or semi-continent, not much over 8,000 years ago. I base this conclusion not only on the discovery of very recent fossils, but also, and principally, on the fact that certain still extant land-shells are to be found in very significant situations. One very beautiful and fragile species is at present to be met with only on the top of a certain hill in Hongkong, in the highlands of Formosa, and near Ashinoyu in the Hakone Mountains. Another small and delicate tree-snail, of the kind popularly know as *kiseru gai* in Japan, *occurs only on two trees near the modern city of Foochow, and on the stone lanterns lining the approach to the shrine of Iyeyasu in Uyeno Park, Tokyo.* Now it is absolutely impossible for the snails to have gone to these two places of their own accord; investigations have rather tended to prove that snails are a sluggish and retiring nature and not at all fond of voyaging. There is no instance, I believe, of a snail having ever been rated as a cabin passenger on any ship of the Yusen Kaisha. Moreover, the genus to which these tree-snails belong, or rather the sub-order, is very ancient, being the prototype or earliest known form of the snail in question. The conclusion forced upon the scientist is that these snails were once widely spread over the Far East of eight or ten thousand years ago; that there was definite land connection between the eastern Chinese sea-board, Hongkong and the adjacent islands, Formosa, and Japan; that in consequence of enormous upheavals of land in some places and deep sinkings in others, the connection was abruptly broken off, including the occurrence of great climatic changes. In consequence of all this, the snails decreased in number, and are only to be found in a few sheltered and particular localities, and have almost became extinct in the fierce struggle for existence with other and stronger rivals better adapted to the new order of things and with special conformations to their environment. I should here like to make a passing reference to the old story of Fuji and Biwa-ko, according to which both the Peerless Mountain and the beautiful lake were formed in one night. There is, it may almost be taken as an axiom, no ancient legend which does not contain some modicum of truth, and does not the conclusion lie near at hand that this ancient tale may have actual reference to some mighty cataclysm of thousands of years ago? Some tremendous natural catastrophe which rent the mountains asunder, caused islands to sink and others to rise, tore Japan and a countless host of islands from the mainland, and made the eastern world very nearly as we now know it? Of course these things may not have happened in a "single night." Such a phrase should be taken in the sense of the "six days" of the Biblical Genesis. I like, however, the term "night" in this connection. It evidently has reference to a period in which the sky was darkened with vast clouds of smoke and ashes, when the orb of day was blotted out, and fearful volcanic action occurred here and there and everywhere. Such things have been, on a less grand scale, even in quite recent times. I need scarcely recall the names of Krakatoa and Bandai, or the dreadful earthquakes in Sicily a few years ago; not to speak of the terrific Lisbon disaster, or even Japan's memorable earthquake of the third year of *Ansei*. Some such forces must have undoubtedly wrested the present islands from the primeval Continent; and concluding from the above scientific data and from reasons that it would be too long to give in particular, I believe that the greatest convulsion occurred about 8,000 years ago, in round numbers.

IS THE ASSERTION THAT THE JAPANESE ARE BARBARIANS TRUTHFUL AND JUST?

By the Rev. H. Loomis.

The one act that has brought a stigma upon the Japanese army in the prosecution of the present war is the conduct of the troops at Port Arthur. That this single event should be made a criterion for an estimate of the Japanese character is entirely unreasonable and a misrepresentation of their spirit and methods of which the nation may well complain.

From a careful reading of the history of the war, and extended observation of the conduct of Japanese soldiers, I have been fully convinced that the impression has been made abroad by the sensational reports of some of the newspaper correspondents was erroneous and unjust.

The Vice-Minister of War has given the following statement in regard to the case; and it is the opinion of one in the highest authority in Japan. The communication is as follows:—

Head-quarters of Army Department,
Tokyo, February 28th, 1895.

Dear Mr. Loomis:—

In regard to the massacre which is said to have occurred at Port Arthur during four days after its capture, I can say a few words, judging from report received from the proper authorities, and from the general state of affairs on the battle-fields which I have seen.

As a general thing the hostile spirit of soldiers is greatly diminished at the end of each battle, much more on the next day, and still more on the next day, and still more on the fourth day; so I firmly believe that such a cruel spirit could not have continued through four days.

As is well known, Port Arthur is a very small place at a point on the sea coast, and as there is no way for the Chinese soldiers to retreat, the number of killed and wounded was of necessity greater than that on an open field: and there is no doubt that those dead bodies were piled up upon one another within the limited space which constitutes Port Arthur. The battle-field ought to have been cleaned up soon; but on the very day of the capture of Port Authur there came a dispatch informing the commander of the commencement of another battle at Kinshu, and also that the defeated Chinese were fleeing from the Port by both the East and West coasts of the peninsula. So our army was engaged so busily in meeting these emergencies that there was no time to remove the dead. In the meantime, the attention of those reporters, who were simply lookers-on, was solely attracted to Port Arthur, so that they hastened to see this most famous place. Under such circumstances those who went on the next day might have seen the sanguinary state of affairs and mistaken it for the cruelty of that day: and so with the others who went there on the third and fourth day. This seems to have been the cause of their misjudgment that the massacre continued for four consecutive days.

Major-General Kodama.

It will be seen that there is no denial that many Chinese were killed on the first day of the fight. At the same time this is spoken of in terms that show a due consideration for what is to be expected from civilized troops in time of battle.

The question then is, was the shooting of so many of the Chinese within the limits of Port Arthur an act of exceptional barbarism, and sufficiently important to make it a test of national character and a matter of universal reproach.

On this point I have been favoured by the opinion of unprejudiced persons of the highest authority; and who were eye-witnesses of what occurred; and they all agree that the newspaper reports were exaggerated and give a decidedly false impression. It was also the unanimous opinion that, *under the same circumstances*, any troops in the world would have probably done the same. The sight of the mutilated bodies of their comrades, and the disfigured heads hanging to the trees as they marched on and through the town, was such a spectacle of horror as to exasperate any body of men and provoke them to deeds of revenge.

As to the continuous slaughter of Chinese soldiers and citizens, this is spoken of as improbable by Gen. Kodama, and one who had equal opportunities with the newspaper reporters to see what took place says that he heard no firing of guns and saw no killing after the first day. He was able to recognize the bodies of the slain which were lying in the streets as those who fell on the first day, and not therefore victims of fresh slaughter as has been stated.

In reading the sensational reports, it is apparently claimed that the Japanese soldiers were exceptionally cruel and their conduct without precedent among civilized people.

But the history of war in all times and under the most favourable circumstances gives instances of actions performed and methods employed that are equally unjustifiable and to be regretted.

I have but to refer to the blowing of the Sepoys from the cannon's mouth at the time of the insurrection in India; and I saw in December, 1863, thirty-five batteries planted just opposite the city of Fredericksburg in Virginia and shot and shell poured into that town with its thousands of helpless and inoffensive people. The same thing was done to the city of Charleston for several weeks or months; and yet such things have been regarded as among the ordinary incidents of war.

I have recently visited most of the Chinese soldiers who were captured in battle, and are now in Japan as prisoners of war, and in every instance the treatment has been exceptionally considerate and generous. While I was able to see only a glimpse of their daily life, I was abundantly satisfied that no other nation would have done any more, and probably not as much, for the comfort and welfare of their foes as has been done here. Not only have the sick and wounded received the same care and treatment as Japanese soldiers, but even artificial limbs have been supplied by order of the Empress to all who were in need of the same.

A captain of one of the Chinese torpedo boats, who was captured at Wei-hai-wei, told me that he and his companions were not only supplied with abundance of ordinary, and even special food, but they were given by their visitors more fruit than they could eat, as well as wines and other luxuries. In consideration of their wishes, four of the officers were retained at Hiroshima, instead of being sent to Tokyo along with their comrades.

I saw also in Tokyo a Japanese sentinel close the temple gate where some Chinese were confined, because the crowd that had gathered in front were disposed to be boisterous and address them in derisive terms.

In the four hospitals and three barracks that I have visited containing Chinese prisoners, I have found the most pleasant and cordial relations existing between them and their attendants. One of the captured officers said: "We have been told that we should be allowed to go out freely, were it not that the Japanese authorities fear that harm might come to us from some rough and irresponsible persons."

I have no desire or purpose to vindicate the unjustifiable killing of any human being, but I

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do wish to object in the strongest terms to any unwarrantable and injurious discrimination against a people that have shown such a spirit of tolerance and charity towards their foes as to render them worthy of the highest praise.

It has been justly and truthfully said that in a conflict where such horrible cruelties have been practised on the part of their enemies, it is a wonder that the Japanese soldiers have been so well restrained, and instead of a single instance of yielding to the spirit of retaliation, their forbearance should have been so uniform and great.

THE POSITION OF JAPAN.

BY AN EX-DIPLOMATIST.

At the commencement of the present war between Japan and China, the opinion and the sympathies expressed in the press of Europe were, in general, unfavourable to China. The motives of Japan in attacking China were declared in many quarters to be either "insufficient," "discreditable," or "unavowable," or all three together; and her ultimate defeat was proclaimed to be inevitable. She had been "foolish and blustering" in attacking a bigger Power than herself, and would have to pay for it. The predictions of her discomfiture—many of which were pronounced in harsh words and with unhesitating precision and certainty—have not, however, been realised thus far. It happens that, on the contrary, Japan has shown herself, hitherto, to be the more capable and therefore the stronger of the two belligerents; the differences which have been revealed between their respective state of preparation, and especially between their totally opposite conditions of organisation and skill, are staring everybody in the face. The army and navy of Japan have proved that they possess the same sort of qualities and can render very much the same services as European forces; while what are called "the limitless resources" of China have been shown to consist of unavailable materials, which, so far as the present conflict is concerned, can scarcely be got into any organised and utilisable shape. As a natural result, and because nothing succeeds like success, European opinion is turning round, and is beginning to transfer its goodwill from China to Japan.

The moment may therefore, be a convenient one for supplying some additional reasons for this change of feeling, and for showing that Japan has right, as well as readiness, capacity, and success, on her side. The immense number of articles which have appeared about the war in the newspapers and magazines of most of the countries of Europe have, as a rule, treated the subject solely from the point of view of the West; scarcely anything has been published in the interest of the East. There may not be much to say on the side of China, but there is a good deal to urge on the side of Japan; and the intention here is to put together some of the elements of that portion of the subject. With the exception of M. de Blowitz, Sir Edwin Arnold, and one or two others, no one has spoken up, thus far, for Japan. As a mere matter of fair play, it is just that what can be said in her behalf should be brought before the public. It is of course difficult to obtain thoroughly reliable information; but enough can be discovered, by any one who takes the pains to search, to render it possible to judge the general situation.

Three main questions are worth examining:—

Why did this war begin?

Under what conditions is it likely to end?

What will be its ultimate effect on the position of Japan towards other countries, and especially towards China?

Two false ideas are current as to the origin of the war. One is, that Japan is an "aggressive," "precipitate," "conceited" land (these are some of the epithets that have been applied to her), who longed to use her new army and navy, and was delighted to find an opportunity of testing them. The other is, that the Japanese Government have sought to escape from the home difficulties resulting from opposition in the Parliament, by the counter-irritation of a foreign war. It has not occurred, apparently, to any of the writers who have put forward these explanations to examine the real facts of the case; to consider whether they, in themselves and by themselves, do not sufficeto explain and justify the course which Japan has been forced to adopt; and to tell the story on those facts, so far, at least, as they can be learned in Europe.

It has been announced by telegraph that at the opening of the Japanese Parliament in October, Count Ito, the Prime Minister, gave a detailed explanation of the events which led up to the rupture, and read the correspondence exchanged with China. But as the text of his speech has not yet reached us, it cannot be quoted here. The materials for a history of the case must, therefore, for the moment, be taken from less authoritative sources.

There appeared in the *Japan Weekly Mail* of 11th August an article headed "The Korean Imbroglio," which gave the completest and most truthful account of the preceding circumstances which has yet been published. The following statement of those circumstances is based, in part on the article, with additions from elsewhere. It is difficult to suppose that the statement can be read without recognising that, instead of being the product either of pugnacious self-assertion or of a desire to escape from home difficulties by outside distractions, the war was in reality thrust upon Japan by the march of events, which, in consequence of their long and irritating accumulation, left her at last no alternative but to fight. No one but the parties to a quarrel can determine how much they will endure for the sake of peace; no looker-on can measure the exact degree of provocation which others feel: all that can be fairly asked, in the interest of outsiders, is that arms shall not be employed until a good deal has been endured, and until the provocation has become too intense to be borne any longer. In this case Japan endured much and was provoked much.

But before describing the immediate origin of the war, it is essential to draw attention to two general causes which have been operating for some time, and which have prepared the ground for the present conflict, irrespective of the specific motives which have precipitated it.

The first of those two general causes is the decision adopted by Japan a quarter of a century ago to prepare herself, by the aid of Western methods, to take a very different place in the world at large from that which either she or China had previously filled. China has never forgiven Japan for adopting that decision: she has regarded it as a disgraceful abandonment of Eastern Asiatic conservatism, and has looked on at its working out with constantly augmenting scorn and rage. A perpetually widening separation has stretched out between the countries in consequence thereof; each despises the other's convictions; motionless China regards advancing Japan as a traitor to the principles and practices which were once common (in a general way) to them both; advancing Japan regards motionless China as a narrow-minded, antiquated bigot. As the *Japan Mail* remarks, "the struggle in Korea is not to determine China's shadowy suzerainty or Japan's political supremacy, but is a contest between Japan progress and Chinese stagnation." There lies the main starting-point of the actual war, which has, as a matter of fact, been becoming more and more inevitable for years past. From the moment when Japan made up her mind to adopt European theories and systems of action, and to a build a new power for herself upon them, China, despising the means but fearing the results, became the latent enemy of Japan. A struggle of ill-will commenced; that it would end some day in war has long looked certain to everybody who knew the nature of the relations that were growing up between Japan and China. Korea has supplied a pretext; but the war was in the air, and would and must have come sooner or later, even if Korea had not existed. Japan had diverged from the path which the two nations had so far followed with approximate parallelism, and China for that reason regarded her as an apostate and a prospective foe.

The second general cause lay in the ideas and attitude of China towards the small States around her frontiers. She viewed and treated them for a long time partly as vassals, but mainly as "buffers for softening the shock of foreign contact." In her peculiar tactics, however, they were to be buffers without imposing any responsibilities on the country they fenced in; they were to be vassals without the protection of a suzerain behind them; they were to bear the blows, but China was not to shield them, or even to doctor the wounds they received in her service, unless on each particular occasion she happened to think fit to do so. Her shadow was cast prerogatively over them, but they were not to expect that a strong hand held a sword behind the shadow. They were told they were independent of all the world, excepting China herself; but China took no steps to guard their independence when it was attacked from elsewhere. So one by one the border States have been occupied and annexed by others. On the frontier of what used to be called Chinese Turkestan (which is regarded as an inherent part of the empire, and not as a vassal State) China has, thus far, it is true, maintained her claims against Russia; but in Tonquin, Annam, Siam, Burmah, we have seen examples of the fashion in which she behaves towards territories she once pretended to call her own. Her attitude was, until quite recently, equally vague and hesitating towards Korea: no knew what she claimed there, and it was not unreasonable to suppose that Korea would be left to shift for herself, like the others. All this must be borne in mind in judging the growth of the question we are considering, for the effect of this permanent vacillation has been to convince everybody, Japan included, that China had no principles of frontier policy, that neither her declarations nor her action concerning border States could be relied on, and that in reality, she had renounced all further influence over them.

And now as to the specific causes which, out of this general situation, have brought about the war.

While abandoning, one after the other, her so-called border States, and while leading all the world to suppose that she had given up meddling with them, China seems (from what we have learnt of late) to have put Korea apart. It must be recognised that she had a reason for desiring that Korea, more than any other outlying retainer, should remain, in some way, under her control. The reason was that, if Korea passed into foreign hands, the command of the Gulf of Pechili and of the sea-route to Pekin would pass with it, while Manchuria, the cradle of the present Chinese dynasty, would become threatened. As those consequences would be serious, it was desirable to preserve Korea. But, according to the ways of China, she must be preserved, not by plain speaking, not by telling other people what was meant, not by proclaiming and carrying out a stated policy, but by the traditionary ancient methods of reservations, for to this day China knows no others. Korea was not to be declared a vassal kingdom; no exposition was to be made of the exact nature of her connection with China: on the contrary, that connection was to be *left* in entire uncertainty, so as to enable China to behave about it in any way she liked, according to what might happen. But at the same time (as has come out now) she was to be kept secretly, by indirect processes, without anybody knowing anything in the antique position of undefined dependence which has failed on other boundaries. She was to be left free towards others, but to be kept subordinate towards China; she was to be independent in public, but dependent in private; she was to be mistress of her own destinies so far as the world could see, but directed by China as between their two selves. As an outcome of these nebulous tactics, Korea concluded in 1876 a direct treaty with Japan, in which she (Korea) declared herself to be an independent State. The exact words employed were, "Korea, being an independent State, enjoys the same rights as does Japan." Direct treaties implying similar independence were signed successively with other Powers, and Japan became entitled to suppose that, if words meant anything, China had abandoned Korea just as she had abandoned her south-western fringes. But although China kept carefully out of sight, made no objection to the treaties and did not say a word about them, although she appeared to claim no longer any suzerainty over Korea, and almost ceased (externally and visibly) to occupy herself about her, she did not by any means intend, at the bottom of her heart, that the freedom these treaties presupposed on the part of Korea should become an effective reality. Her eternal system of subterfuge, equivocation, and back-stairs intrigue was kept going furtively, but in this case resolutely. Korea was to proclaim herself free to make treaties, but she was not to be free to execute them. To prevent her from executing them a Chinese agent was placed at Söul, with instructions to profit by the disordered condition of the local government in order to organise Chinese influence, and to inaugurate a system of concealed but steady interference in the home and foreign affairs of Korea. Then it happened that, as Japan was the closest neighbour of Korea, as well as by far the most important commercial dealer with her, it was precisely Japan which felt most keenly, in every-day contact, the difficulties thrown in the way of the working of the treaty. And this was not all; those difficulties extended to everybody and everything, but they were far more numerous, persistent, and irritating towards the Japanese in particular, because of the hate of the Chinese for a Government and people whom they regarded as renegades and as unworthy imitators of Europe. In every form, in the smallest details of daily intercourse, in commerce, in matters of administration and police, the Japanese who had come into Korea under the treaty were made to feel that China was doing her utmost, by underhand and clandestine processes, to render the country untenable for them: they were everywhere hampered, foiled, and opposed by Chinese hidden action.

This action operated principally through the family of the Korean Queen. That family had

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managed to get hold of every department of State, worked them all for its own profit, and thought it clever to support itself in power against local hostilities by the assistance of the Chinese, with whom, in return, it allied itself against Japan. Under the combined pressure of the Queen's party and of the agents of Pekin, the Government of Korea fell into disgraceful disorder; bribery and corruption were the bases of authority; the misery of the people became such that rebellions were frequent, and were suppressed with growing difficulty. In 1882, and again in 1884, the partisans of China attacked the Japanese Legation in Sōul, and the Japanese Minister, Hanabusa (though he happened to be a particularly brave man), had to fly for his life. In consequence of these proceedings Japan claimed and obtained the right to maintain a guard at the Legation, and in 1885, after urgent representations and difficult negotiations, concluded a special convention with China (who had at last shown her hand) for the arrangement of difficulties in Korea, by which, amongst other things, each nation pledged itself not to send troops into Korea without notifying the intention to the other, so placing them both on a footing of equal military rights there.

But notwithstanding this convention, China continued her occult interference in Korea, and went on raising so many annoyances for the Japanese residents that their situation became more and more intolerable. They had no longer before them the independent country which had signed the treaty of 1876, but a country which had relapsed into dependence on China, which took all its orders from China, and which simultaneously had fallen into the most wretched condition of misgovernment. Hearts grew full of rage: the local situation was the external motive of that rage; but underneath the external motive lay festering international hate,—China regarding Japan more and more as a deserter from the common cause of old Eastern Asia, and Japan beginning to ask herself whether any argument other than the active employment of the new forces she had constituted for herself, under the influence of Western example, would convince China that she had been right in following that example. This state of things was visible to every one who was in a position to watch what was passing; so visible, indeed, that it is incomprehensible that no one on this side of the earth has told the story already. The *Japan Mail* alone has narrated it; and few Europeans see that paper.

Again, the interior condition of Korea was becoming such that motives and opportunities were growing up of a nature to render possible the intervention of other Powers, a contingency which Japan could not view with indifference. To leave Korea to drift into such a state of disorder and anarchy that another strong hand might find occasion for putting down its grasp, was not an eventuality which Japan could allow to assume a shape. Korea is the immediate neighbour of Japan, to whom the presence of foreign forces there would have been most offensive. Japan called earnestly, at Pekin and at Sōul, for reforms, in order to avert this contingency; but no real answer was made to her communications.

So things went on, strained and irritating: old deeply-seated fundamental hates and fresh superficial dissensions reacted on and augmented each other. The Korean people got into such misery that, in the spring of this year, a serious insurrection broke out against the Government. The queen's party, trembling for their authority, appealed to China for aid to quell the revolt; 2,500 men were sent at once from Tientsin, and notice of their landing was given to Japan, in conformity with the convention of 1885.

By that time the situation in Korea, as viewed from Japan, had arrived, in substance, at this—so far, at least, as it is possible to define it by the light of accessible information. Here is a country, so close to us that we cannot fail to feel keen interest in it, both politically and commercially; a country with which we have a treaty bestowing on us certain clearly defined rights, which rights we cannot exercise because China stands in the way; a country which is so odiously misgoverned that it is becoming a source of varied dangers to us. It is hopeless, as things stand, to think of introducing reforms into it; for China—who has revived the claims of suzerainty which, a short time ago, she kept so carefully out of sight that, especially with the experience before us of her attitude on other frontiers, we are justified in supposing them abandoned—cannot be expected to allow in Korea administrative changes which she will not apply at home. By sending troops, indeed, to support the present Government, she proves that she means to keep things as they are. Under such circumstances there is nothing left for us but to act for ourselves.

So Japan, following the example of China, despatched regiments to Korea, and laid before the Cabinets of Sōul and Pekin a programme of the reforms in Korea which, for her own safety, she considered indispensable.

From that the war has grown.

Now, after this statement, which is correct and fairly put, will any one deny that Japan had reason on her side, and that she could endure no more? What war in Europe has ever been commenced for more justifying motives? The general attitude of China towards Japan has been for twenty years unfriendly, suspicious, contemptuous; her particular attitude in this matter of Korea has been double-faced, stealthy, wilfully deceptive. However much it may be regretted that the war has begun, it must, at all events, be avowed that Japan was driven to it by a long accumulation of grave causes of complaints. The assertion that she wished for it, that she had been preparing for it, that she meant to have it, is easy enough to make; but it proves nothing. It is probable that she did know it had to come; for all fairly well informed outsiders have been expecting it, though none of them could have known a tenth part of the details which must have been before the eyes of the Cabinet of Tokyo. It may be that, wisely and prudently, Japan got ready. But she was provoked to get ready by the conduct of China alone. If China had had left Japan to travel on her road, had respected the new principles of action she had chosen to adopt, and had allowed her to carry out her treaty with Korea, the war would never have occurred at all; there would have been no reason for it. China has caused the war by her unpardoning jealousy of the progress of Japan, and, subsidiarily, by her tricky deceit in Korea. It is time the European public recognised this truth.

We come now to the second question, Under what conditions is the war likely to end?

If we may venture to base an opinion on what has happened already, and presume that the causes which have hitherto given superiority to Japan will continue to work for her in the future, it may be supposed that, in some degree which cannot for the present be determined, Japan will go on conquering, and that the war will end when China has had enough. If so, and if the two sides are left face to face to make a settlement for themselves, China will necessarily have to yield compensations to Japan. But here comes in the possibility of that foreign intervention which has been so much but so vaguely talked about.

What pretext exists for foreign intervention? We do not know what motives were invoked by Lord Rosebery in his recent unsuccessful proposals to the Powers; judging from the evidence before the public, it looks improbable that—however urgently China may beg for it—intervention will be attempted while the war lasts. The fight between Japan and China, regarded merely as a fight, concerns no one but the parties to it; it is only by its collateral effects that it can touch others. Thus far those collateral effects have been limited to relatively slight inconveniences; neither the persons nor the trade of foreigners have been damaged by the war itself. And even if, in certain cases, some little harm has been done to commerce, that harm has been far more than compensated by the new special and very lucrative business which the war has brought into existence, to the great benefit of neutrals. The risks to foreigners in China arise from Chinese temper, with which Japan has nothing whatever to do, except indeed to point to it as showing how barbarous is the condition of China, and how impossible it is to trust her. She might point, just in the same way and with as much reason, to the brutality shown to Japanese subjects in China when the war began, and might compare it with the decree of the Mikado of September 4, authorising the Chinese to remain in Japan and placing them under the protection of the authorities, which decree has been scrupulously respected by the Japanese people. The necessity of protecting foreigners in China is a regrettable accident, but it can in no way affect the rights of Japan as a belligerent. The difficulties provoked directly by the war must go a long way beyond the local question of the safety of foreigners in China, before Japan can be held responsible to outsiders for any accessory consequences, and especially before outsiders can claim, towards Japan, any right of intervention. It may be presumed that Japan, who has shown intelligence enough in the management of her affairs, will take good care that her naval and military operations shall be so conducted as to supply no valid excuse for intervention.

And if no such excuse should be found while the war is proceeding, is there any reasonable probability before us that intervention would become more justifiable when the moment arrives to discuss terms of peace? That again would depend, so far as reason can furnish an answer to the question, on the effect on the interests of other Powers of the conditions which Japan (supposing her to go on winning) might seek to impose on China. No European can pretend to say now what those conditions would be: Japan herself cannot be in a position to define them yet, for they would of necessity vary with the degree of her final success, and with the surrounding circumstances of the time. We may suppose, if we like, that Japan would ask for a money indemity, for guarantees that China would behave to her thenceforward with the respect to which she is entitled, for the independence of Korea, for the introduction of settled government there, and perhaps for the formal entry of the Japanese army into Pekin (if it were not taken already), and for the temporary occupation of certain districts until the conditions of peace were carried into execution. So far the conditions would be so moderate, and would follow so closely the habitual practices of Europe, that no foreign Power could find in them any plea for intervention. But let us imagine, as mere hypothesis, that Japan asked for territory as well. What then? The newspapers have been suggesting that there would be no objection to her annexing Formosa, but that there would be resistance if she attempted to acquire any continental territory, either in Korea or elsewhere. So, if the papers which have treated the question have judged correctly, the prospect of intervention at the conclusion of peace may by considered to be limited, practically, to the dispositions which Japan might manifest as regards annexations on the mainland.

Now it may be that Japan would not have the slightest desire for any such annexations,—no one knows, or can know, one word about it; but, as the question has been publicly raised, it is as well to ask what right others would have to deny to her the prerogatives of extension which they themselves are applying all over the earth? As all the great European Powers are seizing outlying land, however distant from them, wherever they can lay their hands on it, with what reason could they tell Japan that they would not allow her to incorporate into her empire any portions of the provinces of a vanquished enemy, even if they lay at her very doors? The answer is, of course, the right of the strongest. Which means that if intervention by words did not suffice to dissuade Japan from taking Asiatic territory—on the hypothesis that she may desire to do so, which has been laid before the world, but about which nobody knows anything whatever—intervention by force would be employed to prevent it.

But who would employ force? Not Germany; neither of them would feel any interest in the affair. Not England (unless, indeed, Russia intervened in a manner which would oblige England to act for herself), for it would matter nothing to her, provided the Chinese markets for her goods were in no way affected, if Japan obtained a settlement on the mainland. Russia, however, is in a different position, and it is to Russia that the newspapers point when they talk of resistance.

Just as the objects of England are exclusively commercial, and in no way political, so are the objects of Russia exclusively political, and in no way commercial. Just as England wants no territory at all in Eastern Asia, so does Russia long for every yard of it she can acquire. Russia cannot allow Japan—the newspapers have been insisting on this—to settle herself either in Korea or in Northern China; she can permit no influence to be established there which could in any way interpose a barrier to her own extension when the time comes. The presence on the mainland of an energetic, well-armed Power like Japan would constitute an obstacle; therefore no such obstacle must be constituted.

Of course all this is mere speculation, based on nothing but presumption; but in considering the possibilities of the future, where there are no ascertained facts to guide us, speculation cannot be avoided. And in this case it is all the more excusable because, if there are no facts, there are, at all events, glaring notorieties of intention on the part of Russia, and there have appeared recently most explicit declarations in certain organs of the Russian press. Individual opinion, which may be right or may be wrong, has no need to express itself here: the fixed impression of the greater part of Europe is before us, and that impression is that Russia is waiting for Manchuria, and will take it, with Korea and the northern provinces of China as well, if anyhow she can get them. The majority of people are convinced—and no protestations of injured innocence from Russia will unconvince them—that Russia means to do all this, just as she has pursued for fifty years the absorption of all Central Asia. But, at the same time, everybody is ready to suppose that she will wait patiently until the fruit is ripe enough to pluck. There is "a sick man" at Pekin as well as at Constanti-

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nople. This being the general condition of European public feeling in the matter, it is probable that there would be difficulties for Japan if when discussing hereafter the terms of peace with China, she should raise any claim for continental territory, even in Korea. Up to that point, however—and that point may never be reached—there is no sufficient reason, as things stand to-day, for apprehending any interference on the part of European States.

Supposing, therefore—and something must be supposed, because otherwise nothing could be said—that Japan does finally come out the victor, she will be left, in all probability, to make her own terms of peace, provided she asks for nothing on the continent.

The third matter for consideration is the effect of the war on the future position of Japan towards other countries, especially towards China.

It is impossible to doubt that, whatever be the fashion in which the war may finish, its foremost and most permanent effect will be to raise Japan to a very different standing from that she has occupied hitherto in the world. She has supplied such unexpected proofs of her capacity that opinion about her is rising high. Everybody recognises that, suddenly, a new force has come into existence in the East. The campaign on sea and on land has shown that Japan possesses a practical adaptability, a faculty of applying teaching, a spirit of order, of elaboration, of organisation, which puts her entirely apart in Asia, and lift her to a level with Europe.

In the present day the value of nations is counted mainly by their fitness for fighting, and it cannot be denied that from that point of view Japan has shown herself to possess much value. Either as an enemy or as an ally she is now well worth the consideration of other nations. But it happens that her progress has not been towards the power of war alone: it has stretched out simultaneously in almost every other direction. Here are half-a-dozen facts as examples of what she has been doing. Her population has augmented *from* 33 millions in 1872, to 41 millions in 1892. Her foreign trade, the tonnage of her merchant shipping, and the movement of vessels in her ports, have all doubled in the last ten years. Manufactures of varied natures have been established and are prospering actively—some of them, indeed, brilliantly. The national wealth is increasing rapidly, one proof whereof is that the whole of the war loans issued hitherto have been subscribed inside the land. And—more important and more striking than all the rest—education is compulsory, and the schools of Japan are almost as numerous as those of Great Britain, while the level of teaching in them is quite as high. There are 26,000 primary schools in Japan, and, according to the last Statistical Abstract, there are 31,000 inspected schools in the United Kingdom and Ireland.

This universality of advance is an argument in itself. Hitherto it has been ignored, and the oppressive treaties which Japan signed forty years ago, in utter ignorance of their real meaning, have been maintained against her, as if she were still in her former condition. But they can be kept up no longer; this war has killed them. England, to her credit, has been the first to change them without waiting for the evidence of the war; other Powers will be obliged to follow her example. When it is remembered that the total number of foreign residents in Japan, men, women, and children, of all ranks and nationalities (for whose benefit these treaties have been kept up), is, excluding Chinese, only 4,200, it becomes difficult to believe that, in the interest of that little group, nearly all the nations have joined together to grind down such a country as Japan.

But this cannot last. The world is perceiving, with astonishment, that a real Power is arising in the East, and is beginning to claim its place in the sunlight—the sunlight, be it remembered, of which it is called the birth-land. It will be useless, as things are marching, to continue to deny that place to Japan; it will be ungenerous to postpone the frank recognition of it. England has been the first to alter the treaties with Japan; may she also be the first to hold out a hand of confidence and esteem to her.

Towards China the position to be taken up by Japan after the war would, apparently, be something of this sort. If Japan should win finally—and it is becoming every day more difficult to fancy that she can fail to win—she would become the political leader of the Far East, and China would be placed in the second rank. But it appears to be very probable that, however resolutely Japan might claim and occupy the front place, it would be her interest to establish (if possible) thoroughly friendly and co-operative relations with China. If the future international policy of Japan be based, as it is reasonable to imagine it will be, on the ambition that Eastern Asia shall count henceforth as a new living force in the world, and that she herself shall be the guiding spirit of that force, an alliance for mutual advantage and concert between herself and China will almost of necessity appear to her to be a desirable condition thereof. The two would gain by working heartily together towards others. Of the dispositions of Japan in that direction it is difficult to doubt; the line of conduct that would suit her seems self-evident. But would China accept friendly relations with her? And if she did appear to accept them, would she do so frankly, honestly, cordially, without those mental reservations to which allusion has already been made, and to which she is so addicted? Would she—could she—shake off her pride, her jealousy, her corruption, her stagnation, in order to give practical effect to a new policy? Would she enter into a union with Japan in which the latter would be the "dominant partner," and would she fit herself by a totally changed attitude and system, as Japan has done, to serve the general cause of Eastern Asia?

That Japan would desire all this looks clear—so far, that is, as an opinion can be formed from the outside. It is in the nature of things that, after acquiring supremacy over China, she should wish to join hands with her for their common good. But what China may consent to do, and what—even if she consents to anything—she may really do, is a very different matter. She would have an opportunity, under totally new conditions, of emerging from her shell, and of becoming something in the outside world; but she could only attain those ends by imitating Japan as regards working means, and by following her lead as regards political action. Would she—could she—do either? If she refused, or if she were unable (and most of the people who know China declare positively that she would be unable), then Japan would have to continue on her road alone, and to labour for her own hand exclusively; which would mean, so far as the future can be judged by the present, the steady political rise of Japan, and the corresponding political decline of China.

For lookers-on, like ourselves, the situation is deeply interesting. New Powers are not often born into the world of our day: Prussia was the last to bring herself forth; Japan, apparently, will be the next.—*Blackwood's Magazine.*

THE BAPTIST MISSIONARY CONFERENCES.

The annual conference of the American Baptist Missionary Union and the Southern Baptist Convention were held in Tokyo April 5th to 9th inclusive, except Sunday. The conference of the missionaries of the A.B.M.U. occupied Friday, Saturday, and Monday mornings; the joint conference (including, in fact, all Baptist missionaries in Japan) occupied Monday afternoon and Tuesday. The business sessions were held morning and afternoon, in the home of Rev. and Mrs. C. H. D. Fisher, 30B, Tsukiji; a very delightful social meeting was held Friday evening at 30A, Tsukiji, the residence of Rev. and Mrs. G. W. Taft. There were between thirty and forty present at the various sessions; of the visitors may be mentioned Miss Zerfluf, of Sendai; Rev. G. E. Dienst, of Tokyo; Rev. and Mrs. Dr. Partridge, of the Baptist Mission at Swatow, China; and Rev. D. H. Drake, of the Telugu Mission in India. The absent brethren and sisters were kindly remembered, especially Rev. and Mrs. Dr. Rhees, of Kobe; Mrs. Sharland, of Chofu; and Miss Mead, of Sendai,—all absent on account of severe illness.

The annual sermon was preached by Rev. W. E. Story, of Chofu, from Revelations 11:15:—"The Kingdoms of this world are become the Kingdoms of our Lord, and of his Christ; and he shall reign for ever and ever." His subject, "The Kingdom of God," was thoughtfully and earnestly discussed under the following heads:—

1. As a development.
2. In its power.
3. In its relation to individual character.
4. In its universal extent.

The officers of the A.B.M.U. Conference were elected as follows:—

President—Rev. J. L. Dearing, of Yokohama.
Vice-President—Rev. W. E. Story.
Secretary—Rev. S. W. Hamblen, of Sendai.
Executive Committee: Rev. S. W. Hamblen. Prof. E. W. Clement, of Tokyo. Rev. R. A. Thomson, of Kobe.
Statistician—Rev. John L. Dearing.
Preacher (next Conference)—Rev. E. L. Waine, of Fukuoka.
Alternate—Rev. A. A. Bennett, of Yokohama.

The following officers were elected in the Joint Conference of Baptist Missionaries:—

President—Rev. E. L. Waine.
Vice-President—Rev. J. H. Scott, of Osaka.
Secretary—Rev. S. W. Hamblen.

And these three officials constitute the Committee of Arrangements for the next Conference.

It is, perhaps, unnecessary to distinguish further the two conferences, or to give the details of the business of both; it is sufficient to make mention of only those items of the greatest importance or of general interest. It is the common opinion that these conferences were not one whit less, but perhaps even more, interesting and profitable than previous gatherings.

Many reports, especially the statistical ones, are too lengthy to transcribe here, and are difficult to summarize: but from them interesting and important items may be culled. The total number of Baptist missionaries in Japan, counting married missionaries' wives, is 57, of whom 6 belong to the Southern Baptist Convention, 5 are independent (or self-supporting), and the remainder are registered under the American Baptist Missionary Union, including 15 representatives of Women's Baptist Missionary Societies.

From the report of the Committee on Publications, we take the following:—"The Committee also made a special grant of 10 copies of the *Kanamajiri* New Testament to the Okayama Orphan Asylum, and of 1,000 Scripture Portions to the Scripture Union for free distribution in the island of Oshima. Both of these grants were gratefully acknowledged." In connection with this very appropriately goes the following about religious publications in the vernacular: "Some of these [periodicals] have a large circulation. For instance, *Yorokobi no Otozure* is published twice a month, each edition being 3,300 copies; and the *Chiitaki Otozure* has also two editions per month of 4,800 copies each. The total issue of these two papers alone thus aggregates 194,400 copies per annum." The Hymn-Book Committee reported that about 250 hymns, mostly new, were ready for publication, and that the work of printing the revised edition had actually commenced. In fact, a few sample pages of hymns with terms were submitted for inspection.

The publication of the little monthly English sheet, called "Gleanings," and facetiously dubbed the "baby organ" of the Conference was most heartily approved. The editor and business manager is Rev. S. W. Hamblen, Sendai, and the publisher is Rev. A. A. Bennett, Yokohama. It is issued on the 15th of each month; and serves admirably as a means of intercommunication between the different workers, and of communication with friends in the home land. The publication of a Baptist magazine in the vernacular was a question of prolonged discussion, and was finally referred to a committee consisting of Revs. Bennett, Waine, Hamblen, Parshley, and Thomson. The "Baptist Missionary Review," a monthly magazine intended to represent all the Asiatic missions of the Baptist church, was also approved. It is published in Madras, India; its business manager is Rev. David Downie, of Nellore, India; the Editor-in-chief is Rev. F. McLaurin, of Bangalore, India; and the corresponding Editor for Japan is Rev. S. W. Hamblen, of Sendai. This magazine is published, of course, in English.

The reports with reference to the Theological Seminary in Yokohama showed that faithful work had been done there the past year both by teachers and by pupils; and that the new buildings, with improved conveniences of all kinds, are highly appreciated by all. The President, Rev. John L. Dearing, has just closed his first year in that service, and has proven to be the right man in the right place. A plan for the reorganization of the management of the Seminary was carried. By this the Conference becomes an Advisory Board, of which there is an Executive Committee of three members; and there is also established an Examining Committee of three members. The former consists of President Dearing, Revs. R. A. Thomson, and S. W. Hamblen; the latter of Revs. E. L. Waine, J. H. Scott, and C. H. D. Fisher. The duties of the Advisory Board and of the committees are carefully defined in bye-laws.

The various reports of the schools for girls (in Tokyo, Yokohama, Sendai, Chofu, and Himeji) were encouraging. From the report of the school at Surugadai, Tokyo, we take the following interesting item:—"One of our old graduates has finished paying a debt to the school of 36 *yen*. This is so uncommon an occurrence that it seems fitting to notice it thus publicly."

The Boys' School in Osaka, though not a permanent institution, is prosperous under the supervision of Rev. J. H. Scott. In accordance

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with the report of a committee, the Conference reiterated its request for the establishment of a Boys' School in Kobe.

The preparations already made and still making for the opening of a Baptist Academy for Boys in Tokyo were reported by Principal E. W. Clement. This school will be opened September, and will be temporarily located at 42, Tsukiji. Prof. Torajiro Watase, an experienced educator and an earnest Christian worker (now Vice-President of the Tokyo Young Men's Christian Association), has been secured as Associate Principal. This institution will offer a five years' course, practically the same as that of a *Jinjo Chiu Gakko* (Common Middle School), but with beneficial variations.

Among the resolutions passed is the following: "Resolved, that we record our deep sense of the loss we have sustained in the death of that friend of missions, Rev. A. J. Gordon, D.D., and that we extend our condolence to his bereaved family." This same feeling was more practically expressed by means of contributions toward the A. J. Gordon Memorial Fund for Foreign Missions, for which the sum of 183 *yen* was in a few minutes subscribed. This amount will be somewhat increased by the contributions of the absent members of the Conference.

The papers read and discussed were of an especially practical term, and were unusually interesting and suggestive. These included the following:—"Church Discipline—How Secured and How Stringent?" by Rev. J. H. Scott; "Self-Support—What?" by Rev. W. B. Parshley; and "Self-Support—How Attained?" by Rev. S. W. Hamblen. The time for discussion was, however, so limited, that it was voted to take up these topics again at the next Conference to be held in Kobe, early in April, 1896.

One of the most interesting features of the entire programme of both conferences was the "Sketch of Dr. Nathan Brown," by Rev. A. B. Bennett. To write that biography no man could be found better fitted in all respects than the one who had been associated with Dr. Brown, and who knew him so well and loved him, and yet is too sincere to be a servile Boswell. The biography, couched in strong and beautiful English, pictured Dr. Brown in the light of that one phase of his character that entitled him to be called always "loyal." This element of loyalty to duty was the striking characteristic of Dr. Brown's nature, and was manifested in all places, times and ways, throughout his long and varied life in several lands. And Mr. Bennett's Sketch so impressed the members of the Conference, that it was unanimously voted to request the publication of the paper, not only in the minutes, but also in the *Japan Mail*, some of the Baptist papers in America, and in pamphlet form.

CHESS.

(All Communications to be addressed to the Chess Editor.)

The Yokohama Chess Club meets at the Club Hotel, No. 5, Bund, on Monday and Thursday in each week from 5 to 11 p.m.

The Tokyo Chess Club meets at the Tokyo Hotel every Friday from 1 to 7 p.m.

Solution of Problem No. 171.

WHITE.	BLACK.
1—P to Kt 3	1—K to Kt 2
2—Q to Q R sq.	2—K × Kt
3—Q to K R sq., mate	
	if 2—K to B or R sq.

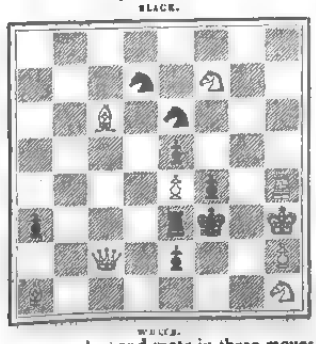
3—Q × B, mate.

Correct solutions received from Digamma, Omega, W.H.S., J.D., and E. J. King.

Problem No. 173.

By S. Loyd.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in three moves.

Game No. 247.

The following game is a local effort. It was played between Mr. J. Davieson, Secretary of the Yokohama Chess Club, and Mr. E. J. King, a Resident of Hakodate. It was begun last November as a Correspondence game, but after Black's 17th move, Mr. King paid a visit to Yokohama and the game was finished in short order over the board.

SICILIAN DEFENCE.

WHITE. Mr. E. J. King.	BLACK. Mr. J. Davieson.
1—P to K 4	1—P to Q B 4
2—K Kt to B 3	2—P to K 3
3—B to Q Kt 5	

White goes astray here, Black's next move forcing him to retreat and thus lose valuable time. 3—P to Q 4 is the customary move.

	3—P to Q R 3
4—B to K 2	4—Q to B 2

Black starts in promptly to lay his guns for an attack on White's position.

5—P to Q 4	5—P takes P
6—Q takes P	

This leads to another inglorious retreat and seems to be plying Black's game.

	6—Kt to Q B 3
7—Q to Q sq.	7—Kt to K B 3
8—Kt to Q B 3	8—B to K 2
9—B to K Kt 5	

Initiating an attack on Black's Queen, which is well met later on.

	9—P to K R 3
10—B to K R 4	10—Castles
11—Castles	11—R to Q sq.

A good move which nullifies the strategy of White.

12—B to K Kt 3	12—P to Q 3
13—Kt to Q 2	13—Kt to Q 5

Black takes up the attack in earnest and has the upper hand from now on to the end.

14—P to K B 4	

Well meant but quite ineffective against Black's forward play.

	14—Kt takes B (ch.)
15—Kt takes Kt	15—P to Q Kt 4
16—P to Q B 3	16—B to Q Kt 2

Black follows up his advantage in good style and White soon must fight for his life.

17—Kt to Q 4	17—B takes K P

From this point the game was continued over the board to Black's glory and White's discomfiture.

18—Kt takes B	18—Kt takes Kt
19—Q to K B 3 (?)	19—Kt to Q 7
20—Q to B 2	20—Kt takes R
21—R takes Kt	21—P to Q 4

Black pounds away; giving his adversary no rest. He is already a pawn and the exchange ahead while White grows weaker at every step.

22—P to K B 5	22—P to K 4
23—Kt to K 6	

White keeps up an ineffectual struggle but there is "nothing in it." He only gets deeper in the mire: and might now resign with good grace.

	23—P takes Kt
24—P takes P	24—B to Q B 4
25—Q takes B	25—Q takes Q (ch.)
26—K to R sq.	26—R to K B sq.
27—R to K sq.	27—Q R to K sq.
28—P to K R 3	28—R takes P
29—B takes P	29—Q to K B 7
30—B to Kt 3	30—R takes R (ch.)
31—K to R 2	

White apparently disdains to cry "peccavi" and insists on getting the *coup de grace*.

	31—Q to K Kt 8 mate.

It is plain that Mr. King is much out of practice; and that in the above game Black had an easy victory. We hope that there will be a further contest or contests, which may prove to be more equal.

Walbrodt, says the *Deutsches Wochenschach* (as translated for the *Baltimore News*), "wears great blue eyes surmounted with dark eyebrows, a small mouth, neat little chin. At Leipsic he made himself a universal favourite. Theoretical study, or the analysis of played games, is not a part of his make-up. He says naively:—'If I sit at the board, the moves go quite another way from the way they stand in the books!' His friends argue that he only lacks study to reach the highest rung. But you cannot set a genius straight, 'He mann e'en gang his ain gait.'"

Game No. 248.

"TWO KNIGHTS DEFENCE."

WHITE. Mephisto.	BLACK. S. Tinsley.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—Kt to K B 3	2—Kt to Q B 3
3—B to B 4	3—Kt to B 3
4—Kt to Kt 5	4—P to Q 4
5—P takes P	5—Kt takes P
6—Kt takes B P	6—K takes Kt
7—Q to B 3 ch.	7—K to K 3
8—Kt to B 3	8—Q Kt to Kt 5
9—Q to K 4	9—P to Q Kt 4
10—B to Kt 3	10—B to Kt 2
11—P to Q 4	11—B to Q 3 (a)
12—P takes P	12—B to B 4
13—Q to Kt 4 ch. (b)	13—K to B 2 (c)
14—B to Kt 5	14—Q to K sq.
15—Castles Q R	15—Q to K 3
16—Q to B 3 ch.	16—K to K sq. (d)
17—Kt takes Kt	17—Kt takes Kt
18—R takes Kt (e)	18—Q to K Kt 3
19—P to K 6	19—R to K B sq.
20—Q to B 7 ch. (f)	20—R takes Q
21—P takes R ch.	21—K to B sq.
22—R takes B	22—P to K R 3
23—B to Q 2	23—Q takes Kt P
24—R to K sq.	24—Q takes B P
25—R takes B P	25—Q takes R ch. (g)
26—B takes Q	26—P to Kt 3
27—B to Kt 4 ch.	27—K to Kt 2
28—P to B 8 double check and mate!	

(a) Q to Q 3 was better, *e.g.* 12—Q to Q 3; 13—Kt takes P, Q to Kt 3; 13—Q takes P ch., K to Q 2; 14—Q to B 5 ch., K to Q sq.; 15—B to Kt 5 ch., Kt to K B 3, &c., with an even game.

(b) Prettily played, disdaining the prosaic procedure, P to Q R 3 which wins a piece.

(c) If 13—K takes P; 14—B to K Kt 5, Q to K B sq.; 15—Castles Q R, P to Q B 3; 16—K R to K sq. ch., K to Q 3; 17—B to K B 4 wins.

(d) Weak; K to Kt 3 was better.

(e) Grand play! Black cannot take the R on account of B takes B threatening B to B 6 ch.

(f) Another beautiful and masterly stroke.

(g) Forced, on account of the impending mate with the Q at K 8.

Referring to Tarrasch's apparent inability to show his proper form in encounters with Mieses, Mr. John A. Galbreath remarks that instances of the same kind of thing are shown in the defeats of Bird by Gunsberg in the proportion of 14:2, of Mackenzie by Mason in the proportion of 7:1, and of Tschigorin by Mason in the proportion of 6:1. Blackburne, again, lost a large majority of games to Mackenzie, in playing with whom he never showed at his best, but Mason has been obliged, "almost invariably, to lower his colours to Blackburne. These cross results are unaccountable."

Game No. 249.

(Played in the Brooklyn C.C. Championship Tourney.)

WHITE. Souweine.	BLACK. Bradford.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—Kt to K B 3	2—Kt to Q B 3
3—B to Kt 5	3—P to Q R 3
4—B to R 4	4—Kt to B 3
5—Castles	5—Kt takes P
6—P to Q 4	6—B to K 2
7—R to K sq.	7—Kt to Q 3
8—P takes P	8—Kt to Kt 4
9—P to B 4	9—Kt (Kt 4) to R 2
10—Kt to B 3	10—Castles
11—Kt to Q 5	11—P to Q Kt 4
12—P takes P	12—P takes P
13—B to B 2	13—B to Kt 2
14—Kt takes B ch.	14—Kt takes B
15—B takes P ch.	15—Resigns (a)

(a) Because if 15.....,, K takes B; 16—Kt to Kt 5 ch., K to K 3; 17—Q to Q 3 ch., P to B 4; 18—Q to K Kt 3, Q to Kt sq.; 19—P to K 6, R to B 3; 20—Kt to B 7 ch., K to K 2; 21—Q to R 4 ch., R to R 3; 22—B takes R and wins.—*Brooklyn Standard Union.*

Mr. Mackay, the chess champion of New Zealand, who is now 31 years of age, was admitted a member of the Wellington Chess Club in 1884 and was honorary secretary for four years, during which he rendered the club very efficient service. He withdrew from this position, about twelve months ago, because of his business engagements. As a player, his rise in rank has been gradual but continuous, each succeeding year seeing him occupying a more prominent place in connection with the inter-provincial contests. His nomination as one of the representatives of the Wellington Chess Club at the recent congress was because Mr. Benbow and Mr. Littlejohn were both unable to play; and he justified the confidence of the club by winning the championship with the fine score of seven wins, two draws, and two losses.

Game No. 250.

A bright little King's Gambit with a very curious finish:—

WHITE.	BLACK.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—P to K B 4	2—P takes P
3—Kt to K B 3	3—P to K Kt 4
4—B to B 4	4—B to Kt 2
5—P to Q 4	5—P to Q 3
6—Castles	6—P to K R 3
7—P to Q B 3	7—Kt to Q B 3
8—Q to Q Kt 3	8—Kt to R 4
9—B takes P ch.	9—K to B sq.
10—Q to R 4	10—P to Q B 3
11—B takes Kt	11—R takes B
12—P to Q Kt 4	12—Kt to Q B 5
13—Q to Kt 3	13—B to Kt 3

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14—Kt to R 3	14—P to Q Kt 4
15—P to Q 5	15—Q to Q Kt 3 ch.
16—K to R sq.	16—Kt takes Kt
17—B takes Kt	17—B to K B 2
18—Kt to K Kt sq.	18—R to K sq.
19—Q to B 2	19—B to Kt 3
20—Kt to R 3	20—B takes P
21—Kt takes B P	21—B takes Q
22—Kt to Kt 6 checkmate!	

The subject of adding the study of chess to the existing curriculum of the Durham School of Science is dealt with by a correspondent of the *Newcastle Weekly Chronicle Supplement*. He has drawn up an amusing skit, which consists, in the main, of questions designed to indicate the kind of knowledge that he would try to elicit from candidates at preliminary examinations for the degree of master of chess held under the chess board of the council." We give some of these specimen queries:—(i.) Mention any five of the present "chess champions of the world;" and state on what grounds respectively they base their claims. (ii.) "Always avoid a discovery." Cite cases in which chess-players have failed to observe this precept, giving in each case the nature of the discovery and the penalty imposed by the court. (iii.) A chess club comprises 100 actual members, and the annual subscription is one guinea. Estimate the probable gross income from subscriptions. (iv.) If a third-class and a fifth-class player play in consultation against a first-class player, show what are the odds. (v.) What is your opinion of Professor Koch's theory that the chess tendency is caused by the presence of the *Caissa bacillus* in the left ventricle of the brain? What value do you attach to his suggestion that we should adopt compulsory inoculation during infancy of the Halma virus as a protection against the more virulent microbe? (vi.) Discuss the causes which have led during the last few years to a marked increase in the prevalence of the game. Enumerate any measures which you consider likely to have a beneficial effect in checking the further spread of the epidemic. (vii.) If *a, b, c,.....n* represent a series of years devoted to chess by LAD show that his mental states, taken in order, may be expressed progressively by the terms BAD, SAD, MAD.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[REUTER "SPECIAL" TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

London, April 11.

Mr. William Court Gully, Q.C., Member for Carlisle, has been elected Speaker of the House of Commons by a majority of eleven. The Opposition proposed the Right Hon. Sir Matthew White Ridley, Bart.

The House of Commons has adjourned until the 22nd inst.

["SPECIAL" TELEGRAM TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

Shimonoseki, April 8, 1 p.m.

Dr. Sato reports this morning that the Viceroy's wound is completely healed. Dr. Sato will soon return to Hiroshima.

Shimonoseki, 10 p.m. April 10.

The Conference to-day lasted from 4 to 6 p.m. The Viceroy Li was present, but Viscount Mutsu was absent owing to illness. The situation is undecided.

(FROM THE "N.-C. DAILY NEWS.")

London, March 29.

Mr. Sydney C. Buxton, Parliamentary Colonial Secretary, in reply to Mr. J. Henniker-Heaton, M.P., stated that it was not deemed expedient to appoint a Select Committee to enquire into the Military Contribution by the Straits Settlements and Hongkong, as an inter-departmental Committee was at the moment studying the whole question of the Contribution to be paid by the Colonies in the East.

(FROM SIAM PAPERS.)

London, March 22.

The Dowager Duchess of Leinster is dead.

An insurrection has occurred in Peru under Senor de Pierola, a former President of the Republic, and the joint head of the revolutionary party which was defeated by the Government troops in September. They have now attacked and taken Lima, the capital of Peru defeating the Government troops after a desperate fight, in which over 2,000 were killed and wounded.

Calcutta, March 21.

The financial statement of the Government of India has been published to-day. The accounts for the year 1893-4 close with a deficit, but the revised estimates for 1894-5 show a surplus of nine lakhs of rupees (Rs. 900,000). The budget estimate for 1895-6 also shows a surplus of Rs. 45,000, even after the provision of a lakh and a half (Rs. 150,000) for the Chitral expedition. There will be no further borrowing excepting with a view to replacing the £2,000,000 sterling loan, which is a purely temporary debt falling due in May. The Indian Government expresses its sense of the difficulties which have to be faced, and of the anxieties still surrounding the financial position.

(FROM JAPANESE PAPERS.)

Hiroshima, April 7.

Their Imperial Highnesses Princes Komatsu and Kitashirakawa proceeded to Kure to-day.

Lord Li was accompanied by Messrs. Ma, and Wu when he visited Count Ito to-day. The conversation lasted for an hour.

Count Saigo paid a visit to Count Ito, but as the latter was then conversing with Lord Li, he proceeded to visit Viscount Mutsu. All the officials of the Foreign Department have been to the residence of the Viscount since this morning.

The Viceroy Li received to-day a lengthy telegram of over one thousand words from China. It is said that this contained an important reply from the Chinese Government.

Shimonoseki, April 8.

Lord Li called on Count Ito at the latter's hotel at 3 p.m. to-day. It is said that he merely announced his appointment as Plenipotentiary.

Hiroshima, April 8.

Lieut.-General Kawakami returned from Shimonoseki this morning, and visited Headquarters at noon.

The authorities have decided to order the inhabitants at Kaigan-dori, Yakocho, and Ura-dori, Ujina, to remove from those places to prevent the spead of cholera. Instructions have already been given to the residents, and they are preparing to leave.

Shimonoseki, April 8.

A case of cholera has been reported in Hikoshima. The patient is said to have lately returned from Hiroshima. Communication between Hikoshima and other places is interrupted. There are no signs of further spread.

Two transports arrived here yesterday from the West. One of the steamers carried 139 men, of whom 16 were suffering from cholera. The other vessel conveyed 130 persons, of whom 8 were affected. Not a man was allowed to disembark, both ships anchoring outside the port.

Nagoya, April 8.

Koyama Toyotaro, escorted by a police inspector and four constables, arrived here yesterday on his way to Miyagi Prison. They passed the night at the Nagoya Police Office, and left for Sendai to-day.

Gifu, April 8.

A somewhat severe earthquake occurred here last night.

Shimonoseki, April 8.

Viscount Mutsu has been confined to his residence by a cold.

Kobe, April 8.

New tea to the amount of ten *kin* (one *kin*=1⅓lb.) reached here from Tosa this morning.

Shimonoseki, April 8.

Our Plenipotentiaries seem to be in a happy state. Busy telegraphic communications were conducted between the Viceroy Li and the Pekin Government. It is said that the negotiations will be concluded this week.

Of eight of the conditions necessary for the conclusion of peace, seven are said to have been settled.

Shimonoseki, April 9.

Mr. Wu visited Mr. Nakada, private secretary of the Minister of Foreign Affairs, at 10 a.m. to-day. The former afterwards visited Count Ito and Viscount Mutsu.

Count Ito called on Viscount Mutsu at 9.30 a.m. to-day, and Count Saigo interviewed Count Ito at 2.30 p.m.

Hiroshima, April 9.

Some high officers of the Head-quarters Staff and the Governor of Hiroshima dined with the Emperor to-day.

Nagasaki, April 9.

The *Admiral Nachimoff*, *Mandjur*, and one other Russian war-ship have left here for Kobe.

Shimonoseki, April 9.

Quarantine inspection commenced here to-day.

Count Ito invited Lord Li to the Premier's residence to-day. It is supposed that the object of the interview was to press the Chinese Envoy to give a definite answer to the demands of Japan. It is said that the Viceroy Li will be present at a meeting to be held to-morrow.

The Foreign Powers are aware of the demands of Japan, but all of them, with the exception of a country in northern Europe, refrain from communicating them to the press.

Hiroshima, April 9.

H.I.H. Prince Komatsu returned here yesterday from Kiushu.

Shimonoseki, April 9.

Lord Li gave an important reply to the Japanese Plenipotentiaries to-day.

Lieut.-Colonel Arisaka has been appointed Chief of the Moji Arms Factory.

Moji, April 8.

Another case of cholera is reported here.

Hiroshima, April 9.

A report from Surgeon Yamanouchi, at the Pescadores, under date 4th inst., states that although 60 or 70 cases of cholera have hitherto been reported there per day, only 30 cases occurred on the day of the despatch of the report.

Saseho, April 10.

Owing to the spread of cholera in the Pescadores, communication between the shore and ships has been interrupted.

Söul, April 10.

Gen Seiyei, Minister of Agriculture and Commerce, has resigned.

Shimonoseki, April 11.

Count Saigo, Minister of the Navy, left here this morning by the *Yayeyama Kan* for Hiroshima.

Hiroshima, April 11.

A case of cholera was reported at Ujina to-day.

Matsuyama, April 11.

The culprit Koyama Toyotaro arrived here to-day, and was at once put into Miyagi Prison.

Shimonoseki, April 11.

The Viceroy Li sent a long telegram last night, and another lengthy message was dispatched this morning.

Kobe, April 11.

The Russian ships *Admiral Nachimoff* and *Corsets*, arrived from Nagasaki this morning.

Six Korean students, including Bin-yei-san, a younger brother of the Queen of Korea, passed through here for Osaka yesterday.

Shimonoseki, April 11.

After the close of the meeting of the Peace Commissioners last night, some important Japanese officials held a secret meeting at the residence of Count Ito.

Two cholera patients at Moji died yesterday.

Hiroshima, April 11.

Since the commencement of cholera over forty persons have been effected by the epidemic in and about the neighbourhood of this town, and four or five cases are now daily reported.

According to the latest report brought by the *Fujigawa Maru*, the three great Chinese General Lieu, Wu, and Sung, have combined to defend North Chinchow.

Shimonoseki, April 12.

Count Ito visited Viscount Mutsu this morning. The condition of the Minister of Foreign Affairs is a little better to-day.

Hiroshima, April 12.

The Emperor has dispatched Dr. Ito, a Court Physician, to Shimonoseki to attend Viscount Mutsu. The Empress has also sent two nurses to take care of the Viscount.

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Sapporo, April 12.

An explosion of gas took place in the Horonai mine on the 9th inst., and three persons were killed, eight others being severely wounded.

Hongkong, April 11.

The following telegram dispatched by Mr. Nakagawa, Japanese Consul at Hongkong, has been received by the Foreign Department.

A few cases of the pest have been reported at Macao, but there is none in this port.

Shimonoseki, April 12.

A telegram, consisting of about five hundred words, and containing the names of the Viceroy Li and Lord Li, was dispatched to Pekin this forenoon.

Hiroshima, April 12.

Count Saigo arrived here last night. He interviewed the Emperor this morning. The Count seems to be much satisfied at the success of his efforts at Shimonoseki.

Moji, April 12.

Many cases of cholera are being discovered on board ships coming from the Pescadores.

Hiroshima, April 12.

The Empress visited Itsukushima to-day.

H.I.H. Prince Komatsu, and several other officers of the office of General Command will embark on the *Ikai Maru* to-morrow at 4 p.m., and leave for Talien at 5 p.m. The residents of Hiroshima have erected a beautiful arch near the wharf at Ujina to bid farewell to them.

All the transports reporting cholera patients are to be disinfected at Wada Point, Hyogo. The *Satsuma*, *Koura*, and a few other steamers are staying there to undergo the process.

Shimonoseki, April 12.

No conference of the Peace Commissioners was held to-day. It is expected that the next meeting will take place to-morrw.

The following three reasons are given as the cause of secrecy relative to the peace negotiations:—first, the Commissioners of both Powers promised at their first meeting to keep matters secret: secondly, it would be a great loss to China were secrets to leak out before the negotiations are concluded, thirdly, despite the fact that various Foreign Powers are cognisant of Japan's demands, they keep secret as they desire the conclusion of peace.

Pekin, April 10.

On the 7th inst. upon the receipt of reports from the Viceroy Li at Shimonoseki, the Emperor invited various Foreign Representatives in Pekin to the Palace, and asked for their opinion in connection with the conditions of peace.

Probably the Pekin Government will determine either to accept or refuse Japan's demands in accordance with the opinions of the British, American, Russian, and other Representatives.

All the chief local officials oppose the payment of a money indemnity. The Commander-in-chief of the forces at Canton is strongly opposed to it. It is stated as doubtful whether the Pekin Government is able to put in force the treaty concluded in consequence of the opposition of the Commander-in-chief.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From America	per P. M. Co.	Sunday, April 14th.*
From Canada, &c.....	per C. P. R. Co.	Sunday, April 14th.†
From America	per O. & O. Co.	Tuesday, April 23rd ‡
From Hongkong	per O. & O. Co.	Wed'day, April 17th.§
From Hongkong	per C. P. R. Co.	Thursday, April 18th.§
From Europe, viâ Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd	Wed'day, April 19th.¶
From Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Sunday, April 21st.
From Europe, viâ Hongkong	per M. M. Co.	Friday, April 26th.

* *China* left San Francisco via Honolulu on March 26th. † *Empress of India* left Vancouver on April 1st. ‡ *Belgic* left San Francisco on April 5th. § *Gaelic* left Hongkong on April 10th. ‖ *Empress of China* left Hongkong on April 10th. ¶ *Nürnberg* left Hongkong on April 12th.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For Hongkong	per C. P. R. Co.	Sunday, April 14th.
For America	per O. & O. Co.	Thursday, April 18th.
For Canada, &c.	per C. P. R. Co.	Friday, April 19th.
For Europe, viâ Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd	Friday, April 19th.
For Europe, viâ Shanghai	per M. M. Co.	Saturday, April 20th.
For Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Saturday, April 27th.
For America	per P. M. Co.	Saturday, April 27th.
For Victoria, B.C., & Tacoma, Wash.....	per N. P. Co.	Saturday, May 4th.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Else, German steamer, 747, Christiansen, 6th April,—Yukkaichi 6th April, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Cam, British steamer, 1,630, Mathias, 6th April, —Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Mount Lebanon, British steamer, 1,555, Chas. Hendry, 6th April,—West Coast, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Oakley, British steamer, 1,760, MacHood, 6th April,—New York viâ ports, General.—Frazar & Co.

Produce, Norwegian steamer, 1,560, Berguson, 7th April,—Moji, Coal.—Mitsu Bishi Sha.

Meiji Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,010, N. Masakiyo, 7th April,—Yokosuka, 7th April.—Light House Department.

Verona, British steamer, 1,878, C. H. S. Tocque, 7th April,—Hongkong viâ ports, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Doris, German steamer, 771, Petersen, 8th April, —Hauda 7th April, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sarpedon, British steamer, 1,683, Jackson, 9th April,—Liverpool viâ ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Victoria, British steamer, 1,991, J. Panton, R.N.R., 10th April,—Tacoma, Wash., viâ Victoria, B.C., 24th March, Mails and General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Herman Vedt Jarlsberg, Norwegian steamer, 1,683, Reimers, 10th April,—Batoum, 110,000 cases Oil.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Strathlyon, British steamer, 1,511, Phillip, 10th April,—Manila, Sugar.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Volute, British tank-steamer, 2,348, Stott, 10th April,—Batoum, Oil.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Amoy, German steamer, 647, Wolf, 10th April,—Karatz, Coal.—Japanese.

Anjer Head, British steamer, 1,826, Motyer, 11th April,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Independant, German steamer, 871, Ahrenkiel, 11th April,—Honolulu 25th March, Ballast.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Orthes, British bark, 1,206, J. McNeil, 11th April, —Pisagua, South America, Nitrate.—Captain.

Salvadora, Spanish steamer, 938, 12th April,—Manila, Sugar.—Findlay, Richardson & Co.

Ashdown, British steamer, 1,893, Jas. Cowie, 13th April,—Hakodate 9th April, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Salazie, French steamer, 4,016, A. Paul, 13th April, —Marseilles 3rd March, Hongkong 4th April, Shanghai 7th, Nagasaki 9th, and Kobe 12th, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co

DEPARTURES.

Kin Yeki, Korean steamer, 760, 6th April,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Josephine, American schooner, 15, Fisher, 6th April,—North Pacific, Sealing Gear.—A. E. Fisher.

Saipan, British schooner, 75, J. W. Blanchfield, 7th April,—Guam, Ballast.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Doris, German steamer, 771, Petersen, 10th April, —Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Merionethshire, British steamer, 1,960, Davis, 10th April,—Hongkong viâ ports, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Macduff, British steamer, 1,882, E. Porter, 8th April,—Hongkong viâ ports, General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Ajax, British steamer, 1,471, Goodwin, 10th April, —London viâ ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Cam, British steamer, 1,630, Mathias, 10th April, —Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Mount Lebanon, British steamer, 1,555, Chas. Hendry, 10th April,—Otaru viâ ports, General. —Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hainan, German steamer, 870, Samuelsen, 10th April,—Vladivostock, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Else, German steamer, 747, Christiansen, 10th April,—Bonin Islands, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Victoria, British steamer, 1,991, J. Panton, R.N.R., 11th April,—Hongkong viâ ports, General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Bentala, British steamer, 1,767, Filmer, 11th April, —Hongkong, Ballast.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Oakley, British steamer, 1,760, MacHood, 11th April,—Yokosuka, Light.—Frazar & Co.

Venus, Spanish steamer, 630, Umparan, 11th April, —Manila viâ Karatz, Ballast.—Browne & Co.

Arctic, British schooner, 40, J. B. Brown, 12th April,—North Pacific, Sealing Gear.—T. M. Laffin.

Independant, German steamer, 871, Ahrenkiel, 13th April,—Kobe, General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Sarpedon, British steamer, 1,683, Jackson, 13th April,—Kobe, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Verona, British steamer, 1,878, C. H. S. Tocque, 13th April,—Hongkong viâ Kobe and Nagasaki, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per British steamer *Verona*, from Hongkong viâ ports:—Mr. Lathrop, Mr. Allen, Mr. Henn, Mr. Armoni, Mr. and Mrs. Sinclair, Mr. and Mrs. Nobel, Dr. Patterson, Mr. Hinn, Mr. Connel, Mr. German, Mr. Whittal, Mr. Edwards, Mr. Shaw, Mr. Heathcote, Rev. D. H. Drake, and Mrs. Hands, in cabin, and 3 Chinese in steerage.

Per British steamer *Victoria*, from Tacoma, Wash., viâ Victoria, B.C.:—Mr. E. B. Leddy, Mr. and Mrs. W. D. Gardner-Ingram, and Mr. C. W. Seymour in cabin. For Kobe:—Mr. and Mrs. A. E. McGlew in cabin. For Shanghai:—Mr. and Mrs. Woodbury and 4 children, Mr. T. L. Boyle, Miss M. C. Worthington, Miss Emma Randall, Miss Effa Randall, Miss Anna Wood, and Miss Ida J. Emerick in cabin. For Hongkong:—Mr. and Mrs. Robert Sale Hill, Master Robert Sale Hill, Mr. A. B. Case, and Mr. and Mrs. Geo. S. Palmer in cabin.

Per French steamer *Salazie*, from Marseilles viâ ports:—Mr. G. Razzani, Mr. A. W. Host, Mr. Teshima, Mr. Futaki, Mr. Tomiki, Mr. Gotooli, Mr. and Mrs. de Cappe, Mrs. Andanson, Mrs. Colin, Mr. Okamei, Mr. Mauri, Mr. Campbell, Mr. C. S. Crane, Mr. G. Voss, Mr. and Mrs. Mien Austin and servant, Mr. Stauble, Mr. G. Butler, Mr. and Mrs. Groves, Mr. Tokehara, Mrs. Chabanne and amah, Mr. Williams, Mrs. Mason and child, Mr. Nadissoff, Mr. Stepanoff, Mr. Macondray, Mr. and Mrs. Ramsford Moller, Mr. Danckiverts, Mr. Voigt, Mr. and Mrs. Thomson and child, Mr. and Mrs. Flood, Mr. Levy, Mr. Singleton, Miss M. Shea, Mr. G. Arone, Mr. Wentworth, Mr. Yamaki, Mr. Nesbett, Mr. Antenoff, Mr. Basalaeff, Mr. and Mrs. Siemssen and 2 children, and Mr. and Mrs. Lindholm and 3 children in cabin, and 6 Chinese in steerage.

REPORTS.

The British steamer *Victoria*, Captain Panton, reports:—Left Tacoma, Wash., viâ Victoria, B.C., the 24th March; had fine weather throughout the passage. Spoke the American schooner *Retriever* on the 8th April with 556 seals and all well on board.

VESSELS ON THE BERTH.

The following vessels are advertised as on the berth:—

For MARSEILLES and Genoa (from Kobe), Quick Despatch, the "CLAM."—Samuel Samuel & Co.

For HONGKONG viâ Kobe and Shanghai, April 14th, the "EMPRESS OF INDIA."—Frazar & Co.

For LONDON and Hamburg, on or about 17th April, the "VOLUTE."—Samuel Samuel & Co.

For SAN FRANCISCO, viâ Honolulu, April 18th, the "GAELIC."—O. & O. S.S. Co.

For CANADA, United States, and Europe, viâ Vancouver, B.C., April 19th, the "EMPRESS OF CHINA."—Frazar & Co.

For HONGKONG viâ Kobe and Nagasaki, April 19th, the "NÜRNBERG."—Norddeutscher Lloyds.

For SHANGHAI, viâ Kobe and Nagasaki, April 20th, at 8 a.m., the "SALAZIE."—Messageries Maritimes Co.

For HONGKONG, viâ Kobe, April 20th, at 10 a.m., the "SIAM."—P. & O. S.N. Co.

For BOMBAY, viâ Kobe, Hongkong, Singapore, and Colombo, on or about the 24th April, the "ARROYO."—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

For SAN FRANCISCO, April 27th, the "CITY OF PEKING."—P. M. S.S. Co.

For TACOMA, Wash., viâ Victoria, B.C., May 4th, the "VICTORIA."—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

Exchange has turned upwards once more and business is again suspended awaiting events. Both sellers and buyers appear unwilling to enter into important contracts, and the Easter holidays

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afford an excuse for further delay. All quotations nominal at present.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirtings—8½ lb, 38½ yds, 39 inches	$2.25 to 2.90
Grey Shirtings—9lb, 38½ yds, 45 inches	2.50 ■ 3.25
T. Cloth—7lb, 24 yards, 32 inches	1.65 to 2.00
Indigo Shirtings—12 yards, 44 inches	1.70 to 2.35
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches	2.00 to 3.75
Cotton—Italians and Sateens Black, 32 inches	PER YARD. 0.16 to 0.22
	PER PIECE.
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22inches	7.25 to 9.50
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches	0.85 to 1.00
Turkey Reds—2.0 to 2.4lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.65 to 1.75
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.85 to 2.05
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.50 to 2.80
Turkey Reds—4.8 to 5lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.80 to 3.10

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.
Flannel	$0.30 to 0.50
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches best	0.32½ to 0.37½
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Medium	0.27½ to 0.30
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Common	0.20 to 0.25
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yards, 32 inches	0.15 to 0.22½
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches	0.35 to 0.50
Cloths—Presidents, 54 @ 56 inches	0.60 to 0.75
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0.40 to 0.70
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 5lb, per ℔	0.60 to 0.75

COTTON YARNS.

	PER PICUL.
Nos. 16/24, Ordinary	—
Nos. 16/24, Medium	$34.50 to 35.00
Nos. 16/24, Good to Best	35.50 to 36.50
Nos. 16/24, Reverse	—
Nos. 28/32, Ordinary	—
Nos. 28/32, Medium	36.00 to 36.50
Nos. 28/32, Good to Best	37.00 to 38.00
Nos. 38/32, Medium to Best	43.00 to 45.00
No. 32s, Two-fold	43.00 to 45.00
No. 42s, Two-fold	47.00 to 49.00
	PER BALE.
No. 20s, Bombay	—
No. 16s, Bombay	—

METALS.

Still more or less in suspense. Exchange seems to be rising once more and buyers think they ought to get some benefit from it. Those who have made contracts in sterling prices should be happy, and clear the goods while they can secure a favourable rate of exchange. The general trade and demand for "spot" cargo is by no means large.

	PER PICUL.
Flat Bars, ¼ inch	$3.60 to 3.65
Flat Bars, ½ inch	3.65 to 3.70
Round and square up to ½ inch	3.60 to 3.75
Iron Plates, assorted	3.70 to 3.80
Sheet Iron	4.70 to 4.90
Galvanized Iron sheets	8.25 to 8.80
Wire Nails, assorted	5.80 to 6.10
Tin Plates, per box	5.80 to 6.00
Pig Iron, No. 3	1.65 to 1.70

KEROSENE.

All remains as last advised. Buyers must be in the market ere long, but they will do their utmost to obtain some reduction in figures hoping that a high exchange will induce holders to make concessions. There have been two arrivals with Russian Oil from Batoum, one tank steamer and another with a cargo of cases.

American	$2.20 to 2.22½
Russian	2.22½ to 2.25

SUGAR.

Brown—Some buying goes on, but holders are not very eager. Exchange quotations do not influence this market to any great extent; but there seems a lack of energy (and perhaps of cash) in the trade. White steady at last quotations.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Takao	$3.60 to 3.65
Brown Manila	4.40 to 4.60
Brown Daitong (New)	3.40 to 3.50
Brown Canton	3.50 to 3.90
White Java and Penang	6.50 to 6.75
White Refined	6.50 to 6.90

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Almost a blank week. For several days not a single transaction appeared in the list and even now the dealings are of the smallest description. The fresh rise in Exchange works against shippers and holders will not as yet meet the market. All prices nominal.

QUOTATIONS.

Hanks—No. 1	—
Hanks—No. 1 (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 1 (Joshu)	—
Hanks—No. 2½ (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 2½ (Joshu)	—
Hanks—No. 2½ to 3	—
Hanks—No. 3	—
Hanks—No. 4	—
Filatures—Extra 10/12 deniers	Nom. —
Filatures—Extra 13/15 deniers	Nom. —
Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers	$830 to 870
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den	840 to 850
Filatures—No. 1½, 10/14 deniers	820 to 830
Filatures—No. 1½, 13/16, 14/17 den	820 to 830
Filatures—No. 2, 10/13 deniers	770 to 790
Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	780 to 790
Filatures—No. 3, 11/20 deniers	—
Re-reels—Extra	—
Re-reels—(Oshu) Best No. 1	—
Re-reels—No. 1, 12/15, 14/16 deniers	800 to 810
Re-reels—No. 1½, 13/16, 14/17 deniers	770 ■ 780
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	740 to 760
Re-reels—No. 2½, 14/18 deniers	—
Re-reels—No. 3, 11/20 deniers	—
Kakedas—Extra	800
Kakedas—No. 1	790 ■ 795
Kakedas—No. 1½	770 to 780
Kakedas—No. 2	750 to 760
Kakedas—No. 2½	—
Kakedas—No. 3	—
Kakedas—No. 3½	—
Kakedas—No. 4	—
Oshu Sendai—No. 2	—
Hanamaki—No. 1, 2	—
Hanamaki—No. 3, 4	—
Sodai—No. 1	—

WASTE SILK.

Nothing new. Holders hope for a turn in their favour from some unforeseen cause or other; but they will have to make concessions to clear stocks.

QUOTATIONS.

Pierced Cocoons—Good to Best	—
Noshi-ito—Filature, Best	$130 to 135
Noshi-ito—Filature, Good	120 to 125
Noshi-ito—Filature, Medium	110 to 115
Noshi-ito—Oshu, Good to Best	120 to 130
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Best	—
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Good	—
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Medium	70 to 80
Noshi-ito—Hoshu, Good to Best	100 to 105
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Best	—
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Good	70 to 75
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Ordinary	60 to 65
Kibiso—Filature, Best selected	100 to 110
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds	90 to 95
Kibiso—Oshu, Good to Best	—
Kibiso—Shinshu, Best	—
Kibiso—Shinshu, Seconds	—
Kibiso—Joshu, Good to Fair	30 to 27½
Kibiso—Joshu, Middling to Common	25 to 22½
Kibiso—Hachoji, Good to Fair	25 to 23
Kibiso—Hachoji, Medium to Low	22 to 20
Kibiso—Nari, Good to Common	12 to 8
Mawata—Good to Best	—

TEA.

Some few catties of new leaf have appeared on the Kobe market, but here we have heard of nothing beyond past samples and small hand musters. No estimate can be formed of quality as yet.

EXCHANGE.

Rates have advanced daily for several days past, and there is some appearance of stability for the present with a prospect of a further rise later on.

Sterling—Bank T.T.	2/1½
— — Bills on demand	2/1½
— — 4 months' sight	2/1½
— Private 4 months' sight	2/2½
— — 6 months' sight	2/2½
On Paris—Bank sight	2.68
On Lyons—Private 4 months' sight	2.75
On Hongkong—Bank sight	½ % p.
— Private 10 days' sight	½ % d.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	71½
— Private 10 days' sight	72½
On India—Bank sight	190
— Private 30 days' sight	192½
On America—Bank Bills on demand	51½
— Private 30 days' sight	52½
— — 4 months' sight	53½
On Germany—Bank sight	2.16
— Private 4 months' sight	2.23
Bar Silver (London)	30⅛

"MONEY,"

A JOURNAL OF BUSINESS AND FINANCE.

PUBLISHED EVERY WEDNESDAY MORNING.

Annual Subscription, post free, 15s., in the United Kingdom. Ditto, 17s., to any part of the World.

Offices—Bishopsgate House, London, E.C.

Cable Address: Dinero, London.

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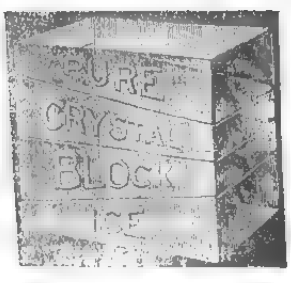
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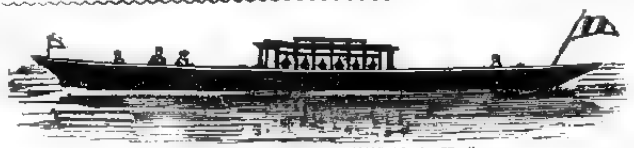
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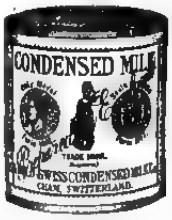
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The Japan Weekly Mail:

A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

No. 16.] REGISTERED AT THE G.P.O. AS A NEWSPAPER. YOKOHAMA, APRIL 20TH, 1895. 明治二十八年四月二十日 郵便物認可 VOL. XXII.

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, APRIL 20TH, 1895.

BIRTH.

At Grasmere, Dulwich Road, Herne Hill, London, on 24th February, Mrs. WILLIAM HOGGAN, a daughter.

DEATH.

At 73, Innaicho, Shimonoseki, on the 19th inst. at 1.30 p.m., Mrs. E. SHARLAND.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

FOUR houses were burnt on the 16th inst. at Kojimacho, Asakusa, Tokyo.

IT is said that Lord Li will be the first Chinese Minister to Japan after the peace.

THE mother of Count Higashikuze died in the capital on the 12th inst., aged 84.

THE Emperor and Empress are expected to leave Hiroshima for Kyoto to-day.

COLONEL KUROSE YOSHIKADO, of the Artillery, has been promoted to Major-General.

LI HUNG-CHANG and suite left Shimonoseki for home at 2 o'clock on Wednesday afternoon.

EIGHT of the leading strong Foreign Policy papers in Tokyo were suspended during the week.

THIRTY marines, who have been stationed at the U. S. legation, Soul, were withdrawn on the 28th ult.

A TREATY of peace was signed by the Plenipo[illegible] on Wednesday. The terms have not yet been officially announced.

A RESIDENT of Tokyo has been sentenced to thirteen years' penal servitude for forging bank notes.

ATAMI, Miyanoshita, and Kamakura were crowded with foreign visitors during the Easter holidays.

THE outlook at the Pescadores in regard to the cholera is much more favourable than it was a week ago.

SIX persons were burnt to death in a fire which broke out in Omiyacho, Shimokyoku, Kyoto on the 10th inst.

A NEW station was opened at Nakayama, between Ichikawa and Funabashi, on the Sobu Railway, on the 12th inst.

THE quarantine station at Nagahama is now in telephonic connection with the Kanagawa Prefectural Police Office.

VISCOUNT MUTSU, who has been suffering from influenza, was present at the last meeting of the Peace Plenipotentiaries.

A PRIZE-COURT is now sitting in the case of the Indo-China steamer *Piksang*, captured off Taku with contraband of war aboard.

VIGOROUS measures are being taken to cleanse Tokyo and the open ports, so as to reduce the chances of an outbreak of cholera.

AN employé of the Yokohama Domestic Transport Company has decamped with over *yen* 3,700, belonging to his employers.

THE Japan Railway Co. proposes to plant some 20,000 cherry trees on both sides of the company's track, for a distance of about 20 miles.

THE survey of the occupied districts around Talien, Chinchow, and Port Arthur is proceeding briskly, and will perhaps be finished by July next.

THE College of Engineering in the Imperial University has won the Championship of the river Sumida in the University Regatta held last Saturday.

DURING the ten days ended the 10th inst., *yen* 9,219,559 was received at the War Department from the public, bringing the amount up to *yen* 2,080,197,633.

IT is said that from two hundred and fifty million to two hundred and sixty million *yen* will be required for naval and military purposes when peace is restored.

MR. FUKUCHI GENICHIRO, the famous Japanese dramatic writer, is suffering severely from illness. Doctors Hashimoto and Iwasa are in attendance on the patient.

THE plant of a bank-note forger, including plates, seals, dies, and engraving tools has been unearthed at Osaka. Over 100,000 forged banknotes were also discovered.

THE three Portuguese arrested on Good Friday afternoon on suspicion of being implicated in some fraudulent transactions, are still undergoing examination in the local Court.

THE Kyoto Exhibition is attracting a large concourse of visitors from all parts of Japan, but more particularly from the capital. Railway traffic is in a most congested state.

A meteoric stone, weighing over 19 *kwamme* (one *kwamme*=8¼ lb. av.), which is said to have last, arrived at the Analytical Office in the Agricultural and Commercial Department a few days ago. The stone is like a block of iron.

THE Osaka Railway Company distribute *yen* 90,000 among shareholders as a dividend, and carry forward *yen* 8,266. The working expenses of this line averaged last year *sen* 43.1 per mile.

FROM the commencement of the war up to the end of last year 201 Japanese were allowed to proceed to Korea, and 200 left for the peninsular Kingdom during the following three months.

TRAINING for the Spring Regatta proceeds apace, and several of the crews show decided improvement. The Yokohama crew for the interport regatta have made some alterations in positions and are now shaping well.

MR. JOSE CARO, Acting Spanish *Chargé d'Affaires* in Tokyo, will take charge of the Consulate in Yokohama, until the appointment of a successor to Mr. Luis Torrco Acevedo, who has been transferred to Panama.

THE Osaka local Government lately sent officials to the Railway Station to inquire into the presence or otherwise of cholera patients among the passengers arriving there by train, in order to prevent the spread of the epidemic. The Governor of Osaka has requested the Home Minister to have similar inspections effected at other stations.

REUTER telegraphs:—The first brigade at Chitral has repelled twelve hundred Swatis, killing thirty; the remainder fled to the hills. Jabez Balfour has sailed for England. The river Swat (in Chitral) has been successfully bridged under a heavy fire, and, when completed, the Bengal Lancers dashed across, pursuing the enemy for nine miles. *The Times* states that a joint Commission, accompanied by a small escort, has been appointed to demarcate precisely the frontiers, under the agreement with Russia. Colonel Shervinton, Commander-in-Chief in Madagascar, has quitted the Hova Service on account of disputes with the Malagasy Officers. In St. Petersburg it is semi-officially reported that Russia will strongly oppose the annexation of the mainland of China by the Japanese. The *Novosti* reports that the Russian Minister of Finance is preparing to establish a gold currency.

MATTERS have not improved much in the Import trade, and reductions in quotations have had little or no effect in inducing business. Consequently, Yarns are well as Shirtings and other Piece-goods have been but sparingly taken, though dyed Cottons and Fancies have been more in request. Woollens are very dull, but deliveries of former purchases are on a good scale. There is not much doing in Metals, though prices for all descriptions of Iron are lower. Wire Nails are in small supply and values are fully maintained, while Tin Plates are in abundance and prices easier. Nothing done in Kerosene but delivery, and present stock, though heavy, is held for more money. A fair quantity of Sugar (Brown) has been taken, and the market is now weak for these sorts. Not much done in Whites. Holders of Silk have made small concessions and a few parcels have been taken for the States; in other directions nothing done. Holders of Waste Silk have also given way and a fair quantity of higher grade fibre has been settled. A small quantity of new Tea has been brought to market, but not on a scale to fix prices or give indications of the probable quality of the crop. Exchange has been on the rise all the week.

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THE SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS DURING THE WEEK.

The vernacular press does not explicitly state whether it is contented with the terms on which peace has been concluded. It reserves its comments until the Treaty is ratified and its text officially announced. Nevertheless, there is not much difficulty in inferring from the tone of the Tokyo journals that they are satisfied with the conditions thus far known to the public. Indeed, two papers, the *Kokkai* and the *Niroku*, which are anything but friendly to the Government, declare that they are entirely content with the terms, inasmuch as they correspond in the main with what these journals had repeatedly insisted that Japan ought to demand from China.

* * *

The *Jiji* is not surprised to hear that the negotiations have been satisfactorily concluded. China is now entirely at the mercy of Japan. In consequence of her ignorance and obstinacy the war was needlessly prolonged, but in the end she was constrained to recognise the situation to which she had been reduced, and so soon as the conviction was carried home to her, or, at any rate, to the statesmen shaping her policy, steps were taken to sue formally for peace. At the same time, the comparative moderation of Japan's demands must have largely facilitated a settlement. The *Jiji* does not profess to be thoroughly acquainted with the terms. Judging, however, by the object to attain which war was declared against China, namely, to lead her out of her present darkness and ignorance into the light of progress and knowledge, and also by the vaunted magnanimity of the Japanese nation, which is never so ungenerous as to take undue advantage of the weakness of a foe,- judging by these considerations, the *Jiji* is convinced that the terms must have been comparatively moderate. Suspicious as our contemporary is of the good faith of China, it does not perceive any valid reason why the treaty signed by Li should not be endorsed by the Court in Peking and ratified by the Emperor, seeing that, in the course of the negotiations, Li was suffered to exchange long telegrams with Pekin, and consequently the statesmen of the Tsung-li Yamên must be assumed to have assented to the terms demanded by Japan. The only thing to be apprehended in the future is that troubles may arise between the lawless military rabble of China and the Japanese troops should the two be brought into close contact in connection with the demarcation of the frontiers of the two empires, or the occupation of certain Chinese territories by way of security for the complete fulfilment of the conditions of peace. Prudence, therefore, counsels Japan to be still on the alert against contingencies that may entail serious results.

* * *

The *Nichi Nichi*, writing on the same subject, says that the chief reasons why foreign Powers, refrained from exercising any interference, though more than once appealed to by China, were because the signal success of Japan's arms earned for her great respect in the eyes of those Powers, and because the Governmentacted with ability so as not to furnish any pretext of which European Powers might have taken advantage for the purpose of interfering. Even in the interests of China, the conclusion of peace without the intervention of any third party must be considered conducive to her credit and dignity. The *Nichi Nichi* also argues, much in the same way as the *Jiji* does, that in the present case there is no just cause to anticipate perfidy on the part of China, moreover, in view of the arrangements that have been made for the exchange of ratifications the Treaty as signed by the Plenipotentiaries of both Powers may be considered virtually as valid as though it had already been ratified by the Emperor of China. For the sake of the peace of the Orient and also of the world at large, the satisfactory conclusion of the negotiations is matter for sincere congratulation. What remains to be accomplished is the carrying out of the conditions embodied in the treaty and the utilization of the peace for the purpose of promoting the national prestige and developing the national resources. Unless these ends are attained the victory won by Japan is not a victory at all.

* * *

Reference to what the *Nippon* says on this subject will furnish a sufficient insight into the views of the extreme section of politicians. The *Nippon* is not inclined to place so much confidence in its two contemporaries quoted above in the Treaty signed at Shimonoseki, which it simply regards as a preliminary convention. Japan will have to bring diplomatic and military pressure to bear upon China to effect the carrying out of the treaty, and the real issue of the problem depends upon the procedure adopted by Japan in exerting that pressure. China is blind to the general tendency of the situation. She still regards Japan with supercilious contempt. The maxim, "Know thyself, first and thy neighbour afterwards" is entirely unappreciated by her. Hence it is extremely problematical whether the Treaty will be ratified. The task of the Viceroy Li is still far from being accomplished. It would be altogether too sanguine to conclude that peace has been restored because a Treaty has been signed. The problems that have to be solved hereafter are of a serious and difficult character.

* * *

The *Mainichi* and the *Niroku* bid farewell to Li Hung-chang in leading articles. Now that he has started for home, says the former, it may not be long before the treaty signed by him will be ratified by the Emperor. The *Mainichi* is of course disposed not to place too much reliance on the good faith of China, but when it is remembered that Li now presumably enjoys the confidence of his Sovereign, and when it is considered that the only patriotic action he can hereafter perform is to radically reform the affairs of China, it is impossible to imagine that he came over to Japan simply to impose upon her, and that he underwent painful anxiety during three weeks all for nothing. What the *Mainichi* wishes to know is the policy he intends to pursue towards Japan in future. Will he follow the precedent of France after the Franco-Prussian War, or of Austria after the Austro-Prussia War, or will be obstinately adhere to the old course? Japan does not care which of the three he selects. She is ready to modify her attitude accordingly. The *Niroku* also says that, in spite of the unfavourable precedent of the Tientsin Treaty, many circumstances in the present case lead it to place confidence, comparatively speaking, in the treaty that Li has signed.

* * *

The *Jiji* takes the present opportunity to reiterate once more its advice to the Government that some arrangement should be made so as to bring it and the politicians out of office into more amicable relations, and to remove as far as possible the barrier that stands between the two. For the moment, at all events, the war has completely changed the attitude of the opposition towards the Government. The former has behaved throughout this national crisis as though it had entirely forgotten its old irreconcilable policy. It has supported every measure devised by the Government in connexion with the war. Indeed, the part that the Opposition has played in the present affair must be considered to have contributed largely to the attainment of Japan's glorious success. The question is, can such an extraordinary phenomenon be expected to outlive the war? The *Jiji* feels exceedingly anxious about the matter. Peace being restored on the terms that Japan demanded of China, country ought to be prefectly satisfied with the the result. Yet the *Jiji* does not think it altogether unlikely that, dazzled by the uncommon brilliancy of Japan's success, some persons, entertaining unpractical ideas, may be secretly discontented with the conditions upon which peace has been granted to China. Sooner or later, [illegible] covert dissatisfaction will break out, and [illegible] relations between the Government and the Opposition, so smooth at present, may be embittered as violently as before. Nothing could be more regrettable than such a conjuncture. It is, therefore, exceedingly important that some suitable steps should be taken to provide against that undesirable contingency. Now is the best opportunity for devising some means to that end. Give suitable places in the Government to the leaders of the Opposition, and let them show their ability. Such a course should be followed not with the leaders only, but also with those in secondary positions. The time lends itself to such a measure. Quite a number of civil officials will be needed in the districts newly added to Japan, and as the work to be done there must be greatly different in nature from that carried on at home, it is most appropriate that politicians of ability not in official service should be made to undertake the task. Korea is another field where such politicians may find employment. According to the *Jiji Shimpo*, the elimination of these politicians from the Opposition, would be synonymous with the removal of the obstacles that have hitherto stood in the way of Government measures.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

CAPTAIN KASE'S CAVALRY SQUADRON.

Of the distinguished parts played by the soldiers of Japan in Shantung, that of a squadron of cavalry led by Captain Kase was one of the most conspicuous. As soon as the troop landed at Yungcheng on the 20th of January, it was at once ordered to move forward, though the evening had fallen and snow lay deep on the ground. The road being slippery, horses came down incessantly, throwing their riders, and often injuring the troopers' sabres. It was this squadron that first reconnoitred Weihaiwei, while the main body of the attacking columns was yet far in the rear. When the time came for delivering the assault upon that stronghold of China, another difficult mission was entrusted to the squadron, namely, to guard a flank of the Japanese army. In discharging that important duty the squadron was exposed for a week, between Ninghai and Tungchow, to the attack of the enemy. The greatest difficulty was to obtain provisions. As a rule, the men were obliged to appease their hunger with potatoes and corn flour. Some days afterwards, they were joined by the rest of the battalion to which they belonged, and the little column then advanced towards Ninghai. In front of the citadel of Manglankow its progress was opposed by the enemy, whom, however, it routed on the fourth day, reaching the vicinity of Ninghai on the 10th of February. The enemy had already vacated that town, but the inhabitants proved obstinate at first and were only induced to open the gate when the Japanese were about to blow it in with gun cotton. The battalion did not proceed beyond Ninghai but remained in the town for about week, keeping throughout that time a sharp watch on the enemy's movements and trying to win the good-will of the inhabitants. On the evening of the 18th, the main body of the battalion moved back towards Weihaiwei, leaving two detachments, consisting chiefly of Captain Kase's squadron, to act as rear guard and to observe the movements of the enemy. Apparently emboldened by the retreat of the greater part of the battalion, the Chinese that had been quartered in Chefoo and Fushan, showed signs of an intention to advance. The Captain decided that a feint must be made so as to check the advance of the enemy. He accordingly caused one of the two detachments to menace Chefoo, and directed the other to oppose any forward movement of the enemy quartered in Fushan. The plan was successful, and the Chinese were compelled to give up any idea of pursuing the retreating Japanese. It was, however, necessary for the Captain to lead back his little band as promptly as possible, else the enemy, learning the true strength of the Japanese, might attempt to [illegible] them, as had been done at Fucheng [illegible] the day preceding the fall of Port Ar-

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thur. The two detachments, numbering only 50 troopers in all, were instructed to carry out a somewhat complicated mode of retreat. They were ordered to retire at night farther and farther away from the enemy, but to undertake some manœuvres during the daytime, so as to keep themselves *en evidence* and delude the foe. Fortunately the Chinese remained entirely ignorant of what the troopers were about, and the latter finally succeeded in reaching Manglanchow on the evening of the 20th. On the 21st, Lieut.-General Baron Sakuma, who commanded at that time the Second Division, reached Manglanchow from Weihaiwei, with the intention of marching towards Ninghai. In that town some 200 Chinese troops were quartered, having returned thither after the retreat above described. They ran away, however, so soon as they saw a body of Japanese soldiers advancing against them. Sergeant Sekiya, who belonged to Captain Kase's troop, was ordered to pursue the flying enemy. While doing so the Sergeant, with only 5 troopers under his command, encountered a body of Chinese about 150 strong. The Sergeant and his men formed line and fired at the advancing enemy, killing and wounding several of those in the van, and so demoralizing the Chinese that they beat a retreat. The intrepid performance of the little band proved of great importance, for it effectually arrested the advance of the enemy and materially facilitated the occupation of Weihaiwei by the Japanese. On the 26th, the detachment stationed in Ninghai again left that place for Weihaiwei, whence the squadron of Captain Kase embarked with others in a transport for the Liaotung Peninsula on the 28th, and reached its quarters on the 4th of the following month. On the very evening of its return a severe form of diarrhœa attacked the troop, striking down 64 soldiers in less than five days, of whom 10 succumbed to the attack. The above is the latest intelligence given of the troop by the correspondent of a vernacular contemporary, but whether the epidemic has been conquered is not stated.

EXAMINATION OF MIDDLE SCHOOL TEACHERS.

On the 13th, 20th, and 24th of next month the examination of applicants for employments as instructors in Middle Schools, will take place. There are this year quite an unusual number of competitors—considerably over eight hundred, we learn. As a rule not more than one in ten can hope to succeed; indeed on several occasions the average has not been over one in twenty, for the examinations being competitive are of exceptional severity. The branches in which the examination will be held are English, Chinese classics, Japanese classics, Mathematics, Geography; History; Chemistry; Physics; Agriculture, both practical and theoretical; Drawing, and Gymnastics. There are over one hundred to compete in the second, third, and fourth departments; those who desire to obtain the position of instructors in English are about ninety all told, and of these scarcely seven or eight can hope to succeed. We have heard complaints that favouritism is sometimes exhibited on these occasions; but as far as our experience goes, nothing could be fairer or more just than the methods pursued. It is true that in one or two instances the possession of a diploma from some third-rate American college seems to have undue weight with the examiners—we could cite a case in point—but in all else the strictest impartiality is observed. The large number of those to be examined is explained by the fact that those who do pass and receive the coveted license or diploma are certain of immediate employment at a salary ranging from fifteen to fifty *yen* per mensem. Some young men are not rebuffed by even two or more failures, but keep on year after year until they obtain the longed-for license, which means a modest competence even it does entail hard work.

A RIDDLE SOLVED.

A few weeks ago the aged mother of a well-to-do Nihombashi merchant departed this life, and was given a splendid funeral. Her death had occurred at a villa which had been apportioned to her own use; so, some day subsequently it became necessary to give the house a thorough cleaning and airing. During this process a cupboard was opened: it was found to contain a number of medicine-bottles, powders, and other medicaments that had belonged to the deceased lady. The question then arose, what should be done with these? It was finally determined to empty and cleanse the bottles, while the powders should be burned over a brazier, out of respect to the manes of the departed. This was done; but hardly had the first powders been laid on the coals and their pungent odour begun to fill the air than the two favourite cats of the deceased came bounding into the room. They began to frolic and gambol in an unusual manner, purring all the while with evident delight. In another moment two or three cats from the neighbourhood came racing into the apartment, and all acted in the same strange way. Loud mews then announced the arrival of a third batch of cats—in a word, to cut a long story short, no less than twenty-four felines collected in the room in the course of ten minutes. The servants, in the meanwhile, had been gazing on this strangely increasing assembly with superstitious awe. Their deceased mistress had been very fond of cats; evidently her spirit had returned and was present, and it was for this reason that so many of her former favourites had gathered together. For quiet a while the cats played about the room unmolested, and then left one by one, only the two felines belonging to the house remaining. These had both fallen asleep beside the brazier, tired out with their unusual exertions. Of course the story of this remarkable occurrence soon reached the bereaved son's ears, and he, like his employés, gave implicit credence to the theory that the departed spirit had paid a brief visit to its former earthly domicile. A day or so later the physician who had attended the deceased in her last sickness called upon the merchant, and heard the strange story from his lips. He was properly astonished at the recital, and then fell into a reverie. Finally he asked if any of the powders they had placed on the brazier were still left? One was; and on examining this the doctor began to laugh and remarked that he now understood why the cats had acted in so remarkable a manner. The principal ingredient in the powder was *matatabi* (*Trochastigma polygama*), a herb of which all cats are inordinately fond. It was this perfume that had enticed them into the room, where it acted on their nerves very much as wine effects a man's brain. The miracle was thus one of very small proportions after all.

YOKOHAMA LITERARY SOCIETY.

The last meeting of the Yokohama Literary Society for the present season was held on Friday evening in the Van Schaick Hall, when there was a large attendance of members. The opening pianoforte Overture, "Galop de Concert" (Ketterer), was played by Mrs. Poole and Miss Wheeler. Mrs. Payne then sang Michael Watson's "All in a garden fair," and was greatly applauded. The next number, a recitation, "Our Ball" (Praed), by Mr. H. J. Sharp, was redemanded, and Mr. Sharp next gave Anstey's clever parody "The Wreck of the Puffin," in splendid fashion. The applause which greeted the performer was long and continuous, and was only stilled when Mr. Sharp consented to give an encore. It took the form of a sparkling little ballad, detailing the love experiences of a little tin Colonel mounted on "a tin gee-gee" in the Lowther Arcade who, slighted when marked at 1/9, felt the sunshine of a mild flirtation with a snub-nosed wax girl-dolly, when raised to 2/3. The item was greatly appreciated. Before the interval, the President of the Society, Mr. J. T. Griffin, said that was the 158th meeting of the Society, which had just reached the end of its tenth year. In a way, it was the parent of three similar societies, which had been started in Tokyo, Kobe, and Nagasaki. The funds were flourishing and their numbers would be greatly increased next season. The concluding items were: Pianoforte Solo, "Spinning Song" (Liszt), Mrs. Doering; Song, "Ave Maria" (Mascagni)—with violin obligato by Messrs. Ramseger and Schmit—Miss Thomas; violin duet, "Piece de Concert" (Dancla), Messrs. Ramseger and Poole; Song, "Anchored" (Watson), Mr. Unite; Pianoforte Overture, "Maurer Schollsen" (Auber), Mr. J. T. Griffin and Miss Griffin. The next meeting of the Society will be on October 4th.

HORSES FROM AUSTRALIA.

Mr. James Anderson, lately of the firm of Anderson and Foster, has, says the *Chronicle*, arrived in Kobe with a number of horses from Australia, his object being if possible to open up a regular trade in horses between Japan and Australia. The horses, which are suitable for cavalry and artillery purposes, were landed from the *Gaelic* on Tuesday evening. Of course it will be understood that, after a long sea voyage, in which much bad weather was experienced, the animals are not in first-class condition just now, but a rest of ten or fifteen days will put them right. It is interesting, by the way, to learn that Mr. Anderson experienced considerable difficulty in getting the horses here, being told in Hongkong, where he arrived in the *Airlie*, that the animals would be seized as contraband of war in Shanghai. Inquiry by cable of the Customs at Shanghai confirming this information, Mr. Anderson had the horses transhipped to the *Gaelic*, by which vessel they arrived, as already stated, on Tuesday.

UNEQUAL ODDS.

The *Yomiuri Shimbun* tells of a remarkable combat between two Japanese and several Chinese soldiers. The battle of Newchwang, as our readers already know, was one of the most hotly contested of the whole campaign in Manchuria. The soldiers had to fight from house to house in the city, and the Chinese kept up the conflict with a stubbornness as unexpected as it was unparalleled. Small detachments of Japanese soldiers were sent through the close narrow streets, to drive the enemy out at the point of the bayonet. Among these troopers were two privates of Captain Hamamoto's company, who had already won for themselves the reputation of unusual bravery. Their names were Shiromachi Shutaro and Nakamoto Uhei, the former being a private of the first class. After fighting shoulder to shoulder through several streets, the two men were about to rejoin their comrades, when Shiromachi was suddenly cut down from behind, and Nakamoto turned to find himself confronted by two burly Chinese soldiers. Maddened by the death of his comrade, Nakamoto did not hesitate to attack the Chinese with fury, and in the course of a few minutes killed both. He then went on, as he was wounded and in imminent danger of being shot himself. Upon entering another street he found himself face to face with a group of seven Chinese, who at once proceeded to attack him. He defended himself as well as he could for a few minutes, when seeing that his adversaries were getting the best of it and thinking it no disgrace to run away from such an unequal number of enemies, he took to his heels. Wounded and weakened he would infallibly have been captured by the hotly pursuing Chinese, when a half-dozen of his comrades made their appearance at a little distance. He gave the alarm, and his pursuers were fiercely assaulted and killed to a man. Nakamoto's prowess and presence of mind in the above desperate affair are favourably commented upon by the Japanese press. His escape was, at all events, little less than marvellous.

THE WRONG WAY ROUND.

It is of course but natural that the movements of the members of the Chinese Mission should be of interest to the country at large, and that every item of news respecting them, and primarily the Viceroy Li, should be eagerly sought for by the thirty odd representatives of Japanese newspapers now at Shimonoseki. Recently however, according to the *Yomiuri*, a number of these special correspondents were just a little too "previous" in getting off their telegrams. The report had been circulated that Viceroy Li

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was about leaving his residence in his official palanquin, and through the back-gate of the Injo-ji for a marvel. Several incredulous correspondents rushed to view the wonder, if real, and arrived in time to see the well-known palanquin actually come out of the back-gate. In a few minutes more telegrams were flying the length and breadth of Japan to the effect that Li had left the residence assigned him through the rear-gate. But it was not long before the mystery was solved, to the great confusion of a score of crest-fallen "specials." It was quite true that the palanquin had been borne out rearwards, but Li had not been in it. It had been simply to try whether the back-gate was broad enough to admit of the palanquin being carried out in that direction.

HOLIDAY RESORTS.

TOKYO doctors are now prescribing the ozone of the sea-coast for those affected with influenza, particularly where the malady appears to have inflicted a more than slight injury to the respiratory organs. It is perhaps due in part to this fact that we find the sea-side resorts so well patronized at present. A few days ago the inns at Enoshima were said to be overcrowded—an unprecedented phenomenon at this time of the year. Atami also has very many visitors; but it is particularly Oiso that is doing well. New villas are there going up in many places, while the price of favourable sites is advancing by leaps and bounds. Kabayama and several other hills in the vicinity have recently been brilliant with cherry, peach, and pea-blossoms—that stretch of the Tōkaidō between Oiso and Hiratsuka being particularly attractive and visited daily by scores of delighted pedestrians. The influx of pilgrims to Oyama has, it is said, already begun. A proposal to lay a tram-line between Hiratsuka and one of the large hill-villages has been heard of, though nothing seems to have come of it as yet. Farther South, Suma and Maiko have attracted an unusual number of guests, especially those who are visiting the Kyoto Exhibition. The hours between 10 and 5 are spent in the ancient capital, while the rest are devoted to the beautiful scenes about Suma. Okamoto-mura, so celebrated for its redolent plum-blossoms, has this year been visited by more that eight thousand people, it is said, not including residents of either Osaka and Kobe.

* * *

During the Easter holidays Miyanoshita had a large influx of foreign guests, the Fujiya Hotel being full to overflowing. Atami and Kamakura were also exceedingly well patronized. Much grumbling was occasioned by the vagaries of the railway service from Yokohama southward, especially on Thursday, when several residents had the melancholy pleasure of seeing the last evening train glide into the station and then leave without them, because the Authorities refused to issue any tickets.

A LITERARY PROPOSAL.

CERTAIN metropolitan journals report that Messrs. Maruya & Co., the well-known booksellers of Nihonbashi District, recently received under cover to them a letter to Sasanami-sanjin, which is the pseudonym of one of Japan's greatest living writers of fiction, Mr. Iwaya, who is now nearly fifty years of age. The letter is said to have come from the "Whitechapel Publishing Company" at Chicago, the writer being a Mrs. Abbott. The lady proposed in her letter that the novelist should write a tale, of course in Japanese, which would not exceed two or three thousand words in length when translated. She was about to publish a volume containing short stories by the best novelists of America, England, Germany, France, and Russia, and she thought that Japan should also be represented, particularly as this country was now so well and favourably known throughout the world because of its great triumphs over China. The book should be published simultaneously in New York and London, and this would greatly enhance the fame of the writers. Of course no emolument was either spoken of or suggested. It seem strange to us, premising the authenticity of the above details, that Sasanami-sanjin should be chosen to represent Japan in the forthcoming book. As far as we know no work of this novelist has ever been translated into English or any other Continental language. On the other hand, several stories by other equally popular Japanese masters of fiction have been rendered into either English or French, with more or less accuracy. Koyo should be known to readers outside of Japan, and there are others equally deserving of this distinction. Sasanami is, at the same time, perhaps the purest and cleanest writer of fiction now living in this country. His style is extremely simple and unpretentious, but very pleasing, while his language is of the choicest description. But much if not all of this would necessarily be lost in a translation. Japanese idiomatic speech is a hard nut to crack, and some of the beautiful metaphors lose all their point in another tongue. It is, for example, almost impossible to render the preamble of the average Japanese novel into a finished English form—the two languages still lie too far apart. And so Shakespeare can never be rehabited for the Japanese stage unless the whole drama is Japonicized. It is only the plot and not the language that even such playwrights as Mr. Fukuchi (who, we regret to hear, is seriously ill) are able to keep intact or follow with any degree of closeness.

MORE TANKERS.

MESSRS. M. SAMUEL and Co., of London and Japan, the originators of the tank oil trade from Batoum to the East, says an exchange, have ordered four new steamers, each to carry 7,000 tons of oil in bulk. Two of these vessels will be constructed by Messrs. Sir W. G. Armstrong, Mitchell and Co., to be named the *Nerite* and *Cowrie*, and two by Sir William Gray and Co., to be called *Pectan* and *Telena*. The first of these vessels is to be launched in June, and all are for delivery in the current year. The speed will be 12 knots, and the vessels are intended expressly for the China trade. In the meantime, the demand is great, and to meet it Messrs. Samuel and Co. have chartered two other vessels, besides keeping their fleet of other "tankers" fully employed. It may convey some idea of the carrying capacity of the four new boats ordered when we state that, loaded, they are carrying what means no less than 260,000 of the ordinary cases that oil used always to be shipped in.

THE "POLYPHEMUS."

THE Blue-funnel steamer *Polyphemus*, which arrived at Hongkong from Singapore on April 8th, had the misfortune, says the *China Mail*, to run against a small rock west of the Gap Rock. The steamer was under the command of the Chief officer, Mr. Chubb, the Captain having been left behind sick at Singapore. As she was slowly approaching Hongkong in a dense fog about four o'clock in the morning, the look-out man heard the Gap Rock fog-horn, and the engines were at once reversed. Unfortunately, the steamer had sufficient way to carry her on to the rock from which she rebounded. The touch appeared to be slight, but it was sufficient to damage the plates on the forward portion of the steamer, and it was ascertained that water was making its way into the forehold. Upon arrival at Hongkong, she went alongside the Kowloon Wharves to discharge her cargo preparatory to going into dock. The extent of the damage has not been ascertained. The *Polythemus* was under charter to the China Mutual S.S.N.Co.

A NASTY WOUND.

SOME strange operations have been performed on the soldiers in hospital in Tokyo, both remarkable and severe, yet with an almost invariably favourable result. This is, the Tokyo journals urge with justice, not only attributable to the skill of the attendant surgeons and the assiduity of the nurses, but also to the strict and thorough antiseptic precautions observed in every ward. "Hospital fever" is so far an unknown quantity in the capital. A curious operation was recently performed on a sergeant of Pioneers, wounded in the attack on Haicheng. The bullet penetrated to a considerable depth, but had been successfully extracted in the field lazaret. On being sent on to Hiroshima the patient still continued weak and the wound refused to heal. Thinking that a more northerly climate would be favourable to convalescence, the sergeant was brought up to Tokyo and placed in the Red Cross Hospital. Examination here showed that there was suppuration for quite a length beneath the spot whence the bullet had been extracted. A second operation was advised and performed, of course under the influence of anæsthetics. Deep probing revealed the cause of the trouble—a piece of the wounded man's coat, about two inches long by one and a half wide. This was removed, and the wound has since done well. It was the impact of the bullet that had driven the piece of cloth in. The *Yomiuri* remarks that such instances have been very numerous latterly.

SIZE RATHER THAN QUALITY.

THE *Kaika Shimbun* rehearses some of the experiences of a soldier who was wounded in the battle of Newchwang, and is now invalided in Tokyo. He says that, taken as a whole, the common people of Manchuria are not at all hard to get along with. So soon as their suspicions are allayed and their fears dispersed they grow quite confidential. Many told him that they had long been dissatisfied with the local administration and would be very glad to be enrolled as Japanese subjects in future. The amount of unlettered ignorance is appalling, continues the narrator. If often happens that not one man in a whole populous village is able to do more than read a half-dozen ideographs, usually only those comprising his own name and the cardinal numerals. Silver appears to be almost wholly unknown. Cash are the universal medium of exchange. In dealing with Japanese buyers the Manchurians show a marked preference for five *sen* nickels. They hold that the metal is the same as that found in ten *sen* silver pieces, and as the nickels are undoubtedly heavier and thicker, they give them the preference. Some of the local copper cash still in circulation are battered out of all recognition; in such cases they are worth only half their prime value. As a rule, the common people are honest in their dealings, though always willing to charge more than one hundred per cent. above the real cost. The narrator believed there was good stuff in the Manchurians and that they might become useful citizens if judiciously and kindly ruled.

THE LATE LIEUT. HICKLEY.

THE *China Mail* has the following:—Lieut. J. D. Hickley, of H.M.S. *Phœbe*, was drowned at Lourenço Marques on February 17th. The deceased, who was the eldest son of Admiral Dennis Hickley, was one of the Naval Brigade who last year operated against the Chief Nana of Brohemie in the River. For his gallant services on that occasion he was awarded the Distinguished Service Order. Mr. Hickley joined the Navy in 1874, and attained the rank of lieutenant ten years later. He was appointed to the *Phœbe* when she was commissioned at Devonport in December 1892. Lieut. Hickley will be remembered in Hongkong as an enthusiastic rowing man during his service on the China Station. His name appears on the records of the Victoria Recreation Club as the member of more than one winning crew.

A CASE OF FISH.

A VERNACULAR contemporary reports that the fish-mongers and fish-merchants of Shimonoseki recently presented a huge glass box of fish to the Viceroy Li. It contained no less than seventy-five members of the finny tribe, and nearly as many different species. The members of Li's suite took this gift in very good part and proceeded to bait lines and try their hand at fishing. It was excellent sport as long as it lasted, but unfortunately one too enthusiastic fisherman knocked up against the case and broke the glass. The immediate consequence was that every fish, and of course the water, ran in all

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directions, a scene of considerable excitement and much dampness ensuing. The fish, however, did not make good their escape, but were served in various styles at dinner the same evening. We find this story in only one of the Tokyo journals and leave our readers to determine its character.

TEMPORA MUTANTUR.

"When Harmston's Circus was in Tokyo," says a vernacular contemporary with fine scorn, "the members gave an equestrian pantomime or dumbshow of certain heroic feats performed by our soldiers on Korean battle-fields. The thing took immensely and the circus throve apace. Now the troupe is in Singapore, and a similar show is given, but on a wholly different plan. It is the Chinese and not the Japanese that are depicted ■ victorious, though we should very much like to know where the composer of the scene got his facts. Probably from that all-too-veracious source, the local Chinese Press. Of course, business is business, and if it pays Harmston's folks better to impersonate mythical Chinese warriors and their wholly imaginative triumphs on the field, why no one can blame them. There is a very large Chinese community in Singapore, and patrons from this quarter no doubt find it pleasanter to look at mimic victories than to read of real and crushing defeats. "We should think that with the aid of swift and well-trained steeds, Harmston might give a very fair representation of one of those Chinese 'masterly retreats' about which so much has been said. But what does surprise us is ■ learn that a number of soldiers from the local British garrison took part in this dumb-show, or rather were hired for the occasion. It does not strike us as being a dignified employment for a soldier; but possibly the British species is quite different from that of Japan." What a terrible catalogue of sins is being "writ up" against the unhappy Britisher.

A NATURAL WONDER.

The *Miyako Shimbun* gives an interesting description of a very wonderful cave in Tochigi Prefecture. In the vicinity of Kuzu-cho, Asogori, there is a hill called both Fuji and Asama —probably by way of sarcasm, for it is anything rather than imposing. About half way up the hillside is a cave, in which, according to tradition handed down from ancient times, there used to dwell a huge serpent. The legend has it that quantities of bleached skeletons have been found in the cave, and that certain death awaited the reckless visitor. In fact many years passed since any one ever ventured to place foot within its gloomy recesses, and the interior thus remained a complete mystery until a few days ago. On the 23rd of last month, Messrs. Katayanagi and Dei, both residents of Kuzu, made up their minds to explore the cave thoroughly, despite its repellent reputation. At noon on that day they entered the great hole, accompanied by five assistants, and emerged safe and sound at eight o'clock the same evening. The result of their exploration is as follows:—The cave is about 850 feet in length, the walls consisting entirely of stalactites, which sometimes hang four or five feet long from the lofty rocky ceiling. The stone is beautifully white and often assumes the most bizarre and remarkable shapes. About sixty feet from the mouth of the cave, the road is divided into two, a main and a collateral passage. Between the mouth and this turning-point the ceiling is about six feet high. Some twelve feet from the divided roads, the main passage leads into a spacious and lofty chamber, about sixty feet square. From this issues a narrow passage, hardly wide enough to squeeze through. This conducts again to another large chamber where the most beautiful of the cave's many wonders is to be seen. Pendent from the ceiling is a huge stalactite, say forty feet in length by nine in diameter. Looked at from a little distance it is the exact counterpart of a waterfall and, strange to say, about midway up, there is a perfect image of a carp, apparently swimming up the stony waves. On the left is a stalagmite of eighteen feet in height, looking for all the world like a priest clad in alb and stole. Leaving this chamber, the passage once more becomes very narrow and leads to a pit sixty-five feet deep. On descending into this by means of rope-ladders, the explorers again found a wide, flat space, in which there were innumerable stalactites: some yellowish in colour; others cylindrical in contour; and still others shaped like antlers. Sixty feet farther on is a real waterfall, dashing headlong from a height of over fifty feet. Penetrating still deeper into the cave, the intrepid discoverers heard a loud, dull roar, which they found to proceed from another cataract, over forty-five feet high. Here was another pit. The rope-ladders were again made use of, and a tortuous passage was found leading to a remarkable monolith, perfectly smooth and reddish-yellow in colour, about ten feet in circumference by eighteen in height. Nearly twenty yards farther on the passage opened into another lofty chamber, to which there was no other outlet. Retracing their steps, the explorers then went on to examine the branch-passage, from the point where it separated from the main road. Nothing of particular interest was found here, the tunnel being very narrow and low. Six or seven yards from the dividing-point the passage widened, leading into a pit which opened into the main passage again. The townspeople of Kuzu are greatly pleased with this discovery, and hope that the cave will attract numerous visitors in future. There seems to be nothing like it elsewhere in Japan.

THE NOBLES' SCHOOL.

According to the *Yomiuri Shimbun*, the present fine building of the Nobles' School has been seriously injured by the frequent sharp earthquakes of the last six months. So extensive are these injuries that it is said that simple repairs will not prove sufficient; the building is no longer safe and a shock like the one of last June might cause some tremendous mishap. It has been proposed to tear down the present premises and erect new ones in their stead, but this would cost, it has been found, considerably over one hundred thousand *yen*. Deeming this sum far too great to expend so soon after the completion of the present building, which is almost new, a counter-proposal has been made to rent some other large house in either Tsukiji or Komaba, on the Shinagawa-Akabane line, there being in both places suitable premises. In the meantime, the amount of damage done by the earthquake could be more thoroughly determined, the supporters of this plan believing that extensive repairs would be preferable to undertaking the heavy cost of a new structure. Externally, at all events, the Nobles' School seems in no way shaken; there are no visible cracks or rents in the walls, and it was one of the very few places last June that did not require partial re-roofing or at least new chimnies, although considerable damage is said to have been done indoors. It would indeed be too bad if the present beautiful site and spacious premises had to be vacated.

THEFT OF SUGAR AT THE HATOBA.

Several coolies who were detained at the Settlement Police Station on Monday, in consequence of some suspicious movements of four trucks laden with sugar, which they were hauling, have been since discharged, ■ they have proved their *bona-fides*. It appears that 97 bags of sugar were unaccounted for when the *Strathlyon* discharged her cargo, and these trucks of sugar having been allowed to leave the Hatoba without examination, suspicions were aroused on the part of Mr. Clare, and the coolies were stopped. The Japanese merchant who engaged the coolies declares that he bought the sugar some days ago from a friend who purchased it as sweepings from the mate of the *Strathlyon*. As that ship has left this port under charter for the south, some little time must elapse ere the matter is cleared up.

SUGGESTIVE WALKING-STICKS

The *Yomiuri Shimbun* reports that Iwamoto, the celebrated artist in bamboo, resident in Kobe, recently produced two walking sticks of unusual beauty and skilful carving. The one is surmounted with a conch, in which a wounded Chinese soldier is represented as endeavouring to conceal himself. This is, of course, in satirical reference to the phrase *hora wo fuku*, equivalent to our idiom "to blow one's own trumpet." The other cane depicts a Japanese soldier, with uplifted sword, in hot pursuit of a fleeing Chinaman. The minutiæ of carving have been in both instances carefully looked to, so that the sticks are veritable art-triumphs, says our contemporary. Iwamoto, the carver, was patronised by the present Emperor of Russia during his short stay in Kobe, and is well-known in both Europe and America.

DEATH OF SIR PATRICK GRANT.

Field-Marshal Sir Patrick Grant, who has just died, was in his 91st year. He entered the East India Company's service seventy-five years ago. In the Gwalior campaign of 1843 he served on Sir Hugh Gough's staff and received his brevet majority. He was Adjutant-General in the Sutlej campaign of 1845-6, fought at Mudki and Sobraon, being twice dangerously wounded. For his services in this campaign he received his brevet lieutenant-colonelcy. Again he fought with Gough in the Punjab campaign, taking part in the battles of Chillanwalla and Gujerat. In some minor campaigns he took part between this time and the outbreak of the Mutiny. He was the Commander-in-Chief of the Madras Army, and acted for a brief time as the head of the Bengal Army. On his retirement from the Indian Army he was appointed Governor of Malta, later on Goveror of Chelsea Hospital. In 1883 he was appointed Field-Marshal.

TSUKIJI LITERARY AND MUSICAL SOCIETY.

The Tsukiji Literary and Musical Society met on Monday evening, April 15th, at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Taft, No. 30, Tsukiji. There were about thirty in attendance, with Mr. Gardiner in the chair. The following is the programme:—

1.—Piano Solo... {a. Rhinemer, Wanderer. b. Erotik.} ..... Grieg.
Miss True.
2.—"Samantha at the World's Fair" ..... Miss Watson.
3.—Song ..... Mr. Cate.
4.—Reading ..... "The Gustavus Adolphus Tercenteuary." Mr. Taft.
5.—Piano Duet ..... "Waltz" ..... Moszonski.
Miss Thomas and Miss Wallace.
6.—"An Order for a Picture" ..... Alice Carey.
Mr. Cate.
7.—Trio ..... "Lift thine eyes." ..... Mendelssohn.
Mrs. Tyng, Mrs. Smith, and Mrs. Fisher.
8.—"Travels in Egypt" ..... Miss True.
9.—Song ..... "Imogen Donahue" ..... Mr. Cate.
10.—Stories by Messrs. Tyng, Gardiner, and Verbeck.

A RECORD RUN.

The quickest run on record between China and the United States was broken during the second week in March, it is claimed, when the American barque *Amy Turner*, eighty-eight days from Hongkong, arrived in Baltimore. The new record established by the *Amy Turner* breaks the one claimed by the barque *South American*, which was made a number of years ago. The latter made the run from Hongkong to New York in eighty-nine days. The steel barque *Foong Suey*, which was in New York on Dec. 2, also claimed the record between Hongkong and New York, having sailed the distance in ninety-seven days.

FOREIGN CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE WAR CHEST.

In the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* we find a statement of the number of foreigners that have contributed to the Japanese war chest and of the sums contributed. It seems that the total number is 12, and that their contributions aggregate 742 *yen*. Their nationalities are:—1 Korean (5 *yen*); 2 Americans (75 *yen*); 1 Australian (500 *yen*); 1 Englishman (3 *yen*); 1 Austrian (5 *yen*); 3 Italians (49 *yen*); 2 Frenchmen (55 *yen*), and 1 Swiss (50 *yen*). In addition to the above, a French lady sent 125 bottles of medicated wine.

NAVAL AND MILITARY EXPENDITURE.

Two hundred and fifty, or two hundred and sixty, million *yen* is the amount estimated by the *Hochi Shimbun* as likely to be required for military and naval purposes when peace is restored. Of that total, 200 millions are allott-

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ed to the Army for re-armament with improved weapons, for the building of forts, and for an increase of establishment. The millions needed by the Navy are for building ships, dockyards, and harbours. Apparently a big programme of belligerent development is contemplated in some quarters.

TWO GREAT CARPENTERS.

Of all Japanese carpenters or carvers in wood the two most famous, whether of ancient or modern times, have been Shidari Jingoro and Shida-no-Takumi. Of the former marvellous tales are told, how, for example, he carved a jonquil in full bloom out of some bits and shavings of bamboo, the flower being so life-like that thereafter it budded and put forth fresh blooms; and how he carved some carp on the pillars of a gate that were so excellently delineated that they appeared to—or really did, according to another account—swim in a slow and stately circle. Some specimens of Jingoro's work are still extant and highly prized, for they undoubtedly evince artistic genius of a very high order. Less well-known but of much older date are the works of Shida-no-Takumi, of which very few authentic specimens now exist. Quite recently, however, a figure of Daikoku, some eight inches in height, which is an heirloom of a gentleman residing in Yotsuya District, Tokyo, was discovered to be one of Shida-no-Takumi's inimitable carvings. It is described as being exceedingly life-like; the fat, jolly face of the god being wreathed with smiles, and the whole attitude expressive of good-humoured interest. The story goes that this figure was carved in a single night by Takumi, in return for favours shown him by a Samaritan brother craftsman who was ignorant of his guest's real name and fame. For Takumi, like the later Jingoro, was exceedingly improvident and would occasionally spend weeks and even months in utter idleness, being reduced at last to accept the bread—or rice—of charity. It was not until his entertainer's hospitality and patience were were both utterly exhausted that he would rouse himself and in a marvellously short space of time, with only one chisel of the roughest make, produce a work of art that called forth the plaudits of everyone. It the present instance, the Daikoku is said to have been make in like manner and for similar reasons. The artist spent two whole days in thought, gazing on the block of wood in front of him, before he began to work. It was not until after he had left abruptly and with hardly a word of thanks that his host learned that he had been entertaining an angel unawares.

LIEUT. TOMINAGA'S NARROW ESCAPE.

Lieut. Tominaga of the 13th Regiment of the 6th (Kumamoto) Division had a very narrow escape in the assault on the eastern forts at Weihaiwei. On the 30th of Jan., says a letter written by the Lieutenant, the 13th Regiment, forming the van of the attacking column advanced to the assault of the forts. The cold was so severe and the march so arduous that the perspiration running down the men's hair was soon congealed to ice. The Lieutenant climbed the steep hill of Motienling by supporting himself on his sabre, with which he severed two wires connected with mines that the enemy was on the point of blowing up. A sergeant and a private were always by the Lieutenant's side to defend him from danger, for he advanced some distance ahead of the main body of the Regiment that he might cut the wires of the mines. When he came to the vicinity of Luchūetsui Fort, he saw, a short way off, four Chinamen, who not only did not show any sign of retreating, but even proved bold enough to approach. As one of them drew near Lieutenant Tominaga—so near that a few steps more would have brought the swords of the two into contact, for the Chinaman also carried a sword—the private, who had lagged somewhat behind the officer, rushed to the rescue at the top of his speed, and the next moment he had severed the head of the Chinese soldier. Then he devoted his attention to two of the other Chinese, who showed some signs of hesitation on seeing their comrade decapitated. These, also, the private finished with his sword. There yet remained one Chinese. He was taking aim at the Lieutenant with a rifle from a short distance away on the left of the officer. But the sergeant was equal to the occasion. Arriving on the scene at that moment, a bullet from his ready and straight-held rifle hit the Chinaman, who was brought to the ground by the shot, and once despatched by the sergeant. It is related that the face of the private was convulsed while these things were in progress. He looked like a madman, his eyes bloodshot and rolling, and his mouth foaming. "I am not a scholar," he cried, "but I saw your peril, and I ventured to use a sword"—an explanation having reference to the fact that no one below the rank of officer is allowed to employ a sword. By that time other troops came up and an aide-de-camp sought to restrain Lieutenant Tominaga, urging that it was dangerous to approach the fort while the enemy were keeping up such a fierce fire. But the peril that the officer had just narrowly escaped made him insensible to danger. Disregarding the remonstrance of his brother-officer he advanced in front of his men. When he got within about 100 metres of the fort, a terrible concussion shook the ground: a mine had exploded. The Lieutenant thought that it was all over with him. He was hurled to a distance of several yards into a depression by the roadside, where, as he confesses with shame in his letter, human weakness overcame him, and like an ignorant rustic, he prayed to the gods to help him, uncovering his head, raising above it a bag of amulets given him by his relatives at home, bowing to the east and invoking the deities. When the smoke cleared away, he found that not only was he himself unhurt, but that all his men also were safe, the stones and débris thrown up by the mine having fallen for the most part a few yards away from where they stood. The rest was easy. In a few moments more the men in the fort were driven out at the point of the bayonet. It is a pity that Lieutenant Tominaga has not found some historian other than himself.

A RECTIFICATION.

In December last a telegram was received in the East as follows:—"Firm Armstrong issuing loan abandoned because China seeking raise loan higher interest." We have been requested to state that the firm referred to in this telegram was Messrs. Armstrong & Co., of London. Sir W. G. Armstrong, Mitchell, & Co., Limited, of the Elswick Works, Newcastle-on-Tyne, are anxious that there should be no misunderstanding as to the house engaged in this operation, as several Eastern papers have stated that it was their firm which failed to carry through the loan.

SUGAR FROM GAS.

According to a German review of science for the present year, sugar can now be made by condensation and precipitation from the common gas of the street lamps. Already the production of beet sugar on the Continent has ruined the West India Islands, but now the beet growers are to have their turn, for the cost of producing gas sugar is said to be much less than the cost of beet sugar, and the inventors of the process are confident that they will drive all other sugars from the market.

SUDDEN DEATH.

William Human, a tallyman, 46 years of age, was taken suddenly ill at his residence, No. 102, Settlement, on Tuesday evening. He lingered until 11 o'clock, when death supervened. Dr. Wheeler held a post-mortem examination of the remains on Wednesday, and certified that death was due to acute fatty degeneration of the heart, so no inquest will be held.

THE "POLYPHEMUS."

The damage done to the Blue-funnel steamer *Polyphemus*, says the *China Mail*, is believed to be more serious than was at first supposed. There was upwards of 20 feet of water in the forehold, and the damage to the cargo will probably be increased on account of the dye diffused from a quantity of mangrove bark shipped at Singapore. The loss to the underwriters will be considerable.

RECEPTIONS AT THE BELGIAN LEGATION.

We are asked to state that Madame La Baronne d'Anethan, owing to absence from Tokyo, will not be able to receive on Saturday the 20th or Saturday the 27th instant.

THANKS.

We receive some items of information from the *Kobe Herald*. It appears that we "mapped out for ourselves a policy in the summer and autumn of 1891"; that it was "a policy of veiled hostility to the *Kobe Herald*"; that "a favourite method of giving effect to it is to scrupulously refrain from crediting to the *Kobe Herald* anything taken from it, while ostentatiously acknowledging whatever is taken from other Kobe journals;" and that this policy was "mapped out" in consequence of "arrangements being made for the establishment of a daily paper in Kobe for the purpose, if possible, of undermining existing foreign journals." It is necessary that we should express thanks for all this information, but it is also necessary that we should disclaim the omniscience of local doings as well as the policy-mapping abilities ascribed to us by our contemporary. Really we had not the remotest idea that arrangements were made in Kobe some four years ago for the purpose of undermining existing foreign journals. Nor did we ever suspect that the *Kobe Herald* was the outcome of such arrangements. We have been living in a fool's paradise without the remotest notion of all the terrible things going on in the southern port. We were not even aware that we had been subjected to undermining for so many years, and it behoves us to apologise for the unintentional discourtesy of failing to be sensible of such a disastrous process. Besides, we are not hostile to the *Kobe Herald*. We look upon it with very friendly eyes, pleased by the thoughtful character of its articles and above all by its general freedom from the extravagant prejudices that disfigure so many foreign journals in Japan. It has not escaped our notice that the editor of the *Kobe Herald*, who prior to his occupation of an editorial chair, used to be a contributor to, and a very distinctly professed supporter, of the *Japan Mail*, now takes many opportunities to attack us and to charge us with various lapses from grace. But the reason of that change is easily understood, and the fact has not provoked us in the smallest degree. In truth we have never given it a second thought. If the *Kobe Herald* believes that it can make more room for itself by assaulting us, and that it can best attract public notice by a campaign against the *Mail*, why of course let it follow its fancy to the end. We do not suffer, consciously at any rate, and we certainly hold no man an enemy simply because he happens to differ from us. As for the paragraph—11½ lines—reporting the death of Mr. William Hooper of Nagasaki, a few days after his arrival at the Kobe International Hotel, it was taken partly from the *Kobe Herald* and partly from the *Kobe Chronicle*, the reports of both being abbreviated. Moreover, the matter was simply narrative. Under such circumstances, reference to sources of information is scarcely ever made by a newspaper. However trifling be the obligation owed by us to a contemporary, our habit is to acknowledge it scrupulously, nor do we wittingly depart from the rule though whole columns are habitually taken from our own issues by Eastern journals without the smallest recognition. If we are being undermined; if the operation has been going on four years; if we mapped out an anti-undermining policy in the fall of 1891; if veiled hostility to the *Kobe Herald* was a part of that policy, and if the veiled hostility takes the form of literary theft, we acknowledge the presence of a very alarming and disgraceful catalogue of circumstances, but still remain stupidly ignorant of, and indifferent to, them all.

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WAR NEWS.

Saturday, April 13th.

There is naturally an almost complete absence of war news at present. The cholera is the great enemy of the moment. We read in the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* that since the disease first made its appearance at Hiroshima, the number of cases in that town and its environs has totalled over 40, and that from 4 to 5 deaths occur there daily at present. The *Jiji Shimpo* writes that two men died of the disease in Moji on the 10th instant, and in the *Kokkai* we read that a coolie at Ujina, seized by the malady on the 10th, died almost immediately, and that another case occurred on the 11th. From the Pescadores no intelligence comes, except a rumour published by the *Yomiuri* that the origin of the epidemic was the poisoning of the wells by the Chinese.

In the *Niroku Shimpo* we read that the citizens of Makung are behaving with great friendliness to the Japanese invaders. Many of them have raised placards over their doors, extolling the virtues of the Emperor of Japan and the humanity of his subjects.

An officer now with the expeditionary forces is quoted by the *Niroku Shimpo* as declaring that rather than submit to any foreign interference in respect of the peace negotiations, Japan's 40 millions of inhabitants should make up their minds to die. In the face of such a resolve, what apprehension, he asks, need there be of Japan's failure to obtain her terms.

The *Yomiuri* alleges that Sung has 30,000 men at Chinchow (N); that Sung has 40,000 between Ning-yuen and Shanhaikwan, and that there are 135,000 at Taku. The total force available for the protection of the routes to Pekin thus aggregate 205,000. But who is to guarantee these figures?

Monday, April 15th.

The Conference did not meet on the 12th or 13th the inst., but was expected to assemble on the 14th, which day and the succeeding were indicated by well informed persons as likely to bring forth events of the utmost importance. Meanwhile, the Japanese Military authorities are not relaxing their vigour. A large force is ready to be launched against Pekin at a moment's notice. The Commander-in-chief, H.I.H. Prince Komatsu, left Hiroshima, together with his staff, on the 13th at 2 p.m., and reached Ujina an hour and a half later, whence they started at 4.30 p.m., convoyed by the *Chiyoda Kan*, the *Tatsuta Kan*, and the *Itsumi Kan*.

The *Shogyo Shimpo* ascribes various reasons for the secrecy successfully observed with reference to Japan's proposed terms of peace. The main point seems to be that the Plenipotentiaries promised to be perfectly reticent, and that they have kept their promise.

Viscount Mutsu appears to be mending. Dr. Ito has been sent by the Emperor to attend him.

The Emperor of China is said to have sent more than 200 cases of rare articles as presents for the Emperor of Japan, by way of testifying China's joy at the prospects of peace. The cases are expected to reach Hiroshima in a few days.

Immediately after the departure of H.I.H. Prince Komatsu, the Emperor, says the *Jiji Shimpo*, will probably move to Kyoto, whither His Majesty will be accompanied by the Minister President.

Tuesday, April 16th.

The correspondent of the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, writing from the Pescadores, says:—

On the 23rd of March at 7 a.m. the ships, forming in the order previously directed, left Chao Island Bay and steamed toward Panghu Island. They had proceeded only a little distance when two Chinese vessels were sighted. The *Itsukushima* fired a blank cartridge by way of signal, and one of the vessels at once lowered her canvas, but while she was undergoing examination, her consort seized the opportunity to escape. At 9.30 a.m. our First Flying Squadron opened fire upon a fort situated on an eminence to the north-east of Heuchue, and the enemy replied. The firing continued on both sides for some time and was then discontinued. At 11:30 a.m. our vessels drew close to the shore of Lichangchue and anchored. At noon, the Flagship signalled an order for landing the troops. Thereupon armed steam launches from the various vessels, towing pinnaces and cutters, assembled in the neighbourhood of the *Kagoshima Maru*, which was carrying the troops of the van, namely, four companies, from No. 1 to No. 4. These were all landed successfully, under the command of Colonel Hishijima. The troops from the other transports followed, and by 2 p.m. the whole were on shore. About half an hour before the landing, the *Akitsushima* shelled the Kungpohtai fort for a short time. So soon as the enemy's forts observed that our troops were about to land, they opened fire vigorously, eight or nine of their shots falling in the vicinity of the transports, but doing no damage. Immediately on landing at Wonliang in Lichangchue Bay, scouts were sent forward to find out whether any of the enemy's forces were quartered in Wonliang or the neighbouring hamlets, and interpreters were despatched to make inquiries among the inhabitants. It having been found that no Chinese troops were at hand, Colonel Hishijima at once ordered the First Battalion of the First Regiment to push forward and occupy Tsienshan, a place about half a mile from the landing. Captains Yamaguchi and Nakajima moved their companies in accordance with these instructions, and encountering no opposition, reached the eminence indicated. Thence they proceeded to take possession of a hill about 2,000 metres farther inland. But it appeared that the idea of occupying this position had occurred to the enemy also, for some 300 of them advanced simultaneously with the Japanese, and the two parties opened fire upon each other at a distance of about 200 metres. Meanwhile, a Chinese re-inforcement, numbering about 150 was observed approaching. Captain Nakajima thereupon caused two sections of his men to lie down in a hollow road, and these, when the Chinese came up, poured a sudden and vigorous fire into them, killing six of their number and throwing them into confusion. The original body of the enemy still held out, however, though hard pressed by the Third and Fourth companies, which were gradually gaining ground. Major Iwazaki now gave orders that Captains Matsuzaki and Sakuma should move up with their companies to support the attack. These troops, pushing up the slope, charged the enemy, and were joined in the movement by the rest of the little force. The enemy's resistance broke down under this assault, and they retired, leaving the hill in the hands of our troops. It was now 4 p.m. Examining the position evacuated by the enemy, a 10 cent. gun, loaded, was found. Evidently the Chinese, expecting us to advance direct from the sea-shore, had placed this gun so as command the approach on that side, and being attacked, to that surprise, from the direction of the peninsula, were not able either to turn the piece so as to utilize it, or to carry it away in the rapid flight that followed our men's charge. Had they succeeded in using the gun, there must have been many casualties on our side. The piece being too heavy to take to the ships, and not being of any service to us, was dismounted and rendered unfit for use. In this fight we had 10 men wounded, one mortally. The enemy had 34 men killed. The programme for the following day (March 24th) being the capture of Kungpohtai fort and a subsequent advance against Makung, the troops were ordered to parade at the encampments of the First and Second Battalions by 4 a.m., and half an hour later, the general advance commenced. The Second Battalion, forming the van, moved at once against Kungpohtai, and by 6 o'clock reached the neighbourhood of the fort. The enemy, to the number of about 200, opened fire on our men, but Captain Ishii's company replied vigorously, and at 6.30 a.m. the fort was stormed and captured. The greater part of its defenders fled, but some, concealing themselves in the fosse, or at the sides of the gate, attempted to oppose our entry. Thus when Captain Yeto was leaping over the fosse, he received a bayonet thrust in the thigh from one of these men. But a handful of resolute soldiers could not check our forces. Kungpohtai Fort, reputed to be one of the strongest places in the Island of Panghu, fell into our hands 30 minutes after its attack commenced. Meanwhile, a Naval Brigade, with mountain guns, operating on the left of the attacking force, came into action with a body of the enemy that had planted two field guns on an elevation near the fort for the purpose of opposing our advance. The sailors routed the Chinese and captured their two pieces. Meanwhile, the Fourth Company of the First Regiment of the Reserve advanced toward a hamlet on the south of Kungpohtai. The company's orginal orders had been to divert the enemy's attention until the landing of the troops had been completed. At 6.30 a.m. it set out, and firing *en route* on the enemy's fugitives, took possession of its objective point, the above named hamlet, at 6.50 a.m. The place had formed one of the enemy's stations: five hundred men had been quartered there. A part of our expeditionary force was landed there, and entered Kungpohtai fort, where immediately after its fall, the various corps assembled and the Second Battalion of the First Regiment having been placed in the van, a general advance was undertaken against Makung. During the march, the fort on Fisher Island continually shelled our army. One shell fell so close to a gun of the Mountain Gun Company as to be decidedly dangerous, but the force finally reached the neighbourhood of Makung without any casualties. Without a moment's delay the First Company attacked the barracks of the enemy's infantry and obtained possession of it, while the Second Company, at 11.10 a.m., entered the gate of the town, and, dividing into three bodies, advanced by different roads. The garrison retreated for the most part, only some 30 men offering any resistance. These were quickly dispersed. Pushing farther into the town, another force of 20 men opposed us in an open space near the Torpedo Station, but these, too were swept from our path. All fled in the direction of the northern gate and the sea-side forts. The Third company took possession of the Torpedo Station; the Fourth, of the north and west portions of the town, and by 11.50 a.m. no troops except the Japanese remained in Makung. We had two men killed in the attack on Kungpohtai, and 17 men wounded, including a Lieutenant. The enemy's casualties are not known. On the same day, the Naval Brigade, under the orders of Commander Tsuji of the *Itsukushima*, attacked the fort on the Yuen-ting Peninsula. The enemy, numbering 500, made no attempt to resist but surrendered *en masse*. Similarly, on the 26th, when we proceeded against Fisher Island, the Chinese, having despatched a letter of surrender by the hand of a native, effected their escape, and we occupied the place unopposed. Thus, in a very few days from the time of our arrived, the Pescadores, which form the chief outwork of Formosa, were completely in our possession.

It is interesting to note from the above account that despite the general helplessness and demoralization shown by the Chinese, a few men had the courage to stand and fight. At the fort of Kungpohtai we read that although the great body of the garrison fled without offering any resistance worthy of the name, half a dozen soldiers placed themselves here and there, and attempted to make the Japanese pay for their success; while in Makung two little bands, one 30 and the other 20 strong, actually stood up against the whole Japanese force. Men that have nerve to hold their ground and strike stoutly in the midst of a general *débacle* by their comrades, are made of the very best kind of stuff.

As for the cholera among the Japanese troops at the Pescadores, we find the following interesting note in the *Jiji Shimpo*:—"According to a letter, dated the 30th of March and received at Hiroshima, the Mixed Force landed

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on the Pescadores from 11 a.m. on the 23rd March, and commenced fighting at once, the principal island being completely captured by the following evening. But though the troops had been thus successful, a terrible trial awaited them in the form of cholera, which broke out on the 25th and spread with alarming rapidity, striking down a great number of the men. The origin of the outbreak is attributed to the fact that, after a voyage of several days throughout the whole of which high winds and heavy seas were experienced, the men, tired out with sea-sickness, were given no rest but had to land at once and commence fighting in a climate whose sudden heat augmented their distress. Some landed in a state of considerable fever, and drinking the essentially bad water of the place, and being obliged to eat Chinese rice, were attacked by the disease endemic in those districts. The Authorities, however, at once adopted drastic measures, sending a large force of physicians and nurses, so that the epidemic has been checked, and there are now only 23 patients in hospital."

No conference of the Peace Plenipotentiaries took place on the 14th instant. At 2 p.m. on that day, Mr. Wu called on Count Ito—we quote from the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*—and a little later Lord Li also visited the Premier. Their object was to ask for a further postponement of the negotiations, which were to have been resumed that day. Our contemporary adds that the Japanese Plenipotentiaries agreed to the postponement, but fixed a limit. We are not told, however, what that limit was.

All these postponements render it improbable that an agreement can be come to before the expiration of the time fixed by the armistice. But, indeed, from the moment that an armistice was granted, there ceased, we think, to be any hope that the Chinese Plenipotentiaries would speak definitively until the expiration of the allotted time. They have everything to gain by deliberation, up to a certain point, and it does not appear to us that any definite inference as to their ultimate attitude can be drawn from their present procrastination. Meanwhile, the Japanese are vigorously preparing to resume offensive operations from the day of the expiration of the armistice. We believe that, unless the Chinese have categorically accepted Japan's terms by the 20th instant, the expedition against Pekin will be off the landing place in the Gulf of Pechili within 36 hours.

His Imperial Highness Prince Komatsu left Ujina on the evening of the 13th instant in the *Ikai Maru*, and passed through the Shimonoseki Straits the following forenoon. The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* says that Count Ito explained the meaning of this movement to the Viceroy Li, and reminded him that warning had been given of Japan's intention to observe the terms of the armistice with the utmost care, and of the fact that the sending of a number of ships to her base of operations would probably take place, such an operation being provided for in the articles of the armistice. The Viceroy fully understood this explanation, but must have been somewhat perturbed by the evidence constantly afforded of Japan's determination to push the war vigorously from the very moment of the failure of the negotiations for peace. At 5 a.m. on the 14th, Count Ito and Viscount Kabayama left Shimonoseki in the *Miyagawa Maru* and proceeded to Mutsure Island, there to await the coming of the *Ikai Maru*, with Prince Komatsu on board. At 10.30 a.m. the *Chiyoda Kan*, one of the convoying men-of-war, came in sight. She was followed quickly by the *Ikai Maru*, the wake being brought up by the *Inumi Kan* and the *Tatsuta Kan*. The little squadron stopped for a short time at Mutsure Island, and resumed its voyage at 11 a.m. after the Premier and Viscount Kabayama had bid farewell to the Prince.

The *Kokkai*, on the strength of statements said to have been made by Chinese prisoners, attributes to General Sung a very clear understanding of at least one of the causes that have contributed largely to the defeats suffered by the Chinese troops. The Japanese soldiers, Sung says, are under strict discipline and behave so well that their advent is welcomed by the inhabitants. The Chinese soldiers, on the contrary, plunder property and ravish women wherever they go, so that they are a veritable dread to their own countrymen. Such excesses have been habitual with Chinese troops from time immemorial: they cannot be cured in a day. But as they are responsible in a great degree for the disgrace that has befallen China's arms, General Sung exhorted Generals Wu Ta-cheng and Liu Kun-yi, at a recent meeting, to aid him in eradicating these evil habits.

The Prize Court at Sasebo is to be opened for the first time on the 22nd instant, for the purpose of adjudicating on the case of the Indo-China Steam Navigation Company's steamer *Yik-sang*, which was captured of Taku, laden with contraband of war. The Chief Judge of the Court is Judge Atomi, and the Associate Judges are Judge Hatakeyama and Judge Tagami.

Wednesday, April 17th.

The Peace Negotiations have terminated satisfactorily. A virtual agreement was apparently arrived at in the five hours' conference on the 15th instant, and the business of signing was to take place yesterday or to-day. At this moment of writing we have no definite information of the terms obtained by China. The *Jiji Shimpo* says that the concessions of territory and the amount of the indemnity do not differ materially from those recently stated in its columns. The statement, our readers may remember, was the acquisition by Japan of Formosa, the Pescadores, and a part of Shinking (the Liaotung Peninsula), together with an indemnity of 300 million taels. But these details will be very soon known. For our own part, we have never doubted that if the Viceroy Li came to Japan peace would be concluded, and we may, perhaps, be pardoned if we quote a paragraph from a leading article that appeared in these columns on March 2nd:—"Hence the sign to the looked for on the political horizon is the procedure of Li Chung-tang. If he starts for Japan, he will make peace. He knows what Japan wants: he knows how much she will be content to accept; he knows the extent of the concessions to which Chinese public opinion can be reconciled; he knows that he must not fail."

We learn with pleasure that Viscount Mutsu has recovered, and that he probably took part in the last conference. He would have been present at the conference on the 15th instant, but as he had left his bed only the preceding day, he was dissuaded by Count Ito and Dr. Sato from making such an effort.

We are sorry to observe that the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun's* correspondent confirms the statements recently made by the correspondent of the *Jiji Shimpo* with reference to the conduct of the foreign inhabitants of Yingkow. Our contemporary's information is this:—"When our troops entered Yingkow on the 6th of March, the first people to welcome them were the Americans and the French. They led our officers into the town, gave them food and wine, supplied them with warm clothing, and altogether treated them almost as kindly as though they had been fellow-countrymen. Notably the officer in command of the American vessel-of-war, invited our officers and others on board, and behaved most hospitably. He said that he and his men had been awaiting our advent for the past six months, and that it gave him the greatest pleasure to see us. Nor were his words mere expressions of superficial courtesy. For on shore near the place where his ship was moored, a species of parapet had been erected through a length of fifty or sixty yards, its object being to provide a defence against the Chinese troops in case of emergency. The commander, his officers and his men no sooner caught sight of our troops than they cheered us heartily and offered us their congratulations. Moored beside the American vessel was a war-ship of another country"—a British ship is, of course, indicated—"but not so much as a man from it visited us, and moreover, the Consul of the same nationality required that the troops placed by us to guard the custom house and other buildings be withdrawn. It is further stated that although the enemy abandoned some 47,000 bags of rice in Yingkow, British merchants claimed it all, and putting it into store, would not let us touch it."

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun's* correspondent must of course be perfectly well aware that the conduct attributed by him to the commander and officers of a United States man-of-war was a gross violation of neutrality. We greatly doubt whether anything of the kind took place, and we are quite sure that such a breach of discipline and propriety would never be permitted on board a British vessel. The charge of fraudulent collusion preferred so lightly against British merchants is another matter. Very much fuller evidence is required before an accusation of the kind is believed.

RAILWAYS IN JAPAN.

Railway enterprise in Japan, writes the *Jiji*, which suffered a temporary check in consequence of the war, has again more or less recovered its activity owing to the fact that the commercial and money markets have not suffered so much by the war as was at first apprehended, and also to the expectation that on the restoration of peace, the prosperity of the country will be greatly and rapidly enhanced. Already, therefore, on the desk of the Department of Communications, five or six documents lie, applying for temporary charters. The Railway Council, however, has decided to adopt precautionary measures at this juncture, and, with the view of providing against the fixing of a large amount of floating capital, a result that enterprises like the construction of railways necessarily involve, will not sanction these new applications. It will also suspend the work of construction even in cases where a temporary charter has already been granted, should the line not be considered of urgent necessity. On inquiring how far the railways already opened to traffic have "fixed" the capital of the country, and how much farther such work is likely to be carried, it is found that there are throughout the country 29 companies which have already received charters and become working concerns. The total length of lines owned by them is 2,193 miles and 12 chains, of which 1,549 miles 19 chains are open for traffic. The Government railways actually in working order measure 580 miles and 69 chains, while those now in course of construction represents 398 miles and 14 chains. The total capital invested in railways reaches the sum of 143,197,532 *yen*, Government and private railways combined, in which total the latter stand for 86,643,200 *yen*, and the former for 56,554,332 *yen*. In the system of Government railways the sum of 14,451,080 *yen* has still to be raised, while in the system of the private railways there are nine companies, with an aggregate capital of 4,900,000 *yen*, which have not yet opened their lines for traffic, and nine others a part of whose lines has been opened, though the raising of their capital is not yet completed; the railways of the remaining eleven companies are already completed and their capital is all paid up, namely, 13,265,000 *yen*. Though the total capital demanded for Government and private railways still to be constructed, may not appear large at first sight, it must be remembered that there are a number of other companies to which temporary charters have already been issued, and thus the capital required by railway enterprise altogether must amount to a big figure. Hence the caution observed by the Railway Council.

Few people are aware of the extent to which some of the minor British industries, such as the manufacture of bone handles for cutlery, are dependent upon the Australian supply of raw material. In 1894 New South Wales exported 892,181 bullocks' horns, against 619,543 in 1892, and 712,295 in 1893. The quantity of horns annually required in Great Britain and elsewhere for industrial purposes is

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KOREAN NEWS.

We gather the following from the latest correspondence sent to Tokyo papers from Söul. The miseries that the two provinces of Chol-la and Chun-chhon are suffering from the effect of the late Tonghak insurrection are beyond description. A traveller that lately returned from those districts reports, says the correspondent of the *Nippon*, that wherever he went he saw houses burnt down and corpses of people murdered, and that in not a few places he could find no inhabited house for miles. Yet the local officials are as oppressive and merciless as ever. Not only are they totally unconcerned about the sufferings of the people, but they are even so inhuman as to arrest innocent men on the charge of being leagued with the Tonghaks, the object of such arrests being simply the criminal greed of the officials to extort bribes from the unhappy suspects. Thus it results that in every local prison from 50 to 70 of such innocent persons are bemoaning their hard fate. In some districts as many as even one-third of the inhabitants are in confinement, so that the rice harvested last fall is still unhulled and lies stored up in granaries. No wonder, therefore, that the people now detest their officials more intensely than they did the Tonghak insurgents, and that reports of mob agitation reach Söul almost incessantly. Even in the districts bordering Söul "incendiary mobs" have made their appearance, burning houses and pillaging helpless inhabitants.

How to deal with the Tonghaks has now become a question urgently demanding attention. The Japanese residing in Söul are especially clamant about the matter. The central Government, however, as though it were entirely oblivious of the grave problem, wastes time idly bickering over paper programmes of reform, and leaves the local officials to employ summary punishments as instruments to minister to their own cupidity. The Japanese contend that since the great majority of the so-called Tonghaks were really innocent people, compelled by force or other forms of pressure to join a rising fomented by a few genuine malcontents, therefore only the real ringleaders and instigators should be punished and the rest set free. This policy, urgently recommended by a certain Japanese adviser of the Government, is said to have been adopted by the Court, and special commissioners are to be sent to the lately disturbed districts to dispose of the weary business. Meanwhile, the examination of one of the two ring-leaders of the Tonghaks now confined in Söul has been concluded, and when his connection with the Tai Wön-kun, now in process of investigation, is ended, sentence will be passed on him. Though a criminal of his type is liable to death according to the usages of the country, is is surmised that he and his co-adjutators will be treated as political offenders in the sense generally attaching to the term in civilized countries, and that, therefore, they may probably escape decapitation.

The negotiation about the loan was concluded on the 28th ult., the terms being the same as those already given in these columns, and the first installment, half a million *yen*, was handed over to the Korean Government on the 30th. The remaining two and a half million *yen* are to be given to Korea according as she needs the money, and at a place determined by the creditor and the debtor in conference.

A Relief Council has been appointed in the Court, the object of the new office being to relieve provincial folks who are suffering painfully on account of the last insurrection or of famine. The Vice-Ministers of Finance and the Home Office and the Secretary-general of the Cabinet, together with the three Japanese advisers, are commissioners. Their first meeting was to be held on the 1st instant.

The Government intends to strip the the Tai Wön-kun of his power and put an end to the means that he employed to acquire it. One of those means is a guild of peddlers, numbering more than 100,000. They are scattered all over Korea. With these the crafty old statesman had ingratiated himself by various devices, and he habitually employed them as tools for collecting information and conveying a knowledge of his secret plans to the people in the provinces. In order to placate and utilize this big guild, a special office existed in the Court, having branches in each principal town. The Government proclaimed on the 28th ult. that this office and its branches should be closed thereafter, and that the peddlers must conduct their business individually in any way they chose.

The Korean Government, or more especially the acting Minister of Public Works, has conceived an ingenious idea. It is to demand an indemnity from China for the serious damages to which Korea has been subjected by the present war. The Public Works Minister thinks that the despatch of Chinese troops to Korea, the direct cause of the rupture of Oriental peace, was never asked for by the Government but was forced upon it by China through her Representative, the Resident Yuan. He goes on to argue that China's arbitrary procedure in that matter was the principal cause of the misfortunes that overtook Korea and of the calamities under which she is now groaning. Hence she is justly entitled to demand reparation from her arrogant neighbour. Besides, Korea in allied with Japan, defensively and offensively, against China, for the purposes of this war, and if the more powerful of the allies is have an indemnity and an increase of territory from their common foe, why should the weaker he wholly excluded from the enjoyment of similar compensation? When the Acting Minister earnestly argued this point before Count Inouye, declaring at the same time that he was ready to undertake the duty of negotiating and of meeting the Viceroy Li at Shimonoseki, the Count is said to have simply smiled, and made no comment. The *Keisai* considers this idea very excellent and recommends that is be acted upon.

SOME AMENDMENTS IN THE ACTORS' REGULATIONS.

A very minute account is given in the Tokyo *Asahi* of the changes recently made in the Regulations relating to Tokyo Actors. The changes concern the abolition of what may be called distinctions of rank; distinctions that have stood seriously in the way of aspirants who, devoid of family connection and such aids, have vainly attempted to gain a footing on the so-called "*Obutai*" or great stage. The actors of Tokyo were formerly divided into two classes, *Kabuki-yakusha* and *Doncho-yakusha*, the distinction being chiefly based on the scope and standing of the stages where they regularly plied their trade. Though both actors in name, a wide gulf really existed between the *Kabuki-yakusha* and the others in respect of histrionical standing and so forth. The *Doncho-yakusha* were looked down upon by the *Kabuki-yakusha*, just as actors as a body were despised by the upper classes during pre-Restoration days. In fact, the actors who frequented the *Doncho* stages for their livelihood, were not recognized as actors even by the Municipal Office, and licenses were issued to them as comedians only. In 1890 the distinction of *Kabuki* and *Doncho* was abolished, and the two terms of *Daigekijyo* (big stage) and *Shogekijyo* (small stage) were substituted for them. By this amendment of the Stage Regulations the performers at the lower class of theatres came to be legally recognized as actors. In practice, however, the line of demarcation between the two kinds of actors remained as rigid as before. It was laid down by the fraternity of *Daigekijyo* actors that none of their number should perform on inferior stages, on pain of expulsion from the guild, and that *Shogekijyo* actors should be forbidden to appear on the higher stage. On account of this arbitrary rule, enacted ostensibly for the purpose of encouraging the profession of the drama, but in reality to maintain the position that actors in the first rank had acquired by faimly prestige, many men of undoubted histrionic ability were obliged to content themselves with displaying their talents on obscure stages. It was natural that such artificial barriers should embitter the feeling of the *Shogekijyo* actors against the performers on the "great stages." Hence the relations between the two were anything but amicable. This state of things was regarded with extreme regret by lovers of the dramatic art and many of them ardently wished that such arbitrary restrictions should be removed, and were anxious to contrive that each of the actors, regardless of rank, should perform in his special rôle on the same stage. Some of them agitated actively for the realization of the scheme, and their efforts were not without effect. At the close of last year a rumour gradually began to gain strength that the authorities were disposed to abolish the distinction of *Daigekijyo* and *Shogekijyo*, to amalgamate all actors into one body, and to classify them by grades according to the fees paid by them to the Treasury. The contemplated change became so far certain that an expert of the *Kabukiza* leased a small theatre in Akasaka and induced several of the rising actors of the *Daigekijyo* class to give representations there. Finally, the expected alteration was official announced by the Local Authorities in the latter part of March. The chairmen of both kinds of stages were summoned to the Municipal Office and were told that, as the regulations in vogue up to that time were considered to be fraught with many evils, therefore they should be amended from the beginning of April, in the manner briefly explained above. At the same time, the chairmen were told that the grades should be subdivided into 8, each differing according the amount of fees paid, as follow: 1st grade, monthly fee, 5 *yen*; 2nd, 3½ *yen*; 3rd, 3 *yen*; 4th, 1½ *yen*; 5th, 1 *yen*; 6th, 50 *sen*; 7th, 30 *sen*; and 8th, 20 *sen*. They were also told that each actor must apply for the issue of a new license, the choice of grade to which he desired to belong being, of course, optional. Thus far 60 actors have sent in applications in due form, their grades ranging between the 1st and the 7th. The following actors have been licensed as of the 1st and 2nd grades: 1st grade, Ichikawa Danjuro, Onoyé Kikugoro, Ichikawa Kuzo, Ichikawa Sadanji, Nakamura Shikan, and Nakamura Fukusuke; 2nd grade, Bando Shucho, Kataoka Ichizo, Ichikawa Kodanji, Iwai Matsunosuke, Ichikawa Sumizo, Ichikawa Shinzo, Ichikawa Yaozo, Ichikawa Yennosuke, Onoye Matsusuke, Nakamura Jusaburo, and Onoye Taganojyo.

THE POPULAR VERDICT.

The feeling in Tokyo, which has all along been in favour of peace, has of late completely veered around. In the streets, the schools, the stores, people are eagerly discussing an immediate renewal of hostilities. It is the popular verdict that China has trifled too long with Japan's magnanimous patience; that she has been playing her old game of procrastination and duplicity; and that while the Viceroy Li may be fully aware of China's weakness and Japan's overwhelming superiority, the Chinese at home are certainly blind to all this, or else believe that, in the long run, the want of funds—and perhaps cholera as well—will bring Japan to the end of her resources. At all events the attitude of the people, who have been all sympathy with the Viceroy Li and ready to credit everything in his favour, is a very threatening one at the present moment. There is thorough unanimity of sentiment, for one thing: that most important factor lacking in China's counsels. This tone is also echoed in the columns of the metropolitan press, one or two journals having written so forcibly and injudiciously as to bring upon them the ban of suspension,—the *Nippon*, of course, and the *Kokumin Shimbun* being the leading offenders. It is believed, however, that in the case of the latter newspaper the suspension will not be many day's duration, especially as in the extra announcing the publication of the ban against itself the *Kokumin* ate very humble pie and promised its readers to be "doubly careful in future."

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THE KAISHIN-TO AND ITS BAKAN COMMITTEE.

On the 13th inst., according to the vernacular press, Messrs. Koizuka Ryu, and Takata Sanaye, members of the Committee despatched to Bakan by the Kaishin-to, to watch the progress of the peace negotiations, presented a report upon their doings before a meeting of the party held at the Seiyoken, Uyeno Park. There were about eighty people present. Mr. Koizuka was the principal speaker. In the course of his address he alluded to the collision that had occurred between the ideas entertained by the members of Parliament in Tokyo and those held by the deputations in Shimonoseki, regarding the murderous assault of Koyama upon the Viceroy Li and the advisability of sending a letter of condolence to the Viceroy in the name of the whole House. Owing to that difference of opinion, the Kaishin-to Committee had asked to be relieved of the task entrusted to them. The cause of their procedure was as follows. On the 22nd and 23rd of last month, the negotiations were suspended, to be resumed on the afternoon of the 24th. It was immediately after the termination of the conference held that day, that the unfortunate incident occurred which threw the whole nation into great distress. In Shimonoseki the agitation was very pronounced. The assault, however, had been committed and its consequences could not now be undone. Only one course presented itself to the minds of Japanese within the immediate vicinity of the Viceroy, and that was to take means to at once atone for the dastardly act as far as possible. No matter how trifling the character of the wound sustained by Li, the hitherto stainless escutcheon borne by Japan throughout the course of the war had been smirched, and she felt the shame very deeply. Up to that time she could fearlessly face the world knowing that she had been battling rightly in a righteous cause. If then the civil portion of the nation felt the sting inflicted by the fiendish behaviour of Koyama, how much more the army; and in the event of the nation's not extending its sympathy towards the stricken Chinese Plenipotentiary, the soldiers' martial ardour might perhaps be damped. The members of parliament in Shimonoseki at once unanimously came to the conclusion that the best way to manifest the nation's denunciation of the deed and to wipe away the stain from the national honour, was to express the public's sentiment through its representatives, the Lower House of the Diet. The matter was discussed at a meeting held in Shimonoseki, in the course of which Mr. Takahashi, editor of the Osaka *Asahi*, spoke. Opinion was unanimous as to the course to be taken, but some perplexity prevailed owing to the fact that the closing of the Diet had been fixed for the following day, the 25th., and should it be found impossible to prolong the session then the carrying out of the project would be impracticable. It was therefore decided to wait upon the Premier, Count Ito, and solicit his cōoperation so that the session might be prolonged and a vote of sympathy be passed. A messenger was despatched to Count Ito, asking whether the M.P.s then in Shimonoseki would be received by him to discuss the affair. Although past midnight, the Premier was still up, conferring, it seems, with Viscount Mutsu upon steps to be taken inregard to the incident. He said that he was quite willing to receive the deputation, and upon their appearance, and after hearing their remarks, his excellency was quite in accord with them. Viscount Mutsu, the other Japanese Peace Plenipotentiary, also applauded the step proposed by the deputation. Count Ito promised to approach the Throne and ask that the session of the Diet might be prolonged. The deputation then left Count Ito's residence and despatched with all promptitude special telegrams to the office of each party in Tokyo. Many telegrams were exchanged between the two towns that night, and it was found that the ideas of Tokyo and Shimonoseki were greatly divergent, the latter unanimously maintaining the advisability of prolonging the session, while the capital was entirely opposed to it. The members of parliament in Shimonoseki were thus placed in the awkward position of being obliged to break their promise to Count Ito, which was that the Diet would pass a special vote of condolence and sympathy if the session were prolonged; they therefore asked to be relieved of the task entrusted to them. Subsequently it was learned that the Cabinet were divided in opinion equally with the members of the Lower House, the Ministers of State in Tokyo being as much opposed to the prolongation of the Diet, as the Minister President and the Minister of Foreign Affairs were for it. Such a difference of opinion between the two centres was very remarkable, and Mr. Koizuka regretted the fact greatly. He thought that the capital did not appreciate the gravity of the situation so clearly as did those who were in the immediate vicinity of the place of the attempted assassination.

MR. OTORI, ON THE COMMERCE BETWEEN JAPAN AND KOREA AND CHINA.

A representative of the *Kokumin* called on the ex-Japanese Minister to China and Korea, Mr. Otori, now a member of the Privy Council, and inquired his views about the commerce between Japan and Korea and China. Mr. Otori regards with special regret the prevalence of vicious competetion among the Japanese merchants working in Korea; competition that results in a perpetual attempt to undersell each other. This was especially the case after the breaking out of the war and when the Chinese merchants left the Korean market in undisturbed possession of their Japanese rivals. In consequence of the disbursement of a large amount of War expenditures in Korea, the purchasing power of otherwise poor Koreans suddenly increased, while, at the same time, a large influx of Japanese military men and coolies made the Korean market unusually brisk. When the report reached Japan that the time had come for the extension of Korean trade, Japanese merchants hastened to Korea with goods such as they considered likely to be in demand there. So great was the number of these new-comers that each steamer entering a Korean harbour was literally laden with tradesmen and their goods. On landing, they experienced great inconvenience at once, houses to accommodate them being unprocurable so large was their number, neither could they find warehouses to store their goods. Moreover, they found, to their utter disappointment, that the Japanese troops had already marched on and that the greater part of Korea was as quiet as ever, commercially. All these circumstances, which the exercise of a little forethought would have enabled them to discern, made them very anxious to sell off their goods at any price. The result was that the evil practice of underselling one another was carried beyond all limits of reason, ruining these thoughtless merchants. Such procedure is a bad preface to making Japan the sole supplier of goods to Korea. An unnatural competition leads to deterioration of goods, and poor as the Koreans generally are, they, like other people, object to having inferior articles sold to them. Thus gradually Japanese goods will come to be regarded with aversion by the people of the peninsula. This evil practice of underselling is attributed by Mr. Otori to two causes, namely, want of due experience and insufficiency of capital. His idea about Japanese and Korean commerce is to organize a competent body out of Japanese merchants trading in Korea and to provide against the practice of underselling. He would induce a number of wealthy traders to amalgamate into a common concern and retail the goods on easy terms to petty agents. Itenerant pedlars are very well suited to the present condition of Korea, provided that they conduct their business on a proper system. If, further, the wholesale merchants avail themselves of experienced pedlars there is hope of greatly extending the commerce between Japan and Korea.

For commercial transactions with China, the first thing to be taken into consideration is the selection of districts. Commercially, southern China is without doubt more important than northern, but there are two obstacles to be encountered by any person seeking to inaugurate business there; namely, first, that the field is already pretty closely occupied by foreign merchants, and secondly, that the Southern Chinese are crafty and very difficult to deal with. Such, however, is not the case with the north. There the market is comparatively untouched, and the people are simpler. Japanese merchants ought to choose the north as their field of enterprise. Tientsin and Newchang are the places that Mr. Otori suggests as most suited for this purpose. A suitable locality for the pursuit of business being determined upon, the next essential to success is patience. Patience is above all qualities the most requisite for commercial operations in China. Further, any tendency to ostentation, such as is common in Japan when a shop is to be newly opened, should be carefully avoided, for it largely effects the credit of the shop. The Chinese being plain, frugal, and hard-working people, any such outward display is regarded as a sign of speculation and has the effect of deterring custom. Should the business be carried on in a painstaking and unostentatious manner, it is certain that the people will gradually begin to place confidence in the shop, and the business can be extended steadily. Not a few Japanese have failed because they neglected to carefully keep this point in view; but others who were prudent enough to refrain as much as possible from outward display, are still doing business and have a steadily increasing credit. Another thing that requires patience on the part of Japanese merchants intending to carry on trade in China is that payments there are periodical. They are made about three times a year, namely, on the occasion of the May festival according to the old calender (May 5th), the 15th of July (O.C.), and the end of December. This custom makes it necessary for merchants to begin trade with a comparatively large amount of capital. Unless one is ready to do business on the credit system it is not possible to conduct trade on any large scale. The Chinese are more honest in mercantile transactions than might be expected from their generally cunning disposition. Still, strict vigilance must be exercised, for they are, after all, Chinese, and may do anything for the sake of self-interest. The employment of Chinese clerks, commonly called Compradores, would prove extremely convenient, if only due caution be taken so as not to repose too much confidence in them. While selling Japanese goods in China, merchants should endeavour at the same time to buy in China staples that are likely to sell profitably in Japan.

In this context, we may give a rough account of what the *Jiji* says about the commercial prospects of the occupied districts. In proportion to the general status of the people the number of wealthy merchants and farmers is very abundant in Shinking. The way these merchants carry on their transactions is very peculiar. They give their goods, or even advance money, to petty farmers on the security of crops still unharvested, and thus these crops generally go to the merchants as they are reaped. The farmers, tempted by immediate gain and ignorant as to their real interests, are easily preyed upon by these pitiless merchants, and what they have produced by constant toil throughout the year affords them only a very meagre subsistence. It is by such a system—practically usury—that the merchants gradually grow rich. If, therefore, ignorant of this custom, the Japanese merchant seeks by investing a large capital, to compete with the native merchants, there is not much hope of success. Such being the general condition of Chinese farmers, the best mode for enterprising Japanese merchants desirous of carrying on transactions in north China is to barter goods against agricultural products. Unlike Japanese farmers, the Chinese are generally limited in the scope of their

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work, and are consequently obliged to purchase their clothes and such things, whereas the Japanese generally manufacture them with their own hands. Further, the scarcity of utensils and articles of comfort in ordinary Chinese houses, is notorious. All such facts lead the *Jiji* to conclude that if only transactions be conducted properly, a good field offers for enterprising Japanese merchants willing to go to the occupied districts.

THE TREATY OF PEACE.

It has been stated in some quarters that the maximum period fixed for the ratification of the Treaty of Peace by the Emperor of China is ten days. Obviously such rapid work is out of the question. The journey to Pekin from Shimonoseki is a matter of 7 or 8 days at least. The *Hochi Shimbun* gives a more credible figure, namely, three weeks from the 18th inst., which time expires on the 8th of May. Our contemporary adds that the armistice is to be prolonged for that time, and that should the Emperor of China fail to ratify the Treaty within the appointed limit of days, the whole arrangement will fall through. Such a contingency need scarcely be anticipated. The Chinese Plenipotentiaries were in constant telegraphic communication with the Pekin Government throughout the period of the negotiations, and it is not to be supposed that they agreed to anything without their Sovereign's approval.

The *Kokumin* says that a special session of the Diet will be held at an early date for the purpose of debating several questions arising out of Japan's acquisition of foreign territory. The Authorities, it is added, are now busily engaged drafting measures and carrying on investigations with regard to those questions, the principal of which relate to the estimates of revenue and expenditure in the occupied districts; to the Constitutional status of Japan's new subjects; to the laws of taxation and conscription as applied to the annexed territories; to the opening of treaty ports; to the regulations bearing on fisheries and commercial affairs; to the naval and military defences of the districts, and to the problems of railway construction and education.

Japan has indeed a great many questions to solve in connection with this sudden expansion of her empire. The only intimation of her ideas yet given by the vernacular press, is to be found in the columns of the *Hochi Shimbun*, where an anonymous statesman is quoted as drawing a contrast between the British and French systems of colonization, the local autonomy granted to her colonists by England in all matters except those that relate to military and naval defence, being greatly preferred, on the ground alike of theory and of practical results, to the centralizing tendency affected by France.

THE CHOLERA.

The *Official Gazette* publishes the following Notification over the signatures of the Governor and Chief of Police of Tokyo:—"In time of war, when large bodies of troops have to be moved, it frequently happens, as history shows, that zymotic diseases break out and spread among the soldiers, and that, after the war is over, these epidemics continue, working great havoc. During the present conflict with China, cholera has made its appearance at Chinchow and in the Pescadores, and not only do fears exist that it may spread thence, but already since last month cases have appeared at Moji, Hiroshima, and Ujina. It is impossible, therefore, to tell at what moment the disease may not declare itself in this city, and the utmost care ought to be exercised to adopt timely preventative measures, each citizen using every precautionary means in his power to avert the calamity of a cholera epidemic."

ESCAPE OF SOLDIERS AT SENDAI BARRACKS.

About 150 soldiers of the 4th Company of the Battalion of the Sendai Corps deserted on the 31st ult., writes the *Choya Shimbun*. The incident was not new in that Division. A similar affair had occurred more than once previously, the cause alleged being excessive strictness on the part of the officers. Thus, in 1885, a company of the commissariat deserted. Three years later, a whole battery of artillery, including non-commissioned officers, repeated this grave offence. In the same year, the non-comissioned officers and privates of the 4th Company of the 17th Regiment followed suit, on the day preceding the inspection by the Minister of State for War. Again, in the following year, the non-commissioned officers and soldiers of the 10th Company of the 4th Regiment leagued together for the same purpose. Warned by such incidents, which reflect in no small degree on the reputation of the captains of companies and other officers directly responsible for the control of the soldiers, considerable attention has since been paid to the importance of not needlessly harrassing soldiers in subjecting them to their daily routine of duties. The precautions taken proved effective, for subsequently, up to the end of last month, no instance of desertion had been reported. The last case appears to be due to the same cause as the rest —over-severity on the part of the officers. The soldiers who were guilty of the breach of discipline were those of the 2nd Reserves, and as they had already gone through their service with Colours and the 1st Reserves, they thought that they were entitled to more lenient treatment than that generally extended to men on active service. But such, it seems, was not the case. An ensign of the company enforced the laws to the letter and subjected the men to the same strict rules as those applied to the troops with the Colours. Even a petty breach of discipline was punished mercilessly. The soldiers became highly dissatisfied at what they thought excessive severity, and secretly leagued together to commit some grave offence that might attract public notice. The 31st of March was Sunday, and the men of the company left the Barracks in a body. Evening came and tattoo was sounded, but not a man of all the company answered his name at roll-call. The officers of the company became alarmed and instituted a search, but no clue could be obtained as to the whereabouts of the soldiers. Nor did they return even on the next day. The Chief of the Battalion of which the Company formed a part then submitted the particulars of the occurrence to the Central Office of the Division, and Gendarmes and Police were asked to lend help in searching for the defaulters. The non-commissioned officers of other companies were also required to assist the inquiry, but all to no purpose. On the evening of the 5th instant the men came back in threes and fives, and by the 6th all who had deserted were again in the Barracks. What punishment was meted out to them in accordance with the rules of military discipline is not yet clear. It is said that the Chief of the Battalion and the Captain of the Company have tendered their resignation.

THE RECENT ARRESTS.

The arrest of the brothers Barradas and Fonseca is said to be due to their having, on behalf of some Japanese, disposed of the products of a mine which had been fraudulently obtained. It appears that two Japanese have, for some time past, been making efforts to sell the products of the mine, which they alleged belonged to them, and had approached a number of foreigners with that object, the foreigner to supply a little capital with the understanding that the profits of the output should be equally divided. Foreign business men of course fought shy of such a project, but the three Portuguese were induced to take it up. The mine in question is said to belong to a farmer.

A RAMBLE IN THE PESCADORES.

A REMINISCENCE.

A group of low lying islands, looking dreary with their monotonous flatness and want of trees and vegetation, scarcely invite a visit, yet, as we are here, a ramble will stretch our somewhat cramped legs.

The town of Makung is the capital. Villages are scattered about on most of the twenty-one inhabitated Islands. We are near the S.E. end of Ponghow (the largest island), and, getting into the boat, pull haphazard for the shore. Jumping on to the sandy beach, we are at once struck with its dazzling brightness and glare, and find that the phenomenon is caused by the sun shining on coral: the beach is actually strewn with it, broken into small pieces by the force of the waves; also a wonderful variety of shells, some of them so pretty that I fill my pockets to take home for the youngsters to play with. A few minutes and we are up to one of the villages. Our surprise is great, for there is something so unique about it: the walls of all the houses, also all the garden walls, are built of coral. We have all seen coral in a house or garden, and can imagine how pretty a sight a village built of such material would be. But here they are rough fantastic looking blocks, weather worn and weather stained into a very dirty grey, with the interstices filled with mud; the roof is covered with ordinary brick tiles. The house garden is well sown with vegetables, and in between each furrow is a row of coral nearly a foot high to protect the young shoots from being blown down by the winds, and then they have the additional protection of the coral wall about five feet high. The violence of the N.E. winds has to answer for this great amount of care, also for the entire absence of trees. The inhabitants are Chinese; quiet inoffensive looking people, with the usual amount of dirt about their appearance and clothing. The village, although dirty, presents a clean appearance by comparison with what one sees in the North of China. Pigs and dogs abound, seemingly quite happy in the dirt that all appear to revel in. Men and boys are about and looking at us; but it is a sad sight to see so many partially blind. Whether it is a feature peculiar to this village, or whether it is only partly blind men that come out this day I cannot say; but quite 30 per cent. of the adult men suffer from some ailment of the eyes. Why is it so? Can it be that the glare of the coral beach and the sand blown about by the violent winds in time impair the sight?

We walk on and find all the arable ground under cultivation; in a few places little green shoots are just starting up between the furrows. The soil is poor, but a considerable quantity of potatoes, maize, and millet is grown. Cattle roam about, and are used to till the ground. 'Tis a dreary monotonous view, not a tree, not a hill to throw a shadow: a rock underfoot has a creeper spreading over it which runs into a crevice to try and hide itself from the fierce winds and hot sun before breaking into flower. Poor little blue flower. What a waif and stray you seem to be in this cheerless island. Later on we sight and hear three larks, singing and soaring, indifferent to surroundings whilst enjoying freedom. When their morning song is lost to us the only brightness possessed by the island is gone. We turn back, making a bee line for our boat, feeling very thankful that our lot does not require us to become residents.

Adieu Pescadores! I am glad to have seen you, but more than glad to get away from your changeable climate, fierce winds, and fever ridden, cheerless shores.

Among the co-operative associations formed in New South Wales during 1894 were the Dubbo Co-operative Meat Chilling Company, Monaro and South Coast Meat Freezing and Chilling Company, Nyngan Refrigerating and Boiling-Down Company, Australian Meat and Produce Supply Agency, North Coast Fresh Food and Cold Storage Company, Narrabri Refrigerating and Boiling-Down Company, Federal Ice and Chilling Company, and Graziers' Meat Export Company, the amount of share capital of each ranging from £200,000 to £5,000.

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THE SHIMONOSEKI CONFERENCE.

THE delay in the progress of the negotiations at Shimonoseki is naturally causing some uneasiness. It is true that the Viceroy himself did not resume his attendance at the Conference chamber until the 10th instant. But it it also true that he could have done so sooner, had he been so minded; and it is further true that, despite his absence, the negotiations were virtually progressing all the while. Japan's terms were known to the Chinese Plenipotentiaries from an early era, and the Viceroy and his colleague were, therefore, in a position to submit them to the Government in Pekin. Moreover, communications were passing constantly between the two sides in Shimonoseki. It is not to be supposed that while the parties to a great and momentous negotiation were living for three weeks within stone's throw of each other, no *pourparlers* took place simply because the chief on one side was temporarily disabled. For all purposes of a final agreement consultative intercourse may be assumed to have been going on throughout. Count ITO would not have returned to Shimonoseki and remained there under any other circumstances: his presence at Hiroshima is too much needed. But the Chinese Plenipotentiaries are evidently unable to come to any speedy decision. The Conference on the 10th instant did not take place in any regular routine of meetings. We learn from the vernacular press that it was the result of pressure from the Japanese side, the Chinese Envoys having given no indication of an intention to speak definitely, although there had elapsed ample time for them to make up their minds had they been disposed or competent, on their own responsibility, to meet Japan within any reasonable range of her demands. In view of all these circumstances, the Japanese are growing impatient. They begin to think that China is trifling with them, and that her immediate purpose is simply to gain time. The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, whose utterances upon such a subject merit full consideration, says that not a single day's grace will be granted by Japan; that if a settlement has not been effected by the time fixed for the conclusion of the armistice, the latter will not be renewed under any circumstances, and that, if China does not agree now, Japan's next statement of terms will be made under the walls of Pekin. The *Shogyo Shimpo*, a moderate and independent journal of the best type, writes almost in the same sense, though less defiantly than the *Nichi Nichi*. Its tone is plainly despondent, though it is careful to say that the negotiations are not broken off and that the next meeting is to take place on the 13th instant. The *Yomiuri*, which has been remarkably well informed throughout the war, says that the delay in the reassembly of the Conference until the 10th was at the Viceroy's instance, and that, on the eve of this tardy meeting, he sought another postponement until the 20th, which proposal was emphatically rejected by the Japanese Plenipotentiaries. But we find difficulty in believing that a diplomatist of LI'S astuteness would deliberately expose himself to the suspicions that such unwarrantable delay must suggest. The *Chiuo Shimbun* declares that the interval between China's views and Japanese demands is too wide to warrant any hope of successful bridging, but that, too, we venture to doubt. It seems to us that such a crisis as is now occurring was to be anticipated from the outset. If Japan's terms were such as the Viceroy LI might accept without hesitation on his own responsibility, she would be doing herself an injustice. If, on the other hand, as is virtually certain, they are such that LI can not think of agreeing without reference to Pekin, unless he be prepared to risk his own political ruin and invite his SOVEREIGN'S repudiation; if further—which also is tolerably certain—they are such that the Pekin Government itself finds some difficulty in dealing with them, then obviously considerable delay is unavoidable at some stage of the negotiations. We venture to think, therefore, that the hesitancy in the face of which Japan begins to chafe, need not be interpreted in a gloomy sense. The Viceroy's intention, indeed, is probably to avail himself of the armistice to its extreme limit, whatever be the nature of his ultimate reply to Japan's demands. No people have fuller faith in time than the Chinese. LI will naturally reflect that, whether or no the unpalatable pill has to be swallowed finally, the longer the operation is deferred, the greater are the chances of something happening to dispense with its necessity. Many things might happen. Cholera, for example, might assert itself so violently among the Japanese expeditionary forces that their despatch against Pekin would be scarcely practicable. We need not catalogue such contingencies; our readers will easily conceive them. The Chinese Plenipotentiaries would be lacking in astuteness if they did not seek to secure the benefit of all these chances for their country. As for the event of rejecting Japan's terms and renewing belligerent operations, it is quite plain that an answer in that sense will not be formulated until the very last moment. Thus, on the whole, China's palpable game is to procrastinate. Moreover, Japan is bound to await her opponent's final reply until the end of the armistice. She can not unsheathe the sword again a day sooner. All that her Plenipotentiaries can be expected to do is, if possible, to force China into such a position that further procrastination will be open to only one interpretation. Whether that can be done without such a display of impatience as might discredit Japan herself, is a question that diplomatists like Count ITO and Viscount MUTSU are thoroughly competent to answer. If the war is to continue, every day's delay at this juncture is an immense loss. If peace is to be made, every day saved is a great gain. All that, however, is self-evident. What we desire to point out is simply this, that whether the Chinese Plenipotentiaries contemplate accepting or rejecting Japan's terms, it is evidently their interest to take either step in the last resort, and that, consequently, delay on their part at this juncture can not be interpreted in any definite sense. There is one other point to be noted. If the Viceroy hopes to procure a modification of Japan's terms, every hour of hesitation militates heavily against his chances. Japan can not be expected to seriously consider counter-proposals advanced at the eleventh hour. That kind of shilly-shallying would be childish. China is therefore playing a very delicate game, and her plenipotentiaries must understand the fact thoroughly.

METHODS OF ARGUMENT.

IN our issue of Tuesday we published an article under the heading "One law for me, another for thee." The subject discussed was the singular mental habit of local journalistic critics in this country, who, while claiming for European Powers all kinds of rights of international interference and even aggression, deny the possession of any such rights by Japan. Russia, for example, is entitled to dictate the status of Korea and the integrity of China; France, to forbid the disposal of Formosa by the Empire to which it belongs; England, to claim the Chusan Archipelago or Keelung and its coal mines, lest the balance of power be disturbed in the Orient. But if Japan knocks down the flimsy partitions that invite, while professing to avert, Western aggression on her own borders, if she seeks to replace them by something substantial, she is denounced as a truculent aggressor, a slave to the unholy lust of conquest. That was the subject of our article. It commenced with these words:—"The denunciation of Japan's claims by foreign local critics, and the assertion of their own country's claims by the same critics, constitute an object lesson at once instructive and amusing." The article is now answered. One of the local critics has undertaken to defend his position, and this is how he sets out:—"Astonishment is expressed because local critics plead for Europe the same rights which Japan has arrogated." Is not that amusing? Our comment was on the blindness of critics who fail to appreciate the evident contradiction of denying to Japan rights that they claim for all the States of Europe. Our opponents inter-

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pret us as expressing wonder because the rights that Japan has arrogated are pleaded for on Europe's behalf. Thus the very opposite of what we said in the plainest language is ingenuously taken as our meaning, and our honest critic proceeds to prove that if Japan has certain rights Europe must have them also, whereas what he was asked to prove was why Japan should not have those rights if Europe has them. The *Japan Gazette*, we need scarcely say, is responsible for this cheerful distortion of our proposition. It enjoys, we think, a monopoly of that kind of perversion. So far as the problem under discussion is concerned, the *Japan Gazette*, of course, does not expect to be taken seriously. To demonstrate that a man has the right of locking his own door when he goes abroad, does not help us at all to understand why his neighbour should be called ugly names for resorting to a similar precaution. But the *Japan Gazette*, though it casts honesty and fairness to the winds, gains the advantage of gibbetting us as assailants of European rights. That is its sole hope. That, indeed, has been the sole hope of our local journalistic critics for years. Unable to answer our argument—or rather the arguments of simple justice and common sense—they have sought to bring obloquy upon us by representing us as opponents of Western rights and interests. So now we are made to appear as having denied European rights and asserted the same right on Japan's behalf, whereas our actual words were:—"If that right is to be claimed for Europe—and we are not so silly as to imagine that *fin-de-siècle* morality will deny the claim for an instant—then surely the same right must be conceded to Japan." Of course no reader of ordinary intelligence can fail to perceive the *Japan Gazette's* deliberate perversion of the issue at stake. We refer to it, not at all for purposes of controversy, but simply in the sequence of a demonstration that from time to time we have thought it useful to make—a demonstration of the methods of argument employed by the so-called champions of foreign interests, exponents of foreign sentiment, and judges of Japanese character.

A word may be added here about the most recent contention of these champions, namely, that had there been no *Japan Mail*, everything might have gone on in peace and quiet to the end of the chapter. It is impossible to be complimented by any tribute coming from such a quarter, otherwise our gentle critics' constant endeavour to tear down the *Japan Mail* and bespatter its editor with mud, might give us satisfaction as a confession of the horrible inconvenience we cause them, But we assure them that, so far as concerns this particular contention of theirs, they have our entire sympathy. We can understand how dreadfully embarrassing it would be for a preacher fulminating from his pulpit at a strange sect's differences of doctrine, were his autocracy of anathema to be suddenly disturbed by the apparition of another pulpit and another preacher, ready and able to expose his quibbles and ridicule his curses then and there. So, too, it must have been very distressing for editors sailing calmly down the current of anti-Japanese denunciation, to meet with a head-wind that took their canvas aback and subjected them to nasty buffets from the waves of reason and justice. A most annoying state of affairs undoubtedly, and if it has harrassed our tender critics so as to entirely distort their sense of cause and effect, we really pity them. By way of *amende* we suggest that they can find interesting topics for demonstration if they will undertake to show why their enmity to the *Japan Mail* made them inveterate opponents of Treaty Revision from 1871 until 1895; why their enmity to the *Japan Mail* made them side with China from the outset of this war, minimizing Japan's successes, giving credence to every rumour of disaster to her troops and ships, condemning her as an unprincipled aggressor, and endeavouring by every possible means to discredit her cause; why their enmity to the *Japan Mail* makes them now endeavour to prolong the war by telling China that if she had a spark of patriotism and endurance she would fight to the bitter end rather than accept Japan's terms, though they do not even know what Japan's terms are. We admire their manly shifts to evade responsibility. First, it is the hostility of the Japanese press that must be blamed; then it is the outspokenness of the *Japan Mail* that makes them turn upon Japan and rend her; and always it is their anxiety to improve her by frank abuse that prompts them to hold her up to public scorn. Their position is becoming more and more enviable.

THE PEACE.

NO official intelligence as to the terms of peace will be published, we presume, until the document has been duly ratified. The Treaty was signed on the 17th, and as the Viceroy with his suite left Shimonoseki the same afternoon at 2 o'clock, it must be inferred that China's acceptance of Japan's terms, whether modified or in their original integrity, had been a foregone conclusion for two or three days, otherwise such a rapid start would not have been possible. This inference, which could not fail to suggest itself under the circumstances, receives confirmation from reports previously published by vernacular newspapers, to the effect that preparations for the Viceroy's departure had been in progress since the 14th or 15th.

The *Jiji Shimpo*, an authority of undoubted weight, says that the Treaty was signed at 10.45 p.m. on the 17th instant, the Chinese Plenipotentiaries accepting Japan's demands, and that the terms were:—

(1).—Japan to receive the portion of Manchuria comprised between the Valu River and the Liao River, including Yingkow, Haicheng, Chiulencheng and so forth.

(2).—Japan to receive Formosa, the Pescadores, and all the subsidiary islands.

(3).—Japan to receive an indemnity of 200 million Taels, the payment to be effected in six yearly installments.

(4).—The extraterritorial privileges now enjoyed by Chinese subjects in Japan to be abolished, but those of Japanese subjects in China to be preserved. Moreover, various tradal privileges to be granted.

We are not at liberty to state how closely the above statement approximates to, or how far it diverges from, the actuality. But our readers will at once observed the vagueness of the first and fourth items.

Viscount MUTSU was present at the final conference, and affixed his signature to the Treaty.

Meanwhile, the vernacular press has paid dearly for its not unnatural eagerness to lay before its readers details as to the proceedings at the conference, the publication of which without special permission is strictly interdicted by law. We have already noted the suspension of the *Nippon* and the *Kokumin* on the 15th inst., and we have now to add that the ban went forth against the *Yomiuri*, the *Kokkai*, the *Niroku*, the *Chiuo*, and the *Choya* on the 16th. Suspensions of newspapers are never incidents above criticism, but we are constrained to confess to a feeling of satisfaction that the Government is showing a bold front in this matter. Among the seven journals enumerated above, our readers will recognise the principal organs of the Strong Foreign Policy Party, an association of politicians not likely to be satisfied with any reasonable terms of peace, and understood to be awaiting the Shimonoseki settlement for the scarcely concealed purpose of making it the platform of a new crusade against the Government. It is impossible to sympathise with politicians of that type, however sincere may be their patriotism, and since their incendiary proceedings at present are calculated to work great mischief, we rejoice that there is to be no tampering with them. None the less does it appear most regrettable that an event so joyful as the dawn of peace in the East, should be disfigured by a wholesale suppression of prominent Tokyo Journals.

As for the terms of peace, we refrain from commenting on the obviously imperfect outline given by the *Jiji Shimpo*, preferring to wait until an official statement relieves us of all doubt.

THERE can be very little doubt, we presume, that the public is now in possession of the salient features of the Treaty of Peace signed on the 17th instant at Shimonoseki. Pending the ratification of the Treaty, it may be assumed that no official statement of the terms will be made by the Japanese Authorities. But

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China will not be equally reticent—why should she, indeed? Before long we shall have full details from her side. In the meanwhile, however, our readers will not be much mistaken, we believe, if they set down the indemnity at 200 million Taels, or, say, 280 million *yen*, and the territorial concessions as Formosa, the Pescadores, and the Liaotung Peninsula. With regard to this last, however, there is evident vagueness in the expression 'the Liaotung Peninsula." We have to inquire how much of the Mainland is included in the neck of the Peninsula. Judging from information already published, the closest approximation to the northern boundary of the neck is the diagonal—so far as it falls within Manchuria—of the parallelogram formed by the 40th and 41st parallels of latitude and the 122nd and 125th lines of longitude. Doubtless, the demands originally formulated by Japan exceeded those that she was prepared to accept, and we may fairly conjecture that her margin of compromise was connected with the dimensions of the neck of the Peninsula and the size of the indemnity. But there can be no doubt either as to the intention underlying her territorial terms, or as to the fact that she has accomplished it. Formosa she wanted as a solid addition to her material resources. It is a rich island, capable of great development, and that its wealth-giving capacities will grow immensely in Japanese hands and under Japanese rule, cannot, we think, be questioned. Great Britain has considerable interests there already. These, of course, as well as those of all foreigners in the ceded territory, will be scrupulously respected, and we may rest assured that not the smallest of the shares in the island's augmented trade will fall to England's lot. There is, indeed, a possibility that Hongkong may suffer in one respect, since the possession of Formosa and its sugar plantations must constitute a great incentive to Japan's long conceived ambition of refining her own sugar. One of the Hongkong industry's chief markets may thus be closed. But that result was only a question of time under any circumstances. As for the acquisition of the Liaotung Peninsula, however, the principal motive was evidently strategical. Japan drew the sword for the purpose of emancipating Korea from Chinese suzerainty. She accomplishes that object completely by getting possession of the Liaotung Peninsula, as deliminated in the Treaty of Peace. For from Yingkow she commands the northern shores of the Gulf of Pechili, from Port Arthur the mouth, thus effectually blocking China's maritime routes to Korea; while at Kaiping, Haicheng, and Chiulien she holds the land approaches to the northern frontier of the little Kingdom. China thus becomes powerless for the purpose of reprisals. The territories wrenched from her may inspire her with a longing for revenge, but their situation renders it impossible for her to gratify that impulse.

Military prowess being still the sole arbiter of titles to empire, this expansion of Japan's realm is unquestionably merited. Further, as the Eastern representative of Western progress, she deserves our sympathy and congratulations. She emerges from the war a Power with which every Western State must now reckon, and since the spread of her sway makes for civilization and enlightenment, it is impossible not to rejoice at her success.

Many thoughts suggest themselves in connection with this remarkable re-distribution of territory. Chief among them is the question of what it means for the Far East in a progressive sense. England in Hongkong has presented to China an object lesson in the results of good government and intelligent enterprise. But Hongkong is a tiny island lying far beyond the practical knowledge of the mass of the Chinese nation. The case will be different with Japan in Shinking. There, on a large scale and within their own borders, so to speak, the Chinese will have an opportunity of observing the fruits of competent administration, active enterprise, good laws, security of life and property, and absence of official corruption and peculation. The two systems of civilization, that of China and that of Europe, can scarcely both survive such close contact. Perhaps it is not extravagant to hope that a new era is about to dawn for the continent of Eastern Asia.

Another most interesting problem relates to Japan's method of treating her new subjects. Will she extend to them all the constitutional privileges enjoyed by her own people? Will she, for example, grant to them absolute freedom of travel and residence in every part of her empire? An inundation of Chinese, of men content to live on the lowest planes of existence for the sake of daily bread, has long been a nightmare to her. Yet she will open the door to it if Manchuria be not differentiated from Japan proper. Whenever races following different creeds of civilization have been brought into contact, history shows that the assimilation or elimination of the weaker is inevitable. Which is it to be in this case?

Without pursuing this train of thought, it may be well to say a word about issues of more immediate interest. It is stated, we observe, by one of the foreign journals of this Settlement that the terms of the Treaty of Peace have elicited expressions of discontent from several vernacular journals, and this supposed fact is made the text for some strong criticism of Japanese national avarice and immoderate cupidity. What singular misapprehension evoked such comments we are at a loss to conjecture. Up to the present, not so much as one vernacular journal has expressed dissatisfaction about the terms of peace. Seven have been suspended, not at all for criticising an arrangement of which they had no knowledge prior to their suspension, but for publishing unauthorized and probably incorrect versions of what took place at the Conference, and above all for writing in a violent and incendiary tone about the possibility of foreign interference. As to what the nation thinks of the conditions granted to China, no journalistic information had been furnished up to the 18th instant.

This leads us to the question of foreign interference. Within the past two months, extremely ludicrous and sensational statements have been advanced by local foreign newspapers in Japan and in China, as to terribly resolute steps contemplated by this or that European Power in the event of Japan's attempting to annex an inch of Chinese territory. Russia has been a stock scarce-crow. Her Mediterranean Fleet was coming out to blow Japan to pieces if Manchuria were meddled with. Russia's Mediterranean Fleet consists of one man-of-war and a few torpedo boats! It might well be invoked by these silly alarmists. Besides, Russia's only interests in this matter are that the independence of Korea should be preserved and that her own overland trade with China should not be interrupted. Assured as to those two points, she has nothing to be concerned about. The fact is that all this much-talked-of foreign interference had no existence outside of the newspaper columns where it was invented. The Powers of Europe have left China and Japan to settle their dispute without foreign dictation of any kind.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[Our readers must distinctly understand that we are in no sense responsible for the sentiments or opinions of our correspondents, for the accuracy of their assertions, or for the deductions they may choose to draw therefrom.]

A CORRECTION.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—It is natural to infer from one paragraph of the report of "The Baptist Missionary Conferences," in the *Japan Mail* of April 15, that the *Yorokobi no Otodzure* and the *Chiisaki Otodzure* are Baptist publications. As no such misrepresentation was intended, it is only just to state publicly that the statistics about those periodicals were taken from the report of a joint committee on the religious publications of all denominations.

Respectfully yours, REPORTER.

Tokyo, April 16th, 1895.

JAPAN AND SILVER.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—It is of special importance at the present time to keep before those responsible for the monetary system of this country the great advantages that Japan is now deriving and will derive by its manufacturing competitors in Eastern markets being countries with a Gold standard. Let Japan adopt that single standard and these immense advantages will be at once lost.

At a recent meeting of the East India Association held in London, the Duke of Devonshire in the chair, Sir Lepel Griffin, a distinguished Indian official, read a paper on India in 1895. His remarks on Japan as a competitor in Eastern markets do not exaggerate the situation. He said that "with the year 1895 India was entering upon a new phase of her wonderful story. The war between China and Japan was still in progress. There could be no doubt that a new Power had

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arisen, and China was so shaken that she might be driven to open her country to foreign influences. The valley of dry bones would then stir with new life, and the competition of Japan would have the gravest effect both on India and Great Britain. The gravity of the situation had as yet been imperfectly appreciated. Then in financial matters India had reached a crisis, and there must be a change of policy or a great disaster would ensue. The year happily opened with a full, free, and generous acknowledgment in the House of Commons that India was not to be tossed in the sea of party politics. Mr. Fowler had won the lasting gratitude of India by his masterly defence of Indian interests, and he had also done well in placing the whole cost of the Opium Commission on this country. The currency question involved for India prosperity or ruin. Low prices might be a good thing; but the working man might find that low prices and starvation were perfectly compatible. His own conviction was that in bimetallism alone—the unrestricted coinage of silver and gold on a fixed ratio—lay the remedy for the present depression. Happily the tide of public opinion in this country and abroad was setting strongly in this direction, and Germany and France were only waiting for a signal from England to join in an international convention. In postal matters such conventions had been found practicable and had been faithfully observed, and there was no reason why a like result should not follow in respect of a bimetallic convention. To India the solution of the difficulty was a matter of life and death—and if it were not solved the new development of China and Japan would ruin our Indian Empire."

I am, Sir, yours faithfully,

A BIMETALLIST.

Tokyo, 18th April, 1895.

AUSTRALIAN NOTES ON JAPANESE TOPICS.

By John Plummer, M.J.S.

Sydney, March 9th.

It cannot honestly be said that Australians take much interest in the progress of the war between Japan and China, nor do they appear to realise the momentous issues that may become raised after peace has been proclaimed between the two Powers. The popular idea is that Australia, with the assistance of Great Britain, could crumple up Japan at any time, if necessary. Fortunately, the more educated and experienced class of colonists fully realise the magnitude of the social and political changes which have suddenly transformed the once slumberous-land of the Chrysanthemum into one of the most powerful and active nationalities of modern times; and this has largely intensified their desire to effect a commercial and industrial alliance with Japan. Already Australia is becoming a good customer to Japan. In Sydney, Melbourne, and elsewhere there are large stores owned by Japanese, which do a roaring trade in Japanese vases, silks, and other commodities, while considerable quantities of the same are periodically sold in the leading auction rooms. There are few Australian homes in which vases and other Japanese ornaments are not to be found, and the ever-increasing business in these has largely checked the import of fancy goods from the United Kingdom, France, Germany, and elsewhere. Not only this, but it is also having a marked influence on Australian art taste, the number of rooms decorated in Japanese fashion being considerable. These facts point strongly to the possibilities of increased commercial intercourse between the two countries, especially in the matter of wool, for which the Australian woolgrowers think a good market may be found in Japan.

On the subject of Australian wool trade with Japan, Mr. J. N. Brunker, Colonial Secretary of New South Wales, has received a lengthy communication from Mr. R. N. Synnot, of the National Wool Company, Limited, Melbourne, of the course of which Mr. Synnot says:—

"On behalf of Australian wool producers, I have the honour to bespeak your kind interest in the proposed endeavour to establish an export trade with Japan and China for wool and such other of our primary products as may be in demand—particularly in the first named progressive and flourishing country. The present is rather the revival of an old than the initiation of a new movement. The first attempts to open up a wool trade with the East were made 20 years ago by the late Mr. Monckton Synnot, wool merchant, of Melbourne, and the records he has left behind him testify to the earnestness and persistency of his experiments." Mr. Synnot then goes on to speak of the wool market in 1874, the opening of correspondence with Messrs. Olyphant & Co., of Shanghai, and a shipment of choice western district wools for distribution among the workers in the cloth trades. A further test with manufactured woollen yarns, and the support given to the experiment by the late Mr. Richard Goldsbrough, Mr. Hastings Cunningham, Mr. John L. Currie, of Lara, Mr. Evan Evans, of Roto, and Mr. D. M'Lean, of New Zealand. Continuing, Mr. Synnot says:—"A mixed assortment prepared at the Victorian and other woollen mills, was sent to Messrs. Olyphant & Co., and was distributed by them among the Chinese gratis. The latter received it without knowing where it came from, or what the object of its free distribution was, and, mixing it with cotton yarns, they turned out a serviceable cloth of exceptionally strong texture; and the samples of cloth returned to Australia proved conclusively that we could satisfactorily fill an existing want in China. Then the experiments were extended to Japan. Correspondence was opened up with Messrs. H. Ahrens & Co., of Yokohama, and Messrs. Okura & Co., of Tokyo, in 1878, and by a strange coincidence the Imperial War Department almost simultaneously began to initiate experiments with a view to clothing the Japanese army in woollens, and despatched a Commission of Inquiry to Australia to find out all about wool. Singularly enough the Australian Governments took no notice whatever of this commercial embassy. The commissioners fully endorsed Mr. Monckton Synnot's belief that Japan offers Australia a practically inexhaustible market for wool when the trade shall have been properly introduced and popularised. Unfortunately, both experiment and negotiation were brought to a sudden standstill: first, by the death of Mr. Monckton Synnot; and secondly, by a sudden and considerable advance in the value of wool. This, however, proved only a very temporary revival, and in 1885 the present writer was induced by the collapse in the market to endeavour to resuscitate the movement towards the East. In this connection a meeting was held at Scott's Hotel, at which the original Woolgrowers' Association was formed, the provisional committee including such men as Sir Thomas Elder, Sir James M'Culloch, Sir P. Jennings, Sir William Clarke. The movement was properly organized this time, and would no doubt have succeeded but for a sudden rise in wool value—a rise of from 25 to 30 per cent.—which at once killed all interest in the movement by making woolproducers content with present gains and indifferent or lethargic in their attitude towards a movement which then only seemed to aim at providing for a vague necessity which might arise in the dim and distant future. However, past investigation has proved:—1. That woollen manufacturing in China and Japan is in its infancy. 2. That China, while possessing sheep, produces no wool which will compare favourably with our lowest qualities, and that sheep there are propagated for food chiefly. Also, that what wool is made use of in China is used in the method in vogue in Scriptural times, 2,000 years ago and upwards, with the skin attached. 3. That Japan cannot breed sheep without growing food to keep them alive in winter. What I now seek is the help of your Government in paving the way for Australian private enterprise to introduce and develop itself in China and Japan, especially Japan. Of course the wool industry is not likely to ask for any State aid in a financial sense, and nothing is further from my thoughts; but I feel that your Government can render the industry yeoman service by officially introducing the matter to China and Japan with a view to obtaining some publicity in those countries for the innovation which it is proposed to make, as well as the approval of the respective Imperial Governments."

Of course, the Australian Governments are prepared to give what assistance they can in the matter, but private enterprize is already working rapidly in the desired direction, both in Japan and in Australia. In Melbourne, a letter has just been received from Mr. E. Jerome Dyer, who is travelling in Japan and the East on behalf of several Melbourne business firms, stating that the Japanese are about to establish a regular line of steamers between Melbourne and Japan, and that vessels for the service are being already selected. He added that he had been informed by the Japanese merchants that with the establishment of this line of steamers they would be large and increasing importers of wool, leather, minerals, food products, flour, wines, fruits, and horses, from Australia. The E. and A. Co.'s steamer *Airlie* is taking out several leading Sydney produce and other agents, who purpose spending several weeks in Japan with a view to ascertaining what openings exist for the disposal of Australian produce. The possibility of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha Company running a direct line of steamers between Kobe and Sydney, is causing the Eastern and Australian and China Navigation Companies to consider the best means of extending their service between Australia and Japan. The steamer *Menmuir*, which left Sydney the other day for Japan, took out the largest load of wool ever despatched from Australia to an Asiatic port. But there will be serious obstacles to encounter, principally in the shape of attempted anti-Asiatic legislation by the leaders of the various Australian labour parties. On this point a colonial paper says:—"It is just possible that the development of Japan as a manufacturing country may now be extremely rapid, and a considerable demand for our produce may spring up. If, however, as seems likely, Japan will not open her ports to our merchandise unless we admit her subjects without restriction, another difficulty confronts us. We may find the bargain an unsuitable one. With half a million Japanese in the colony, we might find that we had purchased a fresh outlet for our wool at too high a price." That is absurd. Australia is not too attractive as a field for Japanese emigration as are other countries, and although the Japanese population is rapidly multiplying from hundreds into thousands, it is very unlikely to rise into millions, unless, indeed, the Australian workman refuses, as of old, to sell his labour at current market rates.

Speculation is rife in Australia as to the real object of Japan in pressing the war to the bitter end. The *Sydney Morning Herald* says:—

All that seemed to have been originally contemplated has been achieved, or at the least could now be obtained for the asking. Korea, the original *causa belli*, has long ago been swept of all Chinese influence, and its independence, or whatever other disposition of its political life may be desired, is already in the hands of Japan. But much beyond this has been achieved in the fall and occupation of Port Arthur and Weihaiwei and the capture of all the principal naval fighting force of China. Yet Japan still presses onward, and new loans and new mobilisations tell of far greater achievements in contemplation. Despite the impassive dignity which the Chinese Government would desire to maintain, it is evident that humiliation deep and far-reaching is in contemplation; and while the Western Powers now and then make demonstrations, and intentions of intervention are frequently rumoured, it seems destined that the mutual jealousies of these will paralyse action until Japan will have worked its will, and made intervention inadmissible. And what is that will? And what are the great ulterior objects which Japan has in view, if she did not always contemplate them, in determining to humble China in the dust? This is the question that is now of deepest import to the world, which cannot, without some anxiety, contemplate the possibility of the building up of a great Power that may aim at dominating all other interests in the East.

The general impression is that one result of the war will be a general awakening in China, and that one of the possibilities of the near future will be the turning back of the tide of Russian invasion by the combined forces of Japan, Korea, and China. There can be no question that a new chapter in Asiatic history has been opened, and that indirectly the rise of Japan as a great naval and military power will largely influence the future course of events in India and Europe. Possibly Japan may be called upon to take a leading part in the general war which political soothsayers declare to be impending, but, if the experiences of the past are of any value, she will find her greatest triumphs to be those secured in the arts of peace.

ARIMA CHRISTIAN CONFERENCE.

Programme for 1895.

Sunday, August 4th.—10 a.m. Morning Service; with Sermon by a Missionary from China (not yet definitely arranged). 7.45 p.m., Evening Service; with Sermon by the Rev. F. C. Neitz, of Osaka.

Monday, August 5th.—10 a.m.. Paper (by the Rev. G. H. Pole, of Osaka) and Conference on "Methods for developing and training workers from among the Japanese Christians." 7.45 p.m.. Devotional Meeting on Mission Work in Japan.

Tuesday, August 6th.—10 a.m., Bible Study, by the Rev. H. D. Page, of Osaka. 10.55 a.m., Paper on "The Holy Spirit as Convictor," by the Rev. R. H. Consterdine, of Matsuye. 7.45 p.m., Devotional treatment of the same subject.

Wednesday, August 7th.—10 a.m., Bible Study, by the Rev. H. D. Page. 10.55 a.m., Paper on "The Holy Spirit as Teacher," by the Rev. J. W. Moore, of Kochi. 7.45 p.m., Devotional treatment of the same subject.

Thursday, August 8th.—10 a.m., Paper (by a Medical Missionary from China), and Conference on "Medical Work as an Evangelistic Agency in China." 7.45 p.m., Devotional Meeting on Mission Work in China.

Friday, August 9th.—10 a.m., Bible Study, by the Rev. H. D. Page. 10.55 a.m., Paper on "The Holy Spirit as Comforter," (probably) by the Rev. F. Franson, the Scandinavian Evangelist. 7.45 p.m., Devotional treatment of the same subject.

Saturday, August 10th.—10 a.m., Bible study, by the Rev. H. D. Page. 10.55 p.m., Paper on "The Holy Spirit as Sanctifier," by the Rev. F. S. Curtis, of Yamaguchi. 7.45., Devotional treatment of the same subject.

Sunday, August 11th.—10 a.m., Morning Service; with Sermon by the Rev. H. McC. E. Price, of Osaka. 7.45 p.m., Evening Service, with Address by the President.

Notes.—1. A prayer meeting, lasting half an hour, will be held daily from Monday to Saturday at 6.30 a.m.

2. The Morning Sessions are to close at 12.45 a.m.

3. The Evening Devotional Meetings are to last one hour only.

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LEAVES FROM THE DIARY OF A WAR CORRESPONDENT IN MANCHURIA.

Haicheng, February 27th, 1895.

The Japanese, in preparation for their start from this town, sent out this morning an unusually large number of reconnoitering parties to learn the exact strength and disposition of the enemy's forces. This roused the Chinese into a semblance of activity: they fired big guns at the scouts, and several large bodies of men marched out into the plain. After a visit to Hwanshishan, a little before eleven, to see if anything serious was really going to take place, and after learning that as usual the enemy had no stomach for an attack, I returned to go on with my preparations for the start.

I was interrupted once only, by an invitation to the hospital to see an operation. A Chinaman, yesterday, an inhabitant of Haicheng, had, when outside the town, picked up what appears to have been a small unexploded shell. Ignorant of its nature, he proceeded, when he had brought it home, to break it open with a hammer. The shell thereupon exploded, and blew off his left hand, with which he was holding it. A shattered fragment of the palm and one or two torn fingers remained, but it was necessary to amputate at the carpo-metacarpal articulation. Singularly enough, he escaped with the loss of his hand and with one or two slight wounds of the face.

I have now (a quarter to nine) finished all my packing. My baggage had to be divided into three portions; one, consisting of articles for which I have no further use, goes back to Japan, another, the largest portion, follows with the heavy baggage of the division; the third, all that I can carry on a pack-mule, goes with me on the march. When I shall again see the boxes that I leave behind is very doubtful; but I can get on without them with fair comfort until the beginning of summer.

My orders for to-morrow are to be at Hwanshi-shan at 4 a.m. The Chinese in that direction are to be taken by surprise before daylight, and driven back at the point of the bayonet. After this we shall at once proceed to march.

Tohopu, February 28th.

The army began to march to-day, and I realized that I had been living in the lap of luxury for the past four weeks at Haicheng. Even the ride from Kinchow to Haicheng, which I thought rather full of hardship, was a mere pleasure trip compared with the experiences of actual campaigning. Not every day, doubtless, will be so severe as to-day was—if it were I should soon be invalided home—but for two months or so we shall have, I suppose, a life of the same kind, even if the fatigues are lesser in degree.

Two especial contributory causes to to-day's over-fatigue will, I hope, soon be obviated. One is that I had to go on foot all day. The quantity of luggage to which I had limited myself for the actual march—a very small modicum as I thought—proved far too much for one mule, and I had at the eleventh hour to hand over my saddle-mule for the humbler office of carrying a pack. Perhaps before long I shall be able to buy another mule, or better still, a horse. If not, I don't know how I shall get on. When there is actual fighting, as to-day, excitement makes me able to walk almost any distance; but fifteen or twenty miles of steady marching every day for a week, with nothing to withdraw my attention from the stiffness of my legs and the soreness of my feet would reduce me to a condition of absolute prostration. Nature never intended me to walk.

The other cause of especial fatigue to-day was the snow. It was already deep and soft when we started, and a heavy fall in the afternoon increased the depth to nearly a foot. In such circumstances walking is exceedingly fatiguing even to the strongest man.

The difficulty about the baggage was discovered only at twenty minutes past three in the morning, and we were due to start at half-past. In the hurry and confusion that ensued, Tamura and I came away without our luncheon. The result was that after a light breakfast at before three in the morning we got nothing more to eat till after two in the afternoon, when a cavalry soldier who happened to learn the famished condition we were in kindly gave us a mouthful or two of biscuit and tinned beef. This was when we were returning from the place occupied by the advance-guard to the Divisional Head-quarters. The snow having concealed all the roads, our leader, Captain Ikata, of General Katsura's staff, lost his way, and for several hours we wandered about from village to village until at last we saw the main body of the army on the march. Joining it, another mile brought us to our quarters. This last mile was to me the hardest of the day. Greatly to my surprise, Tamura, whom I had thought to be of very tough fibre, gave out earlier than I, and at two, when I was still feeling quite fresh, declared he could hardly walk any further. He, however, was much fortified by the biscuits and tinned beef, so his exhaustion must have been chiefly from hunger. In my case fatigue was muscular, so that when it once became excessive nothing would relieve it but rest. In this last mile I could, literally, hardly drag one leg after the other; and I fully realized the feeling described by travellers that induces men to lie down and sleep to death in the snow. In my intense fatigue I had no thought of the cold; my one desire was physical rest.

The actual distance we walked did not exceed ten miles, but we were on our feet for fourteen hours continuously.

When at last we reached our quarters we found our troubles were not over, for the pack mules and servants had not arrived, and we had to sit till after eight in a cold room without candles and without food. Even when my own luggage came we could get no rice, as the commissariat train had not come in; but fortunately I had enough in my own stores to give us a good supper.

March 1st.

As I was very stiff and tired, and as there was no probability of any hard fighting to day, I remained at Tohopu till three, writing my account of yesterday's movements. We then walked over to Tan-kan, the Divisional Head-quarters for the night. The enemy had retreated before the Japanese advance, with even less attempt at resistance than they made yesterday.

March 2nd.

By the time I was ready to start, a few minutes after seven, the Staff had already left, but I found them just outside the town, awaiting news of the enemy's movements. While I was there the chief officers of the First Army who had come to Haicheng with General Nozu on February 2nd, and General Nozu himself, joined us. Among them were Major-General Ogawa, Chief of the Staff of the First Army; Major-General Kuroda, Chief Officer of Artillery; Major-General Kuroda, Chief Officer of the Commissonist; Major-General Yabuki, Chief Officer of the Engineers; and Surgeon-General Ishizaka, Principal Surgical Officer of the First Army.

At eight, information was received that the enemy was continuing to retreat, and immediately afterwards I walked on to join General Oshima and the advance guard, and with them marched to the Anshantsan, which we reached soon after eleven. Just before we got there news was received of the approach of the other Division (Fifth) which was there to effect a junction with the Third.

Anshantsan is a fortified town, or rather a fortified village, for the sides of the square measure barely a quarter of a mile each. As usual, the walls are in ruins. It stands on a level somewhat above that of the Newchwang plain, and is between two steep elevations, both with double granite peaks. One of these hills was so inviting to climb that, as there seemed every probability that the army would go no further to-night, I could not resist the temptation. It was a stiff climb. We went up the south face of the hill, which for the most part was covered with loose fragments of rock split off from the granite peak, forming a steep slide like the "screes" of the Cumbrian fells. These, though they look dangerous to the inexperienced eye, are perfectly safe walking for any one with a sure foot and a steady head. When, however, I turned from the south face of the hill to the east, I found that the snow was lying deep, and it was not very safe to go on without the Alpine accompaniments of an ice-axe, boot spikes, and a rope. I was loath, however, to turn back, and picking steps for myself in the snow and clinging to projecting peaks of granite, I got safely to the top. Tamura, who had been frightened by the look of the "screes," had taken a very dangerous course straight up the face of the granite peak, but he reached the top without misadventure. We were rewarded for our pains by a glorious view. Three or four miles to the north-eastward was the nearest point of the mountain chain, stretching away north and south as far as we could see. The other side was the great snow covered plain, broken by a line of low hills extending towards Newchwang. Three lines of soldiers could be seen; the main body of the third division advancing towards us from the south; the fifth division defiling from the hills to the eastward, and marching beneath the south foot of the hill to join the third; while ten miles away to the northward was Chan-shung's army retreating towards Laoyang.

We came down from the hill (the height of which above the plain is 1,050 feet) by the north-western face, which is less steep than the others. The lower half of this, however, was a sharp incline, deeply covered with frozen snow. Here walking was out of the question, and we descended in a much quicker manner—one that may best be described as tobogganing without a toboggan. It was safe, speedy, and agreeable, but somewhat destructive to the clothing.

It was a very pleasant walk, but I shall not soon again undertake any superfluous exercise—not at any rate till I get a horse—for when we returned we found the staff had disappeared. Instead of staying at An-shan-tsu to-night and advancing to-morrow towards Laoyang, which had seemed to be the intention of its leaders, it had turned off to the westward in the direction of Newchwang, and we had the pleasure of a seven miles walk in ankle-deep snow, at the end of an already tiring day.

March 3rd.

After a long-day's march and going late to bed, I find it difficult to get up in time to start with the Staff, and to-day, though I got away just after seven, I was with the tail of the army. Walking with sore and aching feet, with the additional discomfort of wet shoes and socks (for it had been impossible to dry them since the previous night), I was still able to overtake General Katsura by about ten o'clock. Marching through deep snow an army moves very slowly, and, if a man is willing to sacrifice the ease of walking in the beaten track and to plough his way through the snow at the side, he can easily make his way from the rear to the front. I learned from General Katsura what had indeed seemed probable to me from last evening, that the army was now marching against Newchwang, leaving Laoyang unattacked for the present.

The army was going on one mile further for its mid day halt, but I decided to make mine at the village (Fu-lai-ton) where I had overtaken the Staff. The owner of the house I rested in seemed fairly well to do, and the women and children of the house, who had been spirited out of the way while the soldiers were in the village, came out of hiding, and, having become friendly with us, remained out when another body of men came through. The inhabitants generally seem, indeed, very little afraid of the army. One man I saw this morning kneeling by the road side at the entrance to the village and "kow-towing" as fast as he could towards the troops as they passed by. Whether this was from fear, or to give a polite welcome, I do not know. If he did it to the whole army, including the baggage train, he must have a stiff back to-night.

March 4th.

I had a fine experience again to-day of the fatigues of campaigning. Breakfast at three, luncheon at eight. On my feet—wet feet, for the sun was strong and the snow began to thaw at nine—from five in the morning till five at night. Then three hours to wait, with a sharp evening frost, before all resistance was at an end and we could enter the city and go to our quarters. Then all packed very close, as a few houses only could be occupied, the regular inhabitants having been all turned out. (This precaution was necessary as any ordinary looking Chinaman might be a soldier in disguise, and to quarter two or three men in a house; here and there, about the town, would have been most dangerous.) Eight or nine of us slept on a Chinese bed 12 feet long, and half a dozen coolies on the floor of the same room. I ate about a quarter of a pound of tinned tongue (without bread, biscuit, or rice); but most people got nothing to eat until the rice was cooked soon after midnight. Few of the soldiers can have had two such substantial meals as those I had early in the day; they had much harder work; and they had nothing dry to put on their wet feet when it was all over. Yet they were all bright and cheerful in the evening, and the more I see of them the more I am astonished at their powers of endurance. It would be a different matter no doubt, if in addition to fatigue, and exposure, they had to bear the gloom of defeat.

March 5th.

In the morning, before we left Newchwang, I saw M. Flandin, a French Catholic Missionary resident at Newchwang. Most of the missionaries in this district went to the treaty port when the war broke out, but he had remained at his post.

We left the town at about eleven in the morning, but waited nearly three hours just outside while the Staff of the army was holding a council. Then we set off to march through the mud to Zanchaten. I had been given another mule this morning, and as the dirt of the spring thaw is indescribable, and I had, moreover, during the last few days much more walking than I am fit for, I was glad to be able to ride.

March 6th.

Yesterday I had ridden the old mule, the one

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that had carried me from Chinchow; but to-day, as the boy and the coolie declared that the new mule was very sluggish so that they could not get on with the baggage, I said I would ride the beast myself to-day. He was the largest mule I have ever seen, larger than most Japanese horses, and I thought his sluggishness was due simply to largeness. Spurring, however, failed to make him do more than crawl, and after a mile or two he fell in a deep patch of snow and could not get up again. After waiting ten minutes to give him a chance to recover, I could wait no longer, for it was possible that an action might take place at mid-day, so I hurried on afoot, leaving the poor beast to his fate and my saddle on his back.

No fighting took place, as the enemy retreated before the Japanese advance.

In the course of the morning I met another French missionary, M. Letor, on his way to Newchwang to enquire after M. Flandin, concerning whom a report had been spread abroad that he had been killed. M. Letor was much relieved when I assured him that I had seen M. Flandin alive and well only 25 hours before.

We stayed for the night at Chi-nan-pu, seven or eight miles N. by E. of Yingkow and a rather greater distance East by South of Tenchwantai.

March 7th.

Last night for the first time we spent the night in a house from which the owner's wife had not fled. It was a tiny hut with a bed about twelve feet long. In the middle a mud partition about two feet high divided it into two parts. The peasant, his wife, and three or four children slept on one side, my own party of four on the other. A large number for so limited a space; but as it was warm I was able to keep the window open all night.

We started before dawn, and marched through rain at first; this gave place soon, with a change of wind, to a bitter, blinding snow storm. After we had walked about seven miles I was furnished with a horse that had belonged to a Chinese officer. It had a Chinese saddle only; but I was delighted to hear that my own saddle had been brought on by one of the soldiers, and would be given to me later in the day.

We walked to a place about a mile and a half from the Liao River opposite Sung's camp at Ten chwan-tai. General Oshima had intended to make a reconnoissance, but as the snow made it impossible to see more than a few yards ahead, we marched back, after waiting a few hours, to Newchwang-tou, 5 or 6 miles from Tenchwantai on the Newchwang road.

March 8th.

This morning we again went forward to near the river. I was a little late in starting, and by the time I overtook General Oshima all the day's work was over. The point to which he had advanced commanded a view of the river front of Tenchwantai. Wishing to learn the strength of the Chinese artillery, he fired a shot or two near the river, and the enemy replied with a volley of thirty to forty guns. When they had been thus induced to show their hand, Oshima's object for the day had been gained, and he withdrew his soldiers to a position further from that of the enemy.

The Divisional Head-quarters for the night were at first fixed at a village named Chantsukao, a place 7 miles N. by E. of Yingkow; but just as we were making ourselves comfortable in our allotted quarters, we were told to move back to the village in which we had spent the previous night, fortunately near at hand.

We had the same room as before—not bad quarters at all, but the water is worse than any we have had before. It is always very dirty, but this is positively filthy, being green and muddy with an iridescent scum. Perhaps it is worse than usual only because the thaw has set in. Even to wash in it was disagreeable—and rather futile; but to drink it, by daylight, was positively disgusting. Of course we always boil our water: this renders it less dangerous, but hardly less disagreeable.

March 9th.

We started before dawn to take part in the attack on Sung's position at Tenchwantai.

At five, in the early twilight, I met with an accident that prevented my making the best use of the day. I was pushing forward to overtake General Katsura, who had started a few minutes before me. The line of soldiers having halted for a moment, I crossed it to reach the other side of the road, where there was better footway. As I passed in front of a led horse, close, but not so close as to force it to move, the vicious brute wheeled round and kicked, one foot striking me on the side of the knee. It was fortunate for me that I was clad for the Manchurian winter, so that my leg was covered with two layers of thick underclothing, silken trousers, and fur overalls; for my knee would certainly have been shattered. As it was, I received merely a very painful bruise of the joint. Two or three minutes later, when I was thinking too much of the pain to guide my mule properly, the animal fell in a slippery place, but this time, oddly enough, I was not hurt at all. I soon became faint and sick from the pain in my leg, and asked Tamura for my brandy flask with the carrying of which he had been entrusted. Alas! he had not brought it, having come to the conclusion, since I had not used it before, that it was an unnecessary encumbrance; and two officers whom I asked for some brandy had exhausted their supply. At length I met a Red Cross soldier who gave me some ether—methylated ether, with an abominable and persistent taste, but it acted as a temporary stimulant; and an hour later, when I reached General Katsura's staff, I was at length able to get some brandy.

By this time my knee had become so weak that the leg was practically useless; I could not bear my foot in the stirrup; had no grip; and could not mount without assistance. Under these circumstances, I could not keep up with the van, and was soon left behind, even by the Divisional Staff, so that I did not reach Tenchwantai till half an hour after the soldiers had entered it, and could only ride through the burning town and recross the river to a place where the whole Staff of the army, including General Yamaji, had assembled.

Here, as my seat was dangerously insecure as well as painful, I asked for a stretcher to take me back to our quarters for the night. This itself was not very comfortable, the stretcher being of Japanese dimensions; nor was it very safe, as I was twice dropped. Once one of the coolies slipped; and the other time the iron cross-bar of the stretcher became displaced, and I was dropped into a puddle of dirty water, but the soldiers who accompanied me had me up again before the wet had got through my furs. It was a great relief to me when we eventually reached our quarters—the same as those of the two previous nights. If it is painful to be carried in a stretcher with nothing more than a contused knee, what must it be like with a shattered bone, for no splinting but a plaster case would prevent under such circumstances the rough ends from grinding together and rasping the soft tissues!

I declined offers of surgical assistance to-night, having determined to go on to Yingkow to-morrow, and feeling it better to take off nothing, not even my boots, since it would be difficult to reclothe the lower extremities with a stiff and tender knee. I had a bandage applied over the clothing soon after the accident, and this was sufficient attention until I reached a place where I could remain at rest for a few days.

MEDICINE IN CHINA.

By V. P. Soyoong, B.D., M.D., Shanghai.

Medicine as practised by the Chinese is in a deplorable condition. As in every department in life in China, so here also, too much blind reverence is paid to old ideas. A Chinese doctor still talks learnedly of the mythical Shen Nung who first tasted the different herbs to find out their remedial virtues, which happened thousands of years ago, or which might never have happened at all but in the imagination of the later quidnuncs. As a general thing a very few Chinese medicoes are ever educated or know anything of such a book as Ts'o-pun, an old Chinese Materia Medica, while the vast majority of them know only how to write a few old stock prescriptions copied out of some antiquated document that came down to the family as an heir-loom. I know one man who was engaged in the Kiangnan Arsenal as a petty overseer, who on being dismissed from his post was a long time out of a job; at last he made the acquaintance of a certain Buddhist priest who had a written copy of some secret prescriptions. He stole this copy, and after a few nights of application and research in that dirty dog-eared volume, he swung out a signboard informing the public that he was ready to guarantee a perfect cure for any ailment that humanity is heir to. This happened in Shanghai, and there are hundreds of similar cases where an ignoramus imposes on the public without being exposed to ridicule.

The better class of Chinese doctors have served their time in the office of their preceptors, who, however, never give lessons or readings in anything—indeed there are no text-books to go upon. They are more like assistants, who make themselves generally useful in an office where the anxious ones look over the prescriptions and listen to whatever their chief may have to remark on any case. A Chinese medical student in the higher sense of the term has never existed. They are all charlatans, jealously guarding a few empirical ideas from the public.

In the neighbouring district of Ching-poo there are two villages—Mang-ho and Tsung-ko—each having a family of doctors. They are celebrated all over China, and during a previous illness of of the present Empress-Dowager, one of these doctors was called up to Pekin, which was quite a feather in his cap, although not a peacock's feather! Her Majesty asked his opinion, but she did not ask him to prescribe for her, unfortunately, or perhaps fortunately! With her usual sagacity she would not lean on a broken reed. The patients that go to those places for a cure are generally well off in worldly means, so that they are either hypochondriacs, having been surfeited with the good things of the world, or are incurables in the eleventh hour of their existence. The one class come back better, imagining the doctors did them good—really it is the journey that benefited them; the second class come back much worse from the fatigue of the travel, and are dissatisfied after having seen the most celebrated doctors in China.

I have never seen one who had either functional or organic disease that went to those places that was ever cured in the end; and I do not blame them for not being able to perform miracles, for under the present circumstances, to require intelligent treatment from a Chinese doctor is demanding too much.

One sometimes hears of the Imperial College of Medicine in Pekin, mentioned in the *Pekin Gazette*. A foreigner, on first hearing of it, is sure to make an egregious mistake from its high sounding name, which leads him to suppose that it is some institution like the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons in the West. It is only a handful of self-styled doctors like any of their brethren in Shanghai, except their good fortune has placed them in a comfortable position where they have nothing to do but to put on an air of being skilful. Their anxiety, however, commences with an Imperial cough or colic. They have no lectures to give, as there are no students, and they need not write articles for medical journals, as there are no readers.

The Chinese apothecary does a large business, as can be seen from the many hongs and shops dealing in drugs in any city in China. The doctors prescribe large bowlfuls of decoctions for any complaint, so that a constantly ailing and dosing man is nicknamed a "decoction pot." That is their favourite method of dispensing, though pills, powders, &c., are not neglected. Consequently a druggist must have a large supply of herbs and roots on hand to meet the demand, and he ransacks creation for the odds and ends in his shop. If a man dies in China, it is not for want of medicines and drugs, but they are either inert or not intelligently applied. Of the inert drugs one may have some idea by looking over the advertisements in any of the Chinese newspapers published in Shanghai. I will mention one as an illustration; the advertiser in the Chen-fuh-lan-tang shop, which has offices in Canton and elsewhere in China. The thing advertised is honoured with a wood-cut in the newspaper, which represents it to be what in natural history would be called an ordinary lizard, measuring a little over five inches in length from tip to tip. A free translation of the advertisement here will show the depth of darkness in which the Chinese mind is yet enshrouded in respect to medicine:—

"Recently Hongkong and the province of Kwangtung being visited by the plague, the Provincial High Authorities have published a prescription called Plague Cure which is infallible. Our shop has already prepared this medicine for the two great benevolent institutions in Canton, where it has been used with invariable success. In this prescription there is one ingredient called, Son of Stone Dragon, which is found in the mountains in the province of Chekiang. Through the agency of our branch office in Hangchow we have obtained a superior variety of this stony son of a dragon, and together with other valuable drugs we have made this mixture. During the compounding, we have reverently said a thousand prayers. Now we offer this medicine to the public. Herewith is an illustration of this stony son of a dragon as our trade mark. The medicine is not only unusually effective against the plague, but it is also infallible against different kinds of cholera, vomiting, diarrhœa, colic, apoplexy, sunstroke, asphyxia, typhus and typhoid fevers, ague, diphtheria, liver and stomach aches, tetanus in children, surfeiting, small-pox, poison, malaria, all sorts of tumours and inflammatory poisons, &c. Shanghai being particular in its sanitation against plague, we have specially prepared this medicine as a valuable weapon in the hands of committees on preventive measures.

(Signed) Chen-fuh-lan-tang."

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I wonder who discovered such potent virtues in the little rascal of a lizard, which, in its native province of Chekiang, as here, is always regarded with distavour, and if it gets any attention at all it is to be killed and burned, as it is said that its tail will cause deafness, if it gets into the ear, though I should think anything else would do the same if similar chances were offered.

For various female complaints and diseases what are called Dragon and Phœnix Pills are largely sold in the Canton shops. These are coated with wax, either white or yellow, and are of the size of an English walnut. Their efficacy is of course lauded to the sky, but nearly every woman that I have seen in practice has told me that she had tried them and no found improvement therefrom. No doubt, they are composed of some such simple drugs as aloes, myrrh, &c., which, if appropriately applied, of course have their uses; but to make them a panacea for all the complaints of woman, they fail egregiously. The Chinese druggists, in their anxiety to make money, advertise drugs that can even restore the virile power in a profligate, and cause the sterile to bear offspring. The vaunted nostrums have a seductive charm and play on the imagination well, as to be without children is a solemn thought even to the otherwise unthinking, for he may be deprived of support in old age, and when he dies his spirit will have none to sacrifice to him. After spending his youth in sowing wild oats, he on the shady side of forty, becomes anxious, and begins to invest in quack drugs to recall the power that is forever gone and that prematurely too. In his chagrin he accuses his wife for being barren, and takes to other partners in life with the same result. But indeed the woman herself may be sterile, and often the cause of that sterility may be easily removed by a simple operation according to Western surgery; but here the recourse is in those pills of high sounding names which may be seen in large gilt characters flaring to the gaze in every city in China. The deluded souls never cry out in disappointment against the mercenary shops, as embarrassment and shame would recoil on themselves. Thus the harpies still continue to make money, and the stupid prodigal is at last punished when repentance is too late.

But there are stuffs which the Chinese druggists do conscientiously collect, and with much expense and labour, but which are nevertheless inert and useless:—as tiger bones, bear's legs, hart's horns, &c. Tiger bones are ground into powder and used in plasters for internal injuries; bear's paws are boiled to a jelly and used as a powerful alterative for the weak and aged. Hart's horns are sawn into thin discs and boiled down and given for renewing wasted vitality. A young horn is considered as particularly valuable, when it is a little ruddy and somewhat translucent. I cannot make my old friends believe that its virtue consists in ammonia, any quantity of which can be obtained almost for a song in a Foreign drug-store. They rather think I am a greenhorn myself and not particularly valuable either!

When every available drug in their reach has been pressed into service and found wanting, then they resort to superstition, or, if I may be pardoned, to a "faith cure!" Humanity is the same the world over. But the great danger is, that often the people resort to the fetish first and neglect a rational medication. In China it is largely so, and I cannot blame a man for catching at a straw while struggling in the water. Many years ago my eldest child, then a babe, was not to be pleased on any account, and in my absence one afternoon, my folks called in an old nun from a neighbouring convent for consultation. She went through her usual mummery and incantation to exercise some malign spirit from the child, and ordered that paper sycees should be burnt toward certain cardinal points of the compass, scattering rice on the ground where the child had been in the day time, offering incense, candles, &c., &c., not neglecting to take a fee for her nonsense. On my return I heard of it, and expatiated on the stupidity of the idea. I just then thought of santonine, and immediately jumped up and got a dose of it and gave it to the child, and the next morning the enemy was all driven out, far quicker than from Port Arthur, and peace was at once restored!

Unfortunately superstition often retains its victims long in its thraldom. But sometimes, however, it gives a sort of pleasant rounding to the recovery of an important member of the family. Deceptive it surely is: as for instance, a father gets well from severe illness because his filial son cuts a piece of flesh from his arm and puts it in the decoction pot to impart special virtue to it. Every year the *Pekin Gazette* gravely makes an honourable mention of filial sons and dutiful daughters-in-law who have thus maimed themselves in their devotion to their parents. The frailty of the human flesh in this connection is largely believed in by all classes here. A former manager once took me to task that foreigners are not affectionate enough towards their parents to do the same, or that they do not know the medicinal virtue of human flesh. I told him that all flesh is the same in chemical ingredients, whether human or animal, so that it is far more convenient and cheaper for a filial son to put a piece of pork in the decoction pot than to cut himself and make a fuss about it! He good-naturedly upbraided me for being a foreigner at heart!

In the reign of Hien Fung, in the early fifties, there was a local rebellion in Shanghai city, which a few senior residents no doubt still remember but too well. As a boy I was in the city. During that atrocious period many a man was slaughtered and butchered, and his gall bladder was taken out and invariably swallowed by some savage chieftain, with the idea that it would brace up his courage—this latter being said to reside in the gall. The Chinese word for bravery means a large gall.

In the History of the Three Kingdoms mention is made of a distinguished General, who, on an eye being struck out, immediately picked it up and said, "This is made of my father's essence and my mother's blood; I dare not throw it away," and forthwith he swallowed it.

These are instances showing that from time immemorial the people of China have a notion of the peculiar virtues of the human body. And not only so, but even excrementations and effete matters are sometimes used. Thus old feces are selected and moulded into the shape and size of chestnuts and hermetically sealed in a jar and buried in the ground for a number of years. Then they are taken out again, when they have a gray colour and are devoid of smell, and are then carefully covered with gilt and stowed away to be called for by some eccentric medico, when they are euphemistically denominated "Golden Beans." Their ultimate destination is the decoction pot, and the patient knows nothing of it while taking it. A human placenta is sometimes cleaned, cut up in pieces and given to a white duck to feed, and after a few days the latter is killed, its insides taken out and thrown away, and the duck is cooked and given to the consumptive to take. Cat's placenta are roasted to ashes on a tile and taken in a warm drink; this also for consumption. Young boy's urine is taken in samshu and sugar, though parents generally object to this, having an idea that it will have a reflex action in shortening such a boy's life. Of course there are many other things infinitely more unspeakable that are, or may be used, in the despairing hope of life, but the above I know to be facts from personal observation. This category of outlandish remedies should not excite disgust in the enlightened, but rather pity and sympathy for poor humanity in its endeavour to seek a weapon to ward off the fell attacks of disease. It is sad to contemplate how even the lowly and wasted places of nature have been ransacked for an elixir to prolong this mysterious life.

But are there no Chinese drugs and remedies that are worthy to be rescued from oblivion? Certainly there are, it would be indeed strange that these thousands of years should have rolled by without leaving some practical hints and experiences behind. Indeed, many Chinese drugs and remedies have already been naturalized in the Western pharmacopœias, such as rhubarb, camphor, mercury, musk, etc; and there are some empirical methods that will surely reward a trial, but are either not known or are ignorantly sneered at because they are of Chinese origin; for instance:—When a child has either eaten too much or otherwise brought on discomfort to the abdomen, nothing is so effective as to put ½ oz. or 1 oz. of pi-siau in a thin cotton band and apply to the abdomen. By the next morning the stuff almost entirely disappears, very likely by absorption, evaporation and mechanical loss; the abdomen has subsided and the child is well. The stuff is native sulphate of soda, sold in all the Chinese drug shops for this purpose alone. This is a pleasant way of using a cathartic, which it most certainly is. It is easily done and effective, and done too all over China. Another empirical method is that of scraping or pinching the skin for mild cholera, sunstroke, etc. This consists of a cash scraping the back till it is striped like a zebra—only in red. It looks barbarous, but its effect is instantaneous. In the sickly months of the summer, when one feels out of sorts, with perhaps a touch of colic, then let his spine be first scraped clear down to the lumbar region, then down the median line in front and on either side of the ribs; he will feel the charm right away. Of course, this is nothing more than counter-irritation, it brings the blood to the surface and is redistributed. But no medicine in the British Pharmacopœia can give such rapid and happy effects as this under the circumstances.

A milder method is that of pinching the skin of the neck till it is covered with red vertical stripes. There can be no mistake in these methods being useful, as I have experienced them myself many times in these nearly twenty years. I have often thought of bringing them to the notice of the profession as instances where nature unassisted by science has found a rough but reliable staff to lean upon in the hour of need. With the exception of these few gleams of phosphorescence, it is all darkness on the medical horizon of China.

But thanks to the self-denying efforts of the medical missionaries of all denominations, the healing art is now being taught in many parts of the empire. The names of Parker, Kerr, Meyer, and others will ever be held in grateful remembrance in South China. While in the north there are medical students attached to the St. Luke's Hospital in Shanghai, the hospital in Soochow, and also in the school of the Presbyterian Mission in Shangtung; and no doubt there are many other places where a similar labour of love is being performed. The latest additional effort is the medical college in Tientsin under the immediate patronage of the Viceroy Li. All these institutions are the results of sincere prayer to God and a sign of the Christian's love to mankind. The young men that are more or less trained under their enlightened teachers will play a large part in the field of medicine in the country. But they are yet too few in number. Has not the time arrived for some united effort to establish a central medical college where such students may complete their studies in the sense that it is done in the West? China is the only country in the world where there is no large recognised school of medicine, where modern science should be enlisted in the battle against ignorance and fetish. The initiative lies with those who have already broken the ice in their several spheres of work. I do not mean to thrust this project as an additional burden on to their shoulders, but rather point to that as another precious jewel to be set in the shining crown that is waiting for them on high.

Being a Chinese, I am filled with profound humiliation that China, with all her boasted learning of classic memory, never gives a thought of pity to those that are wounded in her defence. The government truly needs a fiery trial for her purification, but the unhappy humanity under it deserves commiseration. It may be well for some to say that China ought to take care of her own sick and wounded: do they mean that if China does not, the Christains need not and ought not? It is remarkable that of all those that came to Christ for a cure none were refused, whatever the cause and origin of their complaint, and although He did say that it is not lawful to cast the children's bread to the dogs, yet He acquiesced in the appeal that the dogs do eat the crumbs that fall from the Master's table.

The idea of the Red Cross Society is new to the Chinese, and the stupid ones naturally suspect its flag as some secret sign in collusion with the enemy; no wonder they would tear it down as they did at Port Arthur a few days ago. Such deplorable ignorance can only be cured by proper education—by putting the Red Cross idea on its true footing, by giving a status to medical men in the army and navy—in a word, by doing as a civilized nation ought to do, thereby imparting courage to the men by the fact that if wounded they have the means of cure at hand. Every great nation in time of war leans heavily upon the medical staff for moral support. Such a medical school as above indicated will therefore confer an incalculable blessing on China, not only in time of peace but also in the hour of war, and will prove to be the greatest land-mark of progress in the course of thousands of years in Chinese history, and its honour is due to the Christians from the West. The Chinese may blindly reject the Christian religion, but they have never refused the offices of the Christian physician; some may receive Christianity, but all will accept medicine.—*China Medical Missionary Journal.*

There are forty-eight different materials used in constructing a piano, from no fewer than six teen different countries, employing forty-five different hands.

The Government Savings Banks of New South Wales afford a good means of testing the material condition of the more provident classes in that colony. The number of depositors in 1894 was 290,035, as against 192,466 in 1888; the deposits being £2,110,048, against £1,191,419 in 1888; and the withdrawals £1,848,918, against £1,011,848 in 1888, thus illustrating the increasing tendency on the part of colonial depositors to accumulate their savings.

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THE MIRACLE OF PURUN BHAGAT.

By Rudyard Kipling.

Oh, light was the world that he weighed in his hands;
Oh, heavy the tale of his fiefs and his lands.
He has gone from the *gaddi* and put on the shroud,
And departed in guise of *Bairagi* avowed!

Now the white road to Delhi is mat for his feet,
The *sal* and the *shisu* must guard him from heat;
His home is the camp, and the waste, and the crowd—
He is seeking the Way as *bairagi* avowed!

He has looked upon Man, and his eyeballs are clear
(There was One; there is One, and but One, saith Kabir).
The hot mist of Doing has thinned to a cloud—
He has taken the Path for *bairagi* avowed!

Let him learn and discern of his brother the clod,
Of his brother the brute, and his brother the God.
He has gone from the council and put on the shroud
("Can ye hear?" saith Kabir), as *bairagi* avowed!

A Song of Kabir. (*Trans.*)

There was once a man in India who was Prime Minister of one of the semi-independent native States in the north-western part of the country. He was a Brahmin, so high caste that caste ceased to have any particular meaning for him: and his father had been an important official in the gay-coloured tag-rag and bobtail of an old-fashioned Hindu Court. But as Purun Dass grew up he realised that the ancient order of things was changing, and that if anyone wished to get on he must stand well with the English, and imitate all the English believed to be good. At the same time a native official must keep his own master's favour. This was a difficult game, but the quiet, close-mouthed young Brahmin, helped by a good English education at a Bombay University, played it coolly, and rose step by step to be Prime Minister of the little kingdom. That is to say, he held more real power than his master the Maharajah.

When the old king—who was suspicious of the English, their railways, and telegraphs—died, Purun Dass stood high with his young successor, who had been tutored by an Englishman; and between them, though he always took care that his master should have the credit, they established schools for little girls, made roads, and started State dispensaries and shows of agricultural implements, and published a yearly blue-book on the "Moral and Material Progress of the State;" and the Foreign Office and the Government of India were delighted. Very few native States take up English progress without reservations, for they will not believe, as Purun Dass showed he did, that what is good for the Englishman must be twice as good for the Asiatic. The Prime Minister became the honoured friend of Viceroys and Governors, and Lieutenant-Governors, and medical missionaries, and common missionaries, and hard-riding English officers who came to shoot in the State preserves, as well as of whole hosts of tourists who travelled up and down India in the cold weather showing how things ought to be managed. In his spare time he would endow scholarships for the study of medicine and manufactures on strictly English lines, and write letters to the *Pioneer*, the great Indian daily paper, explaining his master's aims and objects.

At last he went to England on a visit, and had to pay enormous sums to the priests when he came back; for even so high caste a Brahmin as Purun Dass lost caste by crossing the deep sea. In London he met and talked with everyone worth knowing—men whose names go all over the world—and saw a great deal more than he said. He was given honorary degrees by learned Universities, and he made speeches and talked of Hindu social reform to English ladies in evening dress, till all London cried, "This is the most fascinating man we have ever met at dinner since cloths were first laid."

When he returned to India there was a blaze of glory, for the Viceroy himself made a special visit to confer upon the Maharajah the Grand Cross of the Star of India—all diamonds and ribands and enamel; and at the same ceremony, while the cannon boomed, Purun Dass was made a Knight Commander of the Order of the Indian Empire; so that his name stood Sir Purun Dass, K.C.I.E.

That evening at dinner in the big Viceregal tent he stood up with the badge and the collar of the Order on his breast, and, replying to the toast of his master's health, made a speech few Englishmen could have surpassed.

Next month, when the city had returned to its unbaked quiet, he did a thing no Englishman would have dreamed of doing, for, so far as the world's affairs went, he died. The jewelled order of his knighthood went back to the Indian Government, and a new Prime Minister was appointed to the charge of affairs, and a great game of General Post began in all the subordinate appointments. The priests knew what had happened and the people guessed, but India is the one place in the world where a man can do as he pleases and nobody asks why: and the face of Sir Purun Dass, K.C.I.E., had resigned position, palaces, and power, and taken up the begging-bowl and ochre-coloured dress of a Sannyasi or holy man, was considered nothing extraordinary. He had been, as the Old Law recommends, twenty years a youth, twenty years a fighter—though he had never carried a weapon in his life—and twenty years head of a household. He had used his wealth and his power for what he knew both to be worth, he had taken honour when it came his way; he had seen men and cities far and near, and men and cities had stood up and honoured him. Now he would let all these things go, as a man drops the cloak he no longer needs.

Behind him, as he walked through the city gates, an antelope skin and brass-handled crutch under his arm, and a begging-bowl of polished brown *coco de-mer* in his hand, barefoot, alone, with eyes cast on the ground—behind him they were firing salutes from the bastions in honour of his happy successor. Purun Dass smiled. All that life was ended; and he bore it no more ill-will or goodwill than a man bears to a colourless dream of the night. He was a Sannyasi—a houseless, wandering mendicant, depending on his neighbours for his daily bread; and so long as there is a morsel to divide in India neither priest nor beggar starves. He had never in his life tasted meat and very seldom eaten even fish. A five-pound note would have covered his personal expenses for food through any one of the many years in which he was absolute master of millions of money. Even when he was being lionised in London he had held before him his dream of peace and quiet—the long white, dusty Indian road printed all over with bare feet, the incessant slow-moving traffic, and the sharp smelling wood-smoke curling up under the fig trees in the twilight, where the wayfarers sat at their evening meal.

When the time came to make that dream true the Prime Minister took the proper steps, and in three days you might more easily have found a bubble in the trough of the big Atlantic seas than Purun Dass among the roving, gathering, separating millions of India.

At night his antelope-skin was spread where the darkness overtook him—sometimes in a Sannyasi monastery by the roadside; sometimes by a mud pillar shrine of Kala Pir, where the Jogis, who are another misty division of holy men, would receive him as they do men who know what castes and divisions are worth; sometimes on the outskirts of a little Hindu village, where the children would steal up with the food their parents had prepared; and sometimes on the pitch of the bare grazing-grounds where the flame of his stick fire waked the drowsy camels. It was all one to Purun Dass—or Purun Bhagat, as he called himself now. Earth, people, and food were all one. But unconsciously his feet drew him away northward and eastward; from the south to Rohtak; from Rohtak to Kurnool; from Kurnool to ruined Samanah, and then upstream along the dried bed of the Gugger river that fills only when the rain falls in the hills, till one day he saw the far line of the great Himalayas.

Then Purun Bhagat smiled, for he remembered that his mother was of Rajput Brahmin birth, from Kulu way—a Hill-woman, always home-sick for the snows—and that the least touch of Hill blood draws a man at the end back to where he belongs.

"Yonder," said Purun Bhagat, breasting the lower slopes of the Sewaliks, where the cacti stand up like seven-branched candlesticks—"yonder I shall sit down and get knowledge;" and the cool wind of the Himalayas whistled about his ears as he trod the road that led to Simla.

The last time he had come that way it had been in state, with a clattering cavalry escort, to visit the gentlest and most affable of Viceroys; and the two had talked for an hour together about mutual friends in London, and what the Indian common folk really thought of things. This time Purun Bhagat paid no calls, but leaned on the rail of the Mall watching that glorious view of the plains spread out forty miles below, till a native Mohammedan policeman told him he was obstructing traffic; and Purun Bhagat salaamed reverently to the Law, because he knew the value of it, and was seeking for a Law of his own. Then he moved on, and slept that night in an empty hut at Chota Simla—which looks like the very last end of the earth, but it was only the beginning of his journey. He followed the Himalaya-Thibet road, the little ten-foot track that is blasted out of solid rock, or strutted out on timbers over gulfs a thousand feet deep; that dips into warm, wet, shut-in valleys, and climbs out across bare grassy hill-shoulders where the sun strikes like a burning-glass; or turns through dripping, dark forests where the tree-ferns dress the trunks from head to heel, and the pheasant calls to his mate. And he met Thibetan herdsmen with their dogs and flocks of sheep—each sheep with a little bag of borax on his back—and wandering woodcutters, and cloaked and blanketed Lamas from Thibet, coming into India on pilgrimage, and envoys of little solitary Hill-states, ponies, or the cavalcade of a Raja paying a visit; or else for a long clear day he would see nothing more than a black bear grunting and rooting down below in the valley. When he first started, the roar of the world he had left still rang in his ears, as the roar of a tunnel rings long after the train has passed through; but when he had put the Mutteeance Pass behind him that was all done, and Purun Bhagat was alone with himself, walking, wondering, and thinking, his eyes on the ground and his thoughts with the clouds.

One evening he crossed the highest pass he had met till then—it had been a two days' climb—and came out on a line of snow-peaks that belted all the horizon—mountains from fifteen to twenty thousand feet high, looking almost near enough to hit with a stone, though they were fifty or sixty miles away. The pass was crowned with dense dark forest—deodar, walnut, wild cherry, wild olive, wild pear, but mostly deodar, which is the Himalayan cedar; and under the shadow of the deodars stood a deserted shrine to Kali—who is Durga, who is Sitala, who is sometimes worshipped against the small-pox.

Purun Dass swept the stone floor clean, smiled at the grinning statue, made himself a little mud fireplace at the back of the shrine, spread his antelope-skin on a bed of fresh pine needles, tucked his *bairagi*—his brass-handled crutch—under his armpit, and sat down to rest.

Immediately below him the hill-side fell away, clean and cleared for fifteen hundred feet, to where a little village of stone-walled houses, with roofs of beaten earth, clung to the steep tilt. All round it the tiny terraced fields lay out like aprons of patchwork on the knees of the mountain, and cows no bigger than beetles grazed between the smooth stone circles of the threshing-floors. Looking across the valley the eye was deceived by the size of things, and could not at first realise that what seemed to be low scrub, on the opposite mountain-flank, was in truth a forest of hundred-foot pines. Purun Bhagat saw an eagle swoop across the gigantic hollow, but the great bird dwindled to a dot ere it was half-way over. A few bands of scattered clouds strung up and down the valley, catching on a shoulder of the hills, or rising up and dying out when they were level with the head of the pass. And "Here shall I find peace," said Purun Bhagat.

Now a Hill-man makes nothing of a few hundred feet up or down, and as soon as the villagers saw the smoke in the deserted shrine the village priest climbed up the terraced hillside to welcome the stranger.

When he met Purun Bhagat's eyes—the eyes of a man used to control thousands—he bowed to the earth, took the begging bowl without word, and returned to the village, saying:—"We have at last a holy man. Never have I seen such a man. He is of the plains—but pale-coloured—a Brahmin of the Brahmins." Then all the housewives of the village said: "Think you he will stay with us? and each did her best to cook the most savoury meal for the Bhagat. Hill food is very simple, but with buckwheat and Indian corn, and rice and red pepper, and little fish out of the stream in the valley, and honey from the flue-like hives built in the stone walls, and dried apricots and turmeric and wild ginger, and bannocks of flour, a devout woman can make good things, and it was a full bowl that the priest carried to the Bhagat. "Was he going to stay?" asked the priest. "Would he need a *chela*—a disciple—to beg for him? Had he a blanket against the cold weather? Was the food good?"

Purun Bhagat ate, and thanked the giver. It was in his mind to stay. That was sufficient, said the priest. Let the begging bowl be placed outside the shrine, in the hollow made by those two twisted roots, and daily should the Bhagat be fed, for the village felt honoured that such a man—he looked timidly into the Bhagat's face—should tarry among them.

That day saw the end of Purun Bhagat's wanderings. He had come to the place appointed for him—the silence and the space. After this, time stopped, and he sitting at the mouth of the shrine could not tell whether he were alive or dead—a man with control of his limbs—or a part of the hills, and the clouds and the shifting rain and sunlight. He would repeat a Name softly to himself a hundred times, till at each repetition he seemed to move more and more out of his body, sweeping up to the doors of some tremendous discovery; but, just as the door was opening, his body would drag him back, and with grief he felt he was locked up again in the flesh and bones of Purun Bhagat.

Every morning the filled begging-bowl was laid silently in the crutch of the roots outside the

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shrine. Sometimes the priest brought it; sometimes a Ladakhi trader lodging in the village, and anxious to get merit, trudged up the path; but more often it was the woman who had cooked the meal over-night; and she would murmur, hardly above her breath: "Speak for me before the Gods, Bhagat. Speak for such an one, the wife of so-and-so!" Now and then some bold child would be allowed the honour, and Purun Bhagat would hear *him* drop the bowl, and run as fast as his little legs could carry him; but the Bhagat never came down to the village. It was laid out like a map at his feet. He could see the evening gatherings held on the circle of the threshing-floors, because that was the only level ground; could see the wonderful unnamed green of the young rice, the indigo blues of the Indian corn; the dock-like patches of buckwheat, and in its season the red bloom of the amaranth, whose tiny seeds, being neither grain nor pulse, make a *food* that can be lawfully eaten by Hindus in time of fasts.

When the year turned the roofs of the huts were all little squares of purest gold, for it was on the roofs that they laid out their cobs of the corn to dry. Hiving and harvest, rice-sowing and husking passed before his eyes, all embroidered down there on the many-sided plots of fields, and he thought of them all, and wondered what they all led to at the long last.

Even in populated India a man cannot a day sit still before the wild things run over him as though he were a rock; and in that wilderness very soon the wild things, who knew Kali's Shrine well, came back to look at the intruder. The langurs, the big grey-whiskered monkeys of the Himalayas, were naturally the first, for they are alive with curiosity; and when they had upset the begging-bowl, and rolled it round the floor, and tried their teeth on the brass-handed crutch, and made faces at the antelope-skin, they decided that the human being who sat so still was harmless. At evening they would leap down from the pines, and beg with their hands for things to eat, and then swing off in graceful curves. They liked the warmth of the fire, too, and huddled round it till Purun Bhagat had to push them aside to throw on more fuel; and in the morning, as often as not, he would find a furry ape sharing his blanket. All day long one or other of the tribe would sit by his side, staring out at the snows, crooning and looking unspeakably wise and sorrowful.

After the monkeys came the *barasingh*, that big deer who is like our red deer, but stronger. He wished to rub off the velvet of his horns against the cold stones of Kali's statue, and stamped his feet when he saw the man at the shrine. But Purun Bhagat never moved, and little by little the royal stag edged up and nuzzled his shoulder. Purun Bhagat slid one cool hand along the hot antlers, and the touch soothed the fretted beast, who bowed his head, and Purun Bhagat very softly rubbed and ravelled off the velvet. Afterwards, the *barasingh* brought his doe and fawn—gentle things that mumbled on the holy man's blanket—or would come alone at night, his eyes green in the fire-flicker, to take his share of fresh walnuts. At last the musk-deer, the shyest and almost the smallest of the deerlets, came too, her big rabbity ears erect—even brindled, silent *mussick-naba* must needs find out what the light in the shrine meant, and drop her moose-like nose into Purun Bhagat's lap, coming and going with the shadows of the fire. Purun Bhagat called them all "my brothers," and his low call of "*Bhai! Bhai!*" would draw them from the forest at noon if they were within earshot. The Himalayan black bear, moody and suspicious—Sona, who has the V-shaped white mark under his chin—passed that way more than once, and since the Bhagat showed no fear, Sona showed no anger, but watched him and came closer, and begged a share of the caresses and a dole of bread or wild berries. Often in the still dawns, when the Bhagat would climb to the very crest of the notched pass to watch the red day walking along the peaks of the snows, he would find Sona shuffling and grunting at his heels, thrusting a curious forepaw under fallen trunks and bringing it away with a *whoof* of impatience; or his early steps would wake Sona where he lay curled-up and the great brute, rising erect, would think to fight, till he heard the Bhagat's voice and knew his best friend.

Nearly all hermits and holy men who live apart from the big cities have the reputation of being able to work miracles with the wild things, but all the miracle lies in keeping still, in never making a hasty moment, and, for a long time at least, in never looking directly at a visitor. The villagers saw the outlines of the *barasingh* stalking like a shadow through the dark forest behind the shrine; saw the *minaul*, the Himalayan pheasant, blazing in her best colours before Kali's statue; and the *langurs* on their haunches in deep talking with the walnut-shells. Some of the children, too, had heard Sona singing to himself, bear fashion, behind the fallen rocks, and the Bhagat's reputation as a miracle worker stood firm.

Yet nothing was further from his mind than miracles. He believed that all things were one big miracle, and when a man knows that much he knows something to go upon. He knew for a certainty that there was nothing great and nothing little in this world, and day and night he strove to think out his way into the heart of things, back to the place whence his soul had come.

So thinking, his untrimmed hair fell down about his shoulders, the stone slab at the side of the antelope-skin was dented into a little hole by the foot of his brass-handled crutch, and the place between the tree-trunks where the begging-bowl rested day after day, sunk and wore into a hollow almost as smooth as the *brown* shell itself; and each beast knew his exact place at the fire. The fields changed their colours with the seasons, the threshing-floors filled and emptied and filled again and again; and again and again, when winter came, the *langurs* frisked among the branches feathered with light snow, till the mother-monkeys brought their sad-eyed little babies up from the warmer valleys with the spring. There were very few changes in the village. The priest was older, and many of the little children who used to come with the begging dish sent their own children now; and when you asked of the villagers how long their holy man had been up there in Kali's Shrine at the head of the pass, they answered, "Always."

Then came such summer rains as had not been known in the Hills for many seasons. Through three good months the valley was wrapped in cloud and soaking mist—steady unrelenting *downfall*, breaking off into thunder-shower after thunder-shower. Kali's Shrine stood above the clouds for the most part, and there was a whole fortnight in which the Bhagat never caught a glimpse of his village. It was packed away under a white floor of cloud that swayed and shifted and rolled on itself and bulged upward, but never broke from its piers—the streaming flanks of the valley.

All that time he heard nothing but the sound of a million little waters—overhead from the trees, and underfoot along the ground—soaking through the pine-needles, dripping from the tongues of draggled fern, and spouting in newly-torn muddy channels down the slopes. Then the sun came out and drew forth the good incense of the deodars and the rhododendrons, and that far-off clean smell the Hill-people call "the smell of the snows." The hot sunshine lasted for a week, and then the rains gathered together for their last downpour, and the water fell in sheets that flayed off the skin of the ground and leaped back in mud. Purun Bhagat heaped his fire high that night, for he was sure his brothers would need warmth; but never a beast came to the shrine, though he called and called till he dropped asleep, wondering what had happened in the woods.

It was in the black heart of the night, the rain drumming like a thousand drums, that he was roused by a plucking at his blanket, and, stretching out, felt the little hand of a *langur*. "It is better here than in the tree," he said sleepily, loosening a fold of blanket. "Take it and be warm." The monkey caught his hand and pulled hard. "Is it food, then?" said Purun Bhagat. "Wait awhile and I will prepare some." As he kneeled to throw fuel on the fire the *langur* ran to the door of the shrine, crooned, and ran back again, plucking at the man's knee.

"What is it? Why is thy trouble, Brother?" said Purun Bhagat, for the *langur's* eyes were full of things that he could not tell. "Unless one of thy caste is in a trap—and none set traps here—I will not go into that weather. Look, Brother, even the *barasingh* has come for shelter."

The deer's antlers clashed as he strode into the shrine, clashed against the grinning statue of Kali. He lowered them in Purun Bhagat's direction and stamped uneasily, hissing through his half-shut nostrils.

"Hai! Hai! Hai!" said the Bhagat, snapping his fingers. "Is this payment for a night's lodging?" But the deer pushed him towards the door, and as he did so Purun Bhagat heard the sound of something opening with a sigh, and saw two slabs of the floor draw away from each other, while the sticky earth below smacked its lips.

"Now I see," said Purun Bhagat. "No blame to my brothers that they did not sit by the fire to-night. The mountain is falling. And yet—why should I go?" His eye fell on the empty begging-bowl, and his face changed. "They have given me good food daily since—since I came—and, if I am not swift, to-morrow there will not be one mouth in the valley. Indeed, I must go and warn them below. Back there, Brother! Let me get to the fire."

The *barasingh* backed unwillingly as Purun Bhagat drove a torch deep into the flame, twirling it till it was well lit. "Ah! Ye come to warn me," he said, rising. "Better than that we shall do. Better than that. Out, now, and lend me thy neck, Brother, for I have but two *feet*."

He clutched the bristling withers of the *barasingh* with his right hand, held the torch away with his left, and stepped out of the shrine into the desperate night. There was no breath of wind, but the rain nearly drowned the torch as the great deer hurried down the slope, sliding on his haunches. As soon as they were clear of the forest more of the Bhagat's brothers joined them. He heard, though he could not see, the *langurs* pressing about him, and behind them the *uhh! uhh!* of Sona. The rain matted his long white hair into ropes; the water splashed beneath his bare feet, and his yellow robe clung to his frail old body, but he stepped down steadily, leaning against the *barasingh*. He was no longer a holy man, but Sir Purun Dass, K.C.I.E., Prime Minister of no small State, a man accustomed to command, going out to save life. Down the steep plashy path they poured all together, the Bhagat and his brothers, down and down till the deer clicked and stumbled on the wall of a threshing-floor, and snorted because he smelt man. Now they were at the head of the one crooked village-street, and Bhagat beat with his crutch at the barred windows of the blacksmith's house as his torch blazed up in the shelter of the eaves. "Up and out," cried Purun Bhagat; and he did not know his own voice, for it was years since he had spoken aloud to a man. "The hill falls. The hill is falling. Up and out, *oh ye within!*"

"It is our Bhagat," said the blacksmith's wife. "He stand among his beasts. Gather the little ones and give the call."

It ran from house to house, while the beasts, cramped in the narrow way, surged and huddled round the Bhagat, and Sona puffed impatiently.

The people hurried into the street—they were no more than seventy souls all told—and in the glare of the torches they saw their Bhagat holding back the terrified *barasingh*, while the monkeys plucked pitoously at his skirts, and Sona sat on his haunches and roared.

"Across the valley and up the next *hill!*" shouted Purun Bhagat. "Leave none behind. We follow!"

Then the people ran as only Hill-folk can run, for they know that in a landslip you must climb for the highest ground across the valley. They fled splashing through the little river at the bottom, and panted up the terraced field on the far side, while the Bhagat and his brethren followed. Up and up the opposite mountain they climbed, calling to each other by name—the roll-call of the village—and at their heels toiled the big *barasingh*, weighted by the failing strength of Purun Bhagat. At last the deer stopped in the shadow of a deep pine wood, five hundred feet up the hillside. His instinct, that had warned *him* of the coming slide, told *him* he would be safe here.

Purun Bhagat dropped fainting by his side, for the chill of the rain and that fierce climb was killing him; but first he called to the scattered torches ahead, "Stay and count your numbers." Then whispering to the deer as he saw the lights gather in a cluster: "Stay with *me*, Brother. Stay—till—I—go!"

There was a sigh in the air that grew to a mutter, and a mutter that grew to a roar, and a roar that passed all sense of hearing, and the hillside on which the villagers stood was hit in the darkness, and rocked to the blow. Then a note as steady, deep, and true as the deep C of the organ drowned everything for perhaps five minutes, while the very roots of the pines quivered to it. It died away, and the sound of the rain falling on miles of hard ground and grass changed to the muffled drums of water on soft earth. That told its own tale.

Never a villager, not even the priest, was bold enough to speak to the Bhagat who had saved their lives. They crouched under the pines and waited till the day. When that came they looked across the valley and saw that what had been forest; and terraced field, and track-threaded grazing-ground was one raw, red, fan-shaped smear, with a few trees flung head-down on the scarp. That red ran high up the hill of their refuge, damming back the little river which had begun to spread into a brick-coloured lake. Of the village, of the road to the shrine, of the shrine itself, and the forest behind, there was not a trace. For one mile in width and two thousand feet in sheer depth the mountain-side had come away bodily; planed clean from head to heel.

And the villagers, one by one, crept through the wood to pray before their Bhagat. They saw the

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barasingh standing over him, who fled when they came near, and they heard the *langurs* wailing in the branches, and Sona moaning up the hill but their Bhagat was dead, sitting cross-legged, his back against a tree, his crutch under his armpit, and his face turned to the north-east.

The priest said:—"Behold a miracle after a miracle, for in this very attitude must all Sunnyasis be buried! Therefore where he now is we will build the temple to our holy man."

They built the temple before a year was ended—a little stone and earth shrine—and they called the hill the Bhagat Hill, and they worship there with lights and flowers and offerings to this day. But they do not know that the saint of their worship is the late Sir Purun Dass, K.C.I.E., D.C.L., Ph.D., &c., once Prime Minister of the progressive and enlightened State of Mohiniwala, and honorary or corresponding member of more learned and scientific societies than will ever do any good in this world or the next.—*Pall Mall Budget.*

CHESS.

(All Communications to be addressed to the Chess Editor.

The Yokohama Chess Club meets at the Club Hotel, No. 5, Bund, on Monday and Thursday in each week from 5 to 11 p.m.

The Tokyo Chess Club meets at the Tokyo Hotel every Friday from 1 to 7 p.m.

Solution of Problem No. 172.

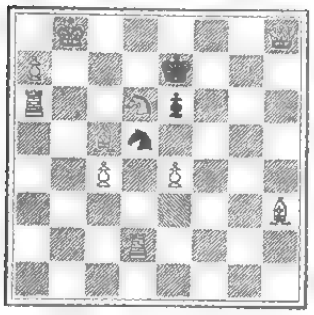
WHITE.	BLACK.
1—K to K sq.	1—Any
2—Mates accordingly.	

Note.—K to B sq. or B 3 will not do, as Black replies R to B sq.

Correct solutions received from Diganima, W.H.S., Kr., Omega, J.D., W. Barrie, and E. J. King.

Problem No. 174.

By A. H. Robbins.



White to play and mate in two moves.

The mails which arrived on the 15th have brought news of the Cable-match between New York and London, which was played on the 9th ultimo. We quote the following from an exchange:—

The great international cable match, which has attracted the attention of two continents, took place on Saturday last and resulted in a draw. The participants made the mistake of not allowing sufficient time for the transmission of the moves as only one game of ten was finished. Play commenced soon after 10 o'clock, New York time, and at 11 o'clock the first moves were received from London. A short adjournment was taken at 2 o'clock for luncheon, after which play went on uninterruptedly until 6.30, or 11.30, London time.

The following shows the pairing of the opposing teams:

1—Lipschutz (M) vs. Owen (B), Zukertort.
2—Showalter (M) vs. Hoffer (B), Vienna.
3—Hodges (M) vs. Lonck (B) P to Q 4.
4—D. G. Baird (M) vs. Mills (B), Ruy Lopez.
5—Hanham (M) vs. Lord (B), Irregular.
6—Ryan (M) vs. Guest (B), Philidor.
7—Isaacson (M) vs. Mortimer (B), Ruy Lopez.
8—J. W. Baird (M) vs. Trenchard (B), Ponziani.
9—Simonson (M) vs. Heppel (B), Two-Kts, defence.
10—De Visser (M) vs. Hunter (B), Centre Gambit.

The only game finished was that on board No. 4. Mills *versus* D. G. Baird, a Ruy Lopez, which was drawn after White's 26th move. We hope the next attempt will be more successful.

The projected match between Blackburne and Bardeleben is fixed for Monday (22nd instant) at the British Chess Club, London. This should produce some fine games.

Gossip *versus* Pollock at Montreal resulted in a tie, each player scoring 6 games—with 5 draws.

Albin has challenged Showalter to another match, which will probably be played in New York, without delay.

Steinitz has left New York for London, where it is hoped that his return match with Lasker may be fought. All accounts represent the new champion as fully restored to health and now in good form.

San Francisco.

The Mechanics' Institute chess tournament is practically concluded, only one game to decide a tie having yet to be played. The following are the prize winners:

Dr. Lovegrove, first prize; G. R. Thompson, second prize; G. Nevill, third prize; G. Hallwegen, fourth prize; A. C. Thomas and M. Lazarus, fifth and sixth prizes respectively; G. O. Johnson, seventh prize; Martin, eighth prize; O. Samuels, ninth prize; P. W. Fairweather, tenth prize; T. Flanders, eleventh prize; O. Boxall, twelfth prize, and J. Ettinger, thirteenth prize.

Game No. 251.

CHESS IN SYDNEY.

A recent off-hand skirmish which presents points of interest.

EVANS' DECLINED.

WHITE. Mr. H.	BLACK. Mr. C.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—Kt to K B 3	2—Kt to Q B 3
3—B to B 4	3—B to B 4
4—P to Q Kt 4	4—B to Kt 3
5—Castles	5—P to Q 3
6—P to B 3	6—Kt to B 3
7—P to Q 4	7—B to Kt 5
8—Q to Kt 3	8—Castles
9—Q Kt to Q 2	9—P takes P
10—B to Kt 2	10—P to Q R 4 (a)
11—P to Kt 5	11—P to R 5
12—Q to B 2	12—P to R 6
13—B to B sq.	13—Kt to K 4
14—Kt takes P (b)	14—Kt takes B
15—Kt takes Kt	15—B to Q B 4
16—B to K 3	16—B to Q 2
17—Q R to Kt sq.	17—Kt to Kt 5
18—P to B 3 (c)	18—Kt takes B
19—Kt takes Kt	19—R to K sq.
20—K to R sq.	20—P to K Kt 3 (d)
21—K R to K sq.	21—Q to R 5
22—Kt to B sq.	22—B to K 4
23—Q to Q 3 (e)	23—R to K R 4
24—Kt to Q Kt 3	24—B to B 7
25—R to K 2	25—R to Kt 4 (f)
26—P to Q B 4	26—R to K sq.
27—Q to Q 2	27—B to Kt 3
28—Kt to B sq.	28—P to K B 4
29—R to Kt 3	29—P to B 5 (g)
30—R takes P	30—R to B 4 (h)
31—P to K 5	31—Q R takes P
32—R takes R	32—R takes R
33—Kt to Q 3	33—R to K 2
34—Kt takes P (i)	34—R to K 8
35—R to R 8 ch.	35—K to Kt 2
36—Kt to R 5 ch.	36—P takes Kt
37—Q to B 3 ch.	37—B to Q 5
38—Q to Q 3	38—Q to B 7 and wins.

(a) The three moves of this P nullify White's attack.
(b) He should have retained the K B.
(c) Here also he should have avoided the exchange of B for Kt.
(d) Necessary to prevent Kt to K B 5.
(e) To protect the Q Kt P.
(f) If now 25—B takes P; 26—P to Q B 4, B to Q 2; 27—P to K Kt 5, &c.
(g) This P is now strongly posted.
(h) Black contemplates Q R to K 4, followed by the sacrifice of Q and R.
(i) White falls in, as is shown by Black's reply.

The Rook.

Mr. Mason remarks that when you have the Rook in play he is easy to handle. "The difficulty in his case is to get him out and at work where he can do most good. He is an awkward piece, easily harassed by Bishops, Knights, and Pawns, and of little active value in the early or early-middle part of the game. The Pawns block and resist the Rook more than they do any other piece. But if the Rook once gets in among or behind the hostile Pawns, he soon changes all that. The Rooks doubled are more than doubly strong. It is generally well to have them in combined action somehow. It is often good play to take two Rooks for the Queen when the Rooks are working together, pressing upon an important point in your position. Rooks doubled on the seventh or eighth rank are hard to stand against. Do not double your Rooks behind your own Pawn, unless, indeed, to force a passage for it, or to defend it in the last resort. Do not play your Rook so as to impede your Pawn when it is a question of queening. Do not give up a Rook for a minor Piece unless the provocation is great. In the end the exchange is nearly equal to two Pawns, and may be heavy odds against you."

Game No. 252.

CHESS IN PARIS.

Mieses and Janowski match. The following is the sixth game:—

VIENNA OPENING.

WHITE. J. Mieses.	BLACK. D. Janowski.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—Kt to Q B 3	2—Kt to Q B 3
3—B to B 4	3—Kt to B 3
4—P to Q 3 (a)	4—B to B 4 (b)
5—B to K Kt 5	5—P to R 3 (c)
6—B to R 4	6—P to K Kt 4
7—B to K Kt 3	7—P to K R 4 (d)
8—P to K R 4	8—P to Kt 5
9—Q to Q 2	9—P to Q R 3 (e)
10—P to B 4	10—P takes P e.p. (f)
11—Kt takes P	11—Kt to K Kt 5 (g)
12—Kt to Q 5 (h)	12—P to Q 3
13—R to K B sq	13—P to B 3 (i)
14—Kt to R 2 (j)	14—R to B sq.
15—Kt takes Kt	15—B takes Kt
16—Q to R 6	16—Kt to Q 5 (k)
17—K to Q 2	17—P to K B 4
18—Q to R 7	18—R to B 2
19—Q to Kt 8 ch.	19—R to B sq.
20—Q to Kt 6, ch.	20—K to Q 2
21—P to B 3	21—Kt to K 7
22—B to B 2	22—B takes B
23—R takes B	23—K to Kt 6
24—Q to Kt 7 ch.	24—K to B 3 (l)
25—P to R 4 (m)	25—R to B sq. (n)
26—P to R 5	26—Q takes P (o)
27—Kt to K 7 ch.	27—K to Q 2
28—Kt to Kt 6 dis. ch.	Resigns.

(a) This prevents 4. . . . Kt takes P; 5. Kt takes Kt, P to Q 4, &c.
(b) Not good. The right move being 4. . . . B to Kt 5.
(c) Not wanting to lose a move by returning B to K 2, he has no other means of unpinning the Kt.
(d) Still more weakening. Better would have been 7. . . . P to Q 3, and if 8. P to K R 4, then 8. . . . P to Kt 5.
(e) In such a dilapidated King's position he has hardly time for this precautionary move to prevent the K B from being exchanged.
(f) Developing only White's game still more. 28. . . P to Q 3 would still be preferable.
(g) Compulsory, because of the threatened 12. Kt to Kt 5.
(h) Obviously, if now 12. Kt to K 4, then 12. . . . B to K 6.
(i) We prefer here 13. . . . B to K 4, and, if 14. Kt to Kt 5, then 14. . . . Q to Q 2, so as to enable him to castle QR.
(j) 14. P to B 3 would have prevented Black's Q Kt from coming into play. White need not have precipitated matters.
(k) Had he played now 16. . . . Kt to Kt 5, then White had no time to play his King, because of 17. . . . Kt takes Kt, getting rid of the most troublesome piece. The check with the Knight at once does not seem dangerous.
(l) 24. . . . K to B sq. was the only move now.
(m) A fine move. It threatens 26. B to Kt 5 ch, P takes B; 27. P take P ch, B takes P; 28. R takes R and wins.
(n) If 25. . . . P to Kt 3, then 26. Kt to K 7 ch, K to B 2; 27. B to Q 5 ch, and wins
(o) He has no saving move. Herr Mieses played this game splendidly.

Steinitz and Chess.

Refering to Steinitz's desire to regain the chess championship of the world, the *Birmingham Weekly Mercury* expresses the hope that the veteran will remember that human nature is always the same, and that having almost reached the age of 60, he is now unable to stand the tremendous strain of conflict. "He has done well, superlatively well. Let him be content; and let not the world see the worn-out champion crushed and pulverised by the man of the time in the heyday of his youth and strength." The *Mercury* continues:—"We warned you years ago, but you thought you knew best. We told you again and again that Lasker was no Tschigorin with his eleganeies, no Gunsberg with his second-hand inventions, but a real live player of the largest kind. But you hardened your heart and stiffened your neck, and went on to perish in your pride. And now you want to do it again. But be not small when thou mayest be great. Be quiet, be humble, take thy gruel, admit the soft impeachment. Say 'I am old' (*alt und schwach*) like Haydn. Say 'When I was young I was the strongest!' and all men shall exclaim. But persist not in thy 'exclamations,' at which every body laughs more or less decorously; say nothing of 'health,' for all know the why and the wherefore. Be silent. Retire. Climb down. Take off the aureole, hand it to the mightier than thou, efface thyself, and take a back seat. Then—but not otherwise—thou shalt still be honoured."

In 1894, 217,606 cases of preserved meats were exported from New South Wales, against 170,447 cases in 1893, and 174,406 cases in 1892. In 1894 there were 533,995 carcases of sheep exported, against 364,958 in 1893, being an increase of 169,237 carcases, of nearly 50 per cent., in twelve months.

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LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[REUTER "SPECIAL" TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

London, April 14.

In St. Petersburg it is semi-officially reported that Russia will strongly oppose the annexation of the mainland of China by the Japanese.

London, April 15.

The *Novosti* reports that the Minister of Finance [Russia] is preparing to establish a gold currency.

London, April 18.

The Russian press says that the session to Japan of the Chinese mainland will compel the Powers to interfere.

["SPECIAL" TELEGRAM TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

Shimonoseki, 8.40 p.m., April 15.

The Peace Conference to-day lasted from 2 o'clock in the afternoon until 7. Viscount Mutsu was absent, his indisposition being still too severe to permit of his taking an active part in the negotiations. The discussion to-day seems to have been serious. Everything depends upon to-morrow's Conference.

Shimonoseki, April 17, 2.30 a.m.

The Treaty of Peace was signed to-day, and the Viceroy Li started for home at 2 p.m.

(FROM JAPANESE PAPERS.)

Söul, April 18.

Li Yo-shun, Korean Minister to Japan, having resigned, the Korean Government has resolved to appoint Yu Kitsu-yei to the post. Some 130 Korean students leave here on the 20th inst. to enter the Keiogijiku School in Tokyo.

Hiroshima, April 18.

The *Fayeyama Kan* put into the harbour of Ujina at 4 p.m. to-day with Count Ito and Viscount Mutsu, from Shimonoseki. All the vessels in the harbour were dressed. When the two statesmen left the *Fayeyama* in a steam-launch the war-ships fired a salute, the steam-launch stopping until the salute had finished. The national anthem was played by the Band when the party arrived at the wharf at 4.30 p.m. Counts Yamagata, Kuroda, Saigo and Matsukata, Viscount Hijikata, Marquis Tokudaiji, officers of Principal Head-quarters, Governor Naheshima, and several others proceeded to Ujina to welcome the party. A grand arch was erected near the wharf. After a brief rest the Premier and the Minister of Foreign Affairs were conveyed to Hiroshima in a carriage sent from the Imperial Household. Both sides of the road between Ujina and Hiroshima, a distance of over three miles, were crowded by representatives of various public bodies, who gave the Ministers a warm reception. Another large arch was erected near the Miyuki Bridge, and many fireworks were displayed.

It is stated that the report of the death of Colonel Sato, who was wounded at Newchwang, lately reached his family in this town.

Kumamoto, April 19.

A strong earthquake was felt here shortly after 9 o'clock last night.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From America	per O. & O. Co.	Tuesday, April 23rd *
From America	per P. M. Co.	Thursday, May 2nd,†
From Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Sunday, April 21st.‡
From Hongkong	per P. M. Co.	Friday, April 26th.§
From Europe, via Hongkong	per M. M. Co.	Friday, April 26th.‖
From Canada, &c.	per C. P. R. Co.	Sunday, May 5th.
From Hongkong	per C. P. R. Co.	Thursday, May 9th.
From Europe, via Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd	Wed'day, May 15th.

* *Belgic* left San Francisco on April 8th. † *Peru* left San Francisco on April 23th. ‡ *Arizona* left Hongkong on April 19th. § *City of Peking* (with French mail) left Hongkong on April 18th. ‖ *Natal* left Hongkong on April 18th.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Saturday, April 27th.
For America	per P. M. Co.	Saturday, April 27th.
For Europe, via Shanghai	per M. M. Co.	Saturday, May 4th.
For Victoria, B.C., & Tacoma, Wash.	per N. P. Co.	Saturday, May 4th.
For Hongkong	per C. P. R. Co.	Sunday, May 5th.
For Canada, &c.	per C. P. R. Co.	Friday, May 10th.
For Europe, via Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd	Friday, May 17th.
For America	per O. & O. Co.	Sunday, May 19th.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Ardgay, British steamer, 1,080, Thom, 14th April, —Hongkong, Sugar.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

China, British steamer, 2,600, W. B. Seabury, 15th April,—San Francisco, via Honolulu, 26th March, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Empress of India, British steamer, 3,003, O. P. Marshall, 15th April,—Vancouver, B.C., 1st April, Mails and General.—Frazar & Co.

Tosa Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,200, J. B. MacMillan, 15th April,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Produce, Norwegian steamer, 1,560, Berguson, 16th April,—Nagasaki, Coal.—Mitsu Bishi Sha.

Protas, German steamer, 1,150, Johanson, 16th April,—Kobe, General.—Japanese.

Gaelic, British steamer, 2,690, W. G. Pearne, 18th April,—Hongkong viâ ports, 10th April, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Nürnberg, German steamer, 2,007, Hugo Walter, 18th April,—Hongkong 12th April, Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.

Empress of China, British steamer, 3,003, R. Archibald, 18th April,—Hongkong viâ ports, 10th April, Mails and General.—Frazar & Co.

Riversdale, British steamer, 1,311, E. Peck, 19th April,—Otaru, Coal.—Japanese.

Mount Lebanon, British steamer, 1,555, Chas. Hendry, 20th April,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

DEPARTURES.

Esmeralda, British schooner, 130, J. T. Harrison, 13th April,—Guam, Ballast.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Priok, German steamer, 1,635, Christiansen, 13th April,—Hamburg viâ ports, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Salvadora, Spanish steamer, 978, 13th April,—Manila viâ ports, General.—Browne & Co.

Amoy, German steamer, 647, Wolf, 14th April,—Karatz, Ballast.—Japanese.

Empress of India, British steamer, 3,003, O. P. Marshall, 15th April,—Hongkong viâ ports, Mails and General.—Frazar & Co.

China, British steamer, 2,600, W. B. Seabury, 16th April,—Hongkong viâ Nagasaki, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Evandale, British steamer, 2,026, Buyers, 16th April,—Kobe, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Strathlyon, British steamer, 1,511, Phillip, 16th April,—Hongkong viâ ports, General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Tosa Maru, Japanese steamer 3,200, J. B. MacMillan, 17th April,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Volute, British steamer, 2,348, Stott, 18th April, —London viâ ports, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Empress of China, British steamer, 3,003, R. Archibald, 19th April,—Vancouver, B.C., Mails and General.—Frazar & Co.

Gaelic, British steamer, 2,690, W. G. Pearne, 19th April,—San Francisco, viâ Honolulu, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Produce, Norwegian steamer, 1,560, Berguson, 19th April,—Nagasaki, Ballast.—Mitsu Bishi Sha.

Salasie, French steamer, 4,016, A. Paul, 20th April, —Shanghai viâ ports, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

Nürnberg, German steamer, 2,007, Hugo Walter, 20th April,—Hongkong viâ ports, Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per British steamer *China*, from San Francisco viâ Honolulu:—Mr. A. Adelsdorfer, Mr. E. W. Barrett, Mr. R. Blankenburg, Dr. Ogden Backus, Mr. J. R. Bisschop, Mrs. C. W. Crosby, Mr. R. T. Coulter, Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Dreer, Miss Julia Dudley, Mr. H. B. Fisher, Mr. F. L. Forrester, Mr. F. E. Fernald, Mr. J. H. Graham, Mrs. J. S. Hager and maid, Miss Hager, Miss Ethel Hager, Miss Alice Hager, Miss A. Humphrey, Dr. and Mrs. L. F. Harvey, Mr. S. Ishida, Mr. T. Imai, Mr. F. S. James, Mr. and Mrs. R. D. Kirby, Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Kimble, Dr. and Mrs. Kamei and child, Dr. Kawada, Mr. B. G. Northrup, Mr. G. O. Nakayama, Dr. S. Noda, Mr. and Mrs. E. Popp, Mr. Otis A. Poole, Mr. J. Samson, Mr. J. G. Shortall, Mr. A. Sheffield, Miss J. Stone, Mr. W. J. Schroth, Mr. A. A. Thomas, Mr. Yuen Gik, Mr. C. Von Bose, Mr. R. S. Whitney, and Mr. G. W. Wood in cabin. For Nagasaki:—Mr. A. H. Heath and Mr. T. H. Smith in cabin. For Shanghai:—Mr. W. Moller and Rev. Dr. Fearn in cabin. For Hongkong:—Mr. J. W. Brown, Mr. F. Leyburn, and Mr. Hugh Sutherland in cabin.

Per British steamer *Empress of India*, from Vancouver, B.C.:—Mr. J. C. Arter, Mr. and Mrs. Ballagh, Miss Edna Ballagh, Miss Bessie Ballagh, Master Hamilton Ballagh, Mr. M. Baggallay, Mr. J. Beattie, Mr. J. N. Boyd, Mr. A. J. H. Carlill, Mr. C. F. Cartledge, Mr. F. J. Cowan, Mr. J. W. Harding, Mr. M. H. R. Harris, Mr. and Mrs. Byron T. Horne, Mr. J. N. Jamieson, Mr. L. W. Lieman, Mr. A. D. Lowe, Mr. Cripps Matheson, Mr. H. J. Macray, Mr. E. J. Moss, Mr. K. Noto, Count and Countess de Pourtales, Mdlle. Pourtales, Mr. Edgar Quackenbush, Mr. J. F. Rodewold, Mr. Schlee, Mr. E. R. Smith, Mr. C. B. Stedman, Mr. Takasaki, Mr. August Walte, Mr. Jas. Wilkinson, and Mr. W. A. Wilson in cabin.

Per German steamer *Nürnberg*, from Hongkong:—Miss Augusta Maiss Zickwolff, Mr. Karl Kleensang, Mr. Pfarrer Schiller, Dr. Med. R. Nonami, Mr. Cha Fou See, Dr. M. Miyoshi, Dr. Tiragi Tshikawori, Miss Waller, Mr. Chung Seng, Mr. and Mrs. Looe and child, Mrs. Cha Fou See, and Mr. Loo Sui Gee in cabin.

Per British steamer *Gaelic*, from Hongkong viâ ports:—Mr. and Mrs. S. W. Forman, Miss G. Forman, Mr. Y. Yamamoto, Miss F. Litchinberg, Mr. E. C. Fox, Mr. F. Y. Suzuki, Mr. Carl Glosing, Mr. L. O. Smith and daughter, Mrs. Jordan, 5 children and maid, Miss M. Bush, Mr. M. T. Jay, Mr. E. W. Brown, Mr. H. Makino, and Mr. A. H. Littell in cabin. For San Francisco:—Mr. E. H. Ball, Mr. A. Durward, Mr. Lee Mun Hoy, Miss A. B. Courtnay, Lieut.-Col. McDonnell, Mr. W. C. Dast, and Mr. Chas. Tannant in cabin.

Per British steamer *Empress of China*, from Hongkong viâ ports:—Mr. H. E. Crawford, Rev. W. Bentley, Mr. A. Channer, Mr. and Mrs. Cuthbertson, Mr. J. Gresson, Mrs. Marvyn, Mr. B. Thurston, Mr. Waterman, Mrs. Merewether, Comte de la Vaulx, Mrs. G. Wilson and child, Miss Wilson, Mr. W. Bottlewalla, Mr. C. Bhesania, Mr. M. Gobhai, Mr. L. W. Leiman, Mr. K. Menjen, Prof. E. H. Sharp, Miss Eldridge, Miss F. Eldridge, Dr. and Mrs. E. H. Hersey, and Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Hellyer in cabin. For Vancouver, B.C.:—Rev. and Miss Allen, Mr. B. Allen, Mr. H. Freeman, Mr. G. Veitch, Mrs. Gribble, Rev. and Mrs. Farthing and 2 children, Miss Stevens, Miss Dunbar, Rev. F. Roediger, Mr. and Mrs. D. Gilmour, Mr. and Mrs. G. Brown and child, Mrs. Brown's maid, Rev. Mr. and Mrs. Massie and 2 children, Mrs. Bentley and 2 children, Miss Hoag, Miss Robinson, Mr. and Mrs. Britton and child, Mr. and Mrs. Chappell and 3 children, and Mr. Bremond in cabin; 5 passengers in second class, and 433 passengers in Asiatic steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per British steamer *Verona*, for Hongkong viâ ports:—Rt. Hon. Lord Dormer, Mr. A. U. Henn, Rev. A. R. Morris, Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Herod, and Mrs. and Miss Mola in cabin, and 5 Chinese in steerage.

Per British steamer *Empress of India*, for Hongkong viâ ports:—Mr. H. Edwards, Mr. Ivan Büller, Mr. Nickel, Mr. Samson, Mr. Wentworth, Rev. Mr. Ballagh, Rev. Mr. Loomis, Mr. J. W. Doughty, Mr. C. H. Loomis, Rev. and Mrs. Thomson, Miss Hail, Mrs. Ginsburg, Mr. A. A. Thomas, Mrs. and Miss Lee, Miss Dudley, Mr. Mr. Schrath, Mr. M. Stewart, Mr. C. W. B. Von Bose, and Mr. Paul Büller in cabin; Mr. Wm. Shand, Mr. R. Konishi, Mr. H. Imamura, and Mr. Fung Tsz Lun in second class, and Mrs. Wong and children in Asiatic steerage.

Per British steamer *China*, for Hongkong viâ Nagasaki:—Mr. and Mrs. Playfair, infant and two servants, Rev. and Mrs. S. B. Partridge, and Mr. and Mrs. J. D. McCracken in cabin.

Per British steamer *Empress of China*, for Vancouver, B.C.:—Mr. B. Allen, Rev. Mr. Allen, Miss Allen, Mr. R. Mein Austin, Mrs. R. Mein Austin and maid, Dr. Baker, Mrs. Baker, Mrs. Bentley and 2 children, Mrs. A. M. Board, Mr. Bremond, Mr. Britton, Mrs. Britton and child, Mr. Geo. Brown, Mrs. Geo. Brown, child and maid, Mr. Buttery, Mrs. Buttery, Mr. Chappell, Mrs. Chappell and 3 children, Captain Dashwood, Comte Hy. De la Vaulx, Mr. Del Phos, Miss Del Phos and maid, Miss Dunbar, Rev. Mr. Farthing, Mrs. Farthing and 2 children, Mr. Field, Mr. R. R. Freeman, Mr. J. S. Genth, Mr. D. Gilmour, Mrs. D. Gilmour, Mrs. Gribble, Miss Graham, Miss Hoag, Mrs. E. N. Horsey, Mr. H. C. Joscelyne, Mr. R. J. Kirby, Baron C. Lerche, Count C. Lerche-Lerchenborg, Rev. Mr. Massie, Mrs. Massie and 2 children, Mr. J. H. Mason, Mrs. J. H. Mason, Miss Mason, Mr. G. C. Mozon, Mr. Gordon Neilson, Mr. Lewis Neilson, Rev. F. Roediger, Miss Robinson, Miss Stevens, Mr. S. Strauss, Mr. G. T. Veitch, Baron G. Wedellsborg, Mr. F. W. Whitney, Mr. C. R. Wilson, and Mrs. C. R. Wilson in cabin.

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Per British steamer *Gaelic*, for San Francisco, viâ Honolulu:—Mr. Luis Torres Acevedo, Consul d'Espagne, Mr. W. Bullard, Mr. E. H. Bull, Mr. M. Chimura, Mr. August Chamot, Mr. A. B. Courtney, Rev. and Mrs. James Conling, Captain Crawford, Mr. W. C. Dart, Mr. C. Deas, Mr. J. J. Dunne, Mr. D. H. Drake, Mr. Durward, Mr. Alex. Forsythe, Mrs. J. M. Francis, Miss M. Gallagher, Mr. J. Lockhart Gow, Rev. and Mrs. S. B. Groves and infant, Mr. S. Hinu, Mr. Ly Mun Hoy, Mr. and Mrs. Corbet Hue, Mr. Arthur C. Hue, Miss Hue, Miss F. E. Hue, Miss G. G. Hue, Miss E. Inveen, Mr. and Mrs. Kimble, Lieut. Von Koppen, Dr. H. R. Lemen, Mr. C. R. McLane, Lieut.-Colonel I. McDonnell, Mr. and Mrs. M. Meynard, Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Noble, Mr. M. Preuss, Mr. T. Sugawara, Mr. C. E. Tennant, Miss Wallace, Mr. W. G. Waterman, Mr. David Williams, Mr. Richard O. Wolff, and Mr. K. Watanabe in cabin.

Per French steamer *Salazie*, for Shanghai viâ ports:—Mr. Klobukowski and servant, Mr. M. Story and maid, Mr. Lindholm and 3 children, Mr. Faga, Baron and Baroness d'Anethan, Mr. J. Neilson Howard, Mr. Ch. Overbeck, Mr. Seymore, Miss Case, Messrs. Bertie German, J. Ganesco, E. L. Whitall, C. W. M. Birck, Pequignot, G. Echin, Petroff, Ivanoff, Mrs. Denig and child, Messrs. E. Sone, Mitsuzo Yoshida, Mokichi Tsuji, A. Watte, G. Butler, W. H. Decker, Chin Lee Fong, W. B. Bentley, Weizel, Blanc, Mr. and Mrs. Schodler, Mr. J. Motabhoy, Mrs. Savory, Messrs. V. M. Delbourgo, Seijiro Muto, Masakichi Ono, Seijiro Mozumi, Torakichi Hagiwara, Guntaro Tomita, Yeijiro Imai, Hachigoro Fukuda, Takichi Oguri, Kannosuke Okusa, and Osakichi Urano in cabin.

CARGOES.

Per British steamer *Verona*, for Hongkong viâ ports:—Waste Silk, 120 bales.

Per British steamer *Empress of China*, for Vancouver, B.C.:—

TEA.

	CANADA.	CHICAGO AND WEST.	NEW YORK AND EAST.	PACIFIC COAST.	OTHER CITIES.	TOTAL.
Hongkong ...	70	—	12	41	51	174
Colombo	—	—	—	383	—	383
Calcutta	—	—	—	20	—	20
Shanghai	—	—	1,317	—	—	1,317
Total	70	—	1,329	444	51	1,894

SILK.

	RAW YORK.	OTHER CITIES.	TOTAL.
Hongkong & Canton	95	—	95
Shanghai	722	—	722
Yokohama	548	—	548
Total	1,365	—	1,365

Per British steamer *Gaelic*, for San Francisco, viâ Honolulu:—

TEA.

	SAN FRANCISCO.	NEW YORK.	CHICAGO.	MONTREAL.	OTHER CITIES.	TOTAL.
Shanghai	516	—	—	—	—	516
Yokohama ...	168	—	—	—	—	168
Hongkong	25	—	—	—	—	25
Total	709	—	—	—	—	709

SILK.

	SAN FRANCISCO.	NEW YORK.	HARTFORD.	TOTAL.
Shanghai	—	169	—	169
Hongkong	—	470	—	470
Yokohama	3	189	—	192
Total	3	828	—	831

Per French steamer *Salazie*, for Shanghai viâ ports:—Raw Silk for Europe, 43 bales; Waste Silk for Europe, 46 bales. Treasure for Shanghai, $3,500.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

The fresh rise in Exchange has caused prices of Yarn and Grey Cloth to turn downwards but without inducing business of any moment. The reduction in quotations would have been greater but a firm tone with rise in values at home has come to the help of importers. Dyed Cottons and Fancies have given rise to a few transactions, prices being easy in favour of buyers. Woollens dull, with no fresh purchases, although deliveries of previous bargains have been on a fair scale.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirtings—8¼lb, 38½ yds. 39 inches	$2.85 to 2.85
Grey Shirtings—9lb, 38½ yds. 45 inches	2.70 to 3.10
T. Cloth—7lb, 24 yards, 32 inches	1.60 to 1.95
Indigo Shirtings—12 yards, 44 inches..	1.70 to 2.35
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches..	2.00 to 3.75
Cotton—Italians and Sattoens Black, 30 inches	PER YARD. 0.16 to 0.22
	PER PIECE.
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches ...	7.25 to 9.50
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches..	0.80 to 0.95
Turkey Reds—2.0 to 2.4lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.00 to 1.75
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.75 to 2.05
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.30 to 2.60
Turkey Reds—4.8 to 5lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.80 to 3.10

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.
Flannel	$0.30 to 0.47½
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches best	0.30 to 0.35
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Medium	0.25 to 0.27½
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Common	0.20 to 0.22½
Mousseline de Laine—Coupe, 24 yards, 32 inches	0.45 to 0.22
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches	0.35 to 0.50
Cloths—Presidents, 54 @ 56 inches ...	0.60 to 0.65
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0.40 to 0.70
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 3½, per lb	0.60 to 0.75

COTTON YARNS.

	PER PICUL.
Nos. 16/24, Ordinary	—
Nos. 16/24, Medium	$34.00 to 34.50
Nos. 16/24, Good to Best	35.00 to 36.00
Nos. 16/32, Reverse	—
Nos. 28/32, Ordinary	—
Nos. 28/32, Medium	35.50 to 36.00
Nos. 28/32, Good to Best	36.50 to 37.50
Nos. 38/32, Medium to Best	42.00 to 44.00
No. 32s, Two-fold	42.00 to 44.00
No. 42s, Two-fold	46.00 to 48.00
	PER BALE.
No. 20s, Bombay	—
No. 16s, Bombay	—

METALS.

Buyers have won the "tug" and prices for Iron are lower all round. Even this does not induce much business as dealers appear to be well supplied with former contracts. Wire Nails are well maintained; stock being small. Tin Plates in abundant supply and prices lower accordingly.

	PER PICUL.
Flat Bars, ½ inch	$3.35 to 3.40
Flat Bars, ¾ inch	3.45 to 3.50
Round and square up to ¾ inch	3.40 to 3.50
Iron Plates, assorted	3.50 to 3.60
Sheet Iron	4.50 to 4.70
Galvanized Iron sheets	8.25 to 8.75
Wire Nails, assorted	5.80 to 6.10
Tin Plates, per box	5.65 to 5.75
Pig Iron, No. 3	1.55 to 1.60

KEROSENE.

Nothing done this week, beyond the raising of prices once more by holders. Buyers have not responded, but are taking delivery of their former purchases. No fresh arrivals to note. Present stock 850,000 cases.

American	Nom. $2.35 to 2.40
Russian	Nom. 2.35 to 2.40

SUGAR.

Brown—Free arrivals and fair sales; but the latter do not equal the former, the market closing quiet and weak, with prices more or less nominal. White—Small business but no change at present in quotations.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Takao	$3.60 to 3.65
Brown Manila	4.30 to 4.40
Brown Daitong (New)	3.40 to 3.45
Brown Canton	3.50 to 3.70
White Java and Penang	6.50 to 6.60
White Refined	6.40 to 9.20

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

The stagnation of the past weeks has made holders give way in price and some little business has been done for the U.S. trade at the reduction. The continued improvement in Silver will probably cause prices of Silk to decline further.

QUOTATIONS.

Hanks—No. 1	—
Hanks—No. 2 (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 2 (Joshu)	—
Hanks—No. 2½ (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 2½ (Joshu)	—
Hanks—No. 2½ to 3	—
Hanks—No. 3	—
Hanks—No. 3½	—
Filatures—Extra 10/12 deniers	Nom. —
Filatures—Extra 13/15 deniers	Nom. —
Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers	Nom. $830 to 850
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den...	Nom. 800 to 810
Filatures—No. 1½, 10/14 deniers	Nom. 780 to 800
Filatures—No. 1½, 13/16, 14/17 den...	770 to 780
Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers	Nom. 750 to 770
Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	Nom. 750 to 760
Filatures—No. 3, 11/20 deniers	—
Re-reels—Extra	—
Re-reels—(Oshu) Best No. 1	—
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 deniers	760 to 780
Re-reels—No. 1½, 13/16, 14/17 deniers.....	740 to 750
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers.....	—
Re-reels—No. 2½, 14/18 deniers	—
Re-reels—No. 3, 11/20 deniers	—
Kakedas—Extra	—
Kakedas—No. 1	Nom. 750 to 760
Kakedas—No. 1½	Nom. 730 to 735
Kakedas—No. 2	Nom. 710 to 715
Kakedas—No. 2½	—
Kakedas—No. 3	—
Kakedas—No. 3½	—
Kakedas—No. 4	—
Oshu Sendai—No. 2½	—
Hamatsuki—No. 1, 2	—
Hamatsuki—No. 3, 4	—
Sodai—No. 2½	—

WASTE SILK.

Holders have given way to some extent and a fair trade has resulted, principally in the higher grades for Europe.

QUOTATIONS.

Pierced Cocoons—Good to Best	—
Noshi-ito—Filature, Best	$125 to 130
Noshi-ito—Filature, Good	115 to 120
Noshi-ito—Filature, Medium	105 to 110
Noshi-ito—Oshu, Good to Best	110 to 115
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Best	—
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Good	—
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Medium	60 to 75
Noshi-ito—Bushu, Good to Best	100 to 115
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Best	—
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Good	70
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Ordinary	60 to 65
Kibiso—Filature, Best selected	100 to 105
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds	85 to 90
Kibiso—Oshu, Good to Best	—
Kibiso—Shinshu, Best	—
Kibiso—Shinshu, Seconds	—
Kibiso—Joshu, Good to Fair	30 to 37½
Kibiso—Joshu, Middlings to Common	25 to 28½
Kibiso—Hachoji, Good to Fair	25 to 23
Kibiso—Hachoji, Medium to Low	22 to 20
Kibiso—Neri, Good to Common	12 to 8
Mawata—Good to Best	—

TEA.

A picul or so of New Leaf has arrived; but nothing to make a market or to give reliable evidence of quality for the ensuing season.

EXCHANGE.

Exchange has kept moving during the week, and rates have considerably improved, but the last movement is a slight decline.

Sterling—Bank T.T.	2/1½
— — Bills on demand.....	2/1½
— — 4 months' sight	2/1½
— Private 4 months' sight ...	2/2
— — 6 months' sight ...	2/2½
On Paris—Bank sight	2.68
On Lyons—Private 4 months' sight ...	2.74
On Hongkong—Bank sight.....	½% p.
— Private 10 days' sight.	⅛% d.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	71
— Private 10 days' sight.	72
On India—Bank sight	193
— Private 30 days' sight.....	195½
On America—Bank Bills on demand.	51½
— Private 30 days' sight..	52½
— — 4 months' sight	53½
On Germany—Bank sight	2.15
— Private 4 months' sight...	2.22
Bar Silver (London).....	30½

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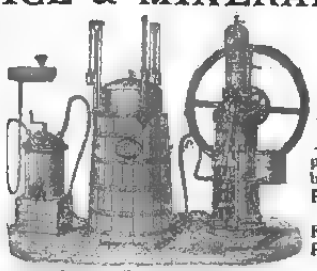
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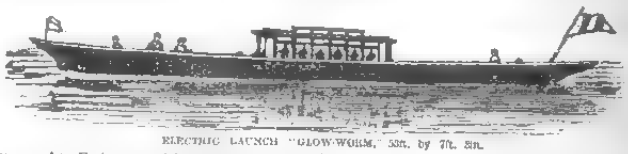
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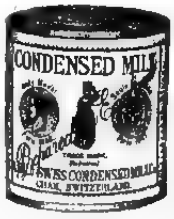
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No. 17.] REGISTERED AT THE G.P.O. AS A NEWSPAPER. YOKOHAMA, APRIL 27TH, 1895. 明治二十八年四月二十七日 VOL. XXII.

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, APRIL 27TH, 1895.

BIRTH.

At Nagasaki, on April 26th, the wife of G. MÖLLER-BERCK, H.I.G.M.'s Consul, of a Son.

DEATH.

At Tokyo, Tsukiji, No. 32, on the 24th April, at 1 p.m., WILHELM HEISE, born at Hamburg, 1846.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

IT is said that the Emperor may remain in Kyoto for three months.

BIN HON-JUN, the leader of the Tonghaks, has been sentenced to death.

THE boycott against various Chinese firms in Yokohama continues.

A GRAND war celebration is being projected by the Town Council of Yokohama.

TWO of the Portuguese recently arrested on a charge of fraud have been released.

VISCOUNT ENOMOTO, it is said, will be the new Japanese Minister to the Court of Pekin.

THE Minister of Home Affairs has prohibited the sale in Japan of Nos. 788 and 789 of the *Seko Shimpo*, a Japanese periodical published in America, these issues containing matters injurious to the public peace.

THE *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, *Yiji Shimpo*, and *Choya Shimbun* were suspended on Thursday.

THE British steamship *Glenogle* was the first vessel to discharge cargo at the Yokohama Pier.

THE new gasometer at the Yokohama gas-works was inspected by the general public on Monday.

THE Government will establish an Administrative Board in Formosa, with a *Shinnin* official at its head.

VISCOUNT KONO TOGAMA, once Minister of Home Affairs, and Vice-President of the *Kaishin-to*, is dead.

SEVENTY-FIVE houses were destroyed by fire at Yamanacho, Yamana District, Shizuoka Prefecture, on the 20th inst.

IT is probable that the construction of the proposed new docks at Uraga will be sanctioned by the authorities.

THE last concert of the Choral Society, for the present season, is arranged for the 8th of May. A Pastoral will be presented.

THE principal head-quarters will be established in the Sendo Palace, Kyoto, after the arrival of the Emperor from Hiroshima.

A THOROUGH cleansing of the streets of Yokohama will commence on the 1st prox. to prevent the outbreak of epidemic diseases.

A HOUSE was set on fire by lightning at Akazuka-mura, Kita-toshima District, Tokyo, on the 19th inst. No lives were lost.

ST. GEORGE'S BALL, held in Yokohama on Tuesday evening, was very enjoyable. The decorations were extremely beautiful.

THE projected electric railway between Tokyo and Yokohama has produced three different sets of promoters with rival schemes.

MR. NITTA YOSHISHIGE, of Ishikawa Prefecture, has petitioned the Government for permission to permanently settle in the Liaotung peninsula.

THE Prize Court at Sasebo has been enquiring into the circumstances attending upon the capture of the steamer *Yik-sang*, during the week.

A SMALL fire occurred in a godown in Yokohama Settlement on Thursday morning. It was extinguished before much damage had been done.

MR. BOISSONADE, ex-French law adviser to the Japanese Government, has been made an honorary member of the Tokyo Gakushi Kai-in.

THE Japanese silk merchants of Yokohama are petitioning against foreign firms buying silk materials and fabrics direct from the producing districts.

YUAN, the ex-Chinese Resident at Söul, is said to be with the Chinese forces at Liao-yang, and Ming, the ex-Premier of Korea, is staying in Hongkong.

THE Governor of Kanagawa entertained a large number of Yokohama residents at Nagahama on Monday, when the new quarantine station erected there was thrown open to the public.

THE negotiations for the revision of the Treaty between Japan and France have made remarkable progress, and the revised Treaty will be signed by the commissioners of both countries at no distant date. It is expected that the negotiations with France will be concluded sooner than those with Germany.

THE Spring Meeting of the Nippon Race Club will occupy Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday of next week. The promise is bright of some good racing.

MR. ITO MIYOJI and H.E. Chang are the Plenipotentiaries appointed by the Emperors of Japan and China to exchange ratifications of the Treaty of Peace at Chefoo.

DESTRUCTIVE hailstorms are reported from Ibaraki Prefecture, while a whirl-wind which passed through a part of the same prefecture on the 19th occasioned the death of several persons.

REUTER telegraphs:—In consequence of the wholesale peculation which has been discovered in connection with the building of the Siberian Railway, large parties of Don Cossacks have sailed for Vladivostock to settle that district, and to assist in the protection of the line. The Corps of Guides crossed the Panjkora River, and meeting a large force of the enemy were obliged to retreat. Colonel Battye was killed, and several further casualties have been recorded. Umra Khan has released Lieutenant Edwardes, who has now arrived at the British Camp. The Spanish troops in Cuba have routed a large force of rebels. It is reported that Germany, France, and Russia have agreed to take joint action to protect their interests in the East. A Chinese loan of three millions sterling has been concluded by a German syndicate. *The Times*, in a leading article, states that Her Majesty's Government has acted wisely in refusing to join the other Powers in putting pressure upon Japan in regard to that country's treaty of peace with China, and that the proposed naval demonstration in the East is impolitic in view of the conditions of peace not in any way directly menacing British interests.

BUSINESS in the Import trade continues to be influenced by the silver market and the consequent condition of Exchange, the rates for which have fluctuated during the week, and although higher than for some time past have not acquired the requisite stability to enable buyers to enter the market with confidence. Holders are strong with a rise in Manchester, especially in regard to Yarns and Shirtings, and although buyers want stock they hesitate to come up to the scratch, and quotations can not be altered for the want of transactions to make rates. There is nothing doing in Metals, and no sales are reported in Kerosene, all brands of Oil being firmly held. The Sugar market is weak, with a downward inclination in the value of China and Manila sorts. A cargo of 50,000 piculs Takao has come to hand, but prices for this sort are nominal. Some enquiries are made for Whites at late rates. There is no business to report in Silk, though holders are current; and very little has been done in Waste, though late deals have reduced the one time heavy stock to about 10,000 piculs. The Tea trade has been opened by small quantities of new leaf, and the *City of Peking*, which sailed to-day, took the first shipments. These, however, are not of much account, either in regard to quality or quantity, and teamen are not well pleased with the "cup" of what has so far been brought to market, though the parcels of leaf that have been sent to Yokohama have been eagerly bought up at high figures when compared with the opening rates of last year. Rates of Exchange have fluctuated, though they are about the same as those of a week ago. The latest movement is a rise on this morning, with rates closing firm.

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THE SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS DURING THE WEEK.

Peace being now presumably restored, the press is busily discussing various themes incidental to the termination of the war. One of them is the policy that ought to be pursued by the Imperial Government toward the new dominion. The *Jiji* suggests that the Government should adopt a most tolerant system of administration and should refrain from any act of undue interference. This recommendation has special reference to Manchuria, where, owing to a rigorous climate and many other physical disadvantages, the population is comparatively small. What is primarily wanted there is security of life and property, a benefit never enjoyed by the people while they were under the corrupt administration of China. If it became noised abroad that in the portion of Manchuria subject to Japanese dominion people enjoy perfect security of property and are blessed with a generous form of government, then the natives from other parts of Manchuria will flock to the place, thereby augumenting its prosperity and importance. Such a state of affairs would induce Japanese also to settle there. Formosa, being a district far better endowed by nature, will readily attract immigrants without any such special inducements. The *Kokkai* and the *Kokumin* have something to say on the same subject. The latter contends that the administration should be so conducted as to Japonicise the new dominion, and that, for the purpose of making the natives openly acknowledge themselves Japanese subjects, they should be made to cut off their queues, use western or Japanese clothes on occasions of ceremony, forbidden to follow the unnatural custom of cramping women's feet, and not allowed the use of opium. The *Kokkai* is more tolerant. It confines its recommendation to the prohibition of the use of opium, being persuaded that other reforms will be accomplished gradually. In this respect its opinion is endorsd by no less an authority than Mr. Otori, ex-Minister to China, who, in a lecture delivered a few days ago on the subject of the new dominion, dwelt on the importance of not interfering with the manners and customs of the Chinese, and urged that Japan should confine herself to devising some measure for stopping the baneful habit of opium smoking. The *Asahi* suggests that to inculcate Japanese ideas and introduce Japanese habits among the people in the new dominion, the best and simplest way would be to induce some *shisoku* to settle there.

* * *

The Imperial Rescript proclaimed a few days ago is commented upon by the vernacular press in terms of the deep respect that always characterizes the nation's attitude where anything connected with the Sovereign is in question.

* * *

The *Mainichi* and the *Asahi* call the attention of the Government and of the public to the necessity of exercising the greatest possible care in the selection of Japanese representatives to the various Treaty States. Our contemporary's reason is that Japan has become a Power not only in the East but also in the world. In short, she should hold herself prepared hereafter to take part in the affairs of the world and to make her voice heard in the arrangement of any important affair relating to the maintenance of general peace. A "carpet Minister" will not do in this future. The *Asahi* lays special stress on the importance of selecting the Japanese Representative to China. The latter country was the indirect cause of Japan's sudden rise into prominence, and the future greatness of the Empire depends also on its relations with China. Hence, it is vitally necessary for Japan to watch with keen eyes everything occurring in the wide domain of her neighbour. Other Powers will also observe narrowly what course Japan follows hereafter toward China, and will modify their Eastern policy accordingly. Decidedly, Japan's diplomatists will find their best and most important opportunity of manifesting ability and adroitness in dealing with China. In this context, we may note that rumour indicates Admiral Viscount Enomoto, Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce, as the most probable candidate for the position. If so, more or less changes in the Cabinet will be unavoidable.

* * *

On no previous occasion, writes the *Nippon*, in the whole annals of the Empire were such distinguished achievements accomplished both at home and abroad as in the reign of the present Emperor. Refinement and military prestige, usually so incongruous, have grown up side by side to an unprecedented extent under the wise and benevolent rule of the Sovereign, and the inauguration of a constitutional system of Government, in other countries counted detrimental to the attainment of military prestige, has proved itself, in the case of Japan, a factor in the achievement of splendid success. In olden times, when the country was under the sway of the Imperial Court, the nation and the army were synonymous, and on each man devolved the dual function of pursuing peaceful avocations in time of tranquillity and of fighting in time of war. This system has been revived by the restoration of the Imperial régime, though not in the same shape as it possessed in ancient days. But as every gain is invariably attended by a loss, so refinement is frequently liable to be neglected in the sequel of splendid military achievements. It is to avert such an evil that the Imperial Rescript specially warns the people against any one-sided development of either refinement or military powers. Nothing can be more apposite than the concluding portion of the Rescript, where it is specially enjoined that after the exchange of ratifications of the Treaty of Peace, no endeavours should be spared to develop more than ever relations of neighbourly good-will with China. The words show most characteristically that the Japanese are a "nation of gentlemen."

* * *

The present war is considered by several metropolitan papers to be an excellent occasion for introducing changes not only in the Government but also in political parties. The *Kokumin* says that the war has acted as a crucible for fusing into one body all the various political organizations, and that they will emerge in new shapes. The political world, formerly divided into two distinct bodies by purely party lines, will now be divided on lines of principle. The new element of firmness in the Government will coalesce with the element of the same nature in the Opposition; while the old element of moderation will similarly coalesce with its like.

* * *

The *Nippon*, speaking allegorically, says that with the expansion of the Imperial dominion corresponding changes should be introduced in the system of administration. The Manchus conduct their administrative policy on the same petty scale and mould it on the same lines as when they were a small tribe in Manchuria. That is the reason why centralization of power is utterly wanting in China, the localities being independent units. The same thing would overtake Japan if, while her dominion has been artificially expanded all of a sudden, she resolved to leave all changes of her administrative mechanism to the natural course of events.

* * *

The most important journalistic discussion in the latter part of this week has been the rumours about combined foreign intervention. The subject has involved an unprecedented catastrophe among the metropolitan papers, the *Nichi Nichi*, the *Jiji*, the *Choya*, and the *Mezamashi* having all been suspended on the 25th instant. The offence committed by these papers in the eyes of the Press Censors, seems to have chiefly been the publication of telegrams from London about alleged combination on the part of Russia, Germany, and France, with a view to preventing the annexation of Chinese territory by Japan, and also about the movements of the Russian Squadron in Japanese waters. Other papers took warning by the misfortune of their contemporaries, and their issues of the following day were disfigured by spaces entirely blotted out. It is very easy to infer, however, from what the vernacular press has already written on the subject of foreign interference, the attitude that it takes toward it. It is an attitude of defiance. The *Nichi Nichi*, indeed, devoted its leading columns to the discussion of the question on the day immediately preceding its suspension. It strongly suspected the authenticity of the rumour about a combination of three European Powers for the purpose of re-casting the terms of peace, its incredulity being based on the ground that the Powers in question have no just cause to object, seeing that the terms do not in the least affect their several interests. Granting, however, for the sake of argument, that these Powers have entered into an alliance and have determined to do violence to the rights and advantages that Japan should enjoy in virtue of her victory, what should Japan do in that case? She should simply be guided to the end by her own convictions. Where rectitude is, thither the sympathy and good-will of man of sincerity and benevolence will be directed; *per contra*, whenever a country proves itself unprincipled enough to unjustly place obstacles in Japan's path, other countries of strict probity and chivalrous sentiment will come forward to uphold the cause of justice and uprightness. Of course, in pursuing to the end the path indicated by her own convictions, Japan does not count upon any help from abroad. The *Nichi Nichi* declares that its remarks are actuated by the conviction that the right is bound to win the day at the last, and that any rash attempt made to interfere with it, is doomed to failure.

* * *

The *Choya* and the *Niroku* have written in more violent terms, declaring that should Russia or any other country prove herself so selfish as to object to the terms of the Treaty, then such country should be chastised even as China was chastised. In short, these papers think that a second China is looming on the horizon in connection with the Korean problem, and that Japan must deal with her as she dealt with her first opponent, holding firmly by the resolution of not submitting to any arbitrary and unjust measure even if the whole country be turned into a desert.

* * *

We may note here that the exchanges, so sensitive to any abnormal incident, have been thrown into a state of extreme confusion by the rumours of foreign interference. On the 25th instant, the quotations for stocks and shares showed an extraordinary fall. A similar tendency, though not to so great an extent, prevailed on the following day.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

HOW THE NEWS WAS RECEIVED.

The announcement of the successful conclusion of the Peace Conference was received in Tokyo with outspoken gratification, very apparent though subdued. That China would agree to Japan's ultimatum had been foreshadowed by the suspension of the *Nippon* and *Kokumin*, for these papers in their leading articles on Sunday had been very emphatic in the expression of their views as to the hesitation of the Chinese Plenipotentiaries. On Monday, the 15th, there was still considerable doubt as to the successful issue of the Conference; but this was speedily dispelled on Tuesday afternoon when rumours began to circulate in the city that the Viceroy Li had yielded in every point and that the war was practically at an end. A few hours later came the confirmation of the great news, and the undisguised joy of the people at once showed itself in a pretty general display of bunting: not indeed the banners that erst bore triumphant legends of the prowess of Army and Navy, but simply the national flag, or, still oftener, the Imperial Standard. The 16th and 17th instants marked, as we have already noted, the suspension of more than half-a-dozen leading journals, and particularly the closing of the doors of the Foreign and Domestic News Agency, believed to be responsible for the dissemination of many

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politic opinions. The more prudent journals had their leading articles subjected to rigid censorship before venturing upon publication, in consequence of which thoughtful step several came out on Wednesday and Thursday with two or more blank or blurred columns. But whatever may have been the position taken by the press, the last two or three days have amply shown that the people are deeply and sincerely grateful for the conclusion of peace. One of the wealthiest merchants in the city, in speaking with a representative of the *Japan Mail*, remarked that it was only the hot-headed politicians who dared to feel or express dissatisfaction; the people else were to a unit greatly delighted. Several metropolitan schools of note observed Thursday, the 18th, as a holiday, while in others the students joined in singing the national anthem with unusual fervour and depth of feeling. So the spirit of thankfulness has been, with the sole exception of the *coterie* of chronic malcontents, everywhere apparent. And surely it is but right and just that it should be so.

JOURNALISTIC XYLOGRAPHY.

It is with pleasure that we note a recent decided improvement in the woodcuts appearing in the columns of the metropolitan daily press. This we opine, is partly due to the adoption of a more decidedly foreign style by the draughtsmen employed. As a general rule the rough scenes from the war that have so frequently been published during the last few months, have left everything to be desired; it required a strong and unusually healthy imagination, as a rule, to find out what the "artist" was really aiming at; to discriminate, for instance, between a cloud and a mass of fleeing Chinese, or a hill-top and serried ranks of the Japanese troops. Most amazing have, in particular, been the battle sketches, evidently the work of advanced impressionists. The general outlines might in most cases have been those of almost anything—from a mastodon in an access of insanity to a wagon-load of dismantled barrels. But quite latterly there has been a noticeable change for the better. In a recent issue of the *Yorozu Choho*, for example, there was a sketch of no small artistic merit; no attempt at shading, but none the less life-like and impressive. Equally noteworthy has been the progress made in this direction by the *Hochi Shimbun*, the new management of which journal seem determined to leave nothing undone that may enhance the popularity of their paper. The *Hochi* on several recent occasions presented its readers with very picturesque collotypes, taken from evidently excellent photographs. It is becoming by-the-bye a recognised institution for any journal that hopes for an increasing patronage to give its readers every now and then xylographs or lithographs of war-scenes. Some of these have been specimens of remarkably good workmanship, and very creditable to the artist. On the other hand, there are papers, such as the *Yamato* for example, that stick to the old-style xylography, where great attention is paid to the hair and clothing of the figures while perspective is left altogether out of reckoning. Saikiku-sanjin, otherwise Mr. Jono Dempei, always has his novelettes illustrated in this, to critical foreign eyes, anything but pleasing style. But as his muse runs in the direction of the adventures of anything rather than strictly moral beauty, the fault is less apparent. Of course it is of prime importance that the heroine's xylographic effigy should be clad in gorgeous raiment and have a *bin* or chignon of faultless coiffure.

JAPANESE GAME-COCKS.

The *Yomiuri* states, we know not on what authority, that a comparatively large number of Japanese fowls have of late been shipped to America, to what part is not particularized. Japanese long-tailed fowls and bantams have long been favourites with fanciers not only in the United States but also in Europe. But this is the first time that we have heard of fowls being exported for sporting purposes. The kind sent is that popularly known as *shamo*, said by some to be a corruption of *Shamuro*, the Japanese name for Siam, whence these long-legged and rather ungainly birds are believed to have come originally. This is possible, for *Gallus bankiva*, the prototype of all varieties of the domestic fowls, is found wild in Cambodia, Burmah, and particularly Siam. In the Himalayan district the jungle-fowl is its nearest congener, in fact the species is almost if not quite identical. The *shamo* of Japan are very close relatives of the last-mentioned variety or species, possessing all the distinguishing characteristics of the wild bird. Domestication has, however, tamed the bird's spirit. We cannot imagine that the exported *shamo* will be utilised at once as game; they are probably, always premising the authenticity of the *Yomiuri's* information, intended for cross-breeding, and as they are very muscular and thick-boned birds it is quite probable that an excellent hybrid may be obtained. What the Japanese *shamo* wants in particular is more spirit and quicker action.

CHINESE SOLDIERS IN A NEW RÔLE.

On account of the rapid increase in the number of cholera cases on Panghu Island, says a vernacular contemporary, the Japanese coolies proved insufficient to perform the work that fell to their share. To make good this deficiency native bearers were hired, but soon threw up their engagement owing to their inherent dread of the epidemic as well as perhaps on account of the hard work they were required to perform. Upon this, the army officers were struck with a brilliant idea: they would hire the Chinese soldiers who, after having surrendered to the Japanese, still lingered on the island. When the fort on the isthmus was taken no less than five hundred Chinese relinquished their arms. They were all set at liberty soon after and provided with three or four days' rations; but with proverbial Asiatic improvidence they soon ate up what had been given them. Some came to the very verge of starvation, and were always prowling about the Japanese camp-kitchens in hopes of bounty. These starveling folk the officers resolved to hire, offering them an attractive wage for their services. The proposal was promptly and joyfully accepted, and over fifty ex-braves entered the service of the Japanese army as carriers, bearers, and general utility men. They shaved or cut off their cues the better to work. It is a novel episode altogether.

THE TRIALS OF WAR CORRESPONDENTS.

Writing to the *Yorozu Choho*, a war-correspondent now in Manchuria, makes the following plaint:—Ever since the outbreak of the war, the distinguishing badge of newspaper correspondents has been a red ribbon worn on the shoulder. Quite recently this has been altered, and we are now expected to wear a strip of red cloth, six or seven inches in length. The stock of red ribbon which I had brought with me has thus become useless, and so the other day I had to beg a gendarme for his cast-off trousers. Out of this humble material I got a strip of dingy red cloth sufficient for a make-shift badge; and this I sewed with infinite trouble on the upper part of the right sleeve of my scarcely less dingy overcoat. Rigged out in this fashion, I bore a general resemblance to a coolie-headman, though the colour and shape of the badge were different. Still, the similarity was so great that on the way from Kaijo to Kogasai I was frequently mistaken for a coolie, and often arrogantly called to by some trooper "Here, you coolie-fellow!" (*Oi, nimpu!*). On arriving at Kogasai, I found that my brethren of the pen had met with similar experiences and had time and again been in even more painful situations. A coolie is one thing and a war correspondent another, and we do not want to be confounded with other people.

EPIGRAMMATIC DEFINITIONS.

Inspired probably by similar contests in the London journals, an instructor of English in a well-known school has recently been offering prizes to those of his pupils able to produce the best and wittiest definitions of various words. The pupils are all of an advanced grade, and some of them quite fluent English conversationalists, so that the epigrams are occasionally couched in surprisingly excellent language. We select a few from the list forwarded us:—

HOME.

1. Home is a spiritual bread, without which no one can ever be healthy.
2. Home is a little paradise in this existence, which grapples the roots of a man's soul and affects all his associations.
3. Home is the name given to the place in which one first sees the light of day.

HEALTH.

1. Health is the greatest enemy of poverty and ignorance.
2. Health is the fruitful root whence grow all human pleasures.
3. Health is the harmonious working of the functions of the spiritual and physical body; and it is the source of a happy life.

A CYNIC.

1. A cynic is one habited in surliness.
2. A cynic is a wolf in the shape of a human being.
3. A cynic is one who pleases nobody, and whom nobody pleases.

A CRYING BABY.

1. A case of *chi-an ôgai* (disturbing the public tranquillity).
2. A jarring discord.
3. A broken wind-instrument that has to be beaten in order to bring into proper shape again.

THE SUN.

1. A giant lamp which is never extinguished.
2. Japan's immediate ancestress.

FIELD-MARSHAL YAMAGATA.

A gentleman recently returned from Hiroshima reports that Field-Marshal Count Yamagata has no waday's so large a foreign mail to get through that the services of nearly half a dozen translators are daily necessary. The number of foreign letters received averages seventy per diem. Most of these come from Great Britain and the United States, but France and Germany are also responsible for a large percentage. These missives are, almost without exception, penned by admirers in Europe and America; they beg for his autograph, or often enclose a photograph of the Field-Marshal, requesting him to write his name on the back and then return it to the sender. It is said that the Count invariably has the courtesy to accede to these requests; he has moreover a translation of each letter read to him, and dictates replies when necessary. One ardent admirer sent the Field-Marshal a present with which the latter was greatly pleased. It was a medal worn by the first Napoleon in his first campaign, and was thus a prized heirloom of the giver. Gifts of various kinds have been sent from many places; always accompanied with some pretty expression of the sender's admiration. Field-Marshal Count Yamagata deserves this meed of praise, for it was the stimulus of his presence and his able tactics that won the Japanese their first victories in the war and inflicted on the Chinese a series of defeats from which they never recovered.

THE COMMISSARIAT LINE OF THE SECOND ARMY.

The *Kokumin's* correspondent writes as follows from Kaiping, under date of the 17th ult., on the operations of the commissariat of the Second Army. When a detachment of the Second Army marched against Kaiping in the early part of the year under Major-General Nogi—now a Lieut.-General and Commander of the Second (Sendai) Division—Commissariat stations were established one after another as the column advanced, till, at last, after the capture of Kaiping, there were 17 of these stations, commencing at Talien and terminating at Kaiping, covering a distance of about 135 miles. Subsequently, when the main body of the Second Army joined the advanced detachment and marched farther north toward Taipingshan, Yingkow, and Tienchwang-tai, the Commissariat line was extended and three more stations were established, bringing the total number up to 20, covering about 168 miles. As soon as provisions, ammunition, and so forth, are discharged at Talien, they are sent forward from one station to another, whatever the weather may be. It takes 20 days for them to reach Liaoyemiao, the northern terminus of the line. The transportation of necessaries was a question that perplexed the authorities greatly at first, for the condition of the road is so bad that

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the waggons sent over from Japan were found entirely unsuitable, while, if human shoulders alone were depended upon, an immense number of men would have had to be employed. Through the exertions of the Administration Office, at Chinchow, 200 Chinese waggons were at last requisitioned. The Chinese at first doubted the sincerity of the Japanese troops, but as soon as they were convinced of their punctiliousness and strict discipline, they began to supply vehicles. At present, therefore, the transportation of provisions, ammunition, and so forth, is done entirely by the durable Chinese waggons. They are drawn by oxen, horses, or donkeys, each one generally having 4 oxen and horses south of Fuchow, and 3 north of it. Two drivers, who take turns to work, are attached to each vehicle. The load carried by one waggon is usually 220 lbs. The Chinese are very skilful drivers and the vehicles move easily up-hill and down-hill. The advantages accruing from the use of these waggons is indeed great. Supposing that coolies were used instead, 20 to 25 would be required to transport one waggon-load, as each man could only carry one bale of rice containing 2 *to*. At that rate, there would have to be at least 2,000 coolies at each Commissariat station. That would mean a total of about 40,000 coolies for the line of stations mentioned above. Even if the coolies were supplied with hand-carts, about 20,000 men would be required. Then again, there would be the food of the coolies to transport, and superintending officers would be needed to keep the men in order. The charge for one Chinese waggon varies from 5 *yen* to 1.40 *yen*, according to the locality. These vehicles are also found very useful for carrying wounded soldiers. The waggons, at the time ■ which the correspondent wrote, began to move at 6 or 7 in the morning, and, after discharging their loads at the next station, they returned to their starting-point, carrying back from 3 to 5 patients. There is no proper road from Chinchow to Kaiping admitting of the passage of such waggons, so that they were generally driven through farms. Two grooves have been gradually formed through the wide plain, and along them more than one hundred waggons were driven backwards and forwards every day.

A MEMORIAL TO THE EMPEROR OF CHINA.

SEVERAL vernacular papers report that the Chinese communities in Yokohama and other Japanese ports, are exceedingly pleased with the successful termination of the Peace Conference. The *Miyako* adds to this that the leading Chinese merchants are debating the presentation of an address to their Emperor, begging him to reward the Viceroy Li for his exertions in behalf of peace, and stating that, in their opinion, the aged statesman has obtained the best possible terms under the circumstances. As to the wording of the address there are a variety of opinions, and no one has as yet been chosen to draw up the document. It will probably be given in charge of a Special Committee elected for this purposes.

* * *

On the other hand, the *Yomiuri* relates that the Chinese prisoners are anything rather than elated at the prospect of a speedy return to their native country. The majority of them have been better and more regularly fed than ever in their lives before, and they do not like to relinquish the certainty of plentiful food and comfortable quarters for the *res angusta domi* to which they have hitherto been accustomed, not to speak of the disgrace that will attach to them as captives of the enemy. The officers in particular view the prospect of return with well-grounded apprehensions; cashiering is the least punishment they are said to expect, despite sub-clause five of the Treaty.

A LETTER FROM THE FRONT.

WRITING from Pitzuwo, under date of March 25th, a sergeant in the First Regiment of the Imperial Guards addresses his whilom English teacher in the capital as follows:—"It was at four in the afternoon of March 8th that we sailed from Ujina to Talien Bay. We had remained inactive, after the call to arms, for fully six months in Tokyo; so on reaching Hiroshima we were all anxious to know how long we should have to stay there. When and where should we, the First Regiment of the Imperial Body Guard, supposed at least to be the bravest of the Army of Japan, plant our victorious flag? Our bodies were indeed some days at Hiroshima, but our spirits were always travelling over the battlefields of China. This is true not only of myself; every soldier in the Regiment talked and felt thus. Fortunately our patience did not have to get exhausted in Hiroshima. On the 8th we left Head-quarters, and on the 12th reached Talien Bay, just at daybreak. We landed in good order at eight o'clock in the morning. The next day we began our inland journey and after many hardships reached this place, where we still are. It is very cold here. The thermometer often falls lower than 25°. We are quartered in miserable Chinese houses, very unclean, the floors of which are made of native earth. But underneath this earthen floor there is a place to burn wood, or hay, or stubble, and so it is not so unbearably cold as one might suppose. When are we to march on to Shanhaikwan or Taku? Our feet are impatient to take the route. While we have been dreaming of these scenes, the news comes that the Peace Conference may end successfully and that we shall probably set out for home again in a few months. There is no news of interest here to report. Life is very dull. This is a dark world. We all hope that our country may obtain a brilliant peace, but we should so like to have the enjoyment of taking the Chinese capital before the war is entirely over. With such men as ours it would be an easy task."

DEATH OF A RUSSIAN SUBJECT.

INFORMATION was received by the police at 5.45 p.m. on Saturday from William Nelson, a Norwegian, the keeper of ■ restaurant and boarding house at No. 134, that one of his boarders, a Russian subject named Salkoloff, had died suddenly during the afternoon. On proceeding to the house, Inspector Kawada and a constable saw the man, who had every appearance of being dead, lying on the bed with a cigarette between his fingers. The deceased first went to the restaurant on Monday the 14th inst., since when he has been residing there. On Friday he took tiffin as usual at 12 o'clock, and at one p.m. retired to his room to have a nap. As he did not appear with evening, one of the boarders named G. H. Marton, thinking the circumstances somewhat strange went into Solkoleff's room, where he found the man dead. The police immediately set a guard over the corpse, while information was conveyed to the Russian Consul. On Saturday morning the Russian Consul, accompanied by Public Procurator Ando, Inspector Kawada, and a doctor from the Russian man-of-war *Admiral Korniloff*, inspected the body, when it was determined to hold a *post mortem* examination. This was done at Messrs. Stiboit & Co.'s by Doctors Eldridge and Rokkaku, and the Russian naval surgeon; and they ascertained that the deceased had died from heart disease.

COUNT OKUMA ON THE FINANCIAL QUESTION OF THE DAY.

IF all the demands made upon the indemnity were to be computed, remarked Count Okuma to a visitor a few days ago, a total of over one thousand million *yen* would be needed. As the indemnity is a fund of extraordinary character, the Count does not like the idea of appropriating it for ordinary expenditures. The amount required for the defences of the newly-acquired territory, for the building of ships, and so forth, is enormous, but these items ought to be defrayed out of the ordinary revenue. The Count then proceeded to say how, in his opinion, the indemnity of 300 million *yen* should be disposed of. One hundred million *yen* ought to be kept in the General Treasury as a Contingency Fund, in the form of foreign bonds, convertible at any time into specie. Thirty million *yen* should be appropriated for refunding the loan accommodated by the Bank of Japan. Then, a certain sum should be set aside as a fund for the purpose of holding a World's Fair in Tokyo four or five years hence, so as to show hospitality to the leading politicians, business men, and so forth, of the world, and to develop the various domestic industrial enterprises. The prestige of the country would be thus greatly augmented. The Imperial University and other important institutions should be endowed so as to make them permanent memorials of the glorious victories achieved by Japan. The total amount of specie defrayed by the country on account of the war does not exceed 30 million *yen*, so that if, in six years, 300 million *yen* were to be poured into the market in the form of specie, a rise in the price of commodities and a general derangement of the market would result. The loan of 80 million *yen* floated for the War Fund should, therefore, be left untouched, or be redeemed gradually. The Surplus of Revenue appropriated for War Expenditures should also be left ■ it is. The remainder of the indemnity should be distributed over the realm to form the basis of a permanent fund in each *shi*, town, or village. For although the present brilliant success is attributable to the virtue of the Emperor and the valour of the Army and Navy, yet the people themselves must also be considered to have worked for the victory. It is therefore right that a certain amount of money should be distributed in each locality as a common fund, to reward the services rendered by the people ■ the State and to encourage further faithfulness and loyalty on their part.

THE RUSSIAN FLEET.

WE (*Kobe Chronicle*) understand that Kobe will henceforth be the head-quarters of the Russian fleet so far as Japan is concerned. Nagasaki has previously served the Russian fleet for this purpose, but the Japanese authorities complained that the harbour was too small, and that the men-of-war lying there took up so much room as to greatly incommode the merchant shipping. We understand that communication was made to the Russian Minister to this effect, and as the result of a personal visit paid by him to Nagasaki, it was arranged that the head-quarters of the Russian fleet should be established at Kobe. We believe that all the commanders of foreign fleets in the East have now agreed to the arrangement suggested by the Japanese authorities, by which only two men-of-war of each nation are to lie at anchor in Nagasaki ■ one time.

JOMI YEISUKE.

THE *Yomiuri* gives an interesting biography of Jomi Yeisuke, a celebrated coppersmith and glyptic artist of Kyoto, showing how he succeeded, by dint of perseverance and self-denial, in reaching the position that he now occupies among the artists of Japan. Jomi Yeisuke was born in Kyoto on the 18th of February, 1839, and was the second son of a physician of that city. His father was on friendly terms with Kanaya Gorosaburo, the eighth descendant of the Kanaya family, famous for works in copper. Gorosaburo had no son, and, struck with the uncommon ability of the doctor's second son, asked his friend repeatedly to allow him to adopt Yeisuke as his heir. The offer was, however, declined for some time. One day the doctor asked Yeisuke whether he would care to succeed the house of Kanaya and win fame as a coppersmith and glyptic artist. He told him, at the same time, that although affluent to all outward appearances, Kanaya was really as much as 3,500 *ryo* in debt. The little lad replied that he was willing to become Kanaya's heir and to work hard in his line of business. The debt would, instead of damping his energy, serve ■ a stimulus. Yeisuke was, therefore, adopted by Kanaya. To relieve the family from its pecuniary embarrassments and to heighten its fame was the object constantly kept in view by Yeisuke. He began to apply himself zealously to the work of the atelier, handling the hammer and chisel and making moulds as if he were a common appren-

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tice. His adopted parents thought, however, that he was lowering himself in the eyes of the workmen, and that all that was expected of the head of such a family as the Kanaya was simply to superintend the work-shop, to acquaint himself with the prevailing taste of the time, and to be sharp in business transactions. Yeisuke was, therefore, strictly forbidden by his parents to mix with the apprentices. He continued to work secretly, choosing the time when he could go to the house of his own father, or when the family was asleep and he was in his sleeping apartment. Gorosaburo's wife did not like Yeisuke, and told her husband one day that as a certain clerk employed in the house was a relative of one of its many creditors, he should take Yeisuke's place as heir of the family in order to propitiate the creditor. Gorosaburo consented, and asked Yeisuke to give up his position and to become the guardian of his substitute. Yeisuke protested against this unreasonable arrangement and was supported by others, but the master was so much under the sway of his wife that he turned a deaf ear to all remonstrances and Yeisuke was obliged to leave the family. He took up his abode with a man that had acted as go-between when he first went to live with Gorosaburo, and stayed for some time under his roof. At last, however, Yeisuke grew weary of the listless life he was leading and resolved to set up a small shop in Kyoto and to resume the work to which he had devoted himself with such energy while in Gorosaburo's house. Being very scrupulous, he thought it necessary to obtain Kanaya's permission before opening a shop. The permission having been given, Jomi began life again as a regular coppersmith and glyptic artist with a capital of only 100 *ryo*. He found it very hard to get on, at first, for in those days reputation was the great thing. Any work in copper bearing the time-honoured mark of Kanaya was sure to fetch a high price, while other specimens failed to attract public attention even though their make might be superior. Jomi continued, however, to work patiently and diligently, confident that if he went on turning out wares of superior quality public notice would sooner or later be directed toward him. His hope was at last fulfilled, and the name of Jomi Yeisuke came to be so much talked of that even the attention of Gorosaburo was attracted. He did not, however, think much of his ex-heir's talent till he saw one of his works. When he had done so, he sincerely repented of having so thoughtlessly disinherited his adopted son, and was still more affected when he heard of many deeds on Yeisuke's part showing that he still retained his interest in the affairs of Kanaya. Gorosaburo was, moreover, very much disappointed in his new heir, who proved himself to be a dissolute fellow and so indifferent to the family's reputation that Kanaya was at last obliged to to send him away. With hearty apologies to Yeisuke for his treatment of him, Gorosaburo asked him to return to his house. This was declined both by Yeisuke and his father, but the old intimacy between the two families was renewed and Yeisuke's father even acted as go-between for another son to be adopted by the Kanaya family. The social revolution incidental to the Restoration was a critical time for Japanese art. Everything old was rejected and despised, and no new things of real worth were produced to take their place. But Jomi was not a man to flinch before any difficulty. He resolved to devise new designs suited to the changed taste and also to the wishes of foreigners. At last, after years of trouble, he succeeded in producing several kinds of decorative articles of new patterns, and sent them abroad by way of trial. They were all favourably received and a new epoch of Japanese art was commenced. Jomi's merit was recognized by the Court, and last month the Board of Decorations awarded him a blue-ribbon medal in recognition of his valuable services in the development of the glyptic art of Japan. A few of Jomi's numerous new designs are given by the *Yomiuri*, and are as follow:—The production of various foreign metal utensils in the shape of lotus leaves, and so forth. An imitation of smoked bamboo in copper, so realistic that the public was at first deceived, and also utensils in imitation of that particular bamboo in brass, *shakudo* and other metals. By compounding *shibuichi*, *shakudo*, and other metals, he invented a method of showing perspective and light and shade, and chiselled landscapes, flowers, and birds after that system. This is admirably done. Jomi's influence is not confined to his sphere alone. When he devises a new design, art artizans of porcelain, *cloisonné* wares, and so forth are eager to avail themselves of it. His fame is now widely known, and a tourist is said to have told him some time ago that, everywhere on his travels, he had seen "copper baskets" designed and made by the great master of Japanese glyptic art.

A RISE IN VALUE.

It is noteworthy that the three plants which command the highest prices in Japan are one and all prized for the beauty of their leaves rather than for the shape or perfume of their flowers. These are the *ran*, a generic term which includes many species of orchids, the *omoto*, or ground pine (*Lycopodium*), and the *hi-no-tsukasa*, with the botanical nomenclature of which we are unacquainted. The leaves, however, resemble those of the jasmine, with the exception of a tiny spike at the end, while the flower is not unlike a *rosacea*. The plant never attains any great size, being a singularly slow grower. The name means literally "sun-chief," or construing *hi* as *Nippon*, we should have "Leader (Chief) of Japan." It is probably for this reason that the *hi-no-tsukasa* has latterly commanded such enormous prices. At ordinary times a plant with three leaves costs something less than two *yen*, the usual charge being about fifty *sen* per leaf. At present such a plant easily commands sixty-five *yen*; while somewhat larger specimens have recently changed hands at one hundred and fifty *yen* or over. This is a big figure for a small flower, though the Dutch did once pay thousands of guelders for a single tulip-bulb.

THE PROPOSED URAGA DOCKS.

It is stated, in the *Boyeki*, that although the War Department first opposed the granting of permission to construct docks at Uraga, as the sites chosen were between the Uraga forts and the gunnery training institution, the Government lately intimated to the applicants that permission would be given under certain conditions. It will be remembered that two docks were projected. One is advocated by Messrs. Tsukawara Shuzo and Arai Ikunosuke, and the site selected is in the harbour of Uraga, the dimensions of the dock being 360 ft. in length, 60 ft. in breadth, and 27 ft. in depth. Another dock is promoted by Messrs. Shibusawa Yeiichi, and Umeura Seiichi, and Marquis Saionji. The latter is to be constructed at Tateura, and the dimensions are 407 ft. in length, 100 ft. in breadth, and and 30 ft. in depth. The Authorities are likely to permit the construction of both docks.

THE LOSS OF THE "NORA."

A very unfortunate accident resulting in the total loss of a fine steamer and the blocking up of the *Feima* Channel, occurred at Woosung on Thursday, the 11th inst. As the Swedish steamer *Nora*, with nearly 2,000 tons of coal on board besides general cargo, was coming in from Nagasaki she struck on the wreck of the *Feima* and filled and sank. It seems that she was coming in on the flood tide about 2.30 p.m., when she met the *Esang* outward bound, and in endeavouring to keep close inshore to give the *Esang* all the room possible, she just touched the mud a little below the *Feima*. She was easily got off, but in swinging across the channel the tide caught her and drifted her down on the *Feima*, where she remained. Though everything possible was done to get her off, she could not be stirred, and shortly after she began to fill. By 6 o'clock the water had gained such headway that her decks were nearly awash, and seeing that nothing could be done for her, the Captain, officers, and crew, taking their personal effects with them, abandoned the vessel. Only the top of her funnel and her masts are now showing above the water, and as she is lying right across the stream, the *Feima* Channel is completely blocked. At the time of the accident, Mr. C. Vincent was the pilot in charge. It was the vessel's first trip to Shanghai, where she was consigned to Messrs. Reuter, Brocklemann & Co. She was built in Wallsend in 1882. The Captain is staying with Mr. Vincent, and the crew are accommodated at the Sailors' Home. —*China Gazette*.

A JAPANESE OFFICERS' EXPERIENCE IN GERMANY.

The *Yomiuri Shimbun* gives a couple of gossipy columns to the experiences of a Captain of the Japanese Army, quite recently returned from Germany. Shortly before the departure of the officer, the Emperor of Germany one day visited the Military Academy, where the Captain was enrolled as a student. The whole corps of instructors as well as a large number of prominent officers were present. H.M. the Emperor then made a short speech, in the course of which these words occurred: "It is our hope that this Our Empire will, in future, become more and more friendly with Japan," etc. Turning towards the Japanese Captain, the assembled officers cried "*Japan lebe hoch!* Nippon Banzai! Captain (—) banzai!" They then crowded about him and while some were content to congratulate him with hearty hand-shakes, others kissed him on both cheeks, lifting him completely off the floor. "The princely captain," says our contemporary, "felt a little afraid when kissed by so many bear-like bearded faces, but was thoroughly happy for all that." The same officer further narrates that on the occasion of the Grand Cross of the Chrysanthemum being presented to the German Emperor and a second-class decoration of the same order to Major-General Meckel, everybody was delighted with the honour thus done Germany. "Three people could not meet without conversing about it." Indeed the citizens seemed so elated over this that each appeared to believe he shared in the nation's honour. "On hearing all this pleasant talk," concludes the *Yomiuri*, "the Captain was glad and unconscionably proud."

THE QUEEN'S DRAWING ROOM.

Japanese material appears to be coming into fashion for use in Court dresses, according to an account of a recent Queen's Drawing Room contained in the *Court Journal* of March 9, which says:—"Mrs. Woolley wore a wonderful dress, in which her association with Japan was clearly indicated. It consisted of a handsome train from both shoulders of rich Indian crimson, and real gold thread brocade of gold mohor pattern, lined with gold satin, festooned with plumes on left side and cluster of red and gold variegated dog roses at one corner; corsage and petticoat of black Genoa velvet, covered with black and gold tulle, the front of both being slashed with red and gold variegated dog roses and butterfly bow of gold satin on left side of bodice, fastened with diamond stars; large pouffe sleeves of gold satin, edged with rich bullion fringe. Headdress, the new Court plume, veil, and diamond stars; ornaments, necklace of stars and crescent, in Indian gold and emeralds; Victoria shower bouquet of gold and crimson roses with long satin streamers."

KOBE AND ST. GEORGE.

The Ball given in Kobe on Tuesday evening was attended by as great a success as that which waited on St. George's Ball in Yokohama. After supper, we quote the *Kobe Chronicle*, Mr. Enslie made a humorous speech in which he said that St. George should be regarded especially as the patron saint of the ladies, as he is credited with having saved young ladies from becoming tid-bits for a certain dragon with a taste for human flesh. St. George was also associated with a knightly order of chivalry the the badge of which was a certain portion of ladies' attire which it would seem was to be abandoned in the near future if the threats of dress reformers were to be carried out. But St. George was for "merrie England," and as

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the patron saint of that country he proved an excuse for the present festivities, whereupon Mr. Enslie called upon his fellow-hosts to rise to their feet, if they could, and join with him in expressing the pleasure with which they saw so large an assembly gathered together. "To their credit be it said," the hosts were able to a man to rise to the occasion, and Mr. Enslie's words of welcome were emphasized by enthusiastic cheers.

COLONEL SATO.

It appears that the intelligence of Colonel Sato's death, said to have been received in Tokyo, was not well founded. The distinguished officer not only lives still, but is now reported to be in a fair way to recovery. It is a curious experience for a man to read obituary notices of himself published in all the leading journals of his country. Yet it has its compensations when the notices are such as Colonel Sato's supposed demise elicited. He must have travelled, however, very close to the edge of the valley of the shadow, for the step of rank generally awarded to public men *in extremis*, was duly announced some days ago in the *Official Gazette*. The latest telegram, received on the 24th inst. from Haicheng, says that the Colonel is progressing satisfactorily and that he bore the shock of amputation well.

DEATH OF VISCOUNT KONO TOGAMA.

THE death is announced of Viscount Kono, which took place in the capital on the 24th inst. The deceased has been suffering for some years from a disease affecting his spine. The Viscount for many years was Vice-President of the *Kaishin-to*, and held the portfolio of Home Minister. In recognition of his services to the State the Emperor was pleased to promote him from the Third Class First Grade to the Second Class Second Grade shortly before his death. The funeral will take place on the 28th instant, the bier leaving his residence at Nishi-ogawa-machi, Kanda, Tokyo, at 1 p.m.

THE PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY OF JAPAN.

A CAMERA FIELD-DAY of the above-mentioned Society will be held on Sunday, 28th instant, beginning in the morning. Members will meet for lunch at the Kai-hin-in, Kamakura, at 12.30 p.m. The annual meeting of the Society will be held shortly after the middle of next month. Members are requested to prepare prints of their work during the past 12 months, for exhibition on that occasion.

KOBE UNION CHURCH.

THE accounts of the Kobe Union Church show a credit balance of $121.44, against $69.72 last year. The pastor's report said that the membership was now twenty, composed of twelve adies and eight gentlemen. The election of officers resulted, says a Kobe paper, as follow:—Pastor, Rev. J. L. Atkinson; Deacons, Messrs. P. S. Cabeldu, J. Paton, and R. M. Thomson; Sec. and Treasurer, Mr. A. Richardson; Invitation Committee, Mr. W. D. S. Edwards, Mr. A. Richardson, Mrs. Stedman, and Mrs. Kenderdine; Music Committee, Mrs. Atkinson.

PRIZE DOGS.

ONE of the best known sportsmen of Yokohama, Mr. P. Beretta, has recently received from Italy a pair of sporting dogs, both winners of first prizes at dog shows. Boorik, a two-year old, is a lemon and white pointer of excellent temper and great intelligence, while his mate, Bella, is three years of age. Both have been put to the severest tests, which they passed with honours. They are both from pure St. Germain stock. Lovers of the canine race any inspect them at the residence of the owner, at No. 81, Main Street.

FRENCH INDO-CHINA.

ACCORDING to a Havas telegram which appears in the *Siam Free Press*, the French Cabinet are preparing a project by which Indo-China shall be authorised to effect a loan of 25,000,000 francs, of which sum 13,000,000 will be used for the completion of the Langson railway, and the remainder to be employed in public works, the chief of which will be a railway line from Hanoi to Phulang-thuong, and from Langson to the China frontier.

DEATH OF MR. BYRNE.

A TELEGRAM has been received in Hongkong from England announcing the death of Mr. E. Byrne, who is well known in Hongkong and Shanghai, having reconstructed the firm of Hall and Holtz and being a partner with Mr. J. P. Cottam in the Hongkong Trading Company. Mr. Byrne leaves a widow and a grown-up family, one of his sons holding an appointment in Chinkiang.

SHINJU IN KOBE.

A CASE of *shinju* occurred in Kobe on Monday night at Fukuwara, says the *Chronicle*. The girl is named Ko. She was 25 years old and her lover was 29. The man cut the girl's throat with a *deba*, and she died instantly. He then attempted to commit suicide by cutting his own throat, but when found was still living and may possibly recover.

EXECUTION ON A RUSSIAN MEN-OF-WAR.

THE *Hongkong Telegraph* states that as the Russian ironclad *Vladimir Monomach* was leaving the waters of that colony on Tuesday (9th inst.) a Russian seaman, who had been convicted of assaulting an officer, was hanged at the main yard-arm and buried at sea.

NEW GOVERNOR OF FUKUOKA.

MR. IWAMURA TAKATOSHI is gazetted Governor of Fukuoka, his predecessor, Mr. Iwasaki Kojiro, being appointed an Imperial nominee in the House of Peers.

IMPORTANT SUSPENSIONS.

THE *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* and the *Jiji Shimpo* have been suspended.

COMMENCEMENT DAY AT THE TOKYO SHOSEN GAKKO.

The graduating exercises of the Tokyo Shosen Gakko (Tokyo Mercantile Marine College), took place in the hall of that institution at 10.50 a.m. on the 20th instant. There were present among the invited guests a number of prominent gentlemen. Viscount Enomoto, Minister of the Agricultural and Commercial Department; Mr. Watanabe, Minister of the Department of Communications; Vice-Admiral Ito, Vice-Minister of the Navy; Mr. Makino, Vice-Minister of the Department of Education; Mr. Suzuki, Vice-Minister of the Department of Communications; Viscount Soga, Baron Akamatsu, Captain J. M. James, some members of the House of Representatives, the higher officials of various Government Departments, and some members of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha may be specially mentioned. First on the programme of the day came the presentation by Mr. Matsuyama, Acting Director of the institution, of certificates to 22 graduates, of whom 13 were of the Navigation class, and 9 of the Engineering class. Certificates of promotion were also given to a number of the undergradnates. Many valuable prizes were presented by the school, the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, and Captain J. M. James, to a number of students who had distinguished themselves both in attainments and deportment,—books, drawing instruments, and so forth, by the Yusen Kaisha, and a valuable silver tea-pot by Captain James.

The guests were then invited to the top of the three-storied building, which commands an extensive view of the best districts of the metropolis. Thence they witnessed boat races, and various sailing exercises conducted by the young men of the school on board the *Moshun*, moored before the school near the Yeitai Bridge. The *Moshun* was once a man-of-war, and is now a training vessel for the school. On the conclusion of the exercises, the guests were sumptuously entertained in the rooms of the second storey. It is stated that such a large attendance of visitors had never been witnessed on any previous occasion.

WHY THE WAR EXPENSES WERE SO EASILY FURNISHED.

The distinguished achievements of Japan, says the *Nippon*—which journal was released from the ban of suspension on the 18th instant—are attributable not less to the satisfactory arrangement of her finances than to the valour and loyalty of her troops. As the fighting capacity of her soldiers was really appreciated only after they were led to the field of battle, so nobody thought at first that her finances were able to bear such a strain. Hence, when the first installment of the War Loan of 30 million *yen* was announced, the Authorities and people were more or less apprehensive as to the result. Their apprehension proved superfluous, for the amount subscribed far exceeded the required sum. And yet, when the second installment of 50 million *yen* was subsequently raised, the Treasury, anticipating more or less difficulty, reduced the minimum price of the Bonds to 95 *yen*, and moreover took great pains to persuade capitalists to subscribe to the Loan. Again, to the surprise of everybody, the result far surpassed public expectation, the total subscription being nearly double the sum needed. Since then no particular change has been noticeable in the money market: business is carried on in as regular a manner as before. Nay more, when it was rumoured that the Government contemplated having recourse to the aid of foreign capital to obtain the third installment of the loan, leading bankers waited upon the Minister of Finance to dissuade him from such a course and to urge him to rely once more upon domestic capital.

It is said that a decade ago the withdrawal of half a million *yen* from the market had an appreciable effect; yet, to-day, the withdrawal of even five times that sum does not appear to influence the market. Such a wide difference in a short space of time is an unmistakable sign of the remarkable development of national wealth. Perhaps the present notably smooth working of the money market's mechanism may not be solely due to the development of wealth: another equally important factor may be responsible, namely, the development of the credit system, and the free use of cheques. Indeed, a certain authority on finance attributes the present satisfactory state of affairs entirely to the power of cheques. About 7 years ago, he says, the cheque system came into vogue in Tokyo and Osaka. At first, public recourse to the convenience was insignificant, for in the 21st fiscal year, namely, the year succeeding the inauguration of this important factor of mercantile operations, the whole amount of the cheques drawn in Tokyo did not exceed 16 million *yen*. But things changed very soon. Gradually people began to appreciate the importance and benefit of cheques, so that, last year, the cheques passed through the clearing house in Tokyo exceeded 100 million *yen*. In the same year the total passed through the Osaka clearing house was about 60 million *yen*. Thus money aggregating no less than 160 million *yen* circulated freely in the two cities, without the aid of either specie or paper, but simply by entries in the pages of ledgers. That is the principal reason why the operation of the money market is so smooth at present and why the War Expenses have been furnished so easily. The *Nippon*, speaking of this as only a common-place economical argument, says that truth is generally found in simple expositions, and is inclined to think that the explanation given by the authority referred to may turn out to be the correct one. At any rate, it recommends the theory to the consideration of financiers and economists who, often blind to simple facts lying before them, are liable to waste their energy on far-fetched opinions and ingenious conjectures. It may be noted here that the total value of the cheques passed through the Tokyo clearing house last month was 23,334,093 *yen*.

The death has occurred of Admiral Sir George Giffard, K.C.B., who in the early part of his career saw a large amount of active service, and achieved much distinction. He took an active part in destroying the pirates of Borneo, and the success of his efforts gained him the rank of captain.

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WAR AFFAIRS.

MONDAY, APRIL 22ND.

When the prospect of negotiations for peace began to be discussed by the vernacular press, it was pretty generally maintained, as readers of our weekly "Spirit of the Vernacular Press" probably remember, that should a treaty of peace be concluded, China, pending its ratification, must be required to furnish material evidence of her good faith, by placing some of her most important military positions temporarily in Japanese occupation. Yet, when the question came up for practical settlement, no such precaution was insisted on, the armistice being unconditionally prolonged for three weeks in order to leave time for the ratification of the treaty. The *Kokkai* alleges that the Japanese Plenipotentiaries did indeed demand that Japanese troops should be allowed to occupy Taku and Tientsin, but that the Viceroy Li strongly objected on the ground that the appearance of the enemy's forces in these places would in all probability produce an insurrection far more dangerous to the Chinese Government than any foreign war. The validity of this objection was recognised by the Japanese Plenipotentiaries, and the prolongation of the armistice was made unconditional. The fact is that so long as Japan holds Port Arthur and Weihaiwei, she has her hand upon China's throat, and need not concern herself about occupying any other positions.

The *Yomiuri* says that the indemnity of 200 million taels is to be paid in the following manner:—

100 Millions in July of the present year.
50 Millions in April, 1896.
10 Millions in each of the next five years.

This statement takes no account of interest, though the Treaty provides for its payment at the rate of 5 per cent.

A question of great interest is the sum actually expended by Japan for the purposes of the war up to the present. The *Jiji Shimpo's* opinion is that the total does not exceed 100 millon *yen*. It arrives at that result thus:—According to the terms of the Imperial Ordinance issued on the 13th of August last year, the Government was authorized to employ the sums standing under Special Account, to borrow money, and to issue bonds. The amount paid by the public into the Treasury, in connection with the issue of bonds, up to the end of March, was 38 million *yen*. The sum borrowed was doubtless obtained from the Bank of Japan, and may be estimated from the excess of the latter's issues of convertible notes, as compared with ordinary times. Under that heading, the *Jiji* finds a figure of over 11,800,000 *yen*. Finally, the surplus revenue up to the 26th fiscal year has been employed, namely, 26 million *yen*. Thus the aggregate amount that appears to have been expended, so far as the public can judge, is 75,800,000 *yen*, approximately. Assuming, further, that a portion, or perhaps the whole, of the Army and Navy Appropriations for the 27th fiscal year have also been used, namely, 17 million *yen*, we have, roughly speaking, a total of 100 millions. It will probably be found, however, when the accounts come to be made up, that Japan's direct expenditures alone amount to 150 million *yen*.

Doubtless, some agreement has been arrived at as to the rate at which the taels paid by China are to be converted into Japanese money. The terms of the Treaty, as published by the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, defined 200 million taels as 300 million *yen*, but other vernacular journals do not accept that statement as definite. The *Hochi*, for example, calculates that 200 million Haikwan taels would weigh 8,180tons of silver, which might be coined into 307,690,000 *yen*.

Our Hiroshima correspondent says that Mr. Ito Miyoji is likely to go to Chefoo for the purpose of exchanging the ratifications of the Treaty of Peace, but the *Kokkai's* information is that Viscount Mutsu will go.

The arrest of I Shunyo, grandson of the Tai Wön-kun, on a charge of high treason, is evidently creating great excitement in Seoul. The incriminated noble had been appointed Minister to Japan, which post he resigned. But his resignation did not save him from arrest, by order of the King. We read in the *Kokkai* that no little difficulty has been found in getting a Judge to try him, and the Tai Wön-kun is moving heaven and earth to effect his release. Further details on the same subject are published by the *Yomiuri Shimbun*. It is there stated that the Tai Wön-kun is particularly fond of I Shunyo, and has never abandoned the hope of seeing him raised to the throne, now occupied by his uncle. The comprehensive conspiracy of last Fall, which was discovered in consequence of the arrest and examination of the assassins of Kim Kakuu, Vice-Minister of Justice, had been planned with the object of putting I upon the throne, and it transpired that I was one of the principals in the assassination. Suspecting that the plot had been found out in part, and fearing that the whole might transpire, the Tai Wön-kun conceived the idea of getting I appointed Minister to Japan, and then repeatedly pressed Count Inouye to expedite the young man's departure. But the Count seems to have reasons of his own for proceeding with deliberation, and the delay suggested so much reason for fear that preparations were made to smuggle I out of the country and secrete him abroad for some years. Before that could be effected, however, the King, on the 18th instant, placed a warrant of arrest in the hands of the Chief of Police, and the latter, with a *posse* of 60 men, proceeded to the Unpyon Palace, and carried I off, after considerable resistance on his part. The Tai Wön-kun spent the night of that day endeavouring, by persuasion and threats, to effect I's release, but the attempt was not successful. It is tolerably plain, however, that very drastic measures will have to be adopted by the Japanese in Korea, if all this conspiracy and disloyalty is to be checked.

According to the *Hochi Shimbun* the guns captured by the Japanese from China since the commencement of the war are as follow:—

Guns for use on board ship	105
Guns for coast defence	103
Guns for field service	606
Total	814

This statement does not seem conclusive. It appears to us that the guns captured in the forts at Talien, Port Arthur, and Weihaiwei must aggregate more than 103.

In the *Mainichi Shimbun* we find a horrible story of the death of a coolie attached to the Japanese expedition to the Pescadores. It appears that some Chinese managed to get the coolie into a house and there burned him to death. Information having been given by another coolie, who seems to have escaped a similar fate, a party of gendarmes went to the place, and found the unfortunate man dead, his whole body, except his head, in a charred condition, his hands and feet tied, and a towel and girdle bound round his nose and mouth. A Chinaman was found in an adjoining room, and carried off by the gendarmes to be "examined" for the purpose of discovering the perpetrators of the cruelty.

The total money voluntarily subscribed by way of gratuity to the Army and Navy aggregates 2,615,721.223 *yen*. It appears that this money—we quote from the *Mainichi Shimbun*—has been gradually paid out to the soldiers as it was received.

TUESDAY, APRIL 23RD.

On the 18th instant, their Excellencies Count Ito and Viscount Mutsu were received in audience by His Majesty the Emperor on their return to Hiroshima. The Emperor addressed the Plenipotentiaries in the following words:—

China having sent to Us an Ambassador to sue for peace, We, recognising the sincerity of her intentions, invested you with full powers to meet and confer with him. You have succeeded, after several days' negotiations, in effecting a definite arrangement, the principal points of which, as just reported to Us by You, are entirely satisfactory and are calculated to materially enhance the prestige of Our Empire. We are highly pleased with the signal services that you have rendered.

Had there been any prospect of the terms obtained by Count Ito and Viscount Mutsu being received with dissatisfaction by political agitators or any other section of the nation, these very explicit words of approval by the Sovereign would effectually obviate such a contingency.

An important and interesting Proclamation has just been issued by the Emperor:—

Convinced that through peace national prosperity is best promoted, and that the preservation of peace is a duty bequeathed to Us by Our Ancestors, it has ever been Our object since Our accession to the Throne to confer lasting advantages upon the realm by the maintenance of tranquillity. Unhappily, a rupture occured last year in Our relations with China, with the result that war was forced upon us, which during the long period of over ten months it was impossible to bring to a termination. During that interval, Our Ministers of State, in concert with Our Army and Navy as well as with both Houses of the Diet, have done everything in their power to further Our aims and fulfil Our instructions. At home nothing has been neglected in the way of elaborating plans, supplying funds and material of war, and perfecting the national defence. Abroad, heedless of storm and tempest, of the biting cold of winter and of the scorching heat of summer, Our expeditionary forces have triumphed over all difficulties and hardships, and the Flag of the Rising Sun has been everywhere borne in victory. While, on the one hand, Our soldiers and sailors have earned a reputation for discipline and humanity, the management of the foreign affairs of the realm has, on the other, been characterized by promptitude and sagacity, so that the honour and glory of Our Empire both at home and abroad have been augmented. These happy results are largely due to the illustrious virtues of Our Ancestors, but the successes achieved could not have been so complete had not the disinterested loyalty, valour, and earnestness of Our Ministers of State and all Our subjects contributed to secure them. It is Our earnest desire, with the aid of Our subjects' loyalty and sincerity and by their zealous cöoperation, to restore peace and thereby attain Our great object of promoting the prosperity of this country. Negotiations for peace having now been concluded between the two empires, and an armistice having been proclaimed, the permanent cessation of hostilities is near. China's sincerity in repenting of her breach of faith with Us is already manifest, and the terms of peace negotiated by Our plenipotentiaries give us complete satisfaction. That peace and prestige have thus been secured simultaneously, is attributable to harmonious cöoperation between Our civil and military servants of State. A basis has been restored for working out the grand task bequeathed to Us by Our Ancestors, while, at the same time, the weight of the responsibilities that we have incurred toward them is augmented.

The present is a fitting opportunity to declare to you, Our good subjects, the objects that We keep in view, and to enlighten you as to the course of Our future policy. Gratified as We are that the victories recently obtained by Our arms have enhanced the glory of the Empire, We are nevertheless sensible that the road still to be traversed by the country in its march of civilization is long and arduous, and that the object unceasingly kept in view by Us since Our accession to the Throne remains yet unattained. We therefore hope, in common with Our loyal subjects, to be constantly on the watch against any feeling of self-content, and ever in a spirit of modesty to labour for the perfecting of Our military defences without exceeding the limits of wise economy, and to strive for the promotion of the cause of education and refinement without engendering the vice of effeminacy. It is, briefly, Our wish that Government and people alike should work for the common end, and that Our subjects of all classes should strive, each in his own sphere, to lay the foundation of permanent prosperity and national strength. With regard to plans of military defences and financial adjustment, consequent upon the present war, the duty of adopting proper measures shall be entrusted to Ministers in whom we repose confidence, but in the matter of nursing the nation's resources by constant economy and frugality, we have to rely upon the aid of Our good subjects.

It is hereby definitely announced that our strong displeasure shall be visited upon such as, in the pride of recent victory, offer insults to other States or do injury to our relations with friendly Powers. More especially with regard to China, the exchange of ratifications of the Treaty of Peace shall mark the restoration of friendship between the two Empires, and no endeavours should be spared to develop more than ever relations of neighbourly good-will with her.

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It is Our pleasure that all Our good subjects shall respect and observe these Our plainly expressed wishes. (Sign Manual.)

&c., &c.

It has been decided that Mr. Ito Miyoji, Chief Secretary of the Cabinet, shall proceed to Chefoo for the purpose of exchanging the ratifications of the Treaty of Peace. We have not heard that the date of his departure has yet been fixed.

In our issue of Saturday last, we referred to the apparent fact that some of the Chinese soldiers wounded at Tienchwangtai had been killed on the field of battle by the Japanese. It was at all events certain that all the bodies found after the fight had not been killed by the wounds that struck them down, though whether death had afterwards resulted from the habitual disposition of their own comrades to save them thus from falling alive into the enemy's hands, or whether the Japanese had participated in the slaughter, was uncertain. The Japanese officers were very frank about the matter. They did not deny that something of the kind might have taken place in view of the behaviour of wounded Chinese soldiers who make a habit of firing or stabbing at any Japanese approaching them. But telegraphic inquiries addressed to Field-Marshal Nodzu from Hiroshima, when the rumour was first started, elicited from him an indignant denial that any excesses whatever had been noticed at Tienchwangtai. The reports circulated by foreigners had been founded entirely on inferences drawn from the state of the bodies, but it is not to be denied that the inferences seemed reasonable and warranted. It now appears that a very strong telegram on the subject was sent to the London *Times* by its Shanghai correspondent, and it further appears, according to news received yesterday from Shanghai, that the correspondent, convinced of the error of his former conclusion, has now withdrawn the statements contained in the telegram. Shanghai reports also that British naval officers who visited the field shortly after the battle, testify to the splendid behaviour of the Japanese troops, and speak, at the same time, of the courtesy and consideration shown by them at Yingkow.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 24TH.

It is interesting to note the growth of Japanese ideas, as set forth in the columns of the vernacular press, with regard to the responsibilities devolving on Japan in the sequel of the Treaty of Peace. Mr. Ozaki Yukio, a man of high reputation and acknowledged authority, is quoted by the *Yomiuri Shimbun* on the subject of the expenses that must be defrayed by Japan on account of her new territorial acquisitions. He thinks that she must increase her land force by two Divisions, one for service in Formosa, the other for Manchuria, and that a hundred thousand tons must be added to the Navy, the latter item having reference only to the protection of the Liaotung Peninsula and the Formosan archipelago. The cost of a Division of the Army in Japan is about 1½ million *yen*, and if it be put at 2 millions in consideration of the greater difficulty of maintaining troops in such distant places as Formosa and southern Shinking, the military expenditure becomes 4 million *yen* annually. With regard to the Navy, the cost of maintenance is from 40 to 50 *yen* per ton yearly. Taking the higher figure, there results under this item a sum of 5 million *yen*. Then, as to the cost of administration, observing that the area of Formosa is 3,500 square *ri*, approximately, and the area of the Liaotung Peninsula 2,500 square *ri*, so that the total superficies of the two exceeds that of Hokkaido by 1,000 square *ri*, a basis of calculation is obtained, and Mr. Ozaki arrives at the conclusion that a yearly outlay of from 2 to 3 million *yen* will suffice. Hence the aggregate expenditure in connection with the newly acquired territories becomes about 12 or 13 million *yen*. To defray that amount, there is the surplus revenue of Japan, representing about 10 million *yen*, and there are the customs dues collected in Formosa (about 2,800,000 *yen*) and at Yingkow (over a million), so that, without imposing any new taxes, the expenditure can be met.

The above calculation is evidently of the roughest character. Mr. Ozaki may be right as to the cost of maintaining troops and ships, but he over-estimates the customs revenue of Formosa and Yingkow, and takes no account of the cost of collecting it. Moreover, it seems strange that no possibility of obtaining revenue in the districts themselves should be contemplated. Moreover, we give Mr. Ozaki's figures for what they may be worth.

We still remain without definite information as to whether the ships sunk in Weihaiwei Bay are likely to be raised and repaired. The *Hochi Shimbun* says, with regard to the ironclad *Ting-yuen* and cruiser *Lai-yuen*, that the nature and position of the injuries inflicted on them by the Japanese torpedoes have been ascertained. The *Lai-yuen* has a hole in her left side, a little below the water mark, measuring about 16 feet square, and the *Ting-yuen* has a hole, pretty much in the same place, one half of which is buried in the mud and the portion appearing measures some 12 feet square.

The same journal gives a list of all the Chinese ships-of-war taken by the Japanese in the course of the war. It may interest our readers to have the complete record, as showing the actual addition to the Japanese Navy :—

Name.	Class.	Armament.	Tonnage.
Chen-yuen	Iron-clad...	22 guns...	7,330 tons.
Chi-yuen.....	Cruiser....	12 guns...	2,300 tons.
Ping-yuen	do	11 guns...	2,200 tons.
Kwang-ping	Gun-boat...	11 guns...	1,100 tons.
Tsao-chiang ...	do ...	5 guns...	950 tons.
Mei-yuen	do ...	4 guns...	578 tons.
Chan-tung	do ...	5 guns...	440 tons.
Chan-pia.....	do ...	5 guns...	440 tons.
Chan-nan	do ...	5 guns...	440 tons.
Chan-poh	do ...	5 guns...	440 tons.
Chan-pien	do ...	5 guns...	440 tons.
Chan-chung ...	do ...	5 guns...	440 tons.
Totals :—			
12 vessels...	1 Iron-clad. 2 Cruisers and 9 Gun-boats.	97 guns...	17,098 tons.

Estimating these at 800 *yen* per ton, their total value is 13,678,400 *yen*, to which total must be added 8 torpedo-boats taken at Weihaiwei, and having a value of at least 80,000 *yen*. If the *Ting-yuen*, the *Lai-yuen*, and the *Ching-yuen*, sunk in Weihaiwei Bay, can be raised and repaired, the total increment of the Japanese fleet will be 15 men-of-war and 8 torpedo-boats.

The *Kokumin* gives an outline of the things to be done by Japan in connection with her newly acquired territory. They are, first, to station a Division of troops in Formosa and another in Manchuria; secondly, to organize, for service in Manchuria, a body of local cavalry resembling, but better than, the Russian Cossacks; thirdly, to open a port for foreign commerce in the Pescadores; fourthly, to adopt measures for encouraging emigration to Formosa and Manchuria; and fifthly, to devise means for promoting the trade of Yingkow and Talien. These are merely the first steps that occur to our contemporary.

The question of the employment of the indemnity to be paid by China has elicited a great variety of opinions from the vernacular press. The *Jiji Shimpo* epitomizes these various views :—

(1.) To keep the money in the Treasury as an Emergency Reserve.
(2.) To use it for building ships and forts, and generally for completing the national defences.
(3.) To use it as a fund for assisting maritime enterprise.
(4.) To spend it upon the newly acquired territories.
(5.) To devote it to the establishment of a Steel Foundry.
(6.) To convert it into a fund for rewarding the services of those engaged in the War.
(7.) To use it for endowing the Imperial University.
(8.) To apply it to educational purposes.
(9.) To make it into a capital fund for the various localities.
(10.) To spend it upon an international exhibition.
(11.) To build a permanent edifice for the Diet with it.
(12.) To immediately discharge with it the country's seven-per-cent foreign loan (2 million *yen*) and the 7.5 per-cent domestic loan due to the Fifteenth National Bank (10 million *yen*).
(13.) To use it for riparian works.
(14.) To use it for railway construction.
(15.) To employ it as a means of abolishing the import duty on raw cotton.
(16.) To devote it to re-assessing the taxable value of land and reducing the land tax.

The above objects, in most cases, relate to the disposal of a portion of the fund only. Not many of them commend themselves as really advisable.

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* thinks that Vice-Admiral Viscount Kabayama will be appointed Governor-General of Formosa. It is a position demanding very high qualities. Japan's success is administering the island will be a pretty conclusive test of her governing abilities.

Mr. Ito Miyoji's appointment as Plenipotentiary for the purpose of exchanging the ratifications of the Treaty of Peace is a well deserved reward for the invaluable assistance rendered by him at Head-quarters during the progress of the war and at Shimonoseki during the peace negotiations.

As soon as the troops return from the war, says the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, it is in contemplation to take up the single Martini rifles now carried by them and serve out Martini repeating rifles. This will be done in the case of all the forces with the colours. The single rifles will be repaired and used for the Territorial Army. The Martini rifles now in the hands of the Local Militia will also be replaced by Murata repeaters. It is estimated that these changes will double the fighting efficiency of the Army.

Some vernacular journals have amused themselves, throughout the war, estimating the money value of the acquisitions made by Japan or the losses suffered by China. The latest calculation of this kind is to be found in the *Hochi Shimbun*, which, on the authority of an anonymous economist, pronounces the total value of the territory acquired in Shinking to to be 150 million *yen*, and the value of Formosa and the Pescadores to be 250 millions, so that the total value of the territories acquired by Japan is 400 million *yen*. We should like to know how that estimate is reached. The articles of native production exported from Tamsui, Tainan, and Newchwang alone aggregate over 8½ million Taels, or about 12 million *yen* in value at the ports of export. Funding that annual output at 5 per cent., we at once obtain a capital sum of 240 million *yen*. But the produce exported represents only a fraction of the produce actually obtained from the land and water. The *Hochi Shimbun's* economist invites us to believe that the total value of the staples raised for home consumption in the districts acquired by Japan, with their population of some 8 million souls, is only 8 million *yen*, at one *yen* per head. The calculation is obviously inaccurate to a gross extent. The people of Japan pay in taxes alone a sum of about 150 million *yen* annually, or, say, 4 *yen* per head. Assuming that the gross revenue of the inhabitants of Shinking and Formosa does not exceed the contributions of the Japanese to public expenditures—an estimate greatly erring on the side of lowness—we have still a yearly income of 32 million *yen*, representing a capital of 540 millions. But, in truth, such calculations are worse than useless, being altogether misleading. A dozen different factors have to be included in the estimate before even an approximation to the gross value of a province or an island is obtained.

THE IMPERIAL VISIT TO KYOTO.

The *Official Gazette* announces that, as the Imperial Head-quarters are to be moved to Kyoto, His Majesty the Emperor will leave Hiroshima on the 27th instant by the 7.30 a.m. train, arriving in Kyoto the same day at 7.15 p.m. Her Majesty the Empress is to make the journey at the same hour on the day preceding the Emperor's departure.

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LETTERS FROM SHIMONOSEKI AND HIROSHIMA.

(From our Correspondent.)

Shimonoseki April 15, 1895.

An important and memorable conference has just taken place at the Fujino Hotel. It commenced at a little past two and ended at a few minutes past seven, lasting fully five hours. Hitherto the meetings of the Plenipotentiaries had not lasted more than two hours. Viscount Mutsu was unable to attend to-day's conference on account of influenza, from which, by the by, he has nearly recovered, though not sufficiently to venture out of doors. It having been expected for the past few days that this conference would in all probability settle the question one way or other, unusual activity was manifested by Japanese newspaper correspondents. They went about from one hotel to another seeking information from officials connected with the mission. I wonder if, with all their activity and perseverance, they succeeded in eliciting any trustworthy information.

From the intelligence I have been able to gather and from general signs, it seems to me that at the meeting just concluded the terms of peace have been settled, so far as all essential points are concerned. What those terms are, however, I cannot say. It had been generally understood that there was so wide a gulf between the terms proposed by the Japanese Plenipotentiaries and the views of the Chinese, that little hope could be entertained of an adjustment. It was, indeed, feared at one time that the true motive of the Chinese Ambassadors in prolonging the negotiations, under one pretext or another, might be simply to gain time, with the hope that some of the European Powers would step in and rescue China from the grasp of her victorious enemy. But it now appears that these suspicions were unjust, and that the Chinese Ambassadors were all the while striving earnestly to obtain a favourable bargain. Whatever may have been their true motive, it seems to be a fact that an agreement has finally been arrived at. It is reported that the treaty will be signed either to-morrow or the day after. After signature, the Japanese Plenipotentiaries will leave this and accompany the Emperor to Kyoto, where His Majesty will stay for some time. He is expected to leave Hiroshima on the 20th instant.

Yesterday morning the *Ikai Maru*, with H.I.H. Prince Komatsu, the Commander-in-chief of the Japanese armies in China, on board passed through this strait about ten o'clock. He was preceded by H.M.'s ship *Chiyoda*, and was followed by the new war ships *Izumi* and *Tatsuta*. Her appearance in the strait was a signal for the firing of a salute of twenty-one guns from the war-vessel *Fayeyama*, which is now lying in port for the service of the Japanese Plenipotentiaries. The transport with the Imperial party did not stop in port but steamed right through with the band playing on board. During her passage both sides of the port were crowded with enthusiastic spectators shouting "Banzai." The transport and her convoys, however, stopped in the vicinity of Mutsure Islands, a few miles west of here, where a big flotilla of 50 ships with troops on board has been collected during the past week or so. The immediate destination of these troops is the Chinchow peninsula and not any point in the line of actual campaign, so that their shipment is no infringement of the terms of the armistice. Count Ito and several distinguished Japanese officers followed the *Ikai Maru* in a steam launch as far as Mutsure Islands. The big fleet of transports then steamed out into the Genkai-nada. It was a sight not easily to be forgotten.

On board the transport *Hinode Maru*,
April 17th, 1895.

The treaty of peace was signed to-day. The Plenipotentiaries of the two High Contracting Powers met at the Fujino Hotel from ten in the morning. Viscount Mutsu, who has now completely recovered from the influenza, attended the meeting. This first conference [illegible] Ambassadors and those assembled to welcome about noon, and the Plenipotentiaries and other persons present dispersed after heartily congratulating each other on the happy conclusion of the negotiations.

The Chinese Ambassadors and suite at once broke up their residence at the Injo-ji Temple and went on board the *Kun-yi* at about half-past two in the afternoon. Less than half an hour later the vessel steamed out of port, followed by the *Li-yu*. It had been rumoured that before their departure, the Chinese Ambassadors would be entertained by the Japanese Plenipotentiaries. It was also known that the principal citizens of Shimonoseki contemplated entertaining the Plenipotentiaries of the two countries. But these projects have all been abandoned, doubtless owing to the desire of Viceroy Li to go home as speedily as possible.

Count Ito, Viscount Mutsu, Mr. Miyoji Ito, and other members of the Japanese mission will leave Shimonoseki by the war-vessel *Fayeyama* at seven to-morrow morning. Hearing of the departure of Mr. Hanabusa, Special Secretary to Count Ito, at six this afternoon, by the transport *Hinode Maru*, I applied for and readily received permission to take passage by the same vessel. She also carries Mr. Okazaki, a member of the House of Representatives from Wakayama Prefecture, who has been staying at Shimonoseki since the beginning of the peace negotiations.

The terms of peace have not yet been made public. The treaty will not be made known until after the exchange of ratifications.

Hiroshima, April 18th, 1895.

The Japanese Plenipotentiaries, Count Ito and Viscount Mutsu, and their suite, arrived at Ujina about half-past four this afternoon. Their reception was a sight such as has not been witnessed here since the commencement of the war. The *Fayeyama Kan* with the distinguished party on board, was expected to enter the port at three o'clock, so I left my hotel for Ujina at two. The road was already crowded with citizens and country-folk slowly moving in the direction of the port. Every house front was decorated with a national flag, and at frequent intervals the street was spanned by bridges of paper lanterns. About midway between Hiroshima and Ujina, an arch was constructed with the characters 祝勝 (Congratulation for distinguished services) worked out very artistically. From the arch to the entrance of Ujina, the road—a distance of more than a mile—was lined on one side by school boys and girls, each holding in his or her hand a small flag, and on the other by deputies of the various streets of Hiroshima. Ujina itself was thronged with people of all classes, including officials and private citizens of rank and quality. At the pier a temporary shed had been constructed and profusely decorated with evergreens. A long row of tables spread under the shed supported an array of innumerable glasses. Further on a small triumphal arch had been constructed.

As I was observing these elaborate preparations for the reception of the Plenipotentiaries, distinguished officials were fast arriving from Hiroshima, some in carriages, others on horseback, and the majority in *jinrikisha*. Among them, I may mention their Excellencies Count Matsukata, Minister of Finance; Count Saigo, Minister of the Navy; Count Yamagata, Minister of War; Count Kuroda, President of the Privy Council; Viscount Hijikata, Minister of the Household; and Marquis Tokudaiji, Lord Keeper of the Privy Seal and Grand Chamberlain; Governor Nabeshima, Lieut.-General Okagawa, Major-General Kodama, Major-General Tsuchiya, Judge Okayama, and so forth.

The *Fayeyama* was sighted slowly entering the harbour at four. Just as the Ambassadors and suite left the ship a little before half-past four, a salute of nineteen guns was fired. All the transports and other steamships in port, seven or eight in number, were gaily decorated with flags. As the launch approached the pier where a large party of officials and others were waiting, a military band began to play. On landing, cordial greetings took place between the Ambassadors and those assembled to welcome them. Count Ito was dressed as usual in a frock-coat. He had a large field glass by his side, and seemed to be in good spirits, and deeply touched by the hearty congratulations showered upon him on every side. Viscount Mutsu also wore a frockcoat. He looked rather pale and debilitated, owing to his late sickness. In the temporary shed a general drinking of healths in champagne took place, the band playing the while. Getting into carriages specially sent for them by His Majesty the Emperor, Count Ito and Viscount Mutsu at once proceeded toward Hiroshima. All the way they were enthusiastically cheered by the crowd on the roadside, and had to doff their hats almost continually. Passing through Otemachi, they directly proceeded to the Imperial Head-quarters, where they had a long audience with His Majesty.

In my last letter I stated that the Emperor will leave here for Kyoto on the 20th, but I have since learned that the date is still undetermined. Perhaps it will be at the end of this month.

As to the terms of peace: I hear that several of the leading papers of Tokyo have published the principal points. I suppose they are not wide of the mark. But it is not yet permitted to divulge the exact details. With regard to the exchange of ratifications, it is reported that it will take place at Chefoo. Probably Mr. Miyoji Ito, Secretary-General of the Cabinet, will proceed thither for the purpose. The date of his departure is not yet known, but it will be before long.

Hiroshima, April 21st.

Last evening an enthusiastic demonstration was organized by the inhabitants of this city in recognition of the services of the Japanese Plenipotentiaries, Count Ito and Viscount Mutsu, and their suite. The distinguished guests were invited to an entertainment at the Kokomachi Park by more than six hundred leading citizens. The city wore the aspect of a popular festival, the streets being adorned with national flags and paper lanterns as on the preceding day when the Ambassadors returned here from Shimonoseki.

At half-past five I went to the park. It was already full of people, among them a large number of naval and military officers. The park having been described at some length in a former letter, I need not speak of it here. The evening was perfect, and the distant view of hazy mountains to the south fascinated the eye. At a little past six, Count Ito, Mr. Ito Miyoji, and other members of the Mission arrived, and were led to a garden pavilion, where they rested for a few minutes. Viscount Mutsu was unable to be present on account of sickness. Before his departure from Shimonoseki, he had nearly recovered but the voyage seems to have produced a relapse. At half-past six, a cold collation was served. Mr. Ban, the mayor of this city, on behalf of the citizens, read a memorial highly extolling the services of Count Ito and Viscount Mutsu. Count Ito then stood on a chair and addressed the company. He began by thanking the Mayor and his entertainers generally for their hearty welcome, and then proceeded to summarize the origin and the course of the present war. "Beaten on land and sea," he said, "China sued for peace by sending an Ambassador to this country. His Majesty was pleased to entrust to me and my able colleague, Viscount Mutsu, the duty of proceeding to Shimonoseki and there conferring with the Chinese Envoy. The negotiations have been brought to a happy conclusion. This is to be attributed to the illustrious virtues of the Emperor, to the bravery and skill of the Army and the Navy, and finally to the union of the nation as one man." Loud applause and vigorous clapping of hands here interrupted the speaker, who concluded by repeating his thanks to his hosts. Mr. Nakada, of the Foreign Office, then read a letter from Viscount Mutsu's expressing deep regret for his inability to attend the meeting on account of sickness, and offering warm thanks to the Mayor and citizens of Hiroshima. In addition to Count Ito and other members of the Mission, there were present among the guests of the evening Count Saigo, Admiral Arichi, Major-General Kodama, Major-General

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Okazawa, Dr. Sato, and several other persons of note. Mr. H. W. Denison, legal adviser to the Mission, was also present.

The guests were then entertained with several dances by two companies of *geisha*, who sang songs specially composed for the occasion. On one of the small islands in the pond, extensive preparations had been made for a display of fire works, the most attractive of which was the national flag of the Rising Sun brought out by brilliant illuminations. Later in the evening a party of schoolboys came into the garden singing a new poem on the Japanese victories.

I do not know what is the impression in Tokyo about the terms of peace arranged by Count Ito and Viscount Mutsu. But from the manner in which they have been received here, I cannot but conclude that they are satisfactory to the people of this locality. Doubtless a small body of party politicians, notably the Progressionists, will be disposed to criticise with more or less severity what has been done. But the great majority of the people are sincerely glad of the restoration of peace and contented with the terms secured by their Plenipotentiaries.

On their return from Shimonoseki, Count Ito and Viscount Mutsu were received in audience by the Emperor who expressed warm approval of their services.

On the same occasion Mr. Miyoji Ito and Dr. Sato were also received in audience. The Plenipotentiaries and suite afterwards had the honour of dining with His Majesty.

A CURIOUS INCIDENT.

A singular incident occurred at Haicheng toward the end of March. A Japanese coolie who had disappeared early in the month, returned to Haicheng, carrying a letter from the Governor of Liaoyang. The letter was superscribed to "King Otori," from which it would seem that the former Japanese Minister to Korea is regarded by the good folks of Manchuria at a wearer of purple. In the letter the Governor explained that the bearer, when captured, had been in a terrible condition from frost-bite, that his life had been spared, his hurts treated, and that he was now sent back to the Japanese Army. There were, the letter went on to say, nine other Japanese coolies held prisoners in Liaoyang. The case deserves publication as showing that some of the Chinese commanders, at all events, had given up the cruelty of butchering all their prisoners of war; a reform attributed to the influence of the Governor-General of Mukden, who is said to be a humane and enlightened man. Probably the Chinese had also appreciated the strong remonstrances addressed to them on the same subject by foreigners in Yingkow.

AN EXTRAORDINARY RECONNOISSANCE.

One of the most daring reconnoissances undertaken in the war was that accomplished immediately after the capture of Newchwang by a party of only 40 troopers, the object being to ascertain the passability of the Liao river. The mission was undertaken by Captain Kojima, a staff officer, Major Hyozu, Captain Miura, and a surgeon, accompanied by 32 picked troopers and an interpreter, numbering 40 in all. In assaulting Tienchwangtai the Liao would have to be crossed, and it was therefore necessary to ascertain whether the river was sufficiently frozen to permit the passage of the Japanese columns. The distance from Newchwang to Hakowtsz, a village standing on the upper course of the river, which had been selected as the point of passage, was about 20 miles. The party rode out of Newchwang at 3 p.m. on the 4th of March, its orders being to accomplish its task by the morning of next day. According to the original arrangement, Major Suzuki's battalion should have followed the party as a guard, but the battle of Newchwang having been unexpectedly prolonged owing to the stout resistance offered by the remnant of the Chinese troops, the battalion could not start quickly. When it did march off, late in the afternoon, it missed the road, and was not in a position to give any aid to the reconnoitring party.

The little band rode as far Hungtsaopao, and there rested for its mid-day meal, awaiting the arrival of the battalion. The latter not putting in an appearance, the reconnoitring party pushed forward as soon as evening fell. On the road two Chinese soldiers, fugitives from Newchwang were captured, and from them it was learned that the main body of the fugitives from Newchwang would pass the night at Tafangshan. The captives were then set free and the party arrived after a while at Siaofangshan, when the interpreter asked a native for information about the road, and the presence of the enemy. The native replied that there were quartered at Tafangshan some 200 foot and 600 mounted soldiers. About a dozen troopers were then despatched to Tafangshan to ascertain more accurately in what force the enemy was present there, and the rest of the party remained at Siaofangshan. Presently two of the van rode back with intelligence that there were no Chinese soldiers in the village and that the information of the native had been incorrect. Thereupon the remainder of the party rode forward and joined the van. When the troopers were about to enter the village five or six rifle shots were fired at them, but nothing daunted, they galloped on with drawn sabres, uttering loud war cries. Whether frightened or asleep the majority of the Chinese did not come out of the houses. About a dozen that emerged, apparently in confusion, were cut down by the troopers. At last, in the dead of night, the party reached its destination, having overtaken *en route* little groups of from three to five fugitives whom the troopers, in many cases, shot or cut down. In most of the farm houses in that neighbourhood Chinese soldiers were quartered for the night, and it was consequently no easy matter to find a native. After considerable difficulty one was discovered, and various questions were put to him about the freezing and thawing of the river and forth. Captain Kojima and Major Hyozu then crossed the river, and thoroughly examined the thickness of the ice, without attracting the suspicions of the enemy who, about 2,000 strong, were posted for the defence of the opposite bank. It was 1 a.m. on the following day when the party, having successfully accomplished its mission, rode back. The troopers were confident that the battalion of Major Suzuki must already have arrived at Tafangshan to meet them. But they were mistaken, for when they approached the village they saw big fires kindled in several places, and Chinese moving hither and thither in apparent confusion. On approaching nearer, it was found that Chinese fugitives had arrived in such large numbers as to literally crowd the narrow lanes of the village. For a moment the party was at a loss what to do, but it was finally determined to cut through the enemy. Captain Mimura who commanded the troops ordered his men to gallop through the village with drawn sabres. They obeyed, shouting lustily. The Chinese, subsequently ascertained to have numbered about fifteen hundred, were taken by surprise, but the odds were so much in their favour that before the main body of the party could cut through them several troopers had become separated, and narrowly escaped death. Captain Kojima also was separated from the party and surrounded by a large number of Chinese. But he cut through them and succeeded in emerging from the village, after having killed several of his foes, one of whom was an officer mounted on a white horse. Before the captain reached Hungtsaopao, he twice encountered Chinese fugitives, and though fired at by them no shot hit him. But the adventures the Interpreter Muto encountered were by far the most perilous. As he rushed through the village with the rest of the party his horse was shot under him and fell, throwing the rider, just close to the feet of a foe. The interpreter was up in an instant, cut the Chinaman down before the latter could do anything against him, and ran into the yard of a house, climbing over the wall. He found in a corner a heap of bundles of rushes and in these he concealed himself. His life hung on a thread, for a number of Chinese soldiers quartered in the house, came out into the yard when morning dawned, and more than once passed very close to where the Interpreter lay concealed. Soon, however, the trumpets sounded, summoning the Chinese quartered in the village, and those who had put up for the night in the house, in the yard of which the Interpreter was concealed, went away, to his intense relief. Gradually the noise of the retreating detachment grew less, and by about 11 a.m. the village became as quiet as though it were the dead of night. Still he thought it safer not to leave his hiding-place during the day-time. Only when darkness had fallen did he venture out. Hungry and bare-footed, and carrying a drawn sword, he travelled at the top of his speed some 12 miles, when he suddenly came upon a Japanese guard on duty and was saved.

One trooper was subsequently found missing, but that was the total loss sustained by the party in this daring adventure, while on the part of the Chinese it was calculated that at least 70 must had been either killed or wounded.

THE HONGWANJI CEREMONIAL.

The city of Kyoto is now at the height of its festivities. The Exhibition draws hundreds of thousands of visitors, and besides this attraction two great religious ceremonies are to be, or have been, held, namely, the ceremony of dedicating the new Hongwanji, and the anniversary of the removal of the Imperial Seat to Kyoto, together with the dedication of a newly-built shrine to the Emperor Kwammu, by whom the removal was effected. The influence of the Hongwan Temple over the general public of Japan is about as great as that of St. Peter in Rome over Roman Catholics in Europe. Any appeal made by the Temple for subscriptions is eagerly responded to by devout believers, and a trip taken by the Chief Abbot though any religious district means the contribution of thousands of *yen* by the people. From the early part of April religious Japanese men and women have been streaming into Kyoto, for the Hongwanji ceremony was to be performed on the 15th inst., and other ceremonies, on the 19th, 20th, and 26th. The trains and steamers have been crowded and not only the hotels and inns near the Temple, but even the private houses, are full of these pilgrims. On the occasion of the erection of the main pillar of the new temple, no less than one hundred thousand persons were said to have gone to Kyoto for the express purpose of attending the ceremony. It is inferred, therefore, that about twice that number must be now visiting Kyoto to witness far more important rites.

The 15th of April was a bright, clear day, the weather being perfect for a ceremony of the kind celebrated. Curtains were hung in various parts of the new and old temples and decorations were also made with electric lights and lanterns. The preparations against accidents were as complete as could be desired. Besides a large force of Kyoto police, there were also present a great number of doctors and nurses. The ceremony proper commenced at half-past one o'clock. At the appointed time the Chief Abbot removed the mortuary tablet of the late Emperor Komei, the father of the present Emperor, then the tablets of the reigning Emperor and Empress, and afterwards the images of Shotoku Taishi and the seven distinguished saints of the sect, and placed them in a Chinese casket (*kara-bitsu*). Then the image of Amida Nyorai was put into a special white casket. This ceremony of removal was performed in secrecy, only two or three high priests being present besides the Chief Abbot. At 3 o'clock a bell was rung to call together the

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priests that were to join the procession or to attend to various duties. At 6 o'clock, the preparations having been completed, the Chief Abbot and the other dignitaries assembled in the hall and then commenced to descend, in due order, the steps of the old temple, and to proceed to the new building. As soon as the van of the procession had passed through a certain gate, the band of musicians stationed inside the gate struck up a solemn air as it moved along. Behind it walked the junior Chief Abbot accompanied by a torch-bearer and following him were 20 priests dressed in white, and carrying a special kind of casket, on each side being a torch-bearer. Then came the Chief Abbot, clad in the sacerdotal dress with seven folds, and also accompanied by a torch-bearer. He was followed in due order by the scions of the holy family, those treated as scions, and high dignitaries of the temple. When the possession reached the new edifice, the caskets were borne into the inner chamber, and the Chief Abbot set the tablets and images in their places. There was no reading of sacred texts when the ceremony was over, the Abbots and the others simply bowed down and then left the hall.

We hope to give a description of the new temple—a magnificent specimen of modern Japanese architecture—in another issue.

THE RUSSIAN NAVY.

The process of expansion and elaboration, as performed by some of the ingenuous journalists of this Settlement, often leads to very pretty results. For example:—Last Friday we wrote, "Russia has been a stock scare-crow. Her Mediterranean Fleet was coming out to blow Japan to pieces if Manchuria were meddled with. Russia's Mediterranean Fleet consists of one man-of-war and a few torpedo-boats! It might well be invoked by these silly alarmists." This expression of amusement at the ignorance of writers who imagined that Russia keeps a big fleet in the Mediterranean, provoked a characteristic scale of criticisms. First, the *Japan Mail*—always carefully called "the Government organ" or "the Japanese official paper," in order to involve the Japanese authorities in the criticism—was charged with "sneering at Russia's Mediterranean Fleet." Then a larger step was taken, and the *Mail* was represented as making "satirical reference to the Russian Navy." And then the final summit of reasoning was climbed by a declaration that, "acting doubtless under specific instructions, the subsidized organ of the Japanese Government has sneered at the ability of the Russian Fleet to blow the Japanese out of the water." It is really worth while to trace the processes of this kind of argument, for we greatly doubt whether the opportunity of observing anything so superbly logical and ingenuous could be found elsewhere. You laugh, for example, at the ignorance of a writer who imagines that England keeps a powerful body of troops in Newfoundland, and you immediately stand convicted, first, of sneering at Great Britain's Newfoundland Army; secondly, of making satirical reference to the British Army in general, and finally, of ridiculing the ability of the English army to hold its own against the army of some other country. The newspaper readers of this Settlement scarcely appreciate the phenomenal quality of the journalism they enjoy.

STABBING AFFRAY.

A serious stabbing affray occurred in Japanese town on Sunday in one of the innumerable grog-shops kept by Japanese. A sailor named Henry Shaw, an American, seriously wounded two other sailors named Hopkins and Conroy, one being stabbed in the stomach and the other having his chin cut open. One of the men was conveyed to the police station where he was examined by Dr. Rokkaku who then sent him to the General Hospital for treatment.

THE TERMS OF PEACE.

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* publishes the terms of the Treaty of Peace concluded at Shimonoseki. They are as follow:—

(1.) China recognises the independence of Korea.

(2.) China cedes to Japan the following territory, namely:—In Manchuria the whole of the district lying south of a line drawn from the point where the Anping River enters the Yalu River to the mouth of the Liao river, so as to include Fenghwan, Haicheng and Yingkow. Also, the island of Formosa and its adjacent islets, and the Pescadores Group.

(3.) China pays Japan an indemnity of Tls. 200 million; that is to say *yen* 300 million. The payment to be effected in seven yearly instalments, and the portion unpaid to carry interest of 5 per cent. per annum. Provided that, should the whole sum be paid in three years, interest will be foregone.

(4.) Japan shall be entitled to all the privileges and all the tradal advantages possessed in China by Western Powers under the provisions of the most-favoured-nation clause.

SUB-CLAUSES.

(1.) Japanese ships shall have free access to the ports of Shashih, Chungking, Hangchow, and Soochow, and shall be entitled to enter and freely navigate the rivers at Chungking, Soochow, and Hangchow.

(2.) Articles purchased by Japanese in the interior of China, or imported articles carried into the interior, may be stored free of all tax.

(3.) Japanese subjects shall be free to carry on manufacturing industries in China.

(4.) Japanese subjects shall be free to import all kinds of machinery into China.

(5.) Articles manufactured in China under Clause 3 shall be treated as imported articles, and shall be handled under special permits.

(6.) The new Commercial Treaty between Japan and China shall be based on China's present Treaties with Western States; so long as the subjects or citizens of the latter retain the privileges of extraterritorial jurisdiction and tariff, Japanese subjects also shall fully enjoy the same privileges.

(7.) By way of security for the payment of the above mentioned indemnity, Japan shall hold Weihaiwei, and China shall pay the cost of the occupation.

(8.) When an exchange of prisoners is effected, the Chinese Government shall inflict no manner of punishment on the prisoners returned to her by Japan; neither shall she raise any question whatever as to the conduct of such of her subjects as had relations with the Japanese during the war. Further, she shall make unconditional rendition of any Japanese soldiers held prisoner by her.

(9.) Ratifications of this Treaty shall be exchanged within three weeks from the date of its signature, the place of exchange being Chefoo.

THE PROGRESS OF THE PEACE NEGOTIATIONS.

Now that peace has presumably been restored, it may be worth while to reproduce from the *Jiji* the following recapitulation of the progress of the negotiations:—

On the 19th ult., Li Hung-chang arrived at Bakan as the third of China's envoys for peace. He was accompanied by Lord Li, his son-in-law, Messrs. Lo, Wu, Ma, and scores of others. On the next day, the first meeting between the Plenipotentiaries of the two belligerents took place in the Shunpa-ro. It was simply for the purpose of mutually examining credentials, and the Plenipotentiaries separated after having accomplished that task. On the 21st, the second meeting was held. The Chinese Plenipotentiary on that occasion asked for an armistice, and the Japanese Plenipotentiaries replied that the request would be complied with if China consented to the following conditions:—

1.—To evacuate Tientsin, Taku, and Shanhaikwan, and to surrender those places with their forts, barracks, and military armament, to Japan, as a temporary measure, pending the conclusion of the negotiations.

2.—To place the railway between Shanhaikwan and Tientsin under the control of the Japanese.

3.—To defray the expenses of the forces sent to occupy the above places.

The Chinese Plenipotentiary complained of the harshness of these terms, and asked that an armistice be granted on condition merely of the evacuation of Shanhaikwan and Taku. The Japanese Plenipotentiaries, however, were inflexible, and the Viceroy, much perturbed, asked for an interval of two days to deliberate and to send despatches to the Pekin Government. The negotiations were therefore suspended for two days, during which interval the two Japanese Plenipotentiaries made a pleasure trip to Chofu. On the 24th, the negotiations were resumed, the third meeting taking place. The Viceroy Li then withdrew his request for an armistice, and it was agreed that the negotiations for peace should be commenced from the next day. It was then that the situation underwent a great and sudden change, owing to a murderous attempt made by a fanatic on the life of Earl Li. The progress of the negotiations was suspended, and the Emperor of Japan, out of special consideration for the unfortunate Chinese Representative, unconditionally granted an armistice for a space of 20 days. For the purpose of arranging various procedure in connection with the armistice, the Japanese Plenipotentiaries consulted with Lord Li and other subordinates of the Viceroy, and on the 30th the armistice was signed. Its duration was to be for 20 days only, during which a settlement of the peace question had to be made. But as the Viceroy's wound was not yet healed, he sought and obtained the sanction of the Pekin Government to the appointment of Lord Li, as second Plenipotentiary. The fact was intimated to the Japanese, but they did immediately signify their acceptance of Lord Li. On the 3rd of April, however, a conference was held, to the surprise of the public. Men wondered especially when they saw the palanquin of the Viceroy Li carried, at 5.40 p.m., to the place of meeting. Subsequently, however, it transpired that the Viceroy, whose wound was now almost healed, had visited the Conference Chamber, simply to tender his thanks for the kindness shown to him since the painful incident, and to express gratitude for the grant of an unconditional armistice.

On the 6th inst. the fifth meeting was held. The Japanese Plenipotentiaries then submitted the terms that Japan was resolved to exact in consideration of making peace, and the Chinese Plenipotentiaries replied that they should give a definite answer in one or two days. At the same time, Count Ito asked for an explanation concerning an avowal of ignorance of the armistice made by the Chinese troops in Manchuria to Colonel Aoki, a staff officer, who had been despatched by the Japanese Army to make arrangements in connection with the armistice, and concerning the lawless action of these troops in firing upon a Japanese military party that carried a white flag. The Viceroy expressed regret for what had occurred, and said that, owing to the interruption of telegraphic communication, intimation as to the armistice might not have reached Manchuria yet. He promised, however, that he should once more despatch a message to Pekin on the subject. On the 7th instant, Japan acknowledged the communication of the Viceroy as to the appointment of Lord Li in the capacity of fully accredited Plenipotentiary. Another meeting was held on the 8th, but it had no special consequence. That day Lord Li called on the Japanese Plenipotentiaries to announce his new appointment and also to obtain, if possible, a postponement of the time for giving a definite answer to Japan's demands. On the 9th, Count Ito invited Lord Li and others to his residence, and urged that China's reply be given speedily. The Count declared that should China, on one pretext or another, endeavour to defer the period of giving a definite answer, it was to be feared that the time covered by the armistice would expire. In that event he warned the Chinese that, without even h

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day's grace, the Japanese forces would resume the offensive, and that any appeal for a prolongation of the armistice would be peremptorily rejected. Lord Li replied that the Viceroy himself would attend the meeting next day (10th), when an answer would be given. The meeting took place at half-past 4 p.m. on the 10th instant. As it had been promised that the Viceroy would that day give a definite answer to Japan's demands, the conference attracted unusual public attention, Count Saigo, Minister of the Navy, waited till evening at the residence of the Premier, for the purpose of obtaining intelligence as to the issue of the conference. Nevertheless, though the meeting lasted for over two hours, the Viceroy advanced one plea after another, and finally asked for a postponement of two more days. Count Ito—Viscount Mutsu being too much indisposed to attend the meeting—had no choice but to consent, and the meeting separated with a promise that China's answer would be given on the 13th. During this interval of a few days the Count invited his literary friends to his residence, and also took a trip to an adjacent district. The 13th instant came and still the Viceroy's promise remained unfulfilled. The same was the case on the 14th, when Lord Li called on Count Ito and asked to have one more day's grace. On the 15th, the eighth meeting took place. It was the most important of all, for on that occasion China's long deferred answer was at last given. From early morning evidence of the exciting character of the crisis were observable at the residences of the Plenipotentiaries of the two Powers, and in the town everyone was breathless. At last the conference commenced from 2 p.m. and was continued until 7. Viscount Mutsu's health still incapacitated him from attending. The Viceroy finally declared that China would acquiesce in the terms demanded by Japan. One other meeting, held on the morning of the 16th, was simply for the purpose of signing the Treaty. Thus peace was at last restored. It was agreed at the same time that if the Treaty were not ratified within three weeks, calculated from that day, it should be null and void.

THE NAGAHAMA QUARANTINE STATION.

Sanitation, as a science, received but very little attention, even in the most civilised countries of the West, until what may be called comparatively recent years. Although the Laws of Moses, fourteen hundred years before Christ, enjoined "strict cleanliness," Moses can hardly be called a sanitarian; and from what we know now of sanitary science, as evidenced by the check placed upon epidemics by taking certain precautions, the terrible plagues that have visited the various countries of Europe and Asia during the succeeding three thousand years may safely be set down as the outcome of the insanitary condition of the people and their surroundings. France must be credited with being the first country in Europe to take up the matter of sanitation in earnest, but it was not until the early years of the present century that the French paid any particular attention to the public health, and it was 50 years later (1854) that M. Tardieu published a standard work on the subject, namely, his "Dictionnaire de Hygiène." In the meantime, the subject of sanitation had been taken up in England, and Dr. Southwood Smith published his "Philosophy of Health" in 1832. The International Sanitary Congress at Vienna, in 1874, doubtless gave a great impetus to sanitary reform in Europe, this being followed, in 1876, by the establishment of the Sanitary Institute of Great Britain. About this time Dr. Parkes inaugurated the Museum of Hygiene at University College, London, and a succession of pamphlets and lectures by such men as Sir Joseph Phayrer, Dr. Andrew Clark, Corfield, and Prof. Tyndall, followed later by additions to sanitation literature by Sir William Gull and Professor Huxley, brought the subject prominently before the English public, and a succession of Acts of Parliament and consequent municipal regulations were the result, to the end that during the past twenty years England has been foremost in the application of scientific sanitary methods. Japan has made a good commencement by the establishment in Yokohama, Hakodate, and Nagasaki of a pure water supply; other important centres of population have also waterworks under construction; while in several other direction this country is inaugurating sanitary reforms. Not the least of these is the establishment of quarantine stations for the check of imported disease. Being so near to China, with which this country has constant maritime communication, and the Celestial Empire being the undoubted cradle of cholera and such diseases as the bubonic plague, which recently caused so many deaths in Hongkong and various parts of Kwangtung, Japan is bound, for the preservation of the public health, to take every precaution against the introduction of epidemics that can be devised by the most advanced forms of sanitary science. That she is doing this, and in a very effective manner so far as precautions are concerned, is evident by the establishment at various points of contact with over sea shipping of such quarantine stations as that opened on Monday at Nagahama.

A few days ago, Mr. Nakano, the Governor of Kanagawa Prefecture, issued invitations to a large number of the foreign residents of the port to visit the Quarantine Station above mentioned, and a goodly number of persons, representing all classes of the community, assembled on Monday afternoon at the Western Hatoba, whence they were conveyed to Nagahama in steam launches, the run down occupying just one hour. Situated amongst the hills and woods a short distance below Tomioka, the station is delightfully placed in most a salubrious spot, which alone must go a good way towards rendering less irksome the somewhat grim and repellent idea of being "disinfected." On approaching the station, the first thing we observe is a breakwater to give shelter to boats landing passengers, for the occasional northerly wind raises a choppy sea. Inside the breakwater, we run alongside a pontoon that rises and falls with the tide, this convenience being at the end of a pier which leads at once into the grounds of the station. Mr. Yoshida, the Chief Superintendent of the Kanagawa Police, who is also the chief official of the Quarantine Station, conducted the party over the establishment, and explained the uses to which the various buildings were to be put. The buildings are all detached, that is to say, there are first, second, and third class separate sets of apartments, with a good space of garden between each, these again being detached from the hospital, boiler-house, and officers' quarters, all of which are separate erections. The buildings include a mortuary and a crematory, both of which are at some distance away, and are fitted with the latest appliances to effectually carry out the purposes for which they are intended. The fittings and furniture of the first class apartments are more like those of a good hotel than a quarantine station, and general surprise was expressed at the neatness and comfort displayed in the furnishing of the bedrooms, bath-rooms, sitting-rooms, and smoking-room, as well as the general arrangement of the entire establishment.

The area of ground upon which the station stands is 14,337 *tsubo*=nearly 12 acres, the buildings covering 1,058 *tsubo*. There are apartments to accommodate 17 first-class and 50 second and third-class passengers, No. 1 bath-house containing 10 bath-rooms, including 2 ladies' rooms, and No. 2 bath-house, 3 bath-rooms for crew, 3 for steerage passengers, and 3 for ladies. The hospital contains 3 rooms for first-class passengers, and 8 for second and third-class, the latter having 2 beds in each room. The engine-house contains an engine of 40 horse-power, and a disinfecting oven for clothing of the latest construction. The time occupied in disinfecting clothing, bathing, &c., is from 40 minutes to an hour and a half. In order to prevent unnecessary delay these operations go on simultaneously, so that while a "patient" is taking a bath his clothing is being attended to, and thus the inconvenience is reduced to a minimum. The necessary adjunct to such an establishment—pure water—is in good supply, the reserve being held in a tank 36 feet long by 12 feet wide and 8 feet deep; while for the drainage of the heavy rainfall which occurs at certain seasons ample provision has been made by the construction of stone-faced nullahs. The visitors on Monday included a large contingent of the medical fraternity of Yokohama, who testified their appreciation of the arrangements in a marked manner, as indeed did the lay element.

As usual on such occasions, the Japanese Authorities displayed their hospitality by providing ample refreshment, both solid and liquid, and after taking a short rest the party returned to Yokohama at five o'clock, well pleased with the trip and fully impressed with Japan's advance along the path of sanitary science.

COMMERCIAL ADVANTAGES ACCRUING FROM THE TREATY OF PEACE.

The commercial provisions of the Treaty of Peace, writes the *Jiji*, confer considerable advantages on Japan as compared with the tradal regulations that were in force between Japan and China prior to the declaration of war. Those Regulations being entirely distinct from the regulations that Western countries have concluded with China, and there being no most favoured nation clause in the treaty between Japan and China, the merchants of Japan were placed at a great disadvantage in competition with the merchants of the West. For instance, though European and American merchants were free to trade in the interior, the Japanese were obliged to confine themselves to the narrow bounds of the settlements. Again, while goods imported by Japanese were subjected to heavy imposts in passing into the interior, those imported by Western traders had simply to pay transit dues amounting to one half of the sum levied by the Customs. Moreover, Japanese ships, owing to the non-existence of a most favoured nation clause in Japan's Treaty, could not enter the ports that Western Powers had caused China to open in recent years for purposes of commerce, but were obliged to confine themselves to the ports indicated in the original Regulations. The result was that whereas Western ships could call at no less than 25 Chinese ports, the ships of Japan were obliged to content themselves with 15. The new Commercial Treaty to be concluded with China is to contain the same most favoured nation clause as that existing in her treaties with Western countries, and thus not only will Japan be hereafter entitled to carry on trade in all the 25 ports, but also, by the new Treaty, the three additional ports of Shashih, Soochow, and Hangchow are to be opened, thus bringing to 28 the total number of Chinese ports where Japanese merchants will be entitled to carry on trade. It is needless to say that any Western country whose treaty with China contains a most favoured nation clause will have an equal right to enjoy this additional advantages, on which score gratitude will doubtless be felt toward Japan. The reason why Chungking, already included in the list of treaty ports opened to Western countries, is specially mentioned in the new Treaty, requires some explanation. Chungking being an important mart in the interior, it was stipulated, when England concluded the Chefoo Treaty in 1876, that the place should be opened for commercial purposes so soon as the Yangtsze-kiang, on the upper part of which Chungking lies, should be dredged to admit the passage of steamers. But China never opened the port. Consequently, in 1890, England raised the question, obliged her to open it for purposes of commerce, with this proviso, however, that goods should be carried thither in Chinese bottoms only. In point of fact the river is navigable for steamers not only as far as Chungking but even for a considerable distance higher up. Thus the obstacles arbitrarily placed by China in the way of foreign commerce have

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been removed by the present Treaty. The provision by virtue of which Japanese ships are to have free access to Chungking, Soochow, and Hangchow must be regarded with satisfaction by England. As to Shashih, no mention is made of approaching it by ship. That is because the city is situated between Hangchow and Ichang, on the bank of the Yangtsze-kiang so that any special provision about approaching it by ship is superfluous.

Though otherwise free to carry on tradal transactions in the interior, on the payment of comparatively small import duties, western merchants have hitherto been obliged to pay heavy transit dues when they desired to store goods in the interior. That inconvenience has been obviated by the present Treaty. Further, the provision in virtue of which Japanese subjects will be free to carry on manufacturing industries in China is a great concession, and must have caused Li Hung-chang more regret even than the payment of 200 millions taels of indemnity. This provision, securing to foreigners the privilege of carrying on manufacturing industries in China, together with the commercial facilities already secured by treaty and those now obtained by virtue of Japan's efforts, have opened China to foreign enterprise in every direction except that of agriculture. It is probable that in the future various enterprises will be started by foreigners in the interior now that all obstacles are removed.

The provision relating to be free import of machinery extends and explains the article contained in the Commercial Treaty between China and Western countries. No definite statement as to machinery is contained in that article, and machines have consequently been imported in the past under the name of commodities. A few years ago, however, when cotton gins were sent to Shanghai from Japan, the Customs authorities objected that the Chinese Government did not allow foreigners to engage in manufacturing industries in the interior, and therefore the import of machinery for manufacturing purposes could not be permitted. All such objections have been removed by the present Treaty.

The sixth provision of the Treaty relates to goods manufactured by Japanese subjects in the interior of China. These goods are to enjoy the same special advantages in connexion with taxes or imposts as goods directly imported from Japan.

Such are the new advantages that Western countries will enjoy in virtue of the success of Japan's arms and the conclusion of peace. In fact, the whole empire of China may now be considered to have been virtually thrown open for the purpose of commercial transactions.

In another part of the same issue, the *Jiji* says that the importance of the advantages that Japan, and with her all Western nations in virtue of the most favoured nation clause, will enjoy hereafter in commercial transactions with China, may be illustrated by reference to the spinning industry. Hitherto yarns sent to China were subjected to taxes and imposts of divers kinds, so that Japanese merchants experienced considerable difficulty in selling such goods. That obstacle now disappears entirely. Yarns from Japan may hereafter be carried to places far in the interior, as Shashih, Chungking, Hangchow, and Soochow on payment of a comparatively light tax, and will be, at the same time, exempted from storage dues, which Chinese subjects are obliged to pay. Moreover, as manufacturing industries can be carried on freely in the interior, and as goods thus produced are to enjoy the same immunity with regard to the assessment of duties and taxes as goods directly brought from Japan, it may be found more profitable for Japanese spinners, desiring to place their products in the Chinese markets, to establish factories at suitable localities beyond the sea, since Chinese cotton could then be obtained cheaply, the cost of transportation would be economized, and the tastes of consumers could be more satisfactorily consulted.

CHINESE PRESS REPORTS.

With each incoming mail from Shanghai we have invariably to marvel not only at the inaccuracy of the news published in the local foreign press of Shanghai, but also at the ridiculous conclusions drawn and wholly absurd theories expounded. But if foreign newspapers err, the vernacular Chinese press is a monument of the most outrageous falsehood. To a certain extent this is excusable, particularly when one calls to mind the manner in which "news" is always disseminated by Chinese newsmongers and the nature of the news. We have already instanced numbers of the most barefaced misstatements, yet each mail brings fresh evidence of a still more startling disregard for truth on the part of the Chinese press. Small wonder that there should be sedition and tumult in Kwangtung when nearly every native journal has consistently described scores of Chinese victories and a corresponding number of Japanese "total defeats." If so successful on the whole, why should China cede territory to Japan or pay her an indemnity?—might very well be questioned by the readers of Chinese journals. As a sample of infelicitous journalism take the following paragraphs, translated from recent issues of a vernacular paper published in Hongkong:—"A telegram from Tientsin announces that the Viceroy Li has succumbed to his wound. China's greatest statesman has thus lost his life in a barbarous land. Later: The Japanese Government officials state Koyama is an insane man. It is customary in Japan to send mad people to insane asylums where they receive medical treatment. May we not then suspect that the Japanese purposely permitted this maniac to be at large, in the hope that he might commit his evil deed? Otherwise we are inclined to believe that the members of Parliament, who have been so vociferously exclaiming against peace, have bribed the ruffian Koyama to attempt the assassination of our great Minister; or it may possibly be that the political opponents and enemies of Ito and Mutsu contrived the affair, so that the onus of the atrocious crime would fall on those two Ministers of State." Three most acute and perspicacious theories, in faith. Anent the armistice, a Shanghai paper—quoted by the *Miyako Shimbun*—had the following excellent item:—"The Japanese have entreated our Minister Plenipotentiary to grant an armistice of three weeks' duration, Formosa only to be without the pale of the cessation of hostilities. We clearly see from this that the sole object of the Japanese in begging for the armistice is to the freed from the bold assaults of our troops in Manchuria, and thus be able to act against Formosa. We trust our generals will not falter at their posts but stoutly repulse the rapacious foe." Another no less veracious Shanghai journal reports that Tung, the Formosa Governor, was so delighted with the news of the sinking of two Japanese war-vessels by the forts on Panghu Island, that he "immediately sent twenty thousand *yen* in Mexicans to the general in command of the victorious forts." Up to date no sum of the kind has been received in the Pescadores; it is therefore probable that our Shanghai contemporary mistook the will for the deed. The sinking of two (or more) Japanese war ships is a paragraph that has gone the rounds of every vernacular journal in China. One of the latest versions runs thus:—"Japanese men-of-war, more than ten in number, attacked Makung. Shells from our forts sunk two of the enemy's ships, and on another showing signs of being about to founder, the remaining uninjured vessels launched eight boats of tough cedar-wood to save the crew. The wind and waves both being high at the time, all those boats were driven on the beach, after receiving much injury from the forts. Our soldiers then ran forward to take the Japanese prisoners, but when they reached the place they found that the enemy had managed to escape. In this engagement between the forts and Japanese fleet only 27 were lost on our side, while at least one hundred Japanese must have been killed"—a very small estimate if it is supposed to include the crews of the sunken war-ships; but it is always best to err on the right side. More interesting, though not so amusing, is the subjoined account of the battle of Yingkow:—When the Japanese made their attack on Yingkow the town was garrisoned by troops under General Wu. On seeing the enemy approach all became utter rout. Upon this General Sung sallied forth to encounter the foe in person. His assault forced the foe to retire a little, but unluckily the snow was deep and the icy roads very slippery, so the General's horse had a nasty fall, its distinguished rider being thrown. Believing that their Commander had been severely wounded our troopers were quite dispirited. Taking advantage of the momentary confusion the Japanese again came rushing on, but General Sung still presented a bold front. It was not until three thousand of his men had been killed or disabled that the General was compelled to retire. The Japanese hereupon at once entered the town, and shortly afterwards captured Tienchwangtai. The trades-people of the two places had no time to escape with their belongings. One pawnbroker alone in Yingkow was robbed of upwards of forty thousand dollars' worth of goods by the fleeing soldiers and deserters."

CHINESE NEWS.

The Japanese Government, if it attempted to follow the advice of all its foreign critics, would fare like the man and the ass in the fable. In this country the local foreign press condemns the Authorities because they insist upon the necessity of exercising some control over the press. In Shanghai, on the contrary, we find the leading English journal adjudging the Government directly responsible for crimes like the attack on the Czarewitch and on the Viceroy Li because more stringent methods are not adopted to check the inflammatory utterances of the vernacular newspapers. It is impossible for Japan to be right anyhow.

The *North China Daily News* has "seen it somewhere brought forward that the peace negotiations were arranged to take place at Shimonoseki because it was not considered safe to introduce the Envoys into the more populous Hiroshima." That is curious, in view of the fact that Shimonoseki was selected in deference to the convenience of the Viceroy Li himself.

The Korean correspondent of the leading Shanghai journal, whose glaring and innumerable misstatements about the events of the war in its early stages should exclude his writings from the columns of any newspaper, now affirms that "any person showing anti-Japanese sentiments publicly is imprisoned, and a few of the leaders have been beheaded. There are at present," he goes on to say, "between 60 and 70 anti-Japanese in the prisons in Sôul, whose sole crime is that they have expressed dislike for the Japanese; three of them have been beheaded. The Japanese, despairing of ever persuading the Koreans to like them, are trying to see what force will do." We believe that the much abused vernacular press of Japan might be searched in vain for any example of such a malicious, wanton, and monstrous lie as the above. The idea of Count Inouye's having men imprisoned and beheaded merely because they express dislike for the Japanese, is one of the most barbarous slanders we have ever seen in print. And in a leading article in the very same issue the editor of our Shanghai contemporary reads the Japanese press a lesson for intemperate writing!

It appears to have been actually believed in Tientsin that H.M.S. *Æolus* undertook to relieve the Japanese ships lying off Taku of the duty of searching foreign vessels for contraband of war, on the ground that the performance of such a task by the Japanese might lead to friction between them and the British! Is there any limit to public credulity?

In the Tientsin correspondence of the *North China Daily News* we find a statement that Dr. Kiu, the principal Chinese physician at Chinchow (North), died in the middle of March,

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"that he had sent on 1,000 wounded men from that town and that more were to follow." Up to the date (March 26th) of the letter, however, only 56 out of the 1,000 had reached Tientsin. What becomes of the Chinese wounded is an inscrutable problem. It is alleged that the badly injured are killed by their own comrades, and there appear to be strong grounds for supposing that inasmuch as the wounded lying on the field have often shot or stabbed Japanese soldiers, the latter's instructions about giving quarter have not always prevented them from averting such contigencies in a summary manner. If the history of the sufferings endured by the Chinese soldiers in this war could be written truly, it would probably be a terrible record.

Despite the war, floods in the north and typhoons in the south that injured the rice and sugar crops, the foreign trade of China was larger for 1894 than it had ever been before, except in 1891. The figures were Tls. 290,207,433 against Tls. 267,995,130 in 1893 and Tls. 139,908,438 in 1892. The Customs Revenue in 1894 was Tls. 22,523,600 against Tls. 21,989,300 in 1893. There was a marked falling off in the import of opium, but the fact is not interpreted to mean a diminution of consumption, but only that the home-grown drug is replacing the foreign.

Very curious reading is to be found in Shanghai journals with reference to the armistice. The *North China Daily News* declares that the supposed sacrifice on Japan's part meant no sacrifice at all, since—and this is the delightful part—it only suspended the march on Pekin and left Japan free to "go on with the subjugation of Formosa, and possibly visit Amoy, while her other army might press its way merrily forward into this province and lay siege to Nankin." "Only suspended the march on Pekin!" Is not that charming? In fact, the armistice involved no sacrifice on Japan's part because it prevented her from pursuing the one object to the achievement of which she had devoted all her energies, and left her free to do several other things for none of which she was prepared and none of which she had any intention of doing. Perhaps her critics, who made so light of the armistice, have begun by this time to recognise the injustice of their comments seeing that throughout the whole period of the truce Japan never fired a shot anywhere.

That "march upon Nanking" ought surely to have passed before now into the realm of fiction. Yet, in the leading Shanghai journal of the 2nd instant, we find this paragraph:—

> Referring to the entry into this province, our readers will doubtless remember that we foretold a descent on the northern coast of Kiangsu in articles on the 18th of January and 27th of February, and the idea, as most new ideas are, was received with scepticism. Now that the Japanese are probably already on the road to Nanking, every one finds they always knew it would be so, while certain local writers, with an assurance which merits a better cause, claim to have been the first to prophesy this move.

The local writers claiming to have been the first to prophesy a march upon Nanking must now wish that they hadn't been quite so previous.

Our readers remember the controversy that took place about the term "Wojen" applied by the Emperor of China to the Japanese in His Majesty's Proclamation of War, wherein he ordered his Generals to discharge the task of "rooting these *Wojen* from their lairs." It was claimed by the defenders of China that the term had no opprobrious meaning whatever, and that it was habitually employed by the Chinese in all good faith and courtesy to designate the Japanese. Nevertheless, its original signification of "pigmies" or "dwarfs" appears to be now generally accepted, for in correspondence from Pekin and Tientsin appearing in the Shanghai papers, the Japanese are constantly designated "dwarfs" or "pigmies," evidently in half-jesting allusion to the term used in the Emperor's Proclamation.

It is hinted that the interior of Formosa has hitherto been abandoned to the aborigines, not because the Chinese could not conquer or govern them, but because within a narrow belt of coast line the Formosan malaria is so terrible as to defy even Chinese residence.

This is how the Pekin correspondent of the *North China Daily News*, writing on March 22nd, viewed the supposed territorial demands of Japan:—

> The demand said to be put forward for a very large portion of Manchuria, at the very least the province of Shingking, including, of course, the peninsula of Liaotung with the stronghold of Port Arthur, is no small demand. The cession of so much territory and especially maritime territory must tend to wreck all prospect of a peaceful solution of the present dispute. The Emperor neither now nor later can agree to such terms. He might as well abdicate at once, or give up his whole ancestral home with its ancient capital and its archives of the dynasty or become entirely Chinese and move westward to some new capital. Peking must be abandoned if the Japanese are to hold Manchuria.

"The withdrawal of the Japanese from Shantung," says the Chefoo correspondent of the Shanghai morning journal, "is an extraordinary piece of good luck for the Futai of the province, who is preparing to blossom forth as a hero of the first class, as he recaptured Ninghai in gallant style, shortly after it had been evacuated by the enemy, and has since announced the re-capture of Yungching. The fact that Liukungtao is still held by a handful of bandits will probably be slurred over in his reports."

We read in a Shanghai contemporary that "to further cut down the expenses of the Court, H.I.M. the Empress-Dowager has signified her intention to return to the capital and live in the Tzening Palace, and close the large establishments known as Eho Park and the Lake Palace (*Nan-Pei-Hai-tse*), which have cost the Imperial Treasury nearly ten million taels yearly. The Emperor, knowing that the Empress-Dowager is passionately fond of Eho Park with its surroundings of hill and forest, especially as it is ten miles away from the noise, dust, and smells of the capital, tried his best to make Her Majesty retain Eho Park and close the Lake Palace only; but the Empress-Dowager is determined to economise for the country, and her decree has now become law."

It really seems as though one effect of the war has been to diminish the unpopularity of foreigners in China. The Chinese see that, after all, the presence of foreigners in their midst has helped them in this crisis. A correspondent writing from Pekin to a Shanghai journal, says "We shall soon forget what the expression "foreign devil" means, we hear it now so seldom. The Chinese have certainly become much more friendly and look upon us as their saviours. At all events our presence here gives them confidence and they think on our account the city will not be destroyed or their lives taken."

After the battle of February 21st, 800 Chinese wounded arrived in Newchwang (Yingkow), and the Newchwang correspondent of the *N.-C. Daily News* says "so far as we can ascertain, the Japanese sustained heavy loss." The battle of the 21st February was the last attack made by the Chinese against Haicheng. We have hitherto supposed that it did not cost the Chinese much loss, for, although some 17,000 of them moved to the assault, they never came to close quarters, and after their retreat only 100 dead—according to the Japanese report—were found on the field. The Japanese casualties were 2 killed and 6 wounded!

The same correspondent's account of the capture of Yingkow is as follows:—

> Between 10 and 11 a.m. on the 6th of March the Japanese were reported to be in sight and several of the foreign residents hurrying out to the East gate, found the bridge in possession of five Japanese scouts, who were calmly puffing at cigarettes while waiting for the rest of their detachment. Troops of Japanese then began to congregate and pour in from all sides and by noon they started marching through the town. Several Chinese—soldiers, merchants and coolies—fled across the river to the north shore and very stupidly hoisted a flag to show their independence, whereupon the Japanese at once crossed the ice and forming into line fired three volleys in rapid succession, but no one fell. The Japanese then re-crossed and patrolled the town without meeting with the slightest resistance on the part of the natives, who stared at them in astonishment, exhibiting no disposition to resent their movements. 12,000 Japanese, in all, entered the town, under the command of Major-General Nodzu, who is in command of the First Brigade. In the afternoon, the artillery made an attempt to capture the forts, whither, according to native rumours, the Taotai and General Chiao had fled with 3,000 soldiers; they made a resolute stand, firing one of the mines laid down on the plain, the explosion forming a chasm 20 feet in depth and 30 feet wide, and succeeded in repulsing the Japanese assault. In spite of the heavy firing there were but few casualties, and the Japanese retreated, intending to repeat the attack the following morning. During the night, however, the Chinese evacuated the forts and fled towards Tienchwangtai, thereby enabling the enemy to take possession of what seemed a well nigh impregnable position. General Sung, anticipating the advance of the Japanese, left here early on the 4th inst., with some 40,000 strong for Tienchwangtai, where he was defeated on the 9th instant. Some British residents went to the scene of action, and on arrival found the main body of the Japanese army posted on the south side of the river, from which position they had shelled Tienchwangtai; the entire town was in flames and the rattle of musketry proclaimed the fact that an advanced body of Japanese was clearing the streets. Some of the fugitives were flying towards the enemy's ranks, and the Japanese themselves were obliged to retire for a time from the town on account of the dense smoke caused by the conflagration.

On the 8th of April the following was published in Tientsin:—

> Viceroy Wang received yesterday telegraphic despatches from Liu K'un-yi, dated Kinchow, announcing the arrival of couriers from Liaoyang reporting that Generals I-k'o-tang-a, Ch'ang Shun, and the guerilla chief Han Pienwai had succeeded in defeating the Japanese fifteen miles south of Liaoyang in a series of bloody battles lasting three days and two nights, on the 24th, 25th, and 26th of March. The Japanese have now retreated southward 45 *li*. The couriers who brought the above despatches from Liaoyang lost two of their number, having been intercepted and pursued by the enemy's cavalry near the East Shaho river. Liu K'un-yi also telegraphed that General Sung succeeded in beating back a Japanese attempt to cross the West Shaho river on the 29th of March, and that General Ma had penetrated east of Tienchwantai to the vicinity of Newchang, in consequence of defeating a Japanese division which opposed him twenty-two *li* west of Tienchuangtai.

No intelligence has reached Japan of the above fighting. We believe the Chinese account to be baseless. *The Times* correspondent, writing to us from Newchwang (Yingkow) under date of March 29th, says:—"There is no news of importance concerning military operations, for the First Army is at present inactive. The greater part of the Army is at Haicheng, Newchwang, and various places between these two cities and Yingkow. The farthest position to the northward occupied by the Japanese is Anshan-tsan, the town 20 miles south of Liaoyang, at which a junction was effected between the two divisions of the First Army, prior to the attack on Newchwang (old town). Chinese troops occupy Liaoyang, and there have been skirmishes between reconnoitering parties south of Liaoyang, but there has been no fighting of importance since the battle of Tienchwangtai on the 9th instant." It is plain, therefore, that these "skirmishes of reconnoitering parties" are the "series of bloody battles" reported by the Chinese.

The steady improvement in the trade and commerce of New South Wales is shown by the returns of the Sydney shipping trade, the number of vessels arriving and leaving the port during 1894 being 3,094, against 3,058 in 1893, representing a tonnage of 5,714,458 tons against 5,653,292 tons in 1893. The number of officers, seamen, and other employés was 144,696, against 140,365 in 1893, and the number of passengers 141,564, against 125,759 in 1893. The number of seamen whose engagements were registered for 1894 was 11,782; the number of seamen whose discharges have been registered, 10,664; and the number of desertions reported, 241. The amount of wages paid to seamen discharged in the shipping office, Sydney, 1894, was £33,238 8s. 10½d., and the amount issued to seamen by advance notes during 1894 was £2,435, the wages on the ocean steamers generally being paid at British and other ports.

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TIENCHWANGTAI.

THE battle of Tienchwangtai derives unusual interest from the fact that the Japanese soldiers engaged in it seem to have been guilty of excesses that have evoked severe comment. We are in possession of direct information from a foreign correspondent at Yingkow, and can therefore lay before our readers a trustworthy statement of facts. Our correspondent was one of the two first foreigners to visit Tienchwangtai after the battle. He arrived there about an hour after the fighting had ceased, and, looking around, was struck by the fact that among some 200 or 300 soldiers lying in an open space to the north of the town, there was not one man living. Were there then no wounded? Of course many of those hit by rifle bullets in a fight are able to run away, but there must always be some too severely hurt to escape, and at Tienchwangtai the flight of the Chinese had been so hurried that they could not have carried off all their severely wounded. Our correspondent was unable to make any immediate examination of the bodies, but other foreigners, subsequently visiting the place, found some 20 or 30 corpses with incised wounds of the throat or bayonet stabs, in addition to bullet wounds. Moreover, only one wounded Chinaman was brought away by the Japanese. It is suggested that others may have concealed themselves in the houses—for the town was not entirely burned—and it is known that a great many must have struggled away, or been helped away by their comrades, since from 1,000 to 2,000 wounded Chinese were in Chinchow (N) ten days after the battle. Moreover, positive assertions have frequently been made that the Chinese themselves make a habit of killing their badly wounded comrades to save them from the painful fate supposed to await them if captured by the enemy. Still, there appear to be valid grounds for concluding that some of the wounded were killed by the victors, and the question arises, was this an act of wanton cruelty or does some extenuating explanation offer. Our correspondent gives an explanation. The methods, he says, of Chinese fighting render it difficult, if not impossible, to extend to a Chinese soldier the merciful treatment dictated by modern canons. Not because he decapitates a foe to earn money, or mutilates a corpse to satisfy his own cruel instincts, but because, not expecting when wounded to be the recipient of clemency that he himself would never show, he does not hesitate to fire upon or stab at everyone approaching him. Ready enough to fly if he can save his life by doing so, he fights fiercely when escape is impossible. In the early battles of the war, frequent cases are recorded of Chinamen lying injured on the battle-field who sat up and discharged their rifles at Japanese soldiers approaching without any hostile intention. A Japanese officer with whom our correspondent conversed, said that, in the course of the Tienchwangtai fight, his men surrounded a house containing 20 Chinese, who, refusing to surrender and, fighting to the last, had to be killed. The same officer described that in the town of Tienchwangtai, the Japanese, as they entered houses, were fired upon from lofts and cellars, and under such circumstances it was practically inevitable that every one in the house should be killed. Our correspondent sums up the case thus:—"In this kind of warfare, the soldiers' blood is soon up, and it becomes almost impossible to restrain them. They treat their wounded enemies as a man treats a wounded snake, killing it before he gives it a chance to strike. The Japanese must not be judged too harshly if they have not in all cases been able to attain the high ideal they set before themselves in the conduct of the present war."

The fact is, as it seems to us, that if the paradox is to be achieved of conducting warfare in a civilized manner, both sides must cöoperate for the achievement. If, on the part of one of the belligerents, rewards are given for the head of an enemy—which means, of course, that wherever a wounded man is found he is at once decapitated—; if the mutilation of corpses is encouraged, and if disabled men, believing that capture means torture and a terrible death, fire upon and stab at everyone approaching them, then it becomes plainly impossible for the other belligerent to adopt such measures as shall restrain all retaliation in kind on his own side, human nature being still human. However, the more publicity these matters receive, the better. No doubt can be entertained that the criticisms to which Japan has been subjected, have contributed materially to raise the standard of belligerent morality throughout the Far East.

THE PROCESS OF STIRRING UP STRIFE.

A DEFINITE prospect of the restoration of peace in the Orient being now apparent, two of the English newspapers published in Yokohama have apparently thrown off the mask, and seem to be endeavouring, by all the means at their disposal, in the first place to prolong the war by inducing China to refuse ratification of the Treaty signed at Shimonoseki on the 17th inst.; in the second, to push Russia into the breach and induce her to interfere by force of arms between the two Eastern Empires. It is, indeed, admitted by these journals that were the EMPEROR of China to withhold his consent to terms of which he had been made telegraphically cognisant before their acceptance by his Plenipotentiaries, he would be guilty of an act of unpardonable bad faith. But the force pretext that the transfer of Formosa to of that admission is entirely nullified by accompanying comments. It is declared, for example, that "a child could not have been more overmatched in every part of the diplomatic game" than the Viceroy of Chihli has been; that Japan has made "a prodigiously successful and very profitable bargain with humiliated and victimized China;" that "if the people of that unfortunate country complain of the hard terms which have been exacted by their conquering foe, nobody could find fault with them for so doing;" that "the world will watch with interest what China finds to say on the subject;" that Japan's "territorial acquisitions are far beyond what in equity she had any right to demand;" that Japan "has obtained in six months such immense advantages as will lead her at no future date to repeat an experiment so extravagantly remunerative;" that "any acquisition of territory by Japan would once and for all leave the campaign exposed as one of unscrupulous plunder," and so forth, the whole spirit of the writing being to convince the Chinese that they have been most harshly treated by their conqueror, and that if they tamely submit to the terms imposed, they will deserve the world's contempt. We are unwilling to think that the tendency of such criticism is fully appreciated by the critics themselves. Probably they are merely carried away by a feeling of jealousy that there should have sprung up in the Orient a Power competent to effect considerable re-adjustments of territory without reference to the dictatorship that Western States have hitherto been accustomed to exercise in all Eastern matters. Japan, imposing terms upon China independently of European sanction, is a novelty so startling that to extreme Jingoists like our local contemporaries the proper arrangement of affairs may seem to be undefinably dislocated. There are, undoubtedly, ample grounds to discuss the changes effected by the Treaty of Peace, but we can not too strongly deprecate the spirit in which the discussion has been commenced, or condemn too emphatically the tone of marked unfriendliness to Japan that permeates the articles from which we have quoted.

Still more unjustifiable are the efforts made to embroil Japan and Russia, in default of embroiling Japan and England. Russia, since the commencement of the war, has largely augmented her naval forces in these waters. Great Britain has done the same. There are obvious reasons for such a precaution, but the only reason apparently conceived by our local contemporaries is a desire to forcibly curb Japan's ambitious designs. Entirely sympathising with anything calculated to embarrass this empire, they complain of England's "loss of prestige;" denounce Lords ROSEBERY and KIMBERLEY as "backboneless incompetents," and even

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Japan means "the destruction of British trade in that island." Of course no thinking person really imagines that Great Britain's prestige can be impaired by allowing Japan and China to settle their disputes without foreign interference; and as for the pretence that British trade in Formosa will be destroyed by the transfer of the island to an enlightened Power, pledged to throw open every part of its territories to foreign commerce and residence, it is evidently a mere chimera of delirium. For the rest, the contention that Japan in Formosa will be a menace to Hongkong, whereas China in Formosa was nothing of the kind, must evidently be based on an assumption that Japan is inimical to Great Britain. Is such an assumption either just or politic? Is not its origin to be found in the enmity cherished by these writers themselves against Japan? So long as to agitate for armed intervention by Great Britain offered any hope of success, they wrote as though, without such intervention, England would disgrace herself and betray her interests. Great Britain, however, having remained indifferent to such silly clamour, the tide of incentive in now turned upon Russia. The list of ships sent by her to the Far East during the past few months is set forth, with their tonnage and armament; she is asked whether "she has gone to all this expense and trouble for no purpose whatsoever, except to play the undignified part of a silly alarmist;" whether "she is to figure in the dignified rôle of being a mere scarecrow, and so become the laughing stock of nations, by making extensive preparations for the purpose of simply doing nothing at all;" whether she has been "so far intimidated by Japan's great successes as to deem it prudent to pause for the moment;" and whether she is "likely to be imposed upon by so transparent and foolish a fiction" as Korea's independence under present circumstances. She is even assured that "she would be fully justified in expelling the Japanese did they insist" on occupying "an inch of the mainland of China," and that "this decision on her part would be unquestionably merited."

There is not the smallest probability that Russia's statesmen will be moved by language such as we have quoted, emanating, above all, from such sources. If Russia has interests to protect, her method of protecting them is not likely to be shaped at the dictation of petty English journalists noted for the violence and unreason of their utterances. What induces us to note these facts is perplexity as to their significance. Toward which Power is the animosity of our local contemporaries directed? Do they wish to plunge Russia into a war with this empire, hoping that the struggle would cost the great Northern State an injurious effort; or do they—Englishmen, be it remembered—hate Japan so cordially that they would like to see her engaged in a life-and-death struggle with Russia in order that the latter might establish her right to dictate the ownership of Manchuria?

CHINA'S FATE.

"THE violet on the tyrant's grave" begins to spring over the ruins of China's power. Every complete collapse is pitiable. An empire until quite recently supposed to possess strength worthy of the world's respect, can not fall as low and as suddenly as China has fallen without evoking some sentiment of commiseration. How has it happened? What are the causes of such miserable, such unlooked for weakness? Explanations in abundance are offered, but the public remain bewildered. The individual Chinaman is the element that complicates the problem. Wretched as has been the fiasco made by the armies and fleets of the State, every one of us retains his belief in the capacity of the nation's units. We know by experience what the Chinaman is. Morally and physically gifted above the average, a man of quick perception, dogged perseverance in the path of toil, patient in the presence of adversity, generally loyal to his engagements, and possessed of common sense that rises almost to the level of philosophy, it is in truth an evil and harsh fate that has condemned him to be the object of ridicule, a fair mark for the shafts of every shallow critic. And yet what has happened in Korea, in Manchuria, in Shantung, in the Yellow Sea, in the Gulf of Pechili, and at the Pescadores, is but a replica of events that have passed with painful monotony into the pages of history under like conditions in every age. Even those among us that have not yet reached the threshold of middle life remember vividly how a great European nation was beaten to its knees by a newly born Power—a nation standing in the very van of civilization; a nation foremost alike in the science of war and in the arts of peace. At no period of the world's existence has the invincibility of system and order against scramble and chaos been so thoroughly recognised as at present. Yet we stand astonished when a Power representing a high type of organization wins fight after fight from the very personification of disorder, confusion, and disarray. "Miserable poltroons" is the epithet generally applied to China's soldiers, though their poltroonery has no more been proved by the issue of this war than has the invincibility of the Japanese. We do not believe that if the stoutest soldiers in the world were handicapped with the disadvantages against which the Chinese have to contend, they would make a much better stand. No men will fight without leaders and without a knowledge that arrangements exist for the succour and treatment of the wounded. There were brave Chinese in the Pescadores. The half-dozen men that remained to defend a fort when its garrison of several hundreds had fled; the two detachments, 20 and 30 strong, respectively, that were not daunted by the stampede of their comrades, mustering 500 or 600, at Makung, but with admirable pluck awaited the onset of an overwhelmingly large force of Japanese—these were men of the best fighting fibre. Well disciplined, well armed, and well led, the Chinese would be formidable to any foe. The Japanese, who know them far better than any European knows them, affirm that they are not intrinsically weak, and that the causes of their repeated defeats are extrinsic. But has the nation sufficient moral malleability to be beaten into an improved shape by the blows that it is now receiving, or has it become so hardened in the groove of conservatism that no marked alteration of form is possible without fracture? We believe the latter to be the case. China may be split up and her component parts absorbed into foreign structures with considerable access of strength to the latter, but as a great homogeneous empire her day is past. People have talked of her uprising as of the uprising of a force that might rehearse the conquering inundations of early centuries, and swamp Christendom under an East-Asian deluge. But where in all history can there be found an instance of a nation reversing retrograde feet and climbing to a second summit of power and prosperity? For the State, as for the individual, there is no elixir of life. There is not even a nodal condition. Ascent or descent is the doom of all, and when either has commenced, its continuance is inevitable. China has stood on her pinnacle, has fallen from it, and can never raise herself again. The residuum of force that remains latent in her huge frame might indeed be utilized by a conqueror. Her neck is accustomed to an alien yoke. Mongol rule or Tartar rule, it matters little to her people provided that they be left undisturbed in their grim struggle for daily food. A foreign dynasty seated in person or by proxy in Pekin, might employ China as a powerful means to some large end, but that end could never be the restoration of Chinese prestige. "Victor from vanquished issues at the last," said LANCELOT, but China has not been vanquished in that sense: she has been exposed; presented to the world as a helpless monster upon whom any aggressor may prey without apprehension of serious resistance. The Powers of the West have been tender and long-suffering with her. They have patiently endured injuries at the hands of her people and insolence from her officials, because they shrunk from the apparently formidable task of forcing her to mend her ways. But there will be no patience hereafter. Complications hitherto avoided because of their possible con-

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sequences will now be welcomed for the sake of the opportunities they offer. It is a repitition of the story of Castle Perilous and the little boy in giant's armour that held the gate by the vastness of his stature until he went down at a touch from the spear of a fearless tilter. Japan has shown the nations what China is; has laid her prostrate for them to dissect at their convenience. What and how rapid will be the advantage they take of the situation, we have no skill to prophesy, but that China will raise herself from the dust and recover the status of a great empire, we can not for an instant believe.

THE IMPERIAL PROCLAMATION.

IT may well be supposed that State documents of such importance as the Imperial Proclamation just issued, are composed with the utmost care, and that the language employed in their compilation represents the highest attainable standard of Japanese scholarship. To render documents of the kind into a European language so as convey the full force and meaning of the original without sacrificing its terseness and elegance of diction, is a task of immense difficulty; a task no daily newspaper can reasonably be expected to perform satisfactorily except by deferring publication to a degree inconsistent with prompt circulation of intelligence. Making every allowance, however, for the extremely arduous character of the work, and premising that we do not, on our own account, by any means claim to do full justice to the originals of our translations, we are nevertheless constrained to express astonishment at the terrible renderings published in this Settlement. Any reader of them must conclude that the Japanese originals are characterized by uneducated crudity, vagueness of conception, and shocking inelegance of expression, and must carry away the notion that scholarship and statesmanship are conspicuous by their absence in Japan. Look, for example, at the following quotations from translations that have appeared in the local foreign journals of the recent Imperial Proclamation :—

We deem it that the development of the prestige of the country could be obtained only by peace, it is our mission, which We inherit from Our ancestors, that peace should be maintained in an effectual way.

Those engaged in the expeditions have been exposed to severe rain and storms, &c.

The foundations of the great policy of the general work of Our ancestors have been made more table.

We desire that We shall, together with our people, be specially guarded against arrogance r relaxation, &c.

It is what we highly object to that the people ould become arrogant by being puffed up with lumph and despise others rashly, which would towards losing the respect of foreign Powers :—

Since the development of the nation can be tained by peace, it is a divine duty imposed on us by Our ancestors and it has been Our intion and endeavour since Our accession to the rone to maintain peace so as to enjoy it conntly.

The expeditionary forces have got the fame for benevolence and obedience.

We are of course, glad of the glorification of the Empire by the victories of the present war, but at the same time are aware that the Empire as well as the scheme pursued since Our accession to the Throne have yet a distant future.

We are positively against insulting others and falling into idle pride by being elated by victories and against losing the confidence of Our friendly States.

Never was unfortunate SOVEREIGN made to flounder more clumsily in an illiterate morass of verbiage. But the most wretched and unidiomatic translation is a mere trifle compared with the extraordinarily false import that has been assigned to HIS MAJESTY'S Proclamation by one of our local contemporaries. "One can not," says the *Japan Gazette*, "read the Imperial Rescript without experiencing some sensation of alarm. It means, divested of its verbiage, Japan has won a little renown and some territory, but that is a mere circumstance to the vast scheme of conquest planned. The people are to lead self-denying lives that they may put by money for future expeditions, and not become too fond of peace because peace will not last. * * * * * * If the Japanese seriously practice the principles propounded there can be no doubt that war will be again resorted to and resorted to successfully. The Japanese are naturally a fighting race and the EMPEROR'S address is the address of a leader of fighting men. There is much bloodshed in store for Asia." It would be impossible for any critic, however dishonest his intention, to misrepresent more grossly the plain purport of the EMPEROR'S Proclamation. From its opening to its close the whole spirit of the Proclamation is eminently pacific. Its emphatically and clearly enunciated aims are to recall the nation's mind to the blessings of peace; to advise the people against allowing their ambition to be fired by the successes achieved in the war now happily ended; to check the tendency to extravagance and reckless enterprise that history shows to be one of the gravest dangers threatening a State after signal victories; to proclaim HIS MAJESTY'S entire satisfaction with the terms obtained by his Plenipotentiaries, and thus to convey a timely warning to political agitators for larger gains; and finally, to impose a stern restraint upon the ill-balanced utterances of public writers and speakers who employ toward friendly States language inspired by the arrogance of triumph and entirely opposed to the amity that HIS MAJESTY seeks to cultivate. No one bringing a modicum of intelligence, however small, or a spark of honesty, however faint, to the perusal of the Proclamation, could interpret it otherwise than we have here interpreted it. The EMPEROR is "convinced that national prosperity is best promoted through peace, and that the preservation of peace is a duty bequeathed to him by his ancestors." Does that mean that "the people are warned not to be too fond of peace because peace will not last?" Does it mean that "the renown and territory won by Japan are a mere circumstance to the vast scheme of conquest planned?" The EMPEROR declares that "it has ever been his object since his accession to the Throne to confer lasting advantages on the realm by the maintenance of tranquillity;" that it is his "earnest desire, with the aid of his subjects' loyalty and sincerity and by their zealous cöoperation, to restore peace and thereby attain his great object of promoting the prosperity of the country," and that his "strong displeasure will be visited on any one who, in the pride of recent victory, offers insults to other States or does injury to the empire's relations with foreign Powers." Does that mean that HIS MAJESTY propounds "principles the serious practice of which will undoubtedly lead to war's being again resorted to?" Does it mean that his "address is the address of a leader of fighting men?" The EMPEROR tells the people at large that they have no occasion to concern themselves about measures relating to military defence or finance, since such things will be entrusted to the Ministers of State, and that his non-official subjects have only to think about "nursing the nation's resources by constant economy and frugality." Does that mean that "the people are to lead self-denying lives in order to put by money for future expeditions?" Does it mean that "there is much bloodshed in store for Asia?"

The conclusion forced upon us by the writings of some of the journals in this Settlement is that the desire to find a pretext for censuring the Japanese, and the longing to discover an opportunity for denouncing them, has developed into a mania entirely beyond the control of reason or intelligence. In whose interests such excesses are committed, we can not comprehend. Certainly not in British interests.

THE JAPANESE NAVY.

SINCE the beginning of the war between China and Japan there have appeared frequent articles in the vernacular press relating to the Japanese Navy. All the writers of these articles show a remarkable consensus of opinion with regard to the degree of naval development at which Japan should aim. They all agree in naming two hundred and fifty thousand tons as the total displacement of war-ships essential to her safety and to the defence of her national interests. Until now, however, no accurate account has been given of the manner of arriving at that figure. Our first clear information on the subject is derived from the *Yomiuri Shimbun*—not by any means an infallible journal, nor yet possessing official authority, but still a representative, in some degree, of public opinion. Before quoting its views, however, we shall make brief reference to

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ing to embody the ideas of a Japanese Vice-Admiral. The article runs thus :—

In consequence of the war with China, Japan's national status has been raised appreciably, and it becomes a matter of necessity that she should increase her Navy accordingly. It will not suffice that she should be competent merely to defend herself against foreign ships coming to the East: she must go a step farther, and lay up strength sufficient to assume the offensive against the territories of her enemies. Foreign experts, comparing the navies of England and France, are wont to say that the British fleet is twice as strong as the French. In the event of war between the two Powers, however, the British fleet would not be able to conquer the French, for the vessels of the latter would not merely have to oppose those of the former, but would also be able to lay waste British territory in all parts of the world and to capture British merchantmen. That is a point of great importance. Considering the lesson taught by the war, we perceive that our cruisers have been able to win a signal victory over the enemy's iron-clads. At the same time, it has been clearly demonstrated that iron-clads are essential to any Navy. In the battle in the Yellow Sea, the shells fired by our cruisers were unable to penetrate the armour of the *Ting-yuen* and *Chen-yuen*, and though the two war-ships were struck more than 300 times, they remained afloat. The strength of iron-clads was thus effectively demonstrated. According to the organization of foreign navies, one iron-clad is allowed to every three cruisers, the four forming a squadron. It will therefore be necessary that an iron-clad be added to each of our squadrons. The chief strength of a man-of-war at the present time lies in her speed. Our future cruisers must have a speed of at least 20 knots, and our iron-clads a speed of 17 or 18. In England they have already built torpedo boats with a speed of 29 knots, whereas the highest speed hitherto developed by such craft has been 25 knots. We must improve the quality of our torpedo-boats and also the pattern of our torpedoes.

To these opinions, in so far as concerns the increase of the Japanese Navy, little exception can be taken, we think. But it appears difficult to endorse the Vice-Admiral's views with regard to the victory of cruisers over iron-clads. The *Ting-yuen* and the *Chen-yuen* emerged virtually unscathed from the battle of Haiyang. Against their hulls the Japanese cruisers could do nothing: the one resource was to shoot at their crews. With greater speed, better handling, and more skilful gunnery, there is every reason to conclude that the two ships would have achieved a record very much opposed to the Vice-Admiral's dictum. We venture to make a still more emphatic assertion, namely, that the *Ting-yuen* and the *Chen-yuen* saved Pekin. But for the presence of these two ships in the Peiyang Squadron, little doubt can be entertained that, after the fall of Port Arthur, a Japanese army would have been landed at once on the north-eastern shore of the Gulf of Pechili. Let us pass on, however, to the *Yomiuri Shimbun's* estimate of the maritime force that Japan needs under the altered conditions of her national existence. Our contemporary alleges that the theory of increasing the Navy to a total tonnage of at least two hundred and fifty thousand tons has now obtained vogue among the public-spirited men of the empire, and that the various political parties will combine to introduce, in the next session of the Diet, a Bill in that sense. The basis of the calculation is that this empire must be prepared to hold its own against a combination of three Powers, viz., China, England and Russia. The last two Powers are not distinctly named, but that there is no mistaking the intention of the writer will be apparent to any one reading the following translation of the *Yomiuri's* article :—

The first thing to be considered with reference to the building of new ships is the question, what countries must Japan regard as possible opponents, for the strength of her Navy must be fixed on the basis of the force that her opponents may be able to bring against her. The possible opponents of this Empire are ———, ———, and China. Consequently, we must be prepared to hold our own against these three Powers simultaneously. The first of the three countries has an Eastern Fleet of about 80,000 tons, and as that country has now reached the zenith of its power, there is little probability of its Eastern Fleet being increased. The second country is engaged in raising the strength of its Eastern Fleet to 60,000 tons. But as its military strength is developed chiefly in central Asia, its object in increasing its Eastern Squadron is simply to have in these waters a force equal to that of the former Power. With regard to China, it may be that she will entertain a desire to be avenged on Japan, but to achieve such an ambition she would have to greatly multiply her present military organization. For the present, therefore, she will probably have to be content with the thought of revenge. Hence we may conclude that she will aim at nothing more than the possession of a fleet competent to cope with that of either of the Powers referred to above; in other words, will restore her fleet to the strength it had before the war, or 70,000 tons. Thus, the combined tonnage of the three countrys' naval forces in Eastern waters would not exceed 250,000 tons, and to that point Japan must endeavour to raise her Navy. With regard to the method of carrying out that programme, omitting the vessels now in our possession and those already ordered or in course of construction, if 10,000 tons be added to the Navy each year, the required total would be reached in 25 years, and if the ships that we have already, together with those ordered or in course of construction be included in the account, a period of less than 20 years would suffice to bring the Navy to 250,000 tons. As, however, the life of a vessel-of-war does not much exceed 25 years, we should have to go on steadily building 10,000 tons annually in order to keep up our Navy. Estimating the cost of a man-of-war and her armament at 1,000 *yen* per ton, it results that we should have to spend ten million *yen* every year.

It should be repeated that the *Yomiuri Shimbun* does not represent either official opinion or any large section of political opinion, but we can scarcely doubt that many will be found more or less in sympathy with its utterances on the subject of naval increase, though few, we imagine, will endorse its theory that Japan's warlike preparations should be directed by the contingency of a combination between Russia, China, and England. In no conceivable vista can we discern such a union, nor do we find it within the bounds of reasonable probability that Japan should ever be required to face an Anglo-Russian alliance cemented either in the interest of China or for the purpose of her dismemberment. Upon that phase of the matter, however, there is no occasion to dwell here, nor need we pause to discuss the *Yomiuri's* axiomatic declaration that Great Britain has reached the zenith of her power, and need never be deemed capable of greater things than she has already achieved. It may, perhaps, have been reserved for Japanese spectacles to make that discovery, but we cannot pretend to be disturbed by it. At all events, if the *Yomiuri* imagines that a tonnage of eighty thousand or even three times eighty thousand, represents the largest fleet that Great Britain could [illegible] assemble in these waters at two months notice, it can very easily correct its misapprehension by reference to the Navy List, and to any authentic statement of the steps that England is constantly taking to increase her ships. If Japan's basis of calculation is to be the contingency of having to face a combination of England, Russia, and China, she had better think of half a million tons as a minimum figure, and even then her safety would be exceedingly problematical. Apart from such injudicious and unneeded comparisons, it must be frankly admitted that an extensive scheme of naval development has now become a necessity to her. The fruits of her victories have imposed upon her the unavoidable duty of holding the Yellow Sea against assailants. Henceforth a considerable part of her dominions will lie over the water, and to preserve communication with it is absolutely essential. The cares of empire grow with its growth. Japan's statesmen doubtless understand very well what an immense change has been introduced into the constitution of their country by grafting upon its insular stem a branch of the Chinese continent. But history suggests no faith whatever in the future of a country that shrinks from the responsibilities imposed by its own achievements. Let Japan play her new rôle stoutly. She has entered the regimen of big armaments, and must accept all the resultant inconveniences. The most injudicious thing she could possibly do, however, is from the outset to count England a probable foe rather than a possible ally.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[Our readers must distinctly understand that we are in no sence responsible for the sentients or opinions of our correspondents, for the accuracy of their assertions, or for the deductions they may choose to draw therefrom.]

MIDDLE SCHOOL ENGLISH TEACHERS.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—In the Editorial Notes of your yesterday's issue there is a statement in reference to the Middle School English Teachers, which runs as follows :—"It is true that in one or two instances the possession of a diploma from some third-rate American college seems to have undue weight with the examiners—we could cite a case in point," &c.

Now, as until last year every applicant for a teacher's certificate who could present a diploma from a college in America or England, was almost without exception accepted by the Educational Department, I think the statement above quoted is based on wrong information. Let me add, Sir, that while those who have received the certificate by competitive examination number, at present, only thirty-three, those who have been certificated without any examination, of whom the above is an example, number one hundred and sixty-two!

Should you kindly find space in the columns of your valuable paper to insert this, I should feel greatly obliged.

Your obedient Servant, VERITAS.

Tokyo, April 18th, 1895.

ST. GEORGE'S BALL.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—I protest against the unwarrantable suggestion published last night that the Committee of St. George's Ball had not "fulfilled the wishes of the [illegible]" in declining to give a list of

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subscribers to that entertainment for publication. As a resident in Yokohama for a period nearly ten times that of the writer who wishes to publish a list of the invitations, I say that it has not been the custom of the leading journals of this Settlement to publish such lists. As to the Secretary, he may rest assured that his action will be generally applauded, and that the impertinence attributed to him rests entirely with the person who makes the charge.

I am, Sir, yours truly,

A SUBSCRIBER.

April 25th, 1895.

REVIEW.

Mr. Shiga's "Nippon Fukeiron" (Japanese Landscapes).

Mr. Shiga's "Nippon Fukeiron," an essay on the landscapes of Japan, from a scientific as well as from an artistic point of view, is, undoubtedly the book of the season. From boyhood the author was very fond of travel, and his poetical proclivities and charming style, combined with his keen observation, make him a fit delineator of Japanese scenery. The above-mentioned work has met with a very favourable reception from both the press and the public. Not a newspaper critic but has written of it in warm terms and has recommended it to the careful perusal of all that love to read of what is beautiful and charming in the landscapes of this country. The result is that the work has already reached its third edition, although only published last fall, which fact is all the more remarkable when we remember how absorbed the Japanese are in the war. Although Mr. Shiga does not cover such a wide area as Ruskin, he resembles that great author-poet in some respects, being one of the most prominent composers of Chinese poems. He attributes the beauty of Japanese scenery to the following four causes:—

1. Diversity of climate and sea currents.
2. Abundance of moisture.
3. Abundance of volcanic rocks.
4. Strong erosive power of Japanese streams.

Extending as Japan does from north to south as much as 27°, the diversity of the climate is great, and this undoubtedly influences the scenery. The variety of the fauna and flora is entirely due to the same cause. Mr. Shiga gives a general description of the flowers, trees, birds, insects, and so forth of Japan. Japanese scholars usually regard the cherry tree as a symbol of the chivalrous spirit of the country and give the blossoms the first place among flowers. Mr. Shiga does not entirely agree with that idea. He considers that cherry trees are too limited as regards locality and their blossoms too transient to fitly symbolize Japanese national sentiment. Pines are, he thinks, much more suitable, for they are found throughout the realm, and are, moreover, evergreen.

The author deals with the part played by moisture in the development of the natural beauties of the country. This part, is according to him, a very great one. A certain critic observed that Mr. Shiga lays too much stress on moisture in its various forms, and that he should have given equal prominence to a clear sky. There is some justice in that remark.

The third cause of the development of scenic beauty in this country is treated of by Mr. Shiga at some length. This portion of the book seems to us somewhat too scientific, consisting chiefly of a description of numerous volcanic chains traversing various parts of the country and of the peaks that mark them. He says that all the Japanese peaks of renown are volcanic, but that owing to the moisture of the climate, they are covered with verdure. The rest of this chapter is devoted to lakes formed by old craters and basalt rocks, which according him, are more numerous than is commonly thought.

The natural configuration of the country, a high back bone running through the length of the land with only narrow borders on each side, naturally produces swift streams with strong erosive power. It is by these streams that picturesque gorges, such as those of Yabakei in Hyuga and Tsugase in Yamato, have been gradually formed. The subject is dealt with at some length.

We doubt whether Mr. Shiga has not fallen into the error of being too minute while neglecting to give more general accounts of natural beauties. He may be right, as his wish seems to be to give prominence to what is less known: But why he should give a long description of a rock and not mention celebrated scenes such as Matsushima and the Inland Sea, we cannot understand. One would expect to find these noticed in the chapter on volcanic rocks, for it was, we presume, by the erosive action of the waves that so many small islands came to be scattered about within a comparatively narrow space. Seismology undoubtedly plays a large part in the formation of the landscapes of Japan.

The work is profusely illustrated, and is full of appropriate quotations from Japanese scholars. It is published at the Seikyosha, Kanda, Tokyo, and costs the small sum of 50 *sen*.

THE GREAT POWERS TO JAPAN.

Meekness is weakness;
Force is triumphant;
All through the world,
Still it is Thor's day.—Emerson.

Salve Japan! We seven, the sovereign Powers,
Greet thee compeer; inscroll thy name with ours,—
United States, Great Britain, Germany,
France, Russia, Austro-Hungary,
And Italy. Henceforth the world-estate
We share with thee—Japan the Great.

For years on years, thy marvel-working art,
Thy homage, leal and feal of hand and heart,
Have borne thy name to fame in many a land,
Procured thee largess, won thee wide command.
But not for these do we this equal place
Allow with us in lordship o'er man's race.
The meek are weak, triumphant yet is force,
The globe around the mastery still is Thor's.
The conquering hand that strikes to maim, to kill,
Insatiate greed, show Thor the world-god still,
These test a claim to wear the human crown;
When pitiless swayed are badge of true renown.
Commanding there, we scorned thy tranquil years,
We set at naught thy peaceful hopes and prayers.
But now, these held by thee with ruthless might,
Prove thee our peer; the crown is thine by right.
America, thick strewn with Red Men dead;
India's wide plains, by Hindoo blood washed red;
Hot Afric's jungles, trailed by dying slaves;
Great Asia's heights and ravines, foul with graves;
The isles of Southern seas, a gory prey;
The whole earth round, the aggressor's unstopped way!—
This we have wrought, we, world-compelling Powers;
Like having wrought, Japan, we hail thee ours.
Place for Japan! Our throne and rod of state
We share henceforth with thee, Japan, now Great.

So boast these haughty Potentates; and yet,
Amid their proud acclaims, none may forget
That o'er them each, illumes the bannered word
Of Him whom they profess their Sovereign Lord:—
Word given for all men at the meek Christ's birth,
"Glory to God! Good-will and Peace on Earth."

Clay MacCauley.

Tokyo, April 20th, 1895.

ST. GEORGE'S BALL.

St. George's Day was very fittingly celebrated in Yokohama on Tuesday with a Ball in the Public Hall, at which the English residents extended their hospitality to all the other nationalities who go to form this most cosmopolitan community, as well as to the foreign residents of Tokyo. It is an axiom of the race that "if a thing is worth doing, it is worth doing well," and the St. George's Ball of 1895 was undoubtedly well done. The ingenuity of local ball-room decorators has evoked some very pretty schemes in times past for transforming the unsightly interior of the Yokohama Public Hall into something bright and pleasing, but seldom has an effect so charming been achieved as that which met the eyes of guests as they entered the dancing *salon* on Tuesday evening. From the ceiling were hung baskets and festoons of roses, white, yellow, and red; sprays of roses were flung over the walls or clustered round pillars and brackets; the stage and green-room were bowers of roses; in fact, roses were everywhere. At what period in English history the Rose—the symbol of silence among the ancient Greeks—came to be associated with the national arms, it would be difficult to determine. Although not indigenous to our island, the rose was among the first of flowers imported and cultivated in convent gardens and manorial or baronial pleasances. Soon we find it taken up by the exponents of heraldic art, and long before the famous Wars of the Roses, the princely House of York had adopted the white rose as their family cognizance. On this point, Master William Shakespeare, of Stratford-by-Avon to wit, has somewhat perverted history in his endeavour to make the scene in the Temple Gardens fit in with the dramatic exigencies of his play. The even more stately red-hued blossom—also the Lancastrian badge—had long been firmly established in pride of place upon "old England's emblazoned shield" when our Henry the Eighth met Francis the First of France upon the Field of the Cloth of Gold. These were brave days for the display of armorial bearings, and strange and wondrous are the shields, badges, crests, and quarterings which date from that most brilliant period of chivalric heraldry. One thing the national flower has achieved for robust English beauty, which should ever endear it to the hearts of English women. "Fair and sweet as an English Rose," has passed into a saying of the race—this is no mean compliment for the daughters of England to have won from the lips and hearts of their stern men-folk: and right worthily do they still deserve it. There were many of England's fair daughters present last evening, and their sweet faces made pretty foils to the thousands of roses which surrounded them. But to return to the general decorations. In the rustic arbors erected on the stage English holly and mistletoe played a considerable part. Over the stage was suspended a large shield bearing a spirited painting of St. George engaged in transfixing a terrible dragon—from a design which appeared a little while ago in the *Sketch*, and which came from the pen, we believe, of Mr. Walter Dickson. This shield was draped on either side by a pure white ensign charged with the Saint's red cross. At both sides of the stage were erected old Englishhouses, covered with trailing roses, whose interiors made the cosiest of cosy corners. Around the walls evergreens were banked, and on the pillars were hung pictures of "men of old renown"—it was left largely to the imagination of hosts and guests alike to determine whom the effigies represented, but as they were all attired in mediæval costumes it may safely be surmised that they were something of light and leading in England's brave days of old. Over the doors leading from the vestibule were hung medallions, one representing Britannia, the other St. George and the Dragon, and these were draped with ensigns bearing the blood-red cross. Various emblematic and armorial shields found place upon the walls to the north, and south, and west. At the end of the room facing the stage were ranged several tiers of chairs; splendid "coigns of 'vantage" for viewing the dancing. Their canopies of red and white were supported by sturdy tilting poles, reminders of the stately days of tilt and tournament when the brawniest arm and the steadiest seat won ladies' kindliest favour. A fine emblazoned shield bearing the Royal Arms of England was hung over the mantel-board in the Green-room, while in the supper-room—the smaller hall—were suspended portraits of Her Most Gracious Majesty Queen Victoria, and William Shakespeare, once of Stratford-by-Avon, eke a famous man in England's literature. The lighting arrangements, usually a source of no small grumbling, were very effective. Electric-light-clusters of 30-candle power were pendant among the roses hung from the roof, while smaller lights twinkled here and there among the bowers, on the stage, and in the Green-room. The working committee, of whom Mr. and Mrs. Lowder, Mr. Rickett, Mr. C. D. Moss, Mrs. James Waller, Mr. and Mrs. Healing, were very active members, are to be congratulated upon the success of their designs.

Special cloak rooms for ladies and gentlemen were erected on the lawn outside the Public Hall, and covered ways lead from them into the dancing-room. The gentleman's smoking-room was, as usual, upstairs. The Ball commenced at about 9.30, when, notwithstanding the boisterously inclement weather the room was crowded, though not inconveniently so. Dancing was kept up till past three o'clock, the floor being perfect and the Town Band in very good form. After the ladies had retired a second supper-party gathered under the genial presidency of Mr. J. F. Lowder, and song and toast were gleefully sung and drank till long after dawn had appeared in the Eastern sky. The following was the dance programme, which does not include the innumerable "extras":—

PROGRAMME.

1.—Waltz.	9.—Waltz.
2.—Quadrille.	10.—Quadrille.
3.—Waltz.	11.—Waltz.
4.—Lancers.	12.—Lancers.
5.—In the Barn.	13.—In the Barn.
6.—Waltz.	14.—Waltz.
7.—Polka.	15.—Polka.
8.—Sir Roger de Coverley.	16.—Sir Roger de Coverley.
	Extras.

During the evening Mr. J. J. Enslie, on behalf of the Kobe St. George's Ball, wired hearty fraternal greetings.

A very large entry has again been secured for the Parliamentary golf tournament, which is year by year increasing in popularity with the members of both Houses. The Attorney-General, Mr. Herbert J. Gladstone, Sir Robert Reid, and Colonel Saunderson are amongst the new competitors. Mr. Herbert Gladstone has a big task in the first round, in which he has to meet Lord George Hamilton, who carried off premier honours last year.

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BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH OF THE REV. NATHAN BROWN, D.D.

AN ADDRESS DELIVERED BEFORE THE BAPTIST CONFERENCE. BY THE REV. A. A. BENNETT.

It is not the design of this sketch to enter extensively into the details of Dr. Brown's career. His daughter, in her excellent biography of him, entitled "The Whole World Kin," has so beautifully traced even the finer lines and more delicate shadings of his life-picture, that such work need not be done a second time, certainly not by so uncouth a hand as that now holding the pen. The writer desires to express the debt of gratitude which he, in common with hundreds of others, owes to Miss Brown for her book, from which have been borrowed almost all of the quotations given below. These, of course, have been rearranged for the present purpose, and have been supplemented by personal memories, and by gleanings directly made from Dr. Brown's journals at the time of his death. The aim of this paper will be realized if it succeeds in presenting to the mind's eye once more the person of him who was not only our father in mission work here, but whom some of us learned to love so dearly, and then in causing us to catch from elements of his character that which will make us better as men and women and better as tireless labourers.

The pen-and-ink sketch submitted for inspection to-day might properly be labelled "Nathan Brown the Loyal." If rightly his character has been analyzed there is no better key to the secrets of his worthiness and success than this word "loyal." Around it as a central idea crystalize, it is true, many other traits, clear-cut and brilliant, but they seem to be rather its resultants than its causes, and should be classified accordingly. That Dr. Brown was richly endowed by nature is a fact that will be granted, but that thousands of others are—others who neither bless their fellow men nor glorify their God—is a fact that must be granted, too. To such questions as why did Dr. Brown become an explorer, a leader, a linguist? Why did he curb fondness for certain lines of study and indulge in others less to his choice? Why did he so often separate himself from those he loved the best and mingle with those for every reason but one repulsive to him? Why was he in the fore-front of controversy when he loved and longed for peace? To such questions there seems to be no simpler answer than that he was loyal ■ what he believed to be the will of God his supreme Ruler, whether that will were directly revealed, or witispered by conscience, or hieroglyphed in the sign of the times.

It is not here claimed that this loyalty kept him from mistakes, that his zeal was invariably wise. This matter may be open to question, but not to-day. Shortly before his death, he himself said that he sometimes wondered if it would not have been better for him to have pushed reforms more slowly. It is not even claimed that his loyalty was without exception. Few indeed are the men who can truthfully say with Paul, "I have lived in all good conscience before God until this day." But the exceptions, if they existed at all in the subject of this sketch after he reached maturity, are to be learned rather from the recorded results of his own severe, self-scrutiny than from aught our less discerning eyes could see. To us he was, in this matter at least, an Israelite indeed in whom there was no guile.

This dominant trait in Dr. Brown was legitimately inherited. His Puritanic stock had been retempered in the person of his grandfather, Lieutenant Josiah Brown, at Bunker Hill and Ticondaroga. His father and grandfather,—men of purity, muscle and grit,—and his mother,—judicious, tender, devout, the light of the home and the life of the prayer meeting,—had been cultivating this trait whose seeds they gave him as an holy heirloom, his from childhood. The environment of his early life served to foster it. Born in New Ipswich, N.H., U.S.A., June 22, 1807, he was removed about a year later to live in a log cabin in Whitingham, Vt., and to spend his youth in helping to take care of the sixty-five acres of his father's farm and wood-land. Here was developed that solidity of constitution and character without which his after life would have been impossible. He was no hot-house exotic. God knew what niche He would have him fill, and chose and shaped the clay accordingly. Looking backward, we can see young Nathan, of whom his parents thought to make a farmer, toiling in summer fourteen hours a day at farm work, and trudging in winter through the snow, bearing on his shoulder an axe whose cold blade is soon to warm beneath his stalwart blows, while his sweat rolls off in big drops to freeze. Though excelling in athletic sports, play must have been rare. When there was work to be done, and even reading and study, of which he was passionately fond, must, if indulged in at all, be wedged in between the thus more densely crowded hours of manual toil. Such life is an ethical drill to those who are properly exercised thereby, and serves to toughen moral as well as physical sinew. It did so with him. It was a merciful providence that drove fallen man out of Paradise, and the hills of Vermont did more for our hero than the bowers of Eden could have done. It is possible, however, for one who is of Puritan descent and nurtured in stern New England, to be only a worthless Epicure; like the Jews who, boasting they had Abraham to their father, and living in luxury where he had been a pilgrim, yet knew none of that which made him great. Dr. Brown had more than inherited traits, and the conditions favourable for their development; he had also early, and in large measure, the direct work of grace in his own heart. During a revival season, the boy while reading one of Dr. Watts' hymns, thought that the Lord was calling him, and he responded as promptly as did Samuel of old. He was baptized upon profession of his faith, and united with the Baptist Church in which his parents and other members of the Brown family seemed to be pillars. He was at this time about nine years of age. The opening incident in the biography written by his daughter beautifully pictures a timid boy, baffled but not beaten, going from a sense of duty to tell a distant so-called neighbour that "*there* is a God," although that coarse man persists in denying it. There may have been then in the boy like feelings to those which in Jeremiah were expressed in the cry "Ah, Lord God, behold I cannot speak: for I am a child," but if so there must have been also the assuring answer first given more than twenty-five hundred years ago, "Say not *I* am a child: for thou shalt go to all that I shall send thee, and whatsoever I command thee thou shalt speak. Be not afraid of their faces: for I am with thee to deliver thee, saith the Lord." From that day he was destined in more points than one to be a modern Jeremiah seems to have feared not the faces of men when he believed God was with him. Just here it may be allowable to say that Dr. Brown never seemed to the writer to be a man that would have been marked for mere physical bravery. He seemed to shrink from the sight of blood, and from aimless deeds of danger, criticising severely the actions of some, even on the mission field, who hazard life needlessly, or take no precautions for health and strength. This may have been different in earlier years; it matters not for our purpose now. It is enough to know that this natural timidity, if such there was, did not to the last turn him away by so much as a hair's breadth from what he believed to be the line of duty. For instance, on some baptismal occasions the wind played wildly with his white hair, and the angry waves of the sea disputed his right to enter, but he never seemed to falter. The pestilence was abroad in the city taking some in his vicinity, but he had work that required immediate attention and would not seek safety elsewhere. His views often having another centre from that around which revolved those of some of his friends or opponents, he was often, when he expressed himself, thought to be eccentric; yet, although he could keep silence if nothing was at stake, when loyalty demanded it he was outspoken and fearless, though alone amid his adversaries. At such times Cæsar could not have faced Rome more boldly, nor Luther the Diet of Worms. Perhaps he was a *timid body*, but he was *a brave soul* for all that.

See in what varied ways this loyalty manifested itself. When study was the duty of the hour, how faithfully he applied himself to his books—not to favourite studies only but to all! Late as was the beginning of his "fit" for College, he yet made such rapid strides that he entered the Sophomore Class of Williams at the age of seventeen, graduating three years later (September 5th, 1827) as its valedictorian. The different schools in which he taught before and after graduating showed a like faithfulness in imparting as well as in imbibing knowledge. It would exceed the limits of this article to go into any lengthy consideration of his wide scholarship. It is enough for our purpose to note that such encomiums as those awarded him by Max Müller and other literati could not have been earned but for the trait under consideration. Does he not tower, Saul like, head and shoulders above us all? Is he not a very Nestor in our midst? Who of us could, as he did, on leaving college, render into poetry the first and second books of the Æneid and repeat the whole of the first book from memory, and this, too, when mathematics was his favourite study? Who of us, after living only two years among a people of strange language, could, as on one occasion, in his experience in Burma, on returning to them "veiling errors." The way in which he came to have eight years later, not only understand what the people said, and preach to them intelligibly in their own tongue, but write hymns for them that were destined, according to the opinion of later missionaries, to live and to be sung as long ■ there should be a hymn-book in that language? Or, to pass by unnoticed many facts that might furnish intervening illustrations, and come ■ something we can all understand, which of us, even if not, as was he, sixty-five years old on reaching Japan, could, with such helps only as Dr. Brown could obtain, learn the language with sufficient speed and accuracy to have translated with Mr. Kawakatsu's help, during the first seven years in the country, the whole of the New Testament besides many hymns, tracts, and O. T. fragments? To understand this Titan task we must remember that most of our grammars, dictionaries, and other helps are of later date, and that besides the ordinary cares which so much encroach upon the missionary's time for study, Dr. Brown had the additional one of being his own printer, personally superintending to some extent at least, the printing office on his own compound. True, Dr. Brown did not attend much to the study of the Chinese characters—! his loyalty would not let *him*, since he seemed to believe that they were an invention of the evil one—yet according to the modest estimate he always put upon his own ability, he knew "some six hundred," which other men would have reported as "about a thousand." Look at his translation work. Despite its faults, which Dr. Brown would not have us cover, his New Testament is a marvel. The writer confesses, though self-condemned for his temerity in presuming to institute comparison, that in some special work which has been occupying part of his time during the past year, he has repeatedly—though having Greek texts and existing English and Japanese translations, and dictionaries, grammars, and other aids all at hand, and a Japanese scholar by his side—come back to re-adopt, after extensive research, discarded words and phrases that were chosen by Dr. Brown when he had not lived here half so long nor had half the facilities for study. That Dr. Brown's great linguistic power attests something more than faithfulness will be granted, but that it allows of anything less, will not.

The mention of the printing office suggests other lines of work in which loyalty to conviction was manifested. The existence and continuance of that office—whether wise or not we need not here discuss—was with him a matter of "oughtness," and despite the personal financial loss it involved, he put his conviction into practical working. In its details there was traceable a like loyalty to conviction, so far as he was concerned. To give a single illustration: the writer once, in looking over some *proofs* submitted by Dr. Brown, detected an error seemingly very slight and not misleading, but whose correction at that late stage, would involve considerable work. He therefore suggested to let it stand. Dr. Brown replied essentially, and in his reply was an unintended revelation of his whole character, "I never take into consideration the amount of work a correction will involve; my one aim is to have it right."

This same spirit marked him as a reformer. He felt as Charles Sumner used to feel, "nothing ever can be *settled* until it is right." In college days and afterwards, he was a temperance reformer and lecturer. The sentiments he advocated were not then so popular as now, but that was nothing to him; it was for him ■ make them popular. Indeed, how much may have been his part in changing the colour of popular opinion, no one can tell. As in the building of a breakwater it is often necessary to dump into the bay large quantities of rocks before there can be obtained a solid foundation for masonry destined to stretch its protecting arms between a quiet harbour and an angry sea, so the temperance and other reform movements of early days, that seemed to rise only to fall amid the mockery of their enemies, are, coral like, the hidden foundations on which are standing the strong battlements we see to-day. The grains of wheat have died, but waving harvests deck their graves. Temperance was not his only line of reform—everything that needed reforming he deemed a legitimate object of his effort, every public evil a power he should assail. In private conversation, in sermons and in lectures in the editorials of the *Journal and Messenger* and of his own papers, the *Vermont Telegraph* and the *American Baptist*, and in contributions ■ various publications, slavery and other forms of oppression or public wickedness were ruthlessly dealth with. Witness his avowal in regard to the nature of the *American Baptist*:—"It is intensely opposed to slavery in every form, and to all other kinds of moral evil. This is our mission, to bear testimony, intense and undiluted, against [illegible]

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charge of the paper shows his loyalty to conviction. Mr. Post thus describes a part of his first meeting with Dr. Brown :—

"He said 'my name is Brown; I received a short letter from A. L. Post, in relation to the editorship of the *American Baptist*; made up my mind that it was a call from higher than human authority, and obeyed at once, and here I am to learn more as to the meaning of the call.'" His opposition to public evils was not without its effect. It is probable that President Lincoln consented to proclaim the emancipation of slavery to be an act of "justice," on account of the interview he had with a Committee of three one of whom was Dr. Brown.

Did time and space permit, we might notice how loyalty to the duty that lay nearest often interrupted him in, though not diverting him from, the more important duties of life. It was not from pleasure that he laid aside his studies at times to teach the Assamese to make an axe, or lime, or bricks—or with his own hand to build his chimneys or make his own widow-sashes. We find him exclaiming in sorrow on one occasion, that it had taken him two months to build his house, and hoping that such a thing would nevechappen again. To some of us who are fond of tools, and perchance even more fond of drawing plans to be beautifully materialized by the skill of our deft artisans here, such work may seem coveted recreation, but in Assam to Dr. Brown it was stern duty.

As a pastor he was faithful. Should we seek evidence of this in his work in this country only, such evidence is abundant, though perchance in Assam it is even more abundant. He loved this people, and they loved him. The prayer chiselled according to his direction in the stone that marks his last resting-place, was a prayer that throbbed in his heart, and was articulated in his speech,—"God bless the Japanese!" The brethren loved him. They did for him what they probably never did for any one else, native or foreigner, when they with their own hands bore his body to the grave. He could not often go to their homes, but he welcomed them to his, and showed that he was glad to help them spiritually. In other important ways he assisted them. For instance, the church records would again and again have been neglected but for his pastoral oversight, and the Pastor's Record, in his own hand writing, though a little, unpretentious book—is of inestimable value with reference to the history of the early days of our Yokohama interest.

The pastoral office might have been his at home. It is in the missionary, distinctively so considered, that we have the grandest view of Nathan Brown the loyal. He heard God's call at Williams. Twenty-four of his class were candidates for the ministry, and two others were professing Christians. The President, Dr. Griffin, was not only himself a devout man, but strained every nerve to have his pupils devote all their powers for the glory of God and the best interest of man. In his baccalaureate sermon before the class he says, "I know that this College has been saved by the Holy Ghost and to the Holy Ghost let it be forever devoted, as a scene of revival of religion to raise up ministers and missionaries for Christ and his Church. I long to see every class go forth in the spirit of a Mills and a Hall, a Richards and a Robbins, determined to make their influence felt on the other side of the globe. Will you not, my dear pupils, carry this spirit with you, will not every one of you say with an eye lifted to your dying Lord, here am I, soul and body, here am I, send me, if it be to the ends of the earth. All that I am and have, I consecrate to thee, to promote the salvation of the world. Oh, my dear pupils, can you resist the influence of this holy enthusiasm?" Dr. Brown could not. We may infer from what he himself wrote that there was many a struggle in his heart before he became one of those early missionary volunteers, but whether those struggles were such as Moses knew when God would send him to Egypt, or only such as many a Christian has felt in seeking to discern the mind of the Lord on this very question of missionary consecration, we may not now say. We know the results, and we also know that there were these conflicts day and night. He felt and wrote :—

> My soul is not at rest. There comes a strange
> And secret whisper to my spirit, like
> A dream of night, that tells me I am on
> Enchanted ground. Why live I here? The vows
> Of God are on me, and I may not stop
> To play with shadows, ■ pluck earthly flowers,
> Till I my work have done, and rendered up
> Account. The voice of my departed Lord—
> Go, teach all nations—from the eastern world
> Comes on the night air, and awakes my ear.

He was still in college when he wrote this, and later he seemed to think God had not wished him to be a missionary. He became a school-teacher and editor, and, humanly speaking, there was little prospect of his going abroad. May we not, however, reading backward from development to conception, now devoutly interpret the divine leading, and say that both he and Eliza Ballard were sent as teachers to that Bennington Seminary that they might learn each other and each other's tasks, and then go, after their marriage May 6th, 1830, to learn in Burma and Assam more of the God who reigns over the heathen and of the heathen who do not like to retain God in their thoughts? Certain it is that that heroic woman, whose virtues deserve far more attention than we can give them here was, until the time of her death (May 14th, 1871) a genuine spiritual help-meet. Not long before his marriage he resolved again "not stop to play with shadows or pluck earthly flowers" till he his work had done. More than half a century later he wrote, Aug. 8th, 1885, on his last postal to his daughter :—

"The 5th of this month is the 69th anniversary of my baptism. I do not think I am gaining any although I am working hard eight or ten hours every day to get the hymn-book finished up before the call comes." "Till I my work have done."

He not only did not seek the flowers, but when they were brought to him,—when his Alma Mater had twined for him a well earned garland, he did not wish to wear it. Hear what he writes on receiving the title of "D.D." :—"I have long felt, in common with many others, that the customary use of D.D. as a mark of distinction among ministers of the gospel, or as an appendage to the common address of an individual, is liable to serious objections. Regarded simply as a college honor, like the title of A.B. or A.M., its application would be attended with fewer inconveniences. Entertaining these views, I trust I shall not be regarded as wanting in true respect for my Alma Mater if I request my friends, in writing or speaking of me, still to use the plain title of Mr." It would be a mistake to suppose that Dr. Brown's consecration was of that kind which seems to sap from the heart all mundane enjoyment. Quite the reverse was true. Where he could use this world as not abusing it,—could be in it and enjoy it but be not of it, pleasure became a duty just as at other times duty became pleasure. He loved all nature from snow-capped Fuji to the tinted shells he so often collected on the beach. Science, literature, and arts were welcomed so far as they could aid him in his work or furnish wholesome recreation after work was done. Even puzzles and innocent games brought him genuine enjoyment,—but he knew how to stop them before they stopped him. His love for all creation, linked with allegiance to the All-Creator, is beautifully brought out by a letter dictated shortly before his death. "I have," he says with reference to some bamboos, "lain and looked at the men from my window as they have planted them; if they live they will be a remembrance of me. You would think that in my precarious health, I should be withdrawing my thoughts from the things of this world, and fixing them exclusively on religious matters, but it is not so; every beautiful flower, every bird, hill-top, valley and ocean, strike me with a richer loveliness, as the work of my Father's hand, than they ever did before. I should be willing to live forever in this world, but as He has otherwise ordained, I rejoice to pass away to such other spheres as He hath appointed, and especially to obtain a nearer access, and stronger love for the dear Jesus, the union of God and man."

Dr. Brown, then, with a loyalty that triumphed over his love for objects that would have detained him, heard not in vain the Lord's second call, but, like the apostles at their second call, left all and followed Jesus. We can almost hear him say :—

> And I will go. I may not longer doubt
> To give up friends and home and idol hopes,
> And every tender tie that binds my heart
> To thee, my country! Why should I regard
> Earth's little store of borrowed sweets? I sure
> Have had enough of sorrow in my cup
> To show that never was it His design
> Who placed me here, that I should live in ease
> Or drink at pleasure's fountain.

No one could then have foreseen how much was involved in the "giving up friends and home. . . . and every tender tie." The months that intervened between letters from home, and the absence of any such thing as a photograph, we may somewhat understand though not from our own experiences. Imagine, if you can, the inexpressible emotions which overcame him when the first daguerrotype, a then new invention, found its way to Assam from his absent wife. To quote his daughter's words "Like Joseph he turned away and sought where to weep aloud, and for a long time cried with a 'great and exceeding bitter cry.'" It is not uncommon for those who go away from the old home-stead to build new ones, and who have sons and daughters around them instead of brothers and sisters, to practically forget what was, or even to say with one of old "God hath made me forget all my father's house." Sometimes the ties if not forgotten, still become so loose they scarcely deserve the name of ties. But in Dr. Brown's case it was different. They did not yield nor snap under the tension of decades, even though stretched half-way round the globe, now in one direction, now in another. The affection between himself and brother even down to old age, was tender and true. How touching his remark on receiving, in Assam, a spoon from his mother :—"that is a beautiful spoon, mother, it has only one fault,—it chokes me." His father Deacon Nathan Brown who died suddenly in his eightieth year, and his brother-in-law, Deacon Jonathan Ballard, who died in the same house within a few hours of the other, were very dear to him. He speaks of them in scripture language:—"Lovely and pleasant were they in their lives, and in death they were not divided." Other shocks awaited him. The winsome babe who made their family a triad when they started from Boston for Burmah, three days before Christmas in 1832, was not only, with later children, to die as mission sacrifices, but her little bones were to be thrice ruthlessly disinterred by beast or beastly man, before they were brought home for burial in her native soil. The long separations from his wife in her lonely and perilous journey down the Bramaputra, and, later, across the oceans, could not have been foreseen when the black tears, flowing from his student pen, recorded his vow to surrender all these tender ties. How tender these ties were in Dr. Brown may also be inferred from his own words, and the words of his devoted wife in speaking of each other. In writing to her when with a sick child she had gone to Calcutta to seek medical aid, he says :—"My heart is broken, sunk, and sorrowful, but through the loving kindness of my Saviour I enjoy a good degree of spiritual comfort, although I am so unfaithful to Him. Since I have received your letters describing your troubles, I have been very down-hearted and distressed," and later "And now, my dearest beloved, once more farewell. Cry a tear upon the dear little white cheeks of your sweet babies for their far-away lonely papa. It almost breaks my heart to think of them. You are having a hard time, that I know full well, but I hope God will give you strength, and enable you to overcome every difficulty, and stand under every trial."

The departure on this journey is described mainly by Mrs. Brown in not less touching words. "The idea of leaving our missionary work so soon, after having lost nearly the whole of the previous year, made my poor husband feel almost broken hearted and discouraged. I therefore summoned all my resolution, and told him that if he was willing to remain at home and pursue his missionary labours without me, I would, God helping me, undertake the long and hazardous journey alone." * * * * "We wept together and prayed together," and at last the father committing his wife and helpless infants to divine protection, decided that duty demanded his remaining at work.

And that "duty" governed everything. His courage it is true at such times would often fail him. See this from a letter written to Dr. Bronson later, when Mrs. Brown had been compelled to return to the States:—"My dear wife has now been absent from me two years and a half, and I often fear I shall never see her face again. I have heard nothing from her for near two months. Assam seems desolate indeed, now you are all gone. I am only clinging to the wreck, while the surges are dashing around me, not even attempting more than to hold on, if possible, till some of you return." Did his consecration fail with failing courage? Did he look back from the plough and wish to obliterate what he had promised to his God? Or was he still loyal? He shall speak for himself.

"Should a work of retrenchment be carried on—should Assam be one of the first positions to be relinquished, every missionary, I trust, will solemnly wash his hands of the responsibility. We can part with our families and send them home to be supported by their friends, and we shall do it, if necessary, but this field we cannot abandon. Should we be reduced to the extremity, be recalled, or left without any regular support in a heathen land, I trust our Lord will not find us wanting in the day of trial. The call to return [to America] is one which we could never obey so long as life and a moderate share of health ■ granted us. No, the precious converts that are gathered in, and to be gathered in, from among this people, are dearer to me than life, and with them by God's grace will I remain to the last."

With such a heart, he could sing on :—

> Henceforth, then,
> It matters not if storm or sunshine be
> My earthly lot; bitter or sweet my cup.
> I only pray, God fit me for the work;
> God make me holy, and my spirit nerve
> For the stern hour of strife! Let me but know
> There is an Arm unseen that holds me up
> An Eye that kindly watches all my path,
> Till I my weary pilgrimage have done;
> Let me but know I have a Friend that waits
> To welcome me to glory, and I joy
> To tread the dark and death-fraught wilderness.

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"I only pray God fit me for my work." He felt that he *had a special work;* that it required *fitting;* and that *God* must do the fitting, the workman receiving his implements and instruction from the Master of the harvest, direct, and being accountable to Him only.

In regard to the first of these three points, notice this from his daughter's pen:—"There was no part of his work into which Mr. Brown threw himself with more zest than outdoor preaching. When he could find a few natives talking together—at the bazaar, around a blacksmith's shed, tailor's tent or mazier's shop on the river bank, or under a tree—he entered into their conversation, drew out their religious beliefs, and in a frank and friendly way, expressed his own. "How I wish I could travel up and down the country, and preach to the people!" he wrote, "I often feel most painfully distressed that I cannot give myself to preaching, instead of translating and making books. But the latter, I know, is my particular duty, and therefore I try to be content."

In regard to the second point, see what he says in a letter to Mr. Whiting, on the arrival of Mr. and Mrs. Whiting, as missionaries in Assam:—"We have to labour for the future rather than the present—still I believe that by the exercise of a more truly self-denying and missionary spirit, we might see great things accomplished in our day. In these days of bustle and excitement we are too apt to lose sight of that simplicity of effort and that patient continuance in well doing which are so essential to the success of every minister and especially every missionary. Had we the meek, lowly, self-sacrificing spirit of a Schwartz or Brainerd, what a happy example of Christianity would be held up before the heathen and before our native converts. But alas, the Church is becoming too much like the world—shorn of her lovely radiance, and stripped of her primitive power. We can preach, and we can pray; but the question is, do we act out Christianity? Do we exhibit a fair specimen of it before the heathen? In proportion as we do this, we may expect that our efforts will be accompanied with a life-giving energy, similar to what was witnessed in the apostle's days."

In regard to the third point, viz., the matter of the immediate responsibility of a missionary to God, these two extracts may suffice. The first, from his journal, shows his own actions; the second from an address to a returning missionary—Rev. Norman Harris—shows that he believed that the principle applied to all missionaries. "Oct. 21, 1892. Sent off to-day my answer to the anti-slavery committee, with a copy to Mr. Peck. Have taken an important step, of which I know not what the end will be. Every motive but that of duty seemed to dissuade me from the step, and it has been a painful one to take. I trust I have not followed my own will."

To Mr. Harris—"Going out on such a mission, the bearer of such a message, with such responsibilities resting upon you, with such motives urging you on, with such witnesses above and all around you, with death and the judgment standing before your face, is it for me, my brother, to give you orders and instructions in your work? For a thousand worlds I would not stand between you and your conscientious convictions of duty to the Master. For a thousand worlds I would not take the responsibility of answering in your behalf at the judgment-bar for a single deviation from what your own conscience dictates. No, my brother, you must answer for yourself at that day."

With the gaze of his soul fixed on that "Friend" who waited to welcome him to glory, Dr. Brown *did* "joy to tread the dark and death-fraught wilderness." His daughter writes:—

"Burma had been his appointed field, and two years of precious time had been spent in acquiring the Burman language; but the voice of Providence now seemed to call to regions still beyond, and he cheerfully took the torch his brethren placed in his hand, and set his face to go down into the new mine." In regard to this, Dr. Judson wrote:—"Brother Brown embraced the proposal with instant enthusiasm."

That this was a dark and death-fraught wilderness is plain from the following extracts:—

"We were all ready to embark on Saturday; the vessel started from her moorings on Sabbath day, and we were expecting to go on board early Monday morning, carrying with us our two dear children. But God had ordered otherwise, and before we set sail we were called to deposit our darling in the silent dust. Little William's sufferings appeared to be very great. . . . . The remarks of Dr. Judson at the funeral consoled our hearts with the reflection that it was for our good, and the good of our dear child, that God had taken him away. We feel that we needed the affliction. Oh, may it be sanctified to us, and may we be led by it to live more soberly, righteously, and godly in this present evil world."

This is from Dr. Brown's pen; the next is from Mrs. Brown's. She says:—

"We learned that the current of the Brahmaputra was in many places fearfully strong, and that the bed of the river, like our own Mississippi, was full of snags and sawyers which had been torn from the banks by the strength of the current. Occasionally rumour reached us of the dense and terrible jungles we should have to pass through, where roamed the wild elephants, buffaloes, and tigers of the country; that the boats would be moored at night to sandbars or small islands of sand, formed by the changing current of the stream, which were the daily resort of these wild beasts, and that crocodiles and other monsters swarmed in many parts of the river. . . . We took it as a call from heaven to go, hence obstacles and dangers counted for nothing."

Though he was in Assam rather than in Africa, this "death-fraught wilderness," especially during his absence from his wife, or his wife from him, must have made him often recall the words:—

> And when I come to stretch me for the last,
> In unattended agony, beneath
> The cocoa's shade, or lift my dying eyes
> From Afric's burning sands, it will be sweet
> That I have toiled for other worlds than this;
> I know I shall feel happier than to die
> On softer bed.

While his wife was in America he was taken sick with cholera and was not expected to recover. Then, and at some other times, these words seemed near to fulfilment. But God was more merciful to him than was his own prophecy. When for the last time on earth he heard God's call, and was about, Bartimeus-like, to cast off the upper garment, in this case of his flesh, that he might follow Jesus up to the holy city, he was neither "unattended" nor in "agony." Not to mention the angels who had kept him in all his ways and who now waited to bear him in Abraham's bosom, his second wife, whom he had married more than thirteen years previous (July 24th, 1872), and other loving friends stood round and strove to make his a "softer bed." The tender lips of his little boy gave their nightly kiss and wished him a "good bye" of undreamed-of import. All was tranquil. That God, who once had shut the mouths of the lions and lifted Daniel from a den to a palace, now bade the king of terrors return his shafts to their quiver that another faithful servant might pass peacefully through the valley of the shadow of death up into the divine presence.

Until almost the close of his life, which occurred Jan. 1, 1886, Dr. Brown had that same consciousness of self-deficiency which is revealed at the end of his early poem:—

> And if I should reach heaven;
> If one that hath so deeply, darkly sinned;
> If one whom ruin and revolt have held
> With such a fearful grasp; if one for whom
> Satan has struggled as he hath for me,
> Should ever reach that blessed shore, oh, how
> This heart will flame with gratitude and love;
> And through the ages of eternal years,
> Thus saved, my spirit never shall repent
> That toil and suffering once were mine below.

He once wrote to his wife:—

"I have been thinking of the goodness of God to poor unworthy me, until it seems as if my heart would break. It is not often that I can speak or write of my feelings, it agitates me so—but on the whole I have a sweet peace of mind, that leads me to trust and believe, and personally apply God's promises."

Somewhat similar is an early entry in his journal:

"June 22. My birth-day—thirty-five years old. It fills me with confusion to look back upon my life. The coming year shall, through grace, be devoted faithfully to His service, and O Lord, let an abundant harvest of precious souls be gathered into thy flock."

These doubts gathered like clouds even around his dying bed, but the sunshine broke though at last. Never will the writer, who was with him much by day and night during his last illness, forget his final prayers and hymns. Shortly before this, the subjunctive mood of early years had sufficiently grown into the indicative to enable him to put in his journal, under date of October 10th, 1885:—

> And IF I should reach heaven—
> Glory Hallelujah!
> It is done, the goal is won,
> The silver wave doth circle round my feet—
> Heaven is begun.

Through almost all his poetry, even the hymn that was sung at his wedding and that was composed by himself for the occasion, there runs a sad minor strain, like that which ran through the stern prose of his actual life. At times this adds intense pathos to thought already poetic, and gently touches in our own natures a sympathetic chord. What could be more beautiful than those verses written by request in the album of a friend, describing his life as a book, and his hours as its pages, and closing with

> But alas! I stand by my native hearth,
> And the forms that I loved are gone!
> Changed, changed unto me is this beautiful earth;
> Let me pass with the passers on!
> A few more lines on the fading scroll,
> And the tale of life is o'er,
> But its impress, typed on the inner soul
> Will abide for evermore.

It may be that an exact analysis of his character would show that this infusion of melancholy traceable in his writings was also responsible for the shadows which sometimes fell athwart his otherwise strong faith. But that man's faith is most rightly counted "full" who is most *faithful*, and in this Dr. Brown had few superiors, alas, all too few peers. The element of melancholy has now been removed, for the great Musician has re-arranged his song, and changed it to a major key. To adopt part of the sonnet Dr. Brown wrote on the death of Mrs. Simons, we may say:—

> But now no longer o'er thy griefs we sigh;
> Since thou art gathered to the glorious fold
> Where the kind Shepherd wipeth every eye;
> And radiant there with immortality,
> His lovely face thou ever dost behold,
> And with the pure and perfect walk the streets of gold.

Brethren, it is now nearly a decade since the hand into which you have put the pen for writing this sketch was entrusted with transcribing to a granite slab the inscription now visible over Dr. Brown's grave. Such privilege is deemed an honour. At the same time there is the consciousness that all that is *valuable* in that inscription, is of Dr. Brown, and all that is *durable*, is of him who cut deep what would have otherwise been washed off by the first summer's rain. If this sketch has faithfully portrayed a loyal man it has value, yet only because of *his* worth. May the divine finger, which writes now on tables of stone, now on the fleshly tables of our hearts, grave deeply in us the lessons we should learn. May God make us all better—more loyal for the future, and help us even now, before our eyes are withdrawn from the portrait to-day unveiled, to ponder the words once addressed by Dr. Brown to another assembly of Christian workers:—

"Let us stand side by side as brothers. If we are all pressing forward to the same Kingdom, let us help and encourage each other by every means in our power. Let no unhallowed strifes mar the beauty of our onward march; no painful reminiscenes of unseemly discords, unkind words or acts be left for explanation and settlement after we reach heaven. Let us be careful to avoid the occasions of alienation, not attempting to control the religious views of others, but looking well to the consistent and faithful practice of our own. Above all, let us take care how we build. Let us endeavour to plant living churches of God, here upon this virgin soil, in as exact accordance with the New Testament pattern as possible, honestly aiming to follow the Master, irrespective of any human teaching. And let us have faith to believe that out of our denominational organizations God will select for the Church of the future all the excellencies that are to be found in each, while He purges them from every spot and stain, that we in our weakness and ignorance have suffered to remain. Let us so pray, and so preach, and so live, that the proportion of hay, wood, and stubble in our respective churches may be reduced to the smallest possible dimensions; and when, perhaps, some darling scheme or theory that we have cherished is swept away by the increasing light, let us be ready to say, Amen! God be thanked for this also."

THE BATTLE OF KANGWANGTSAI

(From an occasional Correspondent.)

Kangwangtsai, April 11th, 1895.

By a convenient coincidence, the *Weekly Mail* of March 23rd, containing a reference to the conflict between the Chinese and the Japanese accounts of the battle of Kangwangtsai, reached me here to-day. This conflict of evidence, of which I had heard a good deal from the Foreign Residents of Newchwang, had puzzled me also, but this morning I was taken over the field of battle by one of the officers of General Katsura's Staff, and learned how the mistake occurred. The Chinese were quite right in denying that four bayonet charges were made by the enemy, and the Japanese official reports are in error on this matter. What actually took place was this. The Japanese were fighting under great difficulties. They were advancing in the face of a largely superior force; they had the setting sun in their eyes; the artillery in the background was unable to give any effective support to the infantry owing to the fading light and gathering mist. The Japanese infantry, advancing with fixed bayonets, made four successive [illegible] during these halts that the Chinese

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riflemen, who had the light behind them and were under cover, delivered an effective fire and caused considerable loss to the Japanese. It appears that these four interruptions to the Japanese advance were, by one of those mistakes that are always liable to occur in the interpretation of a *kana* telegram, transformed in the official report into four bayonet charges. The enemy finally abandoned their position, and, retreating under cover of the darkness, made good their escape with a trifling loss only. The greater part of the Japanese force had to return immediately to Haicheng, to be ready to repel a possible attack from the north. The earliest of those to return did not reach the town till half-past one in the morning. It was in this night march after an exhausting day that such a large proportion of men were disabled by frost-bite.

The Chinese, as I learned in Newchwang (Treaty Port), persistently made light of the engagement of Kangwangtsai. In one respect, indeed, that of casualties, the battle was a much less serious matter to them than to the Japanese; but this is, from the military point of view, one of the least important aspects of a fight. The actual results of the battle were, that a force of about 12,000 Chinamen was dislodged from its position by less than half the force of Japanese; that Sung's men were so thoroughly disheartened by their repulse that they made no further attempt to effect a junction with I at Newchwang; and that time was given for the reinforcement of the Japanese garrison at Newchwang. Had Sung and I been able to act in concert in the end of December, Haicheng might have been invested, and the small force then under Katsura's command would have been in a position of great peril.

The strategic aspects of this battle are now, however, matters of ancient history, and I need not dwell on them. My object in writing to you today is merely to vindicate the Japanese official reports from the charge of intentional inaccuracy.

An inspection of the battlefield has shown me once again the utter ineptitude of the Chinese Generals. At the time when the Japanese infantry was advancing westward towards Kangwangtsai, to attack a superior force, which was firing, part through holes in a wall, part under the protection of a bank, there was in a village half a mile to the south of the end of the Japanese line a force of two or three thousand Chinese, held in check by a single company of Japanese infantry. Had this force of the enemy made a bayonet charge on the Japanese left flank, the whole line would have been thrown into disorder, and the Chinese main body, advancing from Kangwangtsai might then have practically annihilated their enemy. But the flank attack was not made, and the Chinese lost the best chance they have ever had of gaining a signal victory.

LETTER FROM ST. LOUIS.

(From our own Correspondent).

St. Louis, March 29th.

St. Louis has just enjoyed a visit from the great evangelist, Rev. Sam Jones. No man in America can draw such crowds as Sam Jones. A visit by the President of the United States would scarcely raise greater enthusiasm, or bring out such gatherings. The distinguished speaker preached every day and night for three weeks in the great Music Hall at the Exposition Building, which is the largest auditorum in the city. Tens of thousands of people flocked to hear him, and the size of the congregation was only limited by the capacity of the hall. Every Sunday afternoon only men were admitted, and after 7,000 people were packed in, hundreds could not find admittance. Last Sunday evening he preached his last sermon, at which fully 15,000 people were present. After the Hall was crowded, the evangelist mounted the steps in front of the door and spoke to 6,000 people on the streets who could not get in, after which he went in and preached to the 7,000 inside. The Rev. Stewart, his co-labourer, preached in an adjoining hall at the same hour to several thousand people. The papers printed his sermons daily, and it is safe to say that such a meeting was never before held in this city. The speaker denounced the sins of the times in bold language, and criticised public officials in a rambling manner. Sam Jones is a man to himself, peculiar in style, and a giant of the times.

News has just reached America of the attempt to assassinate Li Hung-chang in Japan. It is received as a sad bit of news by the admirers of Japan. All think here that no greater calamity could have befallen the country, as it creates a bad impression of Japan, especially as this is the second time a foreigner of note has been attacked while in the country, by a Japanese.

A movement is now on foot in this city to prosecute all saloons and stores that sell on Sunday. Two cases have already been tried in the Court of Criminal Correction, and convictions were obtained in both. There are thousands of Jews and foreigners in the business here who disregard the Christian Sabbath, and the movement points to the closing of all such places.

The Public Safety Committee, which has been prosecuting election frauds for several months, is still hard at work, and a number of persons who voted more than once at the last election are in a good way to spend several years in the state penitentiary.

The criminal docket of the St. Louis Criminal Court has been so crowded for the past two years that it has been impossible to try half the cases. As a result the Legislature has provided for an additional Criminal Court, and this week Governor Stone signed the bill which makes it a law. Within a few weeks a judge will be appointed. St. Louis will have two Criminal Courts which will be in session ten months in the year.

With the return of spring the business prosperity of the country is looking up, and withal everything is progressing in this country very smoothly and satisfactorily.

JAPANESE TOPICS IN AUSTRALIA.

By John Plummer, M.J.S.

Sydney, March 20th.

The death of Sir Robert W. Duff, Governor of New South Wales, has naturally awakened considerable speculation respecting his probable successor, but it is not at all unlikely that the British Government may be induced, by reason of the sudden development of Japanese naval and military power, to select an individual who has, at least, some little knowledge of affairs in the China and Yellow Seas, for with the large and increasing Asiatic population, chiefly Japanese and Chinese, in Australasia and Polynesia, delicate questions affecting the various Colonial Governments and Japan or China, are certain, sooner or later, to arise. Many leading public men in Australasia are beginning to recognise this fact. Major-General Hutton, of the British Imperial Army, and commandant of the Military Forces in New South Wales, at a dinner recently given to Sir W. P. Manning, ex-Mayor of Sydney, said, in the course of a vigorous speech, that within the last few months there had arisen, almost at the door of Australia, a Power great by sea and land, and possessing many of the attributes that made the British people what they were. "There could be no question," he "said, that within the next few months Great Britain and British trade would have to assert themselves in Chinese waters; no one could tell what the future had in store for Australians in a country not many thousand miles from their doors, for the result of these victories of Japan would be the partial destruction of the great Chinese Empire. To Australians, he said, it was not a case of British, but Australian interests. Indicating the importance of the matter, he reminded his hearers that the Chinaman, in a climate as severe as that of Canada, wore quilted cotton. What Australians had to do, if they could, was "compel him to wear wool."

And here, it may be mentioned, will probably be found the basis of a real federation of Australasian and Asiatic interests, for the bonds of commerce are more powerful than those secured by official treaties. The Australasian pastoralists are still anxiously watching an opportunity for opening the Japanese market for the entry of their rich stores of wool. Years ago the New South Wales wool merchants were to be found earnestly discussing the possibilities of trade with Japan. "In 1874," says Mr. P. N. Trebeck, of Sydney, in a letter to the *Sydney Morning Herald*, "I collected all the best lots of wool, bales and cases, from our Agricultural Society's Exhibition of that year, and consigned them to Sir Harry Parkes, K.C.B., at her B.M. Legation at Yeddo, and to his Excellency Okubo Toshimichi, Minister of the Interior Department, Yeddo. A beautiful lot of snowwhite sheep and lambs' wool of Mr. Kermode's was to be presented to the Mikado, and the other was for distribution among the manufacturers. In return, the Mikado sent us some good silk handkerchiefs and neckties, and also some of the cotton rugs and mats generally used in their dwellings. The following year I induced Mr. Faithfull, of Goulburn, to send two bales of his very high-quality wool to Shanghai through Messrs. Gilchrist, Watt, and Co., but both these attempts were allowed to rest for the reason that the price of wool advanced 20 to 30 per cent., and the squatters were satisfied for the time. A few years afterwards, when the price of wool again became low, I tried to induce some of our largest squatters to subscribe sufficient funds to introduce into China and Japan a few simple modern looms for weaving the plainest and most useful tweeds, and in the first instant to supply some wool or yarn; but again the price of wool advanced considerably, and the squatters were satisfied without sending to an experimental market." Mr. Trebeck, like most of his fellow merchants, is extremely sanguine respecting the future. "The war between Japan and China," he says, "is sure to be the means of opening many other ports on the coast of China, and lead to further commercial relations. At the close of the war will be our opportunity to act unitedly and vigorously to again introduce our wool into China and Japan. Both wool and yarn can be supplied cheaply enough now to be worth their favourable consideration, and the reception of the wool would lead also to the use of our meats, which we can supply as cheaply as any country in the world. This movement should certainly be Australian, and all our colonies should unite in making a thoroughly practical attempt to push our wool to the notice of two or three hundred millions of people."

The Port Arthur episode continues to form a subject of comment in the Australasian papers, all based more or less on the reports furnished by the correspondent of the London *Times*, but it seems to be generally conceded that none have more regretted the occurrences than the great body of the Japanese people. Australasians are, however, much perplexed by the contradictory reports received from London.

The Melbourne *Age*, asking what is the prospect before the victorious Japanese, says:—

They may occupy Pekin and deprive the Chinese of their present dynasty, but the spoils of war in the shape of increased territory will be denied them. Even the possession of Korea would in all probability not be tolerated by Russia. The most that they can look for is a heavy indemnity, payment of which they will find it difficult to enforce, and a right of free entry into the territory over which China has held or has claimed to hold sway. In respect to this latter it would appear that she has been engaged in pulling the chestnuts out of the fire for others. The Powers most interested in China's commerce have shown that they are on the alert to turn the situation to their own advantage. The dismemberment of the Empire would probably serve the purposes of France and Russia, which would gladly extend their frontiers in the one case northwards, in the other southwards; but such a settlement would not be palatable to Great Britain. England's interest lies in ensuring increased facilities for trade. Already she practically controls the bulk of the usefully applied revenues collected at the treaty ports of the central province. Sir Robert Hart, the British Inspector-General of Customs, exercises an almost autocratic power as the representative of British commerce, and the improvement which has taken place owing to his wise administration of the revenues entrusted to his care is described as being wonderful. What the mother country aims at is the throwing open of all the Chinese ports, and for the time being France and Russia apparently profess themselves content with this policy, leaving Japan to reap such fruits of victory in the shape of pecuniary compensation and right of free entry into the Celestial Empire as she can wring from her discomfited and disheartened foe.

A Fiji correspondent of the *Sydney Daily Telegraph*, writing from Suva, under date of March 5th, says:—"The steamer *Afghan* arrived here direct from Kobe, early last month. She was sent by the Emigration Department of Japan to convey back what remained of the Japanese labourers imported by the C.S.R. Company in May last for plantation work. Out of 200 apparently sturdy Japanese who landed here 92 have died in this short space of time, and a large majority of them was always in the plantation hospitals. On their way from the company's mill to the steamer, the distance of a few miles, one died, and directly they had embarked a second succumbed. It will be rather interesting to know how many of them eventually reach home. This extraordinary mortality is very difficult to understand, as the company has been most assiduous in its care for them, far exceeding the demands of the contract in this respect; and they have been a source of considerable loss to the company. Beri-beri, the disease from which they have died, was unknown here before their advent—Indians and Europeans finding plantation upon which they have been working a healthy one. They must, under given circumstances, have been exceedingly susceptible to this form of disease." Sir John B. Thurston, Governor of Fiji, who has just left on a visit to England, has given considerable attention to the matter, and during his absence the Acting Governor will continue the investigations already commenced. It is possible that that the bulk of the labourers had come from a comparatively cold climate, and had not sufficient time to become acclimatised. In Australia they are among the healthiest members of the population, but even native Australians find the heat of the Fijian climate unbearable during portion of the summer months, and are glad to escape from it.

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RECENT BOOKS ON ORIENTAL SUBJECTS.

The *Dial* of March 16 contains considerable information concerning books, both old and new, written with reference to Oriental Subjects. Mr. Arthur H. Smith's "Chinese Characteristics" has already reached its third edition. The life of Joseph Hardy Neeshima, by Rev. J. D. Davis, D.D., of the Doshisha, is advertised under the appropriate title, "A Maker of the New Japan." The following works have just been issued:—

Chinese Central Asia; A Ride to Little Tibet. By Henry Lansdell, D.D., author of "Through Central Asia." In 2 vols., illus., 8vo. Charles Scribner's Sons. $5.

Diary of a Journey Through Mongolia and Tibet in 1891 and 1892. By William Woodville Rockhill. Illus., 8vo, uncut, pp. 413. Washington: The Smithsonian Institute.

Thos. Nelson and Sons, among new publications, make the following announcement:—

Voyages and Travels of Capt. Basil Hall. With illustrations. 8vo, cloth extra, $2.00.

The writings of Captain Basil Hall have all the interest of a good sea story which is also a true story. Life on board a British man-of-war was a more stirring experience during the five and twenty years before Waterloo than it has ever been since, and the part of Captain Basil Hall's story reproduced in this volume covers ten years of that period of activity. The writer also gives interesting and lucid descriptions of the period. A biographical sketch of the author, who was contemporary and friend of Sir Walter Scott, is prefixed to this volume.

The following books are also in the list of spring announcements:—

Chin-Chin, or the Chinaman at Home by Tcheng-Ki-Tong, late of the Imperial Chinese Legation, trans. by R. H. Sherard, $1.50. (J. B. Lippincott Co.)

The Peoples and Politics of the Far East, Travels and Studies in the British Colonies, Siberia, China, etc., by Henry Norman, illus., $4.

Lotus-Time in Japan, by Henry T. Finck, illus., $1.75. (Charles Scribner's Sons.)

Chinese Characteristics. By Arthur H. Smith. With 16 full-page original Illustrations. 8vo, cloth, $2.00.

Cannot be praised too highly.—*Independent.*
Not only one of the ablest analyses and portrayals of the Chinese character, but on the whole one of the most judicial. Twenty-two years' residence among the people, with command of their language, has enabled Mr. Smith to see them as they are.—*The Nation.*
The best book on the Chinese people.—*New York Examiner.*

A Maker of the New Japan. Joseph Hardy Neesima, the Founder of Doshisha University. By Rev. J. D. Davis, D.D., Professor in Doshisha. Illustrated. 12mo, cloth, $1.00.

Mr. Davis has written most interestingly of him in his surroundings in Japan, of his home life, and of the work which he did, as only an eye-witness could tell it.—*Advance.*

Dodd Mead and Company announce a book that will probably be a strong competitor of the works previously mentioned:—

The Real Chinaman. By Chester Holcombe, late Secretary U.S. Legation at Pekin. Illustrated with 80 engravings from photographs collected by the author. 8vo, $2.00.

Mr. Holcombe's residence of sixteen years in China, his masterly and ready use of the language, and his exceptional opportunities for knowing the Chinese in their homes, have qualified him, as few Americans are qualified, to describe the Chinaman not as he seems, but as he is.

From Houghton, Mifflin and Company comes the following advertisement of a new book that has already been alluded to in these columns and that will undoubtedly find a ready sale:—

Out of the East. Reveries and Studies in New Japan. By Lafcadio Hearn. Attractively printed, with artistic binding. 16mo, $1.25.

Mr. Hearn's fascinating "Glimpses of Unfamiliar Japan" has had a remarkable success both in this country and in Great Britain, and is already in the third edition. The two qualities which most impress its readers are its ample and exact information and the wonderful charm of its style. These qualities characterize in equal degree this new book by Mr. Hearn.

Letters from the Land of the Rising Sun. By Henry Spencer Palmer, F.R.A.S., Major-General (Retired), Royal Engineers. Seventy-six Collotype Illustrations; forty full-page pictures. Yokohama: Published by the *Japan Mail* Office:—

To a graceful and flowing style the late General Palmer united the experienced scientist's keen powers of observation, a sympathetic nature, and a wide knowledge of affairs. Whatever subject he wrote upon he rendered attractive, and in the Land of the Rising Sun he had a rich field before him. . . . . The book is a veritable *edition de luxe*, well printed and bound, and contains seventy-six excellent illustrations in collotype. . . . . We are tempted to make many extracts from General Palmer's pages, but must refer our readers to the book itself, a perusal of which we can assure them will afford them much pleasure.—*Hongkong Daily Press.*

Among the hundreds of letters written from Japan, at the period when that country was emerging from the chrysalis state that followed the declaration of the Era of Progress, few are better worth preserving than those of *The Times* correspondent in the years 1886-92. It is not alone their literary merit—Japan seems to imbue not a few writers with a taste for judicious word painting—that justifies the republication of a number of Gen. Palmer's contributions in book form, but the fact that many of the letters deal with events that are for Japan important matters of history. . . . . A considerable number of social matters are dealt with in a tender and sympathetic manner. Old Japan and its customs are portrayed; the social problems brought about by the social revolution Japan has voluntarily enacted; Japan's amusements; and its religion. . . . . The book is published as a veritable *edition de luxe*, well printed and bound, and illustrated by collotypes in Ogawa's best style. Illustrations from photographs have been brought to a high state of perfection in Japan, and those selected for the "Letters" are of the best, possessing not merely great artistic merit, but also historical interest. The old resident of Japan, no less than the expectant visitor, will find a rich store of ideas and information concerning Dai Nippon collected for him in this handsome volume.—*Singapore Free Press.*

This extensive list would seem to indicate that book publishers are confident that the Oriental war has increased the interest felt in things Japanese and Chinese, and even in all things Oriental.

HONGKONG NEWS.

The *China Mail* reports an interesting Club case from Labuan. Mr. Hugh St. John Hughes (described as the second son of a baronet) is a member of the Executive Committee of the Labuan Club. A candidate proposed by him was blackballed; and in the Club premises Mr. Hughes is alleged to have made certain objectionable remarks for which the Committee, at a meeting to which he had not been summoned, requested a written apology. Mr. Hughes retaliated by bringing an action for libel and defamation, claiming $10,000 as damages. The case was heard by Mr. MacDaniel Bruce, Puisne Judge, who decided for the plaintiff and awarded him $1,000 and costs. The Judge, in the course of his judgment, said he had made it a point of being introduced to the blackballed gentleman, and after ten minutes' conversation he had found him to be well fitted to become a member of the Labuan Club. The Committee propose to appeal, taking the advice of Messrs. Donaldson and Burkinshaw of Singapore, and it is not improbable that Mr. E. Robinson, Hongkong, will be requisitioned to argue the case on appeal. It is stated that the plaintiff has offered to forego the damages if the Committee pay $200 odd to cover the costs and agree not to carry the case to appeal. Mr. E. Robinson has left Hongkong for Sandakan.

One of the "bunders" that did duty as a sensation at the end of last week, remarks the *China Mail*, was the rumour that the German mail steamer *Bayern*, after sailing from Hongkong for Bremen, had gone up the Canton River, presumably to discharge a large consignment of munitions of war. We understand that the vessel seen in the Canton River (which gave rise to the story) was the *Wieland*, a large two-funnelled vessel, painted in such a manner as to resemble somewhat closely the North German Lloyd's mail steamers. If our information is correct, and we have every reason to believe it is, when the *Wieland* arrived at Whampoa her name had been obliterated, not only on the hull but on her boats and deck fixtures and fittings, but she was flying a flag with the name "Wieland" in large characters. Such extraordinary precautions are not taken by the ordinary honest trader, so it may reasonably be conjectured that the steamer succeeded in "running" a valuable cargo in safety, eluding the vigilance of the Japanese fleet which is supposed to be taking every means to prevent the carriage of contraband to China. Incidents of this description will probably have the effect of attracting greater attention on the part of the Japanese to the Canton River. With reference to this steamer the *Shanghai Mercury* says:—The Hamburg-American Line is fast clearing away its old steamers. Recently the *Wieland* was sold, it is said, to a Chinese house, though the medium of Mr. Theod. Lind. The *Wieland* in her time was one of the finest vessels of the old Eagle Line; she was built in 1875, but several times has been thoroughly repaired, and had been provided with triple-expansion engines, and is still a very fine steamship. The *Wieland* is bound for Hongkong, and has already left Hamburg. Near Blankenese on the lower river she was sent ashore by the floating ice, but got off again, and was laying at Bremenhaven waiting for the completion of her cargo. The vessel is now under command of Captain Bruhn, an old China trader.

A Hongkong paper says that a French steamer at present in that port was about to ship 600 Chinese coolies for service as carriers with the French expeditionary forces in Madagascar.

The steamer *Polyphemus*, with touched the Gap Rock Island, has been docked. Her injuries are much more serious than were at first expected, some twenty-five feet of her keel requiring renewal, together with a few plates.

Admiral Buller, the new commander-in-chief of the China Station, may be expected to arrive about the 15th proximo. H.M.S. *Alacrity*, says the *China Mail*, will remain in Hongkong until his arrival. The new cruiser *Rainbow* (for *Severn's* relief) left Suez on the 2nd instant. The *Æolus* and *Undaunted*, which are both repairing defects, will be ready for sea about the end of the current month. The *Spartan* is expected to leave soon for Formosa.

The steamer *Achilles*, says the *Hongkong Daily Press*, met with a serious accident on her way from Hongkong to Shanghai. She was off Pedro Blanco when her shaft broke, and she had to return for the repairs to be effected. There was no alarm felt on board, and the boat was towed into harbour by one of Messrs. Butterfield and Swire's tugboats. The *Achilles* is now lying at Kowloon dock.

At Singapore on the 6th inst. Mr. W. H. Jackson, a member of the World's Columbian Transportation Commission of America, was charged with photographing one of the forts. It appeared that Mr. Jackson had been taking photographs, but was unaware that the fort was included in one of them. The magistrate expressed himself satisfied that there had been no criminal intent on the defendant's part, he confiscated the negatives, and dismissed the case.

AUSTRALIAN ENTERPRISE.

The arrival in Kobe, says the *Chronicle*, of Mr. James Anderson, an Australian merchant of Sydney, New South Wales, may be said to remove the project of opening up trade between Australia and Japan from the region of speculation to that of fact. We have already referred to the horses brought to Japan by Mr. Anderson, but besides specimens of Australian horse-flesh, Mr. Anderson has with him samples of many Australian staples which ought to result in business. Butter can be made in Australia, he asserts, cheaper and of equal quality to that made anywhere in the world. A sample tin of the Ireland Rosebud Creamery, Newcastle, which we have examined and tested is certainly of first class quality, and if it can be laid down in Japan at a reasonable rate should find a good market here. Then again, Mr. Anderson, has samples of leather of all classes, kangaroo included, besides opossum and wallabi-skins, rabbit-skins, calf-kins, basils, horns, hoofs, and shank-bones, glue-pieces, and sinews for manufacturing purposes. We cannot profess to be great judges of leather, but certainly the specimens shown us have a finish, strength, and evident durability that must commend themselves even to those who cannot claim expert knowledge. Passing by the wool-press and water-pumps, which are scarcely likely to find an active market in Japan, though of course the wool samples, both scoured and greasy, may lead to considerable business, we find that Mr. Anderson has samples of Wilkinson's Colonial Wines from the Hunter River; also samples of tinned meats for the army; of wheat; of Lucerne hay, maize chaff, pollard and bran, for fattening cattle and producing a copious flow of milk in cows; and he also has with him many other samples of staples and manufactures which should interest merchants, but respecting which we cannot pretend to give an opinion.

All the samples are on view at the office of Mr. A. Cameron, No. 78B, Settlement, and may be seen there at any reasonable time. Mr. Anderson is staying at the Club Hotel in Division Street, and when not at the Livery Stables at Ikuta looking after the welfare of the horses he has brought to Japan, may be found at the Hotel by anyone who desires to consult him with a view to the introduction to Japan of the various goods we have indicated above. Mr. Anderson is provided with a letter of introduction from the Hon. Sydney Smith, the Minister for Agriculture and Commerce for New South Wales, to the Minister for Agriculture and Commerce in Japan, and as he also holds introductions to the British Minister in Tokyo from the Hon. Mr. Brunker, Colonial Secretary, New South Wales, and the Hon. J. H. Young, Minister for Works, N.S.W., merchants who desire to enter into business relations with him may be satisfied that they are not dealing with a speculative adventurer.

At present Mr. Anderson is especially desirous of introducing the Australian horse to Japan. Of late years the Australians have taken great pains in the breeding of horses, with the result that all the remounts for the Indian army are now procured in the Southern Colonies. Special endeavours have been made by care in the selection of sires and dams to produce horses that shall be serviceable for military purposes, and, judging from the selection of eleven horses to be seen at Ikuta, this object has been attained. There are fine, spirited horses suitable for cavalry and artillery mounts to be seen at the stables, as well as splendid deep-chested animals likely to be found invaluable in the baggage train. Notwithstanding

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the long voyage up from Australia, the horses are in wonderfully good condition, and lovers of horse flesh who have not yet seen them will be interested in paying a visit to the Livery Stables at Ikuta. Mr. Anderson would like to give the Japanese Government the first refusal of the horses; and it seems to us that, in view of the decided want of a good strain of horse in Japan, of stuff that will stand laborious campaigning work, the military authorities would be well advised in examining the selection Mr. Anderson has brought with him, with a view to arrangements being made for the introduction of the Australian horse to this country. Mr. Anderson informs us that in the case of a contract, horses from Australia could be landed in Japan within about twenty days, and the suggestion is well worth the attention of the Government.

CHESS.

(All Communications to be addressed to the Chess Editor.)

The Yokohama Chess Club meets at the Club Hotel, No. 5, Bund, on Monday and Thursday in each week from 5 to 11 p.m.

The Tokyo Chess Club meets at the Tokyo Hotel every Friday from 1 to 7 p.m.

Solution of Problem No. 173.

WHITE.	BLACK.
1—R to R 8	1—P to R 7
2—R to Q R 8	2—Anything
3—Q, R, or Kt mates accordingly.	

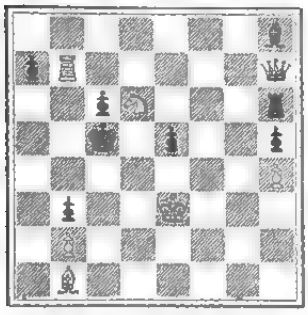
Correct solutions received from Omega, W.H.S., W. Barrie, and J.D.

E. J. King.—Your answer to No. 173 will not do. If Black plays 2—R to Q R 6 there is no mate.

Problem No. 175.

By V. Marin.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in three moves.

Game No. 253.

The following bright little skirmish shows the immortal Adolph Andersen at the best.

"ALLGAIER—KIESERITZKY GAMBIT."

WHITE. Rosater.	BLACK. A. Andersen.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—P to K B 4	2—P takes P
3—Kt to K B 3	3—P to K Kt 4
4—P to K R 4	4—P to Kt 5
5—Kt to K 5	5—Kt to K ■ 3 (a)
6—B to B 4	6—P to Q 4
7—P takes P	7—B to Q 3
8—P to Q 4	8—Kt to R 4
9—B to Kt 5 ch. (b)	9—P to B 3
10—P takes P	10—P takes P
11—Kt takes Q B P	11—Kt takes Kt
12—B takes Kt ch.	12—K to B sq.
13—B takes R	13—Kt to Kt 6 !
14—R to R 2 (c)	14—B to K B 4
15—B to Q 5	15—K to Kt 2 !
16—Kt to B 3	16—R to K sq. ch.
17—K to B 2	17—Q to Kt 3 (d)
18—Kt to R 4	18—Q to R 3 !
19—Kt to B 3 (e)	19—B to K 4 (f)
20—P to R 4 (g)	20—Q to B 8 ch. ! !
21—Q takes Q	21—B takes P ch.
22—B to K 3	22—R takes B wins.

(a) A perfectly sound defence.
(b) Inferior to Kt to Q B 3 or castles.
(c) K to B 2 is the lesser evil here.
(d) Threatening 18—B to K 4, &c.
(e) If 19—P to B 4, Q takes Kt; so—Q takes Q, R to K ■ ch.; —K to Kt, R to K 8 ch.; so—K to B 2, R mates.
(f) A magnificent combination initiated on Black's 14th move.
(g) If 20—P takes B, Q to Kt 3 ch. and wins.

A Chess Heirloom.

Chambers's Journal gives the following example of the abuse of patience over a game distinction—the one lived at Madrid, the other at Rome—who played a game of chess at that distance. They began when young, and though they both lived to a very old age yet the game was never finished. One of them dying appointed his executor to go on with the game. Their mode was: Each don kept a chessboard with the places ranged in exact order in their respective closets at Madrid and Rome, and having agreed who should move first the don informs his playfellow by letter that he has moved his K P two squares. The courier speedily returns and advises his antagonist that the minute after he had the honour to receive this he likewise moved his ■ P two squares, and so they went on. It would doubtless have turned the brain of either of these two wealthy dons if they could have been present at any of the occasions in recent times when a game has been begun and ended by telegraph between places far apart in a few hours.

Chess in San Francisco.

A four-handed game in which Messrs. Quiroga and Huber opposed Hallwegan and Thompson. Each of the four players made a move in rotation and played independently of the other. The full score of the game appears below, to which is appended several notes furnished by Senor Quiroga.

Game No. 254.

RUY LOPEZ.

White—Senor Quiroga, first move; Herr V. Huber, second move. Black—G. Thompson, first move; Hallwegan, second move.

WHITE.	BLACK.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—Kt to K B 3	2—Kt to Q B 3
3—B to Q Kt 5	3—Kt to K B 3
4—Castles	4—P to Q 3
5—P to Q 4 (a)	5—P takes P
6—Kt takes P	6—B to Q 2
7—Kt to K B 5 (b)	7—Kt to K 4 (c)
8—B takes B	8—Q takes B
9—P to K B 4	9—Kt to Q B 3
10—Kt to K Kt 3	10—B to K 2
11—Kt to Q B 3	11—Castles on Q side (d)
12—Kt to Q 5	12—P to K Kt 3 (e)
13—P to Q B 4	13—Kt to Q Kt sq.
14—B to K 3	14—P to Q B 4 (f)
15—P to Q Kt 4 (g)	15—Kt takes Kt
16—Q B P takes Kt	16—P to K R 4
17—R to Q B sq.	17—P to Q Kt 3
18—P to Q R 4 (h)	18—Kt to Q R 3
19—P to Q Kt 5	19—Kt to Q B 2
20—Q to Q Kt 3	20—P to K B 3 (i)
21—R to Q Kt sq.	21—P to K R 5
22—Kt to K 2	22—P to K Kt 4
23—P to K B 5	23—P to K Kt 5
24—Kt to K B 4	24—Q R to K Kt sq. (j)
25—Kt to K 6	25—Kt takes Kt
26—B P takes Kt	26—Q to K sq.
27—P to Q R 5	27—B to Q sq.
28—P takes ■	28—B takes P
29—R takes P	29—R to K Kt 2
30—P to K 5 (! !)	30—Q to K 2
31—Q R to K B sq.	31—P takes P
32—R to K B 7	32—R takes ■
33—R takes R	33—Q to Q 3
34—Q to R 2 (!)	34—K to Kt sq.
35—R to Q 7	35—Q to K B sq.
36—Q to Q R 6	36—Q to Q B sq.
37—Q to Q R sq.	37—R to K ■ 4 (k)
38—R to K Kt 7	38—P to K 5
39—Q to Q sq.	39—Q to K sq.
40—Q takes P	40—R to R sq.
41—Q takes K P	41—Q takes P
42—P to Q 6	42—Q to R 3
43—Q to K 5	43—R to K B sq.
44—P to Q 7 (ch.)	44—K to R sq.
45—Q to Q 5 (ch.)	45—Q to Kt 2
46—P Queens and mates next move.	

(a) We believe this to be one of the best moves against the Steinitz defense of the Ruy Lopez.
(b) A fancy move, not sound, as, if Black takes Kt will get a superior game.
(c) Wasting time.
(d) Notwithstanding White's attack it would have been better to have castled on the K side.
(e) Kt takes Kt would be much better, as it would prevent the formation of White's strong centre of pawns and give Black a better chance for a counter attack.
(f) Mr. Thompson intended to play ■ to B 3, which seems better than the text move, but as no consultation was allowed he had to be satisfied with the move.
(g) The White allies began to exchange glances.
(h) The White allies continue to exchange glances.
(i) Mr. Thompson's preference was P to B 4, but he did not play it when his turn came for fear of appearing to object to his partner's play.
(j) A useless attack.
(k) "Obligato."

Inheritance.

Inherited qualities move, says Oliver Wendell Holmes, along their several paths "not unlike the pieces in the game of chess. Sometimes the character of the son can be traced directly to that of the father or of the mother, as the Pawn's move from one square to the next: Some[illegible] a line, or a succession of superior mothers, as the Black or White Bishop sweeps the board on his own colour. Sometimes the distinguished characters pass from one sex to the other indifferently, as the Castle strides over the Black and White squares. Sometimes an uncle or an aunt lives over again in a nephew or a niece, as if the Knight's move were repeated on the squares of human individuality."

Game No. 255.

Played recently in Tiflis, and reported in *La Stratégie*, between M. A. de Smitten (White) and Prince Dadian of Mingrelia (Black):—

WHITE.	BLACK.
1—P to K 4	1—P to Q 3
2—B to B 4	2—P to K Kt 3
3—P to Q 4	3—B to Kt 2
4—Q to K B 3	4—Kt to K B 3
5—P to K 5	5—P takes P
6—Q to Q Kt 3	6—Castles
7—P takes P	7—Kt to K Kt 5
8—P to K B 4	8—Q ■ Q 5
9—Kt to K R 3	9—Kt takes K P
10—P takes Kt	10—B takes Kt
11—Q takes B (a)	11—Q takes B and wins.

(a) If P takes B, Q to K 5 ch., wins.

The Great Cable-Match.

London, March 9th.

A large number of chess amateurs assembled to-day in the Victoria Hall, on the second floor of the Criterion Restaurant, which was tastefully decorated with white and gold. It was the same hall in which the famous international tournament in 1883 was played.

At 3.25 p.m. Lasker, the referee, drew for the move, and after the names of the players were exchanged it was the opinion of all that the teams were well matched. The players sat down at separate tables, being roped off from the public, but along the middle of the hall a table with ten chessboards was placed so as to give the spectators a chance to see the progress of the games. On these boards the moves were made simultaneously with those on the boards of the players. Here was where the spectators congregated, and the moves were followed with the greatest interest and eagerness. The cable instruments were placed opposite the players at the end of the hall.

The general opinion prevailed here that the play on both sides was very cautious on all boards. Much disappointment, however, was evinced as time passed, for it was seen that the game could not possibly be fought out. Secretary Bryne said all were very well satisfied with the cabling arrangements, but they can now see that more time should have been given. The experiment, however, was a good one and will certainly result in having an immense influence for the promotion of other international matches.

Lasker had this to say:—"The circumstances considered, the experiment was highly satisfactory. Playing was very good on both sides and the result shows how little difference there really is between the two teams. It was really a great encounter and attracted world-wide interest. The British chess club gathered a very strong team."

It was a rather dramatic scene when the play was stopped. Sir George Newnes had cabled to New York, at Lasker's suggestion, to call the match a draw, and he sat down beside the operator awaiting an answer. Time passed and no reply. At 11.30 the manager of the hall asked all to leave. The officers of the British Chess Club requested to be allowed to stay until the answer to their query arrived. The manager, however, replied that he must close the premises, and that the electric lights would be switched off at midnight. Newnes and the others showed the greatest anxiety and uneasiness as the hour approached. Lasker declared he would have to leave in order to catch a train but he was persuaded to stop a few minutes longer. Again the manager of the hall appealed to the people to depart, and then, as the hour struck, the lights went out, leaving the room in darkness except for a few gaslights under the ceiling. As they were leaving the room the instrument clicked. Newnes and the others halted and the operator shouted:

"Draw accepted."

"Tell them," cried Newnes, "we are giving three cheers for the Manhattan Chess Club," and, lifting his hat, he shouted "Hurrah!" and the company warmly responded.

As Newnes left the Criterion one of the company asked him whether he was satisfied, and he answered: "Yes; entirely so. It has been great."

The New York End.

New York, March 9th.

The cable chess-match between the Manhattan Chess Club [illegible]

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6.30 o'clock one game was finished, its result being a draw, and the games were left in such a doubtful state when play was stopped that a decision was considered impossible.

When Lasker was asked at London to adjudicate upon these games he proposed that the match be called a draw, as the adjudicating of the remaining games could not be satisfactory to either club. The proposition was accepted and the match declared drawn.

Hundreds of chess-players from all parts of the country were at the Manhattan Club throughout the day. The arrangements were excellently carried out, and the whole event went off in the best possible and agreeable manner.

The only game which was finished was that between D. G. Baird and Mills. This resulted in a draw.

Lipschutz had an advantage at one time, but Owen managed to equalize things later on.

Showalter, on the other hand, had a decided advantage when the game was stopped and it looked as though he should have won had the contest been continued to the end.

Hodges could not make any headway against Locock, the game being even all the way through.

Hanham and Lord only played a few moves, as a mistake was made in calling this game, and a good deal of time was lost in rectifying it.

Ryan succeeded in getting a strong attack on Guest, and with clever play he ought to have won had the game been finished.

The game between Isaacson and Mortimer was prettily played, each having an attack ready when play ceased.

J. W. Baird and Trenchard were well matched and the game was even throughout.

Heppel gave up the exchange in his game with Simonson, and having a decided advantage in position the former might have won.

Devisser had the better of a game against Hunter, and was looked upon as a sure winner before the time was called.

Showalter and Baird entertain the opinion that the Manhattan Club would have beaten their opponents had the games left unfinished been played out.

A very appropriate corollary to the amateur match between the Manhattan Chess Club, of New York, and the British Chess Club, of London, is suggested by the *New York Tribune*. "Should the match be played there is no reason why another encounter should not take place, the teams representing the strongest American and British talent. If Steinitz, Showalter, Hodges, Pillsbury, and another were to meet Blackburne, Gunsberg, Mason, Teichmann, and another, there would be a capital contest." The *New York Clipper* approves of the idea, but regards "capital contest" as an inadequate phrase, instead of which it would read "the greatest event of trans-Atlantic chess ever set on foot."

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[REUTER "SPECIAL" TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

London, April 21.

It is reported that Germany, France, and Russia have agreed to take joint action to protect their interests in the East.

A Chinese loan of three millions sterling has been concluded by a German syndicate.

London, April 23.

The Times, in a leading article, states that Her Majesty's Government has acted wisely in refusing to join the other Powers in putting pressure upon Japan in regard to that country's treaty of peace with China, and that the proposed naval demonstration in the East is impolitic in view of the conditions of peace not in any way directly menacing British interests.

London, April 24.

The race for the City and Suburban resulted as follows:—

Mr. T. Cannon's Reminder 1
Lord Cadogan's Stowmarket..... 2

(FROM JAPANESE PAPERS.)

Hongkong, April 24.

As the pest is now prevalent at Macao and on the island of Hainan, the Governor of Hongkong has prohibited the arrival of Chinese from the two places. It is supposed that two or three cases of the plague have appeared in Kwangtung.

Steps, Officers, [illegible] mation of the Captains, Officers, and men of the *Yiksang* will be concluded by Saturday next. The Court is sitting all day. Mr. Masujima has again urged his former prayer for the release of the vessel.

Hiroshima, April 25.

Field-Marshal Count Yamagata, who was suddenly called to Port Arthur, has postponed his departure for a while.

Mr. Ito Miyoji, who was to leave here on the 28th or 29th inst. for Chefoo, will, it is said, set out for his mission on the 2nd or 3rd prox.

Hiroshima, April 26.

The Empress, escorted by the Chief of Police and a number of mounted soldiers, left Headquarters at 7 a.m. to-day, and started from Ōsuga Station by the 7.30 a.m. train for Kyoto. Among those who assembled at the station to bid her farewell were Count Saigo, Major-General Kodama, Mr. Okuyama, President of the Hiroshima Court of Appeal, and many other civil and military officers, members of the Red Cross Society, and leading residents of this town. When Her Majesty left her temporary residence a salute of 101 guns was fired in her honour. Both sides of the Imperial route were crowded by soldiers, school boys, and residents, and all houses were decorated with flags and lanterns.

Söul, April 26.

Kim Ka-chim, Vice-Minister of Public Works, has been appointed Minister of Agriculture and Commerce.

Shimonoseki, April 26.

The *Satsuma Maru*, which arrived here last night from Talien, brought Lieut.-Colonel Ikeda, Mr. Ishida Kannosuke, M.P., and Colonel Wogack, of the Russian Legation, and the party left for Ujina this morning in the same vessel.

Shanghai, April 26.

The Viceroy Li and Prince Kung are still at Tientsin.

Lord Li and Mr. Foster have proceeded to Pekin with the Peace Treaty to obtain the Imperial ratification.

Kobe, April 26.

Count Ito, the Premier, who visited Maiko yesterday morning, returned to Hiroshima by the 8 p.m. train yesterday.

Hyogo, April 26.

Viscount Mutsu, Minister of Foreign Affairs, who has been staying at Suma for the benefit of his health, is now nearly recovered, and is busily engaged in public affairs. After the visit of Count Ito, he exchanged frequent telegraphic communications with Hiroshima and Tokyo. The Viscount will probably return to the Principal Head-quarters.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From America	per P. M. Co.	Thursday, May 2nd.*
From America	per O. & O. Co.	Tuesday, May 14th.†
From Canada, &c.....	per C. P. R. Co.	Sunday, May 5th.§
From Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Sunday, May 5th.
From Hongkong	per C. P. R. Co.	Thursday, May 9th.
From Europe, viâ Hongkong	per M. M. Co.	Friday, May 10th.
From Europe, viâ Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd	Wed'day, May 15th.

* *Peru* left San Francisco on April 23rd. † *Coptic* left San Francisco via Honolulu on April 23rd. ‡ *Empress of Japan* left Vancouver on April 22nd. The English mail is on board the steamer *Kaiser-i-Hind* which left Hongkong on April 21st.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For America	per P. M. Co.	Saturday, April 27th.
For Europe, viâ Shanghai	per M. M. Co.	Saturday, May 4th.
For Hongkong	per C. P. R. Co.	Sunday, May 5th.
For Canada, &c.	per C. P. R. Co.	Friday, May 10th.
For Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Saturday, May 11th.
For Victoria, B.C., & Tacoma, Wash.....	per N. P. Co.	Wed'day, May 15th.
For Europe, viâ Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd	Friday, May 17th.
For America	per O. & O. Co.	Sunday, May 19th.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Laudardale, British steamer, 1,870, Williams, 20th April,—Kobe, Ballast.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Ancona, British steamer, 1,880, W. D. Mudie, 21st April,—Hongkong viâ ports, 13th April, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Benvenue, British steamer, 1,467, Thompsen, 21st April,—London viâ ports, General.—Gerlach, Carlés & Co.

Macduff, British steamer, 1,882, Thomsen, 21st April,—Otaru, Coal.—Hokkaido Tanko Tetsudo Kaisha.

Orono, British steamer, 1,321, Hancock, 21st April, —Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Belgic, British steamer, 2,695, W. H. Walker, 22nd April,—San Francisco 4th April, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Glenogle, British steamer, 2,398, Duke, 22nd April,—London viâ ports, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Frigga, German steamer, 1,400, 23rd April,—Hamburg viâ ports, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Tosa Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,589, J. B. MacMillan, 24th April,—Yokosuka, Ballast.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Palamed, British steamer, 2,482, Williams, 22nd April,—Liverpool viâ ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Taiyuan, British steamer, 1,459, 22nd April,—Australia viâ ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Boynton, British steamer, 1,630, Irving, 23rd April, —Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Cam, British steamer, 1,630, Matthias, 24th April, —Otaru viâ ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Doris, German steamer, 771, Petersen, 24th April, —Yokkaichi 23rd April, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Moldavia, British steamer, 1,462, Burnside, 24th April,—Takao, Sugar.—Order.

Oakley, British steamer, 1,760, M. Hood, 25th April,—Yokosuka, Ballast.—Frazar & Co.

Arroyo, British steamer, 1,970, R. Samuel, 25th April,—Bombay viâ ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Chow Chow Foo, German steamer, 790, Meyer, 25th April,—Shimagawa 25th April, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

St. Giles, British steamer, 1,726, Fortay, 25th April,—Middlesboro', Rails.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Amaranth, British steamer, 1,735, Cliff, 25th April,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

City of Peking, American steamer, 3,128, Wm. Ward, 25th April,—Hongkong viâ ports, 18th April, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Tacoma, British steamer, 1,661, R. Crawford, 27th April,—Tacoma, Wash., viâ Victoria, B.C., 5th April, Mails and General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Natal, French steamer, 4,038, Verrou, 27th April, —Marseilles 17th March, Hongkong 18th April, Shanghai 21st, Nagasaki 23rd, and Kobe 26th, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

DEPARTURES.

Doris, German steamer, 771, Petersen, 20th April, —Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Herman Vede Farlsberg, Norwegian steamer, 1,683, Reimers, 22nd April,—Kobe, Oil.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Mount Lebanon, British steamer, 1,555, Chas. Hendry, 22nd April,—Otaru viâ ports, General. —Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Orono, British steamer, 1,321, Hancock, 22nd April, — Kobe, General. — Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Riversdale, British steamer, 1,311, E. Peck, 22nd April, — Otaru, Ballast. — Hokkaido Tanko Tetsudo Kaisha.

Protos, German steamer, 1,150, Johanson, 23rd April,—Nagasaki, Ballast.—Mitsu Bishi Sha.

Belgic, British steamer, 2,695, Wm. H. Walker, 23rd April,—Hongkong viâ Nagasaki, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Glenogle, British steamer, 2,398, Gasson, 24th April,—London viâ ports, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Boynton, British steamer, 1,630, R. Irving, 25th April,—Otaru viâ ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Doris, German steamer, 771, Petersen, 25th April, —Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Oakley, British steamer, 1,760, M. Hood, 25th April,—Hongkong viâ ports, Ballast.—Frazar & Co.

Palamed, British steamer, 1,482, Williams, 25th April,—London viâ ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Taiyuan, British steamer, 1,459, Nelson, 25th April,—Australia viâ ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Tosa Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,589, J. B. MacMillan, 25th April,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Benvenue, British steamer, 1,467, Sacinet, 26th April,—London viâ ports, General.—Gerlach, Carlés & Co.

Arthur, British barque, 1,206, J. McNair, 27th April, —Kobe, Nitrate.—Captain.

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Ancona, British steamer, 1,880, W. D. Mudie, 27th April,—Hongkong viâ ports,—Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Chow Chow Foo, German steamer, 790, F. Meyer, 27th April,—Chemulpo viâ ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per British steamer *Ancona*, from Hongkong via ports:—Mr. J. C. Peter, Miss Bramwell, Miss E. Bramwell, Miss Vincent, Miss G. Vincent, Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Herod, Mr. C. Fearing, Mr. and Mrs. G. C. Pakenham, Mr. E. O. Kenyon, Mr. H. S. Browne and servant, Dr. Thorncraft, Mr. and Mrs. Bougouin, 2 children and servant, Vicomte de Labry, Mr. and Mrs. Adamson, Mr. and Mrs. Chan Ki Chum and child, Mr. M. Otami, Mr. Fearing's servant, and Mr. Chang Mung Sung in cabin, and one Japanese woman in steerage.

Per British steamer *Belgic*, from San Francisco:—Mr. Ferdinand Huber, Mr. O. H. P. Noyes, Mr. J. H. Craven, Mr. John C. Siegfried, Mr. Chas. E. Cushing, Mr. E. F. Shepard, Mr. A. M. Hance, Mrs. Hance, Miss Hance, Mrs. Wm. Crichton and child, Mr. G. E. Moore, Miss Mary Deyo, Mr. Eddison, Dr. Frenbult, Mr. E. S. Kellog, Mr. Loring, Mrs. Loring, Mr. M. Sinclair, Mrs. Anna R. Cone, Miss Josie B. Cone, and Mr. F. A. Cundill in cabin. For Hongkong:—Mrs. T. W. Badger in cabin.

Per American steamer *City of Peking*, from Hongkong viâ ports:—Mrs. F. E. Fernald, Mrs. Boyd, 2 children, maid, and servant, Mr. and Mrs. Jerome and maid, Mr. G. H. Tilden, Mr. James Dodds, Mr. L. Sanderson, Mr. A. Kleinwort, Mr. J. W. Richardson, Mr. F. Winthrop, Mr. F. G. Curtis, Mr. A. H. Groom, Lord Cairns, and Mr. R. S. Gunn in cabin. For San Francisco:—Rev. C. C. and Mrs. Baldwin, Mr. C. A. Baumbach, and Mr. Mathisen in cabin.

Per British steamer *Tacoma*, from Tacoma, Wash., viâ Victoria, B.C.:—Mr. W. H. Doolittle, Miss Doolittle, Colonel and Mrs. F. D. Huestis, Mrs. Aldrich, Miss Bogue, Mr. and Mrs. D. H. Mercer, Mr. and Mrs. R. L. McCroskey, Mrs. Leeme, and Rev. H. W. Frost in cabin, and 5 Japanese and 10 Chinese in steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per German steamer *Nürnberg*, for Hongkong viâ ports:—Mr. and Mrs. Holm, 2 children and servant, Mr. and Mrs. Eustace, 3 children and servant, Mrs. Matthews, Mr. Kleinwort, Mr. and Mrs. Popp, Messrs. Geo. W. Middleton, Clement, H. Johannson, E. B. Darnell, Seyfforth, and Kasahara in cabin; Messrs. A. Martinsen, J. Jespersen, Spethmann, Ahlandy, and Gleich in second class; 1 European in third class, and 29 Chinese on deck.

Per British steamer *Belgic*, for Hongkong viâ Nagasaki:—Mr. Crockett, Captain Smith, Mr. Butler, Mr. Maitland, Mr. E. S. Kellogg, Dr. Farenholt, and Mr. E. Sinclair in cabin.

CARGOES.

Per German steamer *Nürnberg*, for Hongkong viâ ports:—Waste Silk for Europe, 318 bales.

REPORTS.

The British steamer *Belgic*, Captain Walker, reports:—Left San Francisco the 4th April, and arrived at Yokohama the 22nd April at 6.30 a.m. Passage, 16 days 20 hours 52 minutes.

The British steamer *Tacoma*, Captain Crawford, reports:—Left Tacoma, Wash., the 5th April; had head winds and stormy weather during the greater part of the voyage.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

Prices nominally unchanged, but holders are encouraged by a fresh rise in Manchester with turn downward in Exchange. This especially plied to Yarn and Grey Shirtings. Buyers st some stock now, but hesitate about paying the es which importers require. Fancy Cottons—business. Woollens—Something done in Ita-Cloth, but buyers will not pay up sufficiently take any general trade. We leave quotations anged but all tending upwards.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE.	
ay Shirtings—8½ lb. 38½ yds. 30 inches	$2.25	to 2.85
ay Shirtings—9lb. 38½ yds. 45 inches	2.70	to 3.80
Cloth—7lb. 24 yards, 32 inches	1.60	to 1.95
ige Shirtings—12 yards, 42 inches	1.70	to 2.35
ts—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches	2.00	to 3.75
tos—Italians and Sateens, stitch, 32 inches	PER YARD. 0.16	to 0.2

	PER PIECE.	
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	7.25	to 9.50
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches	0.80	to 0.95
Turkey Reds—2.0 to 2.4lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.60	to 1.70
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.75	to 2.05
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.30	to 2.60
Turkey Reds—4.8 to 5lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.80	to 3.10

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.	
Flannel	$0.30	to 0.47½
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches best	0.30	to 0.35
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Medium	0.25	to 0.27½
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Common	0.20	to 0.22½
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.15	to 0.22
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches	0.35	to 0.50
Cloths—Presidents, 54@56 inches	0.60	to 0.65
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0.40	to 0.70
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 3lb, per lb	0.60	to 0.75

COTTON YARNS.

	PER PICUL.	
Nos. 16/21, Ordinary	—	
Nos. 16/21, Medium	$34.00	to 34.50
Nos. 16/21, Good to Best	35.00	to 36.00
Nos. 16/21, Reverse	—	
Nos. 28/32, Ordinary	—	
Nos. 28/32, Medium	35.50	to 36.00
Nos. 28/32, Good to Best	36.50	to 37.50
Nos. 38/42, Medium to Best	42.00	to 44.00
No. 32S, Two-fold	42.00	to 44.00
No. 42S, Two-fold	46.00	to 48.00
	PER BALE.	
No. 20s, Bombay	—	
No. 16s, Bombay	—	

METALS.

No news in this market. All quiet and nothing doing at the moment.

	PER PICUL.	
Flat Bars, ½ inch	$3.35	to 3.40
Flat Bars, ¾ inch	3.45	to 3.50
Round and square up to ¾ inch	3.40	to 3.50
Iron Plates, assorted	3.50	to 3.60
Sheet Iron	4.50	to 4.70
Galvanized Iron sheets	8.25	to 8.75
Wire Nails, assorted	5.80	to 6.10
Tin Plates, per box	5.65	to 5.75
Pig Iron, No. 3	1.55	to 1.60

KEROSENE.

Market strong, holders very firm. No sales reported this week; and no fresh arrivals.

American	Nom.	$2.35 to 2.40
Russian	Nom.	2.35 to 2.40

SUGAR.

Brown—The *Moldava* is in with 50,000 piculs Takao, and prices are nominal with no trade. In China and Manila sorts arrivals have again exceeded sales and prices are lower. Market closes weak at quotations. White—Rather more inclination for business at unchanged prices.

	PER PICUL.	
Brown Takao	$3.50	to 3.60
Brown Manila	4.20	to 4.30
Brown Daitong (New)	3.20	to 3.30
Brown Canton	3.30	to 3.50
White Java and Penang	6.50	to 6.60
White Refined	8.40	to 9.20

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Small business at lower prices. Holders are current and anxious to be moving; but shippers are not eager at present values.

QUOTATIONS.

Hanks—No. 1		—
Hanks—No. 2 (Shinshu)		—
Hanks—No. 2 (Joshu)		—
Hanks—No. 2A (Shinshu)		—
Hanks—No. 2A (Joshu)		—
Hanks—No. 2A to 3		—
Hanks—No. 3		—
Hanks—No. 3A		—
Filatures—Extra 10/13 deniers	Nom.	—
Filatures—Extra 13/15 deniers	Nom.	—
Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers	Nom.	$800 to 810
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den.	Nom.	780 to 790
Filatures—No. 1A, 10/14 deniers	Nom.	760 to 780
Filatures—No. 1A, 13/16, 14/17 den.	Nom.	750 to 760
Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers	Nom.	730 to 750
Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	Nom.	730 to 740
Filatures—No. 3, 14/20 deniers		—
Re-reels—Extra		—
Re-reels—(Oshu) Best No. 1		—
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 deniers		740 to 760
Re-reels—No. 1A, 13/16, 14/17 deniers		730 to 740
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers		—
Re-reels—No. 2A, 14/18 deniers		—
Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers		—
Kakedas—Extra		740
Kakedas—No. 1	Nom.	720 to 730
Kakedas—No. 1A	Nom.	710 to 715
Kakedas—No. 2	Nom.	690 to 695
Kakedas—No. 2A		—
Kakedas—No. 3		—
Kakedas—No. 3A		—
Kakedas—No. 4		—
Oshu Sendai—No. 2A		—
Hamatsuki—No. 1, 2		—
Hamatsuki—No. 3, 4		—
Sodai—No. 2A		—

WASTE SILK.

Small doings at quotations. Business, however, is restricted by dealers endeavouring to obtain more money for their wares. Stock 20,000 piculs.

QUOTATIONS.

Pierced Cocoons—Good to Best		—
Noshi-ito—Filature, Best	$195	to 130
Noshi-ito—Filature, Good	115	to 120
Noshi-ito—Filature, Medium	105	to 110
Noshi-ito—Oshu, Good to Best	120	to 125
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Best		—
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Good		—
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Medium	60	to 75
Noshi-ito—Bushu, Good to Best	100	to 115
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Best		—
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Good	70	
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Ordinary	60	to 65
Kibiso—Filature, Best selected	100	to 105
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds	85	to 90
Kibiso—Oshu, Good to Best		—
Kibiso—Shinshu, Best		—
Kibiso—Shinshu, Seconds		—
Kibiso—Joshu, Good to Fair	30	to 37½
Kibiso—Joshu, Middling to Common	25	to 22½
Kibiso—Hachoji, Good to Fair	25	to 23
Kibiso—Hachoji, Medium to Low	22	to 20
Kibiso—Neri, Good to Common	12	to 8
Mawata—Good to Best		—

TEA.

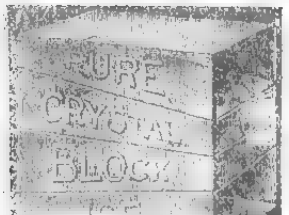
Supplies are coming to hand in small quantities, and the *City of Peking* has the first shipments of the present season. They are, however, not of much account, either as regards quantity or quality. In fact tasters are dissatisfied with the new leaf (which, however, is eagerly taken up in small parcels at prices between $40 and $50 per picul) and say that prices paid are very high, as compared with the opening of last season.

EXCHANGE.

Exchange has fluctuated during the week, but rates at the close are firm at the rise of ¼ which is the latest movement.

Sterling—Bank T.T.		2/1⅛
— — Bills on demand		2/1¼
— — 4 months' sight		2/2
— Private 4 months' sight		2/2⅛
— — 6 months' sight		2/2¼
On Paris—Bank sight		2.70
On Lyons—Private 4 months' sight		2.76
On Hongkong—Bank sight		⅛% p.
— Private 10 days' sight		⅛% d.
On Shanghai—Bank sight		71
— Private 10 days' sight		72
On India—Bank sight		193
— Private 30 days' sight		195½
On America—Bank Bills on demand		52
— Private 30 days' sight		53⅛
— — 4 months' sight		54⅛
On Germany—Bank sight		2.17
— Private 4 months' sight		2.24
Bar Silver (London)		30½

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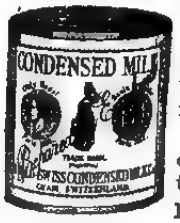
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No. 18.] REGISTERED AT THE G.P.O. AS A NEWSPAPER. YOKOHAMA, MAY 4TH, 1895. 明治二十八年五月十三日郵便物認可 VOL. XXII.

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

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YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, MAY 4TH, 1895.

BIRTH.

At Nagasaki, on April 22nd, the wife of G. MÜLLER-BERCK, H.I.G.M.'s Consul, of a Son.

DEATH.

On Saturday, 27th April, at No. 98 Bluff, PAMELA MARGARET, the beloved wife of John Carst.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

THE Court and the principal head-quarters are now in Kyoto.

MR. WOLLHEIM, the Mexican Minister, returned to Japan on Wednesday.

SOME amateur theatricals will be given in the Public Hall this evening.

MING, the ex-Premier of Korea, has gone from Hongkong to Shanghai.

FIELD-MARSHAL COUNT YAMAGATA has left Japan for the occupied districts.

THIRTY-SIX houses were destroyed by fire in Asakusa, Tokyo, on the 30th ult.

A WHOLE village of 300 houses has been destroyed by fire in Gumma Prefecture.

THE Indo-China steamer *Yik-sang* has been released by the Sasebo Prize Court.

THE grand celebration of the anniversary of the removal of the capital to Kyoto, has been postponed, the Emperor unfortunately having caught a cold, and thus being unable to be present on the day first fixed.

THE total number of Japanese gendarmes now in the occupied territories exceeds 1,300.

VISCOUNT MUTSU is still far from well, and is not expected back in Tokyo for some days.

THE sittings of the Tottori Prefectural Assembly have been suspended by the Governor.

MR. HYODO, of Osaka, is projecting the establishment of a large grazing ground at Chinchow.

TWENTY-ONE houses were destroyed by fire in China Town, Yokohama, on Tuesday morning.

THE Yokohama Rowing Club will be represented in four races at the Kobe Regatta, fixed for the Queen's Birthday.

THE Yokohama Sailing Club opened its season to-day with two races, one for the 26 and the other for the 17-raters.

PRINCE KOMATSU and staff have arrived at Port Arthur, where they were met by Field Marshal Count Oyama and staff.

OVER five hundred houses have been destroyed by fire at Takasaki, one of the chief towns of the silk-districts.

THE death is announced of Mr. Suzuki Shoji, ex-Radical M.P. for Niigata Prefecture, which took place in the capital on the 30th ult.

MR. ISHIWARA, ex-Governor of Yamaguchi, will shortly proceed to Korea. It is rumoured that he will be appointed adviser to the Peninsular Government.

A FORMOSA SOCIETY (*Taiwan Kyokai*) is to be formed in Tokyo with the object of inquiring into the manners, customs, geography, products, etc., of the island.

THE Spring Meeting of the Nippon Race Club took place on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday of this week. Mr. Kingdon, on Dodo, won the Ladies' Purse.

A NOTIFICATION prohibiting priests from entering the capital of Korea has been withdrawn by the Korean Government at the request of the Japanese priests.

THE situation of Japan *vis-à-vis* Germany, France, and Russia remains very critical. It is now tolerably evident that China will not ratify the Shimonoseki Treaty.

A COMBINATION of all the political parties is being arranged in Kyoto and Tokyo to debate the situation created by the interference of Russia, Germany, and France.

MANY metropolitan and provincial journals have been suspended during the week. The *Jiji Shimpo* and the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* have been allowed to appear again.

THE funeral of the late Viscount Kono Togama, the distinguished statesman, took place in the capital on the 28th inst., the ceremonies being in accordance with *Shinto* rites.

SURGEON MITAMURA, now in the Pescadores, reports that the spread of cholera in the neighbourhood of Makung has been greatly checked, and only two or three cases are now reported per day.

THE number of Chinese residents in Japan at the end of March last was as follows:—10 in Tokyo, 27 in Hokkaido, 72 in Osaka, 1,247 in Kanagawa Prefecture, 500 in Hyogo Prefecture, 329 in Nagasaki Prefecture; total, 2,186.

MR. KUSHIDA GIHACHI, a leading Unionist in Asakawa-mura, Minami-tama District, Tokyo, was murdered during the night of the 24th inst. He had been actively engaged during the day in the interests of his party in connection with the approaching election of members of the village assembly. Several arrests have been made.

THE Emperor has been graciously pleased to send presents to all the sick soldiers at the Pescadores. The articles were conveyed by the *Konoura Maru*, which lately left Ujina for the south.

THE Emperor and Empress, have presented *yen* 5,000 to the Hiroshima residents to be used on sanitary improvements, and *yen* 1,000 has been contributed to the Society for the preservation of the Itsukushima Shrine.

As experiment with gunpowder invented by Mr. Sakurai Heikichi is now being made at the Shinagawa forts. Satisfactory results were obtained in regard to its smokeless nature, but its explosive force is very weak and the powder is not entirely noiseless when discharged.

REUTER telegraphs:—A reservoir has burst at Bousey, near Epinal (in the Vosges), and 110 persons have been drowned, and several hundreds rendered homeless. Lord Cromer, H.B.M. Agent and Consul-General in Egypt, has issued his annual report, in the course of which he states that the Egyptian Ministers and the higher English officials were working in cordial co-operation, and that he hoped there would be no untoward event to mar the present *entente*. Mr. William Woodall, Financial Secretary to the War Office, replying to a question in the House of Commons, said that the Government hoped to introduce after Easter a Bill which would enable the services of Volunteers to be accepted in the event of a national emergency. The Irish Land Bill was read a second time in the House of Commons without a division. The engagement of Lord William Beresford to the Duchess of Marlborough is announced. The French, German, and Russian Ministers in Tokyo have officially remonstrated against the cession of territory on the mainland made by China to Japan. The British Commander, in enforcing an ultimatum, has allowed Nicaragua three days; and failing payment of the indemnity by that time has stated his intention of blockading Corinto and landing a force to occupy the town.

THERE is a combination of circumstances to deter business, and the condition of the Import trade is decidedly lifeless. Exchange declining has tended to advance quotations, and the political uncertainty in regard to the prospects of peace and possible foreign complications, have together worked in the direction of restricted operations, in addition to which the race holidays have added their quota to the situation. Affairs will probably be more settled in a week or ten days from now, when it is hoped that trade will resume its ordinary course. Manchester goods and Metals are hardly touched, and the same may be said of Kerosene, though from a different cause. The Sugar trade is quiet, but there is a good stock and holders are firm. There has been a little more done in Raw Silk, but the total does not amount to much. The Waste Silk business is quiet, as might be expected after the recent large reduction made in the stock on this market. The Tea trade will very shortly be in full swing, arrivals are already coming in more freely, and in another few days some heavy parcels of leaf may be expected. Prices have been somewhat irregular so far. Exchange has been fluctuated, and the general tendency has been downward.

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THE SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS DURING THE WEEK.

Apparently a reaction is setting in with regard to public belief in China's good faith. The majority of the vernacular newspapers, while thoroughly sensible of the habitual perfidy of China in matters of diplomatic negotiation, were nevertheless persuaded, on the occasion of the Shimonoseki Treaty, that the Chinese Government had resolved to depart from its wonted routine and to carry out the agreement conscientiously. They thought that China recognised her helplessness, and would not venture to provoke a renewal of the war. But when the stipulated period of 3 weeks, within which the exchange of ratifications was to take place, gradually drew so near its close that only a few days remained, and yet no definite message came from China, the press naturally began to suspect her sincerity, the more so since the Emperor of Japan had ratified the Treaty on the 20th ult., by which date, according to some newspapers, the two High Contracting Parties had pledged themselves to mutually communicate the fact that ratification had taken place. The *Nichi Nichi* writes as follows on this important topic:—Even making every allowance, the Viceroy had ample time to submit to his Sovereign the Treaty concluded and signed by him, and to obtain its ratification within 10 days subsequent to its signature at Shimonoseki. Nevertheless, two weeks have already passed since that time—this article appeared on the 2nd instant—yet nothing is yet heard of the ratification. Is the Court of Pekin determined to regard the Treaty signed and concluded by its Plenipotentiary as so much waste paper? If so, there can be no issue except a renewal of the war. Is Mr. Ito, Japanese Plenipotentiary for the exchange of ratifications, to go to Chefoo on the presumption that within the period fixed in the Treaty, China will despatch an Envoy to the appointed place carrying the ratified treaty? Or, is he to go there without counting on any such event, but simply for the purpose of faithfully and resolutely fulfilling the promise by which Japan and China alike bound themselves?" The *Nichi Nichi* inclines to believe that the latter course is contemplated. It does not know whether the Japanese Plenipotentiary has been invested with any function other than that of exchanging the ratifications, but if the ominous cloud that has now appeared on the horizon of the Orient, just as serenity and tranquillity were about to be restored, is destined to burst once more into storm and tempest, the departure of Mr. Ito will mark an important epoch in the history of the war. A common-sense view of things leads the *Nichi Nichi* to believe that China will not be so depraved as to disgrace herself by another grave breach of international faith: that she will not reject a Treaty signed and concluded by her special ambassador and most prominent statesman. But the sky of diplomacy is subject to such sudden changes from such unexpected causes that it is impossible to draw any confident augury before the expiration of another week. The *Choya* and the *Kokumin* are less guarded in their tone, especially the former. It holds that China's negligence to intimate the fact of ratification within the stipulated time is a grave insult to Japan, and it strongly inclined to the belief that this faithlessness will be followed by still greater perfidy on the day when the period indicated in the Treaty expires. What Japan must do under the circumstances is simply to cause her victorious troops to march upon Pekin. The *Choya* sees no occasion and disavows any competence to determine whether it is because China has some secret source of reliance that she acts in such an insulting manner toward Japan. Be that as it may, however, there is no difficulty in inferring the course of events that Japan must anticipate. The *Choya* concludes its article by defying any other country to place obstacles in the path of Japan, when the latter proceeds to chastise China for her gross breach of faith.

* * *

The *Mainichi* is not disposed to rate very highly the part that diplomacy has played up to the present in connection with the war. On the contrary, it holds it a very easy matter, as easy as the sailing of a ship before a favourable wind, for diplomatists to deal with a vanquished country. But in the event of certain contingencies arising, or certain inconvenient pressure being brought to bear, then the removed of such pressure or the successful management of such contingencies, so that the object originally contemplated may be achieved, depends entirely on the ability of the country's diplomatists. Only when the ship of State is successfully steered into haven against wind and tide can the trouble taken and the contrivances devised by diplomatists be recognised and appreciated. The *Mainichi* naïvely observes in conclusion that it cannot say whether any such difficult contingency exists or any such external pressure is felt at present.

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The *Jiji* is more appreciative of the part thus far played by diplomacy. It thinks that it was largely due to the Foreign Office's able way of conducting business that Western Powers found no opportunity to interfere. The *Jiji*, therefore, feels grateful, and think that the public should be equally so, towards those charged with the diplomatic functions of the country. But their labours are yet far from being concluded, for not a few Western countries take, from time to time, a deep interest in Eastern affairs. Since nothing is certain or trustworthy in diplomacy, and since one considered a friend on the morning may turn out to be a foe in the evening, the peace now apparently promising to re-visit the sky of the Orient may be disturbed at any time. In short, grave and difficult tasks still await the empire's diplomatists, and the public sincerely hopes that they will dispose of all these tasks in a manner conducive to the glory and advantage of the nation. In such a guarded and indefinite manner do the vernacular papers deal, if they deal at all, with the momentous question of the day, foreign interference.

* * *

At the same time the standing problem, how to manage the Chinese districts ceded to Japan, is not neglected by the press. The *Jiji* suggests that the Government should impose no restraints whatever on Japanese emigration to the newly acquired territories. The great majority of persons moved by a desire to settle in those foreign districts must, it thinks, be poor men of adventurous disposition. Hence, if from any natural wish to preclude worthless vagrants or women of abandoned character from entering the new dominion troublesome rules be enacted, the probable result will be that the territories in question will never be Japonicised or their resources developed and utilized. In another article the same paper suggests the advisability of organizing a big emigration company for Formosa, which island, extremely fertile and full of resources as it is, has never been properly developed by China. What is wanted in Formosa is labour, and when that becomes easily procurable, either the Chinese capitalists now living in the island or capitalists from Japan will be induced to invest their money in various enterprises. With respect to the supply of labour, the *Jiji's* project is to have as much recourse as possible to the services of the coolies now employed at the seats of war. Several considerations induce our contemporary to prefer these men to ordinary labourers.

* * *

The *Mainichi*, writing on the same topic, says that in order to lead the Chinese living in the new dominions out of their present ignorance, the best and simplest method will be to introduce various material forms of civilization, and to teach them the benefit of enlightenment by means of object lessons. Railways and telegraphs should be extensively constructed. Another aid that should be largely enlisted in the same cause is the art of medicine. The Japanese medical art is highly esteemed by the Chinese, and its introduction would serve the good purpose of drawing the affections of the people towards their rulers by conquest.

* * *

The war and affairs incidental to it, though they continue to attract much attention from the vernacular press, have not been absorbing topics of discussion this week. Quite another kind of question has been debated with great earnestness by several of the Tokyo papers. It is nothing more than an oil painting of a nude subject presented to public gaze in the Kyoto Exhibition. The *Nippon* was the first to take up the subject, and as might have been expected, commented on it in a very severe manner. It has written two leading articles to expound its views. It condemns the painting of such pictures as tending to lower the tone of art itself and as disturbing public morals, and it strongly censures the painter, Mr. Kuroda, and still more strongly the Commissioners of the Exhibition who allowed the picture to be exposed. Formerly, it was a common histrionic practice in Japan to represent scenes of great horror and atrocity on the stage, but these were so severely condemned by foreign critics, that the Police judged it expedient to set limits to the abuse. Foreigners, however, are very fond of looking at nude female subjects, a fancy that the Japanese do not share at all. Is it not a peculiar process of reasoning to impose limits on Japanese dramatic representation in order not to offend the good taste of foreigners, and then to hang up a picture of the nude in a public place although Japanese taste is thereby offended? It was wise on the part of the Police to check the representation of disgusting scenes on the stage, but assuredly a similar veto should be imposed on the display of pictures offensive to the good taste of the higher and more refined portion of the Japanese community. The *Nichi Nichi* and the *Kokumin* do not endorse the view of their contemporary. But perhaps we had better quote a letter that Mr. Kuki, Chief Commissioner of the Exhibition, sent to Mr. Ogawa, a Police Inspector in Kyoto, in order to show how it fell out that the Committee decided to allow the public display of Mr. Kuroda's picture. The letter is an answer to one from Mr. Ogura, in which the latter advised the Chief Commissioner to have the picture removed. "It is not from obstinate adherence to any view of my own," Mr. Kuki said, "that I allow the picture to be exposed to public gaze. It is because, officially, I have not yet found adequate reason to order its removal. Nude statues in stone or metal are imported from abroad in considerable numbers, and are used for decorative purposes in the halls or salons of distinguished persons. The importation of such objects of art will continue in future as heretofore. Above all, should a World's Fair be held in Japan at a future date, grave difficulties would be experienced were Japan to interdict the exhibition of nude images or pictures. Such a restriction would seriously obstruct the satisfactory collection of art objects from foreign countries, and might even totally preclude the opening of an Arts section in an exhibition of the kind. Further, even in Japan, Buddhist images and pictures drawn by Hokusai, Uamaru, and Harunobu depict things of more questionable character than the subject chosen by Mr. Kuroda for his oil painting. Yet these old-time images and pictures are largely reproduced and publicly sold. Perhaps it is because the Kyoto folks are not accustomed to see such a picture that so much noise has been made about it. Tokyo is more advanced in this respect. There the exhibition of such a picture would not create any surprise. It is true that the opinion of the Commissioners was divided at first as to whether the picture should be accepted for exhibition. I represented my views to Viscount Enomoto, and said that, though more or less public censure would be unavoidable were the picture hung, I saw, scientifically and officially, no reason why it should be rejected. The Viscount himself deliberated very much on the question, and at last decided to allow the exhibition of pictures of the kind.

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but my official responsibilities have obliged me to overrule my private taste. If, however, you, from your official point of view, deem the removal of the picture necessary, or if the Authorities consider that course advisable, then I have only to submit to the order and remove it."

EDITORIAL NOTES.

JOTTINGS FROM THE BATTLE OF NEWCHWANG.

THE following items—for whose authenticity we cannot vouch—are taken from several metropolitan journals, notably the *Kokumin*, *Yomiuri*, and *Miyako*:—In the first attack on Newchwang the Chinese offered a very stubborn resistance. Sliding wooden-shutters, bricks, and other building material were promptly brought by the Japanese soldiers from houses in the vicinity. All these *disjecta membra* were piled on top of each other so as to form a temporary rampart just opposite the city wall. On the heap climbed numbers of sharpshooters, who "potted" the Chinese whenever they made their appearance above or near the wall. Foremost among these marksmen was Lieutement Mimura, one of the heroes of the memorable escalade of the gate at Phyông-yang. He alone is said to have sent ten Chinamen to another and a better world.

* * *

At the moment when the fighting in the streets was at its hottest, Major-General Oseko was at the northern extremity of the city, in command of the troops there assembled. Suddenly a Chinese trooper sprang from a corner where he had lain concealed, crossed the river, and continued running eastward at the top of his speed. The General turned to the soldier in immediate attendance upon him and ordered him to shoot the fugitive down. Sighting for three hundred mètres the trooper took careful aim and brought down the runaway, who was hit in the thigh. Oseko was much pleased with the shooter's skill and exclaimed, "You are indeed an excellent marksman!"

* * *

Among the many corpses that lay scattered through the streets of the taken city, there were several dressed in clothes of very rich material. One particularly well-dressed corpse was discovered close by the North Gate, a richly caparisoned horse, mortally wounded, being beside the dead man. There is little doubt that this was the body of the Chinese General Li, who had signalised himself by seeking for a place of safety shortly after the battle began, and thus met with a craven's fate.

* * *

Shortly after Colonel Sato received his severe wound, his favourite horse, which had been left in charge of a groom, received a bullet in its chest. The horse was a coal-black steed of mixed breed, very sturdy and swift-footed. The groom bestowed the utmost care upon his master's favourite and succeeded in getting the suffering animal outside the city. But here the horse broke down and fell to the ground in mortal agony. The groom was at his wit's end, and longed to tell his master of what had happened, but feared that this might aggravate the Colonel's distress. At last he approached a lieutenant in the Colonel's regiment and asked 'if he might tell his master of the accident that had befallen his favourite charger?' The lieutenant decided that it was better not to do so, and that groom went sorrowfully back to the horse, which bled to death that night.

* * *

Field-pieces were several times used in clearing the streets of the enemy, and the shells wrought fearful havoc in the narrow thoroughfares. One of the shells fired from a battery of the Fifth Division was afterwards found to have killed no less than sixty Chinese troopers. It had happened to strike in the very midst of a dense crowd. "This shows," comments a contemporary, "that street-fighting is the cruellest of all cruel warfare."

PREVENTIVE MEASURES.

VERY praiseworthy are the efforts made by the Tokyo municipal authorities to prevent, if possible, the advent of cholera, or at least to minimize its effect if the dread visitor does come. Not only are drains and sewers subjected to thorough disinfection, but whole rows of houses, in quarters where low malarial fevers are of occasional occurrence, are being condemned and torn down. Police constables have been sent to every house in the city with the order that all cases of stubborn dysentery or diarrhœa or any sudden attack of the kind, shall be at once reported to the nearest Police Station; moreover, disinfection or removal of all offensive matter is insisted on. The price of carbolic acid has locally gone up more than seventy per cent. in consequence of these excellent regulations. If cholera does come to Tokyo—*absit omen*—it will find very few places where it can breed and spread undisturbed. The bacilli will be drowned in a deluge of disinfectants.

* * *

Some years ago a Cholera Hospital of very small dimensions was, we understand, erected in Benten Cho, Ushigome District, not far from Waseda. This building has never, we learn, been used for the purpose for which it was intended, owing to the violent opposition of the people living in the vicinity. The house is still standing, but will not be used as a Hospital except in case of violent epidemic. Much roomier premises have been taken elsewhere.

IN DISGUISE.

A CORRESPONDENT of the *Yomiuri Shimbun*, in speaking of the various disguises employed by Chinese soldiers to effect their escape, tells the following story:—One night, shortly before the attack on Newchwang, some outposts of the Fifth Brigade noticed a Chinaman, dressed in civilian clothing, who passed, or tried to pass, unconcernedly in their vicinity. The man was challenged and brought to a stop. He wore an innocent-looking pack on his back and appeared to be a non-combatant; yet the Japanese suspected him of being a Chinese soldier in disguise, and so sent him under guard to the Regimental Head-quarters, where a number of Japanese troopers were clustered around a fire. The prisoner at once drew near the pleasant blaze, evidently in a light-hearted mood, and while warming his hands chattered volubly to the assembled soldiers, albeit not one of them could understand a word that the man said. Believing that he was merely playing a part, an interpreter was sent for and the suspect rigidly examined: he positively affirmed, however, that he neither was nor ever had been a soldier. On this his bundle was opened and its contents thoroughly inspected, when the man's military badge and several most compromising documents were brought to light. "This," concludes the writer, "is a good example of the deceitfulness of runaway Chinese soldiers." True, but under like circumstances there are very few men in the army of any nation who would have avowed their connection with the enemy militant.

THE TWO THOUSAND GUINEAS.

THE great race at the Newmarket First Spring Meeting has been won by Kirkconnel, a bay colt by Royal Hampton—Sweet Sauce. His two-year-old career will hardly warrant his being described as a brilliant performer, when compared with some others of recent years, as, sent to the post half-a-dozen time over as many different courses, he is only credited with winning brackets in three events, neither of which can be looked upon as a great performance. But the colt evidently took the fancy of Sir J. Blundell Maple, as in the back end last year he was attached to the latter's string at a cost of 5,000 guineas. Kirkconnel first sported silk at Newmarket Second Spring in the Bedford Plate, which he won from eight others by three lengths, but in the New Stakes at Ascot he could get no nearer than third. He won the July Stakes at Newmarket and the Lavant Stakes at Goodwood, but though the colt started favourite in the Middle Park Plate he ran unplaced, and wound up his somewhat in and out two-year-old racing by getting home second to Raconteur in the Dewhurst Plate. Laveno, a bay colt by Bend Or—Napoli, belongs to Mr. Houldsworth, but does not appear to have started as a two-year-old. Sir Visto, a bay colt by Barcaldine—Vista, owned by Lord Rosebery, only ran twice last year, his first attempt being in the Woodcote Stakes at Epsom, where he ran unplaced: but the colt cut a better figure in the Imperial Stakes at Kempton Park, over a mile, in which race he showed his heels to a dozen others, though he only won by a short head. The three colts are all in both Derby and Leger, and are otherwise heavily engaged.

STOCKS.

DESPITE the crisis through which the country is now passing, the war loan bonds remain remarkably steady in the market. The quotations for the bonds on which 40 *yen* has been paid up have been as follow during the past week:—

23rd ultimo	.....	41.80 *Yen*.
24th ultimo	.....	42.00 *Yen*.
25th ultimo	.....	41.80 *Yen*.
26th ultimo	.....	41.50 *Yen*.
27th ultimo	.....	42.00 *Yen*.
28th ultimo	.....	No quotation.
29th ultimo	.....	41.20 *Yen*.
30th ultimo	.....	No quotation.

It will be seen that these bonds are at a premium of from 3 to 5 per cent. Evidently the people have great confidence in the Government's ability to steer the ship of State.

THE "NEWSPAPER PRESS DIRECTORY."

THE Jubilee issue of the "Newspaper Press Directory," Messrs. C. Mitchell & Co., London, has just reached us. It is a most complete volume of its kind, containing particulars of every newspaper, magazine, review, and periodical published in the United Kingdom and the British Isles, besides a list of continental, American, Indian, and Colonial papers, including the English press of China and Japan. The Directory contains several articles of great interest to journalists, and a description of the rise and progress of the Press in the principal English dependencies. At the close of 1894 there were 2,304 newspapers regularly published in the British Isles, and 2,081 magazines, of which more than 487 were of a decidedly religious character.

THE PROGRESSIONISTS.

SIGNS of activity on the part of the Progressionists are beginning to be apparent. On the 28th ultimo, the leading members of the Party now in Tokyo held a meeting at the office, and discussed the phase of the country's foreign relations. They resolved that visits must be made to the various Ministers of State, and advice tendered to them; that the members of the party now in the provinces must be recalled to Tokyo; that steps must be taken to establish cöoperative relations with the *Kokumin Kyokai*, and that delegates must be sent to Head-quarters. The *Kaishin-to* being the head and front of the Strong Foreign Policy association, it is easy to conjecture what such a meeting as the above implies.

A BASELESS STORY.

THE *Kobe Chronicle* is informed that the story of a sailor having been hung from the yard-arm of the *Vladimir Monomach* as she was leaving Hongkong, quoted from the *Hongkong Telegraph*, is quite untrue. The commanders of Russian war-ships have no power to inflict capital punishment, even in case of murder. An offender accused of a capital offence must in all cases be sent to Russia for trial. In the case of mutiny in time of war a man could be executed, as well as for desertion or cowardice or similar military offences, exactly as is permitted by the military and naval regulations of other countries, but in time of peace no power of capital punishment is vested in Russian commanding officers.

THE "RHEINGOLD" CASE.

WE are glad to be in a position to state that the *Rheingold* case is now [illegible] of being

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settled. On condition that his decision shall be accepted by both sides, Mr. Enslie, the British Consul, has undertaken to hear evidence in the case and to render a decision, and heavy security has been deposited both by the agents of the steamer and by the charterers. The discharge of the cargo is now going on, and in the course of a day or two the vessel will be able to leave the port. She has been detained here for exactly eight weeks, so that the demurrage claim is likely to be a heavy one. It is estimated that it will be at least a fortnight before the arbitrator can give a decision, as a number of Japanese witnesses are to be brought from Fushiki and other places to give evidence. —*Kobe Chronicle.*

JOURNALISTIC SUSPENSION.

A good deal of grumbling has latterly been heard in Tokyo on the score of the suspension of the local press, hardly one journal having escaped falling under the ban during the last fortnight. That the *Nichi Nichi* and *Jiji* should meet with such a fate was a bolt out of the blue; for the former is popularly though erroneously supposed to be semi-official, while the last time the latter had to do penance of the kind was in 1886, if we remember correctly. Besides, all through the recent troublous months, the *Jiji Shimpo* has walked most warily; has been a disseminator of the earliest trustworthy information from the seat of war; and has altogether done much to increase its fame and assure its position as the first and greatest of Japanese newspapers. A large section of the reading public, therefore, has declared as its opinion that the action of the Authorities in this matter was too precipitate and arbitrary, entirely impeding the expression of public opinion. If, it is argued, the Government desires to keep in touch with the people; if matters are to be arranged on a mutually satisfactory basis; then it is of prime importance that the press should be unmuzzled and permitted to reflect public opinion. But does it reflect such opinion? By far the larger number of the leading journals are recognised organs of political parties, principally the two branches of the Radicals, and it cannot for an instant be supposed that the Japanese people as a whole belong to either one of these two organisations. At all events, the plain aim of the Authorities in this instance is to prevent any growth of popular excitement that might impede the country's safe passage through a difficult crisis. If the press were left free to ventilate extreme views, it might be impossible for the nation to maintain the calm and moderate attitude so essential at such a time.

LIFE IN CANTON.

The *Chinese Mail* (*Wah Tsz Pat Po*) says that rice and fuel are at present very dear in Canton, the former costing over $3 per picul and the latter 50 or 60 cents per picul. As the bulk of the rice consumed in Canton is imported from the southern countries, its dearness may be set down to the present war, but the dearness in fuel, which is a home-production, may not be so easily explained. The cause can be found in the fact that since the winter of last year lekin tax on this commodity has been raised to the rate of one mace per picul by a lekin office in Wong Kong of Shui Hing Fu, in that part of the country whence firewood comes. What with the enhancement in the prices of these staple articles, the long drought since spring of this year, with a prospective failing of the spring crops, and the frequent plundering raids in the city, life in Canton may be imagined.

FANCY BRANDS.

We have on several occasions spoken about the rather high-sounding names that some Japanese manufacturers see fit to apply to their wares. Two instances, deserving wider fame, have recently been brought to our notice. The first relates to a kind of "cure-all" pill styled *Kachi-doki*, or "Victory." That is, of course, as people take it; but one is inclined to fancy that the name refers rather to the joy of the proprietor at placing his nostrum successfully on the market than to any gratitude on the part of a long-suffering public. The *bira*, or posters, bearing the name and supposititious virtues of this new invention are further decorated with a most libellous portrait of Shimamura, the famous bugler at the battle of A-san: he who is the subject of one of Sir Edwin Arnold's latest poems, reproduced some time ago in these columns. But in far more questionable taste is the title chosen for a new brand of cigarettes turned out by a well-known Tokyo tobacconist. They are styled "All-Might;" and though all might suppose that the appellation applies to a tobacco of the strongest kind, this is far from being the case. Experiments prove that the brand is very mild indeed.

ADMIRAL BULLER.

If political considerations ousted Admiral Buller from the North American command, says a home paper, this gallant flag-officer has been selected for another appointment as Commander-in-Chief on the China Station. As a successor to Vice-Admiral Fremantle it would be difficult to find so proper a flag officer to fill this important and anxious post ■ Admiral Buller. He possesses a good knowledge of the station, having commanded the Naval Brigade during the operations against the Malays in 1875-76. For this he gained a C.B.-ship. Hospitable to a degree, with a full purse to dispense it, our future 'Ral in Celestial waters has neither starch, stiffness, nor affectation. Possessing great abilities, and unquestioned tact, he is universally popular among all those that have served, or the many that want to serve, under his flag.

JOURNALISTIC ENTERPRISE.

As an indication of home opinion on the capabilities of Japan as a market for British goods, the *Daily Press* mentions that the proprietors of the *British Trade Journal* have decided to establish an edition of their journal in the Japanese language. It is intended at present to issue it four times a year and it has been resolved to print and publish it in Japan itself. The object of the movement is to bring British manufactures to the notice of Japanese consumers. Mr. W. J. Rivington, the managing proprietor, arrived at Hongkong by the *Kaisar-i-Hind* and came on to Japan by the same steamer to arrange the details for the projected publication. He is now staying at the Grand Hotel.

FIRE IN AMOY HARBOUR.

The Douglas steamer *Thales*, when she arrived at Hongkong from Formosan Ports and Amoy, reports that fire broke out on board the steamer *Taicheong* in Amoy Harbour on the 20th ult. The steamer was laden with kerosene and general cargo. The fire originated in the forward part of the vessel about 2 p.m. Valuable assistance was promptly rendered by the officers and blue-jackets of the U.S. cruiser *Machias*, and Captain Bathurst, Mr. Milroy, and part of the crew of the *Thales*, and the result of their united efforts was to subdue the flames and to save the vessel from being completely gutted. The fire was caused by the overturning of a lamp in the compradore's room.—*China Mail*

THE "YIKSANG."

Friday's *Official Gazette* contains the judgment given by the Prize Court at Sasebo on the 26th ult. in regard to a portion of the cargo of the *Yiksang*. The Judges ordered that a portion of the goods, which they considered were not contraband of war, be released at once. A telegram in another column announces that the steamer herself has also been released.

THE PLAGUE.

Hongkong is seriously alarmed at the outbreak of plague at Macao, the outskirts of Canton, and the island of Hainan, and strict quarantine and preventive measures have been adopted in regard to Chinese vessels and immigrants.

THE SOUTH POLAR SEA.

Advices received from Melbourne state that the Norwegian steamer *Antartic* has returned there from a voyage towards the South Pole. The vessel penetrated the Antartic regions as far as 74° S. So high a latitude has only been attained in the South Polar regions twice before—in 1823 by Weddel, who reached latitude 74°15, and in 1842 by Sir James Ross, who reached 78°10. The voyage was undertaken with a view of discovering fresh whaling and sealing grounds, but from a commercial aspect the voyage was not a success.

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

Viscount Mutsu's return to Tokyo seems likely to be postponed for a little time. His Excellency's indisposition was aggravated by the journey from Maiko to Kyoto, and it is impossible for him to travel in his present condition.

We learn from Hakodate that the place where the steamer *Rhodora* is on shore is an exposed one, but that hopes were entertained of getting the vessel off within 24 hours.

THE STREET FIGHT AT NEW-CHWANG.

The Chinese that defended Newchwang being entirely out-manœuvred by the prompt evolutions of their assailants, those that had no time to fly quickly found themselves completely surrounded by the enemy. Thus brought to bay, they became desperate and determined, it seems, to fight to the last, for being the so-called veterans of the Liaosiang army, they had more fibre than raw recruits. They took up their positions in barracks, temples, and even citizen's houses, and the most terrible of all fights, a street fight, ensued, lasting till ■■ night. A Chinese building of the better class is very well suited for such a purpose. Being durably constructed of brick and surrounded by high brick walls, it resembles, in many respects, a miniature castle. From behind the shelter of the wall the Chinese fired at the enemy, while some defended the gates or even fired from the roof. In each enclosure there were from 30 to ■ many as 200 desperadoes, and as they offered the stoutest resistance, and fought, not as on other occasions, but with the fury of madmen, their assailants were obliged to employ the utmost caution. When Major Ishida surrounded one such enclosure and sent a native to summon the little garrison to surrender, not only was the summons rejected, but the native who acted as envoy was killed. The Major made his soldiers drive holes in the wall through which to fire upon the defenders, but the latter utilized the holes in the contrary sense, taking advantage of a moment when the Japanese were off their guard. The Major therefore decided to lead his soldiers in through the front gate, which manœuvre was accomplished with a rush. A terrible struggle ensued within the enclosure, and at last all the inmates, some fifty in number, were put to death. But it being afterwards considered that such a method of attack entailed an unnecessary waste of life on the part of the Japanese, the houses in which the Chinese attempted resistance were broken open with gun-cotton or dynamite, and their defenders, hunted out in that summary way, were shot or cut down. The Japanese shouted a war-song as they blew up one house after another. But the enemy behaved like wild beasts at bay. Many that had been driven out from their strongholds concealed themselves behind any shelter available, and still continued firing on the Japanese, even hurling bricks and stones at them when their ammunition was exhausted. The stoutest stand, however, was made by the troops that took refuge in the two barracks, the western and the eastern. Even after the buildings had been shattered with explosives the defenders held out, and it was only when mortars and field pieces were brought to bear upon their positions, and shrapnel shells were exploded among them, that they were obliged to hang out a white flag. The western barracks was the last to surrender, at about 10 in the evening. It was on account of this obstinate fight in the streets, after the main body of the Chinese had retreated, that the loss of the enemy was so terrible in the battle of Newchwang.

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WAR NEWS.

SATURDAY, APRIL 27TH.

The *Hiroku Shimpo* gives a statement of the cost hitherto involved in connection with the maintenance of the Chinese prisoners held by Japan. The prisoners, including the officers taken in the Pescadores, aggregate 1,013, and are distributed at Hiroshima, Matsuyama, Osaka, Otsu, Nagoya, Toyohashi, Sakura, Takasaki, and Tokyo. They are fed and clothed exactly like Japanese troops, their daily allowance of rice being 6 *go*, of vegetables and fish, 7 *sen* worth, and of charcoal 10 *sen* worth. Adding to this outlay their travelling expenses (15,000 *yen*), the total expenditure up to date is 55,074 *yen*.

The *Tokei Shushi* says that the total number of patients treated at the Hiroshima hospital from the 8th of July last year up to the 2nd of March this year, was 11,791, of whom 4,429 recovered completely, 4,432 were transferred to other hospitals, 39 went home for treatment, 465 died, 218 were sent out of hospital for special reasons, and 2,208 are now under treatment.

There has apparently been a disposition among certain Japanese to return to China the portion of her Peiyang Squadron now in the possession of this country. The advocates of such a step argue that China being an integral part of the Orient, ought not to be deprived by Japan of all means of maritime defence; that under existing circumstances there is very little chance of her being able to provide herself with new ships for some years; that without ships all the progress hitherto made by her in naval affairs will be lost; that being defenceless, she offers a tempting bait to foreign aggression, and that if her territory be divided among Western Powers, Japan's safety will be menaced. To all this an anonymous Vice-Admiral, quoted by the *Nippon*, replies that the permanent occupation of Port Arthur by Japan puts an end to the idea of China's developing any real strength at sea, and that Japan must take upon her own shoulders the whole responsibility of defending the Orient.

We read in the *Yomiuri* that after the ratification of the Treaty of Peace Japan contemplates constructing in the Pescadores the largest dock in the East.

MONDAY, APRIL 29TH.

It is claimed by the *Nippon* that China has violated the terms of the armistice on a wholesale scale. The armistice does not preclude either Power from moving troops within its own borders or lines, provided that such troops be not reinforcements of armies now actually taking part in the campaign. The obvious and well-understood purpose of this proviso is to leave either Power free to make preparations for any new enterprise, offensive or defensive, that may be deemed necessary in the event of the armistice ending before peace becomes an accomplished fact. According to the *Nippon*, however, the Chinese have taken advantage of the temporary cessation of hostilities to raise their Mukden Army to 20,000 men; the Liaoyang army to 20,000; their troops in the vicinity of Newchwang to 30,000; their Shanhaikwan army to 60,000; their Tsaohokow force to 10,000; their troops between Shanhaikwan and Tientsin to 30,000, and to reinforce their armies in other places by about 30,000. The same journal adds that Liu Kun-yi, the commander-in-chief of the troops defending the overland approaches to China, boasts that he is at the head of 280,000 men awaiting the onset of his foes. We should think that it would be very difficult to prove these breaches of agreement. At all events, they might have been anticipated from the outset. If the Chinese commanders in the field do not know how to respect a white flag, it is not likely that they would be very successful in observing the conditions of an armistice couched in such terms as that signed at Shimonoseki, however solicitous the central Government might be to act in good faith.

The above is not the only violation of the armistice charged against the Chinese. It is further alleged that on the 7th instant the Japanese in Haicheng released about a thousand Chinese prisoners, who proceeded in a body, without arms, of course, to Liaoyang. Coming close to the latter place they were suddenly fired upon by the garrison, 400 of their number being killed and the remainder flying back to the Japanese lines. Opening fire upon a party of unarmed men coming from the enemy's lines during an armistice is a peculiar method of observing a truce. As for the motive that actuated the Chinese to slaughter their own countrymen in such a barbarous manner, one hypothesis is that they regard as traitors all soldiers surrendering to the Japanese, and are prepared to kill them wherever they find them. Another theory is that the troops at Liaoyang were instructed under no circumstances to permit persons coming from the enemy's direction to enter the Chinese lines. The officer in command at Liaoyang is understand to claim that he fired blank cartridge only, and that no one was either killed or wounded. It should be noted that no official statement with reference to any of these occurrences has been published. Possibly they may be greatly exaggerated, if not quite untrustworthy.

The *Mainichi Shimbun* has a note about the Nippon Yusen Kaisha and the probable result of the war upon its finances. That the big steamship company has performed its duty to the country in a thoroughly efficient manner is not questioned, and it therefore fully deserves to be paid for its services. It has had a great fleet of steamers constantly chartered by the Government since last July, and it has received an access of more than twenty-nine vessels, several of which have been similarly chartered, while others have been employed for the purposes of the coast-wise carrying trade. The consequence is, according to the *Mainichi*, that the Company is in a position to declare a dividend of fully 50 per cent. But there is little probability that it will do anything of the kind. It has to consider its position after the war is over, and the numerous responsibilities that will devolve upon it in connection with the opening of new lines and the employment of its largely increased fleet. Various other reasons are assigned for a policy of caution, and the conclusion reached by the *Mainichi* is that the Directors will not declare a dividend of more than 10 per cent.

The days of actual fighting being past, and very little probability existing of their recurrence, no great interest attaches to the composition of the Head-Quarter Staff under H.I.H. Prince Komatsu. The *Kokumin*, however, gives the following:—Vice-Admiral Kabayama; Lieut.-General Kawakami; Mr. Suyematsu Kencho, Chief of the Legislative Bureau; Surgeon-General Ishiguro; Inspector-General Noda; Major-General Teranchi; 38 officers of various ranks, from Colonel to Ensign, and various non-comissioned officers, gendarmes, guards, bandsmen, grooms, and land-transport men, the whole numbering 362, with 95 horses.

From the commencement of the war, writes the *Hochi Shimbun*, until the end of March, the sums contributed by foreigners and Japanese to the funds of the Red Cross Society aggregated 59,138 *yen*: and the articles sent in were:—Materials for bandages, 8,340 rolls, 6,877 pieces (*tan*), and 15 *kwan* 243 *momme* of medicaments; clothing, 2,156 articles; surgical articles, 79 boxes; drugs, 9 varieties; books, 2,614; articles of food, 27 kinds; miscellaneous articles, 32 kinds. The number of persons by whom these various contributions were made, was 22,650 Japanese and 50 foreigners. The Society has now 141,947 members, of whom 81,318 have joined since the war.

The *Chiuo Shimbun* alleges that a telegram was received in Hiroshima on the 27th instant from the Viceroy Li announcing the ratification of the Treaty by the Emperor of China. We do not know how much reliance may be placed in this statement. H.E. Mr. Ito Miyoji, who has been appointed Plenipotentiary for the purpose of exchanging the ratifications, was to have started for Chefoo on the 27th instant, but did not leave Tokyo until the morning of the 28th. If he travels continuously he will reach Chefoo on the 3rd proximo.

The *Hochi* thinks that the sight of a Japanese flotilla of 50 steam transports passing Shimonoseki on the 14th instant, escorted by a squadron of war-ships, had much to do with the Viceroy Li's acceptance of Japan's conditions of peace. But the Viceroy must have known very well what force of transports Japan possesses long before he saw them steam westward from Shimonoseki.

The *Yomiuri* publishes a conversation said to have taken place between a foreign correspondent and Major Ishida at Yingkow. The only point worth noting in the affair is that Major Ishida, pressed to give his opinion as to the result of a conflict between Japan or an anonymous European Power—evidently Russia—said that as the issue of the war with China had been so inconsistent with the forecasts of foreigners, it was possible that the conflict in question might prove a similar surprise.

TUESDAY, APRIL 30TH.

News from Haicheng is to the effect that the troops quartered there, now under Lieut.-General Okubo, are busily engaged constructing temporary forts on the hills that command the approaches to the place. It will be remembered that, according to intelligence from the Newchwang correspondents of Shanghai journals, the hills around the town had been strongly fortified by the Japanese from the close of last year, but the fact is that only slight entrenchments existed throughout the winter. The ground being frozen to a depth of several feet, it would have been scarcely possible to construct earthworks of any consequence. Entrenchments sufficed, however, to defy the frequent assaults of the Chinese, and we learn that the steps now taken by the Japanese to utilize the natural advantages of the place will render it virtually impregnable to any army, except by regular process of seige.

Correspondence emanating from foreign sources places us in possession of fuller particulars as to the outrage committed by the Chinese in firing upon Major Aoki's flag of truce. When news of the armistice and its terms—one of which required that the Generals in the field should lose no time in communicating with each other for the purpose of arranging practical details—reached Haicheng, the First Army had its advanced posts at Anshantsan, mid-way between Haicheng and Liaoyang, the Chinese van being stationed 5 miles farther north on the Liaoyang road. Major Aoki left Haicheng on the 1st instant, with the object of communicating with the Chinese. Arrived at Kanshipu, half way to Anshantsan, he sent a despatch to General I, who commanded the Chinese in that quarter, asking that a staff officer be appointed to meet him. The messenger not returning, another despatch of similar import was forwarded the next day. And this, too, failed to elicit any reply. The messengers sent were Chinese peasants, so that there could have been no difficulty in their reaching their destination. At noon on the 3rd instant, accompanied by only a Japanese who was to act in the capacity of interpreter, and a Chinese guide, Major Aoki set out by the Liaotung road toward the enemy's lines. The party carried a white flag, but when it arrived within 300 yards of the Chinese position, the enemy opened fire upon it, and the Chinese guide was wounded. Major Aoki and his interpreter retired, but the guide, being unable to walk, fell into the hands of the Chinese. After returning to Anshantsan, Major Aoki sent another letter to General I, asking why his soldiers had fired on a Japanese officer carrying a flag of truce during an armistice. Not until the 5th was an answer received. It came from a Chinese Colonel Tsua, and it stated simply that the firing had taken place in ignorance of the existence of an armistice. As to the flag of truce, no explanation was offered. Later on the same day, Colonel Tsua sent two troopers to invite Major Aoki to visit General I, but the Major had now received

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instructions to the effect that, as the Japanese emissary had been fired upon, no further attempt should be made to approach the Chinese lines for the purpose of communicating: the Major was to wait within his own lines until an envoy came from the Chinese side. The next incident in the story was the receipt of the following letter from the acting Governor of Liaoyang:—

To Field-Marshal Nodzu, Commander-in-Chief of the First Army, and Major Aoki, Staff Officer of the First Army.

I received your letter yesterday and hasten to reply to it. I have now been informed that, according to the will of the Great Emperor of Great China, an armistice has been established between the forces of China and Japan for 21 days, namely, from the 5th of the present month to the 26th. The Great Emperor has given instructions to all the local Governors to inform all the military officers of this fact. I therefore immediately informed all the military officers of the district under my rule. Your army, however, occupied Anshantsan and Chitongzin on the 7th and the 8th of the month. This occupation took place, therefore, after the declaration of the armistice and contrary to its terms. The act was opposed to the will of His Majesty the Emperor of China, and the Japanese themselves in occupying these places were undutiful subjects to their own Emperor. Still, on the day when your army occupied those places, you had perhaps not received orders from your Emperor concerning the armistice, and your action in occupying them need not, therefore, be strongly condemned. Now, however, that you have received orders from your Emperor, you ought to obey, and to withdraw your troops from those places, although I have issued orders to the military officers in the district under my command, to act in strict accordance with the principles of international law, and to do nothing during the armistice that is likely to precipitate a conflict, yet, since there are no less than 300,000 well disciplined soldiers under my command, and these men are of a most loyal spirit, I have some fear lest, in spite of my orders, they should attack your army. I hope, therefore, that you will withdraw your troops to Haicheng, and, awaiting there calmly the conclusion of peace, avoid any disasters that might otherwise unexpectedly overtake you.

I write this letter hoping that peace is about to be secured, and hoping, also, that recognising the force of what I have said, you will act in accordance with my advice.

(Signed) Shui,
Acting Governor of Liaoyang.

The insolent tone of this letter is thoroughly Chinese. As for the charges preferred in it, they are altogether illusory, Chitongzui having been occupied by the Japanese troops on the day before the signing of the armistice, while Anshantsan had been long in their possession, being in fact the place where the Third Division and the Fifth Division joined forces on March 2nd, since which time it has been garrisoned by a Japanese force. Being one of the strongest positions in Manchuria, and commanding the road from Liaoyang to Haicheng, the Chinese would doubtless have been glad to recover it without fighting; hence Governor Shui's trumped up charge. The letter is suggestive of the construction that Chinese officials will put on the arrangements for peace. Of course the Japanese took no notice of such an insulting communication, and they likewise ignored several similar letters subsequently received urging their withdrawal from Anshantsan. On the 7th and 8th of April, messengers were sent by the Chinese General announcing an impending visit of a Staff Colonel, and Major Aoki went out to meet him, but the Chinese officer never came. Ultimately a letter was sent to General I, giving an exact delimitation of the Japanese front and informing the General that no Chinese soldier would henceforth be allowed to enter except for purposes of parley, a necessary warning in view of the fact that the Chinese seemed to consider the opening of communications directed by armistice as a good opportunity for sending soldiers into the Japanese lines. We may mention, in this context, that in response to repeated demands from the Japanese, the Chinese guide wounded on the 2nd instant was returned to the Japanese camp on the 9th.

Wednesday, May 1st.

The correspondence sent to the *San Francisco Chronicle* by Mr. Walter Gifford Smith seems to us to be among the most interesting contributions to the story of this war. Coming to Yokohama, however, at least six weeks after the date on which it is written, it serves sometimes to point very marked contrasts. We quote a few paragraphs:—

The Formosa question is not unlikely to prove troublesome. Next to their ambition to take Pekin the Japanese put the annexation of that island to the empire, but with the news that their troops are about to start that way comes a definite hint, with reasons added, that Great Britain will interfere. Yesterday an English diplomat, in the manner of a man of whom diplomacy had come to require speech rather than reticence, said that with Formosa in the hands of a possible enemy the Australian trade of England would be put in as great jeopardy as the Chinese trade. It was his further remark that Australia is excited on this subject. As for that the Yokohama English colony is also, a petition having been sent by it to the British Government imploring speedy intervention.

"But is not Formosa a geographical part of Japan?" I asked, "and has not Japan the same moral right to take it that Germany had to annex Alsace and Lorraine?"

"Well," said the diplomat, "if you talk geographical logic to Great Britain where would she herself come out? Her empire would be confined to her own group of islands. As to moral rights, Japan may have them, so far as Formosa is concerned, but so have we. It is our moral right to protect the commerce of Australia, Hongkong, and the Formosa Channel—and there you are."

"But what of Russia, which might aid Japan?"

Haven't you read about the visit of the Prince of Wales to the Czar and the friendly relations which have followed?"

Despite the lessons of history touching the friendship and intermarriages of royal houses, the English here are counting very much on Russia's aid, or neutrality, in the event of this phase of trouble in the far East. But for that matter, the Japanese—at least the Japanese of the military party—are also; and as Russia and Japan are bound by the ties of sympathy that always connect two nations whose natural enemies are the same, and as Great Britain is the enemy in the case, it is reasonable to suppose that Japan will find the Czar on her side in the event that a Formosa intervention puts her in need of a strong ally.

We had not previously heard of a petition forwarded by the British community of Yokohama imploring the speedy intervention of the home Government, and we are disposed to think that Mr. Smith is mistaken. Such an important step could not have been taken so secretly as to escape the notice of many persons in the community as well as of the local press. Another statement in Mr. Smith's letter greatly surprises us. It is that "Russia and Japan are bound by the ties of sympathy that always connect two nations whose natural enemies are the same, and as Great Britain is the enemy in this case, it is reasonable to suppose that Japan will find the Czar on her side in the event that a Formosan intervention puts her in need of a strong ally." So diametrically opposed is this assertion to everything seen and heard by us during the past thirty years in Japan that we are disposed to suspect an inadvertent transposition of names on Mr. Smith's part. At all events, he would scarcely be disposed now, we imagine, to describe England as the common enemy of Russia and Japan. Truth compels us to say, though we say it with reluctance, that England's unpopularity among a certain class of Japanese has been due in a considerable degree to American criticism. It is the habit with not a few Americans to depict England in the light of a grasping, selfish, and unscrupulous Power, the terror and foe of all Oriental peoples, and so steadily has this misrepresentation been pushed into prominence that it now commands a measure of credence in Japan. Such criticisms will not outlive the logic of events. To-day for the first time that infallible test has been applied, and we see how the Powers of Europe have grouped themselves under its influence.

Another extract from Mr. Smith's letter is worth noting:—

In Chefoo Lieutenant Beacom met Mr. Cowen of the London *Times*, who has lately been accused in the Japanese papers of having gone to Chefoo to give information to the enemy. Mr. Cowen had been *persona grata* to the army until after he reached Wei-hai-wei, when the text of his long-suppressed "atrocity" letter reached head-quarters. He was immediately called to account by officers of the general staff in such severe terms that the interpreter (as the latter told me) took it upon himself to make a modified translation. Still, enough had been said to give the correspondent an idea of the serious nature of his mistake, and, according to the interpreter's story, Mr. Cowen promised to repair it in his next news letter.

The following day, February 22nd, all the correspondents were sent on board a transport bound for Japan, but Mr. Cowen, leaving his baggage, horse, interpreter, coolie, and even his overcoat and camera, on board, went off to the British cruiser *Porpoise*, ostensibly to take lunch, but he did not return before the transport sailed the Japanese officers were convinced that he had remained on the *Porpoise*, which was to leave that day for Chefoo. Already a "suspect," Mr. Cowen could have done nothing more disagreeable to the Japanese than to venture, without permission, into the enemy's lines, and so it is likely that he will find the Japanese War Office troublesome if he should return to its sphere of jurisdiction. The correspondent's probable reason for going to Chefoo was to get interviews with the paroled foreign prisoners from Weihaiwei. Knowing the man well, I do not find it conceivable that he would carry the Chinese any information from the Japanese side, or that he had any other object in getting to Chefoo except a professional one.

We are glad to see that Mr. Smith does Mr. Cowen the justice of concluding that his visit to Chefoo was purely professional. Mr. Cowen, we believe, went to Chefoo because there only could he hope to learn details of the defence of Weihaiwei—the domestic history, as to speak, of the fortress' fall. At Chefoo only could he meet and converse fully with the foreign employés that had served in the forts and on the ships. But it is due to Mr. Cowen that we contradict most emphatically the assertion that he went to Chefoo—in other words, passed into the enemy's lines—without permission. The truth is that he had been careful to seek and obtain the permission of Field-Marshal Count Oyama before he took a step which, though certainly open to misconstruction, was a natural and even necessary procedure on the part of any energetic and zealous correspondent under the circumstances. The paragraphs we have quoted from Mr. Smith's letter plainly suggest that in consequence of the account of the Port Arthur affair published in the London *Times*, Mr. Cowen became very unpopular with the Japanese Authorities and Army, and received from Head-quarters a communication that induced him to modify his tone considerably. Mr. Cowen certainly did modify his tone in a subsequent letter to *The Times*, and it is not improbable that he was induced to do so by facts that the Japanese Authorities were in a position to submit, as well as by disgust at the sensational writing of Mr. James Creelman. But we have it from Mr. Cowen himself that he experienced the utmost courtesy throughout the Weihaiwei campaign, and the fact that he had no difficulty in obtaining permission to accompany the expedition to the Pescadores shows very plainly that neither his communications to *The Times* nor yet his visit to Chefoo led the Japanese military authorities to discriminate against him.

Nothing seems to us more unfortunate than the personalities that have disfigured the writings of several of the correspondents sent out to report the progress of the war from European and American journals. These gentlemen appear to have proceeded on the assumption that even their mutual quarrels and jealousies were matters of public interest. Gradually time has brought the truth to light, but there remains still unelucidated one point that caused, perhaps, the bitterest recrimination of all. We allude to the allegation that Mr. A. B. de Guerville warned the Japanese Military Authorities to be on their guard against Mr. Creelman as a Chinese spy, and that the latter correspondent was consequently in mortal peril for a while. We have received an exact statement of the truth of this matter from a high Japanese of-

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ficial who introduced Mr. de Guerville to Lieut.-General Kawakami, and who was present throughout the interview that ensued. Lieut.-General Kawakami, Head of the Japanese Staff, was not, it seems, at all disposed at the outset to consider that newspaper correspondents were necessary concomitants of an army in the field, or to grant them any special facilities. By the persuasion of the official to whom we have alluded he was ■ length induced to change this attitude, and Mr. de Guerville, the first correspondent on the scene, was consequently given an appointment to meet the Lieut.-General. In the course of the conversation that ensued, Mr. de Guerville explained that his sentiments toward the Japanese were thoroughly friendly, but, ■ the same time, he took occasion to say that it would be an error to ascribe similar sentiments to every correspondent who might subsequently apply for permission to go to the front. Beyond that vague and apparently superfluous caution, nothing whatever passed that could be construed in the sense of the accusations afterwards perferred against Mr. de Guerville. Being in possession of these facts, we deem it a duty to publish them.

The *New York Herald*, rightly judging that the most interesting phase of Far Eastern politics would be that succeeding the war, has sent out an able correspondent, Colonel J. A. Cockerill, to keep it posted in the events of the next twelve months. Several of Colonel Cockerill's letters have already appeared in the *New York Herald*, and very interesting they are. It is a pity, however, that a writer of his reputation and ability should be swayed by such a marked anti-British bias as his letters display. He seems to regard England as a noxious aggressor that all upright men should combine to hold in check. Yet, it can not be denied by even the most prejudiced readers of history, that never since the earliest era of written annals has any country's contributions to the cause of civilization been so large and so wide-reaching as those of Great Britain. Colonel Cockerill would probably admit all that, were the question put to him, and he would have to admit also that the blood running in his own veins is English and that the great country from which he comes owes most of its greatness to its Anglo-Saxon capacities. It is certainly one of the curious phenomena of *fin-de-siècle* days that our own kith and kin should be among our inveterate traducers. Colonel Cockerill goes even so far as to suppose that the most reckless and unscrupulous of the foreign journals published in Yokohama is in sympathy with British interests. After longer residence he will doubtless discriminate more closely. Every cause, involving question of keen public interest, is doomed to find among its advocates some ill-balanced persons who disgrace while they try to promote it. The cause of the foreign *imperium in imperio* in Japan has not escaped that fate. The loudest of its supporters are journalists of whom every decent Englishman is heartily ashamed.

Writing about the two men who, after their release on parole by the Japanese authorities, deliberately violated their word of honour, and sold their services to the Chinese, Colonel Cockerill says :—

> The Japanese authorities decline to parole them, as they have other prisoners, and it is understood that a court-martial will at once be ordered. That these men have forfeited their lives under the universal laws of war is not denied, but if the Japanese government shoots them, as it should, there will of course be a lot of twaddle in Manchester and Birmingham's peaceful circles on the part of the good people who have forgiven Mr. Bull for sending Brandt and his Indians into the Mohawk and Wyoming valleys during our colonial troubles, to cut the throats of women and children, and for blowing captive Sepoys from the mouth of cannon in India. The charge of "barbarism" will surely be raised, but at the same time it is to be sincerely hoped that the Japanese will not be deterred from a plain duty. The killing of these false and perjured mercenaries is a plain duty if war between nations is hereafter to mean anything more than a scientific military picnic.

It is an error, we may note *en passant*, to say that the two men are now in custody. Only one was recaptured at Weihaiwei. Of course the Japanese would be justified in adopting very strong measures in his case, but we trust that merciful counsels will prevail.

According to the *Hochi Shimbun*, the Viceroy Li, during the progress of the Shimonoseki negotiations, spoke very strongly and plainly as to the inadvisability of dissensions between China and Japan. He considered that the two empires should be united for the purpose of opposing Western aggression. The idea is natural under the circumstances, but we are not told by the *Hochi* what answer the Japanese Plenipotentiaries made.

The *Kokkai* says that rumours prevalent in Tientsin are to the effect that the Emperor of China will not ratify the Treaty.

The *Fiji* notes that the amount of the indemnity to be paid by China exceeds by fifty million *yen* the total value of the coins of all kinds struck at the Osaka Mint during the 24 years of its existence.

THE "KEIZAI ZASSHI" DISSATISFIED WITH THE TERMS OF PEACE.

We are surprised to find such an eminent thinker as Mr. Taguchi, editor of the *Keizai* and parliamentary representative of a section of Tokyo, announcing himself dissatisfied with the terms of peace—terms that even Metropolitans papers notorious for their wanton opposition to every measure issuing from the Government, have received with unreserved satisfaction. What the *Keizai* writes on the subject in its latest issue is as follows :—We maintained from the first that the Treaty of Peace should be concluded after the entry of the Japanese expeditionary army into Peking. Consequently, we are led to think that the territory and indemnity obtained by Japan from China, in virtue of the present Treaty, are not necessarily satisfactory. And yet, the restoration of peace being a blessing for society and war a great bane, we can not but welcome the return of tranquillity. What we strongly suspect, however, as we have more than once observed, is that peace obtained as it has now been attained may not last long, but that, on the contrary, the horizon of the East will soon become more clouded than ever. We do not think that China, like Japan, is capable of reforming her national systems, and we therefore believe that she can not hold her own against this country to whatever degree her military equipment be extended and organized. When the frontiers of the two empires become contiguous, troubles will probably crop up from time to time. That is the principal reason why we think that the Eastern horizon will be clouded." The *Keizai* concludes its article with some brief remarks about the necessity of retrenching administrative expenses in the future. It will be seen from the foregoing statements of the *Keizai* that its tone is not of decided dissatisfaction, and we are led to believe that the Japanese "Economist" made such observations, not from positive dissatisfaction, but merely for the sake of consistency with its former utterances. If so, its fancy has cost it very dear, for the article has been condemned by the Press censors as obnoxious, and the *Keizai* has been suspended, a very rare incident, or most probably the first of the kind since the journal was founded about 16 years ago. It may be added here that the *Keizai* declared a few weeks ago, when the Tokyo papers competed with each other to draw up the terms of peace, that Japan must demand the cession of the three province of Kirin, Shinking, and Chihli, in the north, and Formosa in the south, when she granted peace to China. But this was too extraordinary a demand to be made with any show of decency to China, and we believe, therefore, that such an impracticable idea is no longer entertained by our contemporary. The entry of the expeditionary army into Peking was considered necessary by it as a display of Japan's strength.

THE EMPEROR.

Rumour, as might have been expected, has greatly magnified the Emperor's indisposition, not a few persons being persuaded that His Majesty is seriously ill. We are happy to be able to say that such apprehensions have no ground whatever. The Emperor is suffering from nothing worse than a slight chill contracted in the train *en route* from Hiroshima to Kyoto. Possibly exceptional care is exercised in this case, for His Majesty, while in Hiroshima, had a somewhat severe attack of inflammation of the lungs, which, though it caused considerable uneasiness among the officials of the Court and the Minister of State, was not revealed to the general public.

THE FINE ARTS EXHIBITION IN TOKYO.

The Fine Arts Exhibition in Tokyo is now fully furnished and well deserves a visit. All the manufactures for which the city is famous are fairly represented, though it is easy to see that the superior claims of the Kyoto Exhibition have operated to diminish the number of exhibits in Tokyo. Perhaps the most remarkable specimens to be seen in the Uyeno Galleries are porcelains from the workshops of Makuzu, Seifu, Takemoto, and Gosuke (of Owari). The last named artist figures in a new rôle as the manufacturer of some remarkable glazes. Japanese potters of the present day are developing skill far beyond anything attained by their predecessors in the production of monochromatic and polychromatic glazes. But their prices are much too high to promise an extensive market.

KOREAN NEWS.

ARREST OF LI SHUNYO.

Sōul was the scene of an extraordinary commotion on the evening of the 18th instant, write correspondents of the vernacular papers; a commotion that is still far from abating. Its cause was the arrest of a Prince of the Blood, Li Shunyo, the favourite grandson of the Tai Wōn-kun, on a charge of high treason. Li's conduct of late had been distinctly peculiar. Contrary to his own wishes, he was appointed Minister to Japan. Subsequently, however, when the assassins of the Vice-Minister of Justice were arrested and subjected to strict examination, he suddenly became enamoured of the office that he had originally disliked, and was all eagerness to start for Japan, whereas the Government were equally anxious to dissuade him from setting out. Various efforts were made to induce him to resign the appointment, the principal agent employed being Boku, Minister of Home Affairs, who craftily represented to Li that at this momentous epoch of Korea's history, men of his prestige and ability had better stay in the country and contribute to the reform of its administration. Li fell into the snare and resigned the post of Representative to Japan, remaining in Korea while the investigations that incriminated him were going on. When sufficient evidence was procured, much difficulty presented itself with reference to his arrest, despite the gravity of his contemplated crime against the Court, inasmuch as he was related to the King by a close tie, that of uncle and nephew. After conference with the Japanese Ambassador, the Cabinet at last decided to arrest him, and, for that purpose, the sanction of the King was specially obtained. The Central Police caused two of its detectives to enter the household of Li and narrowly watch his movements. These detectives presently informed the Police Office that he intended to make a trip into the country and that prompt steps should be taken to arrest him. The Police determined to act upon this advice and to send a body of constables to Li's residence as soon as a royal warrant had been issued against him. Armed with the warrant, the vice-chief of the Metropolitan Police, at about 7 on the evening of the 18th, proceeded to the residence of Li at the head some 80 police.

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Li already knew that the course of events was turning against him, but relying on his high rank and special relationship to the Court, he was not prepared for any treatment so radical as arrest. When the band of police entered his residence by both the front and back gates, he was utterly taken by surprise, and not until a constable tried to arrest him did he recover himself sufficiently to resist violently. He loudly demanded that the privileges of a Prince of the Blood be respected, and protested so vehemently that the constables hesitated to make the arrest. Seeing that, the Vice-chief himself, a man of considerable physical strength, rushed upon Li, seized him, and despite his struggles carried him on his back to the provisionary Court, where he was at once placed in confinement. His servants at first attempted to resist the police, but fled when they saw their master seized and carried away. So soon as tidings of these events reached the ears of Li's grandfather, the Tai Wōn-kun, whose Palace stood not far from that of his grandson, the old man, though confined to bed by indisposition, rushed out unattended and ran barefoot to the provisionary court, entering which he exclaimed frantically, "Who has robbed me of my grandson; give him back to me. Who has been so contumacious as to arrest a Prince of the Blood, and to take away my grandson without my permission." He repeated these exclamations again and again, knocking at the doors, kicking the screens, and behaving altogether like a mad man. The police, numerous as they were, stood aloof, awed by the vehemence of the aged prince, and the Minister of Justice, entirely at a loss what to do, sent a special messenger to the Japanese Ambassador to seek his advice. In the meanwhile, the rage of the Tai Wōn-kun abated from sheer exhaustion, and he suffered himself to be removed from the Court. Presently his servants came and endeavoured to persuade him to return to the palace. But he obstinately refused, and had at last to be placed in a shop standing next door but one to the provisionary Court. The King, pained to hear of the condition of the aged prince, his father, sent a messenger to console him; but the Tai Wōn-kun would not hear of anything of the sort and continued to repeat his exclamations, even refusing to take refreshment. Apparently the shock had been too much for the old man and for a time at any rate he became irresponsible. The examination of Li Shunyo was commenced on the afternoon of the 19th, by Cho Hoku, a councillor, and Li Zaisho, Vice-Minister, of Justice. Cho is a man of fearless and independent mind. He won much renown by his boldness in unravelling the Queen's doings, when she sent a secret message to Ming Yeishun, after the latter's downfall. On this occasion, when everybody else hesitated to undertake the grave task of examining Li, Cho boldly volunteered his services. The Vice-Minister of Justice was appointed his associate. Messrs. Hoshi Toru, now a legal adviser of the Korean Government, and Takehisa, a Police adviser, were desired to help by furnishing whatever legal information might be needed. The accused, at his first examination, was perfectly composed and cleverly defended himself against various charges preferred against him. The gravest part of these charges was the assassination of the late Vice-Minister of Justice, and an attempt against the Throne. Li obstinately maintained that such charges were fabricated by slanderers. The correspondence of the vernacular papers gives the particulars of the first day's trial only, but as a telegram subsequently received in Tokyo reports that Li has been deprived of his princely rank and degraded to the status of a commoner, he must have confessed his guilt, or his offences must have been proved very clearly. It is said that the people of Sōul were astonished when they learnt of the arrest of Li, but that the wealthier merchants were glad of the occurrence, for they declared that thenceforth the true reform of the country would become possible. The Body-guard that was once under the command of Li made no commotion whatever, we read, when the facts were communicated to it.

THE NEW BUILDINGS OF THE HONGWAN TEMPLE.

The new buildings of the Hongwan Temple, on which no less than eight million *yen* have been spent, were completed last month, after the lapse of about 17 years. They are the most magnificent specimens of Japanese architecture not only in Kyoto, but also in the whole country. About three centuries ago, Iyeyasu, from political considerations, divided the descendants of Shinran, the founder of the Shin sect, into two district branches, the Western and the Eastern, and took measures to have the Eastern Hongwan temple erected by way of counterpoise to the influence of the Western, which was under the special patronage of Hideyoshi. Basking in the sunshine of the Shogunate's patronage, the new temple rose at once to be the most influential religious centre in the whole of Japan, the older and legitimate centre of the sect being reduced to an altogether subordinate position. The fall of the Shogunate did not affect the prestige of the temple, which so far eclipsed the other that the existence of the latter came to be even forgotten by the public. The Eastern Hongwan-ji was reduced four times to ashes during the lapse of less than one century, yet such was the enthusiastic devotion of the masses, that on each occasion the buildings were re-constructed, even on a more magnificent scale than before, so that those now newly erected surpass, it is said, all their predecessors in point of splendour and dimensions. They are two in number, the Daishi-do and the Amida-do, and have been erected entirely by means of subscriptions from the devout parishioners and subsidiary temples of this the most powerful religious community in Japan. Each subsidiary temple was desired to contribute according to its means, and as the least wealthy forwarded the sum of 100 *yen*, the amounts contributed by temples situated in populous and flourishing districts must have amounted to great sums. The largest subscription that came from a single individual was 80,000 *yen*, from the head of the Homma family of Sakata, if we remember rightly. The timbers used were the best that could be obtained in the whole country, and were, for the most part contributed by believers who also defrayed the cost of transportation and sometimes themselves carried the materials to their destination, so anxious were they to render any service, however small, towards the building of the great temple. Enormous cables made of human hair are now preserved in the temple, by way of evidence testifying how zealous the people are in this great sect, for these cables were used to haul huge baulks of timber contributed by the believers of Echigo, and to make such ropes hundreds of thousands of women must have shorn off their tresses. The construction of the buildings was commenced in the time of the late Chief Abbot, who died last year, but it was Mr. Atsumi Kaiyen, one of the most influential deans of the temple, that conceived and successfully carried out the plan.

The Daishido, the greater of the two new buildings, measures 210 feet from north to south and 192 feet from east to west. It is 126½ feet high; it covers an area of 4,744 square yards, and the tiles on the roof aggregate 173,967. The Amida-do is of much smaller dimensions. It measures 126½ feet by 156½ feet, and its area, spread of roof, and so forth are proportionately smaller. The construction of this building did not, of course, take so long as that of the main edifice, yet, though inferior in size, it is more gorgeously decorated. In the golden tabernacle a standing image of Amida is placed, flanked by tablets of the reigning Emperor and of the late Emperor Komei. In the side tabernacles stand images of Shotoku-taishi and Honen Shonin, and images of the six celebrated priests of the Sect, together with the tablet of the Emperor Kameyama are placed in other parts of the same building. The ceiling of the Daishido is made of hinoki, a species of white pine, and the rafters are all of keyaki of uncommon size. Of the 93 pillars the largest measures more than 3 ft. in diameter, and the next in size about 2½ ft. Two of the rafters are of most extraordinary dimensions, being more than 48 feet long and 4 feet thick. One of the two has an interesting story attached to it. When the temple was first destroyed by fire in 1788, the believers of Echigo made arrangements to transport this huge beam to Kyoto. On the way the ship that carried it was wrecked and the timber lay for more than a hundred years at the bottom of the sea. It was raised shortly before the commencement of the recent construction, but sudden exposure to the air and sun caused it crack, and iron had to be hammered into the fissure before it could be finally used for the purpose to which it had been originally destined.

The glyptic decoration of the two buildings was undertaken by Messes. Maruyama Shintaro, Hayase Chobei, Tamura Rihichi, and Matsui Jyounsai, and the painting by Messrs. Kono Bairei, Hara Zaisen, Mochizuki Gyokusen, Suzuki Shobei, Haneda Gesshu, and Utsumi Kichido. The buildings were planned and constructed by Mr. Kiko Tosai, of Wakasa province, and Mr. Ito Hanyemon, of Awaji. Several of the artists that took part in the work are now dead. It is impossible to convey by words an adequate idea of the magnificence of the buildings. They must be seen to be appreciated. It is said that for the lotus flowers drawn by the late Kono Bairei on the screens at the back of the tabernacle set in the Daishi-do, the sum of 10,000 *yen* was paid.

EXTENSIVE FIRE IN CHINA-TOWN.

In the early hours of Tuesday morning a fire broke out in China Town, Yokohama, which resulted in the complete destruction of twenty-one houses. The alarm was given from the look-out tower at the Fire Brigade station at 2.45, and very quickly Superintendant Morgin and his men were proceeding towards the scene of the conflagration, No. 164, Honmura Road, with three hose-reels and standpipes, and one steamer. The fire, which had broken out in an upper-room of a Chinese restaurant known as the In Hong, had spread rapidly from the beginning, a stiff breeze urging the flames on, and by the time the Brigade got to the spot, the whole block standing on Lot 164 was doomed. This block consists of eight houses of the usual flimsy half-brick-thick order which prevails in and around this particular quarter of the town. No resistance could therefore be opposed to the flames, and soon they had swept across the road to the corner block, No. 192, which stands at the conjunction of Mayebashi-cho and Hakodate-cho. These thirteen houses likewise proved an easy prey. Notwithstanding the early hour, crowds of people were quickly assembled in the adjoining streets, causing no small inconvenience to the army of salvers who made desperate attempts to save a few of the goods and chattels belonging to the occupants of the burning houses. So quickly did the buildings burn that very little was saved. The police brigades lent efficient aid, and the supply of water was very plentiful, a deep well at No. 76 being brought into requisition along with the mains. At one period it looked very much as though the conflagration would spread to a disastrous extent, huge sparks and bits of burning wood being carried on the breeze all over the Creek-side districts and far up the Bluff, but happily they seem to have become speedily innocuous after falling. The houses, we are given to understand, are insured, though to what extent is not definitely known. As to the cause, several conjectures have been started, but the most probable hypothesis is that which ascribes the outbreak to the possible upsetting of a lamp by Chinese gamblers, though the Chinamen in the neighbourhood stoutly deny the allegation. The Brigade men were still playing water over the ruins as we went to press.

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THE LATE VISCOUNT KONO.

The late Viscount Kono was born in Kochi in 1844. His father was a retainer of the Lord of Tosa. From his youth he distinguished himself by loyalty, and upheld the cause of the Court in concert with those of the same view in the Tosa fief, he being the youngest of the party. In pre-Restoration days Tosa, like other fiefs, was disturbed by two hostile parties; one, composed of men in the higher ranks, who sided with the Shogunate; the other, consisting of lower *Samurai*, who earnestly espoused the cause of the Imperial Court. The antagonism between the two finally grew to open violence and one night a councillor of the *Han* was assassinated. Naturally, suspicion fell on the Imperialist Party, and Takeichi and others, its leaders, were arrested and either put to death or sentenced to commit *seppuku*. The Viscount, then only 18 years of age, was arrested, but, in consideration of his youth, his judges commuted his punishment by one degree, sentencing him to imprisonment for life. When he had endured the hardships of prison life for six years—a terribly severe ordeal in those days—the Shogunate was overthrown, and the Imperial Court restored to its ancient position of ascendency. This meant immediate liberation for Kono. After regaining his freedom, he remained for a while under the care of Mr. Goto Shojiro, now Count Goto, who acted at that time in the fief of Tosa as the leader and patron of youths adopting progressive views. The Viscount was very eager to go to Tokyo and to find a situation suited to his ability. With a letter of recommendation from his patron to Eto Shimpei, then Minister of Justice, he started for the capital, and succeeded in obtaining a position in that Department, where his uncommon ability soon made him conspicuous. Eto Shimpei devoted himself earnestly to the task of codifying the laws of the realm. It was while he presided over the Department of Justice that the new Criminal Code was compiled to take the place of the old penal code administered during the era of the Tokugawa Regency. To acquire knowledge for improving the laws of the land, Eto purposed travelling in Europe and America, but he never carried out that intention owing to causes familiar to all students of Japan's modern history. Kono, despatched in his stead, undertook the task of inspecting the legal institutions of Western countries. He was accompanied by the late Viscount Inouye Ki and Numa Shuichi, as well as by Messrs. Namura Taizo, now Chief Judge of the Supreme Court, and Masuda Kokutoku. It was on that occasion that the eminent French jurist, M. Boissonade, was engaged by the Japanese Government. When the Viscount returned home he found the Cabinet considerably disturbed over the Korean question. The Minister of the Department of Justice, Eto Shimpei, was among the most earnest advocates of sending a military expedition against the peninsular kingdom. Hence the reform of the laws and of the Judiciary was left entirely to the care of Mr. Kono, and he soon came to be regarded as the chief of Japanese jurists. About that time a very grave affair engrossed public attention, namely, the case of the celebrated Ozarusawa Copper Mine. It may be noted here that in opposition to all the Ministers of State of the time, Mr. Kono, then a Judge of only the 4th grade, inflexibly maintained the necessity of bringing up for trial every one connected with the Ozaruzawa affair, however high the rank and position of the incriminated persons, in order to assert the independence and uncorruptibility of the Judiciary, although it was then in a state of subordination to the Executive. When Eto Shimpei raised the standard of revolt in Saga, in 1874, Mr. Kono accompanied the late Okubo thither, and undertook the task of judging the rebels. In the discharge of this most trying duty he showed the strictest impartiality and the most rigid obedience to the dictates of justice, examining and subsequently sentencing to capital punishment the principal leader of this insurrection, his former patron or his friend and close friend. Next year, when the Senate came into existence, Mr. Kono was appointed a Senator, and soon afterwards became one of the two Managers (*Kanji*) of that now extinct institution. Viscount Mutsu, now Minister of State for Forign Affairs, was his partner, and the two were spoken of as the "two celebrities" of the Senate. In the Satsuma civil war, Mr. Kono again had to undertake the judicial part of the business, and on the restoration of peace he was appointed Vice-President of the Senate. In recognition of his services he was decorated, at the same time, with the 3rd class of the Order of the Rising Sun, and received also a reward of 500 *yen*. In 1880, he was appointed Minister of State for Education, from which post he was removed in the following year to a similar position in the Department of Agriculture and Commerce. The same year, conjointly with Count Okuma, then Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, he resigned the post and became President of the Tokyo Stock Exchange, being also appointed Vice-President of the Progressionist Party presided over by Count Okuma, though his connection with the Party was apparently more nominal than practical. In 1888, we find him again entering the Government as a Privy Councillor, from which position he was removed four years afterwards to be Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce. The year of high office that ensued was remarkable for Mr. Kono, since he held consecutively, in the short space of twelve months, no less than three portfolios, that of Agriculture and Commerce, that of Justice, and that of Home Affairs. Ill-health, however, compelled him to resign. In November of 1893, in consideration of his special services to the State, he was created a peer, the patent of Viscount being conferred on him. The sickness that proved fatal was inflammation of the spine, which developed serious symptoms in April of 1893. The deceased was a man of noble and independent mind and exceptional resolution. His ability was highly appreciated by the late Marquis Okubo, to whose special recommendation his rapid promotion was in part due.

COLONEL SATO.

Colonel Sato, whose death in Haicheng was recently announced, but who is now understood to be recovering from his wound, is widely known as one of the bravest and most skilful officers in the Japanese Army. It was he who, undergoing indescribable privations and hardships, led a body of troops from Gensan, and attacked the eastern face of Phyŏng-yang, breaking through the defences of the Gemmu Gate. His men, the now celebrated 18th (Toyohashi) Regiment, forded the upper course of the Yalu and routed the enemy entrenched at Hushan. The Regiment played an equally distinguished part in the battles of Haicheng, of Newchwang, and sundry other fights. It was the glory of the Colonel's corps that whenever a difficult operation had to be undertaken, the 18th was detached for the service.

Born in Hiroshima in 1846, the Colonel was the son of a retainer of the Lord of Aki. Like most other officers of his age and position, he took part in many of the battles fought in Japan during the 30 years that have elapsed since the War of the Restoration, when he fought on the Imperialist side. He highly distinguished himself in the civil wars of Hagi and Satsuma. On the occasion of the Satsuma rebellion, he commanded a company in Count Kuroda's column, which, landing at Yatsushiro, attacked the rebels in the rear. It is related that one day, completely wearied by exceptional fatigue and also by lack of food, Sato, then a captain, was lying by the road-side in a state of sheer exhaustion. A soldier happened to pass carrying a fowl. The famished officer got hold of the fowl, and having devoured a portion of it then and there, rushed once more into the thick of the battle. At that time, Sato, the late Major-General Odera, and another were reputed to be the three bravest young officers in the whole army. Colonel Sato never spared himself nor his troops in the matter of discipline. Indeed, his severe ideas of duty not infrequently brought him into collision with outsiders. In 1882, when serving as a Major in the Osaka Garrison, he was highly incensed at the treatment that the local Police extended to the soldiers, and after consultation with his commanding officer, he peremptorily demanded satisfaction from the police. The matter was settled with difficulty after repeated intercession by distinguished officials. Three years later, he was promoted to be a Lieut.-Colonel and appointed to the staff of the 2nd (Sendai) Division. The following year, while confined to bed by illness, he learned that certain staff exercises were about to be held, and such was his conception of an officer's obligations that he insisted upon tendering his resignation because he could not attend the exercises. He was, therefore, placed on the Retired List. Three years afterwards, he was again called out for active service and was appointed to the command of the Fukuoka Regiment. While he was in Fukuoka troubles arose between the Regiment and the high school, founded and patronized by Marquis Kuroda, ex-lord of the fief, and Colonel Sato enhanced his reputation by the tact shown by him on that occasion. In 1892, he was removed from Kumamoto to take command of the Toyohashi Regiment. One day he heard that the station master in Kakegama had behaved disrespectfully to his soldiers. Thereupon he ordered out a party of his men, surrounded the station, made the sappers hew down the pillars of the building, and then directed the infantry to batter down the edifice itself. These curious feats accomplished, he led his party back. In truth his conception of military honour and of the respect due to military men, amounted almost to fanaticism. It is said that when events in Korea became more and more threatening and a rupture between Japan and China seemed inevitable, Colonel Sato daily led his troops, by way of discipline, to the top of a mountain that stands some 17 miles away from Toyohashi. So steep and precipitous was the road that at first quite a number of the soldiers fell ill from the excessive strain and exhaustion of mounting it. Within a few weeks, however, they became inured to hardship, and were thus enabled to bear up against the privations that they underwent when traversing the mountains from Gensan to Phyŏng-yang.

PARTICULARS OF THE SEIZURE OF THE "YIKSANG."

Particulars of the seizure of the *Yiksang* by the *Tsukuba Kan*, I.J.N., for carrying contraband of war, are given as follow by the *Yomiuri*:—The *Tsukuba Kan* left Port Arthur on the 5th instant and reached Taku at dawn on the 7th. It had previously been the habit of the Japanese men-of-war to examine ships encountered along the northern coast of the Gulf of Pechili, but as the locality proved inconvenient for the purpose, it was subsequently determined to change the place to Taku, since ships are generally obliged to unload their cargo there. At first the *Tsukuba* anchored at a spot some 11 miles from the Taku forts, but gradually she approached the coast till the distance between her and the forts lessened to about 7 miles. There she inspected in turn all the ships that were moored there, without discovering anything suspicious. At noon next day, she met a steamer named the *Yiksang*, and as the latter did not present any particularly suspicious appearance she was inspected in the ordinary manner, the books first, and then the cargo. At 7 a.m. on the 9th, as the *Tsukuba* was going back to her moorings after having inspected a certain steamer, she saw the *Yiksang* discharging her cargo into a lighter. This was considered such a good opportunity for further examination of the nature of the cargo, that the *Tsukuba* steamed very close to the lighter. A number of suspicious-looking boxes was then found on nearer inspection among the [illegible] of

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scribed as "steel-bars," but as there was something very peculiar about them, one was broken open, when it was discovered that it contained ammunition for repeating rifles. When this was brought to light the captain of the lighter turned pale, and replied, when questioned, that the boxes came from the *Piksang*. Leaving three marines in the lighter, the *Tsukuba* then at once proceeded towards the *Piksang* and sent an armed party on board the steamer. The captain, who had denied having anything contraband when his ship was at first inspected, now admitted that the boxes had been carried by his steamer, but pleaded that he knew nothing about them, and had accepted them as boxes containing steel-bars. He maintained also that, according to international usage, he need not hold himself responsible for any cargo that was already discharged. Thereupon the officers caused the marines to thoroughly search the ship for any other contraband, when four other boxes of the same description and containing the same material were turned out, to the dismay of the captain. In the face of such incontestable evidence, the captain had nothing to say in his defence. He was easily compelled to submit to the orders of the Japanese man-of-war. The lighter was set free after her cargo had been confiscated, as she had evidently been unaware of the contents of the boxes. Two officers of the *Tsukuba* went on board the *Piksang*, accompanied by 2 warrant officers and 20 marines, and steered her toward Port Arthur, which was reached at noon of the 10th, some 7 hours in advance of the arrival of the *Tsukuba*. Of the crew five were Englishmen inclusive, of the captain, and the rest all Chinamen. The Captain is now undergoing examination at the Sasebo Prize Court.

TERRIBLE WHIRLWIND AND HAIL-STORM IN SAITAMA AND IBARAKI.

On the afternoon of the 19th and 20th inst., certain districts in Saitama and Ibaraki Prefectures were visited by a terrible whirlwind and hail-storm, killing several persons, wounding many others, and causing serious damage to buildings and crops. At about 2 p.m. on the 19th, the inhabitants of the town of Satte, Saitama Prefecture, saw in the north-western quarter of the sky a bank of ominous black clouds spreading over the heaven with extraordinary rapidity and travelling north-eastward. As soon as this cloud came over the old Tone river, it was observed to descend and then to draw the waters upward, lightning flashing and thunder pealing terribly all the while. Next moment hail-stones as big as the common stone used to strike fire in farmer's kitchens, fell, and day was turned for a short while into the darkness of night. The village of Shirooka suffered most from this unnatural weather. Five houses were destroyed and eight of their inhabitants wounded. One of them, an *enceinte* woman, was whirled upward some 20 feet, and fell down about 12 yards from the place, receiving injuries that produced unconsciousness. A similar atmospheric phenomenon visited the south Saitama district the next day but with far more terrible results. Three young girls, spinning yarn in the back-yard of a house in Harinuki village, were caught up by the whirlwind, and their bodies have not yet been discovered. A waggon drawn by a horse and attended by a man were also carried up, and the corpse of the driver alone was found afterwards in a pond far off. The village contained only 28 houses, but of these 15 were entirely wrecked, to say nothing of the damage that the crops and trees sustained. The damage to life and property in Ibaraki Prefecture by the whirlwind that visited it on the 18th and 19th was still more serious. From the account given in the *Official Gazette*, the figures are as follow:—Buildings entirely destroyed, 233; buildings partially destroyed, 33: persons killed, 7; persons wounded, 55.

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AN ELECTRIC RAILWAY BETWEEN TOKYO AND YOKOHAMA.

A scheme for laying an electric railway between Tokyo and Yokohama is now on the *tapis*. An application was forwarded on the 18th instant by Mr. Wakao Ippei and 19 other projectors, all business men of great influence in Tokyo and Yokohama. According to the scheme elaborated by these gentlemen, the construction of the rails is to be commenced in the vicinity of Shinsenza, Shiba, whence they will be stretched along the western side of the Tokyo-Yokohama railway as far as Gotenyama. From thence to Kanagawa the new railway will lie along the eastern side of the present Government line, and will terminate at Hanazakicho, Yokohama, after traversing Hiranuma Shinden. The distance measures 18 miles, and the rails will be double throughout the whole length. The cars used will be somewhat larger than those now employed by the Tokyo Tram-way company, and every 5 minutes a train, made up of one car of the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd grade each, will start. The velocity being 30 miles per hour, the distance will, it is believed, be covered in 35 to 40 minutes. A passenger will be allowed to alight at any place along the line, and consequently there will be no necessity to construct stations; still at such places as Kawasaki the construction of stations is deemed necessary. As to profit, it is said that if 9 passengers of the lowest grade and 3 passengers each of the two higher grades be assumed to ride in each train, and the number of trains per day be forty, between 6 a.m. to 11 p.m., a satisfactory financial result will be obtained by fixing the charge for a passenger of the lowest grade at 15 *sen*, and that a tolerable profit will be secured even if the fare be reduced to 10*sen*. The capital will be 2 million *yen*, to be divided into 40,000 shares of 50 *yen* each.

Thus, considered from every standpoint, the provision of such facilities of communication between the two cities is a matter to be earnestly desired, and the question is, will the scheme be practicable, not from an engineering, but from a legal, point of view, seeing that the Private Railway Regulations forbid the construction of any railway deemed unnecesary or calculated to injure the interest of railways already in existence.

The projectors naturally think that there is no valid reason to forbid the construction of an electric railway between Tokyo and Yokohama. The grounds they take are there:—

The provision in the Railway Regulations about the interests of other railways is in connection with railways of the same nature. But the Government railway and the line they propose to contruct are of a different sort. Moreover, the new project has the advantage in point of time, expense, and convenience over the old, and is in all respects a great improvement upon the system now in operation. It is natural that new and superior, mechanism should supersede old and inferior, and if on account of the existence of the latter the former can not be availed of, nothing could be more injurious to the promotion of public prosperity. Moreover, the Government railway is not limited to the interval between Tokyo and Yokohama, but extends farther south, its traffic between the two places being only a very small part of the whole business.

The construction of an electric railway between Tokyo and Yokohama is decidedly not unnecessary, seeing that it would confer so many benefits. Yokohama is, as it were, the postal of the Empire while Tokyo is its inner chamber; and now that the affairs of the country are to become extraordinarily active, no one can deny the necessity of introducing new and improved facilities of communication between the two most important cities of Japan.

On such grounds, the projectors press earnestly to have the scheme sanctioned by the authorities, and not only they, but also the public at large are equally eager to hear what the Government has to say on the subject.

We take the foregoing from the *Shogyo Shimpo*.

CHINESE NEWS.

There were doubts in Tientsin, two days after the signature of the Treaty of Peace at Shimonoseki, whether it would be ratified by the Court in Pekin. The telegram announcing this fact, adds that one of Japan's terms had been the opening of Pekin to foreign trade, but that the Chinese Plenipotentiaries had successfully resisted that demand.

"Philo-Sinensis," writing in the columns of the *North China Daily News*, says that a large class of Europeans, namely, the Roman Catholic Missionaries in China, are responsible for perpetuating the evil of foot-binding. These missionaries have about ten thousand orphan and abandoned girls under their charge, and as they desire ultimately to find Chinese husbands for their *protégés*, they bind the latter's feet. But "Philo-Sinensis" points out that these girls are always married to converts, and that, if a proper antipathy to the evil of foot-binding were educated among the converts, the unfortunate girls might be saved the suffering and inconvenience of having their feet cramped into deformities.

It seems that anti-foreign placards are again making their appearance in Shensi. Spring, with its blood-heating propensities, generally brings out such things. The placards are big things. One is described as 52 inches × 23 inches; another, as 46 inches × 22 inches. Some of the ideographs inscribed upon them will not bear translation in the columns of a civilized newspaper. Others run thus:—

1.—Foreigners are vile men; therefore boycott them or use any other strong measures for their extirpation.

2.—Be it known that it is both unpatriotic and unlawful to sell either land or property to foreigners; therefore in the day any one sinnest thereof he shall surely come to grief.

By order of the Gentry and Scholars.

Some excuse is urged on behalf of the Chinese, they are probably exasperated by the pertinacity of the Roman Catholic Missionaries, who are said to be "pursuing a very unwise course" in insisting on building a chapel on foreign architectural lines. British officials have emphatically advised that Chinese architecture should always be followed for buildings in the interior, but that wholesome counsel is not followed, we read, by the Catholics in Shensi, and they are consequently charged with endangering the peace and safety of the 40 foreigners resident in the province. We should like to hear what the Roman Catholic Missionaries themselves have to say on the subject.

The mistake made by Major Ishida in issuing an order that foreigners should not be allowed to go outside the gates of Yingkow, is severely commented on by the Newchwang (Yingkow) correspondent of the *North China Daily News*. We described the facts of the case in a recent article. Major Ishida was certainly wrong, not merely in issuing such an order, but also in attempting to enforce it against foreigners without previous reference to their Consuls.

The same correspondent says that when General Katsura advanced upon Newchwang he did not convey any notification to the Consuls, but merely wrote a letter to one of the missionaries. It is difficult to understand such a complaint. Yingkow was not occupied by General Katsura's troops but by those of General Yamaji. Be that as it may, however, what shall be said of the contention that the Commander of a Japanese Army is bound to notify foreigners living in a Chinese town of his intention to attack it? Granting that the Japanese General possessed means of communicating with the British Consul in Yingkow—a most uncertain hypothesis—was he under any obligation whatever to convey to the Consul information of plans that every commander seeks to conceal as far as possible? The supposition seems to us quite ludicrous. Our Shanghai contemporary's correspondent says that General Katsura; when advancing on Newchwang, was bound "in ordinary civility" to notify H.B.M's Consul. We should like to hear such a proposition advanced with regard to a Western General were he advancing against a Chinese

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town in which there happened to be a Japanese settlement. We should like to hear him charged with a breach of "ordinary civility" because he failed to notify the Japanese Consul of his army's movements. And we should like to hear his answer to such a charge. Warfare conducted by the Japanese with due deference to the rights that some foreigners believe themselves possessed of, would be the funniest kind of fighting imaginable.

"The opinion entertained by many foreigners that the bodies of the Chinese at Tienchwangtai were mutilated after death" is again put forward in correspondence from Newchwang. The correspondent adds further :—

Whether this was so or not, it is very certain that the order "no quarter" must have been given, and without being a sentimentalist, I must say that to pass such an order when engaged in fighting an enemy capable of presenting no determined resistance, furnishes us with a very sufficient standard by which to judge this army, formulated and disciplined, led and commanded on the most approved foreign lines of civilised warfare.

The whole question of the Tienchwangtai affair having been fully ventilated, and reduced to a possibility that a few of the wounded may have fallen victims to their own habit of shooting or stabbing at any Japanese approaching them, it would not be worth while to refer again to the matter did not the above correspondent declare it to be "very certain" that the order "no quarter" was given. It is quite obvious that nothing of the kind can be "very certain," and that the correspondent has allowed himself to be betrayed into a palpable extravagance. Field-Marshal Nodzu has officially and in the most emphatic terms denied that any killing of wounded Chinese at Tienchwangtai occurred, so far as is known to himself and his officers, and the telegraph says that both the original formulator of the charge and the journal (*N.-C. Daily News*) that circulated it, have formally withdrawn their accusation. We venture to surmise that if a Japanese newspaper correspondent ventured to characterise as "very certain" the hypothetical issue of such an order by the General of a European force under similar circumstances, there would be a loud and well deserved outcry against Japanese disregard for truth.

Here is a sentence really worth quoting from the correspondence columns of the *N.-C. Daily News* :—

My own idea—I advance it in all humanity—is that as long as foreigners are so foolish, so blind to the respect they owe themselves, as to treat the Oriental as a European, so long will the Oriental consider himself not only their equal but their superior, and the episode of the gate will be but the precursor of many similar absurd and annoying occurrences. To suppose that the antipathy to foreigners so cordially entertained and openly manifested some years ago by the Japanese has been totally eradicated is a mistake our home Ministers may, with their enlightened notions on things in the East, be pardoned and condoled with for falling into, but for any man who has lived even a short time amongst Orientals, to suppose that they are not imbued with the idea of their own importance as compared with the European, and that they have not a hearty contempt for the latter, restrained only by a very wholesome fear and a very thin veneer of civilisation, there is no excuse.

It is really wonderful that the writers of such views have not more capacity for analyzing the plain significance of their own assertions. Reduced to a brief compass the proposition laid down by the correspondent we have quoted is this :—So soon as foreigners are foolish enough not to show that they have a hearty contempt for the Japanese and that they count them far below Europeans, so soon will the Japanese be guilty of the unpardonable sin of entertaining a hearty contempt for Europeans and of counting them inferior to Japanese.

The *North China Daily News*, after describing, in a leading article glowingly phrased, Japan's achievements in the present war, writes thus :—

She has performed no insignificant feat, and led us to anticipate in her a virtual addition to the hitherto exclusive circle of Western policy. She has done all this, and created a picture in European colouring which, if not faultless, still challenges our approval, and then just as the final touches were to be given, has smeared the whole with gaudy Asiatic hues thereby defying its admittance to a Western gallery. Japan's latest act can only be described as a political *hara-kiri*. By one rash stroke she has stamped herself as Oriental after all, and prematurely admitted into the comity of nations. By the deliberate proposal of an offensive and defensive alliance with a corrupt and effete Asiatic power like China she has shown where her affinity really lies, and thrown off the mask of her affected Europeanisation and high moral desire for the benefit of mankind at large. Allowing that Japan originally undertook the war from natural and laudable motives of self-preservation, her proposal to unite herself with China retains its character of a direct and unmistakable challenge to the West, and she must expect the gauntlet to be picked up. As we have already remarked, by this last suicidal act, Japan has completely cut adrift European sympathy and scuttled the possibility of effecting that revolution in China's domestic economy of which she has talked so much.'

Is there no limit to the unreasoning credulity of foreign journalists in the East? Surely a moment's reflection should have shown to our Shanghai contemporary the inherent improbability, nay impossibility, of the mad policy attributed by him to Japan. Fancy Japan linking her fate for good or for evil with that of a country whose utter helplessness and effeteness she has herself demonstrated in the most thorough manner! Nothing short of a sudden access of vertigo could have betrayed Japanese statesmen into the course they are said to have pursued. If the conclusion of an offensive alliance between China and Japan be the only piece of false colouring in the brilliant picture that our Shanghai contemporary credits Japan with having painted by her conduct of the war, we beg to offer our most emphatic assurances that the picture is entirely without defect, for no such alliance exists outside the imagination of sensational newsmongers.

A correspondent—evidently well informed—of the leading Shanghai journal, writes about the recent accident at Woosung. After describing that the guns in the forts there are 40-ton muzzle-loading guns of 12-inch calibre, 25 feet long, fired by means of a percussion primer, the vent being axial, *i.e.* in the centre of the cascable screw, and that their ordinary full charge is 200-lbs. of prismatic powder, and the projectile weighs 800-lbs., he proceeds to say :—

It appears that in consequence of the gun not having been properly sponged out after firing, a cartridge exploded during reloading. In the loading position the gun is pointed into a loading gallery, communicating with which are the shell room and a small expense magazine. The effects of discharging 200-lbs. of prismatic powder without wad or projectile, into this gallery, the shell room, and magazine, can be imagined. But the effect of the explosion which inevitably followed have to be accounted for. The loading gallery is a chamber about 45ft. long, 9ft. high, and 6ft. wide in line with the bore of the gun when the latter is being loaded. The shell room and magazine are each about 10ft. square, and 9ft. high, and lead by separate openings out of one side of the loading gallery. The floor, walls, and roof of all are of Portland cement concrete, from 5ft. to 10ft. thick, and such seems to have been the strength of this concrete, that it withstood the shock of discharge of 2,000-lbs. of powder stated to have been stored in the magazine and shell room, and the loading gallery became a gigantic gun, the discharge from which appears to have blown the 40-ton gun off its mounting. Unfortunately the accident is attended with a sad loss of life, the result solely of carelessness or ignorance.

It is stated from Tientsin that, on the evening of the 8th instant, a clear moonlight night, "the Japanese ran in and lifted some of the torpedoes laid on and about the Taku bar, and out again, and no notice was taken of them from the forts. The incident is its own commentary."

The following is from the *Chefoo Express* :—

On Sunday the 7th inst. about 1,000 soldiers, under the command of General Yang Chen-K'wei, entered the city of Pingtu, and finding insufficient accomodation in the local inns, broke into the lock-uped premises of the American Baptist Mission, consisting of unfurnished Dispensary buildings, and chapel, situated on the principal street in the west suburb; and took possession of the place. Dr. Randle was immediately informed of this, by his native assistants, and went round to find the place full of soldiers. Picking out the wearer of a white button, he asked him why they were there. The man said they wanted the place for lodgement, and would go on next morning. The doctor told him, they were welcome to lodge there while passing through Pingtu, but that he objected to the way they had helped themselves to the accommodation. Then seeing two officers outside (probably of the rank of Captains), he explained to them that the buildings were at their disposal, but again stated his protest at the way they had gone in. Then he went on his way to Mr. Sears' house where Sunday services are temporarily held. As he passed along the streets, both people and soldiers shouted out "Beat the foreign devil," "Kill him, kill him." He took but little notice of this, thinking that it would amount to no more. But an evil crowd followed, the people seemed urging the soldiers on. Upon reaching the gateway leading to Mr. Sears' house, two soldiers rushed up and attempted to drag the doctor away. He was struck over the head with a sword, and knocked down; and upon attempting to rise (when only half up), he was struck down again by another sword-blow over the head. Dr. Randle knew the danger of being down, and was up again immediately, when he received a sword cut upon the palm of his left hand, which he had raised to defend his head, and was again tumbled over into the mud. They struck and kicked him while on the ground, and tried to hold him down, when feeling the situation was becoming serious he made an effort, rose, got loose, and ran into Mr. Sear's house. A less active man would certainly have fared much worse. The doctor's wounds bled freely, though they were not serious, as the weapons the men used were blunt short swords of ancient type.

The Chief Magistrate went to see Dr. Randle soon after the outrage, and has since done all in his power to make amends. The military authorities however totally ignored the whole thing, and went away from the city soon after they knew of the attack.

The Magistrate followed the General to Laishanfu, and on Tuesday the 9th inst. sent a messenger back to say that he had seen the General, who had told him that the men were identified, and would be severely punished.

"One who was there" is quoted by the *China Gazette* as telling the following story about Weihaiwei :—

After the Japanese had landed at Yungchen Hsien and captured three of the four forts defending the Eastern or Southern entrance to the harbour, orders were given by Admiral Ting to dismantle the remaining fort, so that the enemy could not use the guns against the fleet, after having captured the last fort, which was also the Torpedo Station. The commandant of the forts, on seeing the remaining guns being dismantled, telegraphed to Tientsin saying that he would have to retire owing to the action of Admiral Ting in causing the fort and Torpedo-Station guns to be disabled; he, the commandant of the forts could not be held responsible for the loss of the place, he was thereby deprived of the means of defence. Li Hung-chang, it is said, ordered the guns to be fully equipped immediately, and accordingly the whole of the gear was taken back to the fort, and the guns refitted before midnight. At 4 a.m., the Japanese occupied the fort very quietly, and it was with these very guns, 20 or 22 centimetre calibre, that the Chinese Fleet and the Island of Liu Kun-tao, were forced to surrender to them. Having possession of these guns, they kept the Chinese Fleet at a respectable distance, whilst they removed the boom and torpedoes from the fairway near the said forts, and thus let in two of their torpedo boats. One of these torpedo boats at night made a feint attack on the *Ting-yuen* drawing the fire of her machine guns, whilst advancing and retiring; meanwhile the other torpedo boat got close under the quarter of the *Ting-yuen* unperceived, and launched a torpedo which took immediate effect, then retired. Other ships were sunk by torpedoes from the Japanese boats, or by shells from the Chinese guns and forts. So ending the conflict.

This is a very pretty tale, but how the incidents described can have occurred we are at a loss to conceive. The four forts defending the eastern side of Weihaiwei harbour were all taken by the Japanese during the forenoon of the same day. How on earth could the interval between the capture of three of the forts and that

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of the fourth have sufficed for the series of events described above?

There appears to be terrible distress in Chihli owing to the floods of the past few years. Millions of people are said to be destitute, their miserable plight being rendered worse by the oppression of officials and soldiery.

The *North China Daily News* declares its belief that a treaty exists between China and Russia. It professes to have received information in that sense some considerable time back, but to have refrained from publishing it. The grounds of its belief, however, are not very conclusive, being nothing more than allegations. We quote:—

This undertaking has been privately known in Europe since the day when His Excellency Wang Sze-chung and his extensive suite left these shores on his ostensibly congratulatory visit to St. Petersburg with the Treaty with Russia in his pocket for ratification. The Chinese Ambassador left here in the French mail on 6th January, prior to to which date communication with Russia had been going on extensively, all the details of the Treaty having been arranged by wire. It will perhaps be remembered by those who suspected the nature of his visit sufficiently to watch His Excellency's movements, that the Ambassador was at some pains to render his visit to St. Petersburg as ambiguous as possible, if we may use such an expression, and endeavoured to make his errand really appear all that it purported to be. But whether from the apparent unnecessariliness of a special Ambassador being sent to the Russian Court, a Chinese Minister being at the capital already, or for other reasons of which we known nothing, the better informed of the London papers from time to time dropped a word or two which favoured the supposition that Wang Sze-chung's visit to St. Petersburg had a deeper import than appeared on the surface. A few days after the Ambassador's arrival, he was honoured with an audience by the Czar, and according to a telegraphic despatch received in Peking a few days later, the interview was of a very satisfactory nature, the Czar repeating the assurance of assistance to China for which the Treaty stipulated. The Czar is said to have not only assured Wang Sze-chung that when the time came Russia would take up the cudgels against Japan, but that he would use his influence to induce England to follow a like policy.

All this is very positive, but if such an understanding really existed it seems very singular that no attempt was made to give effect to it before China's plight became so hopeless. The Shanghai journal's theory is that China promised to cede to Russia certain territories in the Pamirs in return for the Czar's vague promise of interference; that China expected Russia to intervene much sooner, and that Russia did not intervene until now because she desired to allow the Japanese to conquer Manchuria before entering the arena herself, since she could then claim the territory on her own account after driving the Japanese out of it. In other words, Russia played a double game all round, and a most singular game at the same time. She waited until the Chinese had lost all their first-class fortresses and fleet, and had suffered such demoralizing defeats as to be quite useless to any ally; she waited also until the Japanese had gained a firm footing on the territory she coveted, and then she stepped forward to make an active ally of China and to expel the Japanese. Moreover, she entered into an agreement with China in consideration of a promise to receive a portion of the Pamirs, whereas her intention all the while was to rob China of Manchuria. We can not think quite so badly of Russia as all that, nor can we think that if she had really contemplated interference of the character alleged, she would have chosen her opportunity so badly.

"Official despatches received by some of the local Mandarins from Taipehfu," writes the *North China Daily News*, "report that there is excitement bordering on rebellion amongst the people of Formosa. This has been caused by the report that Formosa is to be ceded to Japan in perpetuity. The Governor of the island, T'ang Chin-ts'ün, has been called upon by innumerable deputations of the head citizens of Formosa, and the sentiments expressed by them were that the people were determined to fight for it even if the government should desert them, but at the same time they asked that the Governor should pray the Emperor not to ratify such a treaty with Japan."

"The local authorities in Pekin, says the *Pekin and Tientsin Times*, "are showing unusual activity in suppressing gambling establishments and opium dens. This movement is said to originate with the Emperor, who desires to clear the city of these undesirable elements. As usual, however, with such reform movements in Pekin, this good purpose of the Emperor only gives an opportunity to the subordinate officials to squeeze the sinners to the last extreme, and then leave them to go on with their accustomed work. One man was mulcted a thousand taels, 400 taels going to his examining officer in the Board of Punishments. Unfortunately, the big sinners are more liable to escape the law than the small ones. The gambling or opium dens that are safely sheltered under the wing of a Duke, Marquis, or other scion of hereditary aristocracy, go free, the officials not daring to intrude. For this protection and the use of his building the lord of the mansion is paid from one to two taels per day. With many of them, this is their chief source of income."

The *North China Daily News* continues to place faith in the rumour of an offensive and defensive alliance between Japan and China, and writes of it as Japan's greatest mistake in the present war. We should have supposed that by this time the *canard* was completely dispelled, but some falsehoods die hard. Our Shanghai contemporary thinks that China would not have the same motives as Japan for concealing such an alliance, did it exist, and that, consequently, the Chinese reports of the fact may be accepted as trustworthy. We do not appreciate the argument. If the Chinese Government hopes to save its face before the nation by proclaiming that it has thrown in its lot definitely with the people that were to be "rooted from their lairs," according to the Emperor's original proclamation, it must have greatly changed its estimate of its subjects' mood. We could understand an endeavour on the part of Chinese statesmen to persuade the people that Japan had been allowed to absorb some unimportant outlying portions of the empire, or even that a sum of money had been paid to her by way of solatium for her sufferings in the war. But to proclaim that the issue of the long fight has been to establish a partnership for good or evil between the men of the Middle Kingdom and the despised Wojen, is a step from which we should have expected Chinese officialdom to shrink, unless, indeed, the idea be to pretend that, as a special act of gracious patronage, China has agreed to take Japan under her protecting wing.

The *Chefoo Express* of April 22nd writes:—

The *Marie* returned yesterday from a cruise, and reports the following from the places she has visited. Liukungtao is being rapidly cleared by the Japanese, all guns and ammunition are taken away to Japan, seemingly with great haste. The houses formerly occupied by the foreigners are inhabited by Japanese coolies, several of the houses are standing empty and from these all the furniture has been taken out and burnt. In Talienwan the cholera is raging, about 150 are said to have died from the effects of the disease. There were 56 transports anchored in Talienwan Bay, the greater part of them with troops, who have been on board since they left Japan four weeks ago. The highest in command of the Japanese Army and Navy, Prince Komatsu, with his staff arrived at Port Arthur on the 7th inst. by the *Ikai Maru*, on which ship he remains for the present. From Port Arthur also all guns and ammunition are being removed to Japan. The Japanese squadron left that port on the 19th; among the ships were the *Idzumi Kan*, late *Esmeralda* (Chile) and the torpedo-catcher *Taisuta Kan*, which latter vessel is said to have arrived from England in March. The *Chenyuen* was still in dock, and as there is lack of workmen the repairs of the ship will not be finished for another two months. She has a hole 83 feet in length on her backboard side close to the keel, running from midships forward. The bottom plates aft are dented and leaking. On the starboard side she has only got a few small holes. There are no cases of cholera at Port Arthur.

We question the correctness of this statement so far as concerns the dismantling of Port Arthur and Liukungtao.

Mr. Y. D. Luk, a Chinaman, writes this in the *N.-C. Daily News*:—

What is the use of binding the feet? This question it answered by saying that its purpose is the same as "waist-tightening" amongst the European ladies. Do you tighten the waist for comfort? No. Is it to make one look taller or shorter? No. Then what is it for? It is for beauty. It is to catch the eyes of men. So is footbinding. They are both for the benefit of man. Footbinding does not do as much harm as waist-tightening. The former only crushes the metatarsal bones (which is very painful) which cannot be so injurious to the body as the latter, which displaces the vital organs, that they cannot perform their proper functions. I have heard of people who have met their deaths by waist-tightening, but not by footbinding. When so many medical men have written against the harm of waist-tightening, and have not succeeded, how much more then can a number of European ladies think to succeed in putting a stop to this very ancient custom of ours? There are now many medical ladies, why do they not first begin to loosen their waists? They must surely know the effect upon the organs of their body. It would be as useless for a number of our Chinese women to start a Society against waist-tightening, as a number of European ladies would against footbinding. You enlightened Christian ladies, should begin at home by forming at Anti-waist-tightening Society, then we Chinese may perhaps follow your good example.

My hearty wishes with you in the success of your work. I, for one, wish footbinding would go out of China. My heart aches to see the poor girls crying, but it is no use to cry over spilt milk.

We think it right to reproduce the following article from the *N.-C. Daily News*, and would call our Japanese readers' attention to the fact that the article is based on information furnished by a British naval officer:—

No doubt that during the excitement of war and the changes brought about by the advance of a victorious enemy, the residents of Yingkow were led to jump to hasty conclusions about circumstances taking place around them, and our correspondents sent us the accounts of certain events judged from their point of view, which they no doubt honestly thought were correct, but as certain charges was made against the Japanese and were published by us in good faith, it is but right that we should give another side of the question. A British naval officer who has recently arrived from Newchwang has given us an explanation of some of the circumstances recorded, which in common fairness we are bound to make public, especially as coming from a professional man who has had experience of warfare, and who would not be biassed in opinion by private interests, which might unconsciously influence those whose occupation would be affected by the startling changes which occurred.

It is asserted that the Japanese would have avoided Yingkow altogether had not the Chinese insisted on making it their base of operations, probably influenced by the supposition that the Japanese would not advance against any place where foreigners resided, so the Japanese were forced to drive the Chinese out of the place, and according to our informant they did so in such a way as to give no cause of offence to the foreign residents, and were in every way particularly careful that no injury should be inflicted on foreign property and that no danger to foreign life should be incurred that could possibly be avoided. So, when the advance was made on Yingkow, the Japanese remained drawn up outside the Settlement and allowed the Chinese to flee across the river towards Tiuchwangtai, and it was only when they perceived that the Chinese were getting a battery into position to shell the Japanese position that their troops were sent across the river to fire a few volleys at a long distance against the body of Chinese without any serious attempt to engage them, which was quite sufficient to drive them away from the neighbourhood in hurried flight.

Our informant points out how careful the Japanese were to avoid drawing on the Settlement the Chinese fire from the fort lying to the southward, as they did not advance against it from the Settlement, which would have been the most convenient and direct approach to it, but they made a detour to the eastward, so that shots fired from the fort against the attack would in no way endanger foreign lives or property, and they finally retired from the attack with the expectation that the Chinese would evacuate the fort during the night, which turned out to be the case.

When the Japanese were in possession of Yingkow our informant says their conduct was admirable, and that it was possible to avoid

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friction with foreigners, and moreover were very serviceable in preventing looting by the Chinese which was commenced within the Settlement on the very first opportunity, and which foreigners themselves were powerless to repress. The Japanese certainly attempted to take possession of the Custom House, but as the orders given from head-quarters were that all Chinese public buildings were to be seized, it was not unreasonable that the officer in command of the troops should conclude that the Customs, where the Chinese flag was flown usually, formed one of them, but when the proper explanation was made and understood that the premises belonged to a British subject, the troops were withdrawn from the place and no attempt was made to enter the compound.

It was true that for a short time foreigners were restrained from going outside the Settlement, but we are informed that this was merely because certain residents went out shooting contrary to advice, and a persistence in such course of action might have led to serious complications, which the Japanese were anxious to avoid. The one mistake the Japanese made was in not officially informing the Consul that they found it necessary to give instructions to the sentries to prevent foreigners passing out of the Settlement, instead of leaving the residents to find this out for themselves, and this was no doubt the cause of ill feeling which might have been avoided. But in every way, our informant asserts, the Japanese were most anxious that foreigners should not run into any danger, and if this were really the case it shows a consideration on their part which was, under the circumstances, highly commendable.

Our informant visited the field of battle at Tienchwangtai, and after close inspection failed to find any Chinese bodies except one which showed signs of mutilation, and experience in warfare enabled him to judge how those who had fallen came by their deaths; and in no case but one was anything unusual observed. The one body which showed signs of wounds inflicted under exceptional circumstances might have been that of a suicide, and there appeared to be no other reasonable way of accounting for its condition. As a severe blizzard raged for two days immediately after the fight, it is quite possible that any wounded who were left on the field fell victims to the weather, and those wounded who were capable of escaping would naturally flee westward and not towards the Settlement, which would be quite sufficient to account for the fact that the residents of Yingkow did not come across any of them.

The fact must not be overlooked that war is not a pastime, and that as conquerors the Japanese had a perfect right to take what repressive measures they thought fit, no matter how disagreeable it may have been to the foreign residents of Yingkow, so the credit should certainly be given them of having, on the whole, behaved with singular moderation.

The latest story circulated in China is to the effect that some of the Japanese war-ships in the Pescadores have been captured by the Chinese, or rather blown up. The thing was accomplished by means of divers, who swam out carrying explosives, dived under the doomed ships and blew them up!

The canards emanating from Chinese sources with reference to fighting near Liaoyang, and reported defeats of the Japanese are still circulated. We find the following in the leading Shanghai journal:—

Shortly after the agreement upon the recent armistice we published in these columns several telegrams from Shanhaikwan, etc., as being from Chinese sources, reporting that fighting had been going on between Chinese and Japanese in the vicinity of Liaoyang in spite of the truce. Despatches from Moukden and Liaoyang have now been received by the local mandarins professing to confirm this news. It is stated that hostilities commenced on the 2nd inst. owing to the Japanese endeavouring to take a certain eminence commanding the city of Liaoyang, but which happened to have been already held by two battalions of Chinese militia under the command of the subprefect of the city. The enemy were eventually compelled to abandon their design, but not until after nine days of incessant skirmishing and assaults. Generals I-kō-tang-a and T'ang Jeu-lien, aided by auxiliaries composed of the brigade of ex-bandit Han Pien-wei and the militia of the prefect, Hsü, hold the city and environs of Liaoyang, and from last accounts (13th April), are posted stronger than ever there.

It is plain that these tales are entirely baseless, as upon April the 2nd that Major Aoki, accompanied by a Chinese Official and a Japanese interpreter, attempted to open communications with General I, in accordance with the terms of the Armistice. We have it on the authority of *The Times* correspondent that no fighting or skirmishing of any kind took place in the early days of April between the Japanese-Chinese forces near Liaoyang, and it really seems as though the stories re-produced above had no better foundation than the fact that by firing treacherously on a party of three men carrying a flag of truce, General I's troops compelled them to beat a retreat.

Two Honan men, arrested on a charge of purchasing rifles from the soldiers and subjected to examination by torture, confessed that they belonged to the *Kolao-hui*, and that a great number of the latter, distributed in Wuchang, Hanyang, and Hankow, had planned a rising to take place on the 21st and 22nd of April. It is suspected that the affair was trumped up in order that the local officials, who took steps to anticipate the *émeute*, might gain a reputation for vigilance.

Dr. Nevino has published a book on the subject of demon possession in China. The gist of the author's conclusions is contained in the following:—

1.—Certain abnormal physical and mental phenomena, such as have been witnessed in all ages, and among all nations and attributed to possession by demons, are of frequent occurrence in China and other nations, have been generally referred to the same cause.

2.—The supposed demoniac at the time of possession passes into an abnormal state the character of which varies indefinitely, being marked by depression and melancholy; or vacancy and stupidity amounting sometimes almost to idiocy, or it may be that he becomes ecstatic, or ferocious and malignant.

3.—During transition from the normal to the abnormal state, the subject is often thrown into paroxysms more or less violent, during which he sometimes falls on the ground senseless, or foams at the mouth presenting symptoms similiar to those epilepsy or hysteria.

4.—The intervals between these attacks vary indefinitely from hours to months, and during these intervals the physical and mental condition of the subject may be in every respect healthy and normal. The duration of the abnormal states varies from a few minutes to several days. The attacks are sometimes mild, and sometimes violent. If frequent and violent the physical health suffers.

5.—During the transition period the subject often retains more or less of his normal consciousness. The violence of the paroxysms is increased if the patient struggles against and endeavours to repress the abnormal symptoms; when he yield himself to them, the violence of the paroxysm abates or ceases altogether.

6.—When normal consciousness is restored after one of these attacks, the subject is entirely ignorant of everything which has passed during that state.

7.—The most striking characteristic of these cases is that the subject evidences another personality and the normal personality is for the time being partially or wholly dormant.

8.—The new personality presents traits of character utterly different from those which really belong to the subject in his normal state, and this change of character is with rare exceptions in the direction of moral obliquity and impurity.

9.—Many persons while "demon-possessed" give evidence of knowledge which can not be accounted for in ordinary ways. They often appear to know of the Lord Jesus Christ as a divine person, and show an aversion to and fear of Him. They sometimes converse in foreign languages of which in their normal states they are entirely ignorant.

10.—There are often heard, in connection with "demon-possessions," cappings and noises in places where no physical cause for them can be found; and tables, chairs, crockery and the like are moved about without, so far as can be discovered, any application of physical force, exactly as we are told is the case among spiritualists.

Many cases of "demon-possession" have been cured by prayer to Christ, or in his name, some with difficulty, so far as we have been able to discover. This method of cure has not failed in any case, however, stubborn and long continued, in which it has been tried. And in no instance, so far as appears, has the malady returned, if the subject has become a Christian, and continued to lead a Christian life.

NEW ADDITIONS TO JAPANESE SHIPPING.

From June last to March of this year, writes the *Jiji*, the total registered tonnage of steamers, either newly built or bought from foreign countries, amounts to 78,071.67 tons, which corresponds with 123,111.55 tons burden. Of these, the steamers owned by either the Navy or Army aggregate 26,947.87 tons register and 41,334.35 tons burden. Here is the list of the ships newly acquired:—

Name.	Burden tons.	Register tons.
Nanyetsu Maru	1,325.80	821.09
Juitsu Maru	90.42	48.82
No. 1 Niigata Maru	111.78	62.23
Otaru Maru	2,374.30	1,507.44
Ogura Maru	2,385.38	1,567.83
Fusan Maru	2,362.00	1,541.00
Taihei Maru	371.86	230.55
Sakura Maru	2,818.99	1,827.45
Izumi Maru	3,224.84	1,999.40
Shin Denshin Maru	164.64	94.32
Iburi Maru	2,520.78	1,562.88
Himeji Maru	3,008.00	1,940.08
Sunagata Maru	30.14	17.71
Nanahyu Maru	179.39	111.23
Fukuoka Maru	2,538.38	1,662.90
Saiyo Maru	78.63	42.64
No. 3 Matsuzaki Maru	30.38	16.41
Shinshyu Maru	2,838.63	1,577.08
Ushina Maru	2,375.69	1,496.32
Shibata Maru	2,690.35	1,714.35
Matsuyama Maru	2,958.69	1,934.03
Toyohashi Maru	2,878.92	1,870.54
Sanyu Maru	588.21	364.69
Soya Maru	1,725.63	1,069.89
Kocho Maru	80.59	43.33
Yedo Maru	1,723.38	1,068.50
Doyo Maru	2,131.28	1,321.39
Otaru Maru	165.71	94.97
Kinryu Maru	45.42	24.52
Tatsutagawa Maru	408.31	253.15
No. 4 Hijikawa Maru	353.04	218.85
Yamaguchi Maru	3,033.67	1,910.70
No. 2 Shoju Maru	47.83	25.83
Yamato Maru	3,067.03	1,656.20
Oyo Maru	1,892.20	1,173.17
Tateyama Maru	2,162.20	1,340.57
Kagoshima Maru	4,139.81	2,652.48
Konoura Maru	2,271.33	1,408.22
Koko Maru	542.78	336.52
No. 11 Kwanon Maru	428.49	265.66
Kiushu Maru	3,595.67	2,312.18
No. 8 Doshin Maru	152.53	94.57
Shinyu Maru	3,367.77	1,835.11
Genkai Maru	52.15	28.16
Tsun Maru	174.26	94.53
Tamahime Maru	2,285.14	1,718.93
Hokoku Maru	2,698.11	1,672.82
Ryozun Maru	4,670.50	3,010.58
Tosa Maru	5,789.43	3,589.44
Hotoku Maru	1,448.12	897.83
Horai Maru	196.80	122.01
Seiho Maru	1,595.40	989.15
Koki Maru	55.01	29.71
No. 2 Shiominato Maru	180.19	97.30
Kushima Maru	65.21	35.64
Hokkoku Maru	56.80	35.21
Takenoura Maru	2,054.91	1,274.05
Nara Maru	2,519.46	1,562.06
No. 9 Doshin Maru	96.31	59.71
Nisshin Maru	169.86	92.78
Hiwomaru Maru	1,481.65	1,083.27
No. 3 Aioi Maru	109.42	63.28
Izanagi Maru	436.06	270.36
Kinshu Maru	362.20	224.57
Fukui Maru	2,928.54	1,815.70
Ninsen Maru	2,311.94	1,433.40
Yeijyo Maru	2,474.57	1,534.24
Talien Maru	2,882.84	1,791.70
Kaijyo Maru	3,231.48	1,828.58
Ikai Maru	3,076.03	1,907.14
Zuiken Maru	48.73	26.32
No. 11 Kwanon Maru	2,176.05	1,606.64
Shiganoura Maru	2,212.34	1,616.48
Yubari Maru	31.25	16.87
Moji Maru	2,111.05	1,569.71
Sankai Maru	870.08	661.32
Hakusan Maru	2,936.94	2,193.47
Total	123,011.55	78,071.67

TELEGRAPHIC information has been received to the effect that the steamer *Melbourne*, bringing the next French mail, had fire on board at Saigon and is delayed there. Passengers and mails are being brought by the Comp[illegible] steamer *La Manche* to Hongkong, where [illegible]

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FOREIGN INTERFERENCE BETWEEN JAPAN AND CHINA.

THH *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, referring to Reuter's recent telegram that Russia, Germany, and France have combined to oppose the acquisition of territory by Japan on the continent of Asia, writes a temperate but dignified article, to the effect that the three Powers in question having no common interests to protect in the Far East, the joint action attributed to them could scarcely be reconciled with any principle of international justice, and that, under any circumstances, Japan, guided by what is fairly her due, must pursue her path without fear or hesitation, not soliciting unwilling assistance or dreading unwarranted interference.

So numerous are the rumours recently circulated, and so obviously baseless have they been in almost every case, that we have shrunk from the task of attempting to refute them, trusting that public intelligence would not fail to discriminate between the extravagances of sensational newsmongers and the proceedings of prudent statesmen. It must be obvious to every thoughtful person that all title to credence is at once forfeited by writers blind enough to believe, for example, the extremely silly canard of an offensive and defensive alliance between Japan and China; a canard upon which columns of journalistic comment have been expended. The commonest exercise of reflection should protect the public against being worried by dissertations on such impossibilities. But we cannot dismiss the latest rumour as incredible, neither can we entirely follow the reasoning of the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* on the subject. The motives underlying the actions of European Powers in the Orient will often be overlooked if we seek for them only in the Orient. Russia's case, indeed, seems simple enough. It cannot be pretended, of course, that the acquisition of the Liaotung Peninsula by Japan directly concerns the great Northern Power in the smallest degree. By a delicate chain of indirect hypotheses Russia could profess to persuade herself that, in some dimly remote future, her own southward growth or Japan's northward expansion might involve mutual contact in Manchuria. But such an extremely tenuous contention could never be magnified into a solid plea for armed intervention between China and Japan at the present juncture. Russia's real position is much less recondite. In Europe and in Asia alike she is urged by the same desire—the desire of finding a southern outlet. It is a perfectly natural desire, and among Englishmen a sentiment is growing that to hold such a purpose in forced check is unreasonable and therefore unwarrantable. But Great Britain's policy has been inflexible in this matter. She has always striven to keep Russia back, not because she entertains any chronic jealousy of another Power's development, but because, owing to Russia's illiberal commercial policy, every extension of her sway signifies a corresponding shrinkage of British trade. In the Far East the route of Russia's southward growth lies through China and Korea, and it therefore conduces best to her interests that neither of those States should develop strength to offer a serious barrier to her progress. On the other hand, nothing could be less unwelcome to her than the interposition of a strong and warlike Power between her present restricted frontiers and the natural goal of her expansion. Hence Japan, as she has now shown herself, is an apparition that Russia would fain exorcise. Japan, stretching one arm into Korea and placing the tips of the other hand's fingers upon southern Manchuria, might one day present a rigid barrier to Russia's southward march, and although that southward march may be still a remote contingency, it must be included in the calculations of far-seeing statesmen. Hence it is easy to conceive a Russian motive for attempting to upset the recently concluded Chino-Japanese Treaty. We do not pretend to find fault with her attempt. Nothing seems to us more contemptible than the too constant habit of railing against Russian aggression, while every European Power exhibits precisely the same tendency, if only opportunity offers. A different explanation suggests itself for Germany's cō-operation, if it be true that she is cō-operating. The policy inaugurated at Berlin by Prince BISMARCK did not change with his retirement from office. It remains to this day the aim of German statesmen to transfer the drama of European dissensions to an Oriental stage. So long as Russia's attention is diverted to Constantinople or to the Far East, her influence on the European problem loses much of its inconvenience for Germany. We have no difficulty, therefore, in imagining that the latter Power might act in concert with the former at the present crisis, not because the terms obtained by Japan from China have the least practical interest on their own account for Germany, but because it suits the purpose of the statesmen in Berlin to find occupation for Russia in these remote regions. France, on the other hand, may be influenced by her *entente* with Russia, and may also be attracted by the idea of softening the bitterness of her relations with Germany by rowing in the same boat with her under whatever circumstances. It is, of course, within the competence of the Cabinet in Paris to devise a plea for interfering between Japan and the acquisition of Formosa, but as to the inclusion of the Liaotung Peninsula among Japan's possessions, no exercise of diplomatic ingenuity could establish a connection between that event and French interests.

The considerations set down here dispose us to differ from the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun's* conclusion that no intelligible reasons exist for a combination of Russia, Germany, and France at the present crisis of Far Eastern affairs. But although the influence of the three Powers might possibly be exerted so as to save China from some of the consequences of her defeat, nobody can imagine for an instant that any one of the three would raise a finger in China's defence for China's sake. We need not elaborate that point. Such procedure as the telegraph assigns to Russia, France, and Germany, could not mislead China in the smallest degree, and would furnish to Japan a useful object lesson as to the value set upon her friendship and the regard paid to her legitimate claims by certain Governments. We do not, for our own part, imagine that the issue of such a combination would be to soften the situation in any respect for China. Its consequence would be merely to divert a portion of the *spolia belli* from the Power to which they belong by right of conquest to a Power not yet prepared to acquire them in that manner. But whatever may be the result, there can be no question about Great Britain's interests. It has recently pleased some of our countrymen in the East to represent the sudden growth of Japan's national stature as a menace to England, and to gird at the statesmen in Downing-street because they have not interfered to check this unlooked for development of an Oriental Power. They fail to perceive that the interests of Great Britain and Japan are convergent, and that though petty misunderstandings may momentarily separate the two, the inevitable trend of events must ultimately force their feet into the same path. Whatever Russia gains at this crisis will certainly not be to England's advantage, and whatever strength Japan acquires will certainly not facilitate Russia's exit southward. A wise discretion, therefore, has induced Great Britain to stand aloof from the combination now said to threaten Japan. The fact may well be commended to the consideration not only of the Japanese themselves, but also of the British journalistic agitators whose jealousy of Japan effectually blinds them to the true interests of their own country.

YINGKOW.

THE Japanese occupation of Yingkow has given rise to some interesting questions not unlikely to evoke public comment hereafter. The first relates to the tenure of the land and buildings in occupation by the Chinese Imperial Customs. Very soon after the Japanese troops entered Yingkow, the former matter came into prominence. Acting under orders from the General commanding the army of occupation, a Japanese officer proceeded

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to the Custom House and informed the Commissioner of Customs, Mr. HUGHES, that he had received instructions to place a guard over it for purposes of protection. To this Mr. HUGHES replied that no guard was required. Subsequently an interview took place between H.B.M.'s Consul and the officer in command of the town, with the result that the idea of posting a guard was abandoned. The matter did not rest there, however. On the evening of March 10th, the British Consul, Mr. HOSIE, and the Commissioner of Customs, were informed by a Japanese officer that he had been ordered to take possession of the Customs buildings and hoist the Japanese flag there. Mr. HUGHES objected. He said that the land on which the Custom House stood was leased to a foreigner and that the buildings themselves were foreign property. In this contention he seems to have been supported by the Consul. At all events, the latter intimated that the question was too delicate to be summarily disposed of, and in deference to these objections the Japanese officer agreed to suspend action pending fuller inquiry. That evening, Mr. HOSIE wrote to Field-Marshal NODZU, asking that, in view of the peculiar nature of the case, an officer be sent to receive explanations. In response to this request, Lieut.-Colonel FUKUSHIMA, Civil Administrator of the Districts conquered by the First Army, waited upon Mr. HOSIE, and received from him a statement of the arguments bearing on the question, as set forth in a despatch addressed by the Commissioner of Customs to the Consul. Briefly speaking, the exposition given was this:—The land and the buildings occupied by the officials of the Chinese Imperial Maritime Customs in Yingkow were in foreign possession and had been paid for with foreign money, no portion of them having ever been given or lent as Chinese State property by the Chinese Government. From the date of its establishment, the Chinese Customs Service has been conducted in accordance with a clearly defined arrangement. In consideration of discharging the duties of superintending the foreign customs and collecting customs dues, a fixed periodical remuneration is paid by the Chinese Government, out of which the Commissioners of Customs, without any reference whatever to the Chinese Government, provide themselves not only with suitable buildings for residence and offices for the discharge of duties, but also with guards for purposes of protection. In consequence of this arrangement, the lands on which Customs edifices stand have been acquired in perpetual lease in the same manner as land occupied by foreigners generally in China for houses and stores, and the offices themselves have been erected without any Chinese official intervention, posal of the foreign Inspector-General of Customs. The despatch in which Mr. HUGHES set forth the above facts, went on to say that so soon as Yingkow passed into Japanese possession, he, of course, ceased to exercise his former functions in connection with the Customs, and he became, in common with the staff of his office, simply a foreigner residing in foreign premises, and entitled to the same protection from his Government as that enjoyed by any other foreigner. On receiving this explanation, Lieut.-Colonel FUKUSHIMA said that Field-Marshal NODSU'S orders has been issued on the supposition that the Customs buildings were Government property, and that he regretted the trouble caused and the misunderstanding that had arisen. There the matter seems to have ended, but the point is peculiar, and in view of the fact that Japanese journals have found fault with the removal of the Japanese guard from the Custom House, it is well that the exact circumstances should be known.

We may here take the opportunity of referring to another matter that seems to have caused some friction at Yingkow. When the Japanese took possession of the place, Field-Marshal NODZU issued instructions to the effect that it was inexpedient for foreigners to go far from the town. There were apparently two motives for this order, so far as we can learn. One was that the Japanese desired to preserve secrecy as to their military movements; the other, and principal reason, that they were anxious for the safety of foreigners in the then disordered state of the country. For some time, however, the instruction remained a dead letter: foreigners came and went at will. By and by, however, the officer commanding the U.S.S. *Petrel* made application for a pass to visit Field-Marshal NODZU at Kaokan. This was refused, as was also the application of a party of foreigners, desiring to shoot in the neighbourhood of the same place. The shooting expedition took place none the less, and its members were treated with perfect courtesy by any Japanese soldiers they encountered. After their return, however, Major ISHIDA, commandant of the town, acting on his own interpretation of Field-Marshal NODZU'S general instructions, issued orders to the sentries that no foreigners be suffered to pass outside the gates. This, of course, led to trouble. The British Consul quickly interfered, pointing out that, under any circumstances, a notification of the intention to imprison foreigners in the town should have been conveyed to him in the first instance, and requesting that telegraphic inquiries be addressed to the Field-Marshal to ascertain whether his instructions had been properly interpreted. The result was that the prohibition was withdrawn four days later, Major ISHIDA explaining that he had misunderstood Field-

THE SITUATION.

THERE appeared in *The Times* of the 13th ult. a leading article of which we give an epitome elsewhere. Its gist is that, according to the recognised principles of international law and the customs of civilized nations, no Power is entitled to interfere in the peace arrangements made by two belligerent States, unless it has borne a part in the risks and charges of the struggle, or unless its interests are directly threatened by the proposed terms. Such a proposition admits of no question, and recognising its justice, Great Britain has decided to stand aloof from the combination of Powers now understood to be interfering between Japan and China. We explained in our last issue the motives evidently prompting the action of the three Powers that form the combination, and it may now be interesting to consider how far those motives consist with the principle enunciated by the leading English journal and evidently recognised by the British Government.

The considerations influencing Russia are of two kinds. There is the comparatively remote contingency that at some future date her own southward expansion may follow the routes of Manchuria and Korea, and that the effective independence of the latter or the competent resistance of the former would, in that event, be extremely inconvenient. From this point of view it is plainly in Russia's interest that the helpless, effete condition into which both Korea and Manchuria have fallen under Chinese rule or influence should be perpetuated. No troublesome local barriers to her future growth would then present themselves. That such a prospect might be taken into account by far-seeing statesmen admits of no doubt. But it could not possibly appeal to other Powers, or find a place in any basis of inter-state combination. A great and growing country may take thought for the contingencies, however remote, of its own aggrandisement, but it can not, with any pretence of reason, invite other countries to aid it in providing for such contingencies. Considerations of this nature evidently had no influence in bringing the three Powers into line.

There is one direction, however, in which Russia, with much show of justice, may claim that her interests are involved: she may seek to secure the independence of Korea; or, at any rate, to provide that the absorption of the peninsula by some powerful State shall not place the latter on her own borders. The question then arises, is the independence of Korea threatened by the terms of peace arranged at Shimonoseki? From a geographical point of view the answer may be affirmative. The neck of the Liaotung Peninsula

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coast-line of the Yellow Sea, and stretches some thirty miles up the bank of the Yalu River. It may possibly be contended that Korea, touched at its north-western corner by Japanese territory, could not hope to remain independent. But such a plea could have no validity except on the hypothesis that Japan is wholly untrustworthy. This war was avowedly undertaken by her to secure the independence of Korea. She set out to achieve that object, first, by eliminating China's interference in the affairs of the peninsular Kingdom; secondly, by leading Korea into the path of progress, to the end that the development of the little State's resources and the reform of its administrative system might endow it with competence to be self-protecting. Hence, at the head of the terms exacted from China after her defeat stands her unequivocal recognition of Korea's independence, and in Korea itself Japan is working to introduce Western civilization. In a word, Japan has openly fought for Korea's independence; has pledged herself before the world to secure that independence, and has exacted from her adversary a solemn promise to respect it. What is more, the limits of the neck of the Liaotung Peninsula were fixed entirely in the interests of Korean independence. Holding Yingkow, Haicheng, Fenghwan, and Chiulien, Japan can effectually check any overland movement from Pekin toward the Yalu, or any attempt on the part of the Philo-Chinese clique in Korea to re-open communications with the Middle Kingdom. If, then, a territorial acquisition possessing no value except as facilitating Japan's interposition between China and the latter's sometime "dependency," is to be construed as a menace to Korean independence, in the face of the facts that Japan has fought for that independence, has pledged herself to secure, maintain, and respect it, and is now devoting her finances and her best statesmanship to lay its foundations in Korean progress, then, in truth, the amount of confidence placed in Japanese good faith is absolutely *nil*. No one can pretend to think that the Kingdom of Korea was really independen- prior to the present war, whatever its nominal status may have been. Japan has lavished blood and treasure to vindicate its independence, yet now, one of the principal steps taken by her to avert the danger of any fresh imposition of Chinese suzerainty, is construed as a peril to Korean independence. It results, therefore, that not the terms of the Treaty, but Japan's good faith, is in question.

Such is the logical outcome of the allegation that Korean independence would be illusory did Japan acquire territory stretching 30 miles up the Yalu River. Nevertheless, a menace to Korea's independence is the one and only objection that Russia could openly advance to the occupation of the Liaotung Peninsula by Japan, and such an objection advanced under such circumstances assumes the character of a mere pretext, since the occupation of the territory in question is avowedly one of the means adopted by Japan to secure the very independence on account of which Russia professes to be solicitous.

It is not to be denied, however, that Russia is entitled to distrust Japan if she pleases. Only, as critics of ordinary intelligence, we have to recognise that Russia need not have waited to advance her protest until the terms of the Treaty were declared, inasmuch as her true objection evidently is to Japan in Korea, not to Japan in the Liaotung Peninsula.

If Russia's title to step in, without having borne any of the risks or charges of the War, depends solely, as it plainly does, on her distrust of Japan's intentions in Korea, what shall be said of German and French cöoperation? By what principle of international law or usage of civilized nations can the aid lent by them to Russia be justified? The dependence or independence of Korea does not matter a pin's head to either Germany or France. They have no kind of interest, proximate or remote, in the status or ownership of the peninsula. How, then, are we to construe their interference? Must we conclude that Germany, merely in the hope of transferring to an Oriental stage the drama of European complications, is deliberately sacrificing Japan's friendship, which she has done so much in the past to cultivate, and that France, in deference to a sentimental *entente* with Russia in Europe, and for the shadowy sake of softening her estrangement from Germany in the West by momentary companionship with her in the East, is lending assistance to dash the cup of victory from the lips of of a friendly State? It is scarcely possible to believe these things. Yet by no exercise of ingenuity can we discover how French or German interests are concerned in Japan's occupation of the Liaotung Peninsula. Were there question of an offensive and defensive alliance between Japan and China, constituting a general menace to Occidental interests and influence in the Orient, we could comprehend a unanimous protest by all the Powers of the West, with England and America at their head. But there is no question of anything of the kind. Were there again, question of a menace to French interests in Cochin China by Japan's acquisition of Formosa, something, though in truth very little, might be urged in defence of France's action. But there is no question of anything of the kind: Russia's association on such grounds would be too farcical. Thus finally, if, as rumour alleges, Korean independence the be sole basis of this joint interference, then Germany and France are standing sponsors for a novel principle of international law, namely, that considerations of domestic policy entitle a State to interfere in the settlement of foreign wars, not bearing directly on its own interests nor having involved it in any kind of risk or expense.

The principles concerned in this case being so clear, it must be a source of profound satisfaction to every Englishman that Great Britain has decided to stand aloof from a combination opposed not only to her traditional policy but also to international morality. Some of her critics profess to detect inconsistency in her present attitude of abstention as compared with her previous efforts to secure united intervention on the part of the Great Powers of the West. There is no inconsistency. Great Britain's action throughout the war has been uniformly directed toward the preservation or restoration of peace. She sought to prevent the two empires from closing in combat, and she sought to separate them after they had closed. But the aim of the triple alliance now confronting Japan is to defeat an arrangement that would have re-established peace. Great Britain's inconsistency would begin from the moment that she joined such an alliance.

DIRECT TRADE WITH THE OCCIDENT.

(COMMUNICATED.)

IN an Imperial Proclamation, a translation of which was recently published in these columns, the Japanese as a people are urged "to be constantly on the watch against any feeling of self-content;" to "ever labour in a spirit of modesty;" and finally to do nothing instigated solely by "the pride of recent victory." Remarkable language this, coming from the SOVEREIGN of a land hitherto underrated and misunderstood, yet which has achieved, single-handed, the most signal and complete victory of the century. It would be entirely natural if the Japanese were to exhibit a feeling of exultation, not to say overweening pride, at the present moment. That they are, as a nation, deeply and profoundly grateful for the triumphs won by their arms, is apparent; but we have yet to meet with any instance of truculent pride, either written or spoken. They have, all things considered, taken the defeat of China as a matter of course: they were sure of the result from the inception of the war; but we fancy that in a European country the ebullitions of joy would have been more striking or louder-voiced.

There is indeed only one direction in which we note any symptom of change, either real or desired, in Japan's dealings with foreign lands. It has for years past been the great wish of Japanese traders to obviate the necessity of foreign middlemen and deal directly with the great manufacturing or trading industries of Europe and America. Quite recently, the

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visit of a Special Commissioner from Australia emphasized this feeling; and now it is pertinently asked by several commercial journals and magazines whether Japan cannot, in future, manage her own mercantile interests without having recourse to any foreign agencies in the coast-ports. If, it is argued, the Japanese have been fully competent to carry the war with China to a successful issue without ever feeling the necessity of a foreign loan; if Japan has been able to buy warships, war-material, etc., amounting to millions of *yen* without seeing her currency depreciated or her credit in any way impaired, why should she not go a step farther and deal henceforth with foreign lands on her own responsibility, unhampered by commission firms and Occidental go-betweens? Let those who refuse to trade directly with Japanese merchants hereafter go by the board. There are as good fish still in sea as have ever been taken out of it. What one house may refuse to do, a dozen others will gladly accede to, for never was Japan's prestige greater than at the present moment, and never was the time more opportune for getting rid of foreign middlemen.

In all this we recognise one of the unfortunate results of the policy consistently adhered to by a portion of the Yokohama foreign press. Indeed that much is plainly stated in some quarters. Why should we deal, it is urged, with those who, from the beginning of the war have done nothing but prophesy ultimate national disaster, or tried to stir up ill-feeling between us and Western Powers, and invariably minimized each victory won by our arms? If the foreign community of Yokohama is really represented by such papers as the *Japan Gazette*, it is neither right nor just that they should be allowed henceforth to enrich themselves by having any connection whatever with Japan's trade. These and similar sentiments are what one constantly hears at present; and not only spoken but written or declaimed from the orator's podium. It is impossible not to regret that such popular feeling has assumed this phase, nor does it seem possible to convince the Japanese that the Yokohama foreign press represents only a very small portion of a very small community; or rather that, as a well-known speaker stated at a public meeting not long ago, the foreign community of Yokohama suffers from "press misrepresentation rather than representation." But putting these considerations aside for the moment, it would be well for those who support the theory of direct trade to understand the difficulties which they must encounter.

It is undeniably more profitable to trade directly, to avoid calling the services of foreign middlemen into requisition. Yet the history of the various attempts hitherto made at direct trade with Europe and America has not been encouraging; it has, almost without exception, resulted either in failure or in a disheartening modicum of success. This is not, we fancy, due to any want of skill or adroitness on the part of Japanese dealers, or even wholly to lack of precedent and experience. It is attributable rather to the fact that commercial credit, as such, has until recently been an unknown factor in Japan. The foreign firms of Yokohama and other ports are in intimate sympathy with, and have a clearly demarked line of credit among, the manufacturers and traders of the Occident. On either side, each knows that the other is to be trusted; that he is good for so and so much; that his margin of profit is not to, and will not, exceed a certain figure; that his telegraphic advices are final and implicitly trustworthy. Each works as much in the interest of the other as in his own. It is a system of mutual profit, mutual faith, based on commercial credit of a high order. There are, of course, exceptions to the rule; but we speak here of firms whose names are synonymous with fair-dealing among the Japanese. The question then arises, can the Japanese expect to build up a system like this? Not in a quarter nor yet in half a century, we believe. In the first place, there is the race problem to deal with; the inherent distrust existing between Occidental and Oriental—unjustifiable, it may be, in the case of Japan, yet evident none the less. Secondly, the commercial methods of Great Britain, for example, are the result of centuries of gradual development. The qualities of the father, his credit, his good name, are inherited by the son, and thus handed done through generations. A brief cypher message there will do more than an hour's talk in Japan. The business methods are more rapid, more conclusive, more promptly satisfactory. In all these points Japan is as yet unable to compete with Europe and America. Her own domestic trade is still content to pursue methods unknown in the West, methods that would seem arbitrary and irksome to foreigners. Europe and America are commercially on a far higher level—one to which the Japanese have not yet attained, though we do not for an instant doubt that they will ultimately do so. With such men as MAYEDA MASANA in their midst, they cannot fail to win recognition for their commercial as well as their many other sterling qualifications.

We would finally point out that the Japanese owe a debt of gratitude to the foreign commercial community. That their fictile and textile fabrics have won renown is largely due to these men, who have known when to show and where to place. This is a fact which the Japanese who advocate direct export and speedy elimination of the foreign middleman, should not ignore. For it is through the efforts of these able merchants that her commerce is what it is to-day; that her navy has earned the command of the Sea of Japan; that her railroads have been constructed; that new industries have started up on every side; and that, last but not least, she has been able to fight her greatest war with China unaided by a foreign loan. If it had not been for the foreign middlemen Japan would be a far poorer country than she is to-day; nor could she ever have embarked without pecuniary assistance upon the great undertaking that she has now brought to so successful an issue.

FRIENDLY INTERVENTION AND UNFRIENDLY RETICENCE.

THE Viceroy LI, during his stay at Shimonoseki, was represented as saying that he disapproved altogether of inviting foreign interference in a war between China and Japan about an affair that concerned the two empires only; that if such interference were permitted on the present occasion, it would become a precedent for the repetition of similar interference on future occasions, so that all liberty of action on the part of an Oriental State would be impossible, and that under no circumstances would China solicit foreign interference. When these expressions were publicly attributed to the Viceroy by the press, much scepticism was expressed, but, for our own part, we thought it probable enough that the old statesman had used the words quoted, not in sincerity but because he desired to please the Japanese. His duplicity is now severely commented on by the *Hochi Shimbun*, which alleges that when H.E. WANG CH' CHUN went to St. Petersburg in connection with the Coronation of the Czar, he appealed to the latter to interfere between the two belligerents in the East, and that the Chinese Representative in London was instructed to make a similar appeal to the QUEEN, and to convey certain valuable gifts to HER MAJESTY at the same time. It seems superfluous to discuss such matters at this late period. That China appealed several times to Foreign Powers, and that from first to last she relied on their intervention, is an established fact.

Speaking of this, we may note a point that has hitherto apparently escaped the attention of public writers. After Japan's terms were made known to the Viceroy in Shimonoseki, a long interval ensued, during which His Excellency held telegraphic consultation with Pekin. It is a moral certainty—indeed we have it on the authority of correspondents addressing the Shanghai journals from Pekin—that steps were taken by the Tsung-li Yamên to acquaint the Foreign Representatives in Pekin of Japan's demands, and to obtain, their opinions. The Legations of Russia,

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France, and Germany were certainly not omitted from the consultation. Can it be reasonably doubted that the Chinese Government acquired on that occasion, virtual assurance that if any portion of Manchuria were ceded, the three Great Military Powers of Europe would interfere? And shall we not be justified in going a step further, and concluding that when the Pekin Government authorized the Viceroy to sign the Treaty they were thoroughly well aware that its ratification would never become a necessity and that they might plead the veto of the three European Powers in extenuation of their refusal to ratify? China must have had that outlook in sight. Moreover, Japan's terms were made known by Japan herself to the Governments of Europe and America almost simultaneously with their formulation to the Chinese Envoy in Shimonoseki. If the Governments of Germany, Russia, and France found the terms unacceptable, why did they not convey some timely intimation in that sense to Japan? Why did they wait until the objectionable term had been included in a Treaty signed by the Plenipotentiaries of the two empires, and until the Treaty had received the ratification of the EMPEROR of Japan? It is difficult to conceive any course better calculated to place Japan in a painful dilemma than the course that has been adopted. Common justice, to say nothing of friendliness, required that if three Powers like Germany, Russia, and France intended to dictate to Japan in a certain contingency, they should have made known their intention to her so soon as ever the contingency presented itself, and should not have allowed her to take a step virtually irrevocable before warning her that such a step would involve their united opposition. It has been charged against Japan's statesmen that they committed a diplomatic blunder in not adopting means to assure themselves of the complaisance of Western Powers before they definitely framed their terms of peace: in other words, the complaisance of Russia, for by no recognised process of reasoning could the interests of any other State be regarded as appreciably involved. We do not share that view. It seems to us that any attempt to preface the peace negotiations by a secret understanding with Russia would have provoked—and justly provoked—the suspicions of Great Britain to a degree fraught with only troublesome consequences for Japan. Her most prudent course was her most straightforward; namely, to go steadily on, without looking to the right or to the left, and without offering to any particular foreign Power confidences that she withheld from the rest. She could not but foresee that when the day for negotiation arrived, there would be ample time for the Powers of the West to examine her terms and to announce their attitude toward them, before she should have committed herself to anything definitively. In that day her soundest hope of avoiding complications was to be in a position to say that all the States of the Occident had received absolutely equal consideration at her hands, and that she relied on general principles of justice, not on special and partial collusions. Assuredly, she could not be expected to anticipate that three Great Powers, maintaining relations of avowed friendship with her, would observe silence while she finally committed herself to a course against which they intended to protest, and would reserve their opposition until to yield to it must bring upon her the maximum of humiliation and embarrassment.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[Our readers must distinctly understand that we are in no sence responsible for the sentients or opinions of our correspondents, for the accuracy of their assertions, or for the deductions they may choose to draw therefrom.]

THE SITUATION.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—In reading your Editorial on "The Situation," in the issue of the 29th inst., wherein you discuss the possible motives for the inception of joint action on the part of Russia, Germany, and France, in view of the stipulations entered into between Japan and China for the settlement of their differences and to conclude a permanent peace, you devote your reasoning to the position in which Japan stands, and will stand, in relation to Korean independence. You write, "This war was avowedly undertaken by her to secure the independence of Korea. She set out to achieve that object, first, by eliminating China's interference in the affairs of the Peninsular Kingdom: secondly, by leading Korea into the path of progress, to the end that the development of the little State's resources and the reform of its administrative system might endow it with competence to be self-protecting. Hence, at the head of the terms exacted from China after her defeat stands her unequivocal recognition of Korea's independence, and in Korea itself Japan is working to introduce western civilization. In a word, Japan has openly fought for Korea's independence and has exacted from her adversary a solemn promise to respect it. What is more, the limits of the Liaotung Peninsula were fixed entirely in the interests of Korean independence." All this is undoubtedly true. Japan fought to eradicate all Chinese influence in the administration of Korea's affairs. Chinese interference was inimical to the aspirations of Japan, commercially and politically, in Korea. Practical politics, as viewed by Japanese statesman, demanded that Korea should be brought into unison with Japanese aspirations as the progressive leader of western civilization in the Orient. China was a stumbling block in the pathway of the realization of that conception. Japan viewed Korea as a field upon which was to be developed a condition of affairs that would inure to the benefit of the Empire of Japan, if delivered from the domination of China. If the foregoing propositions are correct, and I think they are, was there not something more, and beyond, Korean independence in view when war was inaugurated? Just as soon as Japan went outside of the territory of Korea she was fighting for something more and beside the initial programme. In concluding the treaty there was something more than the independence of Korea from Chinese dominance in view. With the occupied territory conceded by China, "Japan can effectually check any overland movement from Pekin toward the Yalu, or any attempt on the part of the Philo-Chinese clique in Korea to re-open communications with the Middle Kingdom." Further, Japan has placed herself in a position to command the little Kingdom to do her bidding in her own good time. That the absorption of Korea is contemplated as a possibility in the future who may know, except the guiding minds of Japanese statecraft. The world must place credence in the statements formulated by those who now have control of affairs. What may be developed in the march of the imperial progress of Japan, when perchance other hands hold the reins of government, is outside the purview of the present. All the same, Japanese foresight has taken a bond of value in the Liaotung Peninsula. She has placed herself where she can be protector or destroyer. So far as Korean independence is a tangible quantity, it is at the dictation and mercy of Japan. And more, Japan has placed herself where she can dictate to China should occasion require. Korea has been divested of an incubus to be dominated by a live power; that she is more independent than before can hardly be proved. In China Korea had a meddler, in Japan she has a master. Korean independence to-day is virtually Japanese dictation. Whatever lines Korea may adopt for her future guidance will be laid down by Japan in her own interests. Korean independence will be fashioned by Japanese guidance and Japanese policy. The expenditure of life and treasure by Japan in the struggle—the bold venture she made, pitting her resources and power against the bulk of the Middle Kingdom—warrants her in all that she may deem due as an equivalent. She played for a high stake and won. She has the right to set the measure of her demands and requirements. It is very well to ascribe high motives to all national movements. Yet it is, nevertheless, necessary to remember that national aggrandisement is at the base of national endeavour. Nations have not the moral conscience of the individual. It was not to win glory only that Japan entered upon the war; it was not that Korean policy was dominated by Chinese policy *per se*, that caused Japan to unsheathe the sword; rather was it that Japan might subserve her own interests, at the expense of China if need be, Korea being viewed as a plastic thing to be moulded to the shape that would redound to the advantage of the Japanese empire. Taking the history of western nations as examples, Japan was right in the conception of the possibility and advantages of her endeavour. Now as Japan had in view her material advantage when she entered upon the war, it is but fair to other nations that they be allowed to act as may seem best to them for their national benefit. Japan assumed to act in behalf of a general advance in Occidental civilization, her ulterior aim being to reap an advantage thereby. Claiming to be a leader of Occidental civilization, which she was, she aimed to become a dictator as well as leader. With her new possessions, when they are consolidated and effectively brought under Japanese methods, she will be in a position to dictate very largely in Occidental politics. She will be a mighty power for good or evil. Russia has interests on the Pacific that are of paramount importance to her. Russia has as large an interest in Korean independence as has Japan. Yet how long will Korea be known as an independent State? The geographical position of Korea is against the presumption that she can continue independent for many years more. It is inevitable that Korea will be absorbed by either Russia or Japan, or partitioned between them in the near future. Nothing can prevent it except the renunciation of national aggrandisment by Japan and Russia. Had Russian enterprise not conceived a Trans-Siberian railway, Korea might have had a long tenure as a sovereign State. From the moment of the conception of the Trans-Siberian road, Korea was doomed as an independant state. The logic of fate presaged it and when "might is right" in national affairs Korea could hope for nothing but a brief extension of her national existence. Korea, to be exempt from absorbtion by Russia, must be made an integral portion of the Japanese Empire. War or diplomacy will determine when Korea shall be effaced to become either Japanese or Russian territory. So far as the world at large is concerned it would be better that it became Japanese than Russian, and for the inhabitants of the peninsula they would be infinitely the gainers under Japanese auspices. Russia without a portion of Korea will never be satisfied; for her development she must have it, as Russia has commercial aspirations and a necessity for harbour accommodation she cannot resist the temptation or desire to appropriate to herself what to her is a supreme need, and she will not be hindered by any protests or arguments from any quarter short of signal defeat in a gigantic war. Japan waged war to mould the future of Korea—who shall complain if Russia inaugurates a policy especially in her own interests, ignoring Japan's interests as well as Korea's rights. It is the way of the world, one of the beacon lights of western civilization especially—for the nations to appropriate what they desire. Japan has learned the lesson and now if one of the masters of the school, who has been one of the foremost practisers of the teaching, steps to the front with the demand it may become a matter of force, but the consistency of the move cannot be questioned. When Russia gets ready there will be music in the air. If Japan is in the mood to say to Russia, "You cannot expand your frontier on eastern [illegible]

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she must be prepared for a more serious strain than her war with China exposed her to. Is a partition of Korea between Russia and Japan not to be thought of? Better that than war, better for both Russia and Japan to halve the apple of discord and keep the peace.

Yours truly,
X.

Yokohama, May 1st, 1895.

JAPANESE ROOTS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Will you allow me a few lines of your space to repudiate the views as to the identity of Japanese roots with those of other—especially Aryan—languages, attributed to me by Dr. Edkins in a recent issue of your journal.

It is true that twenty years ago, in a paper read before the Asiatic Society of Japan, I suggested that there was some *prima facie* evidence in favour of this hypothesis—nothing more—but even this position I have long since abandoned, and would now set down such similarities as exist to the action of onomatopoetic causes or to accident.

Dr. Edkins also somewhat exaggerated my opinion as to the number of common roots in Japanese and Korean. I have frequently said that they are remarkably few, considering the great similarity in the grammars of the two languages.

Yours obedient servant,
W. G. ASTON.

Woodlands, Seaton, Devon,
March 16th, 1895.

LETTER FROM AMERICA.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Ithaca, N.Y., April 4th.

We who receive on our breakfast-table daily the telegrams from the Far East, from Shimonoseki, Formosa, and Manchuria, and get even daily reports of the pulse temperature of Li Hung-chang, are nevertheless, not satisfied. Telegraph operators, newspapers correspondents, and leader-writers contrive quite effectually to bleach out the Oriental local colour and to give chiefly what they think will suit the tastes and eyes of their readers. Those who have the Far East in their memories, and whose sympathies are quickened by former experience, take refuge in what is old and standard, as well as in the things of yesterday. One is tempted immediately to moralize and wonder why it was not one of the ineffectual brace of envoys who received the *soshi's* bullet in his cheeks. In such a case, it might have been that the wound would be treated in the old Chinese way, with all sorts of animal *exuviae* and products, with outward applications of wax, the hides of living animals, etc. Li Hung-chang, however, is to be congratulated, that having for so many years bravely advocated foreign science and art, he has now the *argumentum ad hominem* so deftly applied. All the world hopes that he will get well; and "all the world" includes financiers, lovers of peace, and well-wishers of the Far East and of humanity in general.

No doubt in ordinary physical troubles and in convalescence, average Chinese and Koreans, and many an old-fashioned Japanese, still puts trust in ginseng. It is more than probable that, in spite of the advance in modern science and therapeutics, the plant will still hold its own for generations to come, in both mystical appreciation and in actual practice. At least, that seems to be the faith of a good many Americans, whose nerves of interest in the Far East start directly from their pockets. Within a fortnight, your correspondent has received two strong proofs that the Americans are going to make out of ginseng, especially in the Oriental trade, all they can. In Washington, is published by authority of the Secretary of Agricultural, Bulletin, No. 16, a pamphlet of pages, devoted to "American Ginseng: its mmercial history, protection and cultivation." s compiled by George B. Nash. This report been prepared in response to a popular deand for information on the cultivation of Amen ginseng. The bulletin brings out the facts the wholesale price of American ginseng has dily increased from 52 cents per pound in 1858 mewhat more than three dollars per pound in , and that the value of the export for the decade has amounted to between $600,000 $1,000,000 per year. Your correspondent is in a region of country—the pretty Lake ict of Central New York—where the gin- was formerly very abundant in a wild

Nearly a century and a half ago, when ne (not Dominie) Kirkland and his preors and successors in missionary, com- l, and pioneer life, occupied this beautiful Orient, or some other good Old Mortality in Japan lake region of Central New York, they were in more than one instance during the long winters of their life in what was then a nearly unbroken forest tract, saved from starvation by the Indians. The friendly red-men dug up ginseng and sold it to the Dutch traders at Albany, who imported it into China. This plant was first discovered by a Jesuit, Father Lafitau, a missionary, among the Iroquois Indians, after long search and inquiry among them. It quickly became a source of wealth to the French, Dutch, and English colonists as early as 1716. The discovery by the missionary, who had received descriptions of the plant from his confreres in China, was first made near Montreal, Canada. The root was valued at two francs per pound in Quebec, but was sold at 25 francs per pound in China. In 1751 the price had gone up to 12 francs per pound, bouncing up in a few years to 33 francs. Over-haste in preparation and poor selection of roots soon afterwards killed off the Canadian trade.

From 1730 on, the main stock of American ginseng was collected in New England and New York. Later, in the march of population, the ginseng of Wisconsin and Minnesota was collected and sent to the Far East. On our continent, the American plant has about the same range of latitude for its growth as in China, though with us it extends farther south. A marked map of the United States shows that the whole country east of the Mississippi, except the southern cotton belt, and the strip of coast between the Alleghanies and the ocean shore (as far north as the great glacial moraine, which crosses New Jersey, at about the region of Newark), was once a vast ginseng field. Nevertheless, the supply of wild roots is so rapidly decreasing, owing to the insatiable Chinese and Korean demand, that its extermination, if present conditions continue, is inevitable. To forestall what seems certain, American farmers have already begun cultivating the wild plants and sowing the seed thus obtained. Though many attempts to cultivate ginseng with commercial methods were made in the past, they were not encouraging.

This period, however, is past, and the danger now is that the market will be overstocked. Such a contingency, however, is at present remote. Mr. George Stanton of Summit Station, Onondaga Co., N.Y., who has experimented largely for the past 6 or 7 years, has demonstrated the success of his method and now furnishes abundantly both root and seed. In transplanting the wild roots, the time required is shorter than when the seeds are sown; the latter method necessitating from four to seven years. The details of culture are very interesting. We also find that Kawana, N.C. has a ginseng garden. There is also another at Somerset, Ky. Indeed, it is more than probable that the day of jest and sneers is over, and the era of assured success has come. It is also probable that, owing to the steady eradication of the wild roots, a present outlay of $100, to the intending cultivator will be equal to five hundred dollars expended a decade hence. It is highly probable, also, that the Americans will in time equal or excel the Chinese in the preparation of the root.

We remember when calling on the Korean Envoy, Ming Yong Ik, at the Victoria Hotel on Broadway (which hotel, by the way, has just been sold out and has suspended business), that he, with ill-concealed scorn of certain foreign dishes and beverages, brought out about half a peck of dried ginseng roots (a decoction of which he said he enjoyed daily) from which he selected a good specimen for presentation to his American caller.

While we are exporting ginseng, the Far Easterners are importing rice. One of the sights in New York harbour which I enjoyed a few days ago, was, beside the steamship *Alliance* (fired on by a Spanish gun boat, but unhit) were the ships coming in from the ends of the earth. One of these, the *Batoum*, had on board 36,000 bags of Japan rice, much of it went to the mill of New York's great rice firm, Dan Talmage's Sons.

It must be known that the Talmages have an Oriental interest and historical connection. Descended from a Connecticut Yankee father and a New Jersey mother of Dutch stock, the sons were John, Daniel, Goyn, Henry, and Thomas De Witt. The latter and youngest is the famous Brooklyn preacher, who fills to overflowing Irving Hall in New York every Sunday afternoon, and whose namesake was Rev. Thomas De Witt of the Collegiate Dutch Reformed Church of New York City. Dr. DeWitt nominated and recommended to our first American Minister Mr. Townsend Harris, his efficient secretary, Mr. Henry. C. J. Heusken, who, as his tomb in the cemetery at Tokyo tells us, was born in Amsterdam, Holland, January 20th, 1832, and died (by assassination) at Yedo January 16th, 1861. (Let us hope that Mr. will keep Mr. Heusken's grave cleared, and the inscription plain). John Van Ness Talmage, the oldest brother, was a missionary at Amoy, China, for a period longer than the average generation of men, and a spirited biography of him by Rev. John S. Pagg has just left the press. Daniel Talmage was the leading rice merchant of New York City and a man of considerable literary cultivation. Goyn, the handsomest of the five brothers, was an eloquent preacher and successful pastor, and Henry was another of the four clergymen in his family, all of the Reformed Church, though De Witt's ecclesiastical connection is at present Presbyterian. We may add that in the second generation there are several sons following their fathers in their vocation, one of them, the son of De Witt having already made a brilliant record.

While on the waters of the harbour of New York, especially with the New York *Tribune* in hand, it was easy to recall points of information of some interest to present and former residents in Japan. In crossing the Brooklyn Suspension Bridge, we always take a fond look at the Navy Yard and its usually numerous fleet of ships. The contrast is striking between the white men-of-war, modern build and armament, such as the *New York*, *Cincinnati*, *Castine*, and *Vesuvius*, with the old wooden vessels. The line-of-battle-ship *Vermont*, three or four decks high, and seine-like with one hundred portholes, shows how European ideas in naval architecture would not work in America. Memories of the seas of China and Japan are recalled by the *Essex*, *Lancaster*, and *Portsmouth*. In the old days, when Mr. Harris was an exile at Shimoda, the *Portsmouth* was a trim and useful sloop-of-war. Now, alas, her stores have been taken out, her officers and crew are scattered, and she is to be dismantled and broken up to go the way of naval fire-wood, to be largely burnt for her old iron and copper. When Mr. Harris' biography and journals shall have been published, as they will be by Messrs. Houghton, Mifflin & Co., of Boston, her name will appear once more on the printed page.

With old ships, the old men also pass away. On March 4th, Mr. Charles Lamman died at his home, Washington, from heart disease, aged 81. Known as the Private Secretary of Daniel Webster, and interested from the first in Japan, he afterwards became the secretary of the Japanese Legation in Washington, through the long term of years from 1866 to 1882. He wrote a number of articles on Japan, giving timely and needed information, and also edited a volume on "The Japanese in America," and "Leading Men of Japan." He was an amateur artist, and though he never saw Fuji-san, the oil painting of this great natural landmark of Nippon, which hangs on the Legation walls at Washington, is a highly creditable work of art. In his early days he opened the Adirondacks and a good deal of Canadian scenery to the attention of the world of anglers, sportsmen, and tourists. In all, he wrote about twenty-five volumes, several of which were printed in Great Britain. Many Japanese will remember his kindly offices. Less known, but intensely interested in the country and people of Japan, was President Henry Coppee, of Lehigh University, whose service in the Mexican War under Commodore Perry and General Scott, and whose scholarly works in biography were equally widely known.

We have the Japanese lecturer now in the field. He uses the English language in attractive literary form, and throws on the screen, by the aid of the stereopticon, pictures of the prominent scenes and men in the China-Japanese war. Mr. Takahashi spoke before a New York audience a few evenings ago, having his thousand or more hearers, many of his own countrymen being present, whose applause was hearty and frequent. Less fortunate than the level-headed lecturer, was poor Kakuzo Tsukumoto, formerly a cook in the United States Navy, who had become entirely unbalanced by the war news. He was adjudged insane by physicians, and placed in the county asylum. When the Charities Department officer attempted to arrest him, Tsukumoto took him for a Chinaman and nearly strangled this representative of peace and benevolence, before yielding to the padded room. This incident recalls a curious book we once read by the famous Dr. Benjamin Rush of Philadelphia, who had studied the physical effects of the alarms and excitements of the Revolutionary War. Dr. Rush showed that not a few persons lost their health and even their lives without contact with powder, ball, fire, or battle missles of any sort, but simply through excitement and nervous derangement.

The book-world seems to be unusually attractive this spring, and there is no suggestion of "hard times" in the voluminous announcements of publishers. Books are no longer luxuries but necessities. Furthermore, the rapid growth of public

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libraries throughout the United States make it frequently possible for publishers to issue a work with profit, even though the number of private individual buyers may not amount to a hundred. The libraries absorb a whole edition. From an inspection of the publications announced in theology, philosophy, and religious literature, it is evident that the day, both of destructive criticism and of the popular fear, formerly amounting almost to terror, of both textual and literary criticism of the Bible, and of comparative religion and the application of science to theological study, is over, and that the day of construction and welcome has come. The Parliament of Religions, as a localized event is past, but as a continuing process and a permanent method, it is and is to come, more and more. Chicago bids fair still to remain the centre of the movement in the latter direction, though for a long time to come, the schools of the East will hold their leadership and supremacy in science, philosophy, and the humanities.

As evidence that all the facts in the development of mind and religion are to be faced, appraised and correlated, we notice the issue, of a pamphlet on the worship of the Phallus, by Mr. Edmond Buckley, who lived several years in Japan as teacher and investigator, at first hand, of a profound subject. His dissertation is set forth in a thirty-four paged pampelet, with the title, "Phallacism in Japan," with photographs, bibliography, etc. The pamphlet is on sale by the Chicago University, and the treatment is that of a thorough scholar. Before this whole subject of Phallic worship in Japan sinks into oblivion, the traces and survivals of it should be noted by travellers and students. Old residents of Japan ought to take the trouble of furnishing testimony of what they have seen in the old days of unreformed Japan. Either the writer or Dr. Buckley will be very glad to receive from any observer, information as to the locality and use of phallic emblems, in order that induction may be made from as full a supply of actual facts as possible. It seems curious that in all the books by foreigners on Japan that only four authors, according to Mr. Buckley, make any reference to what was once a very wide-spread form of religion.

W.E.G.

TIEN TSU HUI.

There was a well attended drawing-room meeting at Mrs. J. F. Seaman's on Tuesday, 16th April, to hear an address from Dr. Elizabeth Reifsnyder on the subject of "Footbinding." Mrs. Little presided, and very briefly introduced the well-known doctor of the Margaret Somerville Hospital to the exceedingly representative meeting of ladies; after which

Dr. Reifsnyder began with an account of the origin of footbinding, the motives alleged for it, which seemed to consist chiefly in the young man's first question as to his future wife: "Is she good looking; has she small feet?" She then said the Chinese usually began binding their children's feet at 4. After 7 the child was said to suffer a great deal more; she did not know how this might be, but she knew that the child could then take the bandages off. There were in either case three years of agony. A woman's bandages were five yards long. A cleft was soon made between the heel and the rest of the foot, this according to Chinese usage must admit of a silver dollar, but was often as long as her finger. What is called a small daughter-in-law is often taken into a Chinese family. Her feet would be bound by her mother-in-law, and she hoped she should not hurt any of the ladies present by saying that of all cruel people a Chinese mother-in-law was, she believed, the cruelest. Under her treatment toes often dropped off, indeed not uncommonly half the foot would go. She told of a poor girl's burst of grief; "Why; there is half my foot gone!" And how she herself had said to her that with half her foot, and that half in good condition, she was much better off than most of those around her. And so it had turned out, this girl walked better than the others. The foot of another daughter-in-law she knew dropped off entirely under the process of binding. But it seemed that Chinese men wanted these deformed feet. If men did not, women would soon leave off this torture. People often have the idea that after the first it hurts no more. She had in her employ a woman 50 years old, and she knew that after more standing than usual this woman's feet would still bleed. She then showed a shoe two and a half inches long, and begged the ladies to realise that a weight of 140lb. stood upon those shoes, concluding by saying that if for every girl with bound feet a boy had to have his feet bound she thought that the practice would soon be done away.

Mrs. Bird Bishop, so well known as author and traveller, then moved a vote of thanks to Dr. Reifsnyder, saying what horrible results she had herself seen in hospitals from this cruel practice. Eight months in China had not been long enough for her to get hardened to seeing it. She described how the Hakka women carried heavy burdens, and how, though she did not rejoice as their burdens were heavy, she did rejoice to see them moving alert and active under them, resting on their feet of natural size. Some gentleman had recently written to her from England saying that he had been so much touched by the sufferings of mules, as depicted in a recent book of travels of hers, that he thought a society ought to be formed to protect them. As she had sat at that meeting she had thought how far worse were the sufferings of women in China than those of the mules in Khoordistan, and women had far great sensibility to pain. Whilst lately in Tientsin she had seen the foot of a child betrothed to the son of a General. The child was in the hospital with her mother, and one day there had been a great commotion in the hospital, all the child's aunts arriving, and making a great disturbance that lasted three days. It seemed they said the little girl's foot had been seen unbound, and that this was a thing that could not be got over, and that none would ever marry her now. The hospital Doctor, in order the save the child's foot from gangrene, had had to unbind it. The foot was saved. But he had seen it, and the end of the business was there came a letter from the young man, the fiancée, saying he would have nothing more to do with the child or her family. Success might be long in coming, it might not come in the lives of the ladies there present, but if they could but save twenty children a year from this torture, let them rest assured they were doing a good work.

Mrs. James Buchanan seconded this vote of thanks.

Mrs. Little, who had before given Mr. Timothy Richard's greeting to the meeting, that they must not be deterred by a little difficulty, remembering that if the matter were easy it would have been done without them; together with Dr. Fryer's suggestion that through the foreign Ministers they should address an appeal to the Emperor asking him to forbid any official to marry his son to a small foot woman, now said she had recently learnt that not only were the Empress and ladies of the Court with natural feet, but that no woman with crippled feet was admitted within the palace walls; that Li Hung-chang in conversation openly denounced the practice, and that lady doctors at Kiukiang and Chinkiang found a great difference in the health of the women at these two places, which, for definite reasons, they could not but attribute to the practice of footbinding being so more general at the one place than at the other. She then invited all present to give in their names as ready to help the Tien Tsu Hui (Natural Feet Society) by spreading its leaflets, the first of which, a poem by a Chinese lady, appealing to the women of China, was on view, and said also they wanted money to pay for these as also for prizes, which they had decided to offer to young men for the best essays on the subject, the first subject to be "The Origin and History of Footbinding; its objects; how far spread throughout all China; how widely diffused among all classes; whether practised by Chinese over seas; and whether there had ever been any Chinese movement against it." She then moved a very hearty vote of thanks to Mrs. Seaman for her great kindness in giving this meeting. This was seconded by Mrs. Drummond, and no sooner carried than nearly every lady present wrote down her name as sympathising with the objects of the Tien Tsu Hui, and willing to help where she could. After which the ladies adjourned to examine the deformed foot of a Chinese lady, who had with great self-sacrifice volunteered to exhibit it and the method of its wrapping. Even her good nature could not repress many half stifled exclamations.—*N.-C. Daily News.*

The colony of New South Wales is governed by its own Legislature, consisting of two Chambers; the one a nominee Council, of which the members are appointed for life by the Government for the time being; these numbering 37 at the present time. The second Chamber, or Legislative Assembly, consists of 125 members, who are elected by manhood suffrage, under the protection of the ballot. No property qualification is required on the part of candidates for a seat in the Assembly; and most of the members of the Ministry are selected from that body. Many of the members of both Houses, especially those belonging to the Labour Party, were originally working-men, or commenced business life with limited means.

SHANGHAI LADIES' "NATURAL FEET SOCIETY."

(COMMUNICATED.)

Missionary effort has now resulted amongst other things in the formation of a very influential ladies' Tien-tsu-hui (Natural Feet Society) in Shanghai. All the Consuls' wives have given their names to be on the committee, together with several others of the leading residents. Mrs. Drummond is the President; Mrs. Marshall, 1, Yuen-ming-yuen Road, the Treasurer; Mrs. Buchanan, 2, Yuen-ming-yuen, and Mrs. Seaman, 70 Bubbling Well Road, are the Local Secretaries, and Mrs. Little, Ichang, the Organising Secretary. This Society, for the most part not speaking Chinese, will devote itself to issuing a supply of literature on the great foot-binding question, samples and packets of which either of the Shanghai Secretaries will be glad to furnish free on application. The first paper issued will will be a sheet poem by a Chinese lady of Hangchow, with illustrations. This was translated by Dr. Edkins, and appeared in *Woman's Work*, August, 1894, page 30. They have also in hand a short treatise drawn up in the first instance by Pastor Kranz—the five reasons generally given in support of foot-binding with their refutations, then five reasons why it ought to be done away with. They have also offered two money prizes for the best essays on the Origin and History of Footbinding, how it arose, its object, how far it is universal throughout China, how far diffused through all classes, whether carried on equally by Chinese across the seas, and whether there have ever been any Chinese movements against it. These prizes are open for competition to young men throughout China, and will, it is hoped, lead to much earnest thought and enquiry upon the subject. Dr. Timothy Richard, Dr. Fryer, Dr. Edkins, and other distinguished sinologues are rendering the ladies every possible assistance about this and about their publications. And there is to be a three months' interval between the announcement of the subject and the sending in of the essays. The committee to adjudge the merit of the essays will, it is hoped, be composed half of Chinese scholars and half of foreigners.

That the ladies might fully appreciate the gravity of the evil they are combatting, Mrs. Seaman kindly gave the drawing-room meeting at her house, which Dr. Elizabeth Reifsnyder, of the Margaret Williamson Hospital, spoke. It is hoped that local committees may be formed in all the out-ports. Wherever feasible, it would be well to have a drawing-room meeting in the first instance addressed by a medical missionary, or some one well acquainted with the subject, as long usage has dulled in most of us the disgust at the practice of foot-binding that probably every foreigner feels on first arrival in China, and few of us have really any idea of the greatness of the disadvantages attached to it. Thus it is certain that there would be much more enthusiasm displayed about forming a committee and giving donations to the fund for printing expenses, if a few accurate facts and details were first mastered. Some doctors assert that it would be more humane to amputate under chloroform in very early childhood the feet of every girl born in China rather than to expose them to the protracted agony and many dangers inherent to binding. Whilst probably every traveller must feel that had the women of China the heaviest chains that ever prisoners have had attached to them, they could not be more heavily handicapped than they now are in doing their women's work of cleaning, mending and the like. This is naturally much more evident in the interior, where every woman is crippled, than in Shanghai, where already it is possible for foreign ladies to a great extent to insist upon having amahs with natural feet, and for the factories to a certain extent to choose them by preference. Naturally, the poor crippled factory women must have seats supplied to them, and appreciate these so greatly that they often remain seated when their machines require tending. If the present war results in the opening up of China to any extent, the present system of crippling half the Chinese race in a most painful manner will become more glaringly disadvantageous than ever, whilst doctors can tell us how far this crippling is responsible for the widespread of many of the most distressing illnesses to which women are subject, as probably it is for the opium smoking and degeneracy of the Chinese race. Dr. Fryer, of the Shanghai Arsenal, after careful enquiry, is of opinion that one little girl in ten dies actually either under the operation of foot-binding or of the after consequences.

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CHESS.

(All Communications to be addressed to the Chess Editor.)

The Yokohama Chess Club is closed for the season: and reopens on 3rd October.

The Tokyo Chess Club meets at the Tokyo Hotel every Friday from 1 to 7 p.m.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 174.

WHITE.	BLACK.
1—Q to R 5	1—Any
2—Mates accordingly.	

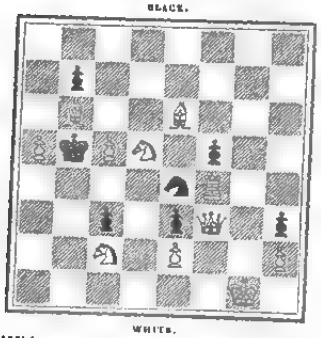
Correct solutions received from Omega, Erich Putzier, Digamma, W.H.S., Kr., E. J. King, and J.D.

This problem has been much admired by our solvers, who would also appear to concur in Mr. Loyd's opinion that it is one of the most difficult two-movers extant.

PROBLEM No. 176.

By J. N. BABSON.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in two moves.

CHESS IN NEW YORK.

The match between the City and Brooklyn Chess Clubs at the Union Square Hotel, New York, attracted a large crowd of spectators. The pairing was as follows:

J. W. Showalter vs. H. N. Pillsbury, E. Delmar vs. Ph. Richardson, A. Ettlinger vs. J. F. Barry, H. Voigt vs. F. M. Teed, S. W. Bampton vs. S. R. Rocamora, W. J. Ferris vs. William M. de Visser, W. Huntington vs. W. F. Eno, J. W. Halpern vs. J. C. Tatum, Referee, Dr. O. P. Honegger, Metropolitan C. C.

The City C. C. was represented by the first man in each pair.

After an hour's play two games were decided, Delmar and Pillsbury being the winners. Here are their games: the Notes thereto are by our valued contributor "Digamma," of Tokyo.

GAME No. 256.

QUEEN'S GAMBIT DECLINED.

WHITE. Pillsbury.	BLACK. Showalter.
1—P to Q 4	1—P to Q 4
2—P to Q B 4	2—P to K 3
3—Q Kt to B 3	3—K Kt to B 3
4—Kt to B 3	4—B to K 2

4. P to Q Kt 3 (preventing 5. P to B 5) followed by P to B 4; and, according to circumstances, by B to Kt 2 and B to Q 3 is much better. Unless Black means to Castle at once, there is no reason for B to K 2 at this juncture.

5—B to B 4	
6—P to K 3	5—Q to Q 2
7—Q to B 2	6—P to Q R 3
	7—P to B 4

This is a good move and we prefer it to B to Kt 2 later on, though both moves are among the best which White can adopt in this opening. B to Kt 2 is, however, the more popular; although contrary to Steinitz's view that the Bishop should be kept in touch with both wings.

Black is aware now of the necessity for prompt action: but has missed valuable opportunities of development. His moves, so far, are a justification of the "book-moves" which he has disdained.

8—Q P takes P	8—Q P takes P
9—B takes P	9—B takes P
10—Castles	10—P to Q Kt 4
11—Kt to K 4	11—Kt takes Kt

Impulsory!

12—Q takes Kt	12—R to R 2
13—Kt to Kt 5	13—P to Kt 3
14—B takes Kt	

12 to R 3—a tempting move, attacking three undefended men—then Black replies P to K B 3, a good defence.

15—Q to R 4	14—B to Kt 2
16—B takes R	15—P to K R 4
17—K R to Q sq.	16—B takes B
18—B to Q Kt 3	17—Q to K 2

Standing *en prise* for seven moves, the Bishop is at last driven. It is an interesting subject for study why Black all that time could not take this Bishop. His tenth P to Q Kt 4) was only otherwise

	18—B to Kt 3
19—Kt to K B 3	19—Resigns.

GAME No. 257.

QUEEN'S PAWN OPENING.

WHITE. Delmar.	BLACK. Richardson.
1—P to Q 4	1—P to Q 4
2—P to K 3	2—P to K 3
3—B to Q 3	3—P to Q B 4
4—P to Q Kt 3	4—Kt to K B 3
5—Kt to K B 3	5—Kt to Q B 3
6—Castles	6—B to Q 3
7—B to Q Kt 2	7—P takes P
8—P takes P	8—Castles.
9—P to Q R 3	

To prevent exchange of the well-placed Bishop. So far the game has followed the usual lines of this opening.

	9—Q to B 2
10—R to K sq.	10—P to Q Kt 3
11—Q Kt to Q 2	11—R to K sq.
12—Kt to K 5	

White has finished his development and now begins to attack.

	12—B takes Kt
13—P takes B	13—Kt to Q 2
14—Q to K R 5	14—Kt to K B sq.

His best move undoubtedly.

15—R to K 3	15—P to K R 3
16—R to K Kt 3	16—K to R sq.
17—Q R to K sq.	17—Kt to K R 2
18—Q R to K 3	18—R to K Kt sq.
19—Kt to K B 3	19—B to Q Kt 2

Too late. To make this effective, requires too many additional moves for which Black has absolutely no time. Note throughout the game how well White's isolated Pawn has been supported, despite its apparent weakness at times: Note also how it prevents the advance of P to K B 4 at the critical stage of the game.

20—B takes Kt	

This knight is the key of Black's position: and without taking it (even at an apparent sacrifice) no immediate attack is possible. Black should not have taken the Bishop, which action leads to the actual mate: R to K B sq. followed by Q to K 2 would have prolonged the defence, but would scarcely have availed to save the game owing to the unfavourable position of Black's Queen-side pieces.

	20—K takes B
21—Kt to Kt 5 ch.	21—K to R sq.
22—Kt takes B P ch.	22—K to R 2
23—Q to Kt 6 mate.	

Brooklyn won at the end with 4½ to 3½ points. The score:—

Table. City Chess Club.		Brooklyn Chess Club.	
1.—J. W. Showalter...	0	H. N. Pillsbury	1
2.—E. Delmar	1	Philip Richardson...	0
3.—A. Ettlinger.....	0	J. F. Barry.....	1
4.—H. Voigt	½	F. M. Teed.....	½
5.—S. W. Bampton...	½	S. R. Rocamora.....	½
6.—W. J. Ferris	0	Wm. M. de Visser...	1
7.—W. Huntington ...	½	W. F. Eno	½
8.—J. W. Halpern ...	1	J. C. Tatum	0
Total 3½		Total.....4½	

Referee—Dr. O. P. Honegger, Metropolitan Chess Club.

The Yokohama Chess Club closed for the season on Monday, 30th ultimo; and will reopen on Thursday, 3rd October. The Tokyo Chess Club remains open throughout the present month. We are sorry these Clubs have not met in friendly contest during the past winter; but hope that hostilities will be renewed early in the next session.

GAME No. 258.

QUEEN'S PAWN OPENING.

WHITE. Janowsky.	BLACK. Mieses.
1—P to Q 4	1—P to Q 4
2—P to K 3	2—P to K 3
3—B to Q 3	3—P to Q B 4
4—P to Q B 3	4—Kt to K B 3
5—Kt to Q 2	5—B to K 2
6—P to K B 4 (a)	6—Castles
7—K Kt to B 3	7—P to Q Kt 3
8—Kt to K 5	8—B to Kt 2
9—Q to B 3	9—Q Kt to Q 2
10—Castles	10—Q to B 2
11—P to K Kt 4 (b)	11—P to Kt 3
12—Q to R 3	12—Kt to K 5
13—R to B 3 (c)	13—Q Kt takes Kt
14—Q P takes Kt (d)	14—Kt takes Kt
15—B takes Kt	15—P to Q 5
16—K P takes P (e)	16—B takes R
17—Q takes B	17—Q R to Q sq.
18—B to K 3	18—P takes P
19—P takes P	19—B to B 4 (f)
20—Q to K 4	20—B takes P
21—B takes B	21—Q to Q 2
22—B takes P	22—P takes B
23—B to B 2	23—Q to Q 5 ch.
24—K to Kt 2 (g)	24—Q takes Kt P
25—R to K B sq.	25—R to Q 7 ch.
26—K to B 2	26—R takes R ch.
27—K takes R	27—R to B 80.

NOTES.

(a) The "stonewall" attack. Successfully adopted by Lipke against Schiffers and Tarrasch in the Leipsic congress of 1894.

(b) Premature. It ought to have been preceded by the development of his Queen's side.

(c) A mistake, the consequence of which is that Black is enabled to clear the long diagonal of his inactive Queen's Bishop.

(d) Compulsory. If, instead, 14 B P takes Kt, 15.....Kt to Kt 5, winning the exchange.

(e) If 16 R to Kt 3, then 16.....P to B 4; 17 B to K sq. P to Q 6; and if 16 P to K 4, then 16.....P to Q B 4, to be followed by .....P to Q 6, White, in either case, incurring disadvantage in position. He prefers to sacrifice the exchange—a still more unsatisfactory alternative.

(f) The speediest way of finishing the game.

(g) If 24 Q takes Q, then 24.....R takes Q, 25 R to K B sq. R to Q 7; 26 R to B 8, K R to Q sq.; and Black wins.

If the chess learner would realise that chess is a battle, and would resolve, says the chess editor of *The Times*, to school himself to the constraint necessary to avoid premature attack, he would go far on the road to becoming a strong player. No commander would be held to be sane who would venture on approaching a hostile line with one, or perhaps two, of his most valuable battalions, or who would dare to provoke a contest with the whole of the opposing forces, they being in their intrenchments, and he being in the open. But on any day insanity worse than this may be observed in any chess resort. In utter disregard of first principles, and in the hope of snatching a victory by some off-chance, a player may be seen bringing his Queen and his Knight to bear on some easily-defended point, and being promptly compelled to hark back. He has provoked attack, with the result of finding that he has lost time, and that forlorn and discouraged he has left his opponent in possession of the field. If he had devoted to development the moves which he has simply thrown away, how superior would have been his position.

THE LATE R. A. PROCTOR'S LOVE FOR THE GAME.

Mr. T. E. Ash, who was a fellow-student at Cambridge with the distinguished astronomer, has published the following interesting letter, addressed to him by Mr. Proctor:—"August 19th, 1880. My dear Sir,—I wish very much I could name a time for a call in the afternoon. I had promised myself the pleasure of such an opportunity for witnessing the play of your club; but my tyrannical agent, the genial Smythe, has fixed me for a lecture every day, and I dare not encounter chess temptations before a lecture. After some one of my lectures I might look in, being then, however, unfit to play, as melancholy experience has taught me. When I met Ellis and Goldsmith at the Melbourne Club I had neither lectured nor to give a lecture. On the journey here, per s.s. *Leura*, I played for the first time since my successful tourney with Goldsmith (the games with Ellis were of no account), and, if this letter should thus far have suggested the idea that my love for the game has diminished, I may correct that notion by mentioning that I played 30 games on board the *Leura*, several at odds of rook and of rook and knight, and was so far fortunate as to lose only two.—Believe me, yours truly, Richd. A. Proctor."

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[REUTER "SPECIAL" TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

London, April 28.

A reservoir has burst at Bousey, near Epinal, and 110 persons have been drowned, several hundreds having been rendered homeless.

London, May 1.

Admiral Salmon is dead.

London, May 1 (Later).

The race for the Two Thousand Guineas, run to-day, resulted as follows:—

Kirkconnel 1
Laveno 2
Sir Visto 3

Correction.—Read obituary, Rear-Admiral Salmond.

[The name of the officer referred to in the corrected message published above is not found in the list of Rear-Admirals in the Annual Royal Navy List for the current year, neither active or retired, but Captain Henry Salmond retired in 1887, and, as his name is near the top of the list, he had probably been promoted to flag rank since the publication of the work referred to, and is the officer whose death is announced.—Ed. *J.M.*]

["SPECIAL" TELEGRAM TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

The Times, in its issue of the 13th instant, says:—It is not surprising that much excitement should be created by the terms of peace because the political and commercial

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tory of Europe, however, does not bear out the pretension that European countries have a right to step in. In the Congress of Vienna, the Great Powers which entered into agreement had previously taken part in the risks and charges of the struggle. In the negotiations which followed the Crimean War, the interference of the Powers was strictly limited by their treaty rights, and the same may be said of European interposition when the treaty of San Stefano was concluded. But in all these cases circumstances were exceptional. Any State which may think its own interests injuriously affected by Japanese conditions is entitled to demand their modification, provided always that it is prepared to face all consequences. As to ourselves, we should have been, perhaps, better pleased if the respective positions of China and Japan had remained as before. But this is past praying for. We must make the best of the new situation, as no British interests are so seriously or directly menaced as to justify our interference at the risk of making irreconcilable enemies of the Japanese. The permanent result of the war, which is most serious for England, namely, the rise of a great naval power, whether it be friendly or hostile, in the Far East, cannot be altered by any change in the terms of peace imposed upon China. We are decidedly of opinion, therefore, that the Government have acted wisely in refraining from participation in any pressure upon the Japanese.

Hakodate, April 30.

The *Rhodora*, from Tsuchisaki to Yokohama with a full cargo of rice, struck a reef and afterwards ran ashore in Omori Bay, where she lies on a sandy bottom with a strong list. No lives lost.

[The *Rhodora*, Captain Williams, is a British steamer of 1,602 tons, and arrived at this port about a month ago with a cargo of coal from Cardiff.]

Hakodate, May 1.

A later report describes the accident to the steamer *Rhodora* as a leak, and it is now supposed that the captain beached the vessel.

The schooner *Borealis* has put in here with 361 sealskins, and the *Sutherland* with 195.

Nagasaki, May 3rd, 10.15 a.m.

The Indo-China steamship *Piksang* has been released upon the order of the Prize Court sitting at Sasebo. She arrived here last night. Only the contraband-of-war has been confiscated.

Nagasaki, May 3, 12.35 p.m.

The balance of the Russian fleet has departed under sealed orders.

(From the "N.-C. Daily News.")

London, April 28.

In answer to the remonstrance by the French, German, and Russian Ministers at Tokyo as to the cession by China of territory on the mainland, Japan has replied that any yielding to the protests of the Powers would risk an uprising of the Japanese people who are now drunk with their successes, and would allow no concession.

The British Press approve of English abstention and express their belief that Germany and France are merely pulling the chestnuts out of the fire for Russia.

Many French newspapers deprecate France meddling in favour of China and thereby offending Japan.

The besiegers of Fort Kelly in Chitral have fled. Captain Baird was killed; and Dr. Robertson and Captain Campbell were wounded. The fighting was desperate, and the garrison underwent terrible privations.

Peking, April 25, 5.40 p.m.

Mr. Foster and Li Hung-chang's Secretary have arrived here. The Treaty is now before the Emperor, and the Ministers of the Foreign Office yesterday consulted the Legations. Many Censors have sent in memorials opposing the Treaty.

Prince Kung has been allowed seven more days' sick leave, and meanwhile other officials hesitate to recommend ratification.

Li Hung-chang will probably not come here but go to Chefoo to exchange ratifications if completed.

April, 26 [illegible] p.m.

[illegible] opposition to the cession of Southern Manchuria is on the ground that it specially affects the Emperor, as being the ancestral home of the dynasty. There is less opposition to ceding Formosa, as it is regarded as a new province. Generals Sung and I-kotang-à and the Black-flag chief Liu Yung-fu object to submission and several Governors share the some idea. The other articles in the Treaty are regarded as bearable. The ports suggested for opening to foreign trade are Chungking, Shasi, Hangchow, and Soochow.

(From Japanese Papers.)

Hongkong, May 1.

The following telegram dispatched by Mr. Nakagawa, Japanese Consul at Hongkong, was received by the Home Department.

As the black plague is prevailing at Swatow Asiatic passengers from that port are prohibited from landing here. Four cases of the pest were reported at Hongkong during the past few days, but there are at present no signs of further spread.

Hongkong, May 1.

The French ship *Duguy Trouin* left here to-day for Nagasaki.

Hiroshima, May 2.

Mr. Ito, Chief Secretary of the Cabinet, left Ujina at 6 p.m. to-day by the *Yayeyama Kan* for his mission.

Nagasaki, May 3.

The *Piksang* arrived here from Saseho at 7 a.m. and left for Shanghai at 10 a.m.

Kobe, May 3.

Li Gen-shoku, Korean Minister to America, and Kim Shi-jun, Korean *Chargé d'Affaires* in Tokyo. Arrived here from Yokohama this morning, and leave for home on the 9th inst.

Nagasaki, May 3.

The *Nicholas First*, *Pamiat Azova*, and one other Russian man-of-war, accompanied by torpedo boats, have left here for Vladivostock. The Japanese warship *Yamato Kan* arrived here to-day.

Kyoto, May 3.

It is stated that the Emperor has recovered his ordinary health.

The time for the exchange of ratifications expires in three days, but no intimation has yet been received from China in regard to it.

A meeting of Ministers of State was held at the residence of Viscount Mutsu shortly after ten o'clock last night. At 8 a.m. to-day Count Ito visited Head-quarters, and was followed by Count Saigo, Viscount Kabayama, and others. A conference was held. The meeting is said to have been called upon receipt of a telegram from Mr. Hayashi, Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs, in Tokyo, last night.

It is stated that a special session of the Imperial Diet will shortly be convoked here to discuss some important questions.

Kyoto, May 3.

Matters are likely to come to a head within the next two or three days.

Field-Marshal Count Yamagata left Port Arthur yesterday for home.

Rumour has it that China desires to increase the amount of the indemnity instead of ceding territory. A certain person states that her hopes are centered on this proposition.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From America	per O. & O. Co.	Tuesday, May 14th.*
From Canada, &c.....	per C. P. R. Co.	Sunday, May 5th.†
From Hongkong	per P. M. Co.	Tuesday, May 7th.‡
From Hongkong	per C. P. R. Co.	Thursday, May 9th.§
From Europe, viâ Hongkong	per M. M. Co.	Tuesday, May 14th.‖
From Europe, viâ Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd	Wed'day, May 15th,
From Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Sunday, May 19th.
From America	per P. M. Co.	Thursday, May 23rd.

* *Coptic* left San Francisco via Honolulu on April 23rd. † *Empress of Japan* left Vancouver on April 22nd. ‡ *China* left Hongkong on April 30th. § *Empress of India* left Hongkong on May 1st. ‖ *Melbourne* (with French mail) left Saigon on May 1st.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For Hongkong	per C. P. R. Co.	Sunday, May 5th.
For Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Thursday, May 9th.
For America	per P. M. Co.	Friday, May 10th.
For Canada, &c.	per C. P. R. Co.	Friday, May 10th.
For Victoria, B.C., & Tacoma, Wash.....	per N. P. Co.	Wed'day, May 15th.
For Europe, viâ Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd	Friday, May 17th.
For Europe, viâ Shanghai	per M. M. Co.	Saturday, May 18th.
For America	per O. & [illegible] Co.	Sunday, May 19th.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Produce, Norwegian steamer, 1,560, Bergnor 27th April,—Moji, Coal.—Mitsu Bishi Sha.

Abner Coburn, American ship, 1,878, G. A. Nichols, 29th April,—New York 27th November, Oil.—Standard Oil Co.

Baltimore (14), U.S. cruiser, Captain W. R. Bridgmann, 29th April,—Nagasaki.

Strathesk, British steamer, 1,454, Foulds, 29th April,—Otaru, Coal.—Hokkaido Tanko Tetsudo Kaisha.

Strathlyon, British steamer, 1,511, Phillip, 29th April,—Otaru, Coal.—Hokkaido Tanko Tetsudo Kaisha.

Strathdon, British steamer, 1,720, C. Johnston, 29th April,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Peacock (6), gunboat, Lieut.-Commander Laxton, 29th April,—Hongkong.

Laurel Branch, British steamer, 2,140, H. J. Ritson, 30th April,—Middlesboro' viâ ports, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Sendai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,034, 30th April, —Guadalope, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Fortuna, British schooner, 97, Jno. Cousins, 1st May,—Halifax, N.S., 23rd November, Sealing Gear.—T. M. Laffin.

Peru, American steamer, 2,540, D. E. Friele, 1st May,—San Francisco 13th April, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Kaisar-I-Hind, British steamer, 1,867, 1st May,—Hongkong viâ ports, 21st April, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Anjer Head, British steamer, 1,826, Motyer, 3rd May,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Else, German steamer, 747, Christiansen, 3rd May,—Bonin Islands, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

DEPARTURES.

Arroyo, British steamer, 1,970, R. Samuel, 27th April,—Bombay viâ ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Cam, British steamer, 1,630, Mathias, 27th April, —Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

City of Peking, American steamer, 3,128, Wm. Ward, 27th April,—San Francisco, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Tacoma, British steamer, 1,661, R. Crawford, 28th April,—Hongkong viâ ports, General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Frigga, German steamer, 1,400, Voss, 28th April,—Hamburg viâ ports, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Amaranth, British steamer, 1,753, Cliff, 29th April, —Ujina, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Produce, Norwegian steamer, 1,560, Bergnon, 29th April,—Moji, Ballast.—Mitsu Bishi Sha.

Moldava, British steamer, 1,462, Burnside, 30th April,—Hongkong viâ Moji, Ballast.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Strathlyon, British steamer, 1,511, Phillip, 1st May,—Otaru, Ballast.—Hokkaido Tanko Tetsudo Kaisha.

Strathdon, British steamer, 1,720, Johnston, 1st May,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Strathesk, British steamer, 1,720, Foulds, 2nd May,—Otaru, Ballast.—Hokkaido Tanko Tetsudo Kaisha.

Admiral Korniloff (18), Russian cruiser, Captain Elchaninoff, 2nd May,—Kobe.

Peru, American steamer, 2,540, D. E. Friele, 3rd May,—Hongkong viâ Nagasaki, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Natal, French steamer, 4,038, Verron, 4th May, —Shanghai viâ ports, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per French steamer *Natal*, from Marseilles viâ ports:—Mr. Morikawa, Mr. and Mrs. Vivani, Mr. Oyaye, Mr. Heyste, Mrs. Okiyo, Mrs. Haue, Mr. Kamorudin, Mr. Rapp, Mr. Donavon, Mr. and Mrs. Williams, Mr. E. S. Goery, Mr. N. Moses, Mr. and Mrs. Graham, Mrs. Sharp and 2 children, Mrs. Donavon, Mr. Squire, Mr. O. P. Benson, Mr. Luis Maroneck, Mrs. E. Elliott, infant, and servant, Mr. and Mrs. Hade, child and amah, Mr. M. Marshall, Mr. Dithleisen, Mr. Yaguchi, Mr. Marian Ferrer, Mr. Braga, Mr. O. J. Woodward, and Mr. Johnston in cabin, and 6 Chinese in steerage.

Per American steamer *Peru*, from San Francisco:—Mr. M. Wolfheim, Mexican Minister, Mr. H. E. Harries, Surgeon N. J. Blackwood, U.S.N., and Rev. H. Midsuno in cabin, and one European in steerage. For Hongkong:—Mr. C. S. Power in cabin.

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kong viâ ports:—Mr. Phelps, Mr. Kerrison, Mr. Church, Major Farmer, Mr. King, Mr. Murray, Mr. Simon, Mr. Rivington, Mr. Haynes, Mr. H. King, Mrs. Simpson and child, Miss Preston, Mrs. Sleet, Mrs. Stafford, Mrs. Grant, and Mr. Cartwright in cabin, and Mr. Pollock, and Mr. Lee in second class.

DEPARTED.

Per British steamer *Ancona*, for Hongkong viâ ports:—Captain A. Williams, Mr. J. MacIntyre, Mr. A. Fyffe, Mr. W. Gibb, Mr. D. Whittal, Mr. W. T. Holburton, Mr. and Mrs. Leigh, valet, and maid, Mr. J. Budge, Jun., Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Dreer and native servant, Miss Richards, Mr. Shortall, Mr. Blankinburg, Mr. Lindsley, Mrs. Lindsley and child, Mrs. Crossby, Mr. and Mrs. Iwanaga and servant, Dr. and Mrs. Harvey, Mrs. F. H. Bugbird, Messrs. J. K. Trafford, Bullough, Mitchell, Waterman, Thurston, E. V. Thorn, B. Roth, Yamanouchi, Cockburn, Deana, Ewer, Gilroy, and one Japanese (guide) in cabin, and 19 natives in steerage.

Per American steamer *City of Peking*, for San Francisco:—Mrs. T. W. Badger, Rev. and Mrs. C. C. Baldwin, Mr. C. H. Baumbach, Dr. A. B. Brown, Mr. T. Carver, Mr. J. N. Carver, Mr. W. Carver, Miss A. L. Carver, Mr. Karl Glusing, Sir W. Brampton Gurdon, Mr. C. F. Heinlein, Miss Hodgekenson, Mr. M. H. Jay, Mr. M. Mathesen, Mr. Min Kiong Sik, Mr. Min Young Chan, and Mr. and Mrs. A. Nash in cabin.

Per French steamer *Natal*, for Shanghai viâ ports:—Mr. G. H. Still, Mr. J. Thomson, Mr. St. John, Mr. R. Dubuffet, Mr. A. Frege, Dr. and Mrs. Baret, Mr. and Mrs. G. C. Pakenham, Mr. and Mrs. Donavon, Mr. and Mrs. Siemssen and 2 children, Mrs. Iwanoff, Mrs. Nadejdinskey and 2 children, Miss Lee, Mrs. Gorda and 5 children, Mrs. Renzel, Mrs. L. T. Rangel, Mr. Young Chen Wai, Sister St. Domitille, Sister Cecilia, Sister Francoise, and Miss Louise Pachinia in cabin, and 2 Japanese in steerage.

CARGOES.

Per British steamer *Ancona*, for Hongkong viâ ports:—Silk, 53 bales; Waste Silk, 99 bales.

Per American steamer *City of Peking*, for San Francisco:—

TEA.

	SAN FRANCISCO.	NEW YORK.	CHICAGO.	CLEVELAND.	OTHER CITIES.	TOTAL.
Yokohama	523	492	71	17	—	1,103
Hongkong	481	—	—	—	—	481
Total	1,004	492	71	17	—	1,584

SILK.

	SAN FRANCISCO.	NEW YORK.	HARTFORD.	TOTAL.
Hongkong	—	90	—	90
Yokohama	—	822	2	824
Total	—	912	2	914

Per French steamer *Natal*, for Shanghai viâ ports:—Raw Silk for Europe, 150 bales; Waste Silk for Europe, 208 bales. Treasure for Shanghai, $68,100.

REPORTS.

The American steamer *Peru*, Captain D. E. Friele, reports:—Left San Francisco the 13th April at 4 p.m.; experienced fresh N.W. to S.W. winds throughout the passage. Arrived at Yokohama the 1st May, at noon.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

Nothing very fresh or new in this market. A declining exchange has tended to advance quotations, but there has not been much business done. Foreigners have been holiday-making and Japanese appear to be somewhat oppressed by the uncertain state of political affairs. Probably the subject will be more settled by next week.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirtings—8¼ lb., 38½ yds. 39 inches	$2.25 to 2.85
Grey Shirtings—9lb. 38½ yds. 45 inches	2.70 to 3.20
T. Cloth—7lb. 24 yards, 32 inches	1.60 to 1.95
Indigo Shirtings—12 yards, 44 inches	1.70 to 2.35
Cloths—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches	2.00 to 3.75
Cotton—Italians and Satteens Black, 30 inches	PER YARD. 0.16 to 0.22
	PER PIECE.
Sheets—Black, 35 yards, 21 inches	7.25 to 9.50
Cloths Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches	0.80 to 0.95
Turkey Reds—2.0 to 2.4 lb. 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.60 to 1.70
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.75 to 2.05
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.30 to 2.60
Turkey Reds—4.8 to 5lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.80 to 3.10

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.
Serge	$0.30 to 0.47½
Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches best	0.30 to 0.35
Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Medium	0.25 to 0.27½
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Common	0.20 to 0.22½
Mousseline de Laine—Crepe, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.15 to 0.22
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches	0.35 to 0.50
Cloths—Presidents, 54 @ 56 inches	0.60 to 0.65
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0.40 to 0.70
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 5lb. per lb	0.60 to 0.75

COTTON YARNS.

	PER PICUL.
Nos. 16/24, Ordinary	—
Nos. 16/24, Medium	$34.00 to 34.50
Nos. 16/24, Good to Best	35.00 to 36.00
Nos. 16/24, Reverse	—
Nos. 28/32, Ordinary	—
Nos. 28/32, Medium	35.50 to 36.00
Nos. 28/32, Good to Best	36.50 to 37.50
Nos. 38/42, Medium to Best	42.00 to 44.00
No. 32s, Two-fold	42.00 to 44.00
No. 42s, Two-fold	46.00 to 48.00
	PER CASE.
No. 20s, Bombay	—
No. 16s, Bombay	—

METALS.

Dull and unsatisfactory. Small daily requirements must be filled, but it seems that buyers lack courage for important transactions.

	PER PICUL.
Flat Bars, ¼ inch	$3.35 to 3.40
Flat Bars, ½ inch	3.45 to 3.50
Round and square up to ¾ inch	3.40 to 3.50
Iron Plates, assorted	3.50 to 3.60
Sheet Iron	4.50 to 4.70
Galvanized Iron sheets	8.25 to 8.75
Wire Nails, assorted	5.80 to 6.10
Tin Plates, per box	5.65 to 5.75
Pig Iron, No. 3	1.55 to 1.60

KEROSENE.

Position unchanged. Holders are strong and seem to be able to command their own figures. Fresh arrivals of American Oil help to increase the stock.

American	Nom. $2.35 to 2.40
Russian	Nom. 2.35 to 2.40

SUGAR.

Brown—No enthusiasm in this market and everything is quiet, not to say dull. White—Moderate enquiry and prices well sustained, the stock being in strong hands.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Takao	$3.50 to 3.60
Brown Manila	4.20 to 4.30
Brown Daitong (New)	3.20 to 3.30
Brown Canton	3.30 to 3.50
White Java and Penang	6.50 to 6.60
White Refined	8.40 to 9.80

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Rather more doing, the turn in exchange helping shippers to get in something at limits. The market, however, is not very lively, and not much business is to be expected at present.

QUOTATIONS.

Hanks—No. 1	—
Hanks—No. 2 (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 2 (Joshu)	—
Hanks—No. 2½ (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 2½ (Joshu)	—
Hanks—No. 2½ to 3	—
Hanks—No. 3	—
Hanks—No. 3½	—
Filatures—Extra 10/12 deniers	Nom. —
Filatures—Extra 13/15 deniers	Nom. —
Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers	Nom. $800 to 810
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den	Nom. 780 to 790
Filatures—No. 1½, 10/14 deniers	Nom. 760 to 780
Filatures—No. 1½, 13/16, 14/17 den	750 to 760
Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers	Nom. 730 to 750
Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	Nom. 730 to 740
Filatures—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	—
Re-reels—Extra	—
Re-reels—(Oshu) Best No. 1	—
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 deniers	740 to 760
Re-reels—No. 1½, 13/16, 14/17 deniers	730 to 740
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	—
Re-reels—No. 2½, 14/18 deniers	—
Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	—
Kakedas—Extra	740
Kakedas—No. 1	Nom. 720 to 730
Kakedas—No. 1½	Nom. 710 to 715
Kakedas—No. 2	Nom. 690 to 695
Kakedas—No. 2½	—
Kakedas—No. 3	—
Kakedas—No. 3½	—
Kakedas—No. 4	—
Oshu Sendai—No. 2½	—
Hamatsuki—No. 1, 2	—
Hamatsuki—No. 3, 4	—
Sodai—No. 2½	—

WASTE SILK.

Market quiet after the recent large shipments. Holders hope that silver will decline yet further and thus help them to maintain quotations for their wares.

QUOTATIONS.

Pierced Cocoons—Good to Best	—
Noshi-ito—Filature, Best	$125 to 130
Noshi-ito—Filature, Good	115 to 120
Noshi-ito—Filature, Medium	105 to 110
Noshi-ito—Oshu, Good to Best	110 to 115
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Best	—
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Good	—
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Medium	60 to 75
Noshi-ito—Kushu, Good to Best	100 to 115
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Best	—
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Good	70
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Ordinary	60 to 65
Kibiso—Filature, Best selected	100 to 105
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds	85 to 90
Kibiso—Oshu, Good to Best	—
Kibiso—Shinshu, Best	—
Kibiso—Shinshu, Seconds	—
Kibiso—Joshu, Good to Fair	30 to 27½
Kibiso—Joshu, Middling to Common	25 to 22½
Kibiso—Hachoji, Good to Fair	25 to 23
Kibiso—Hachoji, Medium to Low	22 to 20
Kibiso—Neri, Good to Common	12 to 8
Mawata—Good to Best	—

TEA.

Arrivals are now coming in more freely, and by the 10th we shall see a regular market. Meanwhile, some business is doing at irregular prices and a large parcel (for the early days of the season) is reported settled at the sister port at prices variously given at $30 to $33 per picul.

EXCHANGE.

Exchange has again fluctuated, and the general tendency of rates has been downward.

Sterling—Bank T.T.	2/1½
— — Bills on demand	2/1½
— — 4 months' sight	2/1⅝
— Private 4 months' sight	2/1⅝
— — 6 months' sight	2/2
On Paris—Bank sight	2.66
On Lyons—Private 4 months' sight	2.72
On Hongkong—Bank sight	⅛% p.
— Private 10 days' sight	⅛% d.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	71
— Private 10 days' sight	72
On India—Bank sight	193
— Private 30 days' sight	195½
On America—Bank Bills on demand	51½
— Private 30 days' sight	52½
— — 4 months' sight	53½
On Germany—Bank sight	2.14
— Private 4 months' sight	2.21
Bar Silver (London)	30½

NOTICE.

DR. HAROLD SLADE, resident dentist of Kobe, will visit Yokohama professionally from WEDNESDAY, May 1st, and may be consulted at the CLUB HOTEL for about Two WEEKS from the above date.

Yokohama, April 25th, 1895. 2w.

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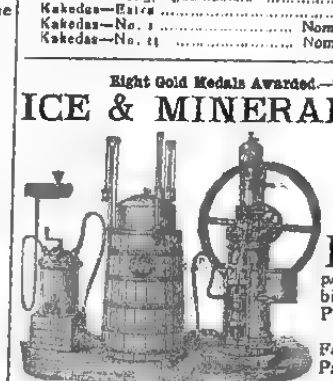
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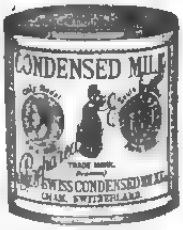
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The Japan Weekly Mail:

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No. 19.] REGISTERED AT THE G.P.O. AS A NEWSPAPER. YOKOHAMA, MAY 11TH, 1895. 明治二十八年五月十三日郵便物認可 VOL. XXII.

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, MAY 11TH, 1895.

BIRTH.

At Shinomiya, Kobe, on May 8th, the wife of the Rev. C. GRAHAM GARDNER of a son.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

THE Emperor has recovered from his recent indisposition.

ADMIRAL VISCOUNT KABAYAMA is to take over Formosa from the Chinese.

THE Privy Council have held several conferences in Kyoto during the week.

THE epidemic of cholera at the Pescadores appears to have been stayed.

HONGKONG and MACAO no longer deny the existence of plague in their midst.

AN Army Corps is under orders to garrison Formosa directly its transfer is effected.

THE Choral and Philharmonic Societies' Concert, given in the Public Hall on Wednesday evening, was very enjoyable, and perhaps the best of the series.

THERE have been 109 deaths from cholera since the beginning of the present outbreak.

THE ratifications of the Treaty of Peace were exchanged at Chefoo about midnight on the 8th inst.

MR. DUNCAN MCNEILL, of Yokohama, has been admitted to the bar of the Supreme Court, Hongkong.

H.I.H. THE CROWN PRINCE has gone to Hayama, Kanagawa Prefecture, for the benefit of his health.

SEVEN houses were burnt down and eight damaged by fire at Omotecho, Honjo, Tokyo, on the 8th inst.

THE Nippon Yusen Kaisha have extended for three months the charters of foreign vessels now running for them on the coast.

TWILIGHT, a filly owned by Mr. R. D. Robison, has succumbed to injuries said to have been received during the late race meeting.

THE Chinese in Formosa are reported to be very indignant at the idea of the island being ceded to Japan. Riots are frequent.

COLONEL SATO has greatly improved in health since his injured leg was amputated, and he has now been removed to Chinchow.

THE Governor of Hokkaido is in the capital, having brought down a scheme for some general improvements in the administration.

PROVIDING that their absence does not interfere with their official duties, the Governors of Prefectures may visit Kyoto during the next few weeks.

THE Emperor and Empress have given *yen* 800, and *yen* 1,000 towards the relief of sufferers by the recent great fires in Gumma and Ishikawa Prefectures.

THE amateur theatrical performance—"The Ladies Battle"—drew a crowded house to the Public Hall on Saturday evening. The piece was excellently presented.

A LARGE number of ancient coins, valued at twenty thousand *yen*, were recently discovered by one Tsuda Sanjiro, a resident at Higashigoti-mura, Tonami District, Etchu Province.

MR. UCHIDA KOSAI, Secretary of the Japanese Legation in England, has been commissioned to represent Japan at the International Railway Convention to be held in London in June next.

THE *Chen-yuen* is to have a complement of 381 officers and men; the *Ping-yuen* 204 officers and men; and the *Kwang-ping* 160 officers and men, when placed on the strength of the Japanese Navy.

IT has been decided to throw an iron suspension bridge, 160 ft. long, and 60 ft. above sea level, over the Sagami river, from Hotokenoza to Fukuronosu, to conduct the mains of the Yokohama Waterworks.

THE resignation of Mr. Takahashi Chuji, Chief of the Forest Bureau in the Agricultural and Commercial Department, has been accepted, and his position has been taken by Mr. Takahashi Takuya, an expert in the same Bureau.

MR. TANAKA KENDO, of Kumamoto, and a few other Japanese capitalists, propose to purchase a camphor forest in Ul-long-do, Korea, and to establish a camphor factory there.

MR. TSUJI KAIZO, of Hakodate, has obtained official permission to engage in fishing between Kinkazan and Chishima. He has a steamer and four sailing vessels of about 150 tons each, which were ready to set out by the end of last month.

THE Indo-China steamer *Piksang* has been released by the Sasebo Prize Court, only the contraband of war—shipped as "bamboo-steel" and "Chinese books"—having been confiscated.

REUTER telegraphs:—The British have occupied the town of Corinto, the capital of Nicaragua. The Nicaraguan Government has protested against the seizure of the town, stating that no sum is owing as an indemnity, and that the occupation is contrary to international law. The feeling is intense and a mob paraded crying "Down with the English tyrants?" The mob also tried to remove the escutcheon from the British Legation. The Nicaraguan Government afterward agreed to pay the indemnity claimed a fortnight after the evacuation by the British of Corinto, and Britain has accepted the proposal, provided the payment of the indemnity is guaranteed. Oscar Wilde has been acquitted of the charge of conspiring to procure other persons to commit acts of gross indecency, which charge the Crown withdrew. The jury disagreed on the other charges of indecency, and were discharged. The case will be tried again at the next Sessions; meanwhile, Oscar Wilde has been let out on bail. The Khan of Dir has captured Shere Afzul, and has delivered him over to the British authorities. Umra Khan and his brothers are prisoners in the hands of the Afghans at Asmar. The further advance of the Chitral expedition has been stopped, and the troops are to be gradually withdrawn. Count Kalnoky has resigned, owing to the strictures of the Hungarian Premier regarding the meddling of the Papal Nuncio. Jabez Balfour has arrived in London and has been charged. He was remanded. Lord Selborne is dead.

THERE is very little to be said about the Import trade, business having been almost paralysed by the political complications of the last ten days, and even at the close of the week when assurances are forthcoming of peace, and a settlement of difficulties that will later on probably lead to an important movement in the direction of an active resumption of business, there is but little confidence, and the utmost caution is observed by those who have commissions to execute which would be boldly entered upon under more favourable conditions. Thus, with the exception of a small demand for Yarns of a special count of doubles at a slight rise in value, and a few parcels of certain Woollens that have been taken to fill a want, scarcely anything has been done in these lines, and stagnation is the rule. There have been large arrivals of Metals, but totally disproportionate sales, and holders might be inclined to make concession on deals of sufficient magnitude. Nothing done in Kerosene. Buyers want a reduction, while holders are firmer than ever, knowing that the condition of stocks in the interior will compel purchases at no distant date. Little doing in Sugar of any kind, and prices more or less nominal. In Raw Silk a fair amount of business has been done, induced by holders giving way on a small demand from both Europe and America. Small business only in Waste. Tea-firing is now brisk and large parcels of leaf have been taken. Prices are still high, but the quality is improving. Supplies come in freely, and large settlements are pending on probably easier terms. Exchange during the week has fluctuated, though without, on the whole, much alteration in rates.

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THE SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS DURING THE WEEK.

The week has been perhaps the most eventful since war broke out, and the vernacular newspapers have been busily discussing the situation; in, however, a very cautious and somewhat equivocal manner so as to avoid collision with the Press Laws. We need scarcely say that in proportion as a paper is better informed about the situation, and sensible of its responsibility, the more moderate is its opinion and the freer its tone from unmanly excitement.

* * *

The *Jiji* had a suggestive article on the 7th instant, headed "Wait for another time." The statesmen holding the helm of affairs being, after all, only mortals, not free from the errors to which humanity is everywhere prone, and moreover being obliged to follow the counsels of a few in deciding what course the nation shall adopt, it follows that the line taken by them in an important national crisis, may dissatisfy many. That, however, can not be helped. No measure, however well adapted to a given conjuncture, can be expected to satisfy the entire nation. Hence, what men must specially avoid at this crisis is an access of sudden resentment, precipitating hasty action. They must not forget that justice and sentiment find no place in modern diplomacy, but that all questions are in practice solved by mere brute force. To be betrayed by umbrage into anger, and under the impulse of wrath to take hasty action, not only indicates national incapacity, but may also involve results seriously affecting the interests of the empire. Such ill-advised action not only forfeits the opportunity of redressing a wrong, but may even furnish to others a good pretext for further humiliating the country. Therefore, even though there be grounds of complaint and dissatisfaction, let such sentiments be carefully concealed, so that no sign whatever of emotion may be visible to outsiders. Then while stout and persevering endeavours are made honestly and indefatigably to promote the practical interests of the country, its foundations will by degrees, and with the lapse of years, be so strengthened that the desire of the nation may be achieved, and the longed-for opportunity can be taken advantage of when it presents itself, as it will do, sooner or later.

* * *

The *Kokumin* also warns the people to be deliberate and to avoid any hasty excitement. It advises them to pursue the course of men vanquished rather than victorious, and to exert themselves with the view of achieving in future more splendid triumphs and greater successes than in the past. To lie on a bed of thorns and to taste gall, as the Chinese proverb goes, for ever keeping one's great object in view, and biding one's time, that must be the course adopted by the Japanese people at the present juncture.

* * *

The *Niroku* is less temperate. It does not know by what able measures and detexerous devices the Cabinet may have succeeded in disposing of the objections raised against the terms of the Treaty by the three Powers. But it declines to believe that the situation has been resolved by sacrificing the continental territory ceded to Japan. Such a sacrifice would not only be at variance with the spirit of the Treaty, but would entail the more serious result of establishing an evil precedent, perpetually forbidding Japan to stretch her hand toward the Asian continent. Moreover, it would be, at the same time, entirely irreconciliable with the Imperial Rescript, issued immediately after the signing of the Treaty at Shimonoseki, and with the Imperial Message, in which His Majesty highly appreciated the part played by the two Plenipotentiaries in the negotiations. Can it be possible that while the ink of the Rescript was still wet, an impor[illegible]condition was sacrificed out of mere trepi[illegible]ut foreign interference? Should the Digitized by [illegible] been guilty of any such grave mistake in the discharge of their duties, the result will be to mislead the Emperor, on the one hand, and to deceive the people, on the other.

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The above article was judged by the Press Censors to be obnoxious to public peace, and the *Niroku* was suspended on Thursday last, its second suspension since the beginning of the month, and about its fifth during two months.

* * *

The editor of the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*—for the articles appear over his literary pseudonym—has several interesting general remarks to make on the situation. Some folks, he says, plume themselves on assuming a defiant attitude, their presumption being that no Power would proceed to extremities with Japan. These so-called strong-policy folks would be extremely crestfallen did an enemy really come. Men of true firmness acquaint themselves better with the character of their enemy, estimate the veritable chances of his coming, and do not defy him until they can count, with reasonable assurance, upon success. If they can discern no such prospect, then they curb their ardour, and bide a better opportunity. In another article the same writer says:—To await an ultimatum, calmly pursuing the course of strict rectitude in the meanwhile, is one method; to be resolute and unmoved even after the ultimatum has been received, or to radically change one's course of action in obedience to it, is another. And there is still a third, namely, to decide boldly before the ultimatum is received and to surprise one's antagonists. If this last course be adopted in a clever way, honour and dignity can be successfully maintained. Otherwise, humiliation and contempt are inevitable. In a third article the editor says that for diplomatic success the prime essential is a backing of military strength; the second essential is adroitness of device. But it must never be forgotten that for diplomatic success the prime necessity is a sufficiency of military strength.

* * *

This last remark of the writer has provoked the opposition of the *Kokumin*, which accuses him of an attempt to hold the army responsible for diplomatic issues. It contends that the first essential in diplomacy is courage, and that courage is inspired, not by a powerful military backing, but by a conviction that the path of rectitude and justice has been chosen, taken, and conscientiously followed.

* * *

The *Chuo*, the organ of the National Unionists, led by Viscount Shinagawa, writes as if the terms of peace remained unchanged at Chefoo as at Bakan. It says that the main reason why Japan has thus far been sunk in obscurity and found no opportunity to flap her wings, was because she possessed no territory on the continent, but was pent up in a group of islands. Now, however, the Treaty of Peace with China, having furnished her with a basis on which to pursue a progressive policy, she will be enabled in future to successfully contend for the supremacy of the Orient with England and Russia.

In its issue of Friday, the same paper says that peace having been restored between the two belligerents on the 8th instant, public attention will now be directed to matters of diplomacy. Who will be the Gortschakoff, the Beaconsfield, or the Bismarck of the East, remains to be seen. Alluding to a rumour that Viscount Mutsu, Minister of Foreign Affairs, advocates a very firm policy, the *Chuo* applauds him in hearty terms.

* * *

The *Jiji* incidentally throws some light upon the modification of the Treaty's terms, though its language is far from being definite. It regrets for China's sake that she should have invoked the aid of foreign intervention in matters concerning herself and her antagonist alone. It declines to believe the rumour that a secret understanding existed between China and the European Powers prior to the signing of the Treaty at Shimonoseki. It thinks rather that what the public mistakes for deliberate design [illegible] was merely the result of coincidence. Still, to the other point, namely, that China solicited the interference of foreign Powers, the *Jiji* expresses positive certainty, and can not but regard such procedure as an everlasting mistake on China's part. Though the Treaty of Peace has been signed and ratified by the two belligerents, proceeds our contemporary, it is not unlikely that Japan will have to forego some of the rewards to which she is entitled in virtue of her conquest, and to modify some of the terms, for which purpose a supplementary treaty will be negotiated. That is to be greatly regretted. But as the concession made by Japan to China is an act of special favour, so to speak, and is entirely voluntary, it establishes no principle of which Foreign Powers can avail themselves in future for purpose of interference. Such is not the case with China, however. She purposely and eagerly sought for foreign interference, and has thus sown seeds destined to produce a crop of grave calamities, for the European Powers have not intervened in China's interests merely by way of friendship and benevolence. Their motive is to obtain a rich reward, sooner or later, from China for the pains they have taken in her behalf. Thus the fatal error into which China has fallen may eventually lead in her total destruction.

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The *Mainichi* has also a short article on a similar topic. It says that the action of China during the war has introduced a novel and grave feature into the affairs of the Orient. China has shown that she is determined to influence the general tendency of the Orient by having recourse to the assistance of foreign Powers. This makes it absolutely necessary for Japan to augment her navy, so that she may enjoy the supremacy of the sea in the East.

* * *

The same journal writes on a totally different topic, namely, the sugar industry in Formosa. The annexation of that island will mark an epoch in the sugar industry of the Orient, and, at the same time, materially affect the same industry in Hawaii. The sugar produced in Formosa is now refined at Hongkong, but this will cease hereafter, and the refining will be carried on at the place of production, a change that must largely affect the prosperity of the British colony. Further, as sugar sent hereafter from Formosa to Japan will be exempt from Customs duties, Hawaiian sugar can not compete with it.

* * *

The *Jiyu*—which paper re-appeared from the first of this month after having suspended its publication for several months, owing to financial embarrassment—and the *Kokumin*, make some short observations on the situation of political parties. The diplomatic question incidental to the war, writes the former, has fused different parties into one body. Whether this will prove to be a matter of congratulation or of regret, it is still impossible to predict. This much is certain, however, that the political world will become unusually eventful in the future. We may note here that the *Jiyu*, now owned by a new proprietor, professes not to be the organ of any party, but styles itself as a paper for popular reading, thus following the example set by the *Hochi* some time since. The *Kokumin's* comments about the political parties of the day are censorious. It avers that at present the parties do not lead the masses, but are, on the contrary, led by them, and that should the parties prove themselves unequal to the task imposed upon them in the sequel of the conclusion of peace, they might as well be dead institutions.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

REPORT ON THE INSPECTION OF THE TEA TRADE IN AMERICA.

The Nippon Tea Society sent Messrs. Furuya Takenosuke and Komada Hikonojo last Fall to America to enquire into the condition of the tea trade in that country. They have returned and have forwarded to the Society a

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report of their investigations in the United States and in Canada. The *Shogyo Shimpo* publishes a *résumé* of the report. The direct exportation of tea from Japan to America commenced more than a decade ago. In 1880 the Specie Bank of Yokohama was established, and soon afterward such companies and firms as the Boyeki Shokai, Mitsui Bussan Kaisha, the Okura Gumi, and so forth, were either started, or began to undertake foreign trade. It was through such commercial corporations that Japanese tea producers and merchants exported their goods, but the companies did not confine their transactions to tea, but undertook other business also. The tea sent from Japan was chiefly entrusted to wholesale merchants or agents in America. The condition of the tea markets of the consuming districts being entirely neglected, it was not to be wondered at that the Japanese tea-men, sending their goods to America through the aid of Japanese companies, came to grief, more or less. They came to the conclusion, therefore, that it would be better to rely upon merchants resident in the Settlements, who were, of course, more in touch with foreign markets. For a few years, subsequently to 1883, tea was, therefore, exported through resident merchants. It was afterwards found, however, that although the latter enjoyed considerable convenience in the matter of foreign transactions, compared to native merchants, they did not do much better in the disposal of goods. This system was therefore given up. The Japanese tea men were at last convinced that the sale of tea could only be carried on satisfactorily by receiving direct orders from abroad and sending goods straight to the buyers. The new method has been fairly launched, and the two commissioners mentioned above have brought back a number of orders from America. This turn of affairs is chiefly attributed in the report to the idea of serving Japanese tea at the World's Fair in Chicago.

PRINCE KOMATSU AT PORT ARTHUR.

A PORT ARTHUR correspondent, under date the 23rd of April last, states that Field Marshal Oyama, Commander-in-chief of the Second Army, accompanied by Lieut.-General Sakuma, Governor-General of Occupied Territories; Lieut.-General Nogi, Commander-in-Chief of the Second Army Division, and Major-Generals Yamaguchi and Iseji, reached there on the 22nd ult. from Talien by the *Satsuma Maru*. All the officers appeared to enjoy perfect health. H.I.H. Prince Komatsu, Commander-in-Chief of the Japanese Expeditionary Forces, was much pleased by their visit, and gave a banquet to the party on board the *Ikai Maru* on the evening of their arrival. Lieut.-General Kurogi, Commander-in-Chief of the Sixth Army Division, Controller-General Nakamura, Surgeon Doki, Colonel Noguchi, Colonel de Wogack, of the Russian Legation; Captain O'Brien, of the U.S. Legation; Surgeon-Colonel Taylor, of England, and the war correspondent of a French newspaper were among the guests. Vice-Admiral Viscount Kabayama, Lieut.-General Kawakami, Major-General Terauchi, Controller-General Noda, and other members of Prince Komatsu staff were also invited. During the course of the proceedings an address was given by the Prince. The Naval Band played selections of music. Count Oyama passed the night on board the *Ikai*. On the following evening Count Oyama invited His Highness to the Chinese theatre in the town of Port Arthur. The staffs of the Prince and the Count were present. The Chinese actors played with special care, and gave much pleasure to the distinguished visitors.—*Nichi Nichi Shimbun*.

MARRIAGE OF DR. MUNRO.

A WEDDING took place in Christ Church, Yokohama, on Saturday afternoon, when the nuptials of Dr. Neil Gordon Munro, of Ratho, N.B., and Miss Adele Marie Josepline, eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Fr. Retz, of 71, Bluff, Yokohama, were duly solemnised. The sacred fane had been tastefully decorated for the occasion with bamboo fronds and pendants of white flowers, among which white wistaria took a prominent position. The font was hidden beneath a wealth of white blossom, while a bridal arch of flowers sprang from near the rood screen. White flowers were grouped and arranged around the chancel steps, the rood screen, and on the altar. The bride entered the church, leaning on the arm of her father, to the strains of a wedding march, played by Mr. J. T. Griffin. She was dressed in a handsome robe of white brocaded silk, draped with chiffon and trimmed with pearls and orange-blossom. Her bridesmaids were the Misses Louise and Paula Retz, her sisters, Misses Elsa and Martha Voight, Miss Anna Meier, and Miss Erna Grosser. They were attired in pretty costumes of white muslin trimmed with Valenciennes lace, and each wore dainty gold watches, the gifts of the bridegroom. The mother of the bride wore a rich dress of silver-grey brocade, trimmed with superb black silk and lace. The bridegroom was awaiting the arrival of the bride, with his best-man, Captain W. H. Forbes, and immediately upon her entrance the service began, the rector, the Rev. E. C. Irwine, officiating. While the registers were being signed, Messrs. Ramseger, (violin), Schmid (violoncello), and Freyvogel (organ), gave an exqaisite rendering of Gounod's "Ave Maria," an especially favourite piece of music with both bride and bridegroom. It was a graceful and unexpected compliment, and was heartily appreciated. When the bridal procession reformed at the vestry-door, Mr. J. T. Griffin played Mendelssohn's "Wedding March," and amid its triumphal harmonies the large assemblage dispersed. A reception was given later in the day by Mr. and Mrs. Retz at their residence.

NEW DRAINS.

AMONG the many other improvements made of late in the streets of Tokyo, one is the very thorough of cleaning the drain and sewer-pipes and putting down new tubing wherever the old pipes have become damaged. The most far-reaching cleansing has been made in Honjo District, where drains and sewers amounting to no less than thirty-one *ri* in length have been overhauled or repaired. According to a local contemporary this changing and cleansing of the sewerage system will cost little less than thirty thousand *yen* when completed, and it is confidently expected that the city will have thereafter a much better bill of health to show. Several hundreds of workmen are now employed in the work, and it is being done in the most thoroughgoing manner. Considerable obstruction of traffic has resulted in some streets, but that is, as far as possible, quickly obviated or avoided. Honjo is one of the few urban districts that have a reputation for insalubrity, so alterations and repairs have been effected in this part of the metropolis first.

HOME NEWS.

THE ex-Speaker of the House of Commons, the Right Hon. Arthur Wellesley Peel, has been created a Viscount. Sir Robert Hamilton, who filled various important government posts at home before proceeding to Tasmania in 1886, as Governor, died on the morning of April 22nd. Archdeacon Farrar, D.D., F.R.S., the learned writer of the "Life of Christ," and many devotional works, is the new Dean of Canterbury.

BOYCOTTING CHINESE MERCHANTS.

THE Tokyo General Goods' Guild has decided to join the boycott of Chinese merchants till the negotiations in regard to the abolition of commission are satisfactorily concluded. To effectively enforce the boycott the following rules, says the *Yomiuri*, have been drawn up and distributed to members of the Guild:—

The Tokyo Guild, deeming the resolution of the Yokohama General Goods' Guild reasonable, has decided to abolish the payment of commission to Chinese merchants, with a view to recover the commercial rights of this country. For the attainment of this end the Guild has decided to enforce the following provisions.

1.—To suspend transactions with Chinese merchants altogether till the negotiations for abolishing the system of commission are successfully concluded.

2.—To entrust the control of members of the Guild who frequent Chinese shops in Yokohama to the Yokohama General Goods Guild.

3.—To enforce the suspension of transactions with Chinese merchants from the day on which a communication with respect to the present resolution is received.

4.—Any member of the Guild engaged in manufacturing articles ordered by a Chinese merchant previous to the present resolution, shall submit within 3 days, computed from the day on which the present resolution is received, a written document to the Office giving particulars as to the date when the order was received, the number of articles ordered, and so forth.

5.—The articles mentioned above to be completed within 14 days from the day on which the present resolution is communicated. Any portion uncompleted by the given time must not be delivered.

6.—To forward two copies of the specifications to the office when the articles enumerated have been completed, and to have the stamp of the Yokohama Guild affixed to the documents when the articles are to be sent to the giver of the order.

7.—To bid any tradesman not on the list of the Guild who sells good to Chinese merchants to discontinue his transactions and to join the Guild.

8.—To deal with any one in the Guild who violates any of the preceding rules according to the bye-laws of the Guild, and also to advertise the fact in five newspapers at the expense of the offender.

It is said that since the Yokohama Guild inaugurated the present boycott against the Chinese merchants no less than 500 *yen* has been spent in fees to watchers, who stand night and day in front of each of the 12 Chinese shops in the Settlement, to provide against any treacherous action on the part of the members of the Guild. The Tokyo Guild has contributed 30 *yen* toward the funds needed to maintain the boycott.

ARRIVAL OF KOREAN STUDENTS.

THE first batch of 113 Korean students have arrived in Tokyo. The vernacular press gives some interesting facts about them, furnished by Mr. Yamazaki, an interpreter of the Korean Legation, who went as far as Kobe to receive and accompany them to Tokyo. Mr. Yamazaki found it no easy task to escort so many Korean youths to Tokyo. In order to provide against confusion he selected 11 of the oldest among them and delegated to them the function of overseeing the juniors, who were subdivided into 11 small groups, these overseers and their charges being strictly enjoined to observe a set of rules specially drawn up for the purposes of the journey. Through the kindness of the Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs and the Governor of Kobe, two cars were set apart for their accommodation by the station-master at Kobe, and each station-master along the line was instructed to telegraph the arrival or departure of the students to the next station. One of the points that Mr. Yamazaki enjoined the youths to observe was that they should not put their heads out of the windows of the cars while the train was in motion. The injunction, however, proved inefficacious, the curiosity of the students being too strongly excited by the new things and new scenes witnessed. One of Mr. Yamazaki's chief troubles was to impress his charges with an idea of the punctuality observed in despatching the train. When they alighted at a station, they would lounge about or stroll away, and it was with no little difficulty that they were recalled in time to resume their seats. Among the countless novelties that the students saw on the way to Tokyo, what astonished them most were the tunnels. After Mr. Yamazaki had briefly explained the construction and uses of a tunnel, they were so delighted with the idea that whenever the train entered a tunnel on the Hakone Section of the line, they raised a loud cheer and kept up the shout until they emerged into daylight. The students that have arrived in Tokyo are exclusively sons or brothers of Koreans constituting the higher classes in that country. They come from the eight provinces of Korea, and all the families of the first grade are said to have sent one or more sons or brothers. The age varies considerably, some being as young

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as 15 or 16, while others are twice as old. The nephew of Boku Yeiko, one of the youngest, is among the number, as also is the eldest son of Kin Kachin, Minister of Agriculture and Commerce, whose age is only 16 years. The students were selected by means of a literary examination, at which a considerable number of candidates, presented themselves, but the countenances of the youths are also said to have been taken into consideration. The expense that the Korean Government allows to each student per month is 15 *yen*. Other monies also are said to be set aside for extraordinary purposes. The Government has left it entirely to the judgment of Mr. Fukuzawa to decide what kind of study each student shall pursue. At first, however, they will be taught Japanese, two hours daily, and after they have acquired sufficient proficiency in that language to frame questions in it, they will take up other studies, chiefly in physical science. According to the rules of Mr. Fukuzawa's institution a foreigner studying there must not wear his native costume. Hence more than one half of the 113 students have already cut their hair and dressed it in modern Japanese style, and all have had western garments ordered for them by the Legation. At present the entire number of Korean students studying in Japan, inclusive of the new comers, is 124, of whom four each are studying at the Keiogijiku and the Rikyo Gakko, and one each at the Kyododan and the Waseda Semmon Gakko. Another batch of students is to be sent to Tokyo this year, bringing up the total to 300. Next time the selection will be made from wider circles, and not from such a limited class as in the present instance. It is said that Boku Eiko was the prime mover in initiating this despatch of young students to Japan.

FORMOSA.

We take the following from the *North China Daily News*:—

About a week after the publication of the twenty-one days' armistice granted by Japan to China, we published in these columns news received from Taipehfu (Tamsui), the capital of Formosa, in which it was stated that the Governor, H.E. T'ang, had a difficult question to answer when a deputation of the leading citizens and gentry of the island called upon him asking why Formosa had been excluded from the armistice, since the island was a portion of the dominions of the Emperor of China, and the inhabitants had always loyally sided with the government and paid their taxes to it, and that Governor T'ang could only reply that he would wire to the Tsung-li Yamên to include Formosa in the armistice, and if this were refused to repudiate the agreement of a truce, etc. Ever since then, according to a telegram to the local mandarins on Saturday night from Taipehfu, the people of Formosa, and of Taipehfu especially, have been in the greatest state of excitement and ferment. So much so, that the *yamêns* of the various officials, from the Governor downwards, had to have their guards doubled and the city garrison be kept constantly on the alert for fear of an *emeute* by the populace. On Thursday and Friday last (25th and 26th April), it was observable that matters were gradually coming to a climax; that the latent wrath of the populace was only waiting for the slightest pretext to fire up, and that the mandarins and Anhui troops were looked upon with anger by the natives, high and low, as having been, by their conduct in Manchuria, the cause of all the subsequent disasters to the country at large. Then came the report, gently rumoured on Thursday afternoon, that Formosa had, after all, been ceded to Japan. The people became manifestly restless, and as most of them have been armed and formed by the Governor into militia regiments, a number of the most violent began to call upon the rest to take matters into their own hands and elect their own leaders to fight the Japanese. But the news of the cession not being confirmed that day, the excitement died away a little. On Friday morning telegrams were received by a number of the leading citizens from their correspondents in Shanghai, Peking, Amoy, and Hongkong confirming the news of the day before, namely that Formosa had been ceded in perpetuity to Japan, and that that country was about to publish proclamations to the people of Formosa to conform to Japanese dress, custom, etc. With these telegrams in their hands, excited and agitated beyond measure, and partly compelled by a numerous mob of the populace, the militia remaining in their quarters in sullen silence, waiting for the signal——the leading citizens and gentry of the city, who had called on the Governor on the first occasion, went in a body to the official's *yamên* and asked him if the news were true. The Governor, who had been apprised by telegrams from Pekin of the cession of the island, could only reply in the affirmative, but he tried to soothe his visitors by declaring confidentially his opinion that the Emperor would never consent to the Viceroy Li's arrangements. But he spoke to deaf ears; the Governor's reply that the news of the cession was true, was speedily transmitted from the audience hall to the mob in the street leading to the *yamên*, and a great uproar and cries of "Down with traitors!" "Drive out the Anhui cowards!" were heard from the whole populace. The Governor then tried to retain his visitors, but before he could do so more than one-half of them had already hastily and unceremoniously left the audience hall and joined the mob, who looked towards them as the leaders. Governor T'ang then begged of the rest who still remained in their seats to assist him in quieting the people, promising them that if the Emperor really intended to abandon them he himself would lead them and fight the Japanese to the death. But all was of no avail in the excitement that then prevailed. Colonel Yang, the Governor's chief aide-de-camp, then asked and received permission to take with him 300 of the Governor's guards to quell the riot. No sooner, however, were they seen by the mob than a perfect hail of missiles and musketry rained down upon the soldiery, resulting in Colonel Yang and thirty-three of his men being killed before the guards succeeded in returning within the *yamên* gates, being aided in doing so by some 200 of the same regiment sallying forth to cover the retreat. Shortly afterwards a body of men of several Cantonese and Kwangsi regiments, under the Commander-in-Chief, Admiral Yang of Amoy, arrived on the scene, having come from the suburbs of Tamsui. These troops—all picked men—being respected and feared by the mob, quiet was soon partially restored by the latter dispersing, but not without first vowing vengeance at whomsoever should attempt to give them over to the Japanese. The streets were, according to latest telegrams on Sunday at noon, patrolled on Saturday night by the troops, the militia still remaining in their quarters, sullen but watchful. There are, however, fears of another *emeute*, as an uneasy feeling prevails all around, and there is a subdued excitement which may break out at any time. No foreigners, it seems, have been interfered with by either populace or soldiery, the feeling against the Anhui troops being too intense for any other consideration. There are in all about 12,000 Anhui men, who belong to the Viceroy Li's Huai Army.

ENGLISH TEA.

Another suggestion for the depressed agriculturist. The tea plant will not grow in England, but an acclimatised shrub, the "Chimonanthus fragrans," first brought from Japan to England by Admiral Harvey, seems, we gather from the *Horticultural Review*, to possess the essential requisites of tea. There are three or four varieties, all equally serviceable for making a beverage from the leaves, which is not unlike the best green tea when milk and sugar are added. The shrub, we are told, thrives well at Buckhurst Hill, Essex, Gerrard Cross, Bucks, on a sandy soil with a southern aspect, and "would do equally well in Kent, Sussex, Hants, Dorset, Devon, and Cornwall, where many thousand acres now vacant, or yielding unproductive crops, might be made serviceable and create a new and profitable industry." The Ceylon tea is threatening to drive the China tea out of the market; it would be curious if "English tea" should ultimately supersede both the products of China and Ceylon.

QUISQUIS AMORE TENETUR.

A romantic story is related by the Chinchow correspondent of a metropolitan contemporary. It appears that in the neighbourhood of "a certain large Chinese town"—there *is* a provoking vagueness about the names—a "certain regiment" is now quartered; and in this regiment is a "certain sergeant-major" who has had the good fortune to inspire the *grande passion* in the innocent breast of a Chinese heiress of only sixteen Manchurian summers. The young woman is living with her mother on their estate, and will inherit more than a quarter of a million *yen* in cash and land on her mother's decease. The sergeant-major was able to render some signal services to the old lady and her daughter; and such was his address and so "fetching" his martial bearing that the young lady succumbed to his charms and, *more Sinico*, made him an offer of her hand and fortune. The sergeant on his part was equally smitten with the varied attractions of the heiress, but deeming such a marriage inconsistent with either his birth or station, at first refused to entertain the offer. On its frequent repetition, however, he said that when peace was declared and the city and its inhabitants—including of course the wealthy fair—became Japanese subjects, he was willing to espouse the lovelorn lady, always premising the consent of his captain to such an arrangement. So soon as the armistice was announced, with the prospect of a speedy peace, the sergeant spoke to his commandant on the subject, and obtained a ready consent, the nuptials to take place after the ratification of the new Treaty of Peace. So great is the local power of the lady's wealth and fame, it is said, that the Chinese show the future Benedict the utmost deference; he can walk about without fear of an insulting word or angry scowl, thus realising to the life the famous distich of Catullus,—

Quisquis amore tenetur, eat futuoque sacerque
Qualibet. insidios non timuisse decet.

So far as the occupied districts are concerned therefore, their Japonization has begun under favourable auspices. Hymen is an essentially peace-loving god; while Cupid, that arch-rogue, knows neither class nor race-distinction; or as the popular Japanese couplet puts it:—

Koi no yama-michi
Taka-hiku nōte;
Chisha mo gakusha mo
Fumi-mayou!

RETRIBUTION À LA CHINOISE.

A Shanghai vernacular paper, quoted by a metropolitan contemporary, recently got off one of the best things yet. After rehearsing instances of the pride and injustice of Japan, the Chinese journal proceeds as follows:—"We now learn that Germany has declared war with Japan; not openly, but secretly. She has despatched a powerful fleet, three times the size of Japan's navy, to take vengeance on the upstart Japanese. This is the just punishment of Heaven. The gods, offended at Japan's aggression and disregard of their laws, have thus sent an invincible host to wreck that Empire and its people. We need not trouble ourselves about revenge; Heaven is sure to take that for us and forever demolish our haughty foe."

CHINESE COOLIES.

The *Yomiuri Shimbun* learns from Chinchow that the Chinese inhabitants of the outlying towns in all the occupied districts, are gradually returning to their homes and former avocations. Taught at first to believe in horrible tales of Japanese cruelty, they fled on the approach of the victorious armies; but now, wiser grown, they have found a veritable Pactolus in the pockets of their whilom foes, for they have, almost without exception, obtained immediate employment in connection with the Japanese forces: as porters, servants, general utility men, or what-not. They earn on an average from thirty to forty *sen* daily—an exceptionally low wage, parenthetically comments our contemporary, but entirely satisfactory to the coolies. It has been found, on inquiry, that the average inhabitant of the occupied districts does not spend or require more than 2½ *sen* per diem for food. And yet the Chinese in Japanese employ are extremely improvident, without so much as a thought of saving their earnings. The majority spend their wages for opium or *samshu*, or else gamble away the receipts of a month in a single night. It will be found a most difficult task, remarks the *Yomiuri*, to wean the Chinese from these habits. The use of opium, in particular, is so wide-spread and so deep-rooted that none but the most [illegible] laws can prove of any avail. Con-

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bling, too, appears to be a national evil. These Manchurians are, after all is said and done, nothing but overgrown children, ready to spend all they have in a momentary gratification.

FLOWER-SEEING EXTRAORDINARY.

ONE of the most famous acts of that sturdy old critic, Okubo Hikozaemon, Iemitsu's most uncompromising yet lealest vassal, was his shattering the vase which held a wonderful dwarf cherry-tree, the Shogun's delight and treasure. This was done by way of admonition, and the reproof, brusque and seemingly impolitic though it was, had the wished-for effect. It is on this incident that the well-known drama "Sembon Sakura" has been founded, a play that the people are never wearied of looking at. A Tokyo contemporary now tells us that Mr. Kitani, a local merchant, owns a dwarf cherry that might well rival the one of classic fame. Only eighteen inches high, the trunk is gnarled and thick, for the tree is more than three centuries old. The flowers, which are borne in great profusion, are *Yaye*, or eight-fold. This remarkable tree was in full bloom on the 12th instant, when the fortunate owner invited a large number of guests to "inspect the matchless flowers." On gazing at the perfect beauty of the blooms, says the *Miyako*, "the visitors felt as if they were resting under some huge cherry-tree on a lonely mountain-side." The tree formerly belonged to either the fourth or fifth Shogun of the Tokugawa line, who presented it to an ancestor of the present owner. Among those invited on the above-mentioned date, one, a poet of no small fame, was unavoidably prevented from being present. He sent instead the following very prettily worded poem:—

Waga tama ya
Mada minu hana ni
Ubawaretsu.

"My very soul is raptured by the flower I have not yet seen."

A COLONIZATION SCHEME.

INFORMATION has reached us concerning a scheme understood to be yet in embryo, relating to the establishment of a Japanese Christian colony in some part of Formosa, probably on the north-east coast. The prime mover in this direction is, we learn, a native Christian propagandist of great energy, favourably known because of his exertions in behalf of the spread of Red Cross ideas among the Chinese soldiery. It is proposed to get together a colony of some three hundred people, who need not necessarily be Christians, but who will be expected to conform to the tenets and institutions of the faith. Experiments will be made in breeding silk-worms, several experts having already expressed their willingness to take part in the venture. If the sanction of the Authorities can be promptly obtained, and the promoter has no doubts on this score, the emigrants will be ready to set out some time in June or by the 1st of July. The idea certainly seems very worthy and ought to obtain success.

NAVAL NOTES.

WRITING on April 24th, the *China Mail* says:—The *Leander* has been coaled and provisioned and leaves for Chefoo to-morrow; the *Centurion* will probably leave for Chefoo and Nagasaki on Monday next, 29th inst. Admiral Buller according to present arrangements, will take over the command at Nagasaki. The *Spartan* will leave for the north on Friday (26th) next. We do not know her destination, but it will probably be Chefoo. It is believed that as soon as the Treaty of Peace is ratified, the *Edgar*, *Spartan*, and *Redbreast* will leave for their original stations, the *Redbreast* for the East Indies and the other two for the Mediterranean. The old-class frigates *Immortalité* and *Narcissus*, the former troopship *Tamar*, the *Rainbow*, and the *Pique* will shortly be attached to the China Station.

THE SPRING REGATTA.

THE order of the Programme for the Spring Regatta is as follows:—1. Club Fours (four boats), 1 p.m.; 2. Senior Double Sculls, 1.20 p.m.; 3. Club Fours (three boats), 2 p.m.; 4. Champion Pairs ("Kirin" Cup), 2.30 p.m.; 5. Imperial University, Tokyo, versus Y.A.R.C., 3 p.m.; 6. Skiff Race (Prize presented by Messrs. Goodenough & Co.), 3.30 p.m.; 7. Single Sculls (Ladies' Purse), 4 p.m., 8. Junior Pairs, 4.30 p.m.; 9. Club and Committee, 5 p.m.; 10. Scratch Fours, 5.30; 11. Junior Double Sculls, 6 p.m. Messrs. W. W. Campbell and G. Philip have kindly undertaken to get the crews away promptly, and competitors will oblige by following the instructions given by these gentlemen.

THE WAR AND NATIONAL SAVINGS.

As might have been expected, the war has appreciably affected the savings of the people. Comparing the number of new deposits in the Savings Banks for the first half of 1894, with that of the concluding six months, a considerable falling off is apparent. During the first period there were 206,974 depositors, but only 80,140 deposits were made during the six months ending December. As compared with the corresponding periods of the preceding year, the increase for the first six months was 14·7 per cent., while the last half-year showed a decrease of 5·7 per cent. From January to June, 1894, 33,216 withdrawals were made, or 14·7 per cent. over the corresponding period of the preceding year, while during the latter half the withdrawals were 46,801, an increase of 19 per cent. The total amounts of deposits during the two periods of last year were as follow:—1st half, 678,214.994 *yen*, an increase of 9.9 per cent. over the same period of the preceding year; 2nd half, 1,029,851.118 *yen*, a decrease of 14.5 per cent. The withdrawals during the same periods were as follow:—1st half, 889,387.331 *yen*, an increase of 15.2 per cent. over that of the same period in the previous year; 2nd half, 1,697,531.262 *yen*, an increase of 28.1 per cent. These withdrawals were doubtless due to the calling up of labourers to service both with the line and the 1st or 2nd reserves, and also to the departure of soldiers or others to the seat of war. The families of soldiers must also have drawn on their savings in consequence of the departure of their bread-winners for China and Korea. The total deposits on the last day of June and the last day of December, 1894, were respectively 26,596,330 *yen* and 24,960,630 *yen*. Compared with the corresponding dates in the preceding year the figures stood thus:—On June 30th, 2,853,080.900 *yen*, or a 12 per cent. increase over the previous year, and 111,489 depositors, an increase of 11.4 per cent.; on December 31st 144,646.043 *yen*, an increase of 0.6 per cent. and 62,463 depositors, an increase of 6.2 per cent.

FIGHT BETWEEN OTTER AND HAWK.

THE Berlin correspondent of the *Standard* writes that a strange conflict was observed the other day by fishermen on the Frische Haff, near Königsberg, in East Prussia. For some time they had noticed two otters which had ventured on to the ice. As they were watching them, a large hawk came flying from a neighbouring forest, and alighted on the ice not far from the otters. Soon, however, it soared into the air again, swooped down like lightning on one of the otters, and struck its claws into its back. The other otter fled. A desperate fight ensued. It lasted ten minutes, and ended in the death of the hawk. Its neck was bitten through, only a thin strip of skin remaining to unite its body with its head. After its victory the otter dived into the water.

AROUND THE CAMP-FIRE.

SOME Tokyo journals tell a number of amusing anecdotes said to have originally fallen from the lips of Japanese troopers while sitting around their camp-fires in chilly Manchuria. One or two of these are worth repeating. A certain trooper is responsible for the statement that marital infidelity is punished in Shinking after a very curious fashion. The offending party is simply made to drink a cupful of cold water. At first sight this seems a very light punishment, but it really is appalling in its severity. The local Chinese have a holy horror of cold water; they never wash in it—or indeed in hot water either, for that matter—and never drink it. So to be compelled to imbibe a cup of cold water is calculated to shock the system to its base. It is as bad, continued the trooper, as if a Japanese were forced to drink rank poison. Again, in speaking of the use of the sword in the war, the soldiers were unanimously of the opinion that this was really a useless weapon in fighting with the Chinese: one could never get near enough to cut with it. In a spirit of fun it was thereupon proposed that, in case of renewed hostilities, the Government should be petitioned to supply sabres of three hundred mètres *in* length,—as the Chinese invariably broke ground and ran off as soon as the Japanese came any nearer than that. If the swords were to be made of any practical use, they should at least be so many mètres long, in which case it would be easy to prod the fleeing foe from behind!

H.M.S. "RAINBOW."

H.M.S. *new* cruiser *Rainbow*, Captain Wm. C. C. Forsyth, arrived at Singapore from Devonport, on April 23rd, on her way to the China Station. She is second-class unarmoured cruiser of 3,600 tons, and her dimensions are length 300 feet, breadth 43ft. 8in., draught 17ft. 8in. She was built in 1891 at Jarrow by Palmer & Co., at a total cost of £184,086, and her armament consists of six 6-in. guns, eight 3-pdr. quick-firers, two machine guns, and 1 light gun, together with torpedo dischargers. Captain Forsyth, says the *Free Press*, was formerly in the Far East, as Lieutenant of H.M.S. *Fly*, and served with the Naval Brigade in the capture of the stockades at Passir Sala and other operations in the Malay Peninsula during the Perak expedition, 1875-76 (Perak Medal and Clasp); he was Lieutenant of the *Invincible* at the bombardment of Alexandria, 11th July, 1882, and landed with reconnoitring party during the burning of the city; was promoted on a death vacancy and during the Egyptian war received Medal, the Alexandria Clasp, and the Khedive's bronze star. The *Rainbow* has two naval officers and 16 seamen on board as reliefs for the China Station.

BRICK-MAKING MACHINERY.

WE have received a copy of Messrs. J. Birch and and Company's "Catalogue of Brick-making Plant and Machinery." Like all the publications of that eminent and energetic firm, it is admirably compiled and illustrated. The different kinds of machines are clearly shown, and each picture is accompanied by a succint statement of the machine's uses and capabilities, with a tables of prices, and telegraphic code words to facilitate orders. A portion of the volume is devoted to machines for making sanitary pipes, sewer pipes, roof tiles, and so forth. We should think that such a publication must be of great value to the Japanese in view of the rapid development of the brick and pipe-making industry in this country.

THE WRECKING OF THE "AJIGAWA MARU."

THE vernacular papers give particulars of the wrecking of the *Ajigawa Maru* at Yingkow by collision with the *Chokai*. On the 8th ultimo, the *Ajigawa* left Talien for Yingkow. Marquises Tokugawa and Daigo, and Viscount Nagaoka, delegates from the Peers for the purpose of conveying compliments and distributing presents to the Army occupying Manchuria, and other distinguished persons, such as Messrs. Kataoka Kenkichi, Ishida Kannosuke, Hirajima Matsuo, Radical members of Parliament, were on board, as were also the Korean Minister of War in the capacity of complimentary messenger from the King of Korea to the victorious Japanese Army, and his suite; Mr. Mitsuhashi, ex-secretary of the Kanagawa Kencho, and several others. The steamer reached the mouth of the Liao River on the morning of the 19th, and cast anchor at a spot about a mile away from Yingkow, as the tide was then at its ebb, so that the vessel could not go further up the river. With the rise of the tide, the *Ajigawa* moved on, reaching Yingkow at 5

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p.m. on the same day. There were in the harbour two Japanese men-of-war, the *Chokai* and *Atago*, two Japanese transports, and two British men-of-war. As the *Ajigawa* entered the harbour, the weather, which was already very inclement, with a strong north wind blowing, grew worse and worse, and great waves struck the ship. She moved steadily on, however, and was nearing the pier when the passengers were startled by a great commotion. On going on deck to ascertain the cause, they saw, to their surprise, the *Chokai* some 16 or 18 yards off and their own steamer about to strike her bow on the starboard side. The crews of both vessels did their utmost to avert the catastrophe, but such was the fury of the wind that the ships collided with a tremendous crash. The *Ajigawa* looked as though she were going to tip over on her port side, but recovered herself the next moment. The stern, however, began to sink and water poured into the vessel, which drifted toward the left bank of the river where she struck the bottom. Boats were lowered from the *Chokai* and the other ships in the harbour and the passengers were landed in safety. The cargo was also comparatively undamaged.

A LIKELY STORY.

In Fukagawa District, Tokyo City, says the *Yomiuri Shimbun*, Mr. Iwasaki Yanosuke possesses one of the finest of all urban villas. Unfortunately, however, the Asano Cement Company own the adjoining ground, whereon they have built a large factory with a central chimney of truly enormous dimensions. Now Fukagawa being a low-lying district, earthquakes often give the place a very thorough shaking-up, so that it is far from pleasant and decidedly dangerous to boot to be next-door neighbour to a chimney of such prodigious size. Moved probably by such considerations, Mr. Iwasaki recently made an offer for the Cement Co.'s ground and buildings, expecting to be able to get them at a not-too-great advance on their market value, which is 30,000 *yen*. On opening negotiations, however, he was greatly surprised to learn that the Company demanded no less than ten times that amount, or three hundred thousand *yen*. It would be absurd to pay this price, argued the millionaire; yet he desired to show that he refused such a preposterous bargain not an account of lack of money but because the demand was a wholly unreasonable one. He has therefore resolved upon a counter-attack and is going to build, in the spacious garden of his premises, a hill in imitation of Mount Koya, once visited by thousands of devout pilgrims. This hill will stand just where the objectionable chimney might fall in case of a great earthquake, and will be, when finished, by far the highest piece of ground in Tokyo. On the side and summit of this great structure Mr. Iwasaki proposes to plant about thirty *hikibi* trees, ranging from 60 to 100 feet in height. Each of these is to be brought from the real Mount Koya in Kishu, and the transport and all included will cost about 30,000 *yen* per tree. In this way the great millionaire will pay for trees alone a sum equivalent to the preposterous demand of the Cement Company. This note appeared some three or four days ago in the *Yomiuri* and still stands uncorrected. We venture none the less to doubt the correctness of our contemporary's information, and to dub the whole story a veritable *Yomiuri canard*.

ENGLISH SHIPBUILDING.

As showing, says an English paper, with what rapidity vessels, of even large tonnage, can be turned out nowadays, it may be mentioned that recently a steamship owner asked a shipbuilder how soon he could deliver a cargo-steamer of 7,000 tons deadweight if he received an order for her forthwith. The reply was, "Within four months."

SHANGHAI RACES.

The Shanghai races took place on the 29th and 30th April, and 1st May, in somewhat similar weather to what we experienced here. Mr. Ring headed the list of winning owners with 5 races, Messrs. Henry Morriss and Tœg coming next with 3 each, and Messrs. Kanuck, Tœg, and Barley, Oswald, and Pluck 2 apiece, while the remaining 10 races were divided among as many owners. Mr. Read rode 6 winners, Mr. C. R. Burkill 5, Mr. Dallas 4, Mr. Meyerink 4, Mr. Jones 3, and Mr. Crawford 2, while Messrs. Midwood, A. W. Burkill, Bell, and Master secured one each. The Champions was again won by Blackberry, the property of Mr. Henry Morriss.

THE NEW "KAISOW."

The steamer *Kaisow*, built by Messrs. David & William Henderson & Co., for the China Mutual Steam Navigation Company, of London, has been down the Clyde for her trial trip. The vessel is of the following dimensions:—370 ft. by 46 ft. by 29¾ ft., and is fitted with triple-expansion engines with cylinders 26 in., 42 in. and 71 in. with a stroke of 48 in. As a result of a series of runs on the measured mile a mean speed of 13¼ knots was attained. The engines worked all day in a most satisfactory manner, and to the entire approval of owners and builders.

A NEW M.M. STEAMER.

The Messageries Maritimes, says a contemporary, have added a new vessel to their large fleet in the *Chili*, a steel screw steamer of 2,550 tons net register, built by the Company at La Ciotat. Her dimensions are 426·6 feet in length, 47'6 feet in breadth, and 36·7 feet in depth, with three decks and spar deck. Her engines are of the triple expansion type, with three cylinders 41½, 61¾, and 100½ inches in diameter, with a stroke of 52½ inches, supplied by the Company.

SEALING NOTICE.

Mr. A. R. Milne, Collector of Customs at Victoria, B.C., has issued a notice to sealers anent the British award in the Behring Sea *modus vivendi*, 1891. It says that a balance of the amount allotted to hunters and seamen as compensation for loss, has not been paid in the case of some persons on certain vessels, their claims not having been presented. An extension of time for presenting these claims has been granted by the Lords Commissioners to 31st March, 1896. No claims will therefore be considered after that date.

DISASTROUS AND FATAL FIRE IN TOKYO.

Fire broke out at No. 19, Yamatocho, Kanda, Tokyo, at 1.50 a.m. on Thursday, and 36 houses were destroyed, 15 others being damaged. A girl (9); a maid servant (16), and two male employés in the house where the fire originated were burnt to death.

CONCERT IN TOKYO.

A concert has been arranged by the Tokyo Young Men's Christian Association, Kanda, to take place on the 18th instant, for the benefit of a new dormitory building. Miss Bloxham has consented to sing, and Dr. Koeber will play a piano solo. Other good features of the programme may be announced later.

DEATH OF A SPANISH NAVAL OFFICER.

Captain José Jimenez, of the Spanish cruiser *Don Antonio de Ulloa*, died in Shanghai on the 26th ult. His remains were accorded a public funeral.

COUNT OKUMA.

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* has it that Count Okuma, leader of the *Kaishin-to*, visited the French Legation on the 7th inst.

ROWING IN TOKYO.

The rowing season on the Sumida, so far as the schools of Tokyo are concerned, has come to an end, and the spring regattas of 1895 must now be numbered with the past. The flowering of the cherry trees, so perennially attractive to the people of this island empire, is the favourite time for races on the river, and in consequence a lively competition not infrequently arises between the various schools for the possession of the fine boathouse of the Imperial University on a day supposed to be particularly suited for rowing purposes. A sunny day, with the cherry trees in full bloom and the banks of the Sumida crowded with sight-seers, holiday-makers, and friends, is the *ne plus ultra* of the ambitious rower, especially of the "champion," on whose prowess rests the glory or the shame of a whole class, for a whole year, of his fellow-students. The weather, with its uncertainties, adds zest to the looked-for pleasure, and, whatever the result of the race, the annoyance of an hour cannot for a moment be compared with the pleasant anticipations of weeks and sometimes months, with all the training, the fun, and exaltation they necessarily imply. The First High School on the 10th of April, and the Imperial University on the 13th, opened the season, and their regattas, favoured by the weather, passed off most successfully. Last Saturday, under a propitious sky and with the spacious boathouse of the University filled to overflowing, the Higher Commercial School closed the rowing season, amid the applause of the invited guests, the fair sex being well represented, and amid the lively interest of the people lining both banks of the river; fifteen race were rowed. Among these, the visitors' races, with crews representing the First High School, the 19th (Mitsubishi) Bank, and Nippon Ginko, and the Imperial University, attracted much attention and showed the value of training. These crews, though their real contests had come off earlier in the season, had put an extra touch and finish to their rowing, and did full justice to the institutions they represented. The class races were naturally the most exciting and were also the most closely watched, especially when the lads in the Preparatory course of the school twice carried off the palm, each time by a skilful "spurt" at the finish. In the case of all these regattas, however, the champion race is the event of the day, and when the four boats with the champions rowed along the course, nearly abreast most of the time, the excitement of students and spectators rose to the highest pitch. During the last hundred metres of the course it became plain that the contest lay between the First and the Second Year crews, between "black" and "white." The former had been in steady training since January, of the latter no less than four were champions of last year, and both crews were firmly, even fiercely, determined to win the prize. When the gun was fired, it was seen that the First Year had carried off a well-earned victory, but by less than a foot, a result so close that we know not whether it aggravated or mitigated the chagrin of the vanished.

ST. PETERSBURG AND PEKIN.

The *New York Herald* of April 12th and 13th publishes the following from St. Petersburg, with its own comments:—

The Chinese Government has informed Russia that it certainly will not subscribe to the peace conditions which have been laid down by Japan and which it considers much too onerous. China now has all her hopes based upon external intervention, and this she urgently requests from European powers, and especially from Russia.

New York, April 13th.

The news from St. Petersburg of China's appeal for intervention on the part of European powers, and in particular on the part of Russia, possesses great significance. It shows that Li Hung-chang's mission to Shimonoseki is being used simply for the purpose of temporizing and of thus securing a provisional suspension of hostilities, leaving the Chinese Government breathing space in which to make a last despairing appeal to those great powers whose interests may be thought to suggest the desirability of interfering between the two combatants.

It has been China's aim almost from the outset of the war to secure the interference of European powers in her behalf. Last October she seemed to be in a fair way of obtaining what she desired. It looked as if a quadruple alliance were about to be formed between France, England, Russia and Germany, the main object of which would be to protect China from Japan in return for certain arrangements in the way of increased territory. The negotations, however, came to nothing owing to the position taken up by Germany, who was at that time unable to admit the utility of intervention, and without her concurrence nothing could be done.

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WAR NEWS.

SATURDAY, MAY 4TH.

The *Kokkai* says that a conference of Cabinet Ministers held at the Head-quarters in Kyoto on the 30th ultimo, dealt with a question of very great importance, and decided, among other matters, Count Ito's offer to resign. The Minister President attended in person, and submitted a statement of his views.

We do not think that full credence attaches to the telegram republished in our issue of Friday from the *North China Daily News*, which journal had received it from London. The telegram, under date of the 28th ultimo, professed to give an account of the nature of Japan's answer to the joint note presented by Germany, Russia, and France. But inasmuch as Japan's answer was not given until the 1st of May, we fail to see how its contents can have been known in London on April 28th.

When the house-to-house fight that occurred at the capture of Newchwang was nearly over, says the *Hochi Shimbun*, a shot was fired at Lieut.-General Katsura. The bullet passed within about five inches of his right cheek. He ordered his subordinates to search for the man that had aimed at him, and they found him in a wood some four or five hundred métres away. When captured he was just about to fire a second shot. It was a narrow escape for the Lieutenant-General.

It is alleged that Vice-Admiral Viscount Kabayama is to be appointed Governor and Commander-in-chief of Formosa.

An anonymous naval officer, speaking in the columns of the *Hochi Shimbun*, criticises the generally adopted method of comparing the naval strength of Japan and other Powers. He says that neither the total displacement of a squadron, nor the number of ships it comprises, is a fair criterion of its strength. Its non-material capacity must also be taken into account—in other words, the experience that the men have had of war. In that respect Japanese officers and men have undoubtedly a great advantage. Japan possesses at present the only navy that has seen active service, and has learned in actual warfare how to employ quick-firing guns and all other appliances of modern science. The *Hochi's* informant estimates that advantage very highly. He computes that it trebles the strength of a Squadron.

The *Hochi Shimbun* having invited its subscribers to vote, first as to the most influential military man of the time, and secondly as the best fighting General, has received the following results:—

THE MOST INFLUENTIAL GENERAL.

Lieut.-General Kawakami	122 votes.
Field-Marshal Yamagata.....	108 votes.
Field-Marshal Oyama	32 votes.
Field-Marshal Nodzu	24 votes.

THE BEST FIGHTING GENERAL.

Lieut.-General Yamaji	80 votes.
Field-Marshal Nodzu	43 votes.

The *Shanghai Mercury* has an interesting article on the cession of Manchurian territory to Japan. The article is not to be read without discount, since it writer assumes that the whole of Shinking province is ceded by the Treaty of Peace, and he is moreover imbued with an evident conviction that Japan should be regarded as a Power rather hostile than friendly to Great Britain. These exceptions noted, the article is well worth perusal:—

Of late years Manchuria has acted as a ground for expansion to the Chinese; it has relieved to a considerable extent the congestion of the northern provinces, especially Shantung, and has in consequence been steadily advancing in population and to a considerable extent in wealth. The fertile soil produces in abundance all the cereals; it is admirably adapted for grazing, and the export of food-stuffs and hides from Newchwang has been yearly increasing. The staple produce of the country is, however, pulse. In one form or other, whether as oil, beancake, or beans in their native condition, the export has been increasing rapidly of late years. The sugar plantations of Kwantung and Fukkien are, in fact, dependent on Newchwang for their supply of manure, principally in the form of beancake, and were any hitch to occur in this traffic the sugar refineries of Hongkong would be sadly hampered, if not ruined. The export, too, has of recent years given employment to an annually increasing amount of steam tonnage, and, hitherto, it is satisfactory to find, the largest proportion of the shipping engaged has been British. In every way, then, we have an especial interest in the continuance at Newchwang of the state of affairs existing before the war. It was, moreover, one in which all benefited, and there were probably fewer complaints of interference with the course of trade arising in Newchwang than in any of the other Treaty Ports of China. The handing over of Newchwang to Japan, even with the best of guarantees, is not a matter to be lightly passed over as one in which we have no real or tangible interest. The interest is not only political, but commercial. The political importance mainly consists in the command of all approaches by sea to North China or Manchuria. It may be a matter of great importance to us to find the north of China, including the approaches to Pekin, in the hands of a possibly hostile Power. To Manchuria the cession will be almost fatal. On the east the Russian province of the Primorsk effectually shuts Manchuria off from the Sea of Japan: the possession of Shinking and the practical control of Korea by the Japanese would practically cut it off from its sole remaining seaboard on the Gulf of Pechili. The Yalu and the Liaoho are the only two rivers of Manchuria at all available for transport. The largest rivers of the country are, of course, the Sungari and the Usuri, but both these flow north, and besides being closed for fully one half the year, only connect with the Amoor, flowing through Russian territory. The final extinction of Manchuria as a province of China becomes thus only a matter of time, probably only of a few years. * * * It may, of course, be said that there are openings for Manchuria left in Kinchow and Shanhaikwan. Neither of these are, however, in any respect ports. They are merely roadsteads difficult of approach, and where a ship loading must lie from two to five miles from the shore. The possession of Shingking will, moreover, give complete command of the sea to Japan, and vessels striving to load at either of the places named may be at any moment subject to molestation. The question of internal traffic, too, comes into consideration. Before the war it was the aim of the Chinese Government to push its railway system on to Kirin, and the line was already begun to Kirin and in a forward state as far as Kinchow. A line from Kinchow by Moukden to Kirin would tap this fertile land of Manchuria, and would afford an outlet for its produce; but, in the first place, beans cannot afford to pay high railway freights; and, in the second, it is doubtful if, after the loss of Shinking, China would greatly care to advance her railway line, which could in her altered position hardly be looked upon as a means of protection. Altogether, with the cession of Shinking to Japan, China would be effectually strangled.

FRIDAY, MAY 10TH.

On the 8th inst., it was understood that at the earnest request of China, the armistice, and therefore the period for exchanging ratifications, had been extended five days. But apparently the urgent necessity pleaded by the Chinese Government as their reason for this request, did not assert itself in practice, for on the evening of the 8th instant it was generally believed in well informed circles that the ratifications would be exchanged that day at Chefoo. The belief received confirmation on the 9th instant, when a telegram arrived from Shanghai announcing that the exchange of ratifications had suddenly taken place at midnight on the 8th. We may add that good grounds existed for supposing that despite the five days' grace, the date originally fixed for the exchange would not be exceeded.

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* says that Mr. Mizuno, Chief Secretary of the House of Representatives, is to be appointed head of the civil administration in Formosa, and that he will proceed thither in company with Viscount Kabayama. Mr. Mizuno was the first Japanese to travel in Formosa and other Eastern lands for purposes of investigation. His journeyings took place the year before the expedition to Formosa in 1873.

There is some comment in vernacular newspapers as to the officers that will be appointed to the posts of Governor-General and Vice-Governor-General of Manchuria after the ratifications of the Treaty of Peace have been exchanged. But these forecasts are a little superfluous under the circumstances.

The *Kokkai* says that Admiral Ting, just before his death, addressed a letter to the Viceroy Li. It was a dignified but sad epistle. The Admiral asked that it should be respected as his last utterance on earth. Its gist was that the Peiyang Squadron, chief bulwark of the capital, having been destroyed, the fate of China was only too plain. Nothing remained but to make peace with all celerity, and to save the lives of the country's soldiers. He added that, in arranging the terms of peace, no attention should be paid to foreign interference: China should take counsel of Japan alone.

His Excellency Mr. Ito Miyoji, Plenipotentiary for the exchange of ratifications, arrived in Chefoo, according to the *Kokkai*, on the morning of the 6th, and had a meeting with the Chinese Plenipotentiary, Lord Li, on the 7th.

THE CASE OF THE "YIKSANG."

We print elsewhere a translation of the Judgment delivered by the Japanese Prize Court at Sasebo, in the case of the steamship *Yiksang*. The judgment contains the first detailed and trustworthy account of the incidents that led to the seizure of the vessel. It will be seen that no attempt was made to search her. The declaration of her master that she carried no contraband of war was accepted as final, and there would have been no further question had not some of the cases of so-called "bamboo steel" been found, after transfer to a lighter, to contain ammunition. Renewed investigation then took place, with the result that 224 packages of ammunition and rifle magazines were found to have been fraudulently shipped in the *Yiksang* by a German firm in Shanghai. Under the circumstances, the commander of the Japanese man-of-war had no recourse but to make capture of the *Yiksang* and her cargo, and carry her to Sasebo. The public, of course, were never in any doubt as to the good faith of the agents and owners of the steamer. It was plain that the fraud was limited to the shippers. None the less, the matter had to be duly sifted before a law court, and the result is that the ship and her cargo have been released, the cases of contraband alone being confiscated. Presumably the owners of the steamer will be able to recover from the dishonest shippers damages sufficient to cover the cost of her detention and the outlay on account of legal proceedings. That would still be much too small a penalty for such deception. We should like to know how long and to what extent such fraudulent practices have been going on. Owing to representations made by Western Powers at the commencement of the war, Japan agreed to make Shanghai a neutral port, and has carefully adhered to her agreement. But it does not appear that a similar engagement was required of China. At all events, she has acted as though no such obligation existed, taking liberal advantage of the place's newly acquired status to convert it into a basis for obtaining and manufacturing war material and enlisting foreigners for military service. The rifle magazines contained in Messrs. Telge and Company's boxes of "Chinese books" were made at the Kiang-ngan Arsenal, and inasmuch as that institution has been working day and night since the commencement of the war, it is not extravagant to assume that the packages shipped in the *Yiksang* were not by any means the first material of war smuggled from Shanghai to Tientsin by a similar process. Such things are inevitable incidents of warfare. They are known to have happened in every struggle concerning which history preserves accurate details. Yet, as civilization progresses, a higher sense of the duties of neutrals might reasonably be expected.

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KOREAN NEWS.

We gather the following from the Sōul correspondence of the Tokyo papers :—

A new fact has been revealed at the expense of Li, the favourite grandson of the Tai Wŏn-kun, lately arrested on a charge of murder and treason. It is that he is not a prince of the Blood, as was generally believed. The case stands thus :—The Court usage in Korea recognises relationship to the Sovereign as far as the 5th descendant, but regards all subsequent generations as mere subjects. The Tai Wŏn-kun is the 5th descendant of a prince of the Blood, who founded his family, and it follows that his grandson Li, the 7th of the line, is two degrees removed from the pall of the privileged class.

The Tai Wŏn-kun still persists in living in the vegetable-dealer's shop close by the place of Li's confinement, to which he removed by way of protest against his grandson's arrest. He is now considerably more composed than he was at first, and no longer gives way to paroxysms of grief. It is said, indeed, that he has recovered his former energy and even assumes a defiant attitude. That is reported to be partly due to the fact that he has found something to rely upon; namely, the sympathy of certain foreign representatives in Sōul. The other day, Mr. Allen, the United States Minister, called on the Korean Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, questioned him as to whether it was prudent for the Government to arrest a prince of the Blood, and whether it was true that the whole thing had emanated from the Japanese Minister. The Foreign Minister is said to have emphatically denied that Count Inouye was in any way responsible for the arrest of Li, and to have stated that it had been planned and carried out by the Government, who were compelled to take that course, deeming it absolutely essential to the maintenance of public tranquillity.

Inflammatory placards denouncing the Japanese Representative have been posted in several places of Sōul. They declare that Count Inouye is in league with traitors—the reference being, of course, to Boku and his coadjutors—and they call him a disturber of the public peace of Korea. More than ten charges are enumerated against him. The placards all bear the signature of Kin Seiryu, a native of Buk-chhŏng, in the province of Ham-gyŏng-do; apparently a fictitious name. The citizens of Sōul laughingly surmise that "Kin" is an incarnation of the spirit of the old bigot now staying at the fruit-dealer's shop.

It is not yet decided what punishment the culprit shall receive, but the general supposition is that out of special consideration for his relatives, he will be sentenced to exile for life. Li is now confined in a cell of small area, with only one dirty mat to lie on. Correspondents that have been allowed to peep into the dark cell describe the prisoner's aspect as very pitiable.

The five ring-leaders of the Tonghaks were sentenced to capital punishment and executed. They were all men of great presence of mind and stout heart, in every respect superior to the average Korean. Even when sentence of death was pronounced upon them, they maintained a placid mien. Cho, a councillor of the Department of Justice, remarked that, however resolute they might be, they must hold their lives precious, whereupon the chief of the five, Zen, replied that he did not value life at all, but that he bitterly regretted being regarded as a rebel. Another indignantly contended that no reason existed to put him and his compatriots to death as rebels. Mr. Uchida, the Japanese Consul in Sōul, endeavoured by every means in his power to save the men's lives, but the Korean judges were inflexible, and the rebel leaders were executed early on the morning of the 24th ult.

Two Japanese, Jimbo Ichiyeon, an ex-*soshi*, and Yoshida Jyujiro, both residents in Sōul, have been ordered by the Japanese Legation to leave Korea and not to return there for three years. A fool-hardy project brought this punishment upon them. They formed the design of taking Li from his cell and conveying him secretly to Japan, their silly hope being that they might thereby obtain a large reward from his relatives.

The budget from April to December of the current year has been framed after considerable discussion. The revenue is estimated at about 4,200,000 *yen* and the expenditure at 4,500,000. The Organization of the Government and the drafting of several important laws have been at last completed and were proclaimed on the 24th ultimo. They are to go into operation from April 1st, Korean Calendar. It is said that as all these laws have been formed with due regard to Korean manners and customs, they ought to be well adapted to the country.

COUNT OKUMA AND A FRENCH MILITARY ATTACHÉ.

The *Mainichi Shimbun* was suspended on the 5th inst., on the usual ground—containing matter prejudicial to public tranquillity. In what respect it offended against the Press Law, there is some uncertainty. Perhaps the offence lay in the leading article of that day, where the Progressionist organ strongly maintains the necessity of consulting and obeying public opinion in matters of diplomatic negotiation; a course that it blames the present Cabinet for not following. We shall refer to the article at greater length in a future issue, confining ourselves here to a brief *résumé*. A few days ago, a military attaché of the French Legation called on Count Okuma and told him that the chief reason why Russia had begun to display an unfriendly attitude toward Japan was because she imagined that Japan and England had entered into a secret alliance. The Count replied that if Russia conceived any such idea, she must either be ignorant of the actual state of affairs in Japan, or actuated by some secret project. The Count was inclined to believe the former hypothesis. Japan's object in occupying the Liaotung Peninsula is simply to secure the independence of Korea; nothing more or less. Hence the Count is puzzled to understand why Russia should have assumed such an unexpected attitude. Had Russia raised the question before the Treaty of Peace was signed by the two belligerents, Japan, being without ambition or mischievous intention, would have willingly negotiated with Russia. But under any circumstances, Japan could not afford to disregard a distinct expression of Russia's views. Viscounts Tani and Soga were also called upon by a French military officer, believed to be the same that waited on Count Okuma.

In another place, the *Mainichi* gives the opinion of the Progressionist leader on the situation. The Count dwells at first on the necessity of choosing one's enemy in undertaking a contest. In other words, a war, to be righteous and justifiable, should be directed against barbarism. Viewed from this standpoint, the present war ought to be termed as not a war between Japan and China, but rather a war between civilization and barbarism. Already Japan has taught much both to China and to Korea, as the world sees. An ancient sage observed that no foe can prevail against right. The remark applies thoroughly to the case of Japan. Even though one or two countries be led away by selfish considerations to show hostility to her, the rest of the world will take her side. The war has been very fortunate in the sense that it has enabled Japan to extend the benefit of her civilization to her uncivilized neighbours. Any country that places obstacles in Japan's way must therefore be regarded, as the enemy not of Japan, but of enlightenment, and against such an enemy, however powerful, Japan must be prepared to adopt a decided policy. An old adage says that only a coward quails in a righteous course. The present is an occasion to pursue resolutely the dictates of right. Japan ought not to hesitate.

LETTER FROM HIROSHIMA.

(From our Special Correspondent.)

Hiroshima, May 2nd.

After a hurried trip to Kyoto, at present the temporary centre of politics, H.E. Mr. Miyoji Ito, Japan's Plenipotentiary for the Exchange of Ratifications, returned here at ten this morning. He is to leave Ujina at four o'clock this afternoon by the war vessel *Yayeyama*. His suite comprises the following :—Mr. G. Nishi, Councillor of the Foreign Office, Mr. R. Tatsui, and Mr. H. Sato, Private Secretaries to H.E. the Plenipotentiary, Mr. C. Narahara of the Foreign Office, and Mr. N. Ishihara of the Cabinet. The escort consists of a police sergeant and two constables. I am the only representative of a newspaper allowed to accompany the embassy.

I do not understand that any communication has been received from Pekin concerning the ratification of the Peace Treaty by the Emperor of China. No great exercise of imagination is needed to conceive the reasons why such communication has not yet been made. It would, of course, be premature to attempt any prediction as to the course that China will ultimately pursue. Should she, in reliance upon the interference of a third Power, break her faith with Japan at this juncture, and renounce the Treaty solemnly entered into by her Plenipotentiaries, she must be held responsible for a state of affairs most serious to contemplate and most disastrous in its results to herself. In Kyoto and all along the route to this place, people were anxiously consulting about the situation. Many talk as though a war were imminent between this country and Russia. At Kobe, the keenest attention is paid to the movements of the Russian war-ships there. Altogether the situation seems in the highest degree critical. It is of course impossible to know what the morrow may bring forth. But taking all things into consideration, it seems to me that all hopes are not yet exhausted of a peaceful solution of the question. Meanwhile, it must be distinctly understood by any third Power adventurous enough to place itself between Japan and China, that the high-spirited inhabitants of these islands are determined, should the occasion arise, to vindicate their honour and dignity to the last drop of their blood. Let us, however, hope that things will not reach such a pass.

After the removal of the Imperial Headquarters to Kyoto, the city of Hiroshima suddenly became very quiet. It now looks even deserted. The few battalions of troops that were quartered here seem to have been despatched abroad.

I have just paid a visit to the charity hospital for military coolies, an institution that deserves the highest praise. It is maintained by the Society for the Relief of Discharged Coolies. The society owes its origin to the public spirited exertions of Dr. Kitazato, Prince Konoye, Dr. Aoyama, Prince Nijo, Mr. Honda Yoichi, Dr. Goto, Dr. Nagayo, Surgeon-General Ishiguro, and a number of other distinguished persons. It is entirely a private undertaking, receiving no help or assistance from the Government. Funds are obtained by contributions from Japanese and foreigners. The hospital occupies temple buildings in Shinsenba-cho. It is under the direction of Dr. T. Kondo, a graduate of the College of Medicine. There are three other doctors, two pharmaceutists, and a number of nurses. There are about sixty patients, all clad in clean hospital uniforms, and lying upon equally clean looking beds. The commonest forms of complaints are *kakke*, diseases of the respiratory organs, and frost-bite. The total number of patients treated in the hospital since its opening on the 24th of February last, has been 122, of whom 59 have been discharged on complete recovery, 5 died, and 58 are still under treatment.

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THE WAR AND ITS MORAL EFFECTS.

It is needless to say, writes the *Mainichi*, that the war has had great influence over the minds of the Japanese. A few remarkable instances are mentioned, the first being the effect on the study of Chinese. A discovery has been made in this connection, namely, that the eulogy penned by Chinese scholars in their works, as to the humanity and virtue prevalent in the "Celestial Kingdom," is mere deception, as the Chinese people are in reality so depraved and degraded as to perpetrate without compunction the most brutal and barbarous acts.

The importance of studying Chinese manners and customs has also been recognized, to such an extent, indeed, that there is not a daily newspaper or a periodical that does not devote columns to the discussion of the characteristics of the "Celestials." Hitherto the investigations of the Chinese Society have not attracted public attention to any great extent. Now, however, the people perceive the necessity of acquainting themselves with the political and economical, as well as the military and commercial state of the Chinese. The want of reliable records on the subject is much felt. There are only a few works by foreign travellers, or by old writers, available.

The war has also materially changed the bent of thought of the rising generation. They have discovered that they have been attaching too much weight to book learning and have neglected practical pursuits. They are now, therefore, adopting professions of one kind or another. It is evident that the number of philosophers, novelists, and so forth, will diminish considerably, while there will be an increase of competitors for the Army, Navy, and commerce. The study of Korean and Chinese is becoming very extensive.

Another effect of the war will be the disappearance of hero-worship of Europe and Europeans. Nor will the religious world be quite free from change. When a number of Buddhist priests and Christian clergymen went to the seats of war to minister to the spiritual wants of the soldiers, the people of Japan began to think that they were labouring under a misconception, and that, in reality, religions are [illegible] much under the control of the State as other matters. They now believe that religions are two-sided, and are composed of international and national features.

JAPANESE AND FOREIGNERS IN YINGKOW.

(From an occasional Correspondent.)

In your War News of Friday, April 5th, I notice a translation from an article in the *Fiji Shimpo*, dealing with the relations between the Japanese troops and the foreign residents at Yingkow. The article alludes to matters of hardly more than parochial interest, matters on which I had myself preserved silence; but since the writer in the *Fiji* evidently wishes to convince his countrymen that the conduct of the English residents was due to hatred of the Japanese, and that the conduct of the Americans may be presented in a favourable contrast, it seems to me expedient to set the facts in their true light. Nearly all the statements in the *Fiji*'s article are substantially true; but I think that anyone, English, American, or Japanese, that considers these facts with a mind free from national prejudice will form a conclusion differing widely from that of the writer in the *Fiji*.

The first statement in the article contains several inaccuracies. It runs as follows:—"Subsequently, learning that there was a Red Cross Hospital in the place, the Japanese officers desired to visit it. They made application in the first place to the British military surgeon, but he would not grant their request, even though twice preferred. His explanation was that if the patients saw the Japanese, they might be alarmed to an injurious extent. Application was then made at the hospital under the control of the Americans, and there they were not only readily admitted, but had explanations of the cases given to them, and were handed photographs illustrating the treatment recently pursued. As for the patients, they showed no alarm whatever."

Now there was no British military surgeon in Newchwang at all. The principal medical officer of the Red Cross Hospital at Newchwang was Dr. Daly, medical officer of the Customs. He was assisted by an English naval surgeon, an American naval surgeon, and several medical missionaries. It is very probable that Dr. Daly requested the Japanese officers not to enter the hospital at that time, for the reason named, that the patients might be alarmed to an injurious extent. It is quite possible also that the American naval surgeon differed in judgment in this matter, and showed some officers over the hospital. But it is certainly not true that Dr. Daly refused to allow the Japanese officers to enter the hospital, for he had no power to refuse—the Chinese wounded under his care were, from the moment the Japanese entered the town, all technically prisoners-of-war. Nor is it true that the patients were not afraid of the Japanese, though the men may not have shown any alarm to their Japanese visitors. A large number of the patients fled from the town when the Japanese approached, notwithstanding Dr. Daly's assurances that the Japanese would do them no harm; and many men not able to walk had themselves carried away by their friends. One man actually became insane from fear, and was still insane when I left Newchwang a week ago. When the Chinese had become used to the presence of the Japanese in the town, many Japanese visited the hospital, and always received the most courteous treatment from the hospital authorites. I myself saw some members of the Red Cross Society of Japan in the wards of the hospital, and was afterwards informed that these gentlemen had given donations towards the expenses of the institution. Before I quit this subject, I should like to add that the conduct of the Japanese military authorities in relation to the hospital has been all that the most exacting humanitarian could desire. They at once granted Dr. Daly's request that the patients should be left under the care of the foreign medical men, they posted sentries at the gates of the hospital to watch over its safety, and in various minor ways they exhibited a desire to help in the work that was being carried on.

With regard to the second allegation, that an Englishman improperly gained possession of 500 *koku* of rice that did not belong to him, or, in plain English, stole the rice, I have little to say. I have heard the story before and, I regret to say, on good evidence. But after all, if an English merchant takes advantage of a disturbed period to seize some property abandoned by its owners, however much such conduct may be reprobated, and it cannot be too strongly reprobated, it can hardly be said to have any bearing on the relations between Japanese and foreigners in Yingkow. It may be a matter of regret to Englishmen that such a man is an Englishman, just as it must be a matter of regret to Americans that Tweed was an American, but the incident has no international bearing whatever.

It is true, again, that the principal Chinese merchants of the town had posted over their doors boards with inscriptions denoting that the houses were owned by foreigners. On most of these was written, "Bush Brothers' Property"; but many also bore the legend "B & S," not, as might be imagined, a public-house sign, but the initials of a well-known firm; and over these houses floated the flags of the respective companies. Yingkow was in fact a perfect forest of such flags. I was told that the right to exhibit such notices and flags had been obtained "for a consideration;" and in any case these lying notices, bearing English names, were not a pleasant sight for an Englishman to see; but here again the fact has no international bearings. The right to use these boards and flags was sold, if it was sold, by unscrupulous persons, not with a view to thwart the Japanese, but simply and solely for private gain; and no comparison between the conduct of English and of American merchants can be made in this connexion for the plain reason that there are no American merchants in Newchwang. As for the statement that a Chinaman and an Englishman were put on watch at the gates of houses so distinguished, it is sufficient to show its absurdity when I say that if every English man, woman, and child in the settlement and the British warship had been pressed into such a service, they would not have sufficed to stand as sentries at the gates of the numerous houses that were decorated (and are still decorated) by these transparently lying signs.

Finally, I come to the only matter of serious importance, the different disposition alleged to have been exhibited towards the Japanese by the English man-of-war's men and the American man-of-war's men respectively. "When our forces entered Yinkow," says the writer in the *Fiji*, "there were a British and an American man-of-war at anchor there. The former took not the slightest notice of our coming, but the crew of the latter assembled on the deck from morning, and clapped hands and cheered as our men passed along." I regret to say that this statement is absolutely true; regret it, not on account of the English but on account of the Americans. In fact, when I first heard of the matter, I found it hardly possible to believe that the American officers could have permitted such an outrage on decency as this. Let us withdraw our minds for a moment from the contemplation of China and Japan, of England and America, and let us imagine some officials, subjects of a neutral country, watching the victorious entry of German invaders into a French town. Should we not say that the commonest canons of good-taste, to use no harsher phrase, required these neutrals, however strongly as individuals their sympathies might be on the side of the Germans, to refrain from any open expression of that sympathy? It is not a matter for surprise that this ill-judged conduct on the part of the Americans, and other like instances of partiality, led the Chinese to believe and openly to affirm that the foreign residents had all along been acting as spies for the Japanese, and had finally invited them to enter the city. No allegation could of course be more absurd, more baseless than this; but the Chinese misapprehension was, none the less, not unnatural.

The sympathy of the American people for the Japanese is well known, and is naturally highly valued by the latter; but it is a matter for regret that this sympathy should find ill-judged times and methods of expression, and still more a matter for regret that it should lead to a mistaken feeling of hostility on the part of the Japanese towards the English. As a matter of fact, though some of the most prominent residents of Newchwang are men who, having been long associated with the Chinese, value their many good qualities, and are strongly Chinese in their sympathies, yet they were not led by there sympathies to depart from an attitude of rigid neutrality; and there were other Englishmen present in the town whose friendliness towards the Japanese was quite as great as that of the Americans, but who felt that their position as neutrals made it incumbent on them to refrain from any active expression of that sympathy.

That is all that there is to be said about the article in the *Fiji*. These little exhibitions of international differences are as a rule better left unrecorded, and for my part I should certainly have passed over in silence what I cannot but regard as an error of taste and judgment on the part of the Americans in Newchwang, had not the *Fiji*'s correspondent thought fit to base on that error a sermon to prove to the Japanese that "Codlin's your friend, not Short."

AN DEN MIKADO.

Den Besieger China's.

Japanisches Kaiserreich
Asiens Perle bist Du!
Preussen ruft Dir Heil!
Alle Welt erfährt und nennt Deinen Ruhm!
Nimm Germania's glückwünsche an!

B.

Yokohama, May 1, 1895.

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MIRACULOUS RESCUE OF SHIP-WRECKED PASSENGERS.

A story of a remarkable rescue of shipwrecked passengers is told by the *Chuo*. Fujiwara Kuninosuke, a younger brother of the wife of Yamaguchi Yasubei, a contractor living in Higashimachi in the southern section of Osaka, is the second son of Usui Jyubei, who follows the business of mining in Ikuno, Tajima province. In May, 1888, he went to Osaka to procure some employment, but finding none, he proceeded to Tokyo about a month later. Through the kindness of some friends he obtained a position in the Educational Department, and drew a salary of 15 *yen* per month. But he did not remain long in that office, leaving it to take service in a Yokohama Hotel. There he attracted the favourable notice of an English merchant who proposed to take him to England. The youth, for he was at that time only 21 years old, accepted this kind offer with gratitude, his long-time aspiration having been to go abroad and educate himself. Owing to the suddenness of the affair, he had no time to write to his parents for permission before starting. In company with his benevolent English patron, whose transliterated name is "Barbican" as given by the *Chuo*, he went on board the French steamer *Natal* which sailed from Yokohama on September 9th, of 1889. From about 5 a.m. on the 11th of the same month, when the ship entered the China sea, a terrible gale overtook her and held her at its mercy during two consecutive days. At about 8 on the morning of the 14th, when the gale was still raging, the captain told the passengers that the ship was considerably damaged, that her *engines* also were injured so as to render her escape entirely hopeless, and that the only chance for the passengers was to leave the ship in boats, and trust their fate to providence.

The captain further said that the boats, of which there were four, could not hold all the passengers, but only 100 of them, 25 in each boat, and it thus became necessary to determine by lot who should leave the ship and who should remain in her with the crew. The passengers thereupon drew lots, and Kuninosuke became one of those that were to enter the boats. The passengers, ■ the number of 100, got into the boats, but as they had only oars they could not steer, and simply left the frail craft to drift with the waves. Two of the boats became separated, but the other two, in one of which Kuninosuke was, were lashed together by ropes. At about 5 p.m. next day an island was sighted some distance away. The people in the boats pulled at the oars with all their strength, and one of the little craft having successfully reached the shore, her inmates landed. The other, which had became detached from the first owing to the breaking of the ropes, was carried by the high waves upon a rock, where she upset, drowning all her inmates, for though their comrades who were on land saw their peril, they could do nothing to save them, being faint and exhausted by hunger and sea-sickness. That evening the 25 passengers slept on the shore of the island, and at dawn they started inland to see whether the place was inhabited. They saw at a distance four buildings, roughly constructed by piling up stones. Approaching and looking in, they found three men, apparently Hindoos, strangely attired in garments made by stitching together sea-weed. These persons emerged from their cave-like dwellings, displaying lean tall figures to the new comers, with whom they began to converse. But neither side could understand the other's language. It was apparent, however, that the three cave-dwellers must have similarly suffered from shipwreck and landed upon the island. The 25 passengers had with them a small store of provisions, but these could not last beyond a few days. Several, therefore, applied themselves to fishing, and in this way the party managed to keep body and soul together on a diet of fish and sea-weed. Every day, they scrutinized the horizon, to see if a ship could be descried, but though at times the smoke of steamers [illegible] they [illegible] such a distance as to be beyond the reach of voice or signal. In the meanwhile, out of the 25, no less than 18 died of disease, only 7 surviving, one of whom was Kuninosuke. About 6 years passed in this way when at last their long misery suddenly came to an end. On the morning of the 21st of March last, they saw, to their indescribable delight, a big ship approach the coast and cast anchor. Of the seven survivors two were Japanese, one Kuninosuke and the other Yamaguchi Hideo, a native of Hiroshima Prefecture. Keen was their delight when they observed that the ship flew the flag of the Rising Sun. The two hastily rowed out in their boat and were taken on board the ship, which proved to be the *Chiyoda Kan*, of the Imperial Japanese Navy. It had formed one of the squadron that accompanied the Japanese expedition to the Pescadores. They were introduced to the captain of the vessel, who was deeply touched when they recounted the story of their long suffering during seven years, and they then learned for the first time that the island on which they had landed and lived was situated in the neighbourhood of Formosa. The *Chiyoda* being on an important mission at the time, had no leisure to extend help to the other survivors on the island. She weighed anchor immediately and moved off, taking the two Japanese with her. On the morning of the 23rd she arrived in the vicinity of the Pescadores, which were shortly afterwards taken, and garrisoned by Japanese troops. Kuninosuke is now in the Pescadores, whence he wrote a letter about a month ago to his sister's husband in Osaka. Nothing could exceed the joy of the couple and of the youth's mother. His father had died a few years previously. Nothing is mentioned in the *Chuo* about the other survivors on the island, but we presume that steps must have been taken to rescue them.

KARUIZAWA.

A correspondent writes:—For the past two or three weeks Karuizawa has been a scene of great activity. The villagers are busily engaged in making ready their houses for the reception of expected visitors during the coming summer. Many improvements have already been made. On both sides of the village street trees of various kinds have been planted in front of nearly every house, adding very much to the appearance of the place. Two of the oldest houses on the main street have been torn down, and the better ones have been repaired. Three new houses are in process of construction. The street itself is kept scrupulously clean, and the whole air of the village is an improvement on former years.

The local hotel in Karuizawa is also undergoing repairs, and during the coming summer it should not be a cause of disappointment to guests as it was last year. Twelve rooms have been fitted up, most of them provided with new walls and ceilings. What is more important is that the appointments of the rooms will be much better than last year. It will probably compare with the inns at Ikao.

Best of all, however, is a plan, now under way, of planting a line of trees from the Station at new Karuizawa to the old village. The foreigners now in Karuizawa, four or five families, made an offer, in anticipation of the summer visitors, to the village authorities to pay for the planting of a row of trees about 20 feet apart on each side of the road, on condition that the village keep the road in repair and replace the dead trees. The offer was accepted and already a considerable portion of the road is lined with well selected saplings. The young trees, without foliage except the first buds of spring, already make a decided addition to the good appearance of the road. The people of the village are to be congratulated on their display of enterprise and foresight, and they deserve the rich harvest of visitors they are certain to receive during the coming summer.

THE SITUATION IN TOKYO.

The excitement of the residents in the metropolis is intense at the present moment. There is great nervous tension, and people talk in subdued, anxious undertones, quite different from their ordinary everyday conversation. Since Saturday morning most of the papers of the capital have been issuing expresses at intervals of a few hours, in which every rumour is rehearsed, even those palpably incorrect. The *Hochi's* express of Saturday evening gave telegraphic extras from three Southern papers, in which it was stated that certain telegrams had reached private houses in Osaka (and elsewhere) to the effect that the Emperor of China had ratified the Treaty of Peace. The *Miyako Shimbun*, and others, stated in their extras that a despatch announcing ratification had been received by the Specie Bank. But all Saturday evening and the whole of Sunday the streets were thronged with people apparently engrossed in discussing the burning topic of the moment. The general opinion seemed to be that China would not repudiate the Treaty, and that her Emperor would sign; but the younger portion of the populace, the students and *soshi*, loudly expressed the desire that China would be true in her reputation and refuse to ratify; "in which case our armies will soon be in possession of Pekin and the whole of Northern China," they vaunted. At all events, we never remember anything to equal the depth of feeling apparent in the metropolis at present; the only occasion at all comparable was when the news of the fall of Port Arthur was hourly expected and the days passed without bringing the welcome tidings. One thing at least is certain. There is unanimity of sentiment as to the course Japan should pursue in case of further duplicity on the part of China. It is her duty to fight her stubborn foe, everyone holds, even though all Europe rise against such a proceeding; to fight China until she is ready to accept any and every condition of peace. The martial spirit of the people is thoroughly aroused, and it is evident that they will by no means consent to the loss of even one tittle of Japan's prestige.

DESTRUCTIVE FIRE AT KITA-GATA.

A few minutes before twelve o'clock last night a lamp was upset in the house of Imamura Fusa, No. 2, Chiyozakicho, Kitagata, Yokohama, and within a few minutes the whole building was ablaze. This village extends along the foot of the Bluff, and the place where the outbreak occurred is not far from the Kirin Beer Brewery. The flames quickly spread to adjoining houses and then crossed the narrow lane which runs off the main-road leading towards Honmoku. Then the wind chopped round, the flames leaped the main road, and the block of houses on the other side caught. Firemen belonging to the native and police Brigades were quickly on the spot, but their efforts were of slight avail as the supply of water was lamentably short. At one time, a European house standing on a level with the lower road seemed to be in great danger, but fortunately the direction of the breeze again changed and the fire was driven in upon itself. This saved the rest of the ramshackle houses along the main-road, but the fire still raged among the small tenements near where it originated. In the end, eighty houses were destroyed, the last roof falling in about ten minutes past one o'clock. During the commotion, a cripple, named Watanabe Sutekichi (30), residing at No. 1, Chiyozakicho, narrowly escaped death, but was rescued by Saito Keizaburo, a Bluff Constable. Constable Sakuma Miyo, of the same station, sustained some nasty burns on the face and hands in rescuing a small boy who had wandered into a dangerous position among the burning houses.

After handing over command of the British Squadron in China to Vice-Admiral Buller, C.B., Admiral Fremantle intends to return to England, *viâ* Japan, San Francisco, and New York.

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THE BRITISH REPRESENTATIVE.

His Excellency the Honble. P. Le Poer Trench has recovered to a great extent from his recent severe illness, and there is now every prospect that time and repose will completely restore him to health. Mr. Trench has returned from Miyanoshita and is now at the Legation in Tokyo. He leaves for home by the Canadian Pacific steamer on the 10th instant, and will probably take a well-earned rest of from four to six months in England. Everybody in Japan will be anxious to hear of his full recovery and to welcome his return to a post where he has won universal respect and esteem. We understand that the last week of Mr. Trench's stay in Japan will be spent in Yokohama.

AS THE JAPANESE SEE US.

The subterfuges resorted to by the anti-Japanese journals of Yokohama to escape the odium attaching to their extraordinary mood are very quaint. At one time they pretend that their implacable hatred of the nation is in reality a form of love: the love of the parent that never spares the rod. Hypocrisy could not be carried farther. At another time, they plume themselves on their independence, and devise bad names for every one that does not join them in traducing the Japanese. Their latest pretence is the queerest of all. "Were there no *Japan Mail*," they say, "we should not be so bitterly hostile to the people among whom we live and to the country whither we have come to make a living." Delightful notion! If only they were suffered to indulge their abusive tendencies without check, there would be no semblance of a difference of opinion. Everything would then be plain sailing. The stream of slander and malevolence would flow on quite smoothly. Then again, when called to account for endeavouring to prevent the restoration of peace by urging the Chinese not to ratify the Treaty and Russia not to permit its execution if ratified, they defend themselves by saying that their utterances are not likely to influence the Cabinets in either Pekin or St. Petersburg. "It is not probable that we can accomplish the mischief we seek to do, therefore we may be pardoned for making the attempt." Perhaps these writers may be interested to learn what a Japanese journalist thinks of them. We therefore reproduce an article *verbatim* from the last issue of the *Yorozu Cho-ho*:—

The peace treaty is being made the object of an incendiary attack by the anti-Japanese English journals published in Yokohama. The aim of the writers is well-known, so that it almost requires no recapitulation here. The whole thing might be put in a nut-shell, namely: the anti-revised-treaty-mania. We feel sorry for them that the day of their licentious existence is now numbered, and we can well understand their feeling. But when they attempt to calumniate this country, distorting truth and otherwise trying to disturb the peace of the country, we must protest in name of fairplay and justice. Let us ask by what right they are living in this country, and what guaranteed them the liberty to preach a sedition in our midst? What object is there to be attained by creating an ill-feeling between this country and Russia? The treaty of commerce now existing between England and Japan, imperfect as it is—and for which alone every abuse is possible—does confer no right on these anti-Japanese English writers to embroil this country in a war with Russia or any other power. Under its provisions, they are allowed to engage in a legitimate trade or profession, not to engage in a seditious undertaking which is in open violation of the treaty, and, even if they did succeed in bringing about a war between Russia and this country, the present treaty will not be maintained beyond next four years or so, nor will the revised treaty with England be abolished. The thing is getting too far. These agitators are treading on a dangerous ground. They have violated the spirit of the treaty of amity existing between their country and this. It is within the competance of the Japanese Government to order these men out of the country; they have proven themselves to be the bitterest enemies of Japan and criminals aiming at the destruction of the peace. It is high time that the authorities should show a vigorous hand and make an example of them, so that the rest sharing their views should take a warning. The resolute action of the *Nanimo* commander in sinking the steamer *Kowshing* has had a salutary effect upon a certain section of the foreign community in the East which thinks there is no justice for the Asiatics and looks upon fraud as its sole and legitimate means. In the same manner, the Government should put an end to the presence of the dangerous characters for once and all. Too much leniency and good-will, they will construe into a sign of impotence and helplessness. The Government's anxiety to protect and give as much facilities as possible to the foreigners is proverbial, and moreover it pays but a little attention to the studied vapourings of these writers. We easily admit the wisdom of this policy seeing that no national disaster has yet been brought about by them. On the contrary, their predictions always turned wrong and shamed themselves into silence. But when their utterance damage the reputation of this country and in any way impair the friendly relations now happily existing between this, and other countries, a wholesome check must be applied at once. To give an instance, they steadily tried to excite the feeling of the foreigners in Japan and elsewhere against our people. As a result of this, there arose a corresponding degree of ill-feeling against the English. For all this, the blame is laid at our door. This is a mean trick, in thorough keeping with their cowardly attitude—a disgrace to the Europeans. They hide themselves behind the extra-territorial parapets and resort to all sorts of mischievous tricks. Thus far, they are responsible for the anti-English sentiment. In fact, they are traitors to their own country and implacable foes of our progress. They deserve to be held up to the execration of every fair-minded man. If Koyama, the would-be assassin of Li Hung-chang deserved to be imprisoned for life for attempting at his life, these English journalists whose sole aim it is to prolong the war and plunge this country into a whirlpool of destruction and misery ought to be shot. In the commencement of the war, they wished this country to be beaten; then seeing China overtaken by a series of disasters, urged England, France, and Russia to interfere and force the peace; and now seeing the peace restored, express a fervent wish to have the struggle renewed. Their purpose is insincere beyond description and they are prompted by one feeling—jealousy. This feeling takes the form of deadly animosity against Japan. So long as they live in this country enjoying its hospitality and protection, they are bound both morally and legally to support its peace and prosperity—a duty which every native and alien owes to a sovereign state. In Europe, no such thing as exists in the treaty limits of Japan will be tolerated, and there these agitators will have had to repent their errors in the dudgeon by this time. Here every freedom is allowed, and instead of gratitude criminal attempt is made to disturb the national tranquility. Let us place on record that this nefarious practice is done by the English journalists; that their presence is a menace to the good understanding between the foreigners and Japanese; and that we regard with regret that the interests of the English residents terribly suffer in these anti-Japanese papers.

CHINESE SALT.

It has always been believed by the Japanese people that Chinese salt is inferior to and also much dearer than the Japanese article, and that, therefore, the export of salt from Japan to China must prove highly profitable. The matter was even discussed by the Imperial Diet last session, and a representation on the subject was submitted to the Government by the two Houses. The Department of Agriculture and Commerce entrusted to Messrs. Inouye Jiutaro, M.P., and Oku, an expert of the Department, the task of inquiring into the salt industry in the Liaotung Peninsula, and despatched them thither in the latter part of March. They reached Talien on the 6th ultimo, and Mr. Inouye has now returned, after staying in the Peninsula for more than half a month, and has furnished to the vernacular press a brief account of what he saw there. His story makes it clear that the Japanese were labouring under a delusion when they condemned Chinese salt, for he has found, as will be seen below, that Chinese salt is of far better quality than that made in Japan. He and his colleague were, in fact, struck with surprise when they first visited the places where salt is manufactured in China, for not only was the salt found much superior to Japanese, but also the mode of manufacture was simpler and on a larger scale than that generally resorted to in Japan. Salt farms exist in Wangchiatou, Kuchiatou, Kaiping, Port Arthur, and so forth, but Mr. Inouye only saw those at the first two places. Salt is manufactured in the Peninsula entirely by the heat of the sun, a great improvement on the mode in vogue in Japan, for the latter, besides requiring much fuel and much labour, is so complicated that before the ingredients held in solution in the brine are turned into salt the assistance of human labour is required no less than 21 times. Moreover, the salt manufactured after so much trouble and expense is mixed with a large quantity of alkali, a defect not observable in Chinese salt. Heaps of salt that Mr. Inouye saw at the two places mentioned above, were as fine and pure as crystal. The reason why the salt used at places remote from the manufacturing districts is so dark and impure-looking is that the mode of transportation is defective and much foreign matter becomes mixed with the salt *en route*. It is true that the grains of Chinese salt are much larger than those of Japanese, but there is nothing to find fault with in this, for by a simple process of grinding the salt can be made as fine as one pleases. The Peninsula is naturally suited for the manufacture of salt, chiefly because the rainfall is very small. From the 6th ult., when Mr. Inouye arrived at Talien, to the 23rd, when he left it, rain fell only once, and that in small quantity. It is said that the period when salt is chiefly manufactured extends each year from the early part of February to about the 10th of June. July being a rainy month the manufacture is suspended, but in the three month of August, September, and October, it can be successfully carried on by paying due heed to meteorological conditions. In each of the two centres of salt manufacture that Mr. Inouye visited, he saw hundreds of acres of salt-fields on which work was going on. There was also quite as large an area of fields not worked in ordinary times, being brought into use only once in every 5 or even 10 years, when the manufacturers receive orders from the Governor-General of Mukden to produce tens of millions of catties of salt to be sent to Shantung. The price of salt is very high in China, because this important article of diet is a monopoly of the Government. It is therefore thought that should the restrictive system be abolished so as to leave the people free to manufacture and sell without restraint, the price of salt would be reduced so much as even to make its export to Japan profitable. In view of this report, the vernacular press naturally advises persons contemplating the export of salt to China not to be hasty, but to wait till Mr. Oku returns after having more thoroughly investigated the condition of the salt industry there.

Mr. Inouye's observations on farming in the Liaotung Peninsula are also interesting, as he is one of the best authorities on agriculture to be found outside official circles in Japan. The Peninsula, he says, is a vast field under cultivation, every spot available for purposes of farming being tilled and planted. The mode of farming is different from that in vogue in Japan. It rather follows the European method, though it is not on so large a scale. Even a petty farmer, however, possesses two or three waggons together with a sufficiency of men to draw them. A man's wealth is generally estimated according to the number of cattle and poultry that he keeps. The fertilization of the land is very thorough. In some corner of every farm a heap of manure may be seen piled up for purposes of decomposition. The patience and diligence of Chinese farmers are truly astonishing. Every morning during the farming season, they rise at 4 and go to the fields, whence they do not return till dusk; their mode of living is frugal in the extreme. The cost of living for one person is about 1.30 *yen* per month, and in manner of living there is not much difference between master and employé. The chief distinction is in the nature of their foot-gear. Though so plain in their fare and dress, Chinese farmers are very careful about the feeding of their cattle. They even spend more on the food of one ox than on that of a man. Beans can be cultivated everywhere in the Peninsula, and though the rate of yield may not exceed 3 *to* per *tan* (6 bushels per acre) whereas in Japan about 5 *to* can be raised from the same plot of ground (10½ bushels per acre), still, when all things are taken into consideration, Mr. Inouye thinks that the Chinese farming must have [illegible]

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RATIFICATION.

ON the 2nd instant at 5 p.m., H.E. Mr. ITO MIYOJI, Japanese Plenipotentiary for the purpose of exchanging ratifications, proceeded to Ujina, and embarked in the *Yayeyama Kan*. The ship steamed out of port half an hour later, steering for Port Arthur, whence she was to proceed to Chefoo. It is a significant fact that the vernacular press expresses surprise at Mr. ITO'S departure. Evidently the general feeling is that ratification of the Treaty of Peace need not be looked for. The public has judged rightly, we imagine. From the moment that Germany, Russia, and France interfered, it was not to be supposed that China would fail to avail herself of the door of escape thus opened to her. Japan, however, acts wisely in fulfilling her agreement to the letter. She promised to exchange ratifications of the Treaty at Chefoo on the 7th of May, at latest, and failing explicit announcement of the Chinese Government's resolve not to ratify, she is evidently bound to assume that good faith will be observed, and to take whatever steps are necessary in accordance with that assumption. It is, of course, possible that Mr. ITO may not proceed to Chefoo after all: a telegram at Port Arthur may stop him. But no such telegram can be sent unless China definitively intimates her refusal to ratify the Treaty, and the strong probability is that China will not give any such intimation, it being plainly to her advantage that the period of armistice should continue as long as possible. Mr. ITO'S procedure at Chefoo may be difficult, for it is conceivable that, under the circumstances, no preparations of any kind will be made to receive him. But we need not dwell upon such anticipations.

China's failure to ratify will at once bring the situation to a climax. The Treaty then lapses, *ipso facto*, and the question will arise, must the war be resumed or will peace negotiations be reopened. There lies now on the shoulders of Germany, Russia, and France the responsibility of having effectually postponed the restoration of tranquillity in the East. Not the slightest doubt exists, we think, as to the verdict that history will pronounce on the procedure of the three Powers. They have not acted in the interests of peace: they have acted in the interests of war. Had they honestly desired to see relations of amity re-established between the two empires, they would have made known their views to the Japanese Government before the negotiations were concluded, and before Japan had committed herself to a position from which she could not recede without great embarrassment, possibly without seriously endangering her domestic tranquillity. The coming of the Viceroy LI to Hiroshima in the capacity of an Envoy to sue for peace, was a unique opportunity for the two neighbours to elaborate an understanding such as would not only have ended the war, but would also have materially promoted the cause of progress in the Orient. Germany, Russia, and France knew the terms originally proposed by Japan, terms naturally more extensive than those finally agreed to. Why did they not then convey a friendly intimation to Japan that such terms, if persisted in, would provoke their opposition? Had they done so earnestly and firmly, nothing could have been easier than to modify the negotiations so as to satisfy East and West alike without sacrificing the occasion. But, whether through carelessness or by design, they waited until a situation of the most perplexing character was created; waited until their joint interference must produce a maximum of mischief, and magnify enormously the difficulty of a *rapprochement* between the belligerents. In whose interests did the able and far-seeing diplomatists of Berlin and Paris act? Uniquely in Russia's interests. Russia, we are forced to conclude, desires nothing less than the growth of Japan's strength. It is her object to place every possible impediment in the path of this empire's development. Instead, therefore, of intervening at a time when practical respect might have been paid to her views without sacrificing Japan's just claims or exposing her to the crippling effects of domestic dissensions, Russia regulated her interference so as to mar the situation effectually, re-estrange the belligerents, and make herself and her confederates arbiters of the crisis. We are not arguing from the point of view of international morality. Neither are we attempting to censure Russia. If she detects in Japanese development a danger to herself or an impediment to her designs, she has a title, according to *fin-de-siècle* canons, to employ every means of injuring Japan. But it is well that the truth be recognised, and that the part to which Germany and France have committed themselves in Russia's interests should be understood. On these three Powers, we repeat, rests the responsibility of having prevented a peaceful arrangement. Should Japan, as will assuredly be her right, resume offensive operations against China on the latter's failure to ratify the Treaty, what steps will Russia, Germany, and France take? There will then be no treaty in existence to constitute a basis for their interference. Will they require Japan to formulate an exact statement of the objects for which she is fighting? Or will they seek to avert a renewal of hostilities by requiring China to sue again for peace? They have created the dilemma, and it is for them to solve it.

UP to the 4th instant, rumours have been peristently circulated that the Emperor of CHINA has ratified the Shimonoseki Treaty. The story rests upon two bases. The first is a telegram from Shanghai despatched on the forenoon of the 4th inst. It says:—"The Emperor of CHINA has ratified the Treaty of Peace." The second is a similar telegram said to have been received by a Yokohama resident from Sir ROBERT HART on the same day. In the face of these items of intelligence, we find the following in the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* of the 5th instant:—

> Kyoto, 6.17 p.m. 4th instant.
> No news has been received here except the telegram from Shanghai.

To this the *Nichi Nichi* adds:—"It is, however, alleged that a telegram has reached a certain person from Tientsin to the effect that the Emperor of CHINA will ratify the Treaty in time for the exchange of ratifications." Elsewhere in the same journal we find this paragraph:—"With reference to the ratification of the Treaty, no news has been received except the Shanghai telegram. Any official intimation from China would follow previous precedent and reach the Foreign Office in Tokyo *vid* the United States Representative. But it is said that no such intimation has been received. Some people speak as though the Chinese Government might be expected to telegraph direct to his Excellency Mr. ITO MIYOJI at Port Arthur. But it must be remembered that we are still at war with China, and that there is no telegraphic communication between Pekin and Port Arthur. To get at Port Arthur, a telegram would have to be sent to Chefoo in the first place, and then it would have to be conveyed to its destination by steamer. The only alternative would be to send a message across the wires *vid* Shanghai, Nagasaki, and Korea. Moreover, such direct communication would be contrary to international usage. There is no channel except the United States Legation for officially transmitting intelligence that ratification has taken place. In yesterday's newspapers allusions were made to a telegram from Kyoto, to one from Shanghai, and to one said to have been received by a Yokohama resident. Some journals even went so far as to issue extras. But the truth is that all the intelligence to hand is contained in one telegram from Shanghai."

We may supplement the above by saying that up to yesterday evening no official intelligence of ratification had been received in Tokyo.

Our readers now have the facts before them. They will doubtless find it as strange as we do that if ratification be really a *fait accompli*, no official intimation has reached Japan. On the evening of the 4th, it was rumoured that the Viceroy LI had telegraphed direct to Count ITO, but the Kyoto message translated above from the *Nichi Nichi* disposes of that statement. Thus far, we have

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nothing to depend on save a telegram from Shanghai, and Shanghai telegrams have not hitherto earned a reputation for trustworthiness. At the same time, it can not be denied that much credence is attached to the present rumour by the Japanese public. On the 5th instant, the market price of the War Loan Boards suddenly rose 9 per cent., the greatest and quickest variation hitherto experienced by them.

A significant fact is that China has been asking for a prolongation of the time allowed for ratification—in other words, a prolongation of the period of the extended armistice—and that Japan has refused any such concession. Assuming that the EMPEROR in Peking ratified immediately on receipt of Japan's refusal, we are inclined to doubt whether news of the fact could have yet reached Tokyo. But upon that point we do not speak with assurance. It may be added here that were ratification effected even as late as the 5th instant, there would still be ample time for the ratification to reach Chefoo by the 8th.

If, contrary to the expectations generally entertained prior to the 4th instant, the Emperor of CHINA is persuaded to ratify the Treaty, a very curious and interesting situation will ensue. There will then be no question any longer of foreign interference between the two empires. China will be out of the field. She will have purchased peace, paid the price to her conqueror, and released herself finally from the complication. On the other hand, the Liaotung Peninsula will be Japan's absolute property, China having definitively surrendered possession of it. Despite that state of affairs, will the three European Powers insist that Japan should restore the Peninsula to China? Or will they demand that she vacate it in favour of Russia? Or will they require that the settlement of the two empires' differences be re-considered by a tribunal of Western States, and that each shall bow to the decision of the tribunal? Probably Russia could be placated by some territorial acquisition. But to such a solution Germany and France could not possibly subscribe. They have not formed a union solely for the purpose of diverting a share of the spoils into Russia's direction. It appears to us that ratification of the Treaty by China would make a very embarrassing problem for the three Powers to solve in unison.

JAPAN'S ALLEGED ANSWER.

JAPAN'S domestic affairs, being practically *terra incognita* to local foreign journalists, constitute a very convenient basis of argument and inference whenever hostile critics desire to make a point against this empire. At one time we used to be assured that the nation at large did not care a pin's head about Treaty Revision, and that the unceasing struggle made by the Japanese Government during more than twenty years to re-assert the country's sovereign rights—tariff and political autonomy—was a mere official phantasy, to which no special attention need be paid by foreign Powers. But when England agreed to ratification, the same critics called upon the Japanese nation to recognise the immense benefits that had been conferred on it, and claimed that the people at large should be at once permeated with a sentiment of profound gratitude toward Great Britain. The Japanese, in short, were to be universally delighted by the receipt of a favour that they did not care twopence to receive! This contradiction, flagrant and hard to surpass as it seems, has nevertheless been thrown into the shade by another of more recent date. When the war between China and Japan broke out, writers whose pleasure it is to condemn Japan in every instance and under all circumstances, declared that she had drawn the sword, not to redress any real wrong, but chiefly to divert the mind of the nation from domestic politics, the course of which, unless turned into some foreign channel, tended to plunge the country into serious troubles. That doctrine was persistently maintained, and was even applied to the question of peace negotiations, the contention being that the Government dare not formulate moderate terms in the face of the inflated and excited spirit pervading the nation. Only a few days ago we were treated to reiterations of the charges. But what are we now told by the very same critics? That the Japanese people count for virtually nothing at all in such matters; that, like Orientals in general, they are merely passive; that they acquiesce in whatever the authorities decree, and that they accept whatever the SOVEREIGN approves. We no longer recognise the nation of turbulent agitators that compelled their Government to choose a foreign war as the alternative to insurrection at home. The Japanese people have now become a passive, quiescent, apathetic congeries of law-abiding units, whose moods their rulers need not consult, and whose placable disposition justifies their statesmen in omitting them from all international calculations. Need it be said that this extraordinary inconsistency on the part of Japan's critics is the outcome of their perennial desire to prove her wrong in each and every conjuncture? Reuter telegraphed from London that, in answer to the joint attempt of Germany, France, and Russia to compel Japan's surrender of territory ceded to her by conquered China, the statesmen of this empire had replied that such a step would "risk an uprising of the Japanese people." "Uprising of the Japanese people, forsooth!" cried the critics. "That is only another of the plausible and insincere excuses for which Japanese statesmen are notorious. The Japanese people are the quietest creatures in existence. They would never dream of opposing any decisions of the Authorities or objecting to any concessions made by the Government to foreign countries." Yet they are the very same people whose political turbulence, according to these very same critics, drove the Government, ten months ago, to perpetrate the iniquity of foreign war upon a foreign State in order to avoid insurrection at home.

As to that curious telegram professing to give the gist of Japan's answer to the three Powers, we noted in a recent issue that it was obviously apocryphal, since it undertook to summarise a State paper that had not even been composed at the time, and was not transmitted until some days afterwards to the Representatives of Germany, Russia, and France. We may now add what must have been obvious to any thoughtful person, that Reuter's version of the Japanese Government's reply is little short of ridiculous. The notion of the Government's openly declaring to Europe that the Japanese nation is so completely inebriated by military success as to be incapable of control, and that there would be danger of a domestic rebellion if the SOVEREIGN entertained a remonstrance formulated by three of the strongest Powers in the world, is too silly to deserve a moment's consideration. But any stick serves to beat Japan.

THE WAR.

IT may now be assumed with tolerable confidence that the war is at an end. The uncertainty existing since the 4th instant with reference to ratification of the Treaty by China has been resolved by the receipt of a telegram from the Viceroy Li to the Minister President of State, announcing that the Vermilion Pencil has at length performed its promised task. The complications resulting from interference by the Three European Powers have also been unravelled, and everything points to the immediate restoration of peace. It is understood that, in view of the pressure brought to bear by Germany, France, and Russia, the Government of Japan has been induced to make certain modifications of the terms of the Treaty of Peace. What those modifications are, the public will doubtless learn in good time. The only comment to be made at present is that, however ardently some persons might have desired to see Japan preserve an obdurate front, and defy all risks rather than confess herself unable to cope with them, she has certainly chosen the wiser part in preferring compromise to renewed contest. There will doubtless be many topics for comment when the exchange of ratifications has become an accomplished fact, but at the present moment criticism would be premature. Japan has fought a stout fight, and she

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may congratulate herself on emerging from the contest with such an increase of prestige as never fell to the lot of any nation in the same brief period. The Occident's recognition of her now is radically different from what it was a year ago. We do not pretend to think that she has established her competence to hold her own against any great Power. The nature of the opposition she encountered at the hands of the Chinese was not such as to test her qualifications for a war against highly disciplined and skilfully led troops. But most assuredly she has surprised even her warmest admirers by her display of organizing faculty. We ourselves were never in any uncertainty as to the issue of the war. On August 4th, last year, we wrote:—"The Japanese will win. They may, of course, meet with some mishaps. Torpedoes and big guns are weapons capable of occasionally deadly effects in any hands. But the final issue will be decided by discipline, dash, and devotion." Again, on August 25th, we said:—"Japan will be successful. From the first we never had the smallest doubt of that. She will beat the Chinese wherever she can find them." These forecasts were penned before anything in the shape of a decisive encounter had occurred. They show how thorough was our confidence in Japan's victory. But we confess that her methods have far exceeded our expectations, and that she appears to us now much more formidable than she did a year ago. Of that reward—her sudden and signal rise in public estimation—nothing can deprive her, whatever portion of her material gains as a conqueror she may have been obliged to forego through the pressure of an irresistible and inexplicable combination of European States. She will be criticised, of course, for surrendering anything. Superficial observers will say that however brave she has shown herself against an Eastern enemy, she displays characteristic Orientalism in yielding at the first sound of Occidental menace. But the verdict of all thoughtful men must be that she has won an additional title to consideration by discriminating between possibilities and impossibilities, and by sacrificing the less valuable part of her gains for the sake of securing the more important. From an English point of view we are unfeignedly glad that things have taken such a course. It seemed at one time as though Russia might obtain something opposed to English interests and traditional policy. But no such issue has to be recorded. Russia has not obtained anything.

A meeting attended by many representatives of the Opposition parties was held at the Tokyo Hotel on the 8th inst., to receive the report of Messrs. Kusumoto Masataka and Kawashima Jun, who lately returned from Kyoto, where they had been to inquire into the condition of political affairs.

FORMOSA.

THE acquisition of Formosa by Japan seems in some respects to have been indicated by nature. The two chief articles of export are sugar and camphor. Of the former, Japan is the principal purchaser, and without her aid a great part of the latter would be unsaleable. It is generally admitted that the amount of sugar consumed by a nation furnishes a fair test of its prosperity. The statistics of consumption in Japan's case are very remarkable, for whereas the value of her total imports of sugar in 1889 was only 6½ million *yen*, it rose to 13¾ millions in 1894. This remarkable increase was divided almost equally, in so far as concerns percentage, between brown and white sugar. Speaking approximately, the whole of this important staple of import is obtained from Hongkong and Formosa, the Hongkong refineries furnishing no less than 8½ million *yen* worth of white sugar, and practically the whole Formosan production of brown sugar coming to Japan. It is probable that the Hongkong industry will be seriously affected by the transfer of Formosa to Japanese possession, for the erection of refineries in Formosa under Japanese auspices can only be a question of time. The profitable production of camphor in Formosa also depends to some extent on Japan, for the Formosan vegetable will not crystallize unless mixed with a certain proportion of Japanese camphor. The cause of this peculiarity has not yet been discovered, but the fact is well-known. India takes a certain part of the Formosa product in its unrefined state, and the manufacture of celluloid opens another market, but the refined crystals used for medical and preservative purposes and for the manufacture of smokeless powder cannot be obtained without an admixture of Japanese camphor. The provincial authorities in Formosa maintain that the camphor forests, having been wrested from the savage autochthons by force of arms, and brought under cultivation at public expense, are the property of the Crown and that they must be either administered by the State or let out to private capitalists on conditions framed entirely at Government convenience. In order to secure the industry against interruption from the savages, the Provincial Government keeps a standing garrison, the expenses of which, being incurred chiefly on account of the camphor trade, are defrayed by a "garrison tax," which now takes the form of an excise. This tax amounts to about one half of the price at which the camphor is sold for purposes of export, and there can be no doubt that if the impost was removed a great stimulus would be given to production. To remove it, however, the savages must be brought under complete subjection, and that, doubtless, will be one of the first tasks to which the Japanese will apply themselves on taking possession of the island. With regard to these savages, it is interesting to note the remarks made by Mr. F. HIRTH, Acting Commissioner of Customs, in his Tamsui Trade Report for 1891:—"The savages of Formosa would be a difficult enemy for any body of troops to deal with. The abrupt steepness of the hills that separate the savage territories from the surrounding plains inhabited by Chinese settlers makes a natural stronghold; and the ape-like swiftness with which these aborigines ascend an almost perpendicular wall of rock, never attacking, except with a safe retreat, firing from behind hiding places, and hardly ever seen by the opposing force, which is thus kept in suspense for weeks, with continuous losses, without the chance of an open fight on equal terms—all this must have a discouraging effect on the plucky Hunan braves whose ranks are moreover thinned by an enemy as powerful as the savages, namely, malarial fever." We have no doubt that the Japanese troops will find a way of dealing with these troublesome aborigines, and that before Formosa has been long in Japanese occupation, security of life and property will be assured everywhere throughout the island. Harbour improvement and the construction of good means of communication on land are works that the Japanese will certainly undertake with energy and without loss of times. The foot-paths at present serving as roads are so bad as to be impassable except in dry weather, the result being that the cost of carriage constitutes an immense item in the price of staples of export. In truth, the urgent need of harbour and transport improvements has long been recognized by intelligent observers, but never practically acknowledged by the Authorities. As for the mineral products of Formosa, there has long been a belief that gold exists in the northern part of the island. It is on record that in ancient times the natives used to scoop the precious metal from the bottom of certain creeks, melt it into bars, and hoard it in earthern vessels for the sake of its brilliant beauty. Its use and value were unknown to them until they discovered that articles could be purchased with it in Keelung and Tamsui. Mr. HIRTH, in the report referred to above, writes:—"The Japanese, the Dutch, and COXINGA'S men are said to have discovered the gold-fields, each in their turn, but it appears that no sooner had any of these invaders disappeared from the island, than gold-washing was abandoned because either the new settlers were not aware of its whereabouts, or the supply was exhausted. Over two hundred years have now elapsed since the withdrawal of COXINGA'S men, but the Imperial Chinese who replaced them settled down in the very neighbourhood without knowing its treasures. The building of a railway bridge

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in the summer of 1890 gave rise to their rediscovery at the mouth of a creek joining the Kelung River at the Patu station of the new Kelung Railway. Within about a year's time the Native population began to realise that money's worth was to be found there at little cost, and the month of September, 1891, saw thousands of adventurers, mostly belonging to the labouring classes, busily engaged in sifting the muddy gravel of Patu Creek, which yielded a fair per-centage of gold sand in many places up to its source at the foot of Samtiao Hill (三貂 or 出圳 嶺), about 10 miles E.N.E. of Samtiao Point of our charts. In September the local authorities tried to prohibit all gold-washing, but the proclamation issued in that sense had no effect. Up to the end of the year probably several lakhs of dollars' worth was washed out of the creek by means of wooden troughs made from a pattern introduced by some old hands who had gained their experience in California. From the 15th October to the end of the year 4,519 taels of dust, valued at *Hk. Tls.* 65,189, were exported through the Custom House, chiefly to Hongkong. This amount should be looked upon as a portion only of the actual output, since large quantities may leave the island through other channels, and certain stocks are as yet said to be held by speculators in Taipei-fu."

ETHNOLOGICAL STUDY OF THE JAPANESE PEOPLE.

MR. TAGUCHI has contributed a valuable essay to the literature of Japanese ethnology, in the latest issue of his journal, the *Keisai Zasshi*. His conclusion is that the Japanese are not a Mongolian race, as is generally believed, but that they come of the same stock as the Huns. He discusses the subject at considerable length and from various points of view. The first position taken by him is that philologically the Japanese and the Chinese can not have descended from the same stock. In support of this view he adduces many radical differences in the structures of the two languages. For instance, while the Japanese says, "I you love," the Chinese says, "I love you." Again, while the Japanese language has adverbs and various inflections of the verbs, the Chinese has neither. Such a marked absence of similarity in the construction of forms of speech shows that the two people can not be allied anthropologically.

On the other hand, if the languages of the Chinese and the Japanese are so different, those of the Koreans and the Turks bear a considerable resemblance to that of the Japanese people. Mr. TAGUCHI given the following table in support of his view :—

Japanese.	Turkish.	Korean.
Ai-suru	Seo-mek	Kŭril-hao
Ai-sanu	Seo-me-mek	Kŭril-chanta
Ai-shi-e-nu	Seo-e-me-mek	Kŭril-chimotaya
Ai-sareru	Seo-il-mek	Kŭril-hatto
Ai-sare-e-zu	Seo-il-e-me-mek	Kŭril-ani-hao
Ai-seshi-muru	Seo-dir-mek	Kŭril-kai-hao

It will be seen that the negative particle *nu* in Japanese corresponds to *me* in Turkish, and that the particle *e* is found in both languages. One important point of difference between Japanese and the other two languages in question, is that, whereas in Japanese the negative particle is placed after the verbal root, in Turkish and Korean it is placed before the root. In this respect the Japanese language closely resembles the Mongolian. It will thus be seen that though major or minor divergencies exist in the construction of these languages, still the Japanese is allied in its main features with the forms of speech used by the various races inhabiting the districts from the northern part of Asia to Turkey. At any rate, the differentiation of the Japanese people from the Chinese and Aryan races must be regarded as evident. The next point to be considered is differences or similarities in features and physique. Ever since the earliest era of the country's historical existence it is known that intermarriages were frequent between Chinese immigrants and Japanese, and between the invaders—or the descendants of the deities, as the Japanese call them—and the aborigines. The offspring of these marriages are of insignificant appearance and defective physique. Yet the classes constituting the higher strata of the community are not only pure in blood, but have become more and more refined with the progress of the nation. One of the most striking points in this respect is the skin; it is white and very soft. Among the Chinese not a few may be found having white skins of fine texture, but what the Japanese call a "silken-skin" (*kabutaye-hada*) is not to be seen in China. Even the Aryan races yield to the Japanese in the matter of fineness of skin, for though they boast that they are as the white races in that respect, their skin is in reality hairy and far from being of as fine texture as that of the Japanese in the higher ranks. Moreover, what they call white is not pure white: it is tinged with red, whereas the whiteness of the Japanese has a blue hue. With respect to physique the Japanese are surpassed by both Chinese and Europeans, and are of inferior muscular strength, but the difference is somewhat compensated by superior agility. A strange feature in the physique of the Japanese is the women's manner of walking. Some writers attribute this to the sedentary lives led by females in Japan, but Mr. TAGUCHI declines to accept that explanation. At any rate, he affirms, on the strength of travellers' testimony, that the women of Korea and of Turkey exactly resemble their Japanese sisters in their fashion of gait.

The third point is the relative intellectual activity of the Japanese and the Chinese. In this respect the writer places the former on a far higher plane than the latter, and claims that the difference radically differentiates the two peoples. Certain critics are disposed to despise the Japanese on the ground that they are essentially imitative and lack power of originality. Nothing could be more mistaken than such reasoning, for precious as the power of originality is, the faculty of imitation must be held to play an equally useful, perhaps even more useful, part in practice. A new invention emanates from the brain of one man, but imitative capacity spreads it over the whole world, so that the general prosperity is promoted and the happiness of the greatest number augmented. Presuming, then, that the Japanese and the Chinese can not have descended from the same stock, the next point that naturally presents itself is the question, whence did the ancestors of the Japanese people come. This is a most difficult problem: for its solution minute investigations into the archæology of the so-called "Divine Ancestors" must be undertaken. In the first place, in the prehistoric days of Japan, precious metals were not found in the country. Yet it is an indisputable fact that the "Divine Ancestors" possessed gold and silver rings, and other ornaments made of those metals. Secondly, jade or nephrite is not produced in Japan; yet they wore neck-laces made of those stones. Thirdly, the manufacture of mirrors by spreading quicksilver on plates of copper can only be expected from a race considerably advanced in mechanical skill: yet such mirrors were possessed by the "Divine Ancestors," and were hung up in the bows of their ships when they invaded the lands of the "Eastern Barbarians." They also made use of sharp swords and possessed vessels in which they crossed to Korea. Lastly, the women used to shave their eye-brows and blacken their teeth, and marriages between brothers and sisters born of different mothers, as well as between uncles and nieces were common.

Now, gold and silver were produced in those early days in Korea, Manchuria, Mongolia, and so forth, while the minerals used to make necklace beads were found in certain parts of China (Suchow and Kangsuh) or in the regions bordering Lake Baikal. The manufacture of mirrors as above described, and of sharp iron swords, as well as the building of ships, were all arts practised by the people on the continent long before the Japanese aborigines knew anything about them, while the intermarriage of persons closely related by consanguinity was also in vogue on the continent. Mr. TAGUCHI thinks that the "Divine Ancestors" were Huns, who are historically known to have been once a mighty tribe. Their power made itself felt in China when the HAN Dynasty reigned over that country. The HAN rulers could never bring the Huns under their sway, and were obliged to sue for the cessation of hostilities by paying large sums of money. A portion of this

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mighty tribe subsequently moved westward, overran Europe when the Roman Empire was on the decline, and finally settled in Hungary. Those that remained in their native places marched into China proper, as soon as the power of the HAN Dynasty began to grow less, and overran it, just as their brethren that marched westward overran southern Europe. The LIAO, the CHIN, and the YUEN Dynasties, that afterwards ruled China, were only branches of the tribe. The present Manchu Dynasty is also descended from one of many divisions of the tribe, as are the Turks too. To which particular division did the ancestors of the Japanese people belong? After the downfall of the TSIN Dynasty and before the rise of the HAN, there was in the north of Yen a tribe so powerful at one time that it almost brought Manchuria and Mongolia under its sway. When SHEN-U and another celebrated chieftain developed strength to defeat the Huns, the latter were obliged to fly, and whither they fled remained unknown. Mr. TAGUCHI thinks that the fugitive tribe must have come over and settled in Japan. It is true that the supposition is somewhat irreconcilable with the chronology of Japan, according to which the fall of the TSIN and the rise of the HAN Dynasty correspond with the reign of the Emperor KOGEN, a period about 450 years after the coronation of the Emperor JIMMU. But Mr. TAGUCHI does not place much confidence in the so-called authentic chronology, for having been compiled during the time when the Imperial Court was in Nara, in the 8th century, the parts relating to times prior to that era were written up in an entirely arbitrary manner. According to this chronology, the earliest era of Japan corresponds with the time of King KEI, of the CHEN Dynasty, and with the later days of Grecian prosperity. Yet we are told that Japan was already inhabited by semi-gods and supernatural beings. No wonder that historians are perplexed about the chronology of Japan. To make it more consistent with reason, the first part must be cut down so that the opening of the Japanese era may correspond with the latter part of the TSIN Dynasty and the first part of the HAN. A fact apparently militating against this theory is the wide difference between the Japanese and the Hungarian languages in respect of construction; but probably that is chiefly due to the fact that the two races have been located in the far east and the far west from a very early period. The Turks did not move westward until much later: hence their language retained a strong resemblance to that of their fellow-tribesmen, who moved eastward and came to Japan. Basing his conclusion on the above facts, Mr. TAGUCHI is assured that the ancestors of the Japanese people must have been a division of the Huns. We give his theory as it appears in the *Keisai Zasshi*, making no comment of our own.

THE NEWCHWANG RECRIMINATIONS.

WE publish elsewhere a statement with reference to the incidents that attended the taking of Newchwang (Yingkow) by the Japanese. It is an absolutely trustworthy statement, since it comes from an Englishman present in the town at the time and an eye-witness of the events he describes. Most unfortunately, the record is one that can not be viewed without shame and regret. Our readers doubtless remember the war correspondence that appeared in the *Jiji Shimpo* in connection with the Yingkow affair, and may also remember that we explicitly refrained from comment on the ground that evidence from the other side would doubtless be forthcoming in the Newchwang correspondence of the Shanghai journals, and that, pending the receipt of fuller information, it seemed inexpedient to discuss the question. No such evidence was furnished, however. The correspondents of the Shanghai journals preserved a remarkable silence as to the incident of the rice whose ownership was disputed, as to the display of fraudulent notices and flags to protect Chinese property, and as to the extraordinary demonstration alleged to have been made by the officers and men of the American war-ship stationed at Yingkow. Our correspondent's letter supplies the first authentic and accurate account of these incidents, and we confess that the duty of publishing such an account comes to us among the least pleasant necessities of journalism. The *Jiji Shimpo* has always been a keen admirer of the Americans, and we have welcomed its eulogies of them as tending to promote the general good-feeling between Japanese and foreigners. Englishmen do not grudge to their American cousins any popularity that may fall to the latter's lot. They are our kinsmen, bone of our bone and flesh of our flesh. We can not forget that, or stifle the sentiment of pride and pleasure inspired by the extraordinary growth of their power and resources. But for reasons that baffle our comprehension it is the habit of many Americans to abuse the land that gave birth to their ancestors, to represent its inhabitants in the worst possible light, and to make it their business to attribute the least scrupulous and most greedy motives to British policy everywhere and under all circumstances. That England's doings often invite criticism, we frankly admit. But who can afford to begin the game of international stone-throwing? Can the citizens of the United States? We have no inclination to recriminate, but we fail to discover that any people in the world have risen so far above the general level of humanity as to occupy rightfully the chair of criticism. Circumstances are the chief determinant of international conduct everywhere, and circumstances have for the moment placed the United States in the position of an onlooker from a hill-top. When the time comes for her to descend into the plain of aggrandisement and foreign complications, we shall see whether she acquits herself better than those whose blood runs in her people's veins and whose lapses from high morality she now condemns so severely. Meanwhile, if some of her citizens in Japan have sought to disparage Englishmen and render them unpopular, Englishmen have at least the satisfaction of knowing that they have never retaliated in kind. It is, however, an act of common justice to protest against the comparisons made by the *Jiji Shimpo's* correspondent between British subjects and American citizens in Yingkow. The demonstration approvingly attributed by our Tokyo contemporary to the crew of a United States man-of-war was a flagrant breach of neutrality. So far from being a subject for praise, it deserves strong condemnation, and we should be sorry indeed to think that British naval officers could so far forget the dictates of discipline and propriety as to permit such proceedings. On the other hand, the affair of the rice and the wide-spread use of lying notices must unfortunately be admitted. Our correspondent suggests that permission to resort to the device of simulating British ownership in the case of Chinese houses was obtained for a "consideration." That may be the case. But is a very obvious reflection that among the British traders long resident in Yingkow, some must have established relations of friendship with their Chinese clients, and if in a moment of apparently supreme danger to the latter's property, the former sought to save it by recourse to methods not legally defensible, surely some excuse and allowance may be made. As a mere breach of neutrality such conduct on the part of British subjects was certainly not more blameworthy than the action eulogistically attributed to the American man-of-war's men, though we freely admit that the moral aspects of the two proceedings are different. At any rate, the occasion does not warrant any general comparison of British and American methods. In every community, especially in every community of foreigners residing in an Oriental country, there are men whose respect for the law varies inversely as their ability to elude it. Such men are not typical Englishmen, and to deduce from their acts a general inference as to British morality or British disposition, would be a palpable injustice. The truth is that Great Britain in the Orient is like the city set on a hill: she is perpetually *en evidence*. Her material interests far outweigh those of any other nation, and the measures she is compelled to take for their protection force her prominently into public observation. Japan had practical experience of this in the war just concluded. She could not move without

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touching England somewhere, and this perpetual contact created a sense of *gêne*, though it should only have inspired an appreciation of British bigness. But, after all, nothing distils the true from the false like the alembic of events. Recent experiences should have effectually differentiated Japan's natural allies from her inevitable opponents. Perhaps we may now hope that the era of detraction and dislike is terminated so far as concerns Englishmen at any rate.

THE SITUATION.

IN our issue of Tuesday last we stated that the Treaty of Peace had at length been ratified by the Emperor of CHINA, and, further, that the complications with Germany, Russia, and France had been resolved, so that the restoration of peace might be regarded as assured. Despite these very explicit assertions, doubts as to the fact seem to have been still entertained in some quarters, and a great deal of baseless journalistic conjecture has been published. In all the previous stages of the war and the resulting negotiations, Japan was well supplied with official telegrams, so that the course of events could be followed with confidence. But during the last, and perhaps most anxious, era there was a marked lack of thoroughly trustworthy information, and not until the evening of the 7th was it possible to be sure that China intended to carry out the engagements made by her Plenipotentiaries. The point is easily explained. Official telegrams relating to the acts of the Chinese Government must be transmitted to Japan *vid* the United States Legations in Pekin and Tokyo. But it was precisely in Pekin that dissensions and divisions were taking place about the fate of the Treaty. Consequently, until the very last moment nothing could be expected from that quarter. Fortunately, there existed also another channel of information—non-official, it is true, but still trustworthy—direct from Viceroy LI to Count ITO. It was by this channel that news of the Treaty's having been ratified was received, and it was by the same channel that, despite the Chinese Government's application for an extension of time, assurances were transmitted that the exchange of ratifications would be effected within the period originally fixed. It is not quite apparent why an extension of time was sought after the Treaty had been actually ratified. The application for an extension came direct from Pekin and was granted by Japan, a limit of 5 days being fixed. But the Viceroy LI is said to have memorialized the Throne, urging the unwisdom of not carrying out the original engagement to the letter, and the EMPEROR, endorsing that view, issued the necessary authority. The explanation does not touch the object of a 5 days' extension, and we are not in a position to make any complete statement. The main point, however, is that the exchange of ratifications has taken place and the war is over. As for the modification of the Treaty consequent on the interference of the three European Powers, it is to be the subject of a special convention at a subsequent date.

We may refer here once more to the rumour that an offensive and defensive alliance between Japan and China formed a secret article of the Treaty of Peace. The rumour is reiterated confidently by the *North China Daily News*, and being implicitly believed by that journal, is made the text of many regrets that Japan should thus have severed herself from the Occident by entering into a combination the obvious purpose of which is to hold the West at bay. It is truly singular that such tales should find credence. The slightest reflection must suffice to show their improbability. According to this secret compact, China, we are told, "engages herself to employ a large number of drill instructors from Japan for her land forces;" "undertake, when necessary, to entrust her navy to the command of Japanese naval officers," and "promises to reform certain parts of her civil, military, and naval administration upon Japanese lines." Let any reflecting person try to imagine the imposition of such conditions by Japan, their acceptance by China, and, above all, their publication by the latter Power. Why the humiliation of the thing would be far deeper than the session of a dozen Manchurias. Fancy Japanese officers and non-commissioned officers being employed to drill the troops that they have just beaten in a dozen fights; fancy China pledging herself to place her navy, "if necessary" (!) under the command of Japanese; fancy the great Middle Kingdom promising to reform its systems upon Japanese lines! China may be crushed, she may be humbled, but that she should form such a compact and then hasten to proclaim it to the world, are hypotheses too silly for serious consideration. Doubtless the original circulators of this ridiculous canard will now become sponsors for its accuracy. They will be well occupied.

MR. DE GUERVILLE AND HIS ACCUSERS.

MR. A. B. DE GUERVILLE addresses to us a long letter which we reproduce elsewhere. He is certainly right to defend himself. Charges of a most damning nature have been preferred against him. He could not afford to leave them unanswered. But Mr. DE GUERVILLE must not expect any measure of justice at the hands of the foreign press in this country. He has ventured to minimize the offences alleged against the Japanese troops at Port Arthur; ventured, in short, to deprive the foreign local newspapers of material that enabled them to gratify their perennial longing to vilipend and traduce the Japanese. That is an unpardonable offence. Had he taken the opposite line: had he assisted to swell that material; had he raised a hysterical cry against Japanese barbarity, affirming events that never occurred and describing scenes that he never saw, he might have counted confidently on the thick-and-thin support of the local newspapers; might have been assured of their championship and applause. As it is, let him say what he please or prove what he may, he will be hounded and abused. Probably he is prepared for that result, but nevertheless looks for fair judgment at the hands of the foreign community in general as well as of the Japanese nation. He will not, we think, be disappointed.

No page of the war's history is more disgraceful in our opinion than that containing the mutual recriminations of certain foreign newspaper correspondents, and the effusive mutual compliments of others, published in Yokohama. That men representing great American and English journals should choose the petty newspapers of this settlement as a fitting arena for such writing is as inexplicable as their resort to such writing under any circumstances. How much they exaggerated the so-called "Port Arthur Atrocities" will never be known. We do not suppose, we have no manner of right to suppose, that they exaggerated intentionally. But one striking fact must be remembered always in this context. There were four military attachés present at the taking of Port Arthur and during the days subsequent to its fall. From three of these attachés we have ourselves received emphatic statements, and we have read a written statement by the fourth, that not one of them witnessed any of the excesses alleged to have been committed on the days following the assault. We commend that fact to every person desirous of estimating the true dimensions of the affair. It is negative evidence and therefore not conclusive. But negative evidence so unanimous and coming from such sources must be given due weight. That there was exaggeration on the part of some newspaper correspondents can not, we think, be doubted.

As to the attack made upon Mr. DE GUERVILLE, we see nothing to extenuate the publication of such slanders during his absence. It will not do to plead that he left Japan suddenly or quickly. The mere fact of his absence should have silenced his assailants. Three accusations were preferred against him. First, that he represented himself as present at the close of a fight which, in reality, had taken place several days before he reached the scene. Secondly, that he falsely spoke of Mr. CREELMAN as a Chinese spy, thereby endangering his *confrère's* life. Third

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He admits the first charge very frankly, offering by way of extenuation a plea the value of which our readers may estimate for themselves. Mr. CREELMAN and Mr. VILLIERS are both accused by him of taking similar liberties with the credulity of the public, but two wrongs do not make a right, nor yet do three. As to the second charge, our readers may remember that in a recent issue we quoted the evidence of a high Japanese official, who was present throughout the interview between Lieut.-General KAWAKAMI and Mr. DE GUERVILLE, and who affirmed most emphatically that Mr. DE GUERVILLE made no allusion whatever to Mr. CREELMAN, nor attempted in any way to suggest doubts as to that gentleman's integrity. Such evidence should be sufficient in itself to exonerate Mr. DE GUERVILLE. It is now supplemented by very full explanations of his own. To the third charge Mr. DE GUERVILLE makes no allusion. Probably he does not think it worth notice, since it was preferred solely by a local Yokohama newspaper notorious for falsehood and unfairness. We, however, are informed on the best authority that the accusation is absolutely baseless, and that Mr. DE GUERVILLE never received pecuniary consideration of any kind whatever from the Japanese. There is an excellent old principle of law that anyone having cognisance of facts tending to disprove a slander, becomes a party to the slander if he fail to publish them. For that reason we give place to Mr. DE GUERVILLE'S letter and append the information that has come independently to our own knowledge.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[Our readers must distinctly understand that we are in no sence responsible for the sentients or opinions of our correspondents, for the accuracy of their assertions, or for the deductions they may choose to draw therefrom.]

THE FOREIGN MIDDLE-MAN.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—It appears to be the ambition of the Japanese to win victories in the field of commerce as they have achieved signal success in war. The aspiration is a worthy one that may well be developed and realized, but not on a war footing. The first aggressive movement apparently contemplated by those who aspire, as the organizers of victories, in the commercial arena is the elimination of alien commission agents and so called "middle-men." Direct trade is the shibboleth of the contemplated crusade. The profits resulting from Japanese commerce are all to be garnered by Japanese; the foreigner is to have no part or interest in the further development of the industrial and commercial interests of the Empire, the prospective golden eggs are to be laid in Japanese nests only. A strong foreign policy, a policy that shall boycott foreigners who may be engaged in trade in Japan, is to be inaugurated. But why this sentiment should possess the commercial class of Japanese is difficult to discern at this juncture. It is a trite proverb, "nothing succeeds like success." During the years that have passed since Japan has been part and parcel of the commercial energy of the world, she has prospered most wonderfully, and the growth of foreign commerce has wonderfully expanded. That Japan has developed her industrial capacities to the degree attained, has been entirely the result of foreign demand incited by the endeavour of the foreign merchant, who is now contemned as a middle-man. It is the "middle-man" to whom the large increment of the material wealth of Japan is due—to his energy and untiring efforts in the prosecution of his mercantile methods only, has the response been made the whole world over—that the products of Japanese art and industry have been so largely placed and so widely distributed. If he has gotten gain as the result of his industry, Japan has been the larger beneficiary. It has been the push, the energy, the willingness to assume risks at the hazard of loss in many a venture—the expenditure of vast sums in advertising and placing upon the market the products they have exported—that have placed Japanese artizans and manufacturers in the comfortable position they now occupy. These "middle-men" have transformed the thought and enterprise of the Japanese—they have educated the people, while causing wealth to flow in upon them. The merchant and trader is no longer the despised of the people, rather is he now the envied and esteemed personage who is adding to the "prestige" of the Empire, that darling "prestige" which legislators, statesmen, and patriots love so much to dilate upon. If there is any factor in the expansion and development of Japanese "prestige" that stands higher than another in the estimation of the thoughtful, it most certainly is the widespread improvement of the industrial conditions of the Empire consequent upon the presence and transactions of the "middle-men" who now are considered so objectionable to those who have been so largely benefited, and who, without the intervention of these same "middle-men," would be now very much as their fathers were—not what they are to-day. Can "middle-men" be dispensed with without disastrous results? We will suppose that all the foreign merchants now doing business in Japan, either as importers or exporters, were to close business, leaving all commercial transactions to be engineered by those who now desire to ignore them as objectional hindrances to their success as wealth accumulators—would it be to the advantage of the artizans and manufacturers of Japan; would it be to the advantage of the commerce of Japan? Can we suppose that the present volume of trade, export and import, could be maintained? Can Japanese merchants believe that to sell their wares to a foreigner in Yokohama is to do injustice to the "prestige" of Japan? Direct trade has been a fad with many enthusiasts in Japanese "prestige," but so far as known results are in evidence these enthusiasts have failed as practical demonstrators of the soundness of their conceptions. It may be considered indirect trade to sell in the home market to foreigners who are competing with each other as purchasers of the wares and merchandise to be sold by Japanese merchants, these foreigners representing the clientêle of the civilized world, each knowing the demands and fancies of his countrymen and how best to cater to their local fashions, and prepared to purchase all or whatever may to them seem suitable to meet the requirements of their home markets: nevertheless to the experienced merchant of the western world, or the western manufacturer, it is more pleasant to do just that thing rather than send his wares abroad to find a market.

The only inducements to engage in direct trade, as understood from the Japanese acceptation of the term, is when there is a surplus of stocks of merchandise or manufactures that do not find purchasers in the home market. As long as a manufacturer can find sale at his own depôt he will never consign his output to a foreign market for sale. Now just here is where the Japanese merchants are in a commanding position. The imports into Japan are to a great degree consigned for a market, for sale at the best terms obtainable, and are in many instances sold at very much less than laid down cost. The "middle-man" makes his commission on the sale, made irrespective of loss or gain on the part of the consignor; these consignments being made as a speculative venture or to relieve a congested stock. "All is not gold that glitters." All the transactions of the foreign merchant in importing or exporting do not show a profit by any means. The readers of the *Japan Mail* may be able to enumerate very many more foreign firms that have come to grief in Japan than the writer, who has not been resident here so long as many others. Japanese silk and tea merchants obtain the longest prices for their staples, benefiting by the competition of buyers. While for manufactured articles it is notorious that the great bulk of exports are only obtainable upon contract conditions entered into months in advance, and attended with such delay and annoyance as is unknown in any other country outside of Japan. And it may be well to remember that Japanese producers are not notable contract observers.

Sentiment is one thing, practical matters are another thing entirely. Japanese self-assertiveness is a worthy trait when steered by prudence, but it can only prove disastrous if left to and ill-considered ambition. Engl nation of shop-keepers, she is noted of her merchant princes. England in commerce the world over; h have been educated in the school England does not attempt to obliter Japanese is the "middle-man," merchants does not want all the own: he employs agents, "middle-m his greater profit by so doing. have yet something to learn befor the depth, and measure the circumf mercial methods at their best. Jap in her commercial importance and wax rich more because of her u than because of the sagacity of her m If ever any nation came near to hold of trade for her products that natio it is not exaggeration to suggest tha chants had the capacity they think might have exploited the manufact of the artizans and operatives of that for every *yen* of export valu would show at least ten *yen*. The ready to take but the mercantile ca equal to the demand. The "mid largely achieved what has been acc that under discouraging difficulties

Yours, etc.,

Yokohama, May 2nd, 1895.

QUESTION OF FA

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAP

SIR,—In the leader of your ye you write:—

If the Governments of Germany, Ru found the terms unacceptable, why did some timely intimation in that sense did they wait until the objectionable included in a Treaty signed by the Pleni two empires, and until the Treaty ratification of the Emperor of Japan conceive any course better calculated to painful dilemma than the course that Common justice, to say nothing of frie that if three Powers like Germany, Ru intended to dictate to Japan in a cert they should have made known their in soon as ever the contingency presented not have allowed her to take a step vit before warning her that such steps wo united opposition.

To-day you repeat the same char ly postponing their protests until for Japan to consider them, by wri

Why did they not then convey a fri to Japan that such terms, if pers provoke their opposition? . . . . But carelessness or by design, they waited the most perplexing character was cre their joint interference must produc mischief, and magnify enormously th *rapprochement* between the belligerent

Now, Mr. Editor, I quite agree the alleged action of the three P established, would justify the seve put on it. I may even go farther as a sincere well-wisher of Japan, I sorry that it has come to such But I cannot yet persuade myself three Powers should have acted wit of "carelessness" and unfriendlin us to believe. Have you really enquire at the due quarters what and have you got *any positive info* the three Powers have "observed served their opposition until to y bring upon her (Japan), the maxi ation and embarassment?" In o really none of the three Powers o the Japanese government that not allow the cession of mainla *treaty of Shimonoseki was conclude* question of fact is fairly settled, I no right to represent the action Germany in such a bad light as yo your two leaders.

Yours truly,

A FRIEND (

May 4th, 1895.

[We did not speak unadvisedly, but must explanation for the moment.—ED. J. M.]

THE SITUATION

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAP

SIR,—What prospectively woul of an armed conflict between Japa tion of the three Powers, Russia Germany? At first thought, the the odds seems so apparent that would be made that Japan must b in the issue. Yet there are gro that such might not

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necessarily be the most important factor in the coalition, France coming second, and Germany the least considered. Japan is on an active war-footing at this time; her troops have become inured to the field and have accustomed themselves to obtain victories. The campaign in Manchuria has demonstrated that Japanese troops are equal to any the world has produced in bravery and discipline. They have shown that they are capable of withstanding climatic obstacles and the most tremendous hardship—they are hardy and resolute—and love fighting as if they had a lust for war. There are now—say roughly—one hundred and thirty thousand soldiers in the field, with the nation behind them with hundreds of thousands more just such material to reinforce them. Japan has a navy that is not a fancy holiday production—it has shown the world what a fighting navy can do. The Japanese Navy has been an object lesson to all the naval powers, and is capable of supplementing the lesson by further demonstrations if called upon. Japan's army would be fighting oversea away from her base of supply—so would the army of coalition Powers—but her navy would operate from its normal base, it would have to command the seas between Japan and the coast of Korea and the gulf of Pechihli. Holding Port Arthur, Japan has a refuge for disabled ships and the requisite docks and appliances for their repairs. So far as Naval necessities are required she is amply provided. Where would the coalition strike in the event of war? Would the attemyt be made to dislodge the Japanese from the territory they now occupy in the Liaotung Peninsula? Would they attempt the occupation of Korea as an initial project? Would they attempt a descent upon the coasts of Japan? Would they confine their operations to naval demonstrations and attempt the destruction of the Japanese Navy as a condition precedent to committing themselves to the task of routing the Japanese forces now in Manchuria? It can hardly be supposed that the attempt would be made to transport troops from Europe to essay the dislodgement of the Japanese forces now afield. Taking the example of the French expedition to Madagascar as a precedent for what France is capable of, it is but fair to suppose that a French contigent of any magnitude would not materialize. Germany would hesitate long before she would undertake the dispatching a number of troops and war material in quantity sufficient to make a respectable showing. To attempt the dislodgement of the Japanese from Manchuria, the coalition would have to put in the field at least the same number of troops now marshalled by Japan, and before these troops could be transported to the China Seas, Japan can treble her active forces, placing them where they might be most needed. Then the problem would have to be solved as to how many French and German troops would arrive at the seat of war. The *Kowshing* carried a freight of eleven hundred souls, but they never landed in Korea. Between the Red Sea and the coast of Manchuria and Korea there are more dangers to be met than France and Germany would lightly encounter. Russia! What could she do? For all practical matters Russia would be as if she was acting alone, that is outside of naval demonstrations. Is Russia equal to the task of meeting Japan with hopes of ultimate success? Russia has a depôt at Vladivostock as a base during the months that the harbour is free from ice; otherwise she is in the same condition as France and Germany in a great measure at this time. Supposing that Russia has now fifty thousand troops on the northern frontier of Manchuria and Korea, she would hardly take the hazard of making war. Russia would hardly commence a campaign without she could place at least two hundred thousand troops in the field—after her Siberian iron road is completed, give her time and she may be able to concentrate that number of men with the material for field operations—but that will not be this year nor the next. In the event of her making war she will have to take into account her naval requirements. Without a harbour of refuge and for repairing disabled ships, or docks where her navy may be overhauled from time to time, she would be at a disadvantage. Vladivostock might supply all these requisites in the summer months, but failing an alliance with England how will she be able to rehabilitate her naval contingent. Men of war will deteriorate, wear and tear must be made good, and that cannot be accomplished without docking facilities. What the coalition might accomplish would be the destruction of the Japanese navy—that would leave her powerless for offence, but her defensive capacity would enable her to resist all the efforts of the coalition for an indefinite period; eventually exhausting their ardour for more fighting.

That a coalition between Russia, France, and Germany can have a long lease of life is very improbable. As a game of bluff it may be worth the playing, but for real business it has no foundation. Russia may play a lone hand at last—and she probably will—her necessities compel her to exert her powers for her expansion on the Eastern frontier. In time she can place herself in position—say in a further period of five years—to try conclusions with Japan, but with the Liaotung peninsula in Japan's possession she would meet a formidable antagonist.

Give her five years time for concentrating what she requires for the prosecution of war, and she can place, where they will be the most handy, all the men and material she may deem requisite for her warlike purposes. Russia alone is worth considering—a coalition with France and Germany does not make the situation a whit more alarming—it will never materialize.

Yours, &c. X.

Yokohama, May 4th, 1895.

HARVARD UNIVERSITY.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—I have thought it might be of interest to Harvard men living in Japan, who do not easily keep in touch with Alma Mater, to know something of the progress of the University as shown by statistics recently received, and with your kind permission I shall be glad to put them before your readers.

Some years ago the plan was adopted of holding entrance examinations in many places in addition to Cambridge, and this year the number of such places will be twenty-six, including Tokyo. This plan has proved most satisfactory both to students and to the University.

A further advantage the student of to-day enjoys in addition to the above, viz., having his examinations held somewhere near his home, is the opportunity to divide his examinations, taking part of them in one year and the remainder in the following year, or even later than that, the admission or preliminary certificates being as good one or more years after date as when issued, but delay in entering College is not favoured though permitted.

To affect these advantages, the entrance examinations are possibly a trifle more difficult than in former years, but in spite of this, the plans have succeeded admirably in bringing about a very decided increase in the number of students admitted annually to the University, though the proportion of men failing to pass the examinations is slightly higher than formerly.

There are in attendance to-day in the Department of the Arts and Sciences 1,956, and in the Graduate Department and the Professional Schools 1,346, making a total for the University of 3,302, and if we add to this the number attending the Summer Schools for 1894 and the number attending Radcliffe College for Women, now incorporated with the University, we have a grand total of 3,980 under University influence during the past year, putting Harvard well ahead of her rivals in her grand total, though in point of numbers in the Professional Schools, the University of Pennsylvania excels her, and Michigan and Columbia press her very closely. In the undergraduate Department, Yale is making great strides, and it is estimated that, if she maintains her present relative rate of growth she may reach the Harvard number in about two year.

The attractiveness of Harvard for more advanced students is shown in the large number of men holding degrees from other institutions who come to her to complete their courses. The number of such men this year is 854.

For the special benefit of Japanese students intending to enter Harvard, very favourable arrangements have been made in allowing them, in lieu of the examinations in Latin, Greek, and English required of other students, to offer as substitutes, English, Chinese, and Japanese respectively, no examinations being held in the latter two, a certificate from his instructor to the effect that he has reached the standard in these two subjects required for admission to the Imperial University or the University Department of the Keiogijuku, or for graduation from the Meiji Gaku-in, passing a student in these subjects. In other respects the regular Harvard examinations must be passed, that in English being counted as equivalent to the examination in Latin. A Japanese student offering these substitutes is limited in his choice to two plans, as compared with the four offered others, and must offer in addition to the above either (*a*) both French and German (elementary) and two advanced studies, or (*b*) he may offer either French or German and three advanced studies.

Students and graduates of the Imperial Universities only are admitted without examination.

I have recently received from the University a great number of pamphlets, circulars, etc., relating to all departments of the University, copies of which I shall be very glad to send to any Harvard men or to any interested in Harvard who may communicate with me.

Thanking you for your courtesy in allowing this letter space in your valuable columns,

Yours faithfully,

J.M.cD. GARDINER, '79.

No. 40, Tsukiji, Tokyo, May, 8th 1895.

MESSRS. CREELMAN AND VILLIERS.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—I have read with much interest the different articles published in your esteemed paper on the Port Arthur affair and about Mr. Villiers, Mr. Creelman, and myself. I have been unable, however, to secure copies of other English papers published in Yokohama, and do not know therefore what stand they have taken in the matter. To my friends in Japan, for I still have a few among the foreign residents, as well as among the Japanese, it must have been a surprise that I should have answered nothing to the different attacks levelled against me. When I returned to New York, I denied, and most emphatically so, the different statements which I considered false in Mr. Creelman's letters. This denial was published in the *New York Herald* of January 2nd, and under my own name. I thought it would be reproduced in some of the papers published in Japan, and I decided to do nothing more until I had met Mr. Creelman and Mr. Villiers. I considered that there were two questions to be settled between us.

First, that of the accusation brought by them against me to the effect that I had plotted against Mr. Creelman's life.

Second, that of our controversy about the Port Arthur affair.

I sent a letter to the Editor of the *New York World*, offering to meet Mr. Creelman at the office and in the presence of his own friends there, that is to say, on his own ground. The Editor of the *World* answered that he could not arrange this meeting, and Mr. Creelman would have to make his own appointments after his return. Since, Mr. Creelman has declined to meet me. Mr. Frederick Villiers also declined, but, at the request of a mutual friend, he at last decided to meet me. The meeting took place before witnesses, and Mr. Villiers stated the following.

"When he arrived in Japan, I had already left for the seat of operations. Creelman was still in Tokio. Villiers, expressed some surprise that he should not have gone to the front, but Creelman stated that he had had extraordinary difficulties in getting his pass, that more than ordinary delay had taken place, and, lastly, that the Japanese Government had seemed anxious to do all they could to delay his departure—he could not account for it. At last, however, he got his pass and left together with Mr. Villiers. Several weeks later Mr. Creelman received a letter from a high official of the Japanese Government, in which this gentleman stated that the reason for which Creelman had had so much trouble in getting his pass was because I had denounced him at head-quarters as a dangerous person to allow to go forward, in short, as a friend of the Chinese and a foe of the Japanese. The Minister of Foreign Affairs hesitated in giving the pass to Mr. Creelman for fear that if I should thus denounce him to the army some excitable soldiers or officers might shoot him. The letter stated, however, that I had never named Mr. Creelman in these accusations, but that I had described him to the many State Ministers whom I had seem in Tokyo."

It is not difficult for me to show the utter falsity of these statements, and this is what I answered to Mr. Frederick Villiers:

"There could not have been a more than *ordinary* delay" in delivering the pass, for the good reason that not a single pass having been delivered at the time it was not possible to know what *ordinary* delay would be. There was so little delay in delivering the pass to Mr. Creelman that he received his pass on the very same day and at the very same minute I received mine, both passes were sent together in the same envelope to the United States Minister, and Mr. Creelman being at the Legation when they arrived, they were handed to him with a request that he should give me mine. The following morning I went early in his room, and he told me, "Here is your pass on the table with mine. The Minister asked me to give it to you, but you were not in when I returned last evening." I took my pass and asked him when he would leave for the seat of operations. He answered that he did not know, having not decided yet whether he would go at all. I told him I would [illegible]

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more than necessary. I might further state that it would have been difficult for me to describe Mr. Creelman to the different State Ministers, for the good reason that the only one I saw before leaving was Count Oyama, and the meeting took place under circumstances which would not have allowed me to denounce anyone. It was at a dinner given by the Minister of War to the foreign military attachés. I read to Mr. Villiers the following letter from Mr. Kato, now the Japanese Minister in London.

London, February 2nd, 1895.

DEAR SIR,—Replying to your favour of the 22d ult, which I received to-day, I hasten to confirm what you say in your letter about the passes issued to you and Mr. Creelman. They were issued on the same day, and I remember this very well, because I, who had charge of the business, took particular care not to give any preference to either of the two, that is to say, yourself and Mr. Creelman.

Yours very truly, T. KATO.

This is sufficient, it seems to me, to show how little ground there was for the accusation. However, I may state that I remember having said at head-quarters a number of things concerning Mr. Creelman which in my mind were to help him, and I believe did help him, which might have been constructed in a different way from that which I intended. It happened in the following manner.

You know that upon our arrival in Japan, passes had been refused to all foreign correspondents. Mr. De Windt, of the *Pall Mall Gazette*, and others had been unable to secure passports for the army. One day I went to Yokohama with Mr. Creelman. He spent his time there calling on the heads of some banks and newspapers. While in the train returning to Tokyo he told me:—

"I have found out why they won't allow us to go to the front. The first reason is, and it explains why there has been no war news since the battle of Asan, that the Japanese are being frightfully licked by the Chinese, and the other is that these people, not being yet quite civilized, must act on the battle-field like wild beasts. They must carve each other, prisoners and wounded, into pieces, and we would see the most disgusting sights in the world. On account of the treaty revision the government is anxious that we should not see such sights."

Strange as it may seem, Mr. Creelman had already in his mind in the first week of September the frightful atrocities which he described three months later. This statement of his seemed to me at the time worth calling to the attention of the Japanese officials, and therefore when I called at head-quarters I told them that it was a great mistake not to allow us to go to the front, for anyone would think that there was something to hide, and in order to show them how strong this remark was I told them what Mr. Creelman had said, not mentioning his name, and not mentioning that he was a newspaper man. There were hundreds of foreigners in Japan and several newspaper men at the time, so that my remarks could not affect Mr. Creelman in any way, while they had a very good effect on the Japanese staff. General Kawakami before I left gave me permission to use the military post. Mr. Creelman told me the same day that Mr. Kato had told him that under no circumstances would the military post take our mail. I stated after this at head-quarters that I thought it was a great mistake, that the same privileges for carrying the mail ought to be granted to all the different correspondents, that if it should not be done these correspondents would be obliged to scheme in order to send their mail, to give it to messengers who might fall into the hands of the Chinese, and as these letters might contain statements as to the movements of the Japanese it might be a very dangerous thing. Lastly, I remember to have been asked by several officials whether Mr. Creelman was a friend of Japan or not, to which I answered that he had never been in Japan, and had not the slightest reason to be friendly or unfriendly. That Americans were, as a matter of course, friendly to the country, that he had come to write about what he would see in an impartial way. I certainly did not state that he was unfriendly to Japan.

I saw very little of Mr. Creelman during the war. A few minutes on September 26th on the Tatung River: he was going up to Ping Yang, I was returning from there. The next time we met was after the battle of Kinchow. Five or six hours after it was over Mr. Creelman arrived. I did not know at the time that he had written letters to Joe Howard and Colonel Cockerell accusing me of having plotted against his life. I was glad to see him, and walked towards him to welcome him. He was extremely pale and looked very ill, so my first question was to inquire about his health. He gave me a very strange look and answered in such a cold manner that I felt very much hurt, and went back to the only foreign military attaché who was there, expressing to him my surprise. A few minutes after Mr. Creelman, who was too tired to stay on his feet, put his coat on the ground and laid on it. I felt sorry and said to the foreign officer, "The poor fellow is sick and tired out, that is what is the matter with him." So I went to him again and asked him if I could do anything for him. He said he was hungry, and I gave him some biscuits and a drink of brandy. Furthermore, the foreign officer and myself asked him to dine with us that evening. He came to our house, but, as dinner was not ready and he was so tired, decided to retire. The following morning the three of us rode behind General Yamaji to Talienwan. We three took lunch together, sharing our provisions, and returned together to Kinchow. About half-way between the two places Mr. Creelman was thrown off his horse and somewhat hurt. I did the best I could for him, gave him brandy, took him to his house, helped him off his horse, made him lie down and went for the doctor. After this I never saw him again until November the 22nd, the day after the capture of Port Arthur. The previous night four military attachés, the correspondent of *La Temps* and myself had taken dinner together and slept in the same house, and that morning had taken breakfast together. Upon going into the court-yard I was surprised to see there Mr. Creelman, looking very ill. I immediately went to him, saying that I did not know that he was in the house, and asking him whether he was ill. He answered that he had caught a very bad cold, and had nothing to eat before going to bed. I expressed my surprise that he should not have called on any of us to help him, and offered him some food. He said he did not need it as his provisions had just arrived. Now I thought this was a good opportunity to find out what was the matter with him and so I told him: "Well, Creelman, you have been acting in a strange manner of late. Have I done anything to you? If so, it must have been unconsciously. You had better tell me what is the matter." There was a dead silence for a moment or two, then Mr. Creelman said: "Is it not very strange how the weather has changed?" "Yes," I said, very strange," and I went off. This is a complete and faithful account of my relation with Mr. Creelman from the day that we arrived in Japan until my return there.

During my interview with Mr. Villiers I reproached him for not having brought out this accusation sooner, before I sailed from Japan, when I was still there and would have had a chance to defend myself, to which he answered that I left in such a hurry they had had no time to do it. We arrived in Hiroshima on November the 29th. I sailed a week later. They ought to have had plenty of time to bring out the accusation. I cannot possibly let Mr. Villiers say that "I left in such a hurry," meaning undoubtedly, that I was anxious that it should not be known that I was going away, for I did not try to hide, even on the transport which brought us back to Japan, that I expected to sail by the first steamer. I tried so little to hide it that a day before my departure I went to Yokohama and called upon Mr. Creelman at the Grand Hotel with the intention of asking him once more for an explanation of his strange behaviour. I was told that he was in his room and sent up my card to him, the card was brought back with word that Mr. Creelman was not at home. I wrote on the back of my card asking if he would kindly leave at the office my steamer cap which he had, as I was going away.

About the Port Arthur affair, it seems to me that my stand has not been understood, or has been wilfully misconstructed. I never denied that many Chinese soldiers had been killed in Port Arthur, that excesses had been committed there, and that the kind and humane way the Japanese had acted everywhere made these excesses look more serious than they really were. In fact, I was the first one to announce that excesses had been committed to the Prime Minister and to General Kawakami. I told them I had cabled nothing about it from Port Arthur, as I was afraid the staff might have interfered, but that it was my intention to cable at once, stating what had taken place, and that I also expected to state that the provocation on the part of the Chinese had been such that the Japanese were somewhat justified, and that I was only surprised that they should not have been worse. There was not the slightest attempt on the part of the Japanese officials to try and prevent me from making the statement public. On the contrary, they told me that they did not wish to hide anything, and that they would at once send cables to their Ministers abroad, advising them of what had taken place, and they asked me if I would kindly give them my own statement about what I had seen, and that this very statement of an eye witness, and of a foreigner would be cabled to their legations, which I did. Upon my arrival in Tokyo, happening to meet there the Editor of the *Mail*, I made to him the same statement, with the result that his paper was the first to acknowledge that excesses had been committed at Port Arthur. In my description of the battle of Port Arthur in the *New York Herald* of December 20th, I gave a description of the sight of Port Arthur, stating that, "The road after entering the town becomes a main street bordered, on each side, first by residences and then by large Chinese stores. The sight going up this street was simply awful. Heaps of dead Chinamen lay there, most of them not having been killed by shot, but by sword cuts, which, in most cases, had been placed on the head or on the neck, nearly taking off the head. It is clear that the first soldiers who had entered the city had given no quarter. It is also certain that many of the coolies belonging to the very lowest class of people who followed the first and second regiments had also taken part in the fray, and had tried their Japanese blades on Chinese necks." But once more, considering the provocations and the circumstances under which these provocations took place, I do not think the Japanese behaved in a different way than any other nation would have done. I never dreamed that to have killed the soldiers who defended Port Arthur was of greater importance than the capture of the city itself, and stating in a few words what had taken place there seemed to me all that was necessary. I gave all my attention and efforts to describing the battle itself and the military operations that led to the capture of this great fortress. What I have denied, and still deny, is that Japan had relapsed into a state of barbarism, that torpedo boats went through the waves, sinking junks loaded with people, that junks were fired upon until every man, woman, and child had been killed, and lastly that the butchering and killing peaceful citizens lasted for four days. None of the men who were with me saw anything of the kind, and with me will swear that no killing took place after the second day. I did not see the bodies of women or children, but two friends of mine told me that they had seen the dead bodies of two women. I think that one of the correspondents, whose statements against Japan were more than bitter, stated that he had seen the bodies of three dead women. To this I shall only answer that if in a city which has been bombarded for two days by over sixty mountain, field, and siege guns and taken by assault, the bodies of only three women could be found, it proves conclusively that there were very few women to be killed in the place. Furthermore, it is my conviction that the men who were killed in Port Arthur were not peaceful citizens, but soldiers who had discarded their uniforms. None of the seven hundred prisoners taken at Ping Yang, and but a few of those taken at Kinchow, had uniforms on, yet they acknowledged that they were soldiers.

On November the 14th the Commander of the French man-of-war, *Lion*, came to Kinchow, and told me that coming from Chefoo he had met hundreds of junks, loaded with people and goods on their way from Port Arthur to Chefoo. Japanese cruisers did not interfere. There is not the slightest doubt that nearly the whole of the population had escaped. If the men who defended Port Arthur were given no quarter, the whole responsibility of the matter remains with the Chinese Generals. Had these men done their duty, stayed by their soldiers, and when they saw that everything was lost for them, had they raised the white flag and offered to surrender the city, it is safe to say that after such surrender not a single Chinese soldier would have been killed.

Of all the accusations which have been heaped upon me by Mr. Creelman and by Mr. Villiers, some of which are very amusing, as for instance, that I never went near the seat of operations, there is but one which I am ready to acknowledge as true, and which in fact I acknowledged long ago, long before being accused, as being true. It is to have stated in my first war letter that I arrived in Ping Yang at the end of the fight. I acknowledged after, and publicly, that I arrived three days after the capture of the place. I did not in that first letter attempt to describe the battle as if I had seen it, but as it was told me by the staff officers. It was my first experience as a journalist, and as a correspondent of any kind, and I thought that it would give more weight to my assertions if I should state that I got there immediately after the fight, but once more I did not attempt to describe anything as an eye-witness.

It is rather strange to hear Mr. Creelman criticising this, he who did a great deal worse. Without speaking of Ping Yang, which he so thoroughly described, I might mention the battle of Kinchow, which he described as an eye-witness, and did not see. It is rather amusing also to hear Mr. Villiers criticising me on the matter, and calling

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my description of the battle of Ping Yang a "prostitution of journalism;" rather amusing to hear him use such big words after seeing in the *New York Herald* of January the 6th his two large pictures of things which he did not witness: one of these he calls, General Oyama and Staff entering Kinchow. They entered the city on the 6th of November, Mr. Villiers did not arrive until the 9th. The other picture shows the Japanese infantry charging upon one of the forts of Talienwan. The first of these forts was taken on the afternoon of the 6th, the others were taken without fighting early on the morning of the 7th. The very best proof that Villiers does not know anything about it is that his drawing shows the Japanese soldiers charging with their knapsacks strapped on their packs. They had none, as the order had been to leave them at the camping-place so that the soldiers might charge with more ease. For the benefit of those who believe so implicitly in Mr. Creelman's statements I would like to call attention to a few more mistakes contained in his story of the capture of Port Arthur.

The army had not 23,000 men, but hardly 18,000. General Nishi did not command a Mixed Brigade, nor did General Nogi. Each commanded a simple brigade, and as two brigades make one division, the one under General Yamaji, this officer could not have "been marching with the main body of the army between the two brigades." The attack was never intended for the morning of the 20th, the 21st having been decided upon between the army and the navy. The Japanese Cavalry was not surprised in the valley below the forts of Port Arthur, but twelve or fifteen miles from them. The Chinese did not come out on the 20th, because the Japanese had established their batteries and because they wanted to storm them. Not a single gun had been mounted when they came out of Port Arthur. It is not true that regiment after regiment could be seen running between clouds of dust, for General Yamaji had but four regiments in all, and only two were near enough to take part in this first action. No peak black with troops was cleared by shrapnel, for the excellent reason that the Chinese had no shrapnel. The first Chinese column did not advance upon ground torn with shells, nor did it spread itself out to charge. The Japanese never fired until they were but a mile distant, and three shots were then sufficient to make the Chinese take to their heels, nor did the Chinese ever re-form to receive the Japanese infantry. The army did communicate with the navy, even before these forts were taken. Finally, Mr. Creelman stated that Marshal Oyama ordered "the reserve centre to move down the valley, and *thousands* of men came pouring along the road." This indeed is amusing, and shows the correspondent to be ignorant of what he is talking about, inasmuch as the reserve was composed of *one single battalion*.

Hoping, sir, that you will kindly publish this letter in the *Japan Mail*, I am, with thanks,

Yours respectfully,

A. B. de GUERVILLE.

No. 10, East 16th St., New York,
April 2, 1895.

AMATEUR THEATRICALS AT THE PUBLIC HALL.

Impecuniosity, under some circumstances, may not unreasonably be considered in the light of a public virtue. Had not the Association that looks after the up-keep and debts of the Public Hall fallen into such evil straits as regard its funds, we should in all probability be the poorer by one evening's full and perfect enjoyment. Great was the disappointment among those unfortunates who had forgotten to book seats beforehand, for nearly all who arrived after half-past eight o'clock had to be turned away; standing-room was at a premium.

The Comedy presented on Saturday evening was an adaptation from the French of MM. Scribe and Legouvé by W. T. Robertson, and is one of the prettiest little pieces that has been given in Yokohama for a long time. The *casts* was as follows:—

Baron de Montrichard.....Mr. W. G. Bayne.
Henri de Flavigneul .....Mr. H. J. Sharp.
Gustave de Grignon.....Mr. A. C. Read.
Brigadier .....Mr. F. E. White.
Sergeant .....Mr. P. C. Potts.
The Countess d'Autreval .....Mrs. A. C. Read.
Leonie de Villegontier .....Miss Wheeler.

Time, 1816; Scene—Room in the Countess' Chateau.

Briefly, the story circles round a young patrician of *la belle France, Henri de Flavigneul*, who having served the Great Napoleon on several battle-fields, refuses to have anything to do with the Bourbons upon their restoration to the Throne. Young, rich, impulsive, it is not long before an ill-advised action leads him to be accused of being a Buonapartist conspirator. He is arrested and thrown into prison. But a powerful friend, the *Countess d'Autreval*, bribes his jailers to such good effect that the young man soon bids farewell to bars and bolts. He escapes to the Countess' Chateau, near the south-eastern frontier, and when the play begins has just been disguised as a *valet d'chambre* in the immediate service of his benefactress. Staying at the Chateau is *Leonie de Villegontier*, niece of the Countess. Both ladies are Frenchwomen of the *ancien régime*, with all the patrician instincts and antipathies of their class, and *Leonie* is therefore much surprised at the language and bearing of the new man-servant, for she has not been admitted to share the weighty secret. Soon upon the scene enters *Gustave de Grignon*—a victim of hereditary tendencies, his father having bequeathed to him an "over-prudent" heart, while his mother's endowment is a stock of pure courage. He is a Chief of the Supreme Court. This gallant gentleman, who frankly owns up to being "too afraid to be afraid," quickly falls in love with the queenly Countess, and much comic by-play falls to his share in attempting to kindle a responsive flame in the bosom of his heart's desire. *Leonie*, meanwhile, goes out for a ride attended by the pseudo man-servant. A chance accident places her in possession of his real name, and the gentle girl very quickly discovers that her affections are more than interested. The exigencies of dramatic time have now led the comedy into the second act, wherein *Baron de Montrichard* makes his appearance, the bearer of unpleasant news, and also charged with an unpleasant duty, at least so far as three of the characters were concerned. He is a high officer of State, and it having become known that *Henri de Flavigneul* is hiding at the chateau, he has been commissioned to hunt him down, and proceed with his summary execution. In former days the Baron had served the Directory in a humble position, and at the close of the Girondist wars had been sent to arrest three of the principal officers of the defeated party. The *Countess d'Autreval*, though only a child of thirteen, managed their escape right under their enemy's sapient nose: on another occasion, when he had transferred his allegiance to the Empire, the Baron and Countess again made each others acquaintance, and this time she spirited away to an English ship a chevalier, whom he was cock-sure of arresting, while she entertained the well-satisfied Baron at tea in a boat. The plot therefore thickens when he tells the Countess of his present mission. It is a war to the knife between the two—for her affections are very deeply engaged—and the Baron's reputation is at stake. But a combat in which man's complacent self-sufficiency is matched against woman's wit, can only have one termination, the triumph of the woman. So is it in this contest, history repeating itself to justify the experience of mankind. Notwithstanding *Leonie's* unconscious heart-revealing admissions and the Baron's most authorative and naïvely orthodox methods, which naturally induce him to bribe the very man he wants to catch, whose calm *insouciance* completely baffles the dense obtuseness of the officer of the law, the Countess does manage to win the game, effects *Henri's* escape, and covers the time-server with humiliation. But *Henri*, hearing that through a stratagem of the Countess, *Gustave de Grignon* has been arrested in his stead and seems likely to suffer summary death for his sake also, returns to the Chateau. Happily the new complication is solved by the opportune arrival of an Act of Clemency: *Henri's* life is safe. But although the Countess has won in her encounter with the Baron, she finds that youth has the best of her in an encounter with the affections: *Leonie* has won *Henri's* heart. But the young gentlemen has pledged himself to his beautiful and stately benefactress and feels in honour bound to her. Only a woman could deal with a knot like this, and in a scene in which Mrs. Read demonstrated to the full her splendid emotional powers as an actress, she made "the greater sacrifice," thus ending the "Ladies Battle" in favour of the younger woman. It was a dignified piece of acting artistically carried out.

It is seldom in amateur performances that a *caste* is so well-filled as on Saturday evening. Not only were the characters most suited to the different performers, but the players themselves were in complete harmony with each other. Mr. Bayne made a splendid *Baron de Montrichard*, of the bluff, self-confident *chef de police* order, and his appearance was the signal for hearty applause. His delicious bit of egotism, when he declared that had he time he himself could almost fall in love with the divinely gracious Countess was applauded to the echo; as was also another side-remark, after her taunts at his time-serving—"With such a woman what could not I have become." Mr. Sharp gained further laurels on Saturday evening, laurels that he may justly place with those won at Shanghai. His presentation of the character of *Henri de Flavigneul* was very perfect. His quiet impudence when waiting upon the Baron or receiving that worthy man's *louis d'or*, as bribes to spy upon himself, was full of reserved force; while when the flood-tide of gratitude for the benefits so freely showered upon him by the Countess surged up within his breast, he did not allow his passion to carry him beyond the limits of good proportion. Quite as successful in a different line was Mr. A. C. Read (*Gustave de Grignon*), who distilled unconscious humour the whole evening in a most mirth-provoking manner. Seldom have we heard a heartier laugh than that which burst from the audience when the good *Gustave* thanked heaven for being "his mother's son." Our poor words of appreciation of Mrs. Read's share in the performance, will, we are afraid, fall very far short of the adequate. She has appeared so often and to such advantage before Yokohama audiences that a comparison or analysis of her playing is quite superfluous. Yet seldom, it seems to us, has she entered more thoroughly into a part, giving it a life and interest all her own: long may the graceful actress favour us with these charming studies. Miss Wheeler has made a tremendous stride since her last appearance, gathering power, while at the same time not sacrificing the gentle, tender sweetness which has won her a place among the pleasantest recollections of amateur Thespian creations. The two other characters of the piece, a Brigadier and a Sergeant of Gendarmes, were taken by Messrs. White and Potts; they looked very imposing, having a "swashing and a martial outside," though highly suggestive of comic opera when standing at salute or wheeling to retire. After the first and second acts, incidental music was contributed by Mrs. McIvor (piano), Mr. Ramseger (violin), and Mr. Schmid (violoncello). The Town Band was also in attendance and gave several selections.

CONCERT AT THE PUBLIC HALL.

Thousands of years have passed away since first was wove in the imagination of some old Greek dreamer the tender story of Endymion, yet the idyll stills possesses potency to charm the minds of men. More especially is this the case when the legend is wedded to melodious music, and then rendered as a pastoral. This has been attempted time and again in many lands, but Edwin Aspa in our own day has, perhaps alone caught the true quality of the subtle essence which pervades the theme, and placed the story of Endymion within a suitable setting. It was Aspa's "Endymion" which the Yokohama Choral Society gave on Wednesday evening at the Public Hall at their last concert of the present season, and the Pastoral received most happy treatment. The soloists were, *Selené*, Mrs. Irwine; *Nydia*, Miss Webb; *Myrrha*, Miss Lloyd Thomas; *Corin*, Mrs. James Walter; *Shepherd*, Mr. Townley; *Endymion*, Mr. Nicholas. It is with pleasure that we note the distinct improvement which has been attained since the Society's last concert. The Chorus especially did better work, and at no time exhibited hesitation or signs of diffident faltering. One of the most pleasant of its pieces, "Sleep, O Doris," in the first half, was slightly marred by the rustling of the leaves of the programmes among the audience, it unfortunately happening that the first two lines of the four of which it was composed, came at the bottom of the turnover page. Happily the equanimity of the singers was not much ruffled, and the beautiful cadences of the closing refrain seemed to gain sweetness by contrast. Mr. Nicholas, who took the title part, was in capital voice. He seems to have quite lost his former nervousness, while his organ has improved, the voice having gathered volume without losing its sympathetic timbre. At the close of the solo, "I care not whether the morn be fair," the applause was loud and continuous, and Mr. Nicholas bowed his thanks. Mr. Townley also received an ovation for his rendering of, "Now shepherds all," a fine bit of writing, finely given. The lady soloists all gained honours in the course of the evening. Mrs. Irwine has seldom been heard to better advantage than in the long scéna which falls to *Selené* in the second half. Her richly cultivated voice, so full of charm and melody, gave additional beauty to the composer's brilliant fancy, and at the passionate close, the audience displayed unusual enthusiasm. Miss Lloyd Thomas scored a very great success in her inter-

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pretation of the other soprano solos, fully justifying the hopes that were formed on her first appearance. *Corin's* song, "From burning meadows to cooling glade," was finely rendered by Mrs. James Walter, and Miss Webb, as *Nydia*, also deserves praise. The recitations were given by Mr. H. J. Sharp in a highly sympathetic manner, and drew forth much applause. Mr. Griffin, President of the Society, conducted, and wielded a handsome ebony *baton*, with gold mountings, which had been presented to him the previous evening by the two musical societies jointly concerned in the concert, as a slight mark of their appreciation of his labours on behalf of music in Yokohama. The accompaniments were played by Mrs. Poole, and at the conclusion of the Pastoral a handsome basket of flowers was handed up to her, a token of thanks of which the audience highly approved.

The Yokohama Philharmonic Society, which has now become so closely identified with the Choral Society's Concerts, gave two overtures and a couple of orchestral ballads during the course of the evening. The first was from Mozart's "Il Don Giovanni," and went very well indeed. Of the two orchestral ballads, both from the pen of Mendelssohn, the rendering of the "Frühlingslied," seemed to be preferred by the audience to the "Trauermarsch," though there was little to choose between the two, so well were both executed. The concluding piece, "Masaniello" (Auber), was however, the most successful of the four. It is a sparkling composition and received full justice, going from start to finish with great verve. Both Societies may look back with considerable satisfaction upon the season just closed. The older Society has experienced a gratifying revival of musical interest, while the Philharmonic has achieved results for a first season of which it may justly be proud.

HAKODATE.

(From our own Correspondent.)

May 1, 1895.

To-day the American schooner *Sophie Sutherland*, and the British schooner *Borealis*, arrived in harbour together, the former with 195 and the latter with 361 skins on board. The *Sutherland* had one of her boats destroyed by a fish (probably grampus) which came underneath and drove a big hole in her. The men were saved by a boat's crew who saw the accident. A few days later the schooner had the misfortune to loose her rudder-head, so put in here for repairs. The *Borealis* brought a sick man in for treatment. Both vessels report seals to be scarce. The *Sutherland* spoke the following vessels on the dates given :—

DATE.	VESSEL.	SKINS.
30th March	"Charlotta Cox"	24
31st March	"Golden Fleece"	160
31st March	"Mervin"	...unknown.
7th April	"Morell"	48
and which reports	"Brenda"	48
8th April	"Golden Fleece"	200
8th April	"Mattie T. Dyer"	224
9th April	"Vera"	43
29th April	"Jane Grey"	126
30th April	"Vera"	9224

The *Borealis* spoke the following :—

DATE.	VESSEL.	SKINS.
29th March	"Jane Grey"	47
1st April	"Ainsworth"	900
6th April	"Golden Fleece"	190
7th April	"Webster"	151
8th April	"Mary Ellen"	25
14th April	"Mermaid"	480
15th April	"Rattler"	74
20th April	"Vera"	333
23rd April	"Theresa"	188
24th April	"Annie E. Paint"	60

* This is doubtful, for on the 20th she had only 231 skins and would have to get near 600 in 10 days.

One of the above vessels has a boat belonging to the *Emma Louise*, which she picked up at sea with two men in her, the third, who was steering, fell over as the boat plunged forward, and before his companions were able to get him in he gave a shriek and sank. It is supposed that a shark had carried him down.

Hakodate, May 2nd, 1895.

The steamer *Rhodora*, Captain Williams, lately chartered by the N.Y.K., left Tsuchisaki, Akita, on the 29th ultimo at 4 p.m., for Yokohama direct with the following cargo :—40,113 bags rice, 1,722 bags beans, 2,105 pieces copper, 193 packages pitch, and 45 packages sundries. All went well till the afternoon of the 30th when the boilers gave out at 1 p.m. An anchorage was then sought for in the vicinity of Cape Blunt in order to repair them. In seeking this anchorage it is supposed the vessel struck a sunken rock, for she made water so fast that the vessel was headed for Hakodate harbour as quickly as possible. All hands were then set to work the pumps, but the water gained rapidly on them, that it was deemed advisable to run to the nearest land, and she was beached [illegible] in Aomori Bay. Until the time of writing, she still lies there on the sand with about 10 feet of water in her hold. Yesterday only a little cargo was lightered, and to-day the cargo is being removed so as to get at the hole. Lloyd's agent here is not doing the work of lightening her, the charterers having her in hand. She is lying in a very exposed position, but it is to be hoped it will not come on to blow. The crew, 35 in number, including 8 Japanese, are all aboard helping to discharge cargo, and the N.Y.K. Authorities here, with the Captain, are doing all is their power to get her off.

May 3rd.

From further particulars regarding the *Rhodora*, it is ascertained that after she had passed Shimokubi-saki one of the boilers gave out, so an anchorage was sought for at Cape Blunt to effect repairs and she let her anchor go. The current being strong here, she drifted on to some sunken rocks and struck. Water coming in, the anchor was taken up and her head turned for Hakodate, but before she was able to make the port the other boiler gave out. She was then beached as before stated. All her holds, as well as the Engine-room, are flooded. Divers have been down and ascertained the extent of her damage. There are two holes, one right under the forward gangway and the other under the after part of the main hold. The holes have been stopped and the water is now being pumped out. The captain expects to be able to steam into Hakodate harbour to-morrow afternoon.

James Thompson, hunter, and two other men belonging to the American schooner *Alton*, were cast ashore at Misawa, Kamikita District, Aomori Prefecture, on the 29th ultimo at 8 p.m. They had been 7 days in the boat away from their vessel. The morning they left the *Alton* she had 190 skins aboard. The men arrived here yesterday.

The local authorities here have received a telegram stating that three men have been washed ashore at Urakawa, about 105 miles to the N.E. of Hakodate. The name of their schooner was not telegraphed.

The British schooner *Borealis*, which put in the other day, had one of her men washed overboard the first night out from Victoria. A snowstorm and gale was raging at the time, and it being pitch dark it was impossible to lower a boat.

It is reported that two boats lashed together, with a dead man in each, also lashed inside, has been picked up at sea by one of the schooners. The Captains of the two schooners which came in the other day cannot verify this report as they only heard it from the men of another schooner.

The schooner *Borealis* left this morning at daylight, shipping a Japanese in place of the sick man she left in Hospital here.

The American schooner *Sophie Sutherland* is undergoing repairs and expects to get away soon.

Hakodate, May 5th.

The three men I reported the other day as having been cast ashore at Urakawa, C. Campbell and two others, arrived here this afternoon. They belong to the American schooner *Eppinger*. The morning they left the schooner hunting, she had 443 skins on board. They report that the *Eppinger* picked up at sea a boat and three men (Joe Williams and two others) belonging to the *Jane Grey*, and that the Japanese Authorities of Urakawa were exceedingly kind to them and rendered them every assistance.

A fight took place to-day at noon between the men of the *Hokkai Shimbun* and the *Mesamashi Shimbun*, in which a few were cut and bruised, and one, I believe, wounded by a revolver.

Hakodate, May 7th.

On Sunday a party of merry-makers from the staff of the *Kokkai* with their friends, in returning from the park, passed the office of the *Mesamashi*, and in passing shouted "*Banzai* for the *Kokkai*." Whereupon the *Mesamashi* men, who had also been merry-making that day, rushed out and a free fight ensued, stones and sticks being freely used. Some even brought out swords and a revolver, but the police getting wind of the affair quickly went to the spot and quelled the disturbance, which might have been very serious but for their promptness, for the belligerents of both parties with their friends numbered near 60 men. Three or four had deep gashes on their heads, and many were bruised by the flying stones. This is the result of a long standing quarrel between the rival papers.

The American schooner *Dora Bluhm*, Captain Rice, seven days out from Vladivostock, arrived this morning in harbour. She is consigned to Messrs. Howell and Co. and will load sulphur for San Francisco at once.

The steamer *Rhodora* is afloat and is getting up steam. It is expected she will be able to slowly steam into harbour this evening, where she will undergo the necessary repairs.

LETTER FROM K

(From our Correspon

Kyoto,

The readers of the *Japan Mail* h
apprised by telegram and public
the fact, that the special celebrat
April 30th was, on account of the
His Imperial Majesty, indefini
This sudden change of plan cau
great deal of disappointment, bu
able trouble and extra expense
telegrams had to be dispatched
of the country to the invited gues
possible, the trip to the ancient ca
cases, of course, these message
their destination until after the per
on their journey.

It was therefore, arranged th
official demonstrations must, un
stances, be given up, nevertheless
would be informally received.
temple, erected to the honour of
(founder of Kyoto), was opene
and was inspected by a large nu
It is a very beautiful edifice, built
according to the style of architect
the Emperor Kwammu's era, elev
Each special guest received a badg
explanatory documents and a tick
to receive a small earthenware sau
This saucer was stamped with th
kinen (souvenir), enclosed in two
tachibana (a kind of orange), an

Although all formal ceremoni
brations were postponed, the in
happened to be in Kyoto were
depart without a social gatheri
Kyosankwai and the Taihin-kyok
organization for the special purpo
foreigners) giving an entertainme
kwan, an historic temple that date
of Ota Nobunaga. This entertai
form of a garden party at first,
o'clock. The guests, who were
wandered about the spacious gr
the beautiful peonies, and to "e
merry." At 6.30 o'clock a select
eight foreigners and fourteen or
repaired to a banquet in the finest
while the remainder of the guests
with a Japanese banquet and t
panment of dancing.

At the European banquet Prin
sident of the Kyosankwai, occu
the table, with the Belgian Mi
and Marquis Hachisuka on his
Japanese present were Prince
Watanabe (of Kyoto *Fu*) with h
Kobayashi; Mr. Otsuki (Coun
Messrs. Inahada, Wada, Inaga
while the foreigners present incl
spondent, and Mr. Walter G. Sm
Mr. Brooke, Mr. Fernand Gane
G. Northrup. After the banq
hibition of excellent dancing by
Kyoto.

LETTER FROM K

(From our Correspon

Sôul,

On the 19th inst. the grand
Wön-kun, Yi Chun-yong, unde
Minister from Korea to Japan,
charge of conspiracy against the
with being implicated in the ass
Hak-ou. He is lodged in the
Royal Palace, and by way of
Wön-kun left his home and took
the place where his grandson
special Court has been appoint
cused. What the outcome will
One thing, however, is most sur
is the indifference of the peopl
some intelligence and knowledge
after the arrest, that it is nothing
that there is no excitement am
the course of the ex-Regent is
it practically amounts to self-su
ably he is drawing on the sympa
but there is no response from
present, the old man's powe
The shock among official circle
among the people, but even th
have some vague idea that c
respect law or take the conseq
know what charges have been o

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against the accused, and I shall not try to surmise what the Special Court will decide, but I record my firm belief that twelve months ago an arrest of this kind could not have been made without serious consequences. The people may not like everything brought them from their neighbours, but they approve the law that gives every man a hearing and makes every one responsible to the law.

The cessation of hostilities between the warring nations is hailed here with great joy. It was hardly expected. Most of us thought Japan would insist on pushing on to Pekin and dictating terms under the shadow of the Imperial Palace.

Our bi-daily, *The Sŏul News*, is looked for by the Koreans. Ask one about the news and he will quote this paper. As it has no rival as yet this may not mean much, but it means a great deal when we take into consideration the fact that Sŏul has been so long without any channel to give news and information to the people.

His Excellency Count Inouye keeps close to his desk and a tight grip on the work of Reform he has inaugurated in this country. The work is sure to go on, though no sooner is one difficulty removed than another one appears.

Dr. H. N. Allen has been giving the readers of the *Korean Repository* some very interesting legends and history of places in Sŏul. In the April number he tells us what is known of the solitary pagoda in this city, and affirms it was brought from Nanking about seven hundred years ago.

JUDGMENT OF THE IMPERIAL PRIZE COURT IN SASEBO RE THE "YIKSANG."

In the matter of the capture of the steamship *Yiksang*, owned by the Indo-China Steam Navigation Company, Limited, of London, in England, and of a portion of her cargo, as per list attached hereto, which capture was effected by H.I.J.M.S. *Tsukuba*, off Taku, in the Province of Chihli, in China, on the 9th day of April, the 28th year of *Meiji* (1895); after perusal of the views stated by the prosecutors, we give judgment as follows:—

The statement of Captain Kurooka Tatewaki, Commander of H.I.J.M.S. *Tsukuba*, is briefly as follows:—While the man-of-war was anchored off Taku, the steamer *Yiksang* from Shanghai, via Chefoo, anchored at a distance of about 8 miles from the coast of Taku, at about 11.30 a.m., on the 8th day of April, the 28th year of *Meiji*. When the Commander sent on that day Lieutenant Arao and Sub-Lieutenant Takagi, to visit the steamer, her master (Bradley) showed the ship's papers, and as he declared that there was no contraband on board his ship, the said officers left without making any search. But whereas, on the next day, being the 9th of April aforesaid, there was found on board the *Peking* (a lighter owned by the Taku Tug and Lighter Company) a quantity of cartridges, said to have been discharged form the said steamer, the officers before mentioned were again sent to visit the said steamer, when her master stated that the cargo called steel bars, then on board the *Peking*, had been discharged form the said steamer, and on being questioned as to the shipper and as to any other cargo that might form part of the same shipment, and also as to the existence of papers relating to the said cargo, he showed a copy of the manifest and shipping orders, and explained that the said cargo was shipped by Messrs. R. Telge & Co., a German firm in Shanghai, and that there were also four cases of Chinese books shipped by the said firm. The said officers found the cargo described in the said copy of the manifest as 224 cases of bamboo-steel and in the correlated shipping order as 220 cases of bamboo-steel and 4 cases of Chinese books, and they informed the said master that they wished to examine the said cases of Chinese books. Upon opening one of the said 4 cases, they discovered that it contained five small boxes, each containing five hundred magazines used for repeating rifles, &c., from the Kiang-ngan Arsenal. The said officers were thereupon ordered to seize the said steamer on the ground of having carried the said cargo misrepresented to be Chinese books.

In considering the verbal statements of the parties concerned in the matter, as given before the Judge in charge, and on perusing papers and documents produced by them, we have come to the conclusion that the said steamer is owned by the Indo-China Steam Navigation Company, London, England, and therefore she is a neutral ship; that the said magazines, which are contraband of war, were shipped and consigned to Tientsin by R. Telge and Co., a German firm in Shanghai; that as to their quantity and value, they constitute only a small portion of the whole freight; that there is no reason to suspect either the owners, their agents, or the master of the said steamer of having made, or allowed to be made, any misrepresentation in the use of the name "Chinese books," in order to avoid capture; and that, although the cargo in the list attached hereto was shipped by the enemy's subjects, it is not from its nature contraband cargo, nor even in the case of such portions as are *ancipitus usus*, are there facts to show that they are for the use of the army or navy of the enemy.

The general principles of International Law are that if a neutral ship, sailing to or calling at an enemy's port, actually carries on board contraband of war, and such contraband is only a small portion of the whole freight, the contraband alone shall be kept as prize, the ship and also such part of her cargo as is not contraband, being set free, unless the owner of such ship and cargo be the same as that of the contraband, or unless her owner or master commit fraudulent acts; and also that even goods of the enemy carried in such neutral ship, provided they be not contraband of war, shall not be taken as prize except in cases where they belong to the same owner as the contraband.

For the aforesaid reasons, the British ship *Yiksang* and the cargo mentioned in the said list, though their capture was in accordance with the law, are hereby released.

Dated the 1st day of May, the 28th year of *Meiji*.

(Signed) SHITOMI TSUNETAMI,
President of Imperial Prize Court.

SENJU NARISADA, Associate of the Court.
HATAKEYAMA SHIGEAKIRA, " "
TANOKAMI SEIZO, " "
SHIMIZU ICHITARO, " "

The above certified copy is made from the original record of the Judgment delivered on the 1st day of May the 28th year of *Meiji*.

SHIMONAGA YOSHINARI, Clerk of the Court.

MY FATAL SHOT.

The punkah swinging overhead only seemed to stir the hot air without cooling it, for the weather was unusually sultry, even for September, in Bengal. Perry and I were seated at tiffin, and, for the last few moments, silence had fallen on us. We had exhausted all our subjects of conversation and there seemed nothing left to talk of, except the heat.

"Whew, it's hot in here," exclaimed Perry who was my host, and nearest neighbour, "let us go and smoke outside in the verandah and get what little air we can."

"Pull the verandah punkah," he called to his bearer, "and take cheroots and peas out there." It was not much better outside, for there was no breeze, and the whole atmosphere teemed with steamy moisture. An ominous growl was heard from time to time, proceeding from a bank of heavy black clouds, which had passed us giving us a drenching, and it was now raining away near the horizon.

"This weather is awfully depressing, I must say," sighed my companion. "Nothing but water and rain, everlastingly for weeks, and how sick I am of it, to be sure."

Perry and I lived in adjoining indigo factories, the lands of which were subject to inundation, and now most of the surrounding country was under water.

Chitpore, the factory in which Perry lived, was surrounded by a waste of waters. The bungalow, factory, buildings, and compound looked like a small island; one might get off his verandah into a boat and sail for fifty miles across country or through the river, it looked all the same.

Many of the villages were barely out of water. The brown roofs of the huts, crowded on the highest available ground, looked as if they were huddling together for shelter, whilst the narrow village walls were now only used as waterways, down which the natives paddled quaint-shaped boats, their only possible means of locomotion.

I had come over five miles in my paddle boat that morning from my own factory of Jettrapore to spend the day with my friend. We were dull beyond description, but, still as I remarked, when I appeared an uninvited guest, "two fellows together can't possibly be as dull as one alone," and so we had tried all through the long day to while away the weary hours.

We had no billiard table, so, during the morning, which had been a pouring one, we had played ecarte, cribbage, and bezique till we were wearied of them all, and, after tiffin, I took up a book, and Perry looked very much like going off into a snooze.

The slow afternoon dragged on until it was time for me to depart, which I was very unwilling to do, but I had a large sum of money in my factory, and did not like to remain away all night. Accordingly, after making Perry promise that he would come the following day and spend a week with me, I took my departure.

The paddles of my boat were worked by coolies just as a treadmill would have been. They gave vent from time to time to the most unearthly shrieks and yells, but beyond this sound and the swish of the waters round the wheels, utter stillness reigned. None of the usual turmoil of insect life, usually so incessant that its cessation leaves a blank, was to be heard. Nothing but a waste of waters was to be seen.

Loth to return to my solitary abode, I had remained later than I intended at Chitpore, and the sun set when I was still some distance from my own factory.

Fleecy clouds had replaced the heavy mass which had rolled away beyond the horizon. As the sun set they turned from grey and white to yellow, glowing with opalescent tints, and then suddenly I was sailing through golden waters towards a stretch of glowing crimson. Far way in the horizon the shores and waters joined, and the whole world looked gorgeous with brilliant hues varying from deepest red to pale soft rose. The clusters of dark trees rising from the water looked black in contrast with the surrounding glory. By degrees it paled and faded, and darkness fell on the land.

As I reached the bank, I saw my bearer waiting for me with a lantern in his hand. He was surrounded by a large group, consisting, as far as I could see, of all my servants, besides some fifteen or twenty of the people from the nearest village as well; they all were evidently in a great state of excitement.

"Sahib, sahib," called the bearer, jumping into the boat before it had time to reach the shore. "There is a leopard in one of the bath-rooms."

"A leopard in the bath-room, you are talking nonsense, you, fool" I said, with the politeness habitual from a sahib to his bearer.

"Sahib, he is speaking the truth," said the kitmutghar, who was trembling with fear and excitement combined.

"Yes, your honour, defender of the poor, it is the truth he is speaking," proclaimed the rest of the mob in chorus, confident that I should require an unusual amount of testimony for so extraordinary a fact.

I sprang to the shore as soon as the boat touched land, and scrambled up the steep bank, surrounded by the small crowd of white-robed domestics and dingily-clad villagers.

My bungalow was unusually large for an out-factory, consisting of two rooms in the centre, whilst on each side were two bed-rooms with a dressing and bath-room adjoining each. Those on the right hand, or east side of the house, I occupied myself, and reserved for my friends, whilst the others were scarcely ever used, and, beyond a few pieces of furniture stored in them, were empty.

The house was quite dark when I entered it, and every door was closed.

"Bring in the lantern," I called to the bearer, but nothing would induce him to enter the house, so holding it at arm's length he deposited it on the floor of the sitting room which opened on to the verandah, and hastily retreated down the steps, where he joined the crowd, who were all huddled together in breathless expectation of what was to happen.

The bungalow was considerably raised from the ground, and was approached by a steep flight of steps, which were not filled in below. Taking the lantern, I went to my gun-rack, and rapidly loaded both barrels of my rifle. "If only these idiots were not such beastly cowards I could take that too in case I wanted it," I muttered to myself, looking somewhat longingly at my gun.

Just at this moment a voice said in Bengali, "I want to come with you, Sahib, to kill the leopard," and, looking round, I saw a scantily clothed, half-grown grass-cutter boy, whose very bright eyes and white teeth gleamed in the semi-darkness.

"Are you quite sure you won't be afraid and run away?" I said looking at him somewhat doubtfully.

"I won't run away, Sahib, you try me," he said confidently, and knowing the boy's parentage, for his father was an up-countryman from the North-West, I felt I could trust him.

"Very well," I said, "take this in one hand," and I gave him my gun, "and this in the other," giving him the lantern.

"Stand behind me, don't be frightened, and whatever you do don't run away."

I looked out to see what the rest of my "suite" were doing, and found that they had procured two blazing torches, made of twisted tow, which were

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replenished every few minutes with oil which they carried in a receptacle formed out of a hollow bamboo.

Their dusky forms looked weird and fantastic in the dancing, uneven light of the torches, and most of their faces expressed a strange mixture of curiosity and fear.

I opened the door leading from the dining-room into the empty bed-room, and crept across it to the door of the bath-room from which I heard an ominous growl. Yes, there was evidently something alive in there. I tried the door to see if it was securely fastened, but this part of the house, from being so rarely used, was much out of repair, and there was only an empty staple where the bolt should have been. The door was fastened by a very insecure hook on my side, which a child pushing against from the other could have burst open.

I unclosed the venetians cautiously and looked in.

An enormous leopard lay in the empty space intended for the bath. The outer door, by which he had entered, was half open. When he saw the gleam of the light thrown into him, he got up and began restlessly pacing up and down the narrow space uttering an ugly growl as he did so.

"Hold up the lantern," I whispered to the boy, "put down the gun, and open the venetian.

Taking aim through this I fired, but just as I did so the beast, turning restlessly round once more, moved, and my bullet passed over him, and through the hall beyond.

Startled by the report he got up and looked towards the door through which I was aiming.

Once more I took aim, but the light was very uncertain, and just as I fired the venetian dropped. I had wounded him, however, for he gave a sullen angry roar.

Taking the lantern from the boy I held it up and opened the venetian to see what was happening inside, but speedily closed it again, and only just in time, for, maddened with pain, the wounded animal made one spring towards the light, and, before I could realise what had happened, I felt his hot breath on my face, saw his fierce eyes looking into mine, was knocked down by his huge form springing over me, and then he had sped on through the dark rooms, and I remained lying there stunned for a moment by the unexpected onslaught, but only for a moment. Rising, I handed my rifle to the boy who had behaved very pluckily, standing behind me. I seized the gun and followed the animal, who had made for the only opening, that on to the verandah.

With one bound he had cleared the steps, and frightened apparently by the glare of the lanterns, and the terrified cries of the natives, who fled in all directions, he lay crouched under the steps in the space I have described. Stooping down I fired at him. It was so dark I could see nothing but the angry gleam of his fiery eyes. I did not hit him apparently, for he made another bound, knocking down a native as he did so and disappeared into the darkness of the night.

I felt dazed. I could not see distinctly, but reeled and almost fell, putting my hand to my forehead. I withdrew it covered with blood.

I took off my topee, which I had not removed on entering the house. It was an unusually large one and very thick in the brim. I had tried to get rid of it when firing at the leopard for I found it in my way when looking through the door, but both hands being occupied I couldn't remove it. I had been very much annoyed when I found that my bearer had not sent me a cap to wear on my return journey in the boat. I blessed his carelessness now. That topee had saved my life.

The leopard, when he sprung on me, had bitten a piece out of the front of it; there it was, a clear half circle. I shuddered when I thought of that bite having been given to my face. The blood which was now streaming down my forehead came from a wound he had made with his claw on my head—a wound which was slight enough now, but which, had I not worn the topee, would most probably have been fatal.

* * * * * * *

Next morning, towards daylight, as I lay in the bed turning and tossing with the heat, using language the reverse of parliamentary towards the punkah-wallah, who slept well and continuously in spite of heat and mosquitoes, I heard a gentle rattling at the door, and a voice saying softly, "Sahib, Sahib."

"What is it?" I called out; "Come in," I added in Bengali, and Modra, the boy, who had behaved so pluckily as my gun-bearer on the previous day, crept into the room.

"Sahib," he said. "I know where the leopard is. I have been out after him nearly all night. This morning I got *khubber* that he was in Madanpore village, and Sahib," he said delightedly, his big eyes gleaming as he spoke, "he is there, I saw him in a little piece of jungle at the edge of the village."

"Are you quite certain?" I asked incredulously, for native information of the sort is usually very unreliable.

"Sahib, God knows he is there, and I left the chowkidar to watch him, and came away to give your honour the news."

I took my watch from under my pillow. Just half an hour before the sun could rise.

"Run along, call the bearer and kitmutghar, and tell Shadoo syce to come to me," I ordered getting out of bed, and proceeding to indulge in a cold bath.

By the time I had made all arrangements, was mounted and ready to start with a crowd of natives gathered round me, it was broad daylight and the sun rose soon after I left the bungalow.

The land on my side of the river was slightly raised just near the factory. Between it and the adjoining village lay some large patches of jungle grass which the inundation had not reached.

Riding at the head of a motley procession, consisting of most of my domestic servants—syces armed with old hog spears and a crowd of villagers, who brought with them the shikar dogs, half-starved looking animals, which are sometimes very useful in spite of their unprepossessing appearance—I proceeded along what was by courtesy called a road, a track between two high banks, which was so muddy that my horse slipped and slithered along in an eminently uncomfortable fashion. Every now and again he had to wade through a deep pool, where the water had collected in some unusually hollow place.

The small grass-cutter carried my rifle, whilst one of the syces had my gun. Half an hour brought us to our destination; a patch of high, thick grass, just outside the village. Between it and the village lay the road bordered by a deep ditch, on the other side of which was a dark pond, around it green, the dense jungle which becomes so rampant during the rains, consisting of rank leaves and bushes covered with a network of coarse creepers.

"The leopard is in there, Sahib," said Modra, indicating this dreary spot.

I dismounted, sending my horse to a safe distance, and taking my rifle from Modra who immediately armed himself with a long bamboo, which he snatched from a small boy in the crowd. I took up my position on the top of the bank and eagerly peered down into the jungle.

A dozen pointing hands indicated the whereabouts of the animal. "There, there he is, Sahib. Can't you see him? I see his tail moving."

"There, there, I see his eyes," cried a dozen voices at once. Suddenly I too saw him and raising my rifle fired. The bullet, I afterwards discovered, passed right through his thigh. Mad with pain, he gave a roar, and, like a lightning flash, bounded across the road, over the banks, into the jungle beyond. As he passed he clawed my coat from shoulder to wrist, and inflicted a nasty wound on my left arm.

"Where is he?" I asked, as soon as I had recovered from my surprise.

"There, there Sahib, close by that little tree," for he had only left one piece of jungle to shelter himself in the other. I had bought my experience, and determined that I would not fire again until I could really see at which part of his body I was aiming, but nothing would induce the brute to move. He lay crouched down so low amongst the grass that I could only from time to time see the movement of his tail.

Some moments passed, the natives yelled and shrieked hoping to exasperate him to action in that way, but still he lay motionless only giving notice of his whereabouts by emitting a fierce low growl.

Before I was aware of his intention, Modra, with his long bamboo, had scrambled down the bank across the road to the side of the jungle, and with an excited gleam in his dark eyes called out to me.

"I'll make him move, Sahib," and getting sufficiently close to the infuriated animal he prodded him violently with his long pole as he spoke.

Quick as lightning the leopard had turned, sprung on the boy, and knocking him down covered him entirely with his huge body.

Modra gave one wild agonized shriek, then lay perfectly still.

Amidst breathless silence I took steady aim, but just as I fired the beast moved, exposing the boy's body as he did so.

The leopard sprang unhurt into the jungle, and my bullet went through Modra's brave little heart.

The whole of the next day Perry and I followed the brute, and towards evening came upon him crouching low amongst the jungle surrounding the pond near which little Modra met his death.

I fired, and my first shot killed remember the look in that boy's conscious he went to his doom, vain and bitter regret of my fata

IRVING, in the *Asian*.

LATEST TELEGRA

[REUTER "SPECIAL" TO "JAP

Lon

Count Kalnoky has resigned, strictures of the Hungarian Pres the meddling of the Papal Nuncio

Oscar Wilde has been let out o

Lon

Jabez Balfour has arrived in has been charged. He was rem

Lord Selborne is dead.

Lon

The bill to repeal the Coer passed a second reading by a m teen.

(SELBORNE (Earl of), The Right Hon. Roun son of the late Rev. William Palmer, Oxfordshire, by Dorothea, youngest daugh William Roundell, of Gledstanes, York Maxbury, Nov. 27, 1840. He was educ Winchester Schools, and was elected Scholarship at Trinity College, Oxford, wh as a first-class in classics, in Easter previously gained the Chancellor's priz and for the Latin essay in 1832, the N English verse in 1832, and the Ireland same year. The subject the Latin vers "Numantia," and of the English "Bedfo to a Fellowship at Magdalen College, and Law Scholarship in 1834. In 1837 he gradu called to the bar at Lincoln's-inn on Ju Having practised with great success as a he was created Queen's Counsel in April mediately elected a Bencher of his inn. S was first returned to Parliament as memb the general election of July, 1847, bein Viscount Ebrington. He represented P 1852, when he was not re-elected; but r June, 1853, and held it till March, 1857, w himself as a candidate. In July, 1865, th seat in Parliament at the time, he was General in Lord Palmerston's Adminis Sir William Atherton, who was promot General on the elevation of Sir Richard cellorship as Lord Westbury. Sir Rounde honour of knighthood, and he was soon for Richmond, a borough in which the paramount influence, and which he con until his elevation to the peerage. In Oct of Sir William Atherton, he became At retired from office with Lord John Russel stration in June, 1866. On the return of power, under the leadership of Mr. Glad he was offered the Chancellorship, but endorse the policy of the Government in r Church, declined taking office. Sir Roun on the Irish Church question were embod speech addressed by him to his constitu He concurred with the Government the disestablishment of the Irish Ch from them on the question of the disen tinued, however, to be an independent Gladstone's Cabinet on most of the publ day, and consented to represent Her Ma as counsel before the Arbitration Court He was appointed Chancellor of Englan Lord Hatherley, in Oct. 1872, on whic raised to the peerage by the title of Baro borne, in the county of Hants. He went defeat of the Liberal party in Feb. 1874. of the Commission for reforming Oxfor Selborne was made chairman. He was Chancellor of England on the return of th under Mr. Gladstone in May 1880. In created Viscount Wolmer, of Blackmoo Earl of Selborne, in the same county. name was much associated with the proj what has been termed a "Legal Unive subject Sir R. Palmer twice moved, th failed to carry, a resolution in the House edited the "Book of Praise, from the b Writers," published in 1862, and in 1863 w by the University of Oxford. He was ele the University of St. Andrews in Nov. 18 ship published "Notes on some Passag History of the Reformed English Churc published "A Defence of the Church of E establishment."—*Men of the Time.*]

["SPECIAL" TELEGRAM TO "J.

Hako

The following vessels arrived *Emma Louise*, with 352 skins; 204 skins; the *Penelope*, 210 ski

(FROM JAPANESE PAPERS

Naga

The British man-of-war *Car* at 10 a.m. to-day for Kobe.

Shimono

A person, who lately returned stock, states that no Russian in that port, with the exception boats. It is stated that the reser assembled and horses purchased

Shan

The Italian man-of-war *Chris* has been staying here for a few leave for Nagasaki in two or th Italian noble (the Duke of board the ship.

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Port Arthur, May 9.

Mr. Ito, Japanese Plenipotentiary, reached here from Chefoo at 11 a.m. to-day by the *Yokohama Maru*. A large number of officers welcomed him, and the men-of-war in the Port fired a salute. The National Anthem was played on board the ship of H.I.H. Prince Komatsu when he arrived here. Mr. Ito at once proceeded to the office of the Prince, and had an interview with him for half an hour. He then returned to the *Yokohama Maru*. A rumour was afloat until this morning that the exchange of ratifications had not been successfully effected, but the ratifications were actually exchanged at 11.30 last night, and the Japanese Plenipotentiary left Chefoo for this at 5 a.m. to-day. It is stated that on the 7th and 8th the course of the negotiations was much disturbed. China was represented by Messrs. Wu and Lieu, and Mr. Foster acted as their adviser. A very warm welcome was accorded to Mr. Ito by the Chinese officials. A banquet was arranged by them after the exchange of ratifications, but as the Japanese Plenipotentiary wished to return home at once he declined the invitation. When the *Yokohama Maru* left Chefoo the Chinese Custom House hoisted the Japanese national flag, and discharged fire-crackers to celebrate the restoration of peace, and to express respect to the Japanese Plenipotentiary. During the stay of Mr. Ito at Chefoo strict guard was kept day and night, and when he passed along the road soldiers lined the thoroughfares. An escort was also given to him. Admiral Fremantle paid a visit to Mr. Ito, and had a conversation with him. The officers of the British and American men-of-war also visited the *Yokohama Maru*. It is said that when Mr. Ito left Chefoo the British man-of-war fired a salute in his honour.

H.I.H. Prince Komatsu entertained Mr. Ito on board the *Ikai Maru*. The *Yokohama Maru* left here at 5 p.m. to-day for Ujina with Mr. Ito. Lieut.-General Kawakami, Major-Generals Inouye and Terauchi, Surgeon-General Ishiguro and others assembled to bid him farewell.

Söul, May 9.

The trial of Li Shun-yo commenced to-day. It is said that he will be sentenced to death.

Shanghai, May 10.

It had been said that Lord Li would be sent to represent China in Japan, but it is now decided to appoint Mr. Wu as Chinese Minister.

CHESS.

(All Communications to be addressed to the Chess Editor.)

The Yokohama Chess Club is closed for the season: and reopens on 3rd October.

The Tokyo Chess Club meets at the Tokyo Hotel every Friday from 1 to 7 p.m.

Solution of Problem No. 175.

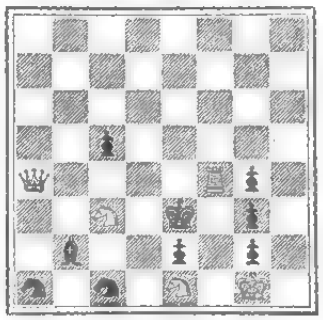
WHITE.	BLACK.
1—B to Q R 2	1—R × Kt
2—Q to B 2 ch.	2—P × Q
3—P to Kt 4, mate	
	1—R × Q
2—Kt to K 4 ch.	2—K moves
3—B × P, mate	
	1—P × B
2—Q to Q 3	2—Any
3—P to Kt 4, mate	
	1—K × Kt
2—Q to K 7 ch.	2—K to Q 4
3—B × P, mate	
	1—K to Q 4
2—B × P ch.	2—K × Kt
3—Q to K 7, mate	
	if 2—K to B 4
3—Kt to Kt 4, mate	
	1—P to K 5
2—Q to K B 5 ch.	2—K × Kt
3—R to Q 7, mate	
	if 2—B to K 4
3—Q × B, mate	
	1—Other moves
2—Kt to K 4 ch.	2—K moves
3—B × P, mate.	

Correct solutions received from Omega ("very good, indeed"), Digamma (who describes the first variation as "a star of the first magnitude in this brilliant chess constellation"), Kr., E. J. King, and J.D.

Problem No. 177.

By Jan Ortina.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in three moves.

Janowsky v. Mieses.

The result of the encounter between Janowsky and Mieses was a drawn battle, the score at the end of the 14th game being 6 wins for each champion and 2 draws:—

Game No. 259.

THE VIENNA OPENING.

WHITE. Mieses.	BLACK. Janowsky.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—Kt to Q B 3	2—Kt to Q B 3
3—P to K Kt 3	3—Kt to B 3
4—B to Kt 2	4—B to B 4
5—P to Q 3	5—Castles
6—K Kt to K 2	6—P to Q R 3
7—Castles	7—P to Q 3
8—K to R sq. (a)	8—Kt to K Kt 5
9—Q to K sq. (b)	9—Kt to Kt 5
10—P to K R 3	10—Kt takes Q B P
11—Q to Q sq.	11—Kt takes R
12—P takes Kt	12—B takes Kt P
13—B to K 3 (c)	13—B takes R
14—P takes B	14—Q to Kt 4
15—Q to Q 2 (d)	15—Kt to B 7
16—Q takes Kt	16—Q to R 3 ch.
17—K to Kt sq.	17—Q takes P ch.
18—K to R 2	18—P to Q B 3
19—Kt to K Kt sq.	19—Q R to K sq.
20—Kt to Q sq.	20—Q to R 3 ch.
21—Kt to K 3	21—K to R sq.
22—R to K sq.	22—P to K B 4 (e)
23—K to Kt sq.	23—B takes Q Kt
24—Q takes B	24—Q to K 6 ch.
25—K to R 2	25—P takes P
26—P takes P	26—R to K 3
27—R to K sq.	27—R takes R
28—Q takes R	28—R to B 3
29—Q to Q sq.	29—R to Kt 3
30—P to K Kt 4	30—P to R 3
31—K to R sq.	31—Q to K Kt 6
32—P to Kt 5	32—P takes P
33—K to Kt sq.	33—Q to K 6 ch.
34—Kt to B 2	34—P to Kt 5
35—Q to Q 3	35—Q to K 2 (f)
36—Q to K Kt 3	36—R to B 3
37—Q to R 4 ch.	37—K to Kt sq.
38—B to B sq.	38—P to Q Kt 4
39—B to K 2	39—Q to K 6 (g)
40—B takes K Kt P	40—P to Kt 4
41—B to K 6 ch.	41—K to Kt 2.

And Mieses resigns.

NOTES.

(From the *Standard*, condensed.)

(a) Premature. Either 8 K to K R 3 or 8 K to K Kt 5 ought to have been played first.

(b) Feeble. H gives up Rook and two Pawns (more than an equivalent) for two Knights, besides which he weakens both flanks. He had nothing better than 9 K to Kt sq.

(c) Ill-timed, and entailing the loss of a third Pawn. Best would have been 13 B to Q 2.

(d) This is a good move, because it forces the Knight to Bishop's second, and saves the loss of the Queen's Pawn. But the White position becomes untenable as soon as Black has made ready for the advance of his King's Bishop's Pawn.

(e) The after-play, all forced, is only remarkable for the precision with which Janowsky times every one of his moves.

(f) To prevent White gaining a move by challenging the exchange of Queens.

(g) The winning move. If in reply 40 B to B sq. Black's rejoinder is 40 . . . P to K 6; and if 40 B to Q sq., 40 . . . Q to K 8 ch.

Game No. 260.

THE VIENNA OPENING.

WHITE. Mieses.	BLACK. Janowsky.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—Kt to Q B 3	2—Kt to Q B 3
3—B to B 4 (a)	3—Kt to B 3
4—P to Q 3	4—B to B 4 (b)
5—B to K Kt 5 (c)	5—P to K R 3 (d)
6—B to R 4	6—P to K Kt 4
7—B to K Kt 3	7—P to K R 4 (e)
8—P to K R 4	8—P to Kt 5
9—Q to Q 2	9—P to Q R 3
10—P to B 4 (f)	10—P takes P e.p. (g)
11—Kt takes P	11—Kt to K Kt 5
12—Kt to Q 5	12—P to Q 3
13—R to K B sq.	13—P to B 3 (h)
14—Kt to R 2 (i)	14—R to B sq.
15—Kt takes Kt	15—B takes Kt
16—Q to R 6	16—Kt to Q 5 (j)
17—K to Q 2	17—P to K B 4
18—Q to R 7	18—R to B 2
19—Q to Kt 8 ch.	19—R to B sq.
20—Q to Kt 6 ch.	20—K to Q 2
21—P to B 3	21—Kt to K 7
22—B to B 2	22—B takes B
23—R takes B	23—Kt to Kt 6
24—Q to Kt 7 ch.	24—K to B 3 (k)
25—P to R 4 (l)	25—R to B sq.
26—P to R 5	26—Q takes P (m)
27—Kt to K 7 ch.	27—K to Q 2
28—Kt to Kt 6, dis. ch.	

And Janowsky resigns.

NOTES.

(From the *Standard*, condensed.)

(a) Abandoning his favourite King's Fianchetto development of the Vienna Opening.

(b) 4.....B to Kt 5 is compulsory.

(c) Well played.

(d) Better would have been 5.....B to K 2, even at the cost of the loss of a move.

(e) Black has not moved his Queen's Pawn, and yet he has a compromised King's side.

(f) A powerful move.

(g) An indifferent reply. Black had nothing better than 10 .....P to Q 3.

(h) Weakening the King's Bishop's Pawn against the Rook the open file.

(i) This is premature. It ought to have been preceded by 14 —P to Q B 3.

(j) The violent White attack might have been arrested by 16.....Kt to Kt 5. For if 17—K to Q 2, 17.....Kt takes Kt, getting rid of the dangerous Knight; if 17—R takes P, 17.....Kt takes P ch., &c., Black being ultimately left with Rook for two minor pieces; and if 17—Kt takes K B P ch. 17.....R takes Kt; 18—R takes R, Kt takes B P ch., and White cannot escape perpetual check unless with the loss of his Queen.

(k) The final error. With 24.....K to B sq Janowsky would only have lost a Pawn.

(l) The winning move.

(m) The game is hopelessly lost, but 26.....R to K sq would have delayed the catastrophe.

Amateur v. Professional Chess-players.

Mr. Van Vliet, the Dutch chess master, complains in the *Hereford Times* that the British Chess Association, which was originally formed for the purpose of holding international tournaments, is to be resuscitated for the purpose of fostering amateur talent. "The plain English of this is that a few gentlemen are to form themselves into a sort of mutual admiration society, and that by the aid of their chief officer they are to be glorified in certain chess columns." Commenting upon the "outburst," the chess editor of the *Bradford Observer Budget* remarks that no doubt it is very annoying to chess professionals to find that chess amateurs are daily becoming more disposed to devote their means and their leisure to the promotion of gatherings for their own amusement, and less inclined to waste them upon enterprises in which a maximum of labour and trouble has produced a minimum of pleasure, and in which it has too often happened that the thanks of those sought to be benefited have been expressed in ingratitude, discourtesy, and abuse. No one can deny, and few will regret, that the chess professional is less popular than he was. The number of amateurs in England is enormously in excess of what it was 15 years ago; but the professionals have gradually diminished until those of real "master" rank can almost be counted on the fingers of one hand, and of these the majority find chess editing more profitable than chess-playing. For this result the professionals have only themselves to blame.

Game No. 261.

A BRILLIANT GAME.

Played in the *Dublin Mail* Correspondence Tournament, No. 4.

EVANS (COMPROMISED DEFENCE).

Notes by J. H. Blake.

WHITE. (Mr. P. Sandford, Galway.)	BLACK. (Mr. W. Brunton, Marton, Yorkshire.)
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—Kt to K B 3	2—Kt to Q B 3
3—B to B 4	3—B to B 4
4—P to Q Kt 4	4—B takes P
5—P to Q B 3	5—B to R 4
6—P to Q 4	6—P takes P
7—Castles	7—P takes P
8—Q to Kt 3	8—Q to B 3
9—P to K 5	9—Q to Kt 3
10—Kt takes P	10—K Kt to K 2
11—B to R 3	11—R to Q Kt sq.

.....Andersen's Defence. The present game tends to throw grave doubts upon its soundness as hitherto played.

12—Kt to Q 5	12—Kt takes Kt

.....12..., K to Q Kt 4 allows White to recover one Pawn without ending his attack; nevertheless it is now clear that it is a much better course than the text move.

13—B takes Kt	13—P to Q Kt 4

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This move, first played by Herr Dufresne, was enthusiastically praised by the *Chess Monthly* on publishing the game (May, 1881). A subsequent discovery led to its being disparaged as premature; Mr. Sandford now vindicates Herr Dufresne's judgment.

	14—B P takes P
15—B takes Kt.	15—P takes B
16—Kt to K 5	16—Q to K 5
17—Q to K Kt 3	17—P to K Kt 3
18—Q to Kt 5	18—P to Q Kt 5
19—Q R to Q sq.	

The original game ran 19. Q to B 6, R to B sq; 20. Q to Kt 7, P takes B, and White won speedily. In 1882 Mr. J. T. Palmer, of Preston, in a correspondence game, substituted 20..., R to Kt 4; this at least draws for Black, and there the variation has stood ever since (except that 19. K R to B sq. has been suggested). The *Chess Monthly* remarked that 19. Q. R. to Q sq. would allow Black to escape by Castling, an assumption which has passed unchallenged for over 23 years, in spite of many analyses; its fallacious character has just been discovered, independently, by Mr. Sandford and Mr. W. H. S. Monk.

	19—Castles
20—B to Kt 2	20—R to Kt 4

.....Is there any saying move here? If so..., Q to B 4; 21. Q to K 7, Q to B 3; 22. Kt = Kt 4!

21—Kt to B 7!

A truly beautiful coup! 22. Kt to Kt 4, be it noticed, would allow Black to win by Q takes P ch. and R takes Q. As it is, mate can only be escaped by a fatal loss of material.

	21—P to K 4
22—Q to B 6	22—Resigns.

The unknown writer of the scrap-book paragraph recently found by Mr. John A. Galbreath says, that although the late Herr Lowenthal knew his books so well that "in almost any opening he could assure himself of a winning position against the best players, yet he often lost his games. People have been afraid that minute analysis would kill chess by exhausting its possibilities. It may be safely said, however, that there is no fear of this. But many a promising player may choke his genius by poring over his books, or by devoting himself to futile problems which bear the same relation to chess that conundrums do to logic, or double acrostics to poetry. 'A clean hearth, a clear fire, and the rigour of the game,' were Mrs. Battle's requisites for whist. The same rules would make chess less scientific than is played at most clubs, but more original and more entertaining."

Game No. 262.

RUY LOPEZ.

WHITE. Mr. P. B. Walker.	BLACK. Mr. W. Ridley.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—K Kt to B 3	2—Q Kt to B 3
3—B to Kt 5	3—P to Q R 3
4—B to R 4	4—Kt to B 3
5—P to Q 3	5—P to Q 3 (a)
6—P to B 3	6—B to K 2 (b)
7—Q Kt to Q 2	7—Castles
8—Kt to B sq.	8—P to R 3 (?)
9—Kt to K 3 (c)	9—K Kt to R 2 (?)
10—Q to K 2 (d)	10—P to B 4
11—P takes P	11—B takes P
12—Kt takes B	12—R takes Kt
13—B to Q 2	13—Q to K B sq.
14—P to K R 4	14—Kt to Q sq.
15—Castles Q R	15—P to B 4
16—B to Kt 3 ch. (e)	16—K to R sq.
17—B to Q 5	17—K Kt to B 3
18—B to K 4	18—Kt takes B
19—P takes Kt	19—R to B 2
20—R to R 3	20—Kt to K 3
21—P to K Kt 4	21—Kt to B 5
22—B takes Kt	22—R takes B
23—R to Kt sq. (f)	23—Q to B sq. (g)
24—Kt to R 2 (h)	24—Q to K 3
25—K to Kt sq.	25—Q to Kt 3
26—P to B 3	26—P to Q 4!
27—R to K sq.	27—R to Q sq.
28—K to B sq.	28—P takes P
29—P takes P	29—Q to Q 3
30—Kt to B sq.	30—R to B 7! (i)
31—Q to K 3	31—Q to Q 8 ch.
32—Q to B sq.	32—Q takes P
33—R to R 2	33—R takes R
34—Kt takes R	34—Q to Kt 7
35—Kt to B sq.	35—B takes P
36—R to Q sq.	36—R takes R
37—Q takes R	37—Q takes R P
38—Kt to R 2	38—Q to K 8

White resigns (j).

(a) Theoretically, 5 B to B 4 is not esteemed good. Practically, we have found it efficient.
(b) Experience shows that this B is better placed = Kt 2.
(c) Here White should "forelay:" Black's 8, B to R 3 was clearly the forerunner of 9, Kt to = R 2 and so. P to B 4; therefore, White should utilise those weak moves to benefit his position by now playing 9, P to K R 3, and in reply = 9 Kt to K R 2, 10 K P to Kt 4, followed by Kt to Kt 3, with a strong attack.
(d) 20.—B = B 2 is more to the point; if, then, 20.—P = = 4; 21.—P takes P—B takes P, 22—Kt takes B—R takes Kt, 23— P = Q 4, and White's Bishops are influential.
(e) 16.—R = R 3 and 17.—P to K Kt 4 seems the preferable course.
(f) Temporising, instead of at once taking the initiative by 23 —P to Kt 5.
(g) With this strong stroke Black gains time and position.
(h) Bad: the K R should have gone to Kt 3.
(i) All this is very nicely managed by Mr. Ridley.
(j) With good grace, for the passed Pawns must win.

Chess Song.

Tune—"Comin' Thro' the Rye."

Gin a body meet a body,
Game of Chess to try,
Gin a body beat a body,
Need a body sigh?
Ilka player has his losses,
Few hae mair than I;
But aye I meet wi' smile defeat,
"Nane the waur" I cry.

Gin a body play a body
At the game o' Chess;
He needna gloom, or fret, or fume,
Gin he's in a mess.
Ilka player has his losses,
Few hae mair than I;
The pieces yet again I set,
"Nane the waur" I cry.

Gin a body to a body
Lose his bonny queen,
'Tis daft to tear his scanty hair,
Cursing "foe an' freen'."
Ilka player has his losses,
Few hae mair than I;
But wherefore pine a game to tine,
"Nane the waur," I cry.

Gin a body beat a body,
Let the body ken
That you can still defy his skill,
An' fecht ower again.
Ilka player has his losses,
Mine I'll no deny;
I fecht again and no' in vain,
"What the waur?" say I.

Scotch Exchange.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From America	per O. & O. Co.	Tuesday, May 24th.*
From Europe, viâ Hongkong	per M. M. Co.	Tuesday, May 24th.†
From America	per P. M. Co.	Thursday, May 23rd.‡
From Hongkong	per N. P. Co.	Tuesday, May 24th.‖
From Hongkong	per O. & O. Co.	Friday, May 27th.¶
From Europe, viâ Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd	Wed'day, May 25th.
From Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Sunday, May 29th.
From Canada, &c.....	per C. P. R. Co.	Monday, May 27th.
From Hongkong	per C. P. R. Co.	Thursday, May 30th.

* *Coptic* left San Francisco viâ Honolulu on April 23rd.
† *Melbourne* left Hongkong on May 5th. ‡ *City of Rio de Janeiro* left San Francisco on May 4th. ‖ *Victoria* will leaves Kobe on May 13th. ¶ *Belgic* left Hongkong on May 9th. The English mail is on board the steamer *Friedrich*.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For Victoria, B.C., & Tacoma, Wash.....	per N. P. Co.	Wed'day, May 18th.
For Europe, viâ Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd	Friday, May 19th.
For Europe, viâ Shanghai	per M. M. Co.	Saturday, May 18th.
For America	per O. & O. Co.	Sunday, May 19th.
For Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Saturday, May 15th.
For Hongkong	per C. P. R. Co.	Monday, May 27th.
For America	per P. M. Co.	Wed'day, May 29th.
For Canada, &c.	per C. P. R. Co.	Friday, May 31st.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Hector, British steamer, 2,489, Hutchinson, 4th May,—Liverpool viâ ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Arietis, British schooner, 86, O. Scarf, 5th May, —North Pacific, 680 Seals.—T. M. Laffin.

Baltimore (14), U.S. flagship, Captain W. R. Bridgman, 5th May.—Yokosuka 5th May.

Empress of Japan, British steamer, 3,903, G. A. Lee, R.N.R., 5th May.—Vancouver, B.C., 22nd April, Mails and General.—Frazar & Co.

N. S. Loreka, Spanish steamer, 1,050, C. de Suzariaya, 6th May,—Manila, Sugar.—Browne & Co.

China, British steamer, 2,600, W. B. Seabury, 7th May,—Hongkong viâ ports, 30th April, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Rosary, British steamer, 1,426, Dowling, 8th May, —Manchester viâ ports, General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Straits of Sunda, British steamer, 1,531, Dewar, 8th May,—Antwerp viâ ports, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Manx King, British ship, 1,702, Karsen, 8th May, —Kobe 30th April, Ballast.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Empress of India, British steamer, 3,003, O. P. Marshall, 9th May,—Hongkong viâ ports, 1st May, Mails and General.—Frazar & Co.

Kraysser (6), Russian corvette, Captain Rojestwensky, 9th May,—Shanghai.

Achilles, British steamer, 1,470, 10th May,—New York viâ ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Sikh, British steamer, 2,735, J. Rowley, 10th May, —Tacoma, Wash., viâ Victoria, B.C., 24th April, Mails and General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Hazel Branch, British steamer, May,—Middlesboro', viâ po Samuel Samuel & Co.

DEPARTURES

Siam, British steamer, 1,897, E. May,—Hongkong viâ ports, O. S.N. Co.

Macduff, British steamer, 1,882, 5th May,—New York viâ po Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Empress of Japan, British steam Lee, R.N.R., 6th May,—Hong Mails and General.—Frazar &

Baltimore (14), U.S. flagship, Bridgmann, 7th May,—Nagasa

Hector, British steamer, 2,498, J. May,—London viâ ports, Gene & Swire.

Fortuna, British schooner, 97, J May.—North Pacific, Sealing Laffin.

Kaisar-I-Hind, British steamer, moor, 9th May,—Shanghai v and General.—P. & O. S.N. C

St. Giles, British steamer, 1,7 May,—Hongkong viâ ports, G Samuel & Co.

Arietis, British schooner, 86, O. —North Pacific, Sealing Gear.

N. S. Loreka, Spanish steamer, riaya, 10th May,—Manila, & Co.

China, British steamer, 2,600, 10th May,—San Francisco, viâ and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Empress of India, British steam Marshall, 10th May,—Vancou and General.—Frazar & Co.

PASSENGERS

ARRIVED.

Per British steamer *Empress* Vancouver, B.C.:—Mrs. N. E. G. Bauld, Mr. R. Bauld, Rev. Mr. M. W. Greig, Mr. H. Gral Hamilton, Mr. S. E. Hatton, M child, Miss S. Huguenin and Hunt, Miss Hunt, Mr. S. Laflin A. S. Laflin, Mr. and Mrs. V. and Mrs. D. Rapalje, Miss Radclyffe, Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Smith, Colonel the Hon. W. I General G. B. Williams, Mr. Mr. R. H. Wright, and Rev. Y. 5 passengers in second class, an 62 Chinese in steerage.

Per British steamer *China*, fro ports:—Captain and Mrs. Retal Mrs. Welman, Surgeon and Mrs. Mr. and Mrs. G. M. Dare, Mr. F. W. Fraser, Mrs. J. S. Hager Hager (3), Dr. Taylor, Mr. vo G. M. Hall, Miss M. Wood, Mr. A. P. Nobbs, Mr. J. Bud Buxton, Dr. Ogden Backus, M Mrs. Bois and infant in cabin, cisco:—Mr. A. Wawley, Mr. L. Shun, Rev. and Mrs. G. M. Ro and nurse, Miss Tilford and mai W. Stout, Miss Stout, and Mr cabin. For Honolulu:—Mr. T.

Per British steamer *Empress* Hongkong viâ ports:—Mr. an child, Dr. Ayres, Mr. and Mr and Mrs. Gillies, General and Barker and maid, Captain Murra Mr. F. Shaw, Dr. and Mrs. Pat Mr. and Mrs. D. E. Brown, Col Mulloy, Lieut. P. G. Davies, children, governess, and 2 maids, child, and maid, Mr. and Mrs. maid, Mr. and Mrs. Haskell an Humphreys, Mrs. Kuhn, Mr. Stephens, Mr. H. W. Robertson, Miss J. Tuson, Captain Bru Mustard, Mr. F. Anderson, Mr. and Mrs. Woodin, Captain Y Ghese, Rev. C. E. Garst, Mr. Reifsnyder, Mr. and Mrs. Sneth bell, Rev. and Mrs. Matson, Tufnell, Dr. Taylor, Mrs. Danfo and 4 children, Mr. Irwin Bul thausen, Lieut. A. Sharp, U.S Mrs. Moore Graham and 2 child Rev. Green, Mr. Tallers, Mr. a and child, Mr. Loring, Mrs. Mr. Tamura, Mr. Trevithick, Miss Sears, and Mr. Lambie sengers in second class, and steerage.

Per British steamer *Sikh*, fro via Victoria, B.C.:—Mr. J. S. strom, Mr. R. E. B. Wood, Dr.

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Mr. A. H. Butler, Rev. and Mrs. V. F. Partch and child, and Mr. E. Bernheimer in cabin, and 4 Japanese and 14 Chinese in steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per British steamer *Empress of Japan*, for Hongkong viâ ports:—Mrs. Mereweather, Mrs. Loomis and 2 children, Mrs. J. H. Wilson and child, Mrs. Johnson, Mrs. Middleton and child, Miss J. T. Stone, Miss A. Hamphrey, Mr. W. Down, Bishop McKim and 2 children, Mr. Yoshitomi, and Mr. James in cabin.

Per British steamer *Kaisar-I-Hind*, for Hongkong via ports:—Mr. and Mrs. W. T. Spark, Mr. A. King, Mr. H. King, Captain Radcliffe, Captain and Mrs. Browne, Mr. and Mrs. Graham, Baron Von Siebold, Mr. Getley, Mrs. Getley, Mrs. C. Grant, Mr. R. T. Stiles, Mr. Fremantle, R.N., Mr. K. Uyenishi, Mr. J. Cuely, Mrs. Ritson, Mr. Goodison, Mr. and Mrs. Rickett, and the Misses Rickett (2) in cabin.

Per British steamer *China*, for San Francisco, viâ Honolulu:—Mr. F. Anderson, Mr. L. C. Barff, Mr. Chas. Blanchet, Mr. G. B. Blake, Mr. R. G. Brashi, Mr. E. W. Brown, Mr. H. I. Buggs, Mr. A. M. Byers, Mr. Achille Cavenago, Mr. and Mrs. I. W. Cate, 2 children, and servant, Colonel Nelson Cole, Mr. Costanzo Cozzani, Mr. D. J. Curran, Lieut. W. B. Day, U.S.N., Mrs. T. F. Davis, Mr. W. G. Evans, Miss Evans, Mrs. G. F. Elliot, Miss Elliot, Mr. and Mrs. S. Fried and daughter, Mr. C. F. Fearing, Mr. Gordon Fellowes, Mr. R. P. Forshaw, Mr. Chas. L. Forrest, Mr. Wm. Garlick, Marquis Vittorio Garroni, Mr. E. Ghise, Mr. E. V. Graham, Mr. G. H. Haasken, Mr. F. S. Hardenbrook, Mr. M. Harris, Mr. A. Hawley, Mr. A. W. Hoyt, Miss Nellie M. Hill, Mr. Ernst Hirsch, Mr. A. J. Jackson, Mr. and Mrs. H. A. Jerome and maid, Mr. T. Kitakaze, Mr. S. Kistler, Dr. J. G. Kramers, Mr. W. P. Ker, Mr. B. Lathrop, Mr. H. F. Lesch, Mr. A. H. Littel, Mr. Orsico Mangilu, Mr. R. W. Mustard, Mr. J. E. Nathan, the Misses Nathan (2), Mr. R. Ortwin, Major Chas. E. Pearce, Mr. Pin Shun, Mr. W. N. Pullins, Mr. Nazzareno Piccioni, Mr. Theo. De la Rive, Rev. and Mrs. G. M. Rowland, 2 children, and servant, Mr. Schellburg, Mr. F. J. Schilling, Mr. Felix Schiff, Miss Sears, Rev. and Mrs. Stout, Miss Stout, Mr. G. Straehl, Mr. L. K. G. Smith, Miss C. M. Telford and servant, Mr. E. Topping, Miss E. A. Weatherall, Rev. and Mrs. Woodin, Mr. and Mrs. F. Sinclair, Professor and Mrs. Maxwell Sommerville, Mrs. M. Topping, Miss Topping, Mr. Frederic Winthrop, and Captain W. O. M. Young in cabin.

Per British steamer *Empress of India*, for Vancouver, B.C.:—Dr. Ayres, Major Bailwood, Dr. Baker, Mrs. Baker, Mrs. Banker, General Barker, Mrs. Barker and maid, Miss Barker, Dr. J. R. F. Bell, Mrs. Bell, Miss Booth, Mr. Bradstreet, Mrs. D. E. Brown, Mr. Caccia, Mrs. Caccia, the Earl Cairns, Mrs. Campbell, Miss Carlisle, Mr. S. W. Cartwright, Mr. R. V. Cholmondeley, Mr. E. H. Crawford, Mr. Cuthbertson, Mrs. Cuthbertson, Mrs. Danforth, Mr. Desney, Mr. A. R. Dowling, Mr. Dufetre, Mrs. Dufetre, Mr. D. Edwards, Mr. Ferguson, Miss Forsyth, Mr. Gillies, Mrs. Gillies, Mr. Gottesberger, Mr. Harkness, Mrs. Harkness, Master H. W. Harkness, Master R. D. Harkness, Mr. Head, Mr. Byron T. Horne, Mrs. Byron T. Horne, Mrs. Houston and 4 children, Mr. E. Johnson, Mr. F. W. Johnson, Mr. E. B. Kingsley, Mrs. E. B. Kingsley, Mr. J. B. Lee, Mrs. J. B. Lee, Mr. H. Lewis, Mrs. H. Lewis, Mr. R. Lyon, Mr. R. Macdonald, Mr. F. Marsh, Rev. Mr. Matson, Mrs. Matson, Mr. F. H. May, Mrs. F. H. May and child, Colonel Molloy, Master Molloy, Captain Murray, Mrs. Nosse, Dr. Partridge, Mrs. Partridge, Mr. R. Pauling, Miss Peck, Mr. Pollok, Mrs. Pope, Mrs. L. E. Post, Miss Reifsnyder, Mr. M. Robinson, Mr. C. V. Sale, Mr. G. Sandeman, Mr. Frank Shaw, Mr. Snethlage, Mrs. Snethlage, Sir Tatton Sykes and valet, Mr. Tamura, Dr. Taylor, Mrs. Townshend, Miss Townshend, Hon. P. Le Poer Trench, Col. the Hon. W. Le Poer Trench, Captain Tufnell, Mrs. Tufnell, Baron Von der Goetz, Mr. Weissmuller, and Miss Winn in cabin.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

Very trifling business. Dealers being still perturbed by the political complications. Even now they are not much reassured as to the outlook. Yarns—Something done in Double 42's at a slight rise in price, all else dull. Fancy Cottons stagnant. Woollens—A few Italian Cloths have been moved, but no line in other stuffs.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE.	
Grey Shirtings—8¼lb, 28½ yds, 30 inches	$2.25	to —
Grey Shirtings—9lb, 30½ yds, 45 inches	2.80	to —
T. Cloth—7lb, 24 yards, 32 inches	1.60	to 1.95
Indigo Shirtings—12 yards, 36 inches,	1.70	to 2.35
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches,	2.00	to 3.75
Cotton—Italian and Sateens Black, 32 inches	PER YARD. 0.16	to 0.22
	PER PIECE.	
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	7.25	to 9.50
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches,	0.80	to 0.95
Turkey Reds—2.0 to 2.4lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.60	to 1.70
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.75	to 2.05
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.30	to 2.60
Turkey Reds—4.8 to 5lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.80	to 3.10
WOOLLENS.	PER YARD.	
Flannel	$0.30	to 0.47½
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches best	0.30	to 0.35
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Medium	0.25	to 0.27½
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Common	0.20	to 0.22½
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.15	to 0.22
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches	0.55	to 0.60
Cloths—Presidents, 54 @ 56 inches	0.60	to 0.65
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0.40	to 0.70
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 5lb, per lb	0.60	to 0.75
COTTON YARNS.	PER PICUL.	
Nos. 16/24, Ordinary	—	
Nos. 16/24, Medium	$34.00	to 34.50
Nos. 16/24, Good to Best	35.00	to 36.00
Nos. 16/24, Reverse	—	
Nos. 28/32, Ordinary	—	
Nos. 28/32, Medium	35.50	to 36.00
Nos. 28/32, Good to Best	36.50	to 37.50
Nos. 38/42, Medium to Best	42.00	to 44.00
No. 32s, Two-fold	42.00	to 44.00
No. 42s, Two-fold	47.00	to 49.00
	PER BALE.	
No. 20s, Bombay	—	
No. 16s, Bombay	—	

METALS.

Plenty of arrivals, with small sales, depress the market, and probably holders would yield a little in price to keep moving.

	PER PICUL.
Flat Bars, ¼ inch	$3.35 to 3.40
Flat Bars, ½ inch	3.45 to 3.50
Round and square up to ¾ inch	3.40 to 3.50
Iron Plates, assorted	3.45 to 3.55
Sheet Iron	4.40 to 4.60
Galvanized Iron sheets	8.25 to 8.75
Wire Nails, assorted	5.60 to 6.00
Tin Plates, per box	5.65 to 5.75
Pig Iron, No. 3	1.55 to 1.60

KEROSENE.

Holders have put up quotations again but no sales reported. Dealers hold off and are still able to exist on former purchases by putting themselves on short rations. They must buy, however, sooner or later, and then Importers will reap the fruit of their "combine."

American	Nom. $2.60 to 2.62½
Russian	Nom. 2.57½ to 2.60

SUGAR.

Brown—Dull and little doing. Prices nominally unchanged. White—A fair amount of trade at quotations and prices are fairly steady.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Takao	$3.50 to 3.60
Brown Manila	4.20 to 4.30
Brown Daitong (New)	3.20 to 3.30
Brown Canton	3.30 to 3.50
White Java and Penang	6.40 to 6.50
White Refined	6.40 to 9.20

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Dealers gave way in quotations and thus tempted buyers into operating. A fair business has been done both for Europe and America chiefly in Filatures.

QUOTATIONS.

Hanks—No. 1	—
Hanks—No. 2 (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 2 (Joshu)	—
Hanks—No. 2½ (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 2½ (Joshu)	—
Hanks—No. 2½ to 3	—
Hanks—No. 3	—
Hanks—No. 3½	—
Filatures—Extra 10/12 deniers	Nom. —
Filatures—Extra 13/15 deniers	Nom. —
Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers	$770 to 780
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den	780 to 790
Filatures—No. 1½, 10/14 deniers	740 to 750
Filatures—No. 1½, 13/16, 14/17 den	735 to 740
Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers	720 to 730
Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	720 to 730
Filatures—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	—
Re-reels—Extra	—
Re-reels—(Oshu) Best No. 1	—
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 deniers	740 to 750
Re-reels—No. 1½, 13/16, 14/17 deniers	720 to 730
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	—
Re-reels—No. 2½, 14/18 deniers	—
Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	—
Kakedas—Extra	740
Kakedas—No. 1	720 to 730
Kakedas—No. 1½	700 to 710
Kakedas—No. 2	—
Kakedas—No. 2½	—
Kakedas—No. 3	—
Kakedas—No. 3½	—
Kakedas—No. 4	—
Oshu Sendai—No. 2½	—
Hamatsuki—No. 1, 2	—
Hamatsuki—No. 3, 4	—
Sodai—No. 2½	—

WASTE SILK.

Very small business. Dealers are now more inclined to move stocks, and will probably offer concessions in price ere long.

QUOTATIONS.

Pierced Cocoons—Good to Best	—
Noshi-ito—Filature, Best	$125 to 130
Noshi-ito—Filature, Good	115 to 120
Noshi-ito—Filature, Medium	105 to 110
Noshi-ito—Oshu, Good to Best	110 to 115
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Best	—
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Good	—
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Medium	60 to 85
Noshi-ito—Bushu, Good to Best	100 to 115
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Best	—
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Good	70
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Ordinary	60 to 65
Kibiso—Filature, Best selected	100 to 105
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds	85 to 90
Kibiso—Oshu, Good to Best	—
Kibiso—Shinshu, Best	—
Kibiso—Shinshu, Seconds	—
Kibiso—Joshu, Good to Fair	30 to 37½
Kibiso—Joshu, Middling to Common	25 to 22½
Kibiso—Hachoji, Good to Fair	25 to 23
Kibiso—Hachoji, Medium to Low	22 to 20
Kibiso—Neri, Good to Common	12 to 8
Mawata—Good to Best	—

TEA.

Plenty of buying now, and the firing godowns are busy once more. The quality of late arrivals is better, but still inferior to last year. Prices are, however, about ten per cent. higher than last May. Supplies now coming in freely and quotations will be lower next week.

	PER PICUL.
Choicest	$40 to $41
Choice	37 to 38
Finest	34 to 35
Fine	31 to 33

EXCHANGE.

Exchange has fluctuated during the week, but on the whole without much alteration in rates.

Sterling—Bank T.T.	2/1½
— — Bills on demand	2/1½
— — 4 months' sight	2/1½
— Private 4 months' sight	2/2½
— — 6 months' sight	2/2½
On Paris—Bank sight	2.69
On Lyons—Private 4 months' sight	2.75
On Hongkong—Bank sight	½% p.
— Private 10 days' sight	½% d.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	71
— Private 10 days' sight	72
On India—Bank sight	195
— Private 30 days' sight	197½
On America—Bank Bills on demand	52
— Private 30 days' sight	53½
— — 4 months' sight	54
On Germany—Bank sight	2.16
— Private 4 months' sight	2.23
Bar Silver (London)	30½ @ ½

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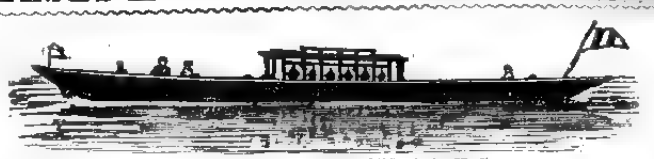
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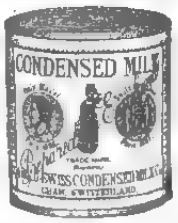
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The Japan Weekly Mail:

A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

No. 20.] REGISTERED AT THE G.P.O. AS A NEWSPAPER. YOKOHAMA, MAY 18TH, 1895. 明治二十八年五月十三日郵便物認可 VOL. XXII.

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same: and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, MAY 18TH, 1895.

BIRTH.

On the 18th inst., at No. 7-c, Bluff, the wife of WILLIAM WALLACE CAMPBELL of a Daughter.

DEATHS.

At 114-D., Settlement, May 15th, 1895, at 8.15 a.m., R'TER. BRAAKE, late Chief Officer of Nippon Yusen Kaisha, aged 45 years.

At Tokyo, on 15th May, 1895, at 2.30 p.m., HERMANN IWERSEN, Consul for the Netherlands, Sweden, and Norway in Nagasaki, born at Riepsdorf 1st April, 1844.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

THE prices realised at the half-yearly sale of race-ponies were very poor.

IT is reported that the transport *Ujina Maru* has been wrecked off Pitszwo.

OVER 520,000 *yen* was presented to the Navy, as voluntary gifts, during the war.

VISCOUT ENOMOTO, it is said, will be appointed Minister Resident to the Court of Russia.

THE Court and Head-quarters are leaving Kyoto in the course of the next few days for the capital.

THE Produce Exchanges of Tokyo, will shortly unite and be known as the Twelve staples Exchange.

THE Single Sculls race at the Yokohama Spring Regatta, was won by Sorhagen. The prize, the "Ladies Purse," was presented by Miss Eldridge, who made a speech in verse.

MR. LOWTHER, Secretary of the British Legation, has been appointed *Chargé d'Affaires* in Tokyo.

TWENTY-EIGHT houses and three godowns were destroyed at Hachioji, near Tokyo, on the 14th inst.

THE old Committee of the Yokohama Fire Brigade has been re-elected. The balance in hand is $485.49.

THE treaty of peace and an Imperial Rescript connected therewith, have been officially published.

THREE fires occurred in Kobe on Monday, involving the loss of two foreign houses and several Japanese.

THE Cricket season opened in Yokohama on Thursday with a match against H.M.S. *Peacock*. The home team won.

MR. YOSHIKAWA, President of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, has been promoted to the rank of Fifth Class Second Grade.

FROM June last up to the present 40 foreign vessels have purchased, of which 30 were British, 1 Norwegian, and 9 German.

A JAPANESE Silk Commission Merchant, having come to grief in business, committed suicide in Yokohama, on the 14th inst.

LI SHUN-YO, the Korean conspirator, has been banished from Sôul for ten years. Others in the conspiracy are to be executed.

IT is stated that Viscount Aoki, Japanese Minister to Germany, will shortly be recalled, and his position given to another diplomat.

THE Kyoto Exhibition continues to attract large crowds of visitors from all pasts of the Empire: 97,301 persons paid for admission last week.

THERE were 27 fires in Yokohama during 1894, thirteen in the Settlement, four on the Bluff, nine in the native town, and one on board ship.

THE "Ladies Battle," which was given with so much success in the Public Hall by local amateurs, is to be repeated on Wednesday next.

MR. WATANABE, Minister of Communications, issued a notification on the 14th inst. to the effect that cipher telegrams may now be sent to China.

MR. MIURA, Governor of Tokyo, left the capital by the 6 a.m. train on the 14th inst. to convey to the Emperor congratulations on behalf of the Tokyo citizens.

THE Hokkaido Coal Mining and Railway Company has declared a dividend of 12 per cent. The Company is raising further capital to develop the railway.

INSTRUCTIONS have been given to the Chinese Governor of Formosa to hand over the island to Admiral Kabayama ■ the new Japanese Governor-General.

THE Nippon Yusen Kaisha is preparing to open steamship communication with Formosa. The company's steamers will run periodically between Japan and the island.

CHIKASHIGE KUNITADA, of Shimane Prefecture, is preparing to publish a newspaper in Formosa. The promoter proposes to print it in the Japanese, Chinese, English, and Korean languages.

THE loyal citizens of Tokyo are preparing a triumphal arch "welcome home" for His Majesty the Emperor. Yokohama intends to organize a patriotic reception for His Majesty during the brief stay of the train at this station.

THE Japan (Kirin) Brewery Company have declared a dividend for the year of 8 per cent., and carried forward $3,064. The Company is calling in the old debentures and issuing new ones for $100,000.

MESSRS. HARA ZENZABURO, representative of the Five Staples Exchange; Kimura Riyemon, of the Four Staples Exchange; Kurobe Yohachi, of the Rice Exchange; Totsuka Bentaro, of the City Assembly; Iijima Yuzo, of the Guild of Japanese Traders, and a deputy of the Banks in Yokohama, have proceeded to Kyoto to offer congratulations to the Emperor upon the restoration of peace.

REUTER telegraphs:—England, France, and Russia have presented to the Sultan of Turkey a scheme for reforms in Armenia. Owing to the intervention of the Emperor of Austria, Count Kalnoky has withdrawn his resignation. It is stated that France is parleying with Japan with the view of limiting the latter's forces at sea and on shore in Formosa and the Pescadores. Some of the French papers express discontent with the settlement, and state that France cannot permit the Japanese to rule in Formosa and the Pescadores, and that France is the dupe of Russia, unless the agreement of the three Powers also applies to the settlement of the Egyptian question. It is reported that five thousand Chinese troops are leaving Canton for Formosa, as is supposed to suppress the probable opposition by the Black Flags to the Japanese occupation, but it is believed likely that the troops will join the Black Flags. A Bill to repeal the Coercion Act has passed the second reading by a majority of fourteen. While Mr. Morley, Chief Secretary for Ireland, was speaking, Mr. O'Donovan Rossa shouted from the Strangers' Gallery: "Assassins, a blow has been struck at my honour in this House!" Mr. Rossa was expelled from the House. The race for the Newmarket Stakes has been by the Duke of Portland's Owl, Solaro being second, and Sir Visto third. The Imperial Government has declined to guarantee any portion of the Newfoundland debt, ■ it is believed that the scheme of federation is doomed.

THE exchange of the ratifications of the Treaty of Peace had an enlivening effect upon the market, and during the earlier part of the week Double Yarns moved off briskly. But dullness set in after a while, and still prevails. Notwithstanding enquiries, nothing was done in Shirtings, while the demand for Fancies and Woollens is spiritless. An importation of 15,000 cases of Oil from the Dutch Indies is the feature of the week in the Kerosene trade, but no report is yet to hand as to its price, quality, or suitability: but the auction sales next week should give some indication as to the future of Lankat Oil in Japan. American and Russian sorts are still without demand. The Sugar market is easy, at unchanged prices. A fair business has been done in Raw Silk for Europe, America, and home use, the stock being now reduced to 1,600 piculs. The new crop is said to be proceeding satisfactorily. In Waste, things are very quiet, buyers not rising to any extent to the lower prices offered by sellers, who are becoming rather anxious. The Tea Market has been very brisk, over 35,000 piculs being purchased this week. Prices, though lower, are not yet down to last year's rates, and tasters still grumble at the quality, which they say is below that of last season. Exchange, after a brief jump upwards, has again steadied to rates prevailing at the close of last week.

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THE SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS DURING THE WEEK.

A few days ago the general tone of the Press was one of hostility to the triple coalition that obliged Japan to renounce the possession of the Liaotung peninsula; now, however, the foreign policy of the Government is the principal object of attack. The result has been, despite the caution which the papers display in the effort to escape the rigours of the Press law, the suspension of four Tokyo dailies, viz., the *Forosu Choho*, the *Mainichi*, the *Niroku*, and the *Nippon*. The case of the *Nippon* differs somewhat from that of the others. It published on the 16th inst. an highly inflammatory account of the dispute that arose at Yingkow between the British Consul and the Captain of the British war-vessel *Firebrand*, on the one hand, and the Japanese Officer in command of the garrison on the other, relative to the right of foreigners to pass freely into and out of the city. The *Mainichi's* offence was of a grave nature. In its leading article of the 15th, it contrasts the Shimonoseki Treaty with the Treaty of San Stefano; giving several points of difference, one being that while Russia was obliged, by the combined opposition of other Powers, to alter entirely the terms of the Treaty, Japan hastily amended a portion of the Treaty merely on account of the friendly advice of friendly Powers; a second being that while England was prepared to fight Russia, had the latter not acquiesced in the demand of the allies, and that Russia was also prepared to fight, neither Japan nor the three allies that interfered in her affairs would have proceeded to such an extremity. The article further contained a defamatory comparison of Count Ito with Prince Gortschakoff. Another article appeared in the issue of the same day in which the *Mainichi* strongly applauded the tact and adroitness of Li Hung-chang at the expense of the Japanese Government.

* * *

Even the *Jiji*, calmly resigned as it is to the hard lot meted out by fate to Japan, cannot forbear to give vent to its dissatisfaction against the Government's diplomacy in connexion with the present affair. This it does in the indirect and reserved tone of which the editor is a master. In the first place, it cites the late complication of the Nicaraguan Government with England, and describes the bold front which the little Republic presented to one of the greatest Powers in the world. Even a child knows well, proceeds our contemporary, that the Republic could not stand for a day against England, and the defiant attitude which it took might therefore at first sight be considered a manifestation of stupid obstinacy. It was an obstinate act, it is true, says the *Jiji*, but it was not without a good result. It showed not only to England but to all the world that insignificant as Nicaragua is, it cannot be coerced merely by threatening words. Suppose that Nicaragua had adopted a milder and submissive attitude and had easily complied with the demand of England. She would have escaped the embargo and occupation of her port. But this humiliation, painful as it is, was only temporary, while the insult to which the country would have been subjected not only by England but by the rest of the world, had she taken a more submissive course, would have been long continued and might in the end have proved more serious. Which is more dishonourable to a country, to hold out to the last moment and to give way only before actual force; or to be so much frightened by the mere menace of antagonists as to acquiesce at the outset in their demand? The *Jiji* cannot but condemn the latter course as a very disgraceful and cowardly action, deeply staining the honour of a nation.

* * *

In another article it returns to the charge, illustrating the recent situation by a comparison with a dispute between debtor and creditor. Everybody knows, writes the practical-minded editor, that just as a creditor is desirous of having his money repaid as quickly as possible, so the debtor is equally anxious to defer the day of settlement. Thus arises that common situation, the creditor threatening to have recourse to litigation, and the debtor praying for more grace. It is very rare, however, for the creditor to carry his threat into practice, for he knows that, all things taken into consideration, it is not an advantageous way of getting his money back; and so the debtor generally gets an extension of time. Suppose, however, that the debtor, frightened at the threat of the creditor, pays back, even before the expiration of the term, principal and all. That seems very fine; but the public would laugh at him as a simpleton unacquainted with the ways of business. It is the same with diplomacy. In such a case as that described above, the best way would be procrastination. In the meanwhile, the actual state of the affairs of the antagonists, and the general situation of the world at large, should be earnestly inquired into. Even if no means of avoiding the unwelcome compulsion can eventually be found, there is at least the satisfaction of knowing that everything possible has been done to avoid it.

* * *

Several vernacular papers are pleased to rate Chinese diplomacy higher than that of Japan, and to regard Li Hung-chang as a statesman not easy to deal with. The *Nippon* says, in one of the leading articles that appeared over the signature of Mr. Miyata Yujiro, a prominent political writer of the day, that Japan ought to learn the art of diplomacy from China. China's adroitness in diplomacy dates from ancient times. When the Sung Dynasty was in enmity with the Liao it leagued together with the Chin; but when the two latter became involved in discord, the faithless Sung again called in the aid of another tribe, Yuen, and attacked its former friends. The Sung paid dear for this perfidity, for its ally, the Yuen, rose against and subverted it. China's diplomatic policy is thus extremely dangerous but is frequently attended with signal success. No great advantages can be reaped in diplomacy unless a nation is at times prepared to brave a serious danger. Japan need not imitate China's dangerous policy, but, to cope with it, she most thoroughly understand it. While the war was in progress, writes the *Hochi*, Li was laughed at as a worn-out dotard; but subsequent to the conclusion of peace he is regarded as a great man who deserved fully the encomiums of General Grant. Such a sudden change in the public estimation of a man is a rare thing, and we are led to regard Li as a wonderful man.

* * *

The *Kokumin* has a suggestive article about the Liaotung peninsula. The Peninsula is no longer a Japanese dominion, but now that further negotiations are to be held about it, the *Kokumin* cannot but make a few suggestions. Our contemporary expects that, as a response to Japan's generosity, China should be made to open to trade Tatungkow, Takushan, and Talien, and to open also the markets of Chinchow, Haicheng, and Kaiping. Manchuria bears more than all other parts of China the foot-prints of Japanese. Quite a number of Japanese intended to undertake commercial or manufacturing enterprises there. But all these schemes have come to naught owing to the sudden abandonment of the Japanese claim to the peninsula. With a view to protecting the interests of these men, the Government is bound to make China open the above-named ports and markets for the benefit of Japanese merchants.

* * *

The *Nichi Nichi* strongly protests against the practice, now fashionable in some quarters, of contrasting the Government unfavourably with the Army, and of the attempt to alienate from the Government the minds of the people. Both the Government and the Army, it says, are mechanisms of the same Japanese Empire, and have to play the respective parts assigned to them by the Emperor. The Army is bound to obey the commands of the Emperor, who decides its movements upon the advice submitted by the Cabinet. The Ministers of State therefore hold themselves accountable for carrying into effect the commands of the Emperor. Diplomacy is one of the prerogatives of the Cabinet and military affairs another, and they must act in concert. The Cabinet is responsible for any mistake committed by
of the State. But if on account
ficiency of the national defence
cannot attain success in any gr
which the nation is involved, then
bility rests on those who neglecte
the effective equipment of the A
Navy. In this way, the *Nichi*
hold the Diet accountable for the
which Japanese diplomacy is sup
sustained, the Diet having more
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vernment.

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The appointment of Admiral V
yama as the first Govenor-Gener
is hailed with unbounded satisfac
of the vernacular papers, for th
regarded by the nation as the ver
post, which is beset with overw
culties and dangers. It is said th
ago when Japan sent an expec
Formosa to chastise the natives that
Japanese settlers, the elder Saigo, v
tion of the annexation of Formos
declared that the best person suited
island was Kabayama. The *Ji*
Admiral as the man, since the d
whose distinguished military ach
redoubtable energy command the l
from the people.

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Some entertain an apprehensi
Jiji, that what with the necessity
strong defences, with the unheal
climate, and with the savage popu
nexation of Formosa may not pr
financial success. The *Jiji* scof
idea. For some time to come t
true, may not cover the disburseme
the case in Hokkaido, but the *Jiji*
just as the northern island is n
dition to furnish an important a
venue of the country, so will
after a short while. The nat
be a gainer in the long run for ha
added to the Empire. Proper
hygienic rules will enable the
keep in good health. That sava
born Chinese who may hanker
rulers live in the island is con
Jiji as a matter rather desirable t
It is a common thing for an army
rapidly after a series of victories, i
sapped by inactivity. The pres
inhabitants is therefore a very g
stimulating the Army and the N
prevent them from becoming effen
on this ground alone the annexatic
is a great boon to the country.

* * *

The *Kokumin* urges the Gover
prompt steps to have the island
cent groups transferred to Japan.
place much confidence in the r
certain number of Chinese troo
ing to go over to join the Blac
to resist the Japanese, and that t
to the annexation; but it app
any delay in such matters migh
grave difficulty. The *Yomiuri* earn
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Diet, so that the nation may recei
about the conclusion of peace.
not satisfied, says the Progressi
with only the bare text of the Tr
issued a few days ago, and is part
to know how it came about that
in compliance with the so-called fi
of the three Powers, renounce the
the Liaotung peninsula, where thou
and brothers of the Japanese peo
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conclusion of a treaty and such th
the sovereign right of the Emper
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people supported the Army and
indeed the Imperial Rescript issu
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be eager to know the particulars r
conclusion of peace. The *Yomiu*
to afford as soon as possible to th
which it is identified an opportunit
the policy of the Government.

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EDITORIAL NOTES.

ARDENT PHILATELISTS.

It would appear that fame is not without its drawbacks in Japan as in all other countries, for, according to the vernacular press, nearly all the principal generals in the late war have not only been pestered by unknown foreign correspondents for their autographs and even photographs, but have also had quantities of epistolary petitions sent them for Japanese postage stamps. It is doubtless very pleasant to know that one's fame is world-wide; but when it comes to having this knowledge emphasized by the frequent demand for stamps, one's reputation is apt to grow rather irksome. Field-Marshal Yamagata was the first, we believe, to be subjected to the insinuating attacks of rabid philatelists; now it is Major-General Nogi who is reaping the consequences of his fame in this way. We quote as corroboratory evidence three letters recently received by the gallant officer, which are published in the columns of the *Miyako Shimbun*. The first, omitting the name of the youthful writer, comes from Crescent Park, Manchester, and runs as follows:—"Dear General Nogi: I send this letter to you to congratulate you on the signal victories you have won over the Chinese. I have been much delighted by reading of your success in the field, for news of which I eagerly scan the columns of our local newspapers. I am a pupil of a school in Manchester and take great interest in collecting foreign postage stamps. Will you not be so kind as to send me a few stamps of your country? In conclusion, I pray that you will continue to be victorious in future." This missive is dated March 8th. A second comes from "Ealing, near London." "I congratulate you," says the writer, "on the brilliant victory that you have won at Yingkow, and on the bravery which you and your soldiers showed in that memorable battle. I hear that you captured much ammunition and many flags in the enemy's stronghold; indeed the papers here are quite filled with the fame of your exploits. I am a pupil of a Primary School and a collector of stamps. I have 920 stamps, altogether, but of these only three are Japanese. If you would kindly send me a few stamps I should esteem it a great honour. I hope that this my request will not give you too much trouble. Your address is unknown to me, but in sending this letter to Japan I hope it will reach you safely." The writer then gives his name and address in full, with the subscription "From a boy who admires your bravery." The third letter comes from "Worms, on the Rhine," and is short and to the point. "I beg pardon for troubling you with a request," begins the young scribe," but if you will be so kind as to send me some postage stamps of your country I shall return a thousand thanks when you come to this city of Worms. I am a very ardent collector of stamps, I have read in the daily papers of your great exploits and wish you all success in future." These and similar letters are sent daily to the Major-General, who must begin to doubt the sincerity of the writers' praise since their missives always contain the one request. The trail of the serpent is over them all.

* * *

Stamp-collectors make themselves such a nuisance to all those—happily the majority—that do not suffer from this peculiar form of mania, that we should suggest a heavy poll-tax, levied by international agreement, on all offenders in this order. In some small degree it might act as a deterrent, and would certainly be a lucrative source of revenue.

THE SUCCESSFUL BOYCOTT OF THE JAPANESE SUGAR DEALERS.

As already stated in these columns, the general goods merchants of Tokyo and Yokohama have decided, in order to abolish the system of commission, upon boycotting the Chinese merchants in Yokohama with whom they have hitherto had business transactions. From what the vernacular papers say, it now appears that a similar step has been taken by the wholesale sugar merchants of the two cities, though in this instance not only against Chinese merchants but also all foreign dealers in sugar. After about two years of agitation the Japanese merchants are reported to have at last succeded in accomplishing their object. The movement was originally started in 1893 by the sugar dealers of Tokyo and Yokohama. It was partially successful at the outset, for whereas a commission of one per cent. had previously been paid to foreign importers of sugar, this was reduced to one-half of one per cent. In November last, however, taking advantage of the victory of the Japanese arms over the Chinese, the sugar dealers of Yokohama conceived the idea of abolishing the commission altogether. They conferred with their brother merchants in the metropolis and renewed the movement. With one exception, the foreign importers of sugar finally agreed to the claim of the Japanese merchants and the commission was definitely done away with. The exception was No. 15, a Chinese firm in the Settlement, which alone refused to yield. On this the Japanese dealers in the two cities decided to discontinue buying sugar from the recalcitrants. This step was taken about the beginning of last month. It was subsequently discovered that some metropolitan sugar merchants had succeeded in purchasing from the obstinate firm without paying any commission. So on the 24th ultimo several delegates of the Sugar Dealers' Guild in Tokyo went to the Chinese firm in question and advised the formal abolition of the commission, as they knew positively that this had already been privately done in the case of two or three Tokyo merchants. The firm replied that the commission would be relinquished in dealing with metropolitan merchants, but that such a step was impossible in so far as Yokohama dealers were concerned, by reason of a certain agreement with a Hongkong firm. On this the delegates suggested that it would be well to establish a branch office in Tokyo, and thus obviate the difficulty. This proposal was finally accepted, and the firm opened a branch in Tsukiji, under the style of Mashi Shokwai. Business was begun there on the 8th instant. The sugar dealers of Tokyo and Yokohama have thus attained their object and definitely done away with a commission that was injurious to their commercial rights.

BISHOP WALDEN.

Bishop Walden, who is coming to Japan to hold the Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, will sail from San Francisco on the 21st of this month for Hawaii, where, after spending a few days, he will take the steamer for Japan that is due in Yokohama on June 13th. After reaching here he will probably visit the Hokkaido and the northern part of the main island, and return in time to open the Conference on July 11th, at Aoyama. Bishop Walden was born in Lebanon, Ohio, Feb. 11, 1831. He graduated from one of the colleges in Ohio in 1852, and was a teacher in the same institution the two following years. For several years he was engaged in journalism. In 1857, he went to Kansas and conducted a paper in opposition to the establishment of slavery in that territory. He became a member of the legislature, and afterward was elected State Superintendent of Public Instruction. He joined the Cincinnati Conference in 1858. In 1868 he was elected by the General Conference, Book Agent of the Methodist Book Concern in Cincinnati, and after filling that responsible position for four successive quadrenniums, he was elected Bishop in 1884. He is to be accompanied by his wife and daughter, and also by several young ladies who have taken this opportunity to visit the East. After spending a couple of months in Japan they expect to go to Korea, and thence to northern, central, and southern China, and probably return by way of India and Egypt to the United States.

A LUXURIOUS SWINDLER.

A few days ago the police made a notable capture in the person of a wholesale swindler who had, for nearly three years, been posing as a capitalist and living on the fat of the land. He had rented a fine dwelling belonging to Baron Honda, in Misaki-cho, Kanda District, Tokyo, and kept a most luxurious *menage*. Silk cushions of the finest embroidery, carved ebony furniture, bear-skin and tiger-skin rugs, oil paintings and rare *kakemono*, priceless porcelain vases and other pottery filled his house, before which an elegantly appointed equipage with two handsome horses was frequently observed to stand. In front of the main entrance hung various placards announcing that this was the metropolitan head-quarters of half-a-dozen projected railways. The man himself, described as being of good presence, always wore the most expensive fabrics, sported two fine gold watches, and appeared to revel, as indeed he did, in the lap of luxury. He was wont to speak of his intimacy with the real owner of the house, and this acted as an introduction to the highest rank of society while it proved at the same time his undoing. For on the nobleman's repudiating his acquaintance, the police, who had long had their suspicions, began keeping strict watch over the man's proceedings,—a watch which led to his final arrest and incarceration. It has since been discovered that he has swindled a number of people out of the large sum of two hundred thousand *yen*, and this within a period of a little over two years. His peculations are now, however, definitely put an end to, for it is reported that the full severity of the law will be meted out to him.

MISINFORMED.

The *Hongkong Telegraph* is responsible for the statement that "there appears to be a growing feeling in shipping circles against the Japanese. Shipmasters complain of discourtesy. From the coolie to the highest officials with whom they come in contact it is alleged that the overbearing manners of the natives of fair Nippon is most offensive and well-nigh intolerable." "Shipping circles" is a somewhat broad term, and the *Telegraph* has apparently undergone the operation of having its "leg pulled." People in Japan notice no difference in the bearing of servants or employés, either regular hands or casual work-people. Coolies working on board foreign vessels touching at Japanese ports have no contact with shipmasters. They are not engaged by the captain or employed by him. Shipmasters do not come in contact with any high officials in Japan, or for that matter with Japanese officials at all. The only officer that usually boards a foreign ship is a tidewaiter, and probably not one captain out of fifty ever exchanges a single word with that officer during his stay on board. The Water Police may occasionably, for police purposes, board a ship, but no high official. As a fact the Japanese with whom foreigners come in contact in the public departments such as post, telegraphs, railways, &c., exhibit no difference in their demeanour. The same may be said of all classes of the people without exception. The "statement" of "shipmasters" carries its own refutation if looked into. The *Telegraph*, under its present editor, is one of the last journals in the East to do an injustice knowingly; it is plain therefore that it has been misinformed.

NO GOLD BASIS FOR JAPAN.

Edward Brush, Secretary of the Consolidated Kansas City Smelting and Refining Company, a recognized authority on all matters pertaining to silver, recently said in an interview that there were legitimate trade reasons for the advance in silver. He had learned from one of the financial advisers of the Japanese government that the indemnity from China would be demanded in gold, which would have a tendency to temporarily check the advance in silver. He said:—Japan does not desire to place its currency upon a gold basis: neither does it believe that it would be possible for China to arrange with European bankers to deplete the gold treasuries of Europe to the extent of the indemnity which it will demand. It does expect, however, that this gold indemnity will be placed to the credit of Japan in the trade centres of Europe, and will be used there as a banking capital to make such purchases of silver, war supplies, and general equipment's necessities re-

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quire. The Japanese Government has made during the war internal loans for 250,000,000 *yen* in silver. As its banking credit will bring them in only about 1 per cent. interest in Europe, and as its silver debt is costing 6 to 8 per cent. in Japan it will certainly be to the interest of the Japanese Goverment to buy, as fast as can be done judiciously, silver with its gold credit to repay the internal loan. The expression of English critics of the belief that Japan will get on a gold basis is father to their wish. The endeavour of the English Government to place India upon a gold basis has so far been a most dismal failure, resulting in placing the exchange of India 15 to 20 per cent. above exchange of China and Japan. This has resulted in largely decreased exportations from India and largely increased exportations from Japan. Should Japan place her finances upon a gold basis she would immediately lose this advantage and place it in the hands of her principal rival, which must continue upon a silver basis. The Japanese are apparently shrewd enough to see this situation and govern themselves thereby.

AN ARCHÆLOGICAL DISCOVERY.

ACCORDING to the *Yomiuri Shimbun* and one or two other metropolitan journals, a very interesting find was made on the 19th ultimo at Kugamura, in Chiba Prefecture. This consisted of a large stone box, composed of eleven thick slabs of granite, its dimensions being: length, four feet; width, three feet and a half; and depth, somewhat over three feet. The box was some little distance below the surface of the ground, and had every appearance of great age. It was found to contain 18 *magatama*, or ancient jewels, shaped something like tiger-claws; 5 tubular ornaments, of the kind known as *kuda-dama*, 14 spheres of flawless crystal; and 75 "small jewels." Archæological experts who have since examined the treasure-box and its contents, state that it cannot well be less than two thousand five hundred years old, which would make it belong to the mythical or *jindai* period of Japanese history. Outside of their archæological value, the jewels are not worth much. Everything was in a state of perfect preservation.

THE YAAMI HOTEL.

THIS Hotel had formerly the reputation of being one of the best in Japan, but, judging from the numerous complaints we have heard from recent visitors to Kyoto, it appears to have fallen from its high estate. The cooking and the attendance at table have especially been the subjects of criticism. The reason for its deterioration seems to be the absence of competition. Formerly the two hotels, the Kyoto and the Yaami, were rivals for public support; but not long ago the proprietor of the Yaami purchased the Kyoto Hotel, and the two institutions are practically without opposition. The prices are higher than they used to be, but this is excusable on account of the Exhibition. It is a pity that the hotel does not live up to its magnificent situation.

A MISCONCEPTION.

EVER since the outbreak of the war the Japanese press has been inventing various significant metaphors for China and the chief personages of that Empire. Among others the Viceroy Li has been very generally referred to as *li-ya*, which is approximated by "Gran'ther Li," the syllable *ya* (爺), however, expressing an easy familiarity and patronizing condescension which no English word can properly convey. Noticing the frequent use of this ideograph in connection with the Viceroy's name, the Chinese press has recently stated—*teste Yomiuri Shimbun*—that "from first to last the Japanese have invariably spoken of our Great Minister in terms of the utmost respect, adding to his name a symbol worthy of his exalted station." The apparent paradox is explained, according to our contemporary, by the fact that the same ideograph is used in a very different sense in Chinese. There the Emperor is sometimes referred to as *Sen-nen-ya* (千年爺), or "Father of a Thousand Years," while the members of the Imperial Family are familiarly described by the periphrasis *man-nen-ya* "Myriad-Years-Household." Moreover, it is customary to add the ideographs *dai-ya* (大爺) after the titles of distinguished officers of State. Such wholesale subversions in the meanings of ideographs, or at least in their use, are not uncommon. In Japan, some centuries ago, *ki-sama*, literally "Honorable Sir," was one of the best and politest makeshifts for the pronoun of the second person. At present *ki-sama* is employed in speaking only to one of very greatly inferior rank; in common parlance, it is now-a-days used rather as an intentionally rude address. The misapprehension of the Chinese journals is therefore a very natural one; yet it has none the less given the metropolitan pressmen an excellent excuse for cracking jokes at the expense of their confrères across the water.

POPULAR VOTING.

INDEPENDENT probably of "war news" and the possibility of discussing the situation in free terms, several of the metropolitan papers have been recently asking their readers to send in votes for their favourite military leaders. We referred the other day to a similar list which appeared in the *Hochi Shimbun*. The *Miyako Shimbun* has gone most thoroughly into the spirit of the contest, and has every day been publishing the number of votes sent in by its readers as well as the names of the military and naval men for whom they have been cast. On the 11th instant the lists stood as follow:—

The best strategist:—

Lieut.-General Kawakami	153 votes.
Field-Marshal Yamagata	43 votes.
Field-Marshal Nozu	31 votes.

The most experienced:—

Field-Marshal Nozu	76 votes.
Field-Marshal Yamagata	73 votes.
Field-Marshal Oyama	36 votes.

The most influential:—

Major-General Kodama	124 votes.
Major-General Ogawa	38 votes.
Colonel Fukushima	37 votes.

The ablest in transacting business:—

Lieut.-General Katsura	78 votes.
Major-General Oshima	63 votes.
Lieut.-General Kawakami	40 votes.

Most skilful in planning:—

Major-General Ogawa	85 votes.
Lieut.-General Takashima	85 votes.
Major-General Tachimi	33 votes.

The most practical:—

Field-Marshal Oyama	73 votes.
Field-Marshal Nozu	43 votes.
Lieut.-General Katsura	39 votes.

The bravest:—

Lieut.-General Yamaji	118 votes.
Lieut.-General Nogi	50 votes.
Colonel Sato	42 votes.

The most learned:—

Colonel Fukushima	108 votes.
Major-General Ogawa	53 votes.
Lieut.-General Yamagawa	22 votes.

The physically strongest:—

Lieut.-General Kuroda	120 votes.
Lieut.-General Sakuma	59 votes.
Colonel Sato	25 votes.

With regard to naval officers honours, are pretty evenly divided between Admiral Viscount Enomoto, Vice-Admiral Nirei, and Admiral Kabayama, though here too we note considerable divergence of opinion. Where all stand so high in popular esteem the choice must needs be a difficult one.

THE SITUATION.

WITH regard to the exchange of ratifications, the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* makes some pertinent remarks. We have not heard, says our contemporary, that the terms of the original Treaty of Peace, as signed by the Plenipotentiaries, have since been altered, or even that the new Plenipotentiaries appointed for the exchange of ratifications were accredited with power to alter those terms. It follows, therefore, that the Treaty just ratified must in all points and particulars be similar to that signed at Shimonoseki. The Treaty must have clearly delineated the respective rights of the two Powers, and all the clauses which were approved by His Majesty must be embodied therein. What we now have to consider is whether an amendment of the terms of the Treaty may not be necessary in view of the present state of affairs and the general tendency of the political situation. This will be d by the free operation of supren We hear, continues the *Nich* certain Powers have preferred f to this Government and that the manifested their views concer necessary in strengthening the f ance of Oriental tranquillity b to have these views adopted b fraining for the present from en details on this point, we confi stating that, judging from the Chinese Government suddenly request for a prolongation of the armistice and promptly effecte of ratifications, the Japanese G likely made some sort of reply to advice of the Powers interested.

* * *

The *Mainichi* has a note on ject, the tone of which does no be quite sincere. The Shimonc declares, secured to this country one-half of Shinking and the wh and the Pescadores. It is said cations just exchanged at Chefoo to this Treaty. In that case t so-called alliance of three Pov the rumour that a certain portio territory is to be returned to C been wholly without foundatic deed, quite probable that this two Plenipotentiaries, Count count Mutsu, were the fortuna warm and honourable praise fro upon the conclusion of the prel so if this Treaty has really be stood and the objections of th been splendidly rejected by J matists, why then Count Ito m considered as occupying the fi those who have rendered distin to the State. He may indeed b with Bismarck and Cavour. Japan should therefore warm meritorious deeds and richly c for his pains.

TELEPHONES FOR KOBE SET

THE decision of the Kobe Muni meet the views of the merchants i and allow the Post Office to ru wire over head will meet wit approval, notwithstanding the in done to the picturesque appearan Settlement. Its picturesqueness i being spoiled by the gradual tra sidences to the Hill, the Settlem and more given up to huge godo handsome buildings some of exactly picturesque. It is certa regretted that the wires canno ground, but the reason given by Department—that this would en of the whole of the wiring bet Osaka—is conclusive, and obs mental trees must give way but useful poles, or else th afforded by the telephone be together. A business commun own can but decide in one wa cumstances. Nevertheless, it that the suggestion of Mr. von J be lost sight of, and that the p be of as sightly a character as p the community should pay th general subscription. In the n the native town the poles are ce sightly obstructions, and the a have been well advised if they h adopted the underground system of the large towns of Europe, h wires from roof to roof. But it c pected that the Department methods for the sake of the se a few foreigners in the Settle alteration of the system in of more attractive poles and f made at the expense of the co satisfactory to find that the C sufficiently "broad-minded" t suggestions contained in the le

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and we will doubtless be in possession of all the advantages of telephonic communication as soon as the necessary fittings can be laid down. By the way, it is surprising to find the members of the Council referring to the "Telephone Company;" there is of course no telephone company, all telegraphic as well as postal matters in Japan being in the hands of the Department of Communications.—*Chronicle.*

KOBE REGATTA.

KOBE had better luck in regard to weather on Saturday than did we in Yokohama, for although up to noon it looked far from promising, and threatened to stop the aquatic proceedings, things suddenly changed about mid-day, and the conditions under which the races were rowed could scarcely have been more favourable. The Junior Club and Scratch Fours and Junior Pairs were well contested. The *Hyogo News* mentions that the specially handsome prize presented by Mr. Enslie for the Senior Sculls is to be rowed for on the 25th, when the Interport events are also to the decided. "And, in addition, we hope International Fours will be chosen and give us a good fight for premier honours. Sim will stroke a Scotch crew, and an Irish four can be depended on: D. Marshall takes charge of a native (or born in Japan) manned boat; a German team may possibly be raised in time, but the States will, we fear, have to be dropped. We do not thing Englishmen can do better, under the condition excluding Interport rowers, than to entrust to Noel the selecting and stroking of the British representatives."

WRECK OF THE "PEKIN."

EARLY on the morning of the 3rd instant the steamer *Pekin*, owned by Messrs. Malcampo & Co., of Amoy, was lost on her voyage from Foochow to Amoy. She went on the rocks at Santi Point, near Port Matheson, at 4.30 in the morning, and the engines were at once reversed by the chief engineer with the object of beaching her. The attempt failed, however, and Captain Parker ordered the boats to be lowered. The captain, the first mate, the chief engineer, and all the crew, about 24 altogether, entered the boats and landed at Chong Bu. The steamer was not abandoned, though, until she began to fill and list over to port, and her helpless condition was taken advantage of by over a hundred Chinese fishermen, who swarmed on board, and, after threatening the chief engineer with a hatchet, looted the vessel. The crew endeavoured their utmost to keep them at bay, and the captain fired over the heads of the Chinamen, but they were powerless to prevent their encroachments, and the vessel had to be left to her fate. After reaching Chong Bu the matter was reported to a mandarin, and a junk was engaged for the purpose of taking the whole of the crew to Amoy, which was sixty miles away. Before leaving, however, the chief engineer who was accompanied part of the way by the captain and the first mate, went to the scene of the accident to see if there was any salvage, but with the exception of some floating wreckage there was no trace of the vessel. The engineer returned to Chong Bu, and the whole party journeyed to Amoy in a junk. They then went on board the *Kwong Mo* and reached Hongkong on May 5th. There was no cargo in the vessel, no passengers, and, happily, no lives were lost. It is said that the vessel was insured.—*Daily Press.*

THE "EQUITABLE."

HERE are some of the figures, says a London paper, furnished in the 35th annual report of of the Equitable Life of the United States. As usual, they are gigantic beyond all comparison in the life assurance province, and there are large increases all round. At the end of last year the assets amounted to £38,500,000 an increase of £3300000; the surplus of assets over liabilities, £7,700,000, an increase of over £1,000,000; the income for the year, more than £9,000,000; while the new business written and actually paid for was more than £36,000,000. The Society has paid in over £44,000,000 to its policy-holders since its establishment thirty-five years ago. In the face of general depression, the average value of the securities held by the Society has increased £300,000. With regard to the surplus shown, an interesting statement is made. The valuation by which a surplus of £7,700,000 is disclosed is based on an assumed rate of 4 per cent.; but if the Society chose to value on a 3½ per cent. basis, it could even then show a surplus of over £5,600,000, which is larger than that of any other Company valuing with a 4 per cent. rate. These are striking figures which require no comment. They speak for themselves.

THE PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY OF JAPAN.

THE annual meeting of the Photographic Society of Japan, will take place at the Koyokwan, Shiba, Tokyo, on Friday, May 17th, at 4 p.m. Mr. I. Isawa will read a paper on the results of exposures with pinholes, made of diameters according to different equations published by various authors who have studied pin-hole Photography from a theoretical point of view. The Secretaries' and Treasurers' reports will be read, and the officers will be elected for the ensuing year. At 6 p.m. there will be a subscription dinner (subscription 1.00 *yen*), in Japanese style. It is hoped that there may be a good exhibition of the work of members during the past year, and all are requested to send prints to the Koyokwan at any time not later than noon, on the day of the meeting. These prints may either be in albums, or simply mounted, in which latter case they may, or may not, be framed at the option of the exhibitor. Any photographic apparatus presenting novel features will be exhibited, if sent by either members or non-members of the Society.

THE LATE MR. H. IWERSEN.

A LARGE company of sorrowing friends attended the obsequies on Friday morning of Mr. Hermann Iwersen, an old and much respected resident of Nagasaki, who passed away in Tokyo on the afternoon of Wednesday, 15th instant. Mr. Iwersen came up to Tokyo a few days ago for a surgical operation, which was successfully performed, but he had not strength to make a recovery. The deceased was universally beloved by his fellow residents in the southern port, and a magnificent floral "In Memoriam" was deposited on the coffin from the members of the Nagasaki Club. Handsome wreaths were also sent by the following:—Mr. and Mrs. Ringer, Mr. and Mrs. Müller-Beeck, Mr. and Mrs. E. Rogers, Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Boeddinghaus, Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Stone, Mrs. Krebs, Messrs. Ahrens (Nachfolger), Professor Scriba, Captain H. Walter, Mr. O. Keil, Mr. T. B. Glover, Mr. J. Davieson, Mr. F. Grosser, Mr. O. Voigt, Mr. H. Baehr, Mr. M. Kaufmann, Mr. M. Sürth, Mr. E. Leopold, Mr. C. Braess, Mr. C. Koeppe, Mr. A. Feine, Mr. H. Luther, Mr. R. Lehmann, Mr. A. Hofmann, Mr. A. Stein, Mr. G. Westphal, Mr. F. Popert, Mr. C. Oberlein, and the members of the Nagasaki Bowling Club. The Marquis Nembrini attended the funeral as the special representative of Governor Nakano, formerly Governor of the Nagasaki Ken.

FIRE IN THE SETTLEMENT.

FIRE BROKE out shortly after 1.30 p.m. on Friday in one of the tea-firing godowns of Messrs. Mourilyan, Heimann & Co. From what we can gather, it seems that intense heat set fire to some flimsy woodwork and communicated with the roof where a space of about twelve feet square was burnt. Fortunately there was plenty of water at hand, so that the workmen were enabled to put the fire out before it had time to spread. A large quantity of tea must have been spoiled as work was in full blast at the time.

PONY AUCTION.

THE prices realized at Mr. Jno. W. Hall's semi-annual sale of racing and other ponies were very poor compared with what have been paid in the past. Judging from the utter luck of competition for such a pony as Methuselah, racing the metropolis this morning, much more indeed at the moment must be considered somewhat at a discount. The Cavalette combination has dissolved, while it is reported that another very ardent sport has retired. Matchbox fetched $17, Ormonde $20, Cairngorm $20, Merino $32, Moukden $71, Black Half-bred mare $26, Chesnut Japanese pony $18, Methuselah $175, Bichette $125, Bicyclette $180, Tashika $91, Varuna $85, Isinglass $40, Tantalus $60, Pioneer $150, Carolina $145, Louisiana $100, chesnut Half-bred $145, Tim $36, Skinfull of Trouble $35, Aoyagi $83, Jasper $11, Kumamoto $20, Mohstotz $125, Googoo $37, Bay Half-bred $25, and a pair of Grey carriage horses $450. The following ponies were withdrawn: California $29, Bacchus $145, Tortoise (carriage pony) $55, Asahimori $67, and Rokasen $145. A number of hacks and carriage ponies, saddles, blankets, and accessories were afterwards sold.

THE BOYCOTT.

THE Chinese merchants in Yokohama, says the *Yiyu*, who are being boycotted by the Japanese general goods dealers, are experiencing much inconvenience in consequence of the strict measures adopted by the Japanese, and are desirous of an early settlement. The Chinese are said to have first intimated to the Guild of General Goods Dealers that they would be willing to reduce the percentage from 2 per cent. to one per cent., business to be resumed at the reduced rate of commission. The Japanese being desirous of the total abolition of the system of commissions, declined this request, The Chinese then reported that they would be satisfied with ½ per cent., but this was also rejected by the Japanese.

NAVAL WORKS FOR HONGKONG.

THE following is an extract from the Navy Estimates for the Far East:—*Works.*—Coaling jetty at Kowloon, £2,000. The total estimate for this work is £5,200, towards which £500 was voted last year. This will leave £2,700 to complete the work. For the torpedo range at Hongkong there is an item of £860. The total estimate for the work is £1,360; and towards this amount £500 has already been voted. For magazine accommodation at Hongkong there is a vote of £500; and the total estimated cost is £2,150. The votes for the minor new works on the China Station amount to £2,950; and for repairs and maintenance to £2,075; total £5,025.

ITO MEIZUI.

ON the occasion of the Imperial Silver Wedding last year, one of the congratulatory scrolls presented to Their Imperial Majesties, as we noted at the time, was the work of a very youthful penman, Ito Meizui by name, only four years old at the time. He wrote, it will be remembered, the ideographs representing "tortoise" and "crane," and with such remarkable skill as to call forth the encomiums of the Emperor. The *Yorozu Choho* now reports that this phenomenal young calligrapher was a few days ago, in attendance on H.M. the Empress, who made him write a number of difficult ideographs, a task of which he acquitted himself to the admiration of all. Her Majesty afterwards made the boy several valuable gifts, and is said to have highly praised his performances. Little Ito Meizui must be a most precocious child indeed, for he is not yet quite five years old.

AFFAIRS AT TAKOW.

WHEN the *Thales*, which arrived in Hongkong from Taiwanfoo on May 3rd, left Takow on the 30th ultimo, says the *Telegraph*, a hired steam launch, armed with a gatling gun and manned by British "bluejackets," was patrolling the harbour ready at any moment to fire on lawless disbanded soldiers, who have become a terror to the Island, should they attempt to loot the houses in the Foreign Settlement. A small British gunboat is at present stationed at Takow.

REJOICINGS IN TOKYO.

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THE very liberal display of bunting in

than there was on the announcement of the signing of the preliminary Treaty of Peace. The Imperial Edict was issued as an extra yesterday afternoon by most of the vernacular journals, and although there was a feeling of disappointment, the people were prepared for the news of the returning of Manchuria and received the Imperial Message with loyal hearts. It is, doubtless, to show their patriotic acquiescence in all that concerns the will of the Sovereign, as well as to denote their deep-felt joy that the war has been brought to so successful an issue, that the good people of Tokyo have once more flung the national flag to the breeze.

STOLEN LETTERS.

On Sunday evening last, whilst Dr. Baelz's carriage was waiting for him at Shimbashi Station, a packet, containing about a dozen unopened letters, that had been placed there by a servant, was stolen from it. The value of the letters to the thief may possibly be very little, but the inconvenience to the correspondents of a professional gentleman in the position held by Dr. Baelz may be very great indeed. We have been requested to make known the loss of this correspondence in order that those who wrote to Dr. Baelz on Saturday or Sunday may learn what became of their letters.

WHAT SHALL BE DONE WITH THE MILITARY COOLIES?

Very diverse are the opinions entertained in regard to the disposal of the Japanese military coolies, now afield with the expeditionary troops. Some persons propose that they should be settled in Formosa and be employed in opening up the island, while others suggest their enrolment as a colonial militia. Some people consider it advisable to send the coolies to Hokkaido, while others think that they should be sent to Mexico to engage in work on the coffee plantations.

DEPARTURE OF THE BRITISH MINISTER.

A very large number of British residents of Tokyo and Yokohama accompanied the Hon. P. Le Poer Trench to the Canadian Pacific steamer on Friday to bid him *bon voyage*, speedy restoration to health, and a safe return to Japan. The demonstration of friendship was very sincere and spoke volumes for the high esteem in which the Minister is held not only by his own but all other nationalities in Japan. A hearty and resounding cheer for Mr. Trench was given as the tender left the big steamer's side to return shoreward.

PROPOSED NEW TENNIS RULE.

Tennis players may be interested in learning that the majority of English tennis players appear to be in favour of the proposed new rule making every ball that touches the top of the net during play a "let," thus making it necessary to play the whole point over again. It is thought that the rule will do away with an unnecessary element of chance without unduly prolonging the game.

A TOKEN OF REGARD.

On his farewell trip, Captain E. De Negri, of the Nav. Gen. It. steamer *Bormida*, was presented by the Chinese merchants who have been availing themselves of the Italian line to the Straits and Bombay for years past, with a handsome and richly-decorated silk flag, as a recognition of the valuable services he has rendered to them during the time he has been in command of the *Stura*, *Bisagno*, and *Bormida*.

SUPPLEMENT TO MURRAY'S GUIDE-BOOK.

We have received from Messrs. Kelly & Walsh an eight page supplement to the fourth edition of Murray's well-known Handbook for Travellers in Japan. The additions chiefly concern the city of Kyoto, and will be found useful by visitors to the Exhibition.

THE M.M. STEAMERS.

The Messageries Maritimes Company's steamer *Oceanien* has just tried her new triple-expansion engines, which increased her speed two knots per hour, developing a force of 4,000 horse-power. All the China-going boats are to be altered to suit the new arrangements of the Company. Improved engines will now be put into the *Yarra*; and the *Salazie*, *Sydney*, and *Calèdonien* will follow in succession.

ILLNESS OF CAPT. HENDERSON, R.N.

H.M.S. *Severn* left Singapore for Home on the 29th ult. Capt. Henderson, says a Straits contemporary, was so disabled by influenza that he was unable to take the ship out of port, this duty being executed by Lieut. Thursby.

RUSSIA'S MEDITERRANEAN FLEET.

It has been very amusing to observe the ingenuous and persistent attempts made by some of the local journals to convict us of "sneering at" Russia's naval strength or competence to meet Japan upon the sea, when what we really sneer at was not Russia's maritime force at all, but the ignorance of journalists who imagined that she kept a large part of that force in the Mediterranean. With a powerful fleet of Russian ships assembled in these waters under our own eyes, a fleet comprising seven vessels each stronger and more formidable than any possessed by Japan, it would have been too fatuous to laugh at that Great Northern Power's ability to make itself dangerous to Japan at any moment. What we did not look for, however, was a combination of Germany, Russia, and France for the purpose of keeping Japan out of Manchuria, and what we looked for still less was that the existence of such a combination for such a purpose should not be announced to Japan until after the Treaty of Peace had been concluded and ratified by the Emperor.

PERSONAL ITEMS.

The vernacular press reports that Viscount Kabayama, Commander-in-Chief of the Imperial Japanese Navy, has been, or is to be, appointed Governor-General of Formosa. The *Jiji*, says, however, that many politicians not in Government service, especially those belonging to the National Unionist Party, are opposed to the appointment. They hold that no one is so well suited as the Viscount, for carrying out the extension of the Japanese Navy, as he enjoys great influence in Naval circles. They appreciate the importance of the post of Governor-General of Formosa, but consider that a competent person can be found for the appointment without taking the Viscount away from the task of extending the Navy, for which he is so well fitted. Acting upon that idea, they have instructed certain members of Parliament, now staying in Kyoto, to agitate against Viscount Kabayama's despatch to Formosa. The *Jiji* adds that the above opinion is also held by not a few officials.

Public attention is now directed to Formosa, the cession of which will, it is believed, take place within 60 days of the exchange of ratifications. Mr. Mizuno, Chief Secretary of the House of Representatives, has left for Kyoto to be appointed Chief Manager of the island. Messrs. Sasa Tomofusa, M.P., and Maki Bokushin, ex-M.P., both influential National Unionists, have also resolved to go to Formosa for purposes of inspection. As it is said that the island will be subdivided into several Prefectures subject to the Governor-General of the island, a number of new posts will need filling, and of those not a few will fall to the share of enterprising politicians at present not in the employment of the Government.

A rumour current some days ago to the effect that Admiral Viscount Enomoto, Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce, is to go to Pekin as Japanese Minister, on the restoration of peace, is now repeated. Colonel Fukushima will, it is supposed, accompany the Viscount. As to the latter's successor in the Department of Agriculture and Commerce, the name of Mr. Watanabe Koki, ex-Minister to Vienna, is mentioned.

News has been received of Mr. legal adviser to the Korean Court. in connection with the arrest and of Li has been firm and bold in t and so strict is he with the judge stand in awe of him. He is intens the Tai Wōn-kun, who, shut up in vegetable shop, is said to be lou nunciation of Mr. Hoshi. That fa tended to augment the latter's fam wise, and his name is breathed by with great respect, not unmixed wi

Colonel Sato is expected home a wounds, at one time so serious given rise to the false report of his d healed sufficiently to allow of hi A story is current to the effect t surgeon was about to amputate th leg, the gallant officer, faint fr blood, stopped him, saying tha not do without his leg as he hac tles to fight. Not until the s strongly impressed on him that unl were amputated, he would be incap charging his duties further, and t life would be endangered, did the sent to the operation. He was re Haicheng to Chinchow during the last month, and from there he will to the Hospital at Talien and af Hiroshima.

THE INDEMNITY.

The *Hochi Shimbun* says that, a statement obtained from an source, the payment of the indemn from China is to be as follows:—

30 million *Taels*.....within 5 weeks fr of the exchange of ratifications.
50 million *Taels*.....within 6 month above date.
20 million *Taels*.....within 12 mont same date.

The remaining 100 million *Taels* i in yearly installments, but exactly will be handed over each year, the no information.

There is a great deal of speculati uses to which the indemnity will b seems to be pretty generally agre first thing done will be to redeem th Several vernacular journals have against such a step, their contentio the money should rather be devoted the navy and army and encouragin maritime and industrial. The spiri their counsel may be good, but ce do not show much practicality. The two issues of war loans, one of 30 the other of 50 millions. Upon th the former 70 *yen* has been paid up those of the latter, 60 *yen*. Thus ment stands indebted to the people of 51 *yen*, involving an annual 2,550,000 *yen* by way of interest. indemnity into the vaults of the Tres it earns no interest, and continue pa at the rate of 5 per cent. on the bo be very bungling finance. If the formation be correct, the Governm ceive from China a sum of 30 milli 45 million *yen*, by the end of further sum of 50 million *Taels*, *yen*, by the middle of December. doubt that these funds will be appli redeeming the war loans, and payi other obligations as the Treasury curred in connection with mili There is evidently a conviction amon that such will be the course purs war loan bonds have remained steady, not responding to the gen impetus felt by stocks in general a fication of the Treaty of Peace ha certainty. The 60-*yen* bonds—*i.e* on which 60 *yen* has been paid u fallen lower than 59 or risen hig during the past three weeks. Th quoted at 61.50. The prospect of redemption at par deters investors.

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FORMOSAN ITEMS.

Admiral Viscount Kabayama, recently promoted to the rank of full Admiral and appointed Governor-General of Formosa, was to start for his post yesterday, the 13th inst. A force, one Army Division strong, is said to accompany him. This force will sail probably from Port Arthur, but the vernacular press leaves the name of the starting-place blank. When the formal transference of the island is to be effected, a naval squadron will be despatched thither for its defence. As already mentioned in these columns, the transfer will take place within sixty days, counting from the date on which ratifications were exchanged. A Presidency of the island will then be established, together with an effective Prefectural system. It is said that Formosa is to be subdivided into four Prefectures, supplemented by two or three branch offices. The localities for the prefectural and sub-prefectural offices have already been determined upon. One Governor will be appointed to each Prefecture, and over him will stand the Chief of Executive, who is to undertake and superintend, subject to the control of the Governor-General, the entire administrative business of the island. This Executive Chief therefore resembles in his function the Chief of the Local Board in the Department of Home Affairs, only his competence will be more extensive. The nominees for the post of governors and other important positions are said to have already been privately determined upon. In this context several names are mentioned by the vernacular press. Messrs. Furusho Kamon, M.P., and Maki Bokushin, ex-M.P., both prominent members of the National Unionist Party, are to accompany Mr. Mizuno, Chief of Executive Affairs, to Formosa. With the same gentleman will go Messrs. Chijiwa, Chief of the Honjo Police Office, Tokyo, and Nakamura, a Probationary Auditor in the Department of Finance. The total number of inhabitants in Formosa and the Pescadores is about three and one-half millions. Judging from the present attitude of the islanders and their very forcibly expressed views, it is believed that at least one-half of them will on the morrow of the incorporation of the islands with the Japanese dominions, return to that the mainland of China. The necessity of sending over a large number of emigrants from Japan will thus arise, in order that the resources of the islands may be properly develop-ed. The probable departure of a large proportion of the natives is regarded rather with satisfaction than dissatisfaction, for the benefits accruing from the islands would otherwise fall, for the most part, into Chinese and not Japanese hands,—as in Hongkong, Amoy, Tongking, and the Straits Settlements, where the profits are mainly enjoyed by the Chinese, as the labour is almost exclusively done by them. It appears still uncertain whether Japan's new southernmost dominion is to be placed under civil or military administration, and for this reason the question whether police constables or gendarmes shall be despatched thither is not yet settled. The European residents of Formosa are reported to be quite numerous. Of missionaries alone there are more than two hundred and fifty.

THE VERNACULAR PRESS ON THE TREATY OF PEACE.

The *Jiji* discusses this grave problem in a calm tone that does it credit. The views expressed are much the same as those embodied in a recent article epitomized in our last weekly summary. That Japan should adopt, in connection with the termination of the war, writes this paper, the friendly advice of the three European Powers, and that, by consulting the interests of the country, she should give up the possession of the Liaotung peninsula, with the view of maintaining the tranquillity of the Orient, is a course of action to which many parallels may be found in modern history. Therefore to chafe because the three Powers interfered in the affairs of Japan, is just as silly as to be offended with tradesmen because they ask high prices. We, the

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tradesmen are simply anxious to attend to their own interests, so are nations.

* * *

What the *Jiji* is keenly solicitous about is that the people, not resting content with the present state of affairs, should steadily and indefatigably strive to foster and strengthen the fundamental basis of national power, to the end that, in any future emergency in the Orient, Japan may shape her course in a free and independent manner. Not only would the intervention of other Powers be then put aside when necessary, but Japan herself would be in a position to interfere in all cases where her interests were affected.

* * *

The tone of the *Mainichi* differs greatly from that of the *Jiji*. The *Mainichi*, in fact, is so rash and impracticable in its statements that we feel our contemporary has for the moment been quite carried away by indignation. It holds that the foreign policy of a country should be quite uninfluenced by the relative strength or weakness of another country with which it has to deal; that, therefore, if the disturber of Oriental tranquillity had been, not China, but another far stronger Power, and if the latter were suffered to do as it liked, Japan standing aloof all the while because of the formidable strength of that Power, then it would appear that a "righteous war" would be waged only against a weaker Power, while even in a just cause Japan would fear to war with a stronger Power. It further says that if Japan is to regard herself as a great Power in the world, she must have courage to defy, if necessary, all the rest of the world; and that unless such a spirit is manifested Japan's newly gained influence is destined to disappear in face of a regenerated China. In fact, it was by intense loyalty and patriotism that the Japanese won the battles fought with the Chinese, and, armed with that immaterial but far more effective weapon, Japan can, according to the *Mainichi*, hold her own ground even if all the other armies of the world are ranged against her. How much more then, says the *Mainichi*, should Japan stand firm when her opponents are formidable only in external appearance, and in reality have no great strength. Therefore the Progressionist organ is dissatisfied with the action of the present Cabinet in acquiescing in the demands of the three European Powers and in abandoning the permanent possession of Manchuria.

* * *

Another Progressionist organ, the *Yomiuri*, hints a doubt of the diplomatic talent and shrewdness of the Government in connection with the war. It applauds in the warmest terms the valour and the discipline of the Imperial Army and Navy, and then asks how did Count Ito and Viscount Mutsu, Japanese Plenipotentiaries in the peace negotiations, play their parts. The *Yomiuri* can not judge, it says, whether they acquitted themselves creditably or not, but, inferring from the Imperial Rescript issued on 21st ult., it may perhaps not be wrong to think that their actions in this matter have been free from any remissness or fault. Therefore, concludes the *Yomiuri*, it hastens to thank the two Ministers for the pains they have taken. In this roundabout manner the *Yomiuri* gives vent to its dissatisfaction with the Cabinet.

* * *

The *Nippon* confines itself to the following short remark:—"A Imperial Rescript has been issued, and who that has blood in his veins can read it without shedding tears?"

* * *

The *Mesamashi*, the organ of the *Jiyu-to*, says pithily that the friendly advice of the three Powers must be indelibly fixed upon the mind of the people. Thank them with tears; nay, be resolved to repay their kindness on some future day.

* * *

Who can read the last Imperial Rescript, observes the *Chuo*, the organ of the National Unionists, without shedding tears? Our loyal people must keep in view by day and by night the meaning of that Rescript, and must strive energetically for the successful realization of the destiny of the Empire.

* * *

The *Nichi Nichi* gives the first of a series of articles on the termination of the war. Its tone is of course friendly to the Government, nor has it any bitter thing, thus far, to say against the three Powers.

THE ATTITUDE OF POLITICAL PARTIES.

The intensity of popular feeling at the moment is nowhere more apparent than in the attitude assumed by the partisans of the various political organisations and the spirit which reigns in their deliberations. The following items, gathered from the columns of the vernacular press, give an insight into their doings. On the evening of the 10th instant, a large number of eminent politicians, among whom were Messrs. Shimada Saburo, Taguchi Ukichi, Kashiwada Koribumi, Kawashima Jun, and others of no less fame, met in Tokyo at the Hoshigaoka Tea House, in order to discuss the grave topics of the day. The main points of their deliberations were as follows:—

Whether the rumoured Cabinet decision concerning diplomatic affairs at present was a fact or not;

Should it be fact, whether the people at large ought to signify their disapprobation;

Whether, under the circumstances, the matter should be communicated to their compatriots an agitation started, and a political mass meeting be held.

The gathering was dissolved at about 11 p.m. The Progressionists have resolved, as a result of the conferences of their committees, to cause representatives of the Party to call on each Minister of State in order to discuss the questions of the day. The *Kokumin Kyokwai* (National Unionists) and *Jiyu-to* are opposed to this step, while the *Kakushin-to* (Constitutional Reformists) are hesitating whether they should take part in the agitation or not. The most deliberate course at this juncture is that decided upon by the National Unionists. They will not settle upon their policy until after the return of the delegates sent by the Party to Kyoto, and then only after these delegates shall have reported full particulars concerning the great questions of the moment. Mr. Kusumoto, President of the House of Representatives, is very busy just now calling on political friends and receiving numerous visitors. He called on Count Okumoto on Saturday morning and had a lengthy conversation. A large concourse of visitors likewise find their way daily to Waseda, Count Okuma's residence. Several papers give brief accounts of the views alleged to be held by the Count on the foreign problems of the day. The primary object of the expedition against China, he is reported to have said, was to secure the independence of Korea on a sound and reasonable basis. The uninterrupted victories of the Imperial Army and Navy have resulted in entirely destroying China's influence in the Peninsula, and the independence of the Korean Kingdom has thus been most successfully assured. Whether or not a "second China" will appear on the scene, is something which cannot be predicted with any degree of certainty. But should the firm policy dictated by strict rectitude be pursued towards a weaker country, while, on the other hand, conciliatory measures are adopted in dealing with a stronger land, such as promptly acquiescing with all the latter's demands,—should such political methods prevail, Japan's original intention regarding Korea may be thwarted or altogether frustrated. Great care must be taken in future that there is no collision of rights between Japan and other strong Powers with respect to Korea. It is useless to talk about what has already been done. For the future, that which the nation must constantly keep in view, as of prime importance, is the strenuous fostering of the national strength and the realisation of Japan's original intention regarding the maintenance of Korean independence. We note finally that, according to the *Nippon*, Viscount Shinagawa intends proffering some friendly advice to the Premier.

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LETTER FROM PORT ARTHUR.

(From our Special Correspondent.)

On board the *Ikal Maru*, Port Arthur,
May 6, 1895.

When we arrived in the roadstead outside the port a strong wind was blowing from the north-east and the waters were pretty rough, so that, even after the anchors were dropped, our little war-ship continued to toss and pitch, rather uncomfortably. Eight Japanese men-of-war were at anchor there, namely, the *Hiyei*, *Kongo*, *Izumi*, *Tsukuba*, *Tsukushi*, *Takao*, *Chiyoda*, and *Akagi*. There were also several transports, the *Yokohama Maru*, *Shigaura Maru*, and others. The *Yokohama* had just arrived from Moji with a few hundred troops on board. Signals from the fort on the top of Hwankinshan (guarding the entrance of the port on the right as we face it from outside) informed us that, the inner port being occupied by other vessels, our ship had better stay outside. Landing at 10 a.m., His Excellency and suite at once proceeded to the Head-quarters of Prince Komatsu, the Commander-in-chief of the Japanese Armies in China, where he had a long consultation with His Imperial Highness and Lieutenant-General Kawakami.

On our way to head-quarters, we passed along the dry dock where the captured Chinese iron-clad *Chen-yuen* is undergoing repairs. The places hit by the Japanese ships at the battle off the Yalu were marked with rings of white chalk. Lieut.-Colonel Murata, who accompanied us from the landing-place, informed us that that those rings number more than four hundred. The funnel looked like a sieve, so many were the holes in it made by the shells from the Japanese quick-firing guns. At the present rate, the repairs will not be completed before the end of June next. The various workshops in the compound of the dockyard were resounding with the deafening noise of men at work. We noticed a large number of Chinese labourers coming and going in the neighbourhood.

While Mr. Ito was engaged with H.I.H. Prince Komatsu and Lieutenant-General Kawakami at head-quarters, I visited the quarters of the Japanese newspaper correspondents close by. I wished particularly to see Mr. A. Amano of the *Osaka Asahi Shimbun*, with whom I had shared many a hardship and difficulty at the time of the Weihaiwei expedition. But I was disappointed in this; he had gone to Chinchow and was not expected to return before my departure for Chefoo. I was, however, delighted to be greeted by Mr. Beisai Kubota, art correspondent of the *Kokumin Shimbun*, another friend in the Weihaiwei business. He was not at all well, suffering from a fever. He was, however, convalescent and hoped to return to Japan before long. From him I learned that most or nearly all of our former companions are sick at Chinchow. Uncongenial climate, privations, and a thousand other hardships inseparable from a war correspondent's life, have told upon their constitutions. The lot of a war correspondent is hard enough under any circumstances, but that of the Japanese correspondents in the recent war has been especially so in more than one way. In the first place, their salaries being comparatively small, they could not afford to take with them a sufficient quantity of provisions and other necessaries and had to depend almost entirely upon the rations supplied by the army. And the food the army was able to supply them with consisted generally of boiled rice and *miso*, or a small piece of salted salmon. Secondly, the Japanese correspondents were not allowed the privileges accorded to their foreign *confrères*. Unlike the latter, they had to walk on foot and sometimes even to carry most of their baggage. Last but not the least, they were usually treated with great contempt by the military officers. The latter, it must be stated in fairness, are not alone to blame, for some of the correspondents themselves were not entitled to be treated as gentlemen.

Bidding adieu to my fellow-correspondents, I wended my way to the head-quarters of the seige train, to see Lieutenant-Colonel Teshima, from whom I had received many marks of consideration during my stay at the Sing Mantsui fort on the southern shore of the port of Weihaiwei. On my way there, I noticed that the streets had been throughly cleared of all dirty things and that there was no bad smell except that of the Chinese coolies and beggars. Many of the Chinese stores were crowded by Japanese soldiers and coolies. Several shops have also been opened by Japanese merchants, where you can get any article of ordinary necessity. The conquerers and the vanquished are getting on very well. The Chinese seem quite happy under their new rulers. The natives here now found here are, however, those of the lower class; the families of the better sort have not yet returned. There are very few women here, but I noticed several girls between ten and fifteen walking along the street without the slightest molestation from the Japanese soldiers and coolies.

Lieutenant-Colonel Teshima being absent, I went back to the Military Head-quarters, and accompany him, soon afterward came to this ship, which has served as our hotel during our stay here. As I stated in any last letter, this ship is moored close to the bund in the dock, and, serves as the hotel of the Commander-in-Chief and his staff. A few days before our arrival here, the Commanders of the First and the Second Armies, General Nozu and General Oyama, with their respective staffs, assembled on board this vessel, and an important conference seems to have taken place between them and General Count Yamagata, Minister of War, who had come here from Japan specially for the purpose. The latter, after a single night's stay, returned to Japan. As to the nature of the subject discussed at this conference, I am not fully imformed, but it will not be very difficult for any close observer of the course of events in the diplomatic world for the past fortnight to make a tolerably accurate conjecture, especially by the time this letter appears in print. I have conversed with several of the military officers here on the situation; they freely express their sentiments on the line of action their Government at home is understood to be pursuing with respect to the present diplomatic complication. The sentiment is unanimous here on the subject, but I do not think it proper to divulge what these officers spoke to me in a confidential way.

In the evening I paid a visit to the Chinese theatre, of which mention has so often been made in the columns of the Tokyo papers. The troop of actors who entertained the Japanese army on the very first night of the fall of this place is still performing. The house is just inside one of the back gates of the town. In general construction it is very much like a Japanese theatre; only it is very much dirtier and smaller. The stage, too, is far inferior in arrangement to that of a Japanese theatre. It is square in form, and juts out into the pit, with cylindrical pillars at the forward corners, thereby obstructing the view from some parts of the galleries and of the pit. The orchestra occupies the inner part of the stage and consists of a Chinese guitar, a flute, a drum, gongs, and so forth. Another peculiarity about the Chinese theatre is that no curtain separates one act from another. When I arrived there, it was the midst of a war scene, and more than twenty little warriors attired in the ancient uniforms of the *San Goku* age were on the stage. The sound of drums, gongs, and other instruments was deafening. This was followed by a sort of gymnastic exercise, in which the boy actors showed considerable proficiency. The next piece was very interesting. A simple country gentleman walking along the shore of a river perceives at a distance a boat laden with half a dozen beautiful ladies. Attracted by the sight, he hires a telescope and looks at the approaching boat. Captivated by the vision, his attention is so entirely occupied, that he is perfectly unconscious of the roguery played upon him by two sharpers who skilfully relieve him of one article of apparel after another until he stands intently looking through the telescope with nothing but an undershirt on. The Indian in the boat sang to the tune of the guitar in a charming manner. In that sta sirens and the poor victim of How the matter ended I do not spectators consisted mostly of Jap and coolies, with Chinamen her The galleries were occupied by officers, military and naval.

This morning I visited some of I first went to that of Mantzsying, been informed that it was con Captain Fukuda, who was so kind I stayed with him in the Liu Maots southern shore of Wei-hai-wei. Chinese boat outside the dock, I to the island opposite. At the the unloading of the transport *Te* sailing ship which has become account of its illegal detention at T Chinese authorities in the commen war, was proceeding. There the open space near the landing- Krupp guns of old style bearing 1869. They have been dismounte near by Rowhumi for shipment to fort is not of sufficient military im the authorities have decided upon Half-a-mile from the landing-plac the fort of Mantzsying which is on with a complete command of the the port. My friend Captain Fuk there; he had been a few days ag to a battalion of artillery expec from Japan shortly. I then retrac and inspecting on way the fort I came back to the ship noon. The forts at these places more rough in construction and guns of older systems than t hai-wei and Talien-wan. The number nine in all, five on the or rather island, I visited this four along the coast to the le with that of Hwankinshan. Two this coast, namely Motsuchow an of little practical use, and have, been abandoned by the Japanese m ities. I had not time to visit an forts to the back of the town.

LETTER FROM CHE

(From our Special Corresp

Chefoo, May

Leaving Port Arthur last evenin to nine on board the *Yokoham* arrived here at dawn to-day. The number of war vessels of various Russian predominating, as we The names of the Russian ship *Rasboinick*, *Pamyat Asova*, *Ad moff*, *Ryuda*, *Vladimir Monomac Koreetz*, *Vsadonick* (torpedo cat *mack* (torpedo catcher), *Sveab* boat), and *Gramlatschy*. Besides *Centurion* and the *Edgar* (British); the *Marie* (German); the *Forfait* the *Machias* (U.S.A.). The arriva *hama* was a signal for the displ activity on the part of the Russ and French war vessels in port. informed from a trustworthy source sian ships had the caps of their gun the *Yokohama* steamed in. It been expected by the foreign men that the Japanese plenipotentiary accompanied by a powerful fleet. had been the original intention of Government, the Western Squa *kantai*) having been collected at But His Excellency Mr. Ito very w the plan in view of the delic in the sphere of Japanese diploma ing his intended naval escort at P came here on a transport attend body-guard of gendarmes and con must have been a great surprise to ships in general and to the Russians The other transport, the *Higo Ma* to follow the *Yokohama* and serve ship has not yet come in. She evi arrive at Port Arthur the appoi

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Immediately upon arrival, notice was given to the Taotai on shore of the fact, and he was requested to make the communication to the Chinese Envoy, whoever he might be. At that time, the Japanese mission were entirely ignorant whether the treaty had been ratified by the Emperor of China, or whether any Plenipotentiary had been appointed to effect the exchange of ratifications. Before the above mentioned notice, which was made through the American Consul Mr. Donnelly, could reach the Taotai, the latter sent a messenger, Mr. Lu Yuen-ming (for several years a student interpreter in the Chinese Legation in Tokyo), with the information that the treaty had been duly ratified, that Their Excellencies Mr. Wu Ting-fang and Mr. Lien Fang had been appointed Plenipotentiaries, and that they, together with Hon. Mr. Foster, had arrived at Chefoo yesterday morning.

Shortly after the arrival of our ship, Lieutenant E. F. Bruen, of H.B.M.S. *Edgar* came on board with the compliments of Admiral Sir Edmund Fremantle. He stated that the British flagship had gone out of port for gunnery practice and that she would be in port again toward evening. He was followed soon afterwards by Captain W. H. Henderson, of the *Edgar*, who had a long conversation with the Japanese Plenipotentiary. Other visitors in the course of the morning were Commander Houston of U.S.S. *Machias*, Commander Keary, R.N., Mr. Bredon, acting Commissioner of Customs at Chefoo, and Mr. S. Parkhill, harbour-master. The visits of the British and American officers were returned by Mr. H. Sato, Private Secretary to H.E. the Japanese Plenipotentiary.

While these exchanges of courtesy and goodwill were going on between the Japanese transport and the British and American men-of-war, constant communications were proceeding between those of Russia, Germany, and France. Launches and boats were coming and going between them and salutes were fired now and then. Signals were also constantly going on between the Russian ships and the consulate of the same country on shore. No visit of courtesy was received by the Japanese Plenipotentiary from any of the ships of Russia, Germany, and France. This coldness on their part was in strong contrast to the friendship and good will manifested by those of England and America. Furthermore, the allied fleet is evidently bent upon making a demonstration. It began to make preparations as though it were going to war,—preparations which are still going on. The top-masts were lowered, superfluous rigging was transferred to the transport *Vladimir*, and the Russian ships are now (6.30 p.m.) being painted from black to bluish grey. At a quarter to three in the afternoon, the German ship *Irene* commenced target practice in the port.

Notice having been received that everything was ready on shore for the reception of the Japanese mission, the party landed at a little before 5 p.m. by a steam launch placed at its service by the Customs Commissioner. The Customs wharf where we landed was crowded with a large number of spectators, order being maintained by a party of troops. His Excellency Mr. Ito and suite thence proceeded to his hotel in palanquins, led by a body of troops under the command of an officer mounted on a mule. The sides of the Japanese Envoy's palanquin were guarded by his body-guard. The procession was altogether picturesque, and recalled to my mind the fading memory of the progress of a *daimyo* in feudal Japan. The road from the landing-place to the hotel was guarded on both sides by a line of troops stationed at regular intervals. There were in the settlement a large number of men-of-war's men, some of whom were not quite sober; but happily no disturbance took place.

A wing of the hotel commanding a beautiful view of the bay has been placed by the Taotai at the service of the Japanese mission. The Taotai, Mr. Liu Hang-fang, who occupied the same position at Port Arthur until it fell into Japanese hands, was the first to call. He is a genial looking, short-sighted man of a little past fifty.

The Chinese plenipotentiaries have just come and are now engaged with Mr. Ito. The present idea seems to be to complete all preliminary arrangements in the course of this evening, so that the formal exchange of ratifications may be effected early to-morrow. Should things proceed as desired, there would be just time to have the news of the exchange of ratifications telegraphed to the Japanese armies in Manchuria.

The street outside the hotel is full of gaping crowds, who are kept at a respectful distance by the scarlet-robed troops with straw hats. At this season there are not many visitors here. It is still cold at night; the temperature is lower here than that at Kobe by perhaps as much as ten degrees.

THE SITUATION.

We gather the following items on the situation from metropolitan papers:—

Messrs. Kusumoto, President of the House of Representatives, and Kawashima, M.P., were despatched to Kyoto a few days ago by the Constitutional Reform Party, of which they are both members, to acquaint themselves with and report on the situation. They returned to Tokyo on the evening of the 7th instant, and on the morning of the next day the members of the strong Foreign Policy Party, now in the capital, met at the Tokyo Hotel to hear the report of the two delegates. The press remarks only that they were intensely disappointed at the news brought to them, and dispersed, after having decided to organize an agitation by the Party on consultation with the different sections.

Delegates of other parties, now in Kyoto on the same mission as that of the above-mentioned gentlemen, will, it is said, return to Tokyo shortly, as there is no further necessity for their presence in Kyoto.

A report on the situation having been received, the Progressionist Party resolved to hold an extraordinary meeting on the afternoon of the 9th instant, for the purpose of discussing the policy that the Party should pursue with regard to the present affair.

The Radicals also held an extraordinary meeting on the 8th instant. Count Itagaki, Messrs. Matsuda Yamada (Taizo), and Shigeoka, Managers of the Party, and many others were present.

Mr. Taguchi's small party, the Economic Reformists, will hold a conclave on the 11th instant, and Counts Satabe and Shimazu, Viscount Honda, Baron Ozawa, and other members of the House of Peers, organizers of the so-called *Ko-u* Club, were to meet at the office of the Club on the 8th instant.

Mr. Ozaki, of the Progressionist Party, was among those that went to Kyoto to observe the state of affairs. During the latter part of his stay, whenever a visitor called on him in order to hear his opinion on the situation, he was wont merely to reply laconically:—"It is useless to agitate now, it is all over."

Subsequent to the coming on the *tapis* of the foreign interference question, the French Legation in Tokyo carried on an unusual amount of correspondence with its Government and with other Legations in Tokyo. But since the 7th instant its ordinary quiet aspect has been restored.

The statement is iterated that Count Okuma called at the French Legation on the 7th instant. Several vernacular papers are curious to know the reason of the visit, but it was doubtless a mere interchange of courtesies.

The *Mainichi*, from which we reproduced the alleged meeting between Count Okuma and a certain French Military *attaché*, withdraws the article on the ground that it was not strictly correct. The paper re-appeared on the 9th instant after suspension on account of this very article.

The Japanese press says that, as soon as the ratifications of the Treaty have been exchanged, the *Official Gazette* will issue an extra, though for what purpose, is not explained.

THE TRIPLE COALITION.

The *Mainichi* publishes the following note concerning the interference of the three Powers. It was on March 10th that the representatives of Russia, France, and Germany decided to oppose the annexation of the Liaotung peninsula by Japan. The conclave was held at Berlin. At one of the conferences, the Russian Representative observed that judging from the recent conduct of Japan, a secret agreement seemed to exist between Japan and England, and that he should like to ascertain the actual state of the case. The Representative of one of the other two countries then remarked that it would not be difficult to ascertain that point; the simplest way would be to ask England to join the alliance of the three countries. If England should consent, this would prove the rumour was unfounded. England was then formally asked to join the alliance, and her refusal strengthened the suspicion of a secret agreement between Japan and England. Russia, especially, was led by it to entertain very strong suspicion of Japan.

It is said that those countries that acknowledged the reasonableness of the Treaty of Shimonoseki were 1st America, 2nd Italy, 3rd Austria, and 4th England. It is further said that while Japan was negotiating with the three Powers, Italy more than once sent letters to Japan full of friendly encouragement. These stories are very pretty reading, but we should like to know where the *Mainichi* obtained its information. A strange rumour is now circulating, continues the *Mainichi*, to the effect that Russia objects to the stationing of Japanese troops in Korea, on the ground that the Japanese occupation is detrimental to the maintenance of peace in the Orient, and that a further source of trouble will thus arise. The *Mainichi* says that the stationing of Japanese troops in Korea was due to the special request of the Korean Court, and their evacuation of the country would be followed by fresh internal commotion.

The *Kokumin* also maintains that the Japanese troops must not be withdrawn from Korea, for their presence is necessary to secure the stability of Korean independence and, therefore, to maintain the tranquillity of the Orient.

POLITICAL PARTIES AND THE TREATY OF PEACE.

The issue of the Treaty of Peace and the public avowal that Japan has decided to forego the permanent occupation of the Liaotung Peninsula, has given rise to a grave constitutional question among the parties of the Opposition. Still, as the matter is already settled and past mending, even those who hold extreme views are not disposed to take any violent step. The Opposition parties, according to the *Jiji*, seem to have decided to make further investigations before shaping the policy they intend to pursue in the matter. The constitutional question alluded to is this. Was it proper for the Government, without obtaining the consent of the Imperial Diet, to agree to return to China territory that had by treaty been incorporated in the Japanese Empire? The members of the "Strong Foreign Policy" party are inclined to doubt the constitutionality of the action of the Government. Since, however, the right to conclude treaties without referring to the Diet is expressly reserved to the Sovereign by the terms of the constitution, and since the revision of the Anglo-Japanese treaty may be referred to as a precedent, it seems unlikely that any case, can be sustained against the Government.

Messrs. Hara Zenzaburo, representative of the Five Staples Exchange; Kimura Riyemon, of the Four Staples Exchange; Kurobe Yohachi, of the Rice Exchange; Totsuka Bentaro, of the City Assembly; Iijima Yuzo, of the Guild of Japanese Traders, and a deputy of the Banks in Yokohama, have proceeded to Kyoto to offer congratulations to the Emperor upon the restoration of peace.

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THE TONE OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS.

AT no time since Japan began to have newspapers of her own has the tone of their writing possessed greater interest for foreigners than it does at present. When men are carried away by the excitement of unaccustomed and signal success, the mood they exhibit is seldom a real index to their character. But in the face of a sudden and serious reverse their bearing generally affords a trustworthy measure of their *morale*. While this nation was basking in the sunshine of victory after victory, and listening to the pleasant music of foreign applause, some of the minor journals of the capital adopted a boastful tone that induced level-headed observers to doubt whether the country's success were really merited. But it must be confessed, to the credit of the people in general, that they preserved their *sang-froid* excellently. Except for an occasional display of bunting and keeping of holiday to celebrate some unusual military or naval triumph, no one could have guessed that Japan was at war; still less that she was passing from comparative national insignificance to a place of universally acknowledged prestige. There was absolutely no noticeable difference in the demeanour of any class, and from several foreigners whose duty brought them into daily contact with officials and non-officials we have heard the same story, namely, that they did not encounter the least evidence of unpleasant self-confidence or demonstrative pride. The silly talk of a few ill-balanced journalists about Great Britain's decadence or Japan's deadly resolution to defy all foreign interference, was mere froth that had nothing in common with the mood of the masses. Now, however, the people have to face a disappointment that may well try their mettle, and it is very interesting to note how they bear it. The *résumé* of articles that we produce elsewhere shows two kinds of disposition; one as exemplified by the writing of the *Chuo*, is an unreasoning sentiment of blind anger that seeks to hold the Government responsible for the unfriendly and despotic action of a coalition of European Powers. The other, as illustrated by editorials in nearly all the leading journals, is a very different temper, not noisy or demonstrative, but resolute and unforgetful; the stern, implacable mood of men who, though filled with bitter resentment, are conscious of their inability to seek immediate reparation, and determined to bide the time until persistent effort shall have made them strong enough to assert themselves. This latter mood, so far as we can see, is that of the bulk of the nation. Japan's programme for the next few years will be to place her navy on such a footing that Western Powers will hesitate before they think of dictating to her. It is not easy to discover from the writings of the metropolitan journals whether they have full knowledge of the modification that the Treaty of Peace is to undergo. Some are evidently well informed, but others either simulate ignorance or are really ignorant. Even when the whole truth is known, however, we do not anticipate any great agitation. There may be some fuming of political parties, and there probably will be some Cabinet changes. But in the main the people will accept the situation as inevitable, and think only of a future opportunity. The House of Representatives, which by its obstinate querulousness, session after session, checked the growth of the navy, and which, to justify its sacrifice of patriotism to party, marshalled charges of incompetence and mismanagement against the naval authorities, will come in for much obloquy. On the one hand, the navy has proved itself a splendid fighting machine, thus effectually refuting the accusations levelled against it; on the other, paucity of ships and inferiority of type have placed the country at the mercy of European States. The one idea henceforth will be to acquire a fleet of ships powerful enough to avert, perhaps to avenge, the present misfortune.

THE TREATY OF PEACE.

THE exchange of ratifications of the Treaty of Peace having been effected, the terms of the Treaty were published in Monday's *Official Gazette*. In another column we give a translation of this document. The conditions of the peace were already an open secret, for they were divulged by the Chinese long prior to the exchange of ratifications; and, with the exception of the absurd fiction of an offensive and defensive alliance between China and Japan, the list of terms published recently by the *North China Daily News* was substantially correct.

The most interesting, therefore, of the official documents we publish to-day, is the Imperial Rescript that accompanies the Treaty, and explains the course chosen by Japan in view of the objections offered by the European Powers to permanent Japanese occupation of territory on the mainland of Asia.

The unexpected interference, at the eleventh hour, of a coalition of three of the principal European Powers, had placed Japan in a position in which it was obviously impossible for her to hold her ground, and from which it seemed at first sight equally impossible for her to make a dignified retreat. That the difficulty was not insuperable, is however, shown by the dignified and statesmanlike document in which Japan now announces her intention to accept the advice of the intervening Powers, and to withdraw from the occupation of the Feng-Tien Peninsula. In statecraft, one of the first essentials to dignity is to be logically consistent; and the contention of the document before us is perfectly logical. At the outset of the war, fierce criticism was from all sides showered on Japan. This country was, said the critics, engaging in a war of unwarrantable aggression on a well-disposed and peace-loving neighbour. That neighbour, it was added, would soon arise in her gigantic strength, and would teach Japan a much-needed lesson. At the time we thought the criticism was as unjust as the prophecies were likely to prove mistaken; and the course of events, which has demonstrated to the most unwilling the superior might of Japan, has also succeeded in convincing some of the hostile critics of this much at least—that Japan believes in the essential justice of her own cause. Whatever extravagances have from time to time been manifest in public sentiment at home, whatever blots have here and there spotted the fair fame of the combatants abroad, no impartial observer can deny that throughout the combat the whole nation, from the EMPEROR, his Ministers, and his Generals, down to the privates of the army and the poorest coolies in the land, has been animated by an earnest conviction that Japan was waging a righteous war—and war is righteous only when it aims to prevent evils even greater than those great evils that it inevitably brings to pass. Like one man, and with the utmost sincerity of belief, the nation will echo the words of its EMPEROR: "WE were constrained to take up arms against China for no other reason than OUR desire to secure for the Orient an enduring peace."

The war was practically at an end, and China and Japan had come to an agreement as to the terms of a settlement. Whether those terms, as exhibited in the Treaty we publish to-day, would have been likely, in the absence of European interference, to further the permanent peace of the East, it would not now be profitable to discuss. Three great European Powers, conceiving their interests to be affected by the proposed cession, or believing, perhaps, as Japan believed of herself, that they were following higher calls than those of mere national self-interest, came forward and said, not simply that the proposed cession of territory was likely in the not remote future to prove a cause of war, but actually that they, the said Powers, were prepared here and now to regard it as such. Under these circumstances, Japan had no option but to give way, and she has done so in a manner that cannot fail to command respect in the eyes of the civilized world.

While, for our own part we think that the interference on the part of the three Powers was uncalled for, and even unjust, and while we regard the attitude of the English Government in standing aloof as much more commendable, we feel nevertheless that the loss of the disputed territory is likely to prove beneficial rather

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than injurious to Japan. In saying this, we are assuming, of course, that no one of the three European Powers concerned is going to take advantage of the affair to obtain for itself an extension of territory in the Far East, and that the conquered peninsula will shortly be restored to China. The peninsula has been exhausted and impoverished by the war, its proper development would cost considerable sums of money, for a long period there would be a risk of frontier troubles likely to eventuate in war, and the wealthy trade of the port of Newchwang would be almost entirely paralysed so long as the Chinese held the territory drained by the great river Liau. On the other hand, the education and the good government of Korea, and the conquest and the development of Formosa, are likely for many years to come to occupy fully the growing energies of Japan. Though we deprecate the time and the manner of the European interference, yet we are inclined to believe that it will in the end prove to have been advantageous to Japan.

There is one danger, however, and that a serious one, in the path. The Japanese are a proud people; deservedly proud, for they possess, and have proved to the world that they possess, many of the most essential qualities of national greatness. But pride uncontrolled by self-criticism, and more particularly wounded pride regardless of wider considerations of duty and common sense, may lead a man or a nation into dangerous places. At the present juncture it remains for the Japanese to show that among the other qualities of national greatness they possess those of sanity and stability; they must show that they are too wise to chafe against the inexorable limitations that circumstances impose upon all national as upon all individual aspirations. For dissatisfaction with the final outcome of the peace negotiations to lead to a widespread loss of confidence in the clear-headed statesmen who have, through many difficulties, conducted those negotiations to a successful issue, and for irritation at the limitations imposed by the irresistible pressure of a coalition of Foreign Powers to lead to an outburst of anti-foreign feeling, would indicate a petulance and a want of judgment unworthy of Japan, and would, to quote the closing words of the Imperial Rescript, seriously thwart the high aspirations of the Empire.

The residents of fifteen urban districts in Tokyo propose to unite in welcoming the Emperor. They intend to erect an exceedingly large arch in front of Shimbashi Station, and many others of smaller dimensions. They consider that the ordinary Imperial route from Shimbashi to the Palace is too short for the purpose, and intend to apply to the authorities to have the Imperial carriages pass through Ginza and Nihonbashi, and then cross the Tokiwa Bridge.

THE SHANGHAI "SPIES."

FROM some indirect references in vernacular newspapers to the fate of the two Japanese students, or "spies" as they were called, whose arrest in Shanghai a few months ago and subsequent delivery to the Chinese authorities excited so much comment, we learn that there still exists an uneasy feeling as to whether the unfortunate youths received all the protection that they might fairly have expected. Possessing trustworthy information upon this subject, we deem it advisable to state exactly what occurred, so far as the action of the United States Consulate-General was concerned. The Consul-General had received positive instructions to protect Japanese interests in Shanghai. Consequently, when the two Japanese students, having been arrested, were brought to the Consulate, and when their delivery was demanded by the Chinese Authorities, he required, first, that the charge against them be reduced to writing; secondly, that the tribunal for their trial be named; thirdly, that the means to be employed in conducting the prosecution and the examination of the accused should be described; and fourthly, that the Consul-General's right to record the evidence should be conceded. It was further added that the Consul-General did not claim the right to try the case himself, but only the right to secure a fair trial; which right was founded in China's assent to the residence of Japanese within her territories, and to the committal of their interests to American keeping. Further than this the Consul-General could not go. The question of guilt or innocence did not touch the cardinal issue, nor lie within the competence of the Consul to determine. It is to be noted that the men were under arrest when brought to the Consulate. Had not that been the case, then Mr. JERNIGAN would doubtless have sent them to Japan, but it was plainly impossible to do so under the circumstances without incurring the responsibility of aiding the escape of men already in the hands of the police. On what evidence or representations the Department of State in Washington acted, we are unable to say. But that it issued to the Consul-General in Shanghai peremptory instructions to deliver the accused, and that the Consul-General declined to deliver until the instructions were peremptory, may be accepted as certain. The Government in Washington had been distinctly told, we believe, that a suspicion only existed against the young men, and that the representations made by the Chinese Minister in Washington as to the character of the papers found in their possession, were misleading, if not actually untrue. But the surrender of their persons was unavoidable. If the administration of justice in China were in accord with the principles of Western jurisprudence, no doubt could ever have arisen in the public mind as to the right of the Chinese to arrest, detain, try, and punish foreigners charged with such an offence within China's dominions. But people naturally find it difficult to become reconciled to the notion of deliberately subjecting foreign suspects to the brutal methods of Chinese criminal procedure. How far a country's failure to satisfy civilized standards can be held to disqualify it for the treatment indicated by civilized international law, is a delicate problem never likely to be satisfactorily solved. But there remains always the broad and sound principle that men are free agents, and as such must accept the risks of whatever enterprises they undertake. The two Japanese students who died such a miserable death—if report speak truly—knew what was before them if they fell into Chinese hands. Yet they made the venture, never counting, of course, to be guaranteed against its worst consequences.

THE INDEMNITY AND EXCHANGE.

AN old resident of the East, whose opinions on financial questions have alway commanded the greatest respect, committed to paper, five months ago, his views with regard to the indemnity that China would have to pay Japan, the manner of payment, and the effect upon exchange. The statement has so much interest at the present juncture that we reproduce it in full:—"Probably the European money markets will be greatly affected by the indemnity which China will have to pay to Japan, unless China should borrow the money here which she will probable be unable to do. She can raise some hundreds of millions (dollars or taels) in China without great difficulty, and if Europeans are wise they will force her to do so. Her last borrowing here does not seem to be a very good operation for the lenders, the quotation being now 6 or more per cent. discount. She has nothing but her Customs duties to pledge as security. But these are already extensively pledged, and in case of a dynastic revolution (not unlikely) this security might disappear altogether. I would certainly not put money in a Chinese loan the proceeds of which were to be paid over to Japan. A loan for building railways would be safe, for the lenders might control the railway earnings, which would eventually be large. But railway development in China cannot be other than slow. It will begin soon if the dynasty survives the war, for only by such a process can the nation recover its place in the world. But it cannot proceed rapidly, for the Chinese cannot change their habits suddenly. If the present dynasty falls, there will be great confusion, which will probably outlast our time; and a *Chinese* dynasty would, I think, be hostile to all foreign innova- All liberal movement hitherto has

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originated with the Tartars, not with the Chinese. Any Government able to control China can gather in the country itself enough gold or silver to pay an unavoidable ransom, and I think this will have to be done, without recourse to Europe. Besides the Japanese will want *cash*, and Europe has no cash to lend. The *goods* which might possibly be borrowed would not answer the purpose. Japan will probably accept either gold or silver, or both, and China will probably pay in both, out of her stores or mines. The transference of the metals from Chinese to Japanese hands would not, in my opinion, have any great influence on Europe. We, and India, should get less gold then from China, but more from Japan; and we should always have to buy it at full market value, as we do now.

"The Japanese would probably sell their gold to Europe and India, as the Chinese now do. For, though Japan has a gold as well as a silver, standard, in theory, yet in fact silver is her real money, and I do not believe she would be so unwise as to change this condition of things even under the influence of a flood of the yellow metal from China. For it is under the Silver Standard that she has acquired her great position, and all her prosperity. If she had been tied to gold, as we are, I doubt if she would have felt able to make this war; for then her people would have suffered from the same fall in prices which produces so much distress in Europe and America. Indeed, the fall would have been greater to the extent of the Japanese demand for gold. As it is, Japan, being a silver country, has felt no serious fluctuations in prices, which remain there about what they were twenty years ago. The "scramble for gold" has not touched her, except in so far as it has given her splendid prices in silver for the gold she had to sell to Europe. Not only in this way has she (and China also) made some fine profits through our craze for the yellow metal, but she has profited in other ways also, *e.g.* by selling full crops of Silk, Tea, etc., at full former prices, notwithstanding the fall here in the gold prices of her products, the favourable exchange counter-balancing this fall almost entirely. Secondly, her industries and manufactures have been largely and rapidly developed by the same cause, and she is even competing successfully with Europe in lines of production which nothing but her silver money has enabled her to undertake. Thirdly, she buys most (nearly all) her Imports at no higher prices in silver than before. It is true she has to pay gold for these Imports, and that gold is very dear. But this very dearness of gold makes the cost of these Imports so low that when they reach Japan they can be sold for the old prices in silver, or even less.

"That the shrewd and clever people of Japan should give up all these clear advantages for the sake of imitating Germany or any foreign country, or for the sake of having a gold currency, which would be useless to them and would only entangle Japan in the industrial and other disorders that now trouble Europe and the United States, I do not believe. If they do it, I shall think that their military successes have altogether turned their heads. If they maintain their good sense, as I have no doubt they will, they will sell, or store away as war treasure, the gold they may get from China, and turn the silver into circulation to strengthen their Banks, stimulate their industries, and develop their commerce—much of it will probably go into new men-of-war, arsenals, docks, railways, coasting steamers, etc., all which will contribute to make Japan more and more independent of Europe. So much of the fertilizing flood of money as goes to the people will no doubt help them to buy more foreign goods and luxuries, but it will also tend to develop their own home productions. On the whole, I think that the approaching transfer of a large sum of China's money or wealth to Japan will have but a slight and very gradual effect on affairs in Europe. Some orders for ships, machinery, iron and other goods will come here, no doubt, but before long the Japanese will be able to produce most or all of these things at home, and then all influence of the indemnity money on Europe will cease.

"As to China, the effect of a large payment to Japan cannot, as I have already intimated, be so clearly seen. The Chinese are individually poor, perhaps; but, as a whole, China is a rich country, and, if revolution be avoided, she may be able to hand over a good big sum without any great inconvenience. The Russian people were very poor before, and just after, the Crimean War, which cost than perhaps as much money as China would have to disgorge. And the taxes in Russia consequent on that war were at first very hard to bear. But they operated to spur the people, and in a few years afterwards, Russia became more prosperous than she ever was before. A similar thing may, and ought to, happen in China, where the people are naturally more inclined to industry than the Russians are. If it does happens so, China may find her present discomfiture a blessing in disguise, and soon be stronger and richer than ever. Great wars often have such effects. It was so to some extent in France after her Napoleonic wars and after her war with Austria in '59, and it was so to a very great extent in the United States after the Civil war. The frightful cost of that great struggle would long ago have been buried out of sight if the marvellous activity and prosperity which immediately followed it had not been insanely checked after 1873 by the adoption of the gold standard, which has had the effect of adding to the weight of the country's public and corporate indebtedness almost as much and as fast as was paid up upon it, and of impoverishing agricultural producers to such an extent that now they can hardly buy even the necessaries of life, and are forced to consume so little of other things that other producers (manufacturers, etc.), cannot find sale for their products, while labourers are only half employed and are loud and fierce in their clamours for work and maintenance.

"I hope that neither Japan in her prosperity, nor China in her adversity and need of effort, will be so foolish as to get themselves into a similar predicament for the sake of imitating us."

VISCOUNT TANI ON NATIONAL DEFENCE.

THE opinions of Viscount TANI on this important topic are set forth at some length in the vernacular press, and they deserve careful attention from all those that wish to understand the views likely to be taken at this crisis by the most intelligent section of the Japanese public. It is obvious, says the Viscount, that the measures necessary for the defence of the Empire are still far from being complete; and one of the most pressing needs for Japan at this moment is to bring these measures to a successful issue. The degree of strength necessary to enable Japan to present a firm front to her possible enemies cannot be determined without the most careful consideration. At the outset we may ask whether an aggressive policy is, for Japan, an essential part of any complete scheme of national defence. No elaborate exposition is needed to show that such a policy is incompatible with the resources of the country, and that the only judicious course for Japan is to confine her ideas to the maintenance of a purely defensive armament. At the present time, hot-headed men are accustomed to brag about the necessity for Japan of annexing the entire Chinese Empire: such idle boasts serve merely to arouse suspicions in the minds of foreign Powers, and should be avoidded by those that have their country's true interests at heart.

Having determined that an aggressive scheme of armament is entirely unsuited to Japan, we have next to determine the degree of strength necessary for successful defence of the Empire. Many advocate that Japan should have a force capable of coping with three or four European Powers at once, since an emergency might conceivably arise in which some such hostile coalition might be formed against Japan: but it is hardly possible to suppose that the resources of Japan are adequate to the maintenance of such a force as this would require. Even in Europe no Power can be pointed out strong enough to stand against three or four of the other Powers combined. How much more impossible would it be to defy such a hostile coalition

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when the country standing alone was, as Japan now is, already exhausted by war, while the Powers forming the coalition were fresh and ready for the fray. For a nation to resolve to fight under such circumstances, it must either be extremely brave or infatuated by fury.

In order, then, wisely to determine upon a scheme of defence, it is necessary first of all to take into account the resources of the nation. In Japan, the points requiring immediate attention are the building and the manning of forts, and an increase in the strength of the navy. Many appear to hold the opinion that the navy should be increased to a gross tonnage of 200,000 tons. But, says the Viscount, if the object is merely defensive, there is no necessity for so large an increase. Not only is such an increase unnecessary; it is almost beyond the resources of Japan. Men-of-war become rapidly worn and out-of-date; and in order to keep a navy of 200,000 tons fit for effective service, not less than 100,000 tons of shipping must be built every year. This alone would necessitate an annual expenditure of six or seven million *yen*. The maintenance of a navy of 200,000 tons would cost about sixteen million *yen*; and thus, when we add the cost of new ships, the total annual cost of the navy would be not less than twenty-three million *yen*. At the present time the cost of the army is about twelve million *yen* a year. The combined cost of the army and the navy would then total nearly half the entire revenue of the country. Can any true statesman advocate so enormous an appropriation for unproductive expenditure? Is such an expenditure compatible with the resources of the country?

The Viscount goes further. Not merely would such an increase of the navy as that contemplated cripple the country by its cost; it would further, being taken as an index of an aggressive policy on the part of Japan, arouse suspicion among in the European Powers. War must be avoided whenever possible; and it is especially necessary that at the conclusion of a war a belligerent, even if victorious, should avoid arousing fresh enmity.

When a war is in prospect it is expedient for the intending belligerents to form secret alliances with other Powers. There are many instances of such alliances in modern European history. It was owing to her want of any such secret assistance that Russia, at the conclusion of the Russo-Turkish war, was compelled to forego the greater part of the gains she had expected to reap from her conquest. If those who shape the foreign policy of Japan are adroit, there can be no necessity, thinks Viscount TANI, to maintain in time of peace any extraordinary force likely to cause an unbearable drain on the resources of the nation. Defence is merely subsidiary to economic development, and the task of vital importance for Japan to-day is to seek to develop to the utmost the resources of the country.

CORRESPONDENCE.

A BREACH OF NEUTRALITY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—In one of your leading articles in a recent issue of the *Mail* you say:—"The demonstration approvingly attributed by our Tokyo contemporary to the crew of a United States man-of-war was a flagrant breach of neutrality." Do you, Sir, honestly believe this? Do you believe that when brave men applaud brave men, as the American crew did the Japanese at Yin-kow, they are to be condemned for a simple outburst of impulsive sentiment? If this is your conception of a "flagrant" breach of neutrality, Americans will have to revise their notions of neutrality, and take to heart the still graver breach of the American Captain, who assisted an English man-of-war on no better ground than that "blood is thicker than water," a reference to which was cheered by Englishmen in London some time ago when Captain Mahan mentioned it.

Yours, &c., G. D.

[Yes, we do believe that the conduct ascribed to the crew of the United States man-of-war was a flagrant breach of neutrality. That a similar instance had previously occurred does not alter our view.—ED. *J. M.*]

SYMPATHY VERSUS NEUTRALITY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Your recent editorial on the "authentic and accurate accounts" of the incidents after the battle of Newchwang leaves no room to doubt your patriotism. The noble sentiment,

This is my own, my native land,

has evidently not been deadened by years of absence and active duties in behalf of the welfare of another people; therefore your condemnation of the spontaneous exhibition of sympathy by the officers and crew of the American man-of-war and your approval of the non-committal silence of the British warship are most natural; but circumstances alter cases, or in your own appropriate words, "circumstances are the chief determinant of international conduct everywhere"—and I thank God for the moral bravery of those men from

the Land of the free and the home of the brave,

that made them dare to cheer to the echo those victorious troops who represented, at that supreme moment, the triumph of unprecedented progress, in what we are pleased to call 19th century civilization, over barbaric superciliousness and retrogressive conservatism. That spontaneous burst of enthusiastic sympathy would do more to impress "national bigness" than the fact that Japan could not move without touching "lying English tradesmen or without seeing British flags sold" to shelter their foes. And yet, while France seizes Madagascar and Russia claws at Armenia and every European nation divides up the home of the negroes, heroic Japan is forbidden to claim her rights as victor! Her achievements have benefitted commerce and civilisation and have revealed to the selfish world the weakness of her giant neighbour. To those occupied districts definite possession by Japan meant the establishment of law and order, schools and progress, instead of gross ignorance, superstition and demoralization. And now, forsooth, lest amicable relations should be established between conqueror and conquered, all Europe again protests and declares the Occident is menaced by a fraternity of interests in the Orient! That the restless hordes of that unhappy, misgoverned land, who forever plot to assassinate its autocratic ruler, may want to sweep across the Amoor River into Manchuria, is the accepted idea of the future; but the strip of the Liautung Peninsula, won by valour and despite of hardships, is forbidden to the island heroes of the Pacific!

It has been Japan's destiny to go forward, and it is her work to arouse and teach the sluggish Orient by conquest and by example. If she continues as she has begun, her destiny *is not to be thwarted*, even should all the armed flotillas of the world assemble in the blue waters of the Pacific:

For the might with the right and the truth shall be,
And come what there may
To stand in the way,
That day the world shall see!

I remain, yours truly,

AN AMERICAN WOMAN.

Tokyo, May 13th, 1895.

MR. COWEN AND THE ARMY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—There have been so many absurd stories about this war, and even wild fantasies fabricated by correspondents at the front in reference to their confrères, that it is out of the question to trace and expose them all, especially since they mostly do not matter much in the end. But there is one American story which may seriously mislead the Japanese and cause a great deal of trouble if not contradicted. It appears in a recent issue of the San Francisco *Chronicle*, quoted by the *Japan Mail*, to the effect that my published reports had drawn forth angry remonstrances from the Japanese officers with whom I had to deal—so angry, in fact, that my interpreter did not dare to tell me the whole truth; and that the modified version impressed me so deeply that I promised never to offend again; and that I did in fact alter my tone under official pressure.

Nothing of the sort ever occurred. I have never heard a word of official remonstrance with respect to anything that had appeared in print from me. Prior to publication, one of my Weihaiwei letters, in which I mentioned that the bad water supply and sanitation of the army threatened to cause a pestilence as soon as warm weather should come, was brought back to me with a request to embody in it certain additional facts, and that is all. This was the only case in which there was ever anything in the nature of a remonstrance—and now summer has brought pestilence more destructive than the whole of the actual fighting. As for my interpreter, he was not present just then; I had not seen him for a week, and the last time I wanted him he was deeply engrossed in the investigation of some newly-discovered Samshu or Kaoliang spirit, and when at last he did reappear it was with a black eye acquired in a drunken quarrel.

Whatever be the origin of the story about the angry remonstrances, whether it was the alcoholic illusion of my faithful attaché, or merely an American invention, a "Yankee notion," it does not matter to me, nor probably to the American paper. But for the sake of the Japanese officials it should be pointed out that they are not so childish as this story implies. They know well enough that it would do no good. It is a little unfortunate that the people have not all the same sense (though of course it would be wonderful if they had); they have given way to a not unnatural but very unwise passion of petulance, which kept the sore from healing. The Government ought not to be accused of doing the same. What I see I write, and it would be an insult to ask any responsible newspaper correspondent to do otherwise. His opinions of what he sees are quite another matter, more elastic; they may vary with circumstances, they may soften with time. They naturally become more pronounced when violently attacked. To accuse a Government, or an officer representing it, of bullying or cajoling, to accuse the leading journal in the world of yielding to such paltry pressure or of making most important statements so carelessly that they need to be swallowed at once—to circulate these accusations on the second-hand authority of a drunken good-for-nothing, is not journalism. As long as the lie is left to circulate in the wilds of California it does no harm, but when it is discovered and made public in the outer world, then it must be gently but firmly suppressed.

Yours faithfully, T. COWEN,
The Times Correspondent.

Kobe, 6th May, 1894.

JAPAN BREWERY COMPANY, LTD.

The annual general meeting of shareholders in the Japan Brewery Company, Limited, was held on Monday afternoon at the Brewery. There were present, Mr. J. Dodds (Chairman), Messrs. H. Baelz, W. Gordon, A. B. Walford, J. D. Hutchison, C. W. Ure, W. R. Bennett, H. Heckert (Brewer), and Jas. Stewart (Secretary).

The CHAIRMAN said that the meeting was held a little late this year owing principally to his illness. He would ask the Secretary to read the notice calling the meeting.

The SECRETARY having read the notice,

The CHAIRMAN said:—Gentlemen, according to the notice just read by our Secretary, this is the ordinary annual meeting of shareholders called to receive the report and accounts for the year ended 31st March last. These having been in your hands for some days, I will, with your permission, consider them as read, and suggest that we should similarly deal with the minutes of the last general meeting, which appeared in due course in the local newspapers. In now formally moving from the Chair the adoption of the report and accounts submitted to you, I hope you will consider it a favourable one, although it is not so good as the very considerable increase in the business of the Company had led the Board to hope they would have been able to make. The profits

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of the increased business had unfortunately to suffer largely from the high gold price of malt and hops, especially of the latter, and from the very low rate of exchange ruling for a considerable part of the year. Looking to the future, it is pleasant for me to be able to state that our business still shows a steadily increasing tendency, and this not in any particular direction only, but all round; that is, in sales in this country as well as local and export sales: whilst the prices of malt and hops are lower than before last year's arise, and exchange may be said to look more hopeful—although on this latter point prophecy is dangerous. Our chief brewer, Mr. Heckert, whose long experience with the Brewery, and whose recognized ability entitles his opinion to the greatest weight, already assured us last summer that our cellarage and storage capacity was inadequate for the business we were doing, if our Beer was to be put on the market in the matured condition necessary to maintain the high reputation that he is justly proud of its having acquired. We hesitated to take action at that time, owing to the uncertainty which existed as to the effects and outcome of the struggle in which this country had just entered. As events have turned out, we might have done better not to have been quite so cautious. The question now is how to obtain the necessary funds for this increased cellerage, with complement of storage vats, and the directors' proposal is to call in the present issue of debentures and to make a new issue to the amount of $100,000, the whole of which it may not actually be necessary to raise at once. These we propose to issue at 104, the price our debentures now command in the market, and to give the existing holders the option of taking one new debenture for each old one, or of being paid off at par. By the terms of the existing debentures, we are bound to give six months notice of their intended redemption. The new issue consequently can not be placed for six months. We think that the new debentures should be allotted in order of application, and that it would be well in carrying out this idea to open an application list at once at the Secretary's office, each application being accompanied by a small deposit of say $10 on each debenture applied for, which would bear interest at 7 per cent. Full particulars will, however, be given shortly. I may mention that this issue is made under special powers conferred on the directors at an extraordinary general meeting of shareholders held on the 21st November, 1892, and confirmed at another meeting held on the 12th December, 1892, so that no further authorization is necessary. The Kyoto Exhibition is, as you are aware, now open, and we have taken steps not only to have the Brewery well represented amongst the exhibits, but to have the Beer itself available to consumers on draught at a suitably constructed pavilion in the Exhibition grounds. As the season advances we hope this bar may be well patronized and so extend the reputation of our beer. The accounts do not, I think, call for any special explanation. Coal has been considerably higher in price owing to the war; salaries and wages have slightly increased owing to the larger business done, and for this reason the figures, discounts, commission and advertising, are considerably greater. The charges account, owing to circumstances which were unavoidable, but in great part quite exceptional, is unusually high. During the year, our staff has remained the same, with the exception of Mr. Enders, the assistant brewer, whose contract expired on the 14th August, 1894. His successor is Mr. von Mann, who has come to us with high testimonials, and we are pleased to believe that we have been fortunate in the selection made to fill the vacancy. The Directors have pleasure in recommending the re-election of Mr. Schwabe as auditor; and I will now again formally propose the passing of the report and accounts, the former carrying with it the distribution of the profits for the year, as therein proposed.

REPORT.

The Directors have the pleasure to present herewith the Accounts of the Company for the business year ended 31st March, 1895.

They are pleased to report that the sales of the past year are much in excess of any previous year. Unfortunately, however, the prices of Malt and Hops in Germany were considerably higher, while at the same time the average Exchange on the gold payments that had to be made, showed a loss of over 10 per cent. as compared with last year.

The Directors believe that the prospects of the Company have never been better than at present, for the reasons that the sales show a steady tendency to further develop; the home prices of Malt and Hops have fallen by more than the previous rise; and Exchange has recovered somewhat from the very low figure of about 1/0½ at which it for some time ruled.

They deem the present cellarage at the Brewery to be insufficient for the Company's requirements, and they recommend its *immediate* enlargement. To effect this object funds are necessary, and the Directors propose to obtain them by paying off the present issue of Debentures, and making a new issue to the extent of $100,000; the price of issue to be 104,—each $100 Debenture holder of the present issue to have the option of being paid off at par, or of receiving a Debenture of the new issue in exchange for one of the old.

The working account for the year shows a profit of $17,605.81 which, added to the sum of $829.18 brought forward from last year, makes a total of $18,434.99. Deducting from this the Interim Dividend of 4 per cent., absorbing $6,000, which was paid on 18th October, 1894, a balance is left of $12,434.99, which the Directors propose to dispose of as follows:—

In payment of a final Dividend of 4 per cent.	$ 6,000.00
In payment of Directors' and Auditor's fees	1,250.00
In payment of Bonus to Brewer and other Employés...	2,120.85
Balance to carry forward to year 1895-6	3,064.14
	$12,434.99

The retiring Directors are Messrs. Shibusawa and Gordon, but they, being eligible, offer themselves for re-election. The Directors regret, however, to have lost Mr. D. Fraser from their Board on his leaving Japan. They have appointed Mr. J. D. Hutchison to fill the vacancy thus created.

By order of the Board of Directors,
JAMES STEWART, Secretary.

Yokohama, May 7th, 1895.

GENERAL BALANCE SHEET FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH, 1895.

LIABILITIES.—DR.

To 1,500 Shares at $200 each fully up	$250,000.00
To 500 Debentures at $200 each...	50,000.00
To Reserve Fund	11,268.56
To Reserve Fund Special	12,475.76
To Prize Fund	247.83
To Bills payable: £2,570 5 2 @ 2/1½...	84,190.67
To Hongkong and Shanghai Bank	13,966.22
To Sundry Creditors	11,734.00
To Balance of Profit and Loss Account...	12,434.99
	$388,227.43

ASSETS.—CR.

By Landed Property and Buildings thereon...	$ 62,956.21
By Machinery in operation	52,091.52
By Plant, Casks, and Vats, and Corking and other Machines	32,906.55
By Working Stores, Malt, Hops, &c.	22,807.06
By Stock of Beer and Bottles	67,056.90
By Coal	12.00
By House and Office Furniture	537.81
By Petty Cash	80
By Fire Insurance Policies Current...	430.72
By Suspense Account	56.35
By Hakaru Isono Loan Account	6,853.10
By Sundry Debtors...	42,369.41
	$388,227.43

WORKING ACCOUNT.

DR.—March 31st, 1895.

To Interest...	$ 4,484.86
To Coal	4,857.00
To Ground Rent	324.84
To Fire Insurance	1,788.98
To Salaries and Wages	27,222.12
To Charges, etc.	7,956.72
To Wear and Tear...	2,305.53
To Discounts, Commission, and Advertising	35,188.87
To Balance to Profit and Loss Account...	17,605.81
	$ 91,930.48

CR.—March 31st, 1895.

By Waste Grains	$ 279.50
By Profit on Brewing Account	91,650.98
	$ 91,930.48

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.

DR.—March 31st, 1895.

To Interim Dividend paid 18th October, 1894	$ 6,000.00
To Balance...	12,434.99
	$ 18,434.99

CR.—March 31st, 1895.

By Balance from year, 1893/4	$ 829.18
By Working Account year, 1894/5	17,605.81
	$ 18,434.99

JAMES STEWART, Secretary.

I have examined the foregoing accounts and compared them with the Books, Vouchers, and Securities in the possession of the Company, and find them to be correct,
R. S. SCHWABE, Auditor.

Mr. URE asked if he was right in understanding that shareholders gave up their present debentures for debentures issued at 104, or were they issued at par.

The CHAIRMAN—They will get a new one in exchange for the old one of the same value. The debentures may be increased to their full amount, or it may not be necessary to raise so much.

Mr. URE—Thank you.

The CHAIRMAN then put the proposition—that the report and accounts be adopted—to the meeting, and it was carried unanimously.

The CHAIRMAN then announced that the election of an auditor was the next business before the meeting. The directors had pleasure in recommending the re-election of Mr. Schwabe. He had been connected with the Company since its first start, and was a highly capable officer.

The show of hands was unanimously in favour of Mr. Schwabe's re-appointment, and he was declared duly elected.

Mr. URE raised the question of paying fees for registering debenture bonds. At present it was 50 cents per bond, and this charge he thought excessive and prohibitive. He knew of one company which made no charge at all. It was a simple matter, however, and could be easily arranged. Another point was the charging of the transfer fee to the transferor. This made the fee most difficult for brokers to collect.

The CHAIRMAN said that Mr. Gordon, one of the Directors, reminded him that the subject had been fully considered by the Directors at several of their meetings, and they did not consider the fee either excessive or prohibitive. One reason why they charged a fee was because the Company considered that in registering they accepted a certain responsibility, as they then had a right, if occasion should arise, to enquire into the legal title of the holder. Still, he thought that the fee was one of those little things that the Company might now well drop.

Mr. URE said he had merely brought up the subject because his attention had been frequently drawn to it by people. When 20 bonds had to be registered there was a charge of $20 upon them for registration fees, and many had told him that had they known of this they would not have bought the bonds. It was equivalent to a charge of ½ per cent. on the bonds.

The CHAIRMAN said that in regard to the transfer fee being paid by the transferor, it was in accordance with their Articles of Association, and they could not act contrary to them. No doubt several of their Articles of Association were contrary to the general practice, but they must abide by them. Many things which experience had taught them in regard to the constitution of the Company in the Articles of Association might well be altered to better suit the requirements of the business, and the matter might well become a subject for discussion at a future meeting.

Mr. URE then proposed the re-election of the retiring Directors, Messrs. Shibusawa Eiichi and W. Gordon, and the confirmation of the appointment of Mr. Hutchison upon the board to fill the vacany caused by the departure of Mr. Donald Fraser.

Mr. BENNETT seconded.—Carried.

Mr. WALFORD asked for what term the new debentures were to run.

The CHAIRMAN said that that was a subject which would come up for determination of the Directors meeting on the morrow.

Mr. WALFORD—You say that we shall have to pay 104 for the new debentures, but in six months time you may call them in at 100, at par.

The CHAIRMAN—That would not be fair. I don't think the debentures would be likely to be issued on those terms. We shall announce the terms of the issue as soon as possible. With reference to the present debentures, I have one here bearing date of 1st Feb., 1893, and the conditions are that it shall not be called in by the Directors until 31st December, 1894, and then there must be six months notice of our intention of doing so.

Mr. WALFORD—Were the first lot issued at par.

Mr. BAEHR—No, some of them were issued at a premium.

Mr. WALFORD—I would suggest that five years be a reasonable time for them to run.

Mr. GORDON said that the needs of the business, which were continually increasing, might demand far larger capital than they had at present, long before the five years were up. As it was, $50,000 of the new debentures would have to go in cellerage.

The CHAIRMAN thanked Mr. Walford for his suggestion, which should receive the attention of the Board, and the meeting dispersed.

YOKOHAMA FIRE BRIGADE.

The annual meeting of the subscribers to the Yokohama Fire Brigade was held at the Fire-station on Wednesday afternoon. There were present, Mr. Jas. Dodds, in the Chair, Mr. H. Baehr, Mr. Jas. Walter, Mr. J. P. Mollison, and Mr. J. D. Hutchison, hon. sec. and treas.

The CHAIRMAN said that as so few were present, the meeting could be but one of mere form; it was called for the adoption of the report and passing of the statement of accounts. These were upon the table before them and he presumed he could take them as read. He formally moved the adoption of the report and the passing of the accounts, and in doing so could only say that the Brigade during the past year had worked admirably well; all the plant, engines, and buildings were in perfect order; while the committee had every satisfaction with the way in which Superintendent Morgin had carried out his work.—(Hear, hear.)

Mr. BAEHR seconded the Chairman's proposal, and upon being put to the meeting it was carried unanimously.

The CHAIRMAN—The only other business before us is the election of the committee. The old committee were Messrs. James Dodds, J. D. Hutchison, C. K. Marshall Martin, J. P. Mollison, W. J. S. Shand, James Walter, and W. B. Walter.

Mr. BAEHR said the old committee had brought the affairs of the Brigade into such an excellent condition that he thought they should be asked to serve again.

The CHAIRMAN—I have not heard that any of the old committee decline to serve again, and I take

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it that the absence of Subscribers to-day gives, negatively, assurance that their work has caused satisfaction.

There being no other proposition, the old committee were re-elected.

Mr. J. D. HUTCHISON (hon. sec. and treas.) mentioned that all the subscribers of the past year had contributed the same subscription this—which might be taken as proof of their satisfaction with the old Committee. With the exception of one particular company, which was in liquidation, there had been no falling off in subscribers.

The meeting then terminated.

REPORT.

REMARKS ON ACCOUNTS.

Total Income for 1894 shows a falling off of $418.49. Policy fees amounted to only $1,786.50 against $2,-121.99, while the annual contributions from Insurance Offices were $3,105.00 against $3,185.00 for the previous year. The latter reduction is accounted for by the closing of two Agencies at this port.

Disbursements amount to $5,831.20. This sum includes $1,072.81 on Capital account, covering chiefly balances of contracts entered into during '93, for new Engine Station and Fire Well and for alterations to buildings on the Fire Brigade Compound. The Working Account shows a total increase of only $59.-35 although the Bluff Brigade Station expenses were $300 against $25.00 for one month during the previous year.

WATCHMEN AND PATROL.

The usual look-out has been kept at the top of the Bell tower, and the settlement patrol thoughout the whole twelve months have gone their regular rounds.

FIRES.

During the year, the Brigade attended in all twenty-seven Calls; in the Settlement thirteen, on the Bluff four, in the native town nine, and one on board a vessel in harbour. Two of the Calls were found to be false alarms. In addition to the Hydrants it was found necessary to make use of the Steamers at most of the fires in the Settlement, and in several cases there the fires were only prevented from taking serious hold of other buildings by the well directed efforts of the Brigade under Superintendent Morgin.

On the Bluff the usual scarcity of water has been a serious drawback, but the small engines stationed in the Public Hall compound have done good work in saving adjoining dwellings, and have proved well worth the additional expense attached to keeping up the small station.

The following report has been handed in by Superintendent Morgin:—

GENTLEMEN,—I have the honour to present the following report of the work of the Yokohama Fire Brigade during the year 1895.

The number of calls for Fires, or supposed Fires, have amounted during the year to 27, of these in the Settlement 7 ended in total destruction, 4 buildings were slightly damaged, and 2 proved to be false alarms. On Bluff 4 ended in total destruction of buildings. In Native town 9 ended in total destruction, with losses 1,157 houses. In the harbour, assistance was sent off to a German Steamer, which was found to be seriously on fire. The causes, as reported, were as follow, viz.:—

SETTLEMENT.	
Doubtful	5
Unknown	2
False Alarm	2
Lamp Upset	1
Sparks	1
Over heating of Stove	1
Curtains coming in contact with candlelight	1
BLUFF.	
Doubtful	1
Defective Flue	1
Unknown	1
Lamp Upset	1
NATIVE TOWN.	
Doubtful	3
Unknown	3
Lamp Upset	2
Sparks	1
On steamer	1
Total	27

The figures above only refer to calls which involved the turning out of the Firemen, Fire Engines, Hose Reels, &c., belonging to the Yokohama Fire Brigade.

I beg to place on record that we have on several occasions received valuable assistance from men-of-war in port. Also that the Fire Brigade have worked most amicably with the Police and Water Works authorities. I would also mention that great credit is due to Mr. S. Ikariyama, Inspector in charge of Bluff Police Station, and his men for the valuable assistance at all times rendered at fires on the Bluff during the year.

I have the honour to be, your obedient servant,

N. MORGIN,
Superintendent Y.F.B.

COMMITTEE.

The present committee, consisting of Messrs. James Dodds, J. D. Hutchison, C. K. Marshall Martin, J. P. Mollison, W. J. S. Shand, James Walter, and W. B. Walter, now beg respectfully to tender their resignations.

LIST OF FIRES DURING THE PAST YEAR.

FIRES IN SETTLEMENT.

8th Jan.	...Settlement Police Station, Damage slight.	
23th Jan.	...No. 145 (Chinese), 2 houses destroyed.	
8th Mar.	...No. 128, Livery Stables, slight.	
23th Apr.	...No. 134, 6 small houses destroyed.	
29th Apr.	...No. 166 (Chinese). Outhouses entirely destroyed.	
29th May	...No. 131 (Chinese), 7 houses destroyed.	
23th June	...No. 108, 1 Dwelling destroyed.	
22nd July	...No. 146 (Chinese), 1 Dwelling destroyed.	
2nd Aug.	...No. 60 (Main Street), 2 Stores and 1 Godown badly damaged.	
7th Oct.	...No. 70, a Storied Dwelling and Offices partly destroyed.	
19th Nov.	...No. 87, Oriental Hotel entirely destroyed.	

FIRES ON BLUFF.

3rd Jan.	...No. 10, 1 Dwelling house entirely destroyed.	
29th Jan.	...No. 216, Momban's house entirely destroyed.	
25th July	...No. 103, 2 Dwelling houses destroyed.	
24th Nov.	...No. 24, 1 Bungalow destroyed.	

FIRES IN JAPANESE TOWN.

2nd Feb.	...Yeirakucho	70/80	houses entirely destroyed.
3rd Feb.	...Okinacho	7	do.
2nd Apr.	...Yeirakucho	40	do.
17th June	...Honmura, about	1,000	do.
7th July	...Ogicho, Ichome	4	do.
6th Aug.	...Isezakicho, Ichome	5	do.
25th Aug.	...Otamachi	4	do.
1st Dec.	...Onoye-cho, about	26	do.
19th Dec.	...Onoye-cho, about	80	do.
2nd Dec.	...Fire on board steamer *Irene*, Steamer and cargo badly damaged.		

THE YOKOHAMA FIRE BRIGADE IN ACCOUNT CURRENT WITH THE HON SECRETARY AND TREASURER.

1894. CAPITAL EXPENDITURE.—DR.

To Cost of New Engine Station for Settlement, on Lot No. 251	$3,740.60		
Less paid during 1893	3,640.00	$100.60	
To Extras, Shelves for Hose, &c., &c.		81.80	
To New gas pipes, fittings, &c., &c.		38.00	$ 221.40
To Cost of Fire Escape from Merryweather & Sons, London	£46.8.11		
Less paid in 1893	£36.0.00		
£10.8.11 @ 2/6d		101.23	
To Customs duty of Fire Escape		38.57	119.86
To Cost of new Fire Well on Lot 238	$570.00		
Less paid during 1893	232.00		338.00
To Repairs and alterations to out-buildings, new cesspools, painting Hydrant number, &c.			393.55
			$1,072.81

WORKING EXPENDITURE.

To Wages Supt. Kipling, 3 months at £16.13.4 per month	$ 483.13	
To Wages Supt. Morgin, 9 months at $100 per month	900.00	
To Wages European Engineer, 12 months at $25 per month	2,000.00	
To Wages European Forman, paid during the year	350.00	
To Wages, 3 Japanese Engineer Assts. 12 months at $14.00 per month	252.00	
To Wages, Japanese Engineer, [redacted] months at $14.00 per month	168.00	
To Wages, Japanese Foreman, 12 months at $7.00 per month	84.00	
To Wages, 2 Watchmen on Tower 12 months at [redacted] each per month	192.00	
To Wages Patrol men: 6 at $4.65 per mo. for 3 mos. $ 83.70 4 at 7.90 per mo. for 9 mos. 252.00	335.70	
To Wages, 1 Foreman and 2 Firemen and Oil for Bluff Station at $15 per m/s.	300.00	
To Clothing and uniforms for Firemen	273.60	
To Coals, Oil, Firewood, sundries and extra Coolie hire after fires	122.88	
To Gratuity to old Momban on leaving on account of sickness	25.00	
		485.49
		$6,316.78

1894. CR.

Jan. 1.	By Balance from 1893		$1,375.80
Dec. 31.	By Subscriptions collected from Fire Offices for the year	$3,105.00	
	By Policy fees collected during the year	1,786.50	4,891.50
	By Amount received from Supt. Kipling, petty cash on hand		12.43
	By Value of old block sold		6.00
	By Interested received from H. & S. Bank		31.07
			$6,316.78

E. & O. E.
Yokohama, December 31st, 1894.

J. D. HUTCHISON,
Hon. Sec. and Treasurer.

Compared with vouchers and found correct.

W. J. S. SHAND.

YOKOHAMA SPRING REGATTA.

By strange perversity, fate seems to be particularly disagreeable in regard to climatic arrangements upon Regatta days. Surely by this time the Clerk of the Weather should know to a nicety what weather he ought to send upon such an occasion: but if he knows he certainly does not care to attend to the beseeching prayers of Regatta Committees more than once out of a dozen times. And therein he can not be considered a gentleman. For ladies like to grace Regattas, lending their cheering sympathy to the competitors, encouraging manly chivalry and heroic endeavour, while adding many a dainty dash of colour with frock or hat, or bonnet, to the sombre-hued surroundings of the Club-house verandah. Saturday was not a ladies' day by any means—leaden clouds, which anon changed to sheets of driving rain, being present the whole time—but the Yokohama Amateur Rowing Club had a large attendance of fair friends from a very early hour. It was a pity that the example of punctuality set by the lady guests was not, or could not be—we hardly know which—observed in starting the different events. A crowd of coal hulks first of all anchored down right in the fairway opposite the creek. By the time these had been "moved-on" by force of gentle suasion, an hour had been lost, and the fugitive was never recovered. And this led to the most unpleasant *contretemps* of the day. The Imperial University of Tokyo, accepting the Club's challenge, came down from the capital with a six-oared crew and boat. By some misunderstanding the competitors were sent down to the starting point, a mile below the Boat-house, fully one hour too soon. At three o'clock, the time fixed for the race, they were ready to start, but as all the other events were an hour behind, the Rowing Club's representatives were not ready. Patiently the collegians waited; then the rain came on, and the sea became more choppy between the gusts of the rising blow. Under the circumstances, the best conclusion that could be arrived at was to return to the shelter of the land and abandon the race. This was done. We hope, however, that another day can be arranged for this race. It should be of great interest, for the Japanese crew were rowing in splendid form, setting a good swing, and putting life into their boat. Another event, the Single Sculls, for the Ladies Purse, had also to be postponed owing to the roughness of the water. All the other races were got off, but none were of absorbing interest, save the Scratch Fours, which occasioned a splendid spurt just at the finish. During the afternoon, congratulations and good wishes were telegraphed to Kobe, which was also holding a Regatta, and in reply Mr. Franklin of Kobe wired:—"Thanks for good wishes, the K.R. and A.C. reciprocate most heartily." The Town Band gave the following selections in the course of the afternoon, and their services were much appreciated by the many dancers, who thus happily whiled away the tedium of a wet and cheerless day.

PROGRAMME OF MUSIC.

March ..... "The Liberty Bell" ..... J. P Sousa.
Overture ..... "Dichter el dauer" ..... Suppé.
Fantasie ..... Zikoff.

DANCING.

1.—Waltz ..... "Carmen."
2.—Waltz ..... "Blue Violet."
3.—Polka ..... "Nettchen."
4.—Schottische ..... "Inter Pocula."
5.—Waltz ..... "White Rose."
6.—Two Step ..... "Washington Post."
7.—Waltz ..... "See-Saw."
8.—Lancers ..... "Patience."
9.—Polka ..... "Rival."
10.—Waltz ..... "Donau Wellen."
11.—Waltz ..... "My Queen."
12.—Galop ..... "Crimson Scarf."

The wet afternoon had its compensation in a most magnificent sunset, presage of the perfect day which came on the morrow. The golds and reds of the western sky were more flamboyant than is usual at this period of the year, though the heavy black clouds which hung on the horizon doubtless heightened the effect considerably. Details of the races:—

CLUB FOURS.—1 Mile.

	WHITE BOAT.—1	BLUE BOAT.—2
Bw.	R. C. Ross, 136lb.	A. L. Bouffier, 110lb.
2.	C. V. Schmidt, 126lb.	G. C. Allcock, 146lb.
3.	W. Schmädecke, 161lb.	H. Pinckney, 186lb.
St.	H. S. Goddard, 135lb.	G. Hood, 142lb.
Cox.	A. H. Lay, 105lb.	K. Kingdon, 125lb.

	BLACK BOAT.—3	RED BOAT.—0
Bw.	W. D. Moss, 145lb.	C. Abenheim, 125lb.
2.	T. Browne, 150lb.	F. J. Hall, 161lb.
3.	L. Salabelle, 182lb.	H. Goldman, 175lb.
St.	M. F. Bengen, 188lb.	R. Abenheim, 146lb.
Cox.	W. Sutter, 148lb.	W. W. Campbell, 126lb.

At three minutes to two o'clock, or nearly an hour behind time, Mr. Dodds got the four boats off to an even start. Patience had been tried severely, however, before this result was attained as a long delay was occasioned through the Blue ranging up too close to the stake-boat and crowding the others. As a natural consequence White drifted foul of the moorings and the whole start had to be rearranged. Once away, White took the lead, with Black next and Blue and Red close together. At the ¼-mile stake the positions had not altered very much, though Blue seemed to be improving its position. Drawing towards the Pacific Mail Wharf, White was seen to be leading by about four lengths; Blue had pulled up into second position and Red dropped behind. The White boat pulled well together and had much more life and swing than any of the competitors

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its position was therefore not challenged and it came in winner by two lengths. Time, 7m. 52⅘s.

SENIOR DOUBLE SCULLS.—1 Mile.

	"PEARL."—1	"TERN."—2
Bw.	P. Sorhagen, 151lb.	M. Schellenberg, 157lb.
St.	R. Boyes, 170lb.	P. S. Bent, 162lb.

A good start. Bent and Schellenberg were on the outside berth, a bad position with the tide at that hour, and very quickly Sorhagen and Boyes established a lead. The leaders were rowing 32 to the others 34, but after passing the half-mile stake both dropped, the former to 28, and the latter to 30. Five lengths separated the boats at this point, but the wind dropping slightly Bent put on a spurt, and reduced the distance by some three lengths. Boyes and his partner, however, were not to be caught, and they passed the winning post eight lengths to the good. Time, 8m. 13½ secs.

CLUB FOURS.—1 Mile.

	BLACK BOAT.—1.	WHITE BOAT.—2.
Bw.	H. Goddard, 124lb.	V. Boeck, 138lb.
2.	H. Ginn, 145lb.	C. V. Schmidt, 126lb.
3.	F. H. Abbey, 133lb.	G. C. Allcock, 146lb.
St.	A. L. Mottu, 140lb.	A. W. Payne, 157lb.
Cx.	A. H. Lay, 105lb.	K. Kingdon, 125lb.

RED BOAT.—3

Bow.	K. Wilson, 113lb.
2.	H. R. Mair, 133lb.
3.	M. Schellenberg, 157lb.
Stroke.	W. Goddard, 128lb.
Cox.	W. W. Campbell, 126lb.

This was a keenly fought-out race from start to finish. White had the lead at the start, but soon gave way to Black, and in this order the race was rowed throughout, the winner being one length and a quarter ahead at the post. Time, 8m. 12 secs.

CHAMPION PAIRS (Kirin Cup).—¼ Mile.

	"WIDGEON."—1	"MALLARD."—2
Bw.	G. Hood, 142lb.	R. C. Ross, 136lb.
St.	P. S. Bent, 162lb.	H. S. Goddard, 135lb.
Cx.	W. W. Campbell, 126lb.	A. H. Lay, 105lb.

Bent and Hood caught the water first and gained half-a-length at the start. At the P. M. Wharf they were fully five lengths ahead, and rowing the easier stroke, 34 to the others 36. Ross and Goddard spurted at the Creek, but could not make up all the lost ground, being some three lengths behind at gun-fire. Time, 7m. 12½ secs.

SKIFF RACE (Prize presented by Messrs. Goodenough & Co.)—¼ Mile.

H. Goddard, 124lb.—1 W. Schmädecke, 161lb.—2

Schmädecke got away well at the start, but half way down had the misfortune to break the blade of his oar. Goddard then came away and won easily.

JUNIOR PAIRS.—¼ Mile.

	"MALLARD."—1	"WIDGEON."—2
Bw.	H. R. Mair, 133lb.	A. Stock, 137lb.
St.	C. V. Schmidt, 126lb.	H. Goddard, 124lb.
Cx.	W. W. Campbell, 126lb.	P. E. Webb, 138lb.

The race soon degenerated into a procession and Schmidt and Mair won easily by many lengths. Time, 7m. 31½ sec.

CLUB v. COMMITTEE.—¼ Mile.

	CLUB.—1	COMMITTEE.—2
Bw.	W. Goddard, 128lb.	J. T. Bnag, 149lb.
2.	P. Sorhagen, 151lb.	R. Boyes, 170lb.
3.	H. Pinckney, 186lb.	P. S. Bent, 162lb.
St.	A. L. Mottu, 137lb.	C. K. M. Martin, 155lb.
Cx.	W. W. Campbell, 126lb.	E. T. Nicholas, 133lb.

A good start again. The Club soon obtained a slight lead, but the "old hands" stuck gamely to their work and entering the smoother water inside the Breakwater almost managed to get on even terms. Then Mottu called on his crew and they went away, passing the post a length and a quarter ahead of the other boat. Time 6m. 30⅘sec.

SCRATCH FOURS.—(From P.M. Wharf.)

	WHITE BOAT.—1.	BLACK BOAT.—2.
Bow.	N. Sargent.	A. L. Bouffier.
2.	A. W. Payne.	F. E. Elliott.
3.	G. Allcock.	Bengen.
Stroke.	R. Boyes.	A. L. Mottu.
Cox.	W. W. Campbell.	H. S. Goddard.

RED BOAT.—0.

Bow.	W. D. Moss.
2.	T. Browne.
3.	H. Goldman.
Stroke.	L. Salabelle.
Cox.	M. Schellenberg.

This was a very keenly contested event. White led with Red next and Black to the rear. Passing the Breakwater, Black pulled up a little and Red gained on White. Then all the crews put forth their best endeavours. White shot ahead and Black passed Red. As the gun was fired White had only a quarter-of-a-length's lead, and Black was a yard in front of Red. Time, 20m. 11 secs.

JUNIOR DOUBLE SCULLS.—¼ Mile.

	"REEVE."—1	"RUFF."—2
Bw.	H. R. Mair, 133lb.	C. V. Schmidt, 126lb.
St.	W. Goddard, 128lb.	W. Schmädeck, 161lb.

An easy win for Mair and Goddard. Time, 6m. 39 secs.

An adjournment was now made to the Boat House, where Mrs. Vivanti presented the prizes. At the conclusion of this ceremony, which was interrupted by frequent and rousing cheers, a handsome bouquet was handed to Mrs. Vivanti and the proceedings closed. The officials of the day were, Mr. J. Dodds, Starter and Umpire; Mr. J. F. Pinn, Timekeeper; Mr. F. J. Hall, hon. sec., Mr. E. T. Nicholas, hon. treas.; and Mr. Litchfield, Judge.

The Single Sculls (Ladies' Purse) will be rowed at 5.15 to-day (Monday) and it is hoped that the donors will put in an appearance to witness what should prove a close contest.

THE LADIES' PURSE.

The sculling race for the Ladies Purse, postponed from Saturday last on account of the roughness of the water, took place on Monday afternoon at six o'clock. The usual course being again too lumpy for single sculls, it was decided to row from the mouth of the Creek to a stake-boat moored near the pier, and back again to the starting point. The competitors were:—

R. C. Ross .....136lb.....25 secs.
P. Sorhagen .....151lb.....14 secs.
A. L. Mottu .....137lb..... scratch.

Sorhagen soon overhauled Ross and had a decided lead at the turn, where Mottu, who apparently had not lessened his handicap to Sorhagen, came up with a spurt, but had to wait owing to Ross, who was very slow in turning. Meanwhile, Sorhagen went steaming ahead and won as he liked. Ross pulled very pluckily, but had a very heavy boat. Mottu after the turn was finished, and, in consequence of cramp in his left arm, had to rest several times. The time was 8.36, Sorhagen beating Ross by 27 secs., Mottu giving up. The Ladies' Purse, a silver Japanese sampan, was presented to the fortunate winner by Miss Eldridge in the following poetical speech:—

When, in the lists, in days of yore, each mail-accoutered knight,
First paid the ladies his devoir, then bravely fought his fight;
The custom was that he received, the minnie battle gained,
A scarf, or other guerdon, for the struggle well sustained.
And though in these less warlike times the jersey takes the place
Of armour, and for tilting we substitute a race,
Our modern knights are no less strong, their courage no less tried,
And we ladies look upon them with no less loving pride;
Where with heaving chest and quivering frame, and face set hard as steel,
The winning athlete o'er the line quick drives the trembling keel,
And the ringing cheer salutes him for a fight well fought, and won,
While his fellows crowd about him "Hurrah, my boy, well done!"
As expression of our feeling, of our love for strength and pluck,
Allow me to present you this, and may it bring you luck.

Mr. Sorhagen briefly responded, and three cheers for the Ladies and the fair donor, brought the ceremony to a close.

TREATY OF PEACE BETWEEN CHINA AND JAPAN.

His Majesty the Emperor of Japan and His Majesty the Emperor of China, desiring to restore the blessings of peace to their countries and subjects and to remove all cause for future complications, have named as their Plenipotentiaries for the purpose of concluding a Treaty of Peace, that is to say:

His Majesty the Emperor of Japan, Count Ito Hirobumi, Junii, Grand Cross of the Imperial Order of Paullownia, Minister President of State, and Viscount Mutsu Munemitsu, Junii, First Class of the Imperial Order of the Sacred Treasure, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs;

And His Majesty the Emperor of China, Li Hung-chang, Senior Tutor to the Heir Apparent, Senior Grand Secretary of State, Minister Superintendent of Trade for the Northern Ports of China, Viceroy of the Province of Chihli, and Earl of the First Rank, and Li Ching-fong, Ex-Minister of the Diplomatic Service, of the Second Official Rank;

Who, after having exchanged their Full Powers, which were found to be in good and proper form, have agreed to the following Articles:

Art. I.—China recognizes definitively the full and complete independence and autonomy of Korea, and in consequence, the payment of tribute and the performance of ceremonies and formalities by Korea to China in derogation of such independence and autonomy, shall wholly cease for the future.

Art. II.—China cedes to Japan in perpetuity and full sovereignty, the following territories together with all fortifications, arsenals, and public property thereon:—

(a)—The southern portion of the Province of Feng-Tien within the following boundaries:—

The line of demarcation begins at the mouth of the River Yalu and ascends that stream to the mouth of the River An-ping; from thence the line runs to Fêng Huang; from thence to Haicheng, from thence to Ying Kow, forming a line which describes the southern portion of the territory. The places above named are included in the ceded territory. When the line reaches the River Liao at Ying Kow it follows the course of that stream to its mouth, where it terminates. The mid-channel of the River Liao shall be taken as the line of demarcation.

This cession also includes all Islands appertaining or belonging to the Province of Feng-Tien situated in the eastern portion of the Bay of Liao-Tung and in the northern part of the Yellow Sea.

(b)—The Island of Formosa together with all Islands appertaining or belonging to the said Island of Formosa.

(c)—The Pescadores Group, that is to say, all Islands lying between the 119th and 120th degrees of longitude east of Greenwich and the 23rd and 24th degrees of north latitude.

Art. III.—The alignments of the frontiers described in the preceding Article, and shown on the annexed Map, shall be subject to verification and demarcation on the spot, by a Joint Commission of Delimitation, consisting of two or more Japanese and two or more Chinese Delegates to be appointed immediately after the exchange of the ratifications of this Act. In case the boundaries laid down in this Act are found to be defective at any point, either on account of topography or in consideration of good administration, it shall also be the duty of the Delimitation Commission to rectify the same.

The Delimitation Commission will enter upon its duties as soon as possible, and will bring its labours to a conclusion within the period of one year after appointment.

The alignments laid down in this Act, shall, however, be maintained until the rectifications of the Delimitation Commission, if any are made, shall have received the approval of the Governments of Japan and China.

Art. IV.—China agrees to pay to Japan as a war indemnity, the sum of 200,000,000 Kuping Taels. The said sum to be paid in eight installments. The first installment of 50,000,000 taels, to be paid within six months, and the second installment of 50,000,000 taels to be paid within twelve months after the exchange of the ratifications of this Act. The remaining sum to be paid in six equal annual installments as follows: The first of such equal annual installments to be paid within two years; the second within three years; the third within four years; the fourth within five years; the fifth within six years, and the sixth within seven years, after the exchange of the ratifications of this Act. Interest at the rate of 5 per centum per annum shall begin to run on all unpaid portions of the said indemnity from the date the first installment falls due.

China, however, shall have the right to pay by anticipation at any time any or all of said installments. In case the whole amount of the said indemnity is paid within three years after the exchange of the ratifications of the present Act, all interest shall be waived and the interest for two years and a half or for any less period if then already paid shall be included as a part of the principal amount of the indemnity.

Art. V.—The inhabitants of the territories ceded to Japan, who wish to take up their residence outside the ceded districts, shall be at liberty to sell their real property and retire. For this purpose a period of two years from the date of the exchange of the ratifications of the present Act, shall be granted. At the expiration of that period those of the inhabitants who shall not have left such territories shall, at the option of Japan, be deemed to be Japanese subjects.

Each of the two Governments shall immediately upon the exchange of the ratifications of the present Act, send one or more Commissioners to Formosa to effect a final transfer of that Province and within the space of two months after the exchange of the ratifications of this Act such transfer shall be completed.

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Art. VI.—All treaties between Japan and China having come to an end in consequence of war, China engages immediately upon the exchange of the ratifications of this Act, to appoint Plenipotentiaries to conclude, with the Japanese Plenipotentiaries, a Treaty of Commerce and Navigation and a Convention to regulate Frontier Intercourse and Trade. The Treaties, Conventions, and Regulations now subsisting between China and European Powers shall serve as a basis for the said Treaty and Convention between Japan and China. From the date of the exchange of the ratifications of this Act until the said Treaty and Convention are brought into actual operation, the Japanese Government, its officials, commerce, navigation, frontier intercourse and trade, industries, ships and subjects, shall, in every respect, be accorded by China most favoured nation treatment.

China makes in addition the following concessions, to take effect six months after the date of the present Act:—

1st.—The following cities, towns, and ports, in addition to those already opened, shall be opened to the trade, residence, industries, and manufactures of Japanese subjects, under the same conditions and with the same privileges and facilities as exist at the present open cities, towns, and ports of China:

1.—Shashih, in the Province of Hupeh.
2.—Chung King, in the Province of Szechuan.
3.—Suchow, in the Province of Kiang Su.
4.—Hangchow, in the Province of Chekiang.

The Japanese Government shall have the right to station Consuls at any or all of the above-named places.

2nd.—Steam navigation for vessels under the Japanese flag for the conveyance of passengers and cargo, shall be extended to the following places:

1.—On the Upper Yangtsze River, from Ichang to Chung King.
2.—On the Woosung River and the Canal, from Shanghai to Suchow and Hangchow.

The Rules and Regulations which now govern the navigation of the inland waters of China by foreign vessels, shall, so far as applicable, be enforced in respect of the above-named routes, until new Rules and Regulations are conjointly agreed to.

3rd.—Japanese subjects purchasing goods or produce in the interior of China or transporting imported merchandise into the interior of China, shall have the right temporarily to rent or hire warehouses for the storage of the articles so purchased or transported, without the payment of any taxes or exactions whatever.

4th.—Japanese subjects shall be free to engage in all kinds of manufacturing industries in all the open cities, towns, and ports of China, and shall be at liberty to import into China all kinds of machinery paying only the stipulated import duties thereon.

All articles manufactured by Japanese subjects in China, shall in respect of inland transit and internal taxes, duties, charges, and exactions of all kinds and also in respect of warehousing and storage facilities in the interior of China, stand upon the same footing and enjoy the same privileges and exemptions as merchandise imported by Japanese subjects into China.

In the event additional Rules and Regulations are necessary in connection with these concessions, they shall be embodied in the Treaty of Commerce and Navigation provided for by this Article.

Art. VII.—Subject to the provisions of the next succeeding Article, the evacuation of China by the armies of Japan, shall be completely effected within three months after the exchange of the ratifications of the present Act.

Art. VIII.—As a guarantee of the faithful performance of the stipulations of this Act, China consents to the temporary occupation by the military forces of Japan, of Weihaiwei, in the Province of Shantung.

Upon the payment of the first two installments of the war indemnity herein stipulated for and the exchange of the ratifications of the Treaty of Commerce and Navigation, the said place shall be evacuated by the Japanese forces, provided the Chinese Government consents to pledge, under suitable and sufficient arrangements, the Customs Revenue of China as security for the payment of the final installment of said indemnity.

It is, however, expressly understood that no such evacuation shall take place until after the exchange of the ratifications of the Treaty of Commerce and Navigation.

Art. IX.—Immediately upon the exchange of the ratifications of this Act, all prisoners of war then held shall be restored and China undertakes not to ill-treat or punish prisoners of war so restored to her by Japan. China also engages to at once release all Japanese subjects accused of being military spies or charged with any other military offences. China further engages not to punish in any manner nor to allow to be punished, those Chinese subjects who have in any manner been compromised in their relations with the Japanese army during the war.

Art. X.—All offensive military operations shall cease upon the exchange of the ratifications of this Act.

Art. XI.—The present Act shall be ratified by Their Majesties the Emperor of Japan and the Emperor of China and the ratifications shall be exchanged at Chefoo, on the 8th day of the 5th month of the 28th year of Meiji, corresponding to 14th day of the 4th month of the 21st year of Kuang Hsü.

In witness whereof, the respective Plenipotentiaries have signed the same and have affixed thereto the seal of their arms.

Done at Shimonoseki, in duplicate, this 17th day of the 4th month of the 28th year of Meiji, corresponding to 23rd day of the 3rd month of the 21st year of Kuang Hsü.

COUNT ITO HIROBUMI, [L.S.]
Junii, Grand Cross of the Imperial Order of Paullownia, Minister President of State, Plenipotentiary of His Majesty the Emperor of Japan.

VISCOUNT MUTSU MUNEMITSU, [L.S.]
Junii, First Class of the Imperial Order of the Sacred Treasure, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, Plenipotentiary of His Majesty the Emperor of Japan.

LI HUNG CHANG, [L.S.]
Plenipotentiary of His Majesty the Emperor of China; Senior Tutor to the Heir Apparent; Senior Grand Secretary of State; Minister Superintendent of Trade for the Northern Ports of China; Viceroy of the Province of Chihli, and Earl of the First Rank,

LI CHING-FONG [L.S.]
Plenipotentiary of His Majesty the Emperor of China, Ex-Minister of the Diplomatic Service, of the Second Official Rank.

SEPARATE ARTICLES.

Art. I.—The Japanese Military Forces which are, under Article VIII. of the Treaty of Peace signed this day, to temporarily occupy Wei-hai-wei, shall not exceed one Brigade, and from the date of the exchange of the ratifications of the said Treaty of Peace, China shall pay annually, one-fourth of the amount of the expenses of such temporary occupation, that is to say, at the rate of 500,000 Kuping Taels per annum.

Art. II.—The territory temporarily occupied at Wei-hai-wei shall comprise the Island of Liu Kung and a belt of land 5 Japanese *ri* wide along the entire coast line of the Bay of Wei-hai-wei.

No Chinese Troops shall be permitted to approach or occupy any places within a zone 5 Japanese *ri* wide beyond the boundaries of the occupied territory.

Art. III.—The Civil Administration of the occupied territory shall remain in the hands of the Chinese Authorities. But such Authorities shall at all times be obliged to conform to the orders which the Commander of the Japanese Army of occupation may deem it necessary to give in the interest of the health, maintenance, safety, distribution or discipline of the Troops.

All military offences committed within the occupied territory shall be subject to the jurisdiction of the Japanese Military Authorities.

The foregoing Separate Articles shall have the same force, value, and effect as if they had been word for word inserted in the Treaty of Peace signed this day.

In witness whereof the respective Plenipotentiaries have signed the same and have affixed thereto the seal of their arms.

Done at Shimonoseki, in duplicate, this 17th day of the 4th month of the 28th year of Meiji, corresponding to the 23rd day of the 3rd month of the 21st year of Kwang Hsü.

Count ITO HIROBUMI, [L.S.]
Junii, Grand Cross of Imperial Order of Paullownia, Minister President of State, Plenipotentiary of His Majesty the Emperor of Japan.

Viscount MUTSU MUNEMITSU, [L.S.]
Junii, First Class of the Imperial Order of the Sacred Treasure, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, Plenipotentiary of His Majesty the Emperor of Japan.

LI HUNG-CHANG, [L.S.]
Plenipotentiary of His Majesty the Emperor of China, Senior Tutor to the Heir Apparent, Senior Grand Secretary of State; Minister Superintendent of Trade for the Northern Ports of China; Viceroy of the Province of Chihli, and Earl of the First Rank.

LI CHANG-FONG,
Plenipotentiary of His Majesty the Emperor of China, Ex-Minister of the Diplomatic Service, of the Second Official Rank.

RATIFICATION.

Mutsuhito, by the Grace of Heaven, Emperor of Japan and seated on the Throne occupied by the same Dynasty from time immemorial.

To all to whom these presents shall come, greeting!

Whereas we have seen and examined, each and every clause of the Treaty of Peace and separate Articles which were signed and sealed at Shimonoseki by the Plenipotentiaries of Japan and China on the 17th day of the 4th month of the 28th year of *Meiji*; and whereas we have found them satisfactory and agreeable to us, we do therefore hereby accept and ratify the said Treaty and separate Articles.

In witness whereof, we have hereunto set Our Signature and caused the Great Seal of the Empire to be affixed.

Done at Hiroshima this 20th day of the 4th month of the 28th year of *Meiji*, corresponding to the two thousand five hundred and fifty-fifth year from the Coronation of the Emperor Jimmu.

[Seal of the Empire.] (Imperial Sign Manual.)

(Countersigned)

Viscount MUTSU MUNEMITSU,
Minister for Foreign Affairs.

IMPERIAL RESCRIPT.

We recently complied with the request of China and in consequence appointed Plenipotentiaries and caused them to confer with the Plenipotentiaries appointed by China and to conclude a Treaty of Peace between the two Empires.

Since then the Governments of Their Majesties the Emperors of Russia and Germany and of the Republic of France have united in a recommendation to Our Government not to permanently possess the Peninsula of Feng-Tien, Our newly-acquired territory, on the ground that such permanent possession would be detrimental to the lasting peace of the Orient.

Devoted as We unalterably are and ever have been to the principles of peace, We were constrained to take up arms against China for no other reason than Our desire to secure for the Orient an enduring peace.

Now the friendly recommendation of the three Powers was equally prompted by the same desire. Consulting therefore the best interests of peace and animated by a desire not to bring upon Our people added hardship or to impede the progress of national destiny by creating new complications and thereby making the situation difficult and retarding the restoration of peace, We do not hesitate to accept such recommendation.

By concluding the Treaty of peace, China has already shown her sincerity of regret for the violation of her engagements and thereby the justice of Our cause has been proclaimed to the world.

Under these circumstances, we can find nothing to impair the honour and dignity of Our empire if We now yield to the dictates of magnanimity and, taking into consideration the general situation, accept the advice of the friendly Powers.

Accordingly we have commanded Our Government and have caused them to reply to the three Powers in the above sense.

Regarding the arrangements by which we will renounce the permanent possession of the Peninsula, we have specially commanded Our Government that the necessary measures shall be made the subject of future negotiations and adjustment with the Government of China.

Now the exchange of ratifications of the Treaty of Peace has already been effected; the friendly relations between the two Empires have been reëstablished, and cordial relations with all other powers are also strengthened.

We therefore command Our subjects to respect Our will; to take into careful consideration the general situation; to be circumspect in all things; to avoid erroneous tendencies; and not to impair or thwart the high aspirations of Our Empire.

The 10th day, the 5th month, of the 28th year of *Meiji*.

(L.S) [Imperial Sign-Manual.]

(Countersigned) By all Ministers of State.

In the days of Old Japan, before the canny islanders saw themselves as others saw them, Townsend Harris, the first American envoy, lived at Shimoda and Yedo, from 1856 to 1862. He kept a journal of his strange experiences and wonderful successes. This, edited by Dr. William Elliot Griffis, with a portrait and biography, will be published by Messrs. Houghton, Mifflin & Co.

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HAKODATE.

(From our own Correspondent.)

Hakodate, May 9, 1895.

As soon as the fog commenced to clear this morning the following vessels came into harbour:—*Emma Louisa*, American schooner, Capt. Alex. McLean, with 160 skins. This vessel reports having rescued, on the 23rd April last, six of the crew of a dismasted Japanese schooner 300 miles off land, and having put them on shore at Kamachi. The rescued men stated that their schooner had been dismasted near some islands off Yokohama, and had then drifted out to sea, and that they had been without water and provisions for ten days when rescued. The captain afterwards set fire to and sunk the derelict schooner so as to prevent her being a danger to other vessels. The captain of the *Emma Louisa* also reports having lost three boats while sealing. One has already been reported as having been picked up by the *Theresa*, another it is believed has been picked up by the *Bonanza*, and the third has not yet been located. Not finding any of her boats or men here, the *Emma Louisa* purchased a boat and left immediately.

The *Josephine*, American schooner, Captain L. Fisher, reports 204 skins. One of her seams on the port side opened out at a most inopportune moment while hunting, so she put in for repairs. She is now on the slip being attended to.

The *Penelope*, American schooner, Captain Peter Larssan, with 210 skins (352, as stated in my telegram of the 9th was a mistake), put in for water and spears.

The *Colusa*, American bark, 1,129 tons, Capt. Charles Backus, from Shanghai, in ballast. This vessel will load sulphur for San Francisco. She made a remarkably quick passage from Woosung, which she left on the 3rd instant. Messrs. C. P. Low and Co., of Yokohama, are the agents.

May 10th, 1895.

The *Louis Olsen*, American schooner, Capt. F. Cole, with 413 skins aboard, came in this afternoon for water.

Three more men belonging to the schooner *Eppinger* were sent down here to-day by the Aomori Prefectural Authorities. They were cast ashore on the coast about 25 miles south of Aomori.

Hakodate, May 14th.

The American schooner *Louis Olsen*, Capt. F. Cole, and the British schooner *Mermaid*, Capt. Whitby, came in for water and supplies on the 11th inst. The former had 413, and the latter 1,113 seal skins, the best catch yet known of the year. The *Mermaid* reports having spoken the following schooners on the following dates. I give the list in full, as it is interesting to note the progress of those schooners spoken two or three times:—

	Vessels.	Skins.
2nd April	Borealis	45
3rd do	Golden Fleece	150
5th do	Vera	59
5th do	Golden Fleece	192
6th do	Borealis	90
6th do	Annie E. Paint	170
9th do	Brenda	60
13th do	Therese	207
14th do	Borealis	198
16th do	Therese	212
17th do	Annie E. Paint	225
18th do	Webster	207
22nd do	Alton	140
23rd do	Bonaza	115
25th do	Herman	140
29th do	Annie E. Paint	635
30th April	M. M. Morrill	100
1st May	Webster	327
2nd do	Ocean Belle	260
7th do	Chishama Maru No. 1	310
7th do	Chishima Maru No. 3	400
8th do	Anaconda	180
8th do	C G. Cox	550
9th do	Alton	270
9th do	Alger	600
9th do	Herman	340
9th do	Bonanza	500
9th do	Jane Grey	800

The *Chishima Maru No. 1* picked up a boat belonging to the *Kaio Maru* (late *Henry Dennis*). On the 23rd of April the *Mermaid* had one of her boats upset in a squall. The men were saved, but they lost their guns.

On Saturday, the 12th, at about 10 p.m., a fire broke out in the lower end of the town by which some 8 or 10 houses were completely burnt. Fortunately a fire station being within hailing distance, the flames were soon subdued. The firemen had no sooner finished their work when it started raining.

On Monday, the 13th, at daylight the American schooners *Therese*, Capt. John Worth, with 389 skins, and the *Anaconda*, Capt. A. Lawson, with 182 skins, put in for water and supplies. The *Therese* reports the following vessels:—

		Skins.
1st April	Sadie Turple	52
8th do	Ocean Belle	no seal,
9th do	Josephine	56
13th do	Mermaid	479
15th do	Webster	unknown,
29th do	Rattler	130
1st May	City of San Diego	308
2nd do	Retriever	321

On the 9th May the *Charles Morgan* was spoken. She is a whaling bark from New Zealand and had 6 whales.

On the 10th April the *Therese* picked up a boat belonging to the *Emma Louise*, having been out since the 6th of April and losing a man named William Lloyd, whose sad end I already reported. The *Anaconda* reports:—

		Skins.
3rd April	Umbrina	90
18th do	Louis Olsen	83
19th do	Mascott	155
23rd do	Sophie Sutherland	146
4th May	Willard Ainsworth	780
6th do	Kaio Maru (Henry Dennis)	250
9th do	City of San Diego	120

The *Kaio Maru* lost 4 boats on the 26th April and had only 2 boats aboard.

Hakodate, May 15th.

The American schooner *M. M. Morrill*, Captain E. Cantillion, which came in on the 14th inst. for water and supplies, had 331 skins. She reports having spoken the following schooners:—

		Skins.
7th April	Golden Fleece	190
15th do	Ocean Belle	110
30th do	R. E. Webster	360
30th do	Willard Ainsworth	696
1st May	Belle of the Bay	600
1st do	Annie F. Paint	620
4th do	Carlotta Cox	410
5th do	Flying Scud	800
6th do	Brenda	530
8th do	Rattler	220
11th do	Allie J. Algar	620
12th do	Idaelta	306

The *Mattie T. Dyer* and the *Rattler* have each lost a boat.

CRICKET.

H.M.S. "PEACOCK" VERSUS THE CLUB.

The cricket season of 1895 opened in Yokohama on Thursday afternoon, when the Y.C. and A.C. met a team from H.M.S. *Peacock*. The day was delightfully warm, but the strong southerly breeze bore a most unpleasant quantity of dust into the field, causing great annoyance to the players. The wicket was fairly good, though uncertain, the ball breaking at times in a most unaccountable manner, causing much punishment to the batsmen, and particularly to "the Doctor" during his long innings. The visitors opened the game, and the first three bats contributed the major portion of their runs, 67 out of 87. The home eleven went in about half-past three, and were all out by a quarter past five for 120. Dr. Wheeler headed the list with 30, Johnson being one behind him; Cocksedge, 19, and Healing, 17, were the only others who got into double figures. Scores:—

H.M.S. "PEACOCK."

1st innings.		2nd innings.	
Capt. Laxton, b. Philip	26	c. and b. Morrias	0
Mr. Warren, c. Healing, b. Denne	24	not out	0
Dr. Meagher, b. Denne	27		
Mr. Rees, b. Denne	4	b. Philip	2
Mr. Cuthbertson, b. Denne	0	not out	2
Mr. Harvey, c. Morris b. Denne	6	b. Denne	9
Mr. Power, b. Denne	80	c. Philip, b. Denne	2
Mr. Allenby, c. Deane, b. Johnson	1	c. and b. Denne	34
Mr. Rogers, b. Denne	0		
Mr. Heath, not out	2	c. Dodds, b. Morrias	4
Mr. Grimshaw, c. Dodds, b. Johnson	0		
b. 3, l.b. 2, w. 2	7	b. 7, l.b. 2	9
	87		60

YOKOHAMA.

Dr. Wheeler, b. Allenby	30
Mr. Cocksedge, c. Harky, b. Meagher	19
Mr. Morrias, c. Allenby, b. Meagher	0
Mr. Denne, c Harky, b. Allenby	3
Mr. Healing, c. and b. Warren	17
Mr. Johnson, b. Rees	19
Mr. Philip, b. Allenby	2
Mr. Dodds, b. Allenby	6
Mr. Showler, b. Allenby	2
Mr. Bugbird, not out	0
Mr. Hooper, b. Allenby	0
b. 10, l.b. 2	12
	120

On one of the streets of Yreka, in California, there is a sign which, curiously enough, is a perfect palindrome; it reads the same forward and backward—"Yreka Bakery."

At a recent teachers examination on the island of Hawaii, one of the questions was: "What are the five great races of mankind?" One of the answers is given below: Whites, Caucasians; brown, Malays; yellow, Mongolians; black, Buddhists; red, Episcopalians.

LETTER FROM AUSTRALIA.

(From our Correspondent.)

Healesville, Victoria, April 9th, 1895.

Mr. Henry Heylyn Hayter, the eminent Government Statist of Victoria expired, after a long illness, on the 23rd ult. In Mr. Hayter's death not only Victoria but the world has lost a great man. Sir Charles Dilke, in his "Greater Britain," refers to Mr. Hayter's work as follows:—"The most economical position which Victoria occupies is easily ascertained, for her statistics are the most perfect in the world. The arrangement is a piece of exquisite mosaic."

Of Mr. Hayter's system of Statistics, a committee of experts appointed by the English House of Commons spoke in highly eulogistic terms. His census report for 1891 was characterised by Sir Frederick Young, Vice-President of the Royal Colonial Institute, as a text-book for the future, not only for Victoria and the other Australian Colonies but for the centre of the British Empire itself, and as a model of how the most elaborate statistics can be most satisfactorily and successfully compiled and treated for public use. Besides being the owner of numerous medals which testified to his ability, Mr. Hayter was an Honorary Fellow of the Royal Statistical Society of London, and of the Royal Colonial Institute, also an honorary member of the Statistical Association of Tokyo and of other Societies too numerous to mention. Though he had reached the ripe age of 74, Mr. Hayter had not retired from active service when overtaken by the illness to which he succumbed. He had a large family, but only one—a son—survives him.

The Governor and Lady Hopetoun bid a last farewell to Melbourne on the 26th ult. Max O'Rell not long ago in his work "John Bull & Co.," thus referred to the Earl of Hopetoun. "This young diplomatist is about thirty years old, has an intelligent forehead and a delicate nose and mouth. He is witty and amiable, full of life, Grand Seigneur to the tips of his fingers, immensely rich and generous in proportion. Not only all his salary goes in hospitality and acts of generosity, but he spends his large income besides. When he has been Governor five years and quits Melbourne for Europe, the Victorians had better put on mourning; they will never again have Lord Hopetoun's equal." Whether M. Paul Blouët's prediction will prove true or not it is hard to say, for Lord Brassey possesses in an eminent degree the qualities which go to make a governor popular, and he is said to be still richer than the Earl of Hopetoun. Be this as it may, Victoria has no unkind word to say of Lord Hopetoun. The demonstration which preceded his departure was such as Melbourne has never seen before. At the farewell banquet given by the citizens of the metropolis on the 23rd ult., the members of the Government and the Opposition vied with each other in heaping praises on the departing guest. "From the highest to the humblest person in this community," said Sir James Patterson, the leader of the Opposition, "there is but one feeling as to the way Lord Hopetoun has administered the government. His name will never be forgotten amongst us." In replying to the Mayor's toast, the Governor made a long speech, in the course of which he thus touchingly referred to the crisis through which Victoria has passed:—

There has been one shadow, however, between myself and the perfect happiness which I should otherwise have enjoyed in your midst, and that has been the knowledge of the evil times through which the colony has passed during these last few years. It is painful to me to think that the period of my Governorship must always be associated to some extent in your minds and recollections with much individual and general suffering. I have seen men who, when I arrived in 1889, were in affluent circumstances reduced to the verge of poverty. I have been forced to learn that hundreds of your citizens who had a competency at that time have lost their all through no fault of their own. I know that the scarcity of work, combined with the heavy fall in wages which has recently taken place, has touched the masses of your people to an extent the thought of which makes my heart bleed. But, gentlemen, all through this crisis it has been impossible not to admire the unbroken spirit and excellent temper of the community.—(Hear, hear.) Victoria has come through the ordeal with her honour unstained. She has proved to the world that she possesses a governable, law-abiding, and industrious people. She has made it clearly understood that all public obligations will be honourably met—(cheers)—and in spite of what may have been said by detractors who seek to injure her credit, I am quite sure that Victoria will never learn to spell the word repudiation.—(Loud cheers.) Gentlemen, I hope, and believe, that things are taking a turn for the better. I think there are signs that this is so. Production has increased, and prices show some little signs of im-

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provement. Cheaper government and a more jealous supervision of the public purse have taken the place of the too lavish expediture of past years.—(Hear, hear.)

On the subject of federation His Excellency made the following remarks: —

But, gentlemen, there is one question which from a financial standpoint—if from that standpoint only—is worthy of your earnest consideration. I venture to suggest to you, and through you to the people of Victoria, that if there were one central executive government in Australia, if all the debts of the various colonies could be funded into one whole, at a low rate of interest, as I believe they could be, the relief to the people would be enormous.—(Cheers.) I implore you to make the union of these colonies the goal of your desires; to make it a live question when the elections are on.—(Hear, hear.) Surely such a question is of more importance than such local questions as to whether this or that municipality shall enjoy a £50 municipal subsidy, or whether this or that township shall be the centre of a postal district.—(Laughter and cheers.)—Gentlemen, here in this great hall and elsewhere in the colony, a wish has been expressed that when federation does come to pass the post of Governor-General should be given to me.—(Cheers.) I value beyond measure the compliment paid me. I trust that a wiser man—(cries of "No, no.")—an abler administrator than I am, will be found ready at hand when he is wanted. Should, however, such a man not be forthcoming, and should I have the great good fortune to be offered the post, I should consider it a sacred duty to accept it—(Loud cheers.) To my mind no prouder duty could fall to the lot of any man than to take a part in the starting of the great executive and legislative machine which will assuredly dominate for all time this quarter of the globe.—(Cheers.)

The brilliant and accomplished Countess, who as a leader of Society and as a distributor of almost unbounded charity, has won for herself golden opinions in Victoria, was referred to at the banquet in the most complimentary manner. One speaker alluding to the youthful charms of Lady Hopetoun said "she budded among us like a rose and shed the sweetest perfume and fragrance over Australian Society."

Lord Brassey is not expected to arrive here for some months. Sir John Madden, the Chief Justice, is now Acting-Governor.

The news of the death of Sir Robert Duff will have reached Japan long ere this. The funeral of the late Governor was a most impressive ceremony. On no previous occasion had such an assemblage collected in Sydney as lined the throughfares through which the *cortége* passed.

Stoddart's Cricket team has gone home after winning the fifth test match against Australia and playing a brilliant match against an Adelaide team, which resulted in a victory for the Englishmen with 10 wickets to spare. Excitement was at its height on the occasion of the last test match played in Melbourne. The attendance each day was something unprecedented. The following extract from a Melbourne daily shows how intense was the interest taken in the match by all classes.

"A very dull morning in the Full Court yesterday was enlivened at the adjournment for lunch by Mr. Geoghegan, whose mind was torn between a desire to attend to the interests of a client and a yearning to see the English cricketers finish their innings. "May I ask," said he in a tone of entreaty, "whether the Court will sit this afternoon?" "Why not?" asked Sir Hartley Williams, the presiding judge. "Because," said Mr. Geoghegan, "gentlemen wish to see the great cricket match. No Court ever sat during the progress of the Olympic games, and this is a much more important struggle. To great numbers of people it is the most exciting event of the century." Mr. Justice Holroyd said that personally he should be exceedingly glad, because he had not been able to see the match on either Friday or Saturday; but he could not see how the Court could adjourn. "We sympathise with your application," the chairman added, "and that is all we can say."

What added considerably to the excitement of the last few hours of the contest was a message received from Mr. Ellery, the eminent Government astronomer, predicting rain. The whole incident is thus amusingly told and commented on by a Melbourne wit.

What happened? England and Australia stood practically even on the first innings. At the second attempt Australia had not done so well, and Brown and Ward, aided by the little rain of the morning, were knocking the Australian bowling into smithereens. It was an instant at which the eyes of all men turned prayerfully towards the dome-crowned hill where Mr. Ellery, like an eagle in its eyre, sat placidly wet-nursing thunderstorms. Griffen was moribund, M'Kibbin hopelessly broken, Trott beaten off; but Ellery remained. At that supreme moment, to cheer the hearts of the broken-spirited, arrived the soothing message, "Mr. Ellery announces heavy rain in two hours." At that blessed message hope sprang anew in every heart, fresh spirit appeared in the bowling, a cheer rang out from the spectators, and the English batsmen, with desperate energy, forced the game, hoping against hope to make at least a decent score before the prophesied downpour. But alas for the fallacy of human anticipations! The clouds passed away; the sun shone out brilliantly, but the rain, the long anticipated rain, came not. And this is why irritated thousands are now demanding that the Observatory shall be once and for all swamped in the furious tide of retrenchment, and that the colony shall get its weather prognostications from Mr. Wragge, who costs nothing, and is quite as great on the score of unreliability:—

We had placed him on a pinnacle, we'd given him a hill,
We had bought him domes and telescopes and never grudged the bill.
We had given him a sinecure with nothing more to do
But to ladle out the weather that accorded with our view.
And when recently a rumour of suspicious games gained ground,
When the stock-list lacked a cyclone which has never yet been found,
Did we ask him awkward questions? Did we take proceedings? No;
We inclined our ear to mercy and we gave the man a show.
Yes, we never even grumbled when he prophesied a drouth,
And a heavy downpour fell and spoilt the innings of the South;
But it gave us all the needle, and it made our heartstrings bleed,
When he went and chucked Australia in the hour of her need.
When the telephone rang sharply, and we heard George Giffen roar—
"Heavy rain is now required to collapse the English score."
Answer—"Barometric pressure on the atmospheric plan
Indicates clear, cloudy weather, wind and sunshine, also rain."
Straighter tip was never given; it was fairly good enough;
With a thunderstorm behind us, you may bet we planked our stuff.
Only Stoddart smiled Satanic, and his step was firm and bold—
For he knew the missing cyclone had been bought with English gold.
England won. But who can wonder—who, at least, behind the scenes,
Who has learned from sad experience, what the name of traitor means?
Wherein lies the greater honour, when the shameful tale is told;
In an erring cyclone purchased, or an Australasia sold?

As so many readers of the *Mail* take a deep interest in cricket, the following report of the batting and bowling averages of all the players who took part in the five test matches will doubtless be of value:—

AUSTRALIA.
BATTING.

Batsman.	Innings.	Runs.	Highest Score.	Times Not Out.	Average.
A. E. Trott	5	205	85	3	102.2
G. Giffen	9	475	161	...	52.7
S. E. Gregory	9	362	201	...	40.2
H. Graham	9	362	201	...	40.2
J. M. Blackham	3	121	115	...	40.2
F. Iredale	9	76	34	...	38
G. H. S. Trott	9	337	140	...	37.4
J. Darling	9	274	98	...	30.3
W. Bruce	7	197	80	...	28.1
S. T. Callaway	8	58	41	...	26
A. H. Jarvis	7	82	*34	2	22
J. J. Lyons	6	112	35	...	18.4
W. M'Kibbin	2	18	13	...	18
C. M'Leod	2	17	15	1	17
C. T. B. Turner	5	52	26	2	26.13
E. Jones	2	22	22	1	22
J. Reedman	2	22	17	...	20.5
A. Coningham	2	13	10	...	6.5
J. Worrall	2	11	11	...	5.5
J. Harry	2	8	6	...	4
H. Trumble	2	3	2	...	1.5
H. Moss	2	2	2	...	1

* Signifies not out.

BOWLING.

Bowler.	Balls.	Runs.	Maidens.	Wickets.	Average.
S. Callaway	201	56	14	5	11.1
C. T. B. Turner	2,033	340	76	28	19.7
A. E. Trott	574	290	27	9	32.3
J. Reedman	57	24	2	2	24
G. Giffen	2,126	820	111	34	24.4
G. H. S. Trott	617	296	17	12	24.8
H. Trumble	205	87	20	3	29
W. Bruce	72	38	2	1	38
A. Coningham	186	76	9	2	38
C. M'Leod	264	92	9	2	46
E. Jones	228	108	7	2	54
T. R. M'Kibbin	158	120	6	2	60
J. J. Lyons	42	27	2	...	—
F. Iredale	12	3	...	...	—

ENGLAND.
BATTING.

Batsman.	Innings.	Runs.	Highest Score.	Time Not Out.	Average.
A. Ward	10	429	117	...	42.9
A. E. Stoddart	10	352	173	1	39.2
J. T. Brown	10	343	140	...	34.3
A. C. M'Laren	10	240	120	1	26.6
R. Peel	10	268	73	1	28.6
F. G. J. Ford	8	268	42	...	18.6
J. Briggs	9	264	57	...	18.2
L. H. Gay	6	37	33	...	18.1
W. H. Lockwood	7	89	33	2	27.4
W. Brockwell	10	271	49	...	27.1
H. Phillipson	7	62	30	...	20.2
T. Richardson	9	58	12	3	9.4

BOWLING.

Bowler.	Balls.	Runs.	Maidens.	Wickets.	Average.
T. Richardson	2,749	849	63	32	26.17
R. Peel	1,832	782	77	27	26.29
J. Briggs	907	436	25	25	29.1
A. E. Stoddart	28	31	...	1	31
W. Brockwell	450	239	26	8	47.4
W. Lockwood	743	339	32	5	67.4
F. G. J. Ford	204	129	6	1	129

The total attendance for the match was 103,636, the total takings being over £4,000.

Although the Melbourne Cremation Society has existed for some time, no attempt seems to have been made to provide the city with a crematorium. As a consequence of this the advocates and promoters of cremation as the best method of disposing of the dead have drawn upon themselves a great deal of unnecessary odium. The first case of the cremation of a European in Victoria occurred last month on the beach of Sandringham. A Mrs. Henniker, aged 83, before dying expressed the wish to her son that she should be cremated. The services of an undertaker were enlisted, by whom the cremation was carried out in the roughest fashion imaginable. Three tons of firewood and a tin of kerosene were conveyed to a quiet spot on the beach and when the coffin had been placed upon the pile of wood the son of the deceased set fire to it with [illegible]. His own hands, and he and the few mourners present watched the flames as as they did their work, singing "We shall gather at the river, &c." When the news of the event reached the general public through the newspapers there was a great hubbub. The inhabitants of Sandringham were shocked to hear that the salubrious air of the holiday resort had been defiled by the impure gases produced by the cremation. The feelings of the picnicers, who, all unconscious, had been enjoying their mincepies in the immediate vicinity of the fire, which they took to be a bonfire, were outraged at the thought that a corpse had been consumed so near them. People at a distance expressed the fear that at any time of day or night the van containing the three tons of wood and the kerosene tin might stop at their very doors and commence the shocking ceremony before their eyes. Hence at the present moment the very mention of cremation is enough to bring a storm of abuse on the head of any one who may be inclined to favour this Oriental practice. For this state of feeling the neglect of the Cremation Society is largely responsible. How easily and how cheaply the Japanese mode of incineration might be carried out in Melbourne if the necessary measures were adopted.

Mr. R. L. J. Ellery, the Government Astronomer, retires from the public service on a pension, at his own request, on the 30th June next.

New Zealand is keeping up its reputation for advanced legislation. It has provided a series of pains and penalties for greengrocers, drapers, tobacconists and hotel-keepers who sell goods on Wednesday afternoons. Bankers who prevent their ledger keepers from going forth to tennis and afternoon tea at 5 p.m. are liable to a fine of £5.

Even in these depressed times large sheep stations change hands at very high figures. Two stations, Murrgah and Canoon, were sold a few weeks ago for £109,000. The stations included a large number of Wanganella sheep, Murrgah 25,750, and Canoon 21,760, besides cattle and horses, and some 25,000 acres of freehold land and 48,000 acres of leasehold; so that the properties were cheap at the money.

The imports of the four Australian colonies for the last two years compare as follows:—

		Imports.	Exports.	Excess of Exports.
Victoria	1893	£23,283,814	£23,308,551	£ 24,737
	1894	12,470,599	14,006,546	1,535,947
New South Wales	1893	18,207,065	22,921,229	4,814,188
	1894	15,807,642	20,177,673	4,370,032
Queensland	1893	4,959,754	8,820,459	4,060,705
	1894	4,241,000	8,334,732	4,093,732
South Australia	1893	7,068,376	8,403,936	501,560
	1894	6,326,890	7,301,774	1,075,084

In 1892, the total interest remittances to England for all the colonies exceeded 13¾ millions; in 1895, it will probably not exceed 12½ millions. This and other facts indicate that the lowest point of our mercantile crisis is past and that hence forward only improvement should be possible.

The shipment of frozen rabbits and poultry is going on apace, one ship taking no less than 40,003 rabbits and 8,000 poultry. At last a use has been found for the much cursed rabbit.

MANCHURIA.

The following interesting account of a journey from Tientsin to Moukden, in Chinese Tartary, was published in Oct. 1861:—An English gentleman and accomplished traveller has just returned from a journey through the province of Pe-chi-li, into that of Liaou-Tong, of which he was kindly furnished us with a sketch, when he visited the city of Moukden, the capital of Manchu Tartary, from whence the present Dynasty which rules China, have sprung. Hitherto very little has been known to Europeans of this city and the surrounding country. The best, and if we are not in error, the only previous personal account of it, is to be found in Du Halde, and related by Father Verbiest, a French Missionary at Peking, who accompanied the Emperor of China in 1682, during a visit to the tombs of his ancestors near Moukden, accompanied by a retinue of 70,000 persons. This account is very meagre, and deals more with the movements of the Emperor's train than descriptive of the country and its inhabitants. Some interesting information on this head is given in the narrative below, which will doubtless be acceptable to our readers, here as well as in Europe.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "NORTH-CHINA HERALD."

A brief account of a tour in Manchuria may not be without interest to your readers, and may perhaps be of use to others who contemplate similar excursions.

My companion and myself left Tientsin on the 9th July and reached Ning-hsze (Newchwang) on the 19th, a distance, by the road, of 420 statute

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24th for Moukden, where we spent nearly two days; returning to Ying-tsze on the 31st—distance between Ying-tsze and Moukden 140 miles. The entire journey was performed on horseback, at the average rate of travelling, of 40 miles a day. From Tientsin we had a cart for our baggage. At Ying-tsze we reduced the quantity and employed a pack-horse to Moukden and back. The former certainly is by far the more commodious conveyance of the two, and with tolerable roads there is little difference between them in point of speed; but a pack-pony or mule (the latter preferable) is less liable to accidents, and is comparatively independent of the condition of the roads, which in some places, after rain, are impassable for carts.

The coloured map of the "North Eastern Provinces of China," published in 1859, proved pretty correct so far as it goes; and we could trace our route on it from stage to stage for the greater part of the way.

There is no lack of accommodation on the road, some of the inns or caravansaries being fairly comfortable, others very much the reverse. The people about them are very civil and attentive, and charges are moderate. Supplies were not so easily procured as we could have wished, but this was chiefly because we made a point of halting at the smallest villages, in order to avoid the crowds of the larger towns. Fodder is always to be had, however. I would recommend any one travelling that way not to put up in Shan-hai-kwan at all; we had very poor quarters there, and there is a good inn 2 or 3 miles on this side of the city.

The inns are known by a high pole set up in front of the establishment, with a number of wooden *hoops* suspended from it. Towards the eastern part of our route, a wooden fish fixed transversely on the pole takes the place of the hoops. The larger inns consist of a long narrow building fronting the road, with a broad gate-way at the end, and another through the centre of the building. Behind is a large court yard sometimes 100 yards square, with stone or wooden mangers ranged in rows and posts to tie the beasts to (they are not expected to want any shelter), and a shed for carts along the side wall. The proprietor's family residence is at the back of the yard, as far as possible from the noisy neighbourhood. Sometimes there are one or two other small buildings at the back, where we also could get a room and a little peace and quietness. The main building is a long open saloon, the extensive kitchen arrangements occupying the centre, and each end being partitioned off into one small room. A bench to sleep on, 3 feet high and 6 broad, is built of brick along each wall the whole length of the building leaving a passage up the middle. By this arrangement an indefinite number of people can be accommodated, for as there are no divisions or separate bed places, the occupants lie side by side, and the extent of accommodation resolves itself into a question of stowage. The natives prefer being all together in this general dormitory, and when all hands have turned in, the long vista of sleepers, each man with his saddle and gear beside him, presents a strange scene. On hot nights, we sometimes preferred to sleep in the yard. Having got all the available boards laid out, we "spread our mat" and when we had fairly taken up our position, the population who had been wondering what was going to come of all these preparations, quietly left us to our meditations. Our companions then would be perhaps a donkey or two, that had got loose and roamed over the yard all night in quest of food, and a few families of pigs that keep themselves on the premises, and pick up a precarious livelihood out of the *débris* of the kitchen and the mangers. Their explorations brought them our way now and again, but they were always respectful, and even the numerous dogs of the establishment seemed to recognize the laws of hospitality.

The scenery is in fair variety, nowhere very grand or picturesque, but a good deal of it very home-like. After two days' march from Tientsin, through a great plain, part of which, between the Peiho and the Peh-tang-ho, is bleak and waterless, the road leads through an undulating country with mountain ranges to the North no great distance off. The most mountainous part of our journey was at the Great Wall, the towers of which we could trace on the high ridges for many miles to the westward. Beyond the wall the road again leads through an undulating country and keeps pretty close to the coast line. There is less cultivation and more pasture land on the Tartar side of the wall, and large herds of horses, cattle, sheep, goats, and pigs were frequently seen. Within two days' march of Newchwang, the road strikes away from the hilly country through another dead level, perfectly barren for half the distance, with brackish water. Towards Newchwang cultivation re-appears, and within 20 miles of the city there are large tracts of good meadow land producing excellent hay, which was being mown when we passed.

From Ying-tsze to Moukden a mountain chain on the right extends the whole way, at a distance from the road varying from 10 to 20 miles, with occasional spurs running out towards the road, while on the left is an unbroken plain.

All the rivers are fordable excepting the Peh-tang and Lan-ho between Tientsin and the Great Wall;—the Lian-ho; the Taitsze-ho, a tributary of the Liau-ho, another branch of the Liau-ho, close to Moukden. There are good large ferry-boats at all these places.

Of the crops, Barbadoes millet covers more ground than all others put together. It was standing in many places ten feet high. As we advanced to the eastward, beans became more abundant. The rest of the arable land is filled up by indigo, hemp, tobacco, and a sickly looking cotton, but these are only cultivated in small patches. Few fruit trees were seen, although fruit of various kinds was obtainable at every village. The fields are not separated by fences, excepting at one place near the great wall where hedge-rows are thickly planted for the apparent object of keeping off sand drift. Farming seems to be done on a pretty large scale, and has less of that strictly domestic character that prevails in this neighbourhood. Labourers are regularly hired by the farmers, and go to their work at regular hours, and work together. Many of the inn-keepers are at the same time farmers, and the two occupations dovetail into each other well, there being little travelling in summer and no farming in winter.

The people are a strong, hardy race, much taller than the natives of Shanghai, and this superiority in *physique* becomes more apparent as you advance into what must be called the wilder country of Manchuria. They also appear to live to a good age. We met several hale hearty octogenarians, and several performing pretty long journeys at considerably over seventy. The climate, and their rude and simple habits I suppose account for this. The women also share to some extent in these physical characteristics, and at a distance from the towns they nearly all wear natural feet. They do up their hair in the most fantastic forms, and are fond of adorning it with red and white flowers, nor is this vanity confined to the most youthful of the sex. They are not timid as women are in most of China, there is no slamming of doors, and running to hide, when a foreigner makes his appearance in the street; on the contrary, whole households turn out to witness the phenomenon, standing their ground boldly, until he is past and out of sight.

We found the people very friendly throughout, excepting only at the town of Newchwang. We were of course besieged by the usual gaping multitudes wherever we stopped; but although somewhat uncouth in their manners, they were always good-natured and for the most part easily controlled—and what is more, they were ready to assist us in difficulties. On one occasion when our baggage cart and mules got helplessly embedded in the mud, the villagers turned out to the rescue. Nor would they accept of any remuneration for their services, although we were quite at their mercy, and but for their aid should have been compelled to leave our baggage behind. This estimable trait in the character of the natives will materially smooth the way for travellers in a country where they must necessarily, to a great extent, depend on the good-will of the inhabitants. At Newchwang (30 miles from Ying-tsze) we met with very different treatment, having been insulted by the mob and denied the hospitality of the inns. The cause of this hostility to foreigners at Newchwang is a mystery, but it seems to rest with the populace and not the Authorities. The Consul at Ying-tsze, Mr. Meadows, on hearing of the reception we had received, at once remonstrated with the Mandarins on the subject, and to such good purpose, that passing through the same place five days afterwards on our way to Moukden, we found a guard ready to escort us through the town and protect us from further annoyance. The officials were invariably as civil to us as the people generally; but we only once came fairly in contact with them, and that was at Shan-hai-kwan, the small walled town that guards the gate in the Great Wall, through which we had to pass. This was also the only occasion on which we were required to show our passports. The Mandarins enquired anxiously how many more of us were coming that way. They seemed quite at a loss to divine the object of our journey. Did we not find it very hot and fatiguing riding all day? Why did we not go by sea? These and such like interrogatories were eagerly put. The chief, a military blue button, was painfully polite during two interviews we had with him; and when taking leave, we intimated that we should return to Tientsin by sea, he expressed by the most graphic pantomime, his deep distress at the thought of seeing our faces no more. It must have been a great relief to *him* to see our backs!

The extent of traffic even on the high road between Pekin and Moukden, and between Moukden and Korea was quite insignificant. The amount of accommodation for travellers, however, in all parts of the road indicates the existence of a different state of affairs at other seasons.

All travellers go armed, pedestrians carrying spears and equestrians broad swords. Here and there we passed a caravan of heavily laden carts; these are provided with spears, swords, and matchlocks, and sometimes have a mounted escort. We heard a good deal about mounted highwaymen, and were repeatedly warned against them, but a regard for truth forbids me to say we met with any "adventures." There seem to be more lawless vagabonds about Newchwang than anywhere else.

As to the strong military Government of Manchuria of which we have heard so much, we saw but a little of it. In fact, excepting at Shanhai-kwan and Moukden, a few heads of felons conspicuously posted at various points on the roadside, was almost the only visible sign of the existence of a government at all. During the whole course of our journey we certainly did not see 100 soldiers, and those were merely the guards of the larger towns. Near the Great Wall we passed numbers of soldiers' huts, all empty, but with the appearance of having been recently occupied.

The principal towns passed through between Tientsin and Yingtsze, were Shan-hai-kwan or Ning-hai-hien, King chu, and Newchwang. The first is little more than a military post and a Custom House. It is a small walled town in the front of a square with two main streets at right angles. I may as well state here that all the walled towns we saw were squares. King-chu is a *foo*, and although the second city in Shing-king it is very small, the wall being about half a mile square. It is well built, with wide streets and pretty clean. There seems to be no trade about it, the trading town being on or near the coast, which is 15 miles distant. The river at King chu is shallow and not navigable. The guards at the gates were armed with bows and arrows, Newchwang is a straggling place, with good houses and wide but irregular streets. It has been of considerable importance, and the remains of a very old wall are to be seen. The stream that runs through it is almost dry, but judging by the substantial stone bridges over it, there must have been a good run of water in it at no very remote period. Between Newchwang and Moukden is but one town of any pretensions, viz: Liau-yang. This is a walled city, square as usual, apparently as large as Moukden, with four streets crossing each other and eight gates. The road by which the Koreans travel in Moukden and Pekin, passes through Liau-yang, and one of the gates is called "Korean Gate." The size of all these places is disappointing, but everything is on a small scale compared with the wealthy and populous districts of Central and Southern China. Moukden pleased us better than anything else we saw during our journey. It is different in style from the cities we are accustomed to in China Proper—small, but substantially built, with white clean streets, which are laid out with great regularity. The shops and houses are very fine. It is a pleasure to see a city like Moukden in the Chinese dominions; free alike from filth and squalor, and from that tawdry decoration to which the Chinese are elsewhere so partial. The wall is a very fine one, with towers over the four corners and over each of the eight gates, as in Pekin, of which it is an imitation. We were refused admission to the old place, the large gate being tied up on our approach with a piece of string! From what we could see of the outer buildings, they appear to be in pretty good repair externally; but if reports are to be trusted, the interior would ill bear inspection, the annual vote for keeping the place in order, being diverted to some purpose of more practical utility. The principal Yamên is a large place—a troop of ponies were standing saddled in the courtyard, and a long line of carts outside. The military are picked men, and well got up. Their dress, accoutrements, and general appearance contrast strikingly with a wretched display of "rags and rottenness" that we occasionally witness here.

We found it impossible to see so much of the city as we wished, for although an escort attended us whenever we moved out, their efforts to keep off the crowds were quite unavailing.

The Moukdenites have an air of respectability and we saw no beggars in the streets. Manufactures of various kinds, such as saddlery, "coach-buildings," bows and arrows, firearms, swords, &c., employed a considerable portion of the inhabitants of the town. We saw one man feathering

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arrows with the plumage of a concer eagle, of which he had the skin. There is also a good deal of cabinet work done both in Moukden and Liau-yang. The trade is, as usual, carried on in the suburbs.

The popular name of Moukden is Shen-yang, and it is remarkable that we met with but one man to whom the Man-chu name was familiar. Even its Chinese name, Fung-tien-foo, although generally, is not universally known, and is never used.

The small proportion of Manchus in Moukden, is a striking circumstance. They seem to have lost their ground entirely in all parts of the country, where there is anything to be made by agriculture or commerce; and those that are left, by adopting Chinese manners, customs, and language, have become to all intents and purposes Chinese and have been absorbed into the predominant race, by whom they are regarded with contempt and aversion.

We had some reason to congratulate ourselves on having been permitted to visit the Manchu capital, for on our return to Tientsin we found that the Chinese high authorities had begun to "agitate," with a view to having Moukden placed on the same footing as Pekin, but it is to be hoped their purpose may be thwarted.—Yours, &c., M.

CHESS.

(All Communications to be addressed to the Chess Editor.)

The Yokohama Chess Club is closed for the season: and reopens on 3rd October.

The Tokyo Chess Club meets at the Tokyo Hotel every Friday from 1 to 7 p.m.

Solution of Problem No. 176.

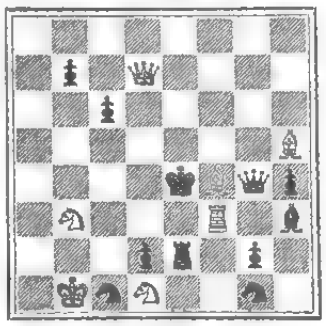
WHITE.	BLACK.
1—Q to K R sq.	1—Any
2—Mates accordingly.	

Correct solutions received from Omega, Digamma, W.H.S., Erich Putzier, Kr., E. J. King, and J.D.

Problem No. 178.

By A. H. Gansser.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in two moves.

Game No. 263.

San Francisco.

But few persons, comparatively speaking, out of the many who are acquainted with Valentine Huber, the leader of the well-known Hungarian Orchestra, are aware of the fact that he is a chess player of considerable merit and possesses quite an enviable record. Although he has not played to any extent during late years, he has on one or two occasions recently demonstrated his ability to successfully compete with the best players in this city and it is probable that if he were to enter into a match involving the championship of the State of California he would secure the laurel.

Mr. Huber was born in 1862 at Budapest, Hungary. He learned to play chess at the age of 13, and by the persevering study of Morphy's games and Stamma's 100 problems his talents developed rapidly and soon earned for him the nickname "Morphy," whom he resembled much in general appearance. At 22 years of age he was already considered one of the foremost players of the Chess Club of Budapest, a venerable institution, where Szen. Loewenthal, A. Schwarz, Gunsberg, Emil Kemeny and Makovetz acquired their mastery. The latter player, who was Huber's daily partner for a long time, made his mark by securing the first prize at a masters tournament held at Graz several years ago, and also by winning the second prize at the international chess tournament held at Dresden in 1892. The year 1886 saw Mr. Huber at Dresden, where he met and defeated Dr. Schmidt in a series of games. Visiting Berlin shortly afterward, he met and proved himself able to hold his own against Von Bardeleben, Caro, Dufresne and Dr. B. Lasker, the brother of the famous Lasker. He also met Emanuel Lasker, whose playing at that time little indicated the coming champion. Some three years ago Mr. Huber challenged all chess players on this Coast to play a match for $100 a side, but receiving no reply, he abandoned chess almost entirely.

A game played by Mr. Huber with Dr. Lovegrove recently is given below as a sample of his skill. The ending is exceptionally fine and was the subject of much comment at the time:

WHITE. Huber.	BLACK. Lovegrove.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—K Kt to B 3	2—Q Kt to B 3
3—K B to Kt 5	3—K Kt to B 3
4—P to Q 4	4—K Kt takes P
5—Castles	5—B to K 2
6—P takes P	6—Castles
7—R to K sq.	7—K Kt to B 4
8—Q Kt to B 3	8—P to Q R 3
9—B takes Kt	9—Q P takes B
10—Q to K 2	10—Q B to Kt 5
11—P to K R 3	11—B to B 4
12—Q B to K 3	12—Kt to K 3
13—Q R to Q sq.	13—Q to K sq.
14—P to K Kt 4	14—B to Kt 3
15—K Kt to Q 4	15—Kt takes Kt
16—B takes Kt	16—R to Q sq.
17—Kt to K 4	17—B takes Kt
18—Q takes B	18—P to Q Kt 4
19—P to Q Kt 3	19—B to Kt ■
20—P to Q B 3	20—B to K 2
21—P to Q Kt 4	21—P to Q R 4
22—P to Q R 3	22—P takes P
23—R P takes P	23—R to Q 4
24—P to K B 4	24—Q to Q 2
25—P to K 6	25—P takes P
26—Q takes P ch.	26—Q takes Q
27—R takes Q	27—B to Q 3
28—P to K B 5	28—P to Q B 4
29—P takes P	29—B takes P
30—R to Q B 6	30—B to Q 3
31—K to Kt 2	31—K R to Q sq.
32—K to B 3	32—P to Q Kt 5
33—P to Q B 4	33—R to Q R 4
34—B to Q Kt 2	34—K to B 2
35—Q R takes B	35—P takes R
36—R to B 7 ch.	36—K to K sq.
37—R takes Kt P	37—R to Q 2
38—R to Kt 8 ch.	38—K to K 2
39—R to K R 8	39—R to R 7
40—R takes P ch.	40—K to Q sq.
41—B to B 6 ch.	41—K to B 2
42—R to R 8	42—P to Kt 6
43—P to K Kt 5	43—P to Kt 7
44—B takes P	44—R takes B
45—P to Kt 6	45—K to B 3
46—R to B 8 ch.	46—K to Kt 2
47—P to B 6	47—K takes R
48—P to Kt 7	48—Q R to Kt 2
49—P to Kt 8 (Q)	49—K to B 2
50—P to B 7	50—Resigns.

Some time ago the members of the Hastings and St. Leonards Chess Club had a chess carnival which lasted for three days. The object which they had in view was to pay a compliment to Mr. Blackburne, and to indicate their sense of the importance to the interests of local chess of his having become a resident in Hastings. The English champion, together with Mr. Bird and Mr. Gunsberg, were the guests of the club, and the gathering attracted some of the most distinguished of the English amateurs, included among whom were Mr. C. D. Locock, Rev. G. A. MacDonnell, and Rev. W. Wayte. The programme included blindfold, simultaneous, and consultation games, the blindfold exhibition being given by Mr. Blackburne, and occupying five hours. He met six of the strongest of the club players, and scored 4 wins and 2 draws. The simultaneous performances were by Mr. Bird and Mr. Gunsberg—Mr. Bird playing 19 games for a score of 8 wins, 3 draws, and 8 losses, and Mr. Gunsberg playing 24 games for a score of 20 wins, 2 draws, and 2 losses. Another incident of the carnival was the bringing-off of a sixteen-aside match between Hastings and the London Athenæum. This resulted in a draw, the score of each of the teams being 8 points.

Game No. 264.

WHITE. Hallwegan.	BLACK. Howe.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—Kt to K B 3	2—Kt to Q B 3
3—B to Q Kt 5	3—P to Q R 3
4—B to Q R 4	4—Kt to K B 3
5—Kt to Q B 3	5—B to Q Kt 5
6—Castles	6—P to Q Kt 4
7—B to Q Kt 3	7—K B takes Q Kt
8—Q P takes B	8—Castles
9—Q B to K Kt 5	9—Q to K 2
10—Q to Q 3	10—Q B to Q Kt 2
11—K Kt to K R 4	11—Q Kt to Q R 4
12—K Kt to K B 5	12—Q to Q sq.
13—Q R to K sq.	13—Q Kt takes ■ B
14—Q B ■ takes Kt	14—K R to K sq.
15—Q to K Kt 3	15—P to K Kt 3
16—Q R to K 3	16—B takes K P?
17—Q to K R 4!	17—K R to K 3
18—K Kt to R 6 ch.!!	18—K to Kt 2
19—Q R takes Q B	19—Q to K 2
20—K Kt to Kt 4	20—P to Q 3
21—Q to R 6 ch.	21—K to Kt sq.
22—Kt takes Kt ch.!!	22—R takes Kt
23—R to K R 4	23—Resigns.

Game No. 265.

New Zealand Chess Congress, 1894-95.

Game played between Mr. J. Edwards and Dr. Hatherly.

TWO KNIGHTS' DEFENCE.

WHITE. Edwards.	BLACK. Hatherly.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—Kt to K B 3	2—Kt to Q B 3
3—B to B 4	3—Kt to ■ B 3
4—K Kt to Kt 5	4—P to Q 4
5—P takes P	5—Kt takes P
6—Kt takes P	6—K takes Kt
7—Q to B 3 ch.	7—K to K 3
8—Kt to B 3	8—Kt to Q 5
9—Q to K 4	9—P to B 3
10—P to B 4	10—B to Q 3
11—Castles	11—P to K Kt 3
12—B takes Kt ch.	12—P takes B
13—Q takes P ch.	13—K to K 2
14—P takes P	14—Kt to B 4
15—P takes B ch.	15—Q takes P
16—R to ■ sq. ch.	16—K to Q 2
17—Q to Kt 5 ch.	17—K to Q sq.
18—P to Q 4	18—P to Q R 3
19—B to Kt 5 ch.	19—K to B 2
20—Q to B 4 ch.	20—K to Kt sq.
21—Kt to Q 5	21—P to Kt 4
22—Q to B 5	22—Q takes Q
23—P takes Q	23—K to Kt 2
24—Kt to Kt 4	24—B to Q 2
25—P to B 3	25—P to Q R 4
26—Kt to Q 3	26—K to B 3
27—B to B 4	27—K R to K sq.
28—Kt to K 5 ch.	28—K to B 2
29—Q R to Q sq.	29—B to B 3
30—Kt to B 4 ch. (a)	30—K to Kt 2
31—R takes ■	31—B takes R
32—Kt to Q 6 ch.	32—K to B 3
33—Kt takes Kt	33—P takes Kt
34—P to Q Kt 4	34—P takes P
35—P takes P	35—R takes P
36—R to Q 8	36—B to Kt 3
37—R to Q Kt 8	37—R to R 3
38—R to B 8 ch.	38—K to Q 2
39—R to B 7 ch.	39—K to Q sq.
40—R to Q Kt 7	40—R to Q B 3
41—R takes P	41—K to Q 2
42—P to Kt 3	42—K to B sq.
43—B to Q 6	43—R to R 3
44—R to Kt 8 ch.	44—K to Q 2
45—R to Kt 7 ch.	45—K to B sq.
46—R to B 7 ch.	46—K to Q sq.
47—P to Kt 5	47—R to R 8 ch.
48—K to Kt 2	48—R to R 7 ch.
49—K to R 3	49—P to B 5
50—B takes P	50—R to Kt 7
51—P to Kt 6	51—Resigns.

(a) In this game Black adopts a defence well known to be dangerous and difficult, so much so that it is known by the Italian term of Fegatello, or "fried liver," equivalent to the English term "hot coffee." White sacrifices a piece at his 6th move, a proceeding which was until Mr. Steinitz demonstrated the contrary, thought to ensure a winning attack for White. Dr. Hatherly goes astray at his 8th move in playing 8 Kt to Q 5 instead of 8 Kt to Kt 5. This must have been done under some false impression, and probably the latter move was intended. Mr. Edwards, however, fails to take the offered piece, no doubt thinking he could do so later on. He plays 9—Q to K 4. This omission enables Black to maintain his defence for some time. Had White taken the offered piece Black might have at once resigned, having an inferior position and a pawn down. Black's 10th move is also a mistake—10—Q to Q 3 would have better enabled him to maintain his defence. After this Black never gets another chance.

Game No. 266.

Best Cunningham Gambit in the recently concluded Southern California Correspondence Tourney. The notes are by Herr Lipschütz, once a player of great celebrity, now for some time resident South on account of ill-health:—

WHITE. W. Bennett.	BLACK. D. F. Sheldon.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—P to K B 4	2—P takes P
3—Kt to K B 3	3—B to K 2 (a)
4—B to B 4	4—B to R 5 ch.
5—K to B sq. (b)	5—P to Q 4
6—B takes P	6—Kt to K B 3
7—Kt to Q B 3	7—Kt takes B
8—Kt takes Kt	8—Castles
9—Kt takes B	9—Q takes K Kt

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10—P to Q 3 (c)	10—Kt to B 3
11—B takes P	11—P to K B 4
12—P to K 5	12—P to K Kt 4
13—B to Kt 3	13—Q to R 3
14—P to Q 4 (d)	14—P to B 5
15—B to B 2	15—P to B 6
16—P to K R 3	16—B to Kt 5 (e)
17—P to K Kt 3	17—B takes P ch.
18—K to Kt sq.	18—P to Kt 5
19—Q to Q 3	19—Q to Kt 2
20—R to K sq.	20—Q R to Q sq.
21—Q to K 4	21—Q to Q 2 (f)
22—Kt to B 6 ch.	22—R takes Kt
23—P takes R	23—Kt takes P
24—R to Q sq.	24—P to Q B 4
25—P to Q B 3	25—Kt to K 7 ch.
26—K to R 2	26—Q to Q B 2

White announces mate in seven moves. (g.)

(a) This move inaugurates the Cunningham Defence to the King's Knight's Gambit. It is seldom practised in match games, being generally considered a weak defence.

(b) 5. P to Kt 3, ☐ be followed by 6, Castles, is also played, leading to a more aggressive, but less sound, attack.

(c) If 10—Kt x Q B P, Kt to B 3; 11—Kt x R, Kt to Q 5; 12—Kt to B 7, B to Kt 5; 13—Q to K sq., B to K 7 ch.; 14—Q x B, Kt x Q; 15—K x Kt, Q to R 4 ch, and must win the Kt.

(d) It is still unsafe to capture the B P on account of 14—P to B 5; 15—B to B 2, P to B 6 with a winning attack.

(e) Strong in appearance; but though it wins a pawn it results in blocking up Black's bishop. A lively variation might have followed; 16—P x P ch; 17—K x P, B x P ch; 18—R x B, R x B ch; 19—K x R, Q x R, &c.

(f) Black overrates the strength of his position in thus giving up the exchanges.

(g) The mate is accomplished in a most beautiful manner. Thus:—27—Q to K 6 ch, K to R sq; 28—Q to K 5, R to K Kt sq.; 29—Q x Q, Kt to Q 5; 30—R x Kt, P x R; 32—it to K sq., any move; 32—R to K 8 and mates next move. Other variations are shorter.

Chess as a Battle.

Chess was invented in the East in ancient times, probably to serve as a type of warfare, and its different pieces and the movements assigned to them sufficiently indicate the different kinds of force formerly deemed necessary in battle. The received etymology of the name and the forms of the pieces make it clear that the rook originally represented the elephants, which in the campaigns of Alexander the Great co-operated as an essential part of the field forces. The train of pawns, which in chess are placed in front of the officers, betoken the poorly armed men who were usually placed in front of the Persian hosts to form a living bulwark against the enemy's charge, and protect the kernel or better armed and more valued part of the forces. The Knight is the trooper, or mounted soldier, who hastens hither and thither, backwards or forwards, according as the exigencies of the strife may require. The Bishop, which, moreover, in ancient chess only moved two squares obliquely at each move, represents the archer, whose attack was effective at the proper distance from the enemy, but ineffective at shorter or greater distance. The modern Queen was originally the Vizier or King's Counsellor, who always stood fast by his side, but took no part in active combat, either in attacking or defending, but was the King's trusty adviser. The King was the true Oriental despot. His death was equivalent to loss. It was for him the war was carried on; why continue the fight after he was dead or captured? A single Pawn therefore which mates the King wins the game, and may even have the whole of the opposing forces at his disposal.—Lasker.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[Reuter "Special" to "Japan Mail."]

London, May 10.

The French press is demanding the autonomy of Egypt and the evacuation of that country by the British, with the neutralization of the Suez Canal by European agreement.

London, May 13.

England, France, and Russia have presented to the Sultan of Turkey a scheme for reforms in Armenia.

London, May 15.

The following is the result of the Newmarket Stakes run to-day:—

Duke of Portland's Owl..... 1
Mr. A. W. Cox's Solaro 2
Lord Rosebery's Sir Visto 3

The Imperial Government has declined to guarantee any portion of the Newfoundland Debt, as it is believed that the scheme of federation is doomed.

London, May 16.

The Prussian Upper House has adopted a resolution calling upon the Government to act promptly and settle the currency question with a view to establish international bimetallism.

["Special" Telegram to "Japan Mail."]

Nagasaki, May 10.

It is reported here that the French ship *Isly* is under orders to leave to-morrow, and the U.S.S. *Baltimore* on Sunday, both for Chefoo. The U.S.S. *Charleston* will shortly leave this port for Yokohama.

Nagasaki, May 12 (noon.)

In consequence of the quieter state of affairs in China, the departure of the U.S.S. *Baltimore* is reported here to have been postponed indefinitely. The *Isly* left here yesterday for Chefoo, and the *Duguy Trouin* arrived here from Shanghai this morning. The *Bayard* and *Alger* show no signs of intended departure, and the usual quiet reigns at this port.

May 13.

It is reported that the whole of the American fleet will assemble at this port for the purpose of inspection. The *Charleston's* departure for Yokohama is countermanded owing to the necessity that has been discovered for the ship to undergo extensive repairs.

Kobe, May 14.

Last night fire broke out in a house on the Hill occupied by Mr. Young, of the *Kobe Chronicle*, and in a short space of time the premises were gutted and the contents destroyed. House and contents are insured. This morning another fire broke out on the Hill, and two small foreign houses belonging to Mr. Blackwell and five or six Japanese houses were totally destroyed. Later on, another fire occurred near the Paper Mill, and in this conflagration four or five Japanese houses were burned.

Hakodate, May 18.

The schooner *Willard Ainsworth* has arrived here with 917 sealskins.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From America	per P. M. Co.	Thursday, May 23rd.*
From Europe, viâ Hongkong	per M. M. Co.	Sunday, May 26th.†
From Canada, &c.....	per C. P. R. Co.	Monday, May 27th.‡
From Hongkong	per C. P. R. Co.	Thursday, May 30th.
From America	per O. & O. Co.	Friday, May 31st §
From Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Sunday, June 2nd.
From Europe, viâ Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd	Wed'day, June 12th.

* *City of Rio de Janeiro* left San Francisco on May 4th. † *Oceanien* (with French mail) left Hongkong on May 13th. ‡ *Empress of China* left Vancouver on May 13th. § *Gaelic* left San Francisco on May 14th.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For America	per O. & O. Co.	Sunday, May 19th.
For Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Saturday, May 25th.
For Victoria, B.C., & Tacoma, Wash.....	per N. P. Co.	Saturday, May 25th.
For Hongkong	per C. P. R. Co.	Monday, May 27th.
For America	per P. M. Co.	Wed'day, May 29th.
For Canada, &c.	per C. P. R. Co.	Friday, May 31st.
For Europe, viâ Shanghai	per M. M. Co.	Saturday, June 1st.
For Europe, viâ Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd	Friday, June 14th.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Coptic, British steamer, 2,840, H. W. G. Lindsay, 11th May,—San Francisco, viâ Honolulu, 23rd April, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Ormiston, British steamer, 1,846, Outram, 11th May,—Bombay viâ ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Glengyle, British steamer, 2,244, McGilvrey, 12th May,—London viâ ports, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Kriemhild, German steamer, 1,638, 12th May,—Hamburg viâ ports, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Priam, British steamer, 1,802, Jackson, 13th May,—Liverpool viâ ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Victoria, Swedish steamer, 1,181, Joen Hellberg, 13th May,—Moji, 11th May, Coal.—Order.

Melbourne, French steamer, 3,400, Bourdon, 14th May,—Marseilles 31st March, Hongkong 5th May, Shanghai 8th, Nagasaki 10th, and Kobe 13th, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

Rhodora, British steamer, 1,692, Williams, 14th May,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Victoria, British steamer, 1,991, J. Panton, R.N.R., 15th May,—Hongkong viâ ports, 4th May, General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Andelana, British ship, 2,395, Jno. Gillis, 15th May,—New York 5th January, 101,500 cases Oil.—Standard Oil Co.

Hohensollern, German steamer, 2,376, H. Walter, 15th May,—Hongkong 10th May, Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.

Energia, British steamer, 2,063, Saw, 16th May,—Hamburg viâ ports, General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Brindisi, British steamer, 2,186, R. A. Peters, 17th May,—London viâ ports, General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Caroline (14), cruiser, Captain C. J. Norcock, 17th May,—Kobe.

Ancona, British steamer, 1,880, W. D. Madie, 17th May,—Hongkong viâ ports, 10th May, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Belgic, British steamer, 2,695, Wm. H. Walker, 17th May,—Hongkong viâ ports, 9th May, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

DEPARTURES.

Sikh, British steamer, 2,735, J. Rowley, 12th May,—Hongkong viâ Kobe, General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Coptic, British steamer, 2,940, H. W. G. Lindsay, 14th May,—Hongkong viâ Nagasaki, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Amaranth, British steamer, 1,735, Cliff, 14th May,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Priam, British steamer, 1,802, Jackson, 15th May,—London viâ ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Ormiston, British steamer, 1,846, Outram, 15th May,—Bombay viâ ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Victoria, Swedish steamer, 1,181, J. Hellberg, 15th May,—Moji, Ballast.—Order.

Doris, German steamer, 771, Bruhn, 16th May,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Rhodora, British steamer, 1,692, J. C. Williams, 16th May,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sendai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,034, Crichton, 16th May,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Victoria, British steamer, 1,991, J. Panton, R.N.R., 17th May,—Tacoma, Wash., viâ Victoria, B.C., Mails and General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Achilles, British steamer, 1,470, 17th May,—Hongkong viâ ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Laurel Branch, British steamer, 2,140, H. J. Ritson, 17th May,—Kobe, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Hohensollern, German steamer, 2,376, H. Walter, 17th May,—Hongkong viâ ports, Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.

Andelana, British ship, 2,395, Jno. Gillis, 18th May,—Kobe, 100,500 cases Oil.—Standard Oil Co.

Melbourne, French steamer, 3,400, Bourdon, 18th May,—Shanghai viâ ports, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per British steamer *Coptic*, from San Francisco, via Honolulu:—Mr. J. C. S. Parcher, Mr. Frank A. Bicknell, Mr. E. A. Schoyer, Mrs. Jas. R. Morse, Miss Morse, Miss Juliet T. Lowrey, Dr. Y. Kondo, Mr. R. L. Greenlee, Mrs. R. L. Greenlee, Mr. W. B. Greenlee, Miss Grace Greenlee, Miss Isabelle Greenlee, Mr. J. W. Sothern, Mrs. Sothern, Mrs. T. M. Schumacher, Mr. E. H. R. Manley, Mr. J. B. Maxwell, and Mr. Hans Ziegler in cabin. For Hongkong:—Mr. T. B. Cunningham in cabin. From Honolulu:—Mr. Chong Gut Tong, Mr. Sam Sing and family, Dr. Goto and family, and Mrs. Gibbs in cabin.

Per French steamer *Melbourne*, from Marseilles viâ ports:—Mr. Pauly, Mr. and Mrs. Galy and child, Mr. Meyer, Mr. Ducroix, Mr. Simon, Mr. and Mrs. Davis and child, Mr. Gallani, Mrs. and Miss Logan, Mrs. Hyde and child, Miss Murdock, Mrs. Percebois and 3 children, Mr. Logan, Mr. H. Joseph, Miss Stewart, Mr. J. S. Grant, Mrs. Klobukowsky and amah, Mr. Henry Smith, Mrs. Ribeiro and 2 children, Mrs. Bonyer, and Mrs. Schmidt and child in cabin, and 5 Chinese in steerage.

Per British steamer *Victoria*, from Kobe:—Mr. and Mrs. Maclavish, Mr. and Mrs. Abbott, Mr. and Mrs. Chapple, Miss Hill, Mr. E. J. Richardson, and Rev. Mr. Watson in cabin.

Per German steamer *Hohensollern*, from Hongkong:—Mrs. Efford, Mr. A. Modella, Dr. F. Kono, Mr. A. Loveday, Mrs. Christensen, Mr. Franz Urban, Mr. Fritz Gensen, Mr. and Mrs. Pickering, Dr. Sakaki, Messrs. Hau Ching, Rum Fook, Rum Wat, Shoon Yee, Gome Sam, G To Yoo, O Tai Sam, Loo Chung Him, and Chan Shing in cabin.

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Per British steamer *Brindisi*, from London viâ ports :—Mrs. Bremme, Mr. Gill, Captain Baugh, and Mr. Metcalf in cabin.

Per British steamer *Ancona*, from Hongkong viâ ports :—Hon. Geoffrey Mills, Mr. A. Garnier, Mr. Wrigley, Mr. Waddell, Mr. Harvie, Mrs. Fitzgerald, and Mr. Kwong Man Wing in cabin.

Per British steamer *Belgic*, from Hongkong viâ ports :—Mr. E. Welbaum, Mr. and Mrs. S. G. Bird, Mr. H. Slade, Lieut. Duff, Lieut. Rowcroft, Mrs. Johnson, Colonel J. A. Cockerill, Mrs. Cockerill, General Geo. B. Williams, Mr. L. Laflin, Mr. A. S. Laflin, Mr. F. E. Lutscher, Mrs. Middleton and child, Miss M. Richards, Mr. L. Hearn, Mr. E. J. Bates, and Mr. Jno. Smith in cabin. For San Francisco :—Lieut. R. M. E. Ray and Mr. H. R. Smith, U.S.N., in cabin.

DEPARTED.

Per British steamer *Coptic*, for Hongkong viâ Nagasaki :—Messrs. J. C. Peter, W. E. Roberts, H. W. Robertson, and A. Cumming in cabin.

Per British steamer *Victoria*, for Tacoma, Wash., viâ Victoria, B.C. :—Mr. and Mrs. Abbott, Rev. John Watson, Mr. E. J. Richardson, Miss Grace Hill, Rev. and Mrs. Chappell, Mr. and Mrs. Mactavish, Mrs. Robinson, Messrs. F. G. Friend, R. D. Robison, Buissonet, B. Sharp, Wilson, C. Bretschneider, Rev. J. H. Ballagh, Messrs. Seymour, A. B. Case, and Erwin Buller in cabin ; Messrs. Carom, Basleer, Asod Leashie, Paul Leashie, wife and child, C. Anderson, A. Lund, O. Fosmark, G. Bingham, N. Jamieson, F. Williams, and F. J. Stanier, Mrs. Beamet and Mrs. Neser in European in steerage, and 117 passengers in Asiatic steerage.

Per German steamer *Hohensollern*, for Hongkong viâ ports :—Mr. F. Dreyer in cabin ; Mr. Yee, Mr. T. Petersen, Frau Hiruma and 2 children, Mr. J. Nakahara, Mr. S. Shibata, Mr. T. Makino, and Mr. T. Yano in second class ; one European and 11 Japanese in third class, and 4 Chinese on deck.

CARGOES.

Per British steamer *Victoria*, for Tacoma, Wash., viâ Victoria, B.C. :—

TEA.

	PACIFIC COAST.	NEW YORK.	CHICAGO.	CANADA.	OTHER CITIES.	TOTAL.
Hyogo	126	513	272	—	—	911
Yokohama	461	1,295	3,890	1	—	5,647
Hongkong	2	620	801	294	—	1,717
Total	589	2,428	4,963	295	—	8,275

SILK.

	NEW YORK.	OTHER CITIES.	TOTAL.
Hongkong	64	—	64
Yokohama	104	—	104
Total	168	—	168

RATES.

Tea ..... 2 cents Gold per lb. gross.
Silk ..... 3 cents Gold per lb. gross.
Measurement ..... $14 Gold per ton.

Per German steamer *Hohensollern*, for Hongkong viâ ports :—Raw Silk for Europe, 60 bales ; Waste Silk for Europe, 250 bales.

REPORTS.

The British steamer *Belgic*, Captain Walker, reports :—Left Hongkong the 9th May, viâ Amoy the 11th, Nagasaki the 14th, and Kobe the 16th. Arrived at Yokohama the 17th May.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

A rather better feeling sprang up on the ratification of Peace, and a good day's work was done in doubled Yarns. But the movement has ceased once more, and all is dull again. No trade in shirtings although enquiries are about. T.-Reds are once more in demand, but other fancies quiet. Woollens—A small demand continues in Italian Cloth ; other things neglected.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirtings—8½ lb, 38½ yds. 39 inches	$2.25 to 2.85
Grey Shirtings—9lb, 38½ yds. 45 inches	2.70 to 3.20
T. Cloth—7lb, 25 yards, 32 inches	1.60 to 1.95
Indigo Shirtings—12 yards, 14 inches	1.70 to 2.35
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches	2.00 to 3.75
Cotton—Italians and Sateens Black, 32 inches	PER YARD. 0.16 to 0.24
	PER PIECE.
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	7.25 to 9.50
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 12-3 inches	0.80 to 0.95
Turkey Reds—2.0 to 2.4lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.60 to 1.70
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.75 to 2.05
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.30 to 2.60
Turkey Reds—4.8 to 5lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.90 to 3.10

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.
Flannel	$0.30 to 0.47½
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches best	0.30 to 0.35
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Medium	0.25 to 0.27½
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Common	0.20 to 0.22½
Mousseline de Laine—Cape, 21 yards, 31 inches	0.15 to 0.22
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches	0.35 to 0.50
Cloths—Presidents, 54 @ 56 inches	0.60 to 0.65
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0.40 to 0.70
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 5lb, per lb	0.60 to 0.75

COTTON YARNS.

	PER PICUL.
Nos. 10/24, Ordinary	—
Nos. 16/24, Medium	$34.00 to 34.50
Nos. 16/24, Good to Best	35.00 to 36.00
Nos. 16/24, Reverse	—
Nos. 28/32, Ordinary	—
Nos. 28/32, Medium	35.50 to 36.00
Nos. 28/32, Good to Best	36.50 to 37.50
Nos. 38/42, Medium to Best	42.00 to 44.00
No. 32s, Two-fold	42.00 to 44.00
No. 42s, Two-fold	47.00 to 49.00
	PER BALE.
No. 20s, Bombay	—
No. 16s, Bombay	—

METALS.

Dull and quiet. No sales of any importance.

	PER PICUL.
Flat Bars, ½ inch	$3.45 to 3.50
Flat Bars, ¾ inch	3.45 to 3.50
Round and square up to ¾ inch	3.40 to 3.50
Iron Plates, assorted	3.45 to 3.55
Sheet Iron	4.40 to 4.60
Galvanized Iron sheets	8.25 to 8.75
Wire Nails, assorted	5.60 to 6.00
Tin Plates, per box	5.65 to 5.75
Pig Iron, No. 3	1.55 to 1.60

KEROSENE.

Still no sales ; and no fresh arrivals from Europe or America. But a new feature has come into the market by the importation of 15,000 cases Oil from the Dutch Indies per steamer *Rotary*. No report yet as to the quality or suitability of this Kerosene, and no idea as to price at present. 5,000 cases are to be tried at auction early next week and this will be a guide as to the future of Langkat Oil in Japan.

American	Nom. $2.60 to 2.62½
Russian	Nom. 2.57½ to 2.60

SUGAR.

Brown—A few sales at easy rates including 6,000 piculs Takao to arrive at $3.44½. White—Market quiet, prices unchanged.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Takao	$3.40 to 3.50
Brown Manila	4.20 to 4.30
Brown Daitong (New)	3.20 to 3.30
Brown Canton	3.30 to 3.50
White Java and Penang	6.40 to 6.50
White Refined	6.40 to 9.20

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Fair business for Europe, America, and home use : so that the stock is much reduced, being now only 1,600 piculs. The new crop is proceeding satisfactorily. Some few *to* of new cocoons have already been delivered to a reeling factory in Mayebashi, but these are *essais précoces*, and do not represent the bulk of the crop.

QUOTATIONS.

Hanks—No. 1½	—
Hanks—No. 2 (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 2 (Joshu)	—
Hanks—No. 2½ (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 2½ (Joshu)	—
Hanks—No. 2½ to 3	—
Hanks—No. 3	—
Hanks—No. 3½	—
Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	720 to 730
Filatures—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	—
Re-reels—Extra	—
Re-reels—(Oshu) Best No. 1	—
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 deniers	740 to 750
Re-reels—No. 1½, 13/16, 14/17 deniers	720 to 730
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	—
Re-reels—No. 2½, 14/18 deniers	—
Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	—
Kakedas—Extra	740
Kakedas—No. 1	720 to 730
Kakedas—No. 1½	700 to 710
Kakedas—No. 2	—
Kakedas—No. 2½	—
Kakedas—No. 3	—
Kakedas—No. 3½	—
Kakedas—No. 4	—
Oshu Sendai—No. 2½	—
Hanatsuki—No. 1, 2	—
Hanatsuki—No. 3, 4	—
Sendai—No. 2½	—

WASTE SILK.

Very quiet. Holders getting anxious are offering to reduce quotations ; but without being able to tempt buyers.

QUOTATIONS.

Pierced Cocoons—Good to Best	—
Noshi-ito—Filature, Best	$125 to 130
Noshi-ito—Filature, Good	115 to 120
Noshi-ito—Filature, Medium	105 to 110
Noshi-ito—Oshu, Good to Best	110 to 125
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Best	—
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Good	—
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Medium	60 to 75
Noshi-ito—Bushu, Good to Best	100 to 115
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Best	—
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Good	70
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Ordinary	60 to 65
Kibiso—Filature, Best selected	100 to 105
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds	85 to 90
Kibiso—Oshu, Good to Best	—
Kibiso—Shinshu, Best	—
Kibiso—Shinshu, Seconds	—
Kibiso—Joshu, Good to Fair	30 to 27½
Kibiso—Joshu, Middlingto Common	25 to 22½
Kibiso—Hachoji, Good to Fair	25 to 23
Kibiso—Hachoji, Medium to Low	22 to 20
Kibiso—Neri, Good to Common	12 to 8
Mawata—Good to Best	—

TEA.

A large business for the week, amounting to 35,000 piculs. Prices lower, but still not down to last year's rates. Tasters continue to grumble at quality which they say is much below that of last crop. Medium grades are now coming in ; they look poor and very dear at the prices which holders demand. Outgoing steamers are well loaded with new Tea.

	PER PICUL.
Choicest	$38 to $40
Choice	[illegible] to 36
Finest	32 to 33
Fine	30 to 31

EXCHANGE.

Exchange rose several points in the early part of the week, but closes at rates prevailing at the end of last week.

Sterling—Bank T.T.	2/1½
— — Bills on demand	2/1½
— — 4 months' sight	2/2
— Private 4 months' sight	2/2½
— — 6 months' sight	2/2½
On Paris—Bank sight	2.70
On Lyons—Private 4 months' sight	2.76
On Hongkong—Bank sight	½% p.
— Private 10 days' sight	½% d.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	71
— Private 10 days' sight	72
On India—Bank sight	195
— Private 30 days' sight	197½
On America—Bank Bills on demand	52½
— Private 30 days' sight	53½
— — 4 months' sight	54½
On Germany—Bank sight	2.17
— Private 4 months' sight	2.24
Bar Silver (London)	30⅞

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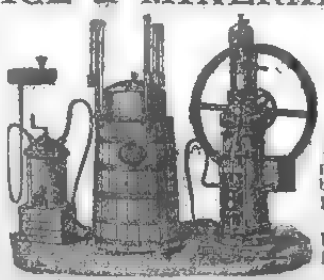
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Sir Samuel Baker, in his work entitled "The Nile Tributaries in Abyssinia," says—"I ordered the dragoman Mahomet to inform the Fakir that I was a Doctor, and I had the best medicines at the service of the sick, with advice gratis. In a short time I had many applicants, to whom I served out a quantity of Holloway's Pills. These are most useful to an explorer, as, possessing unmistakable purgative properties, they create an undeniable effect upon the patient, which satisfies them of their value."

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Sold by all Chemists and Medicine Vendors the throughou World. May 1st, 1890.

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By J. H. W.

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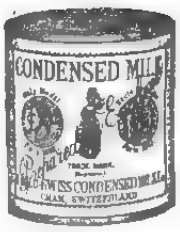
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Original from UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

The Japan Weekly Mail:

A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

No. 21.] REGISTERED AT THE G.P.O. AS A NEWSPAPER. YOKOHAMA, MAY 25TH, 1895. 明治二十八年五月二十五日郵便物認可 Vol. XXII.

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same: and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, MAY 25TH, 1895.

DEATH.

This morning (May 23rd), MARY ISABEL SCOTT, daughter of Alfred Le Prévost, aged 8 months.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

CHOLERA is increasing in some of the southern towns.

FIELD-MARSHAL OYAMA has return to Japan accompanied by his staff.

GENDARMES will police Formosa, and over one thousand have been despatched there.

THE Governor-General's office in Formosa will probably be established at Taipeh-fu.

MR. ABBEY'S 17-rater *Daisy* won the sailing-race of the B division on Saturday last.

THE "Ladies Battle" drew another crowded house at the Public Hall on Wednesday evening.

MR. HAYASHI, Vice-Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, has been appointed Minister to China.

A HAIL and thunderstorm of remarkable severity visited Yokohama and district on Sunday evening.

OVER fifty provincial and metropolitan papers have been suspended during the week for the usual offence.

THE match between a six-oared crew of the Imperial University, Tokyo, and a six of the Yokohama Amateur Rowing Club, took place on Monday evening, and was won by the Japanese by about three feet.

THE transport *Ujina Maru* has gone ashore at Pitzswo, and her captain has abandoned hope of her floating off.

SOME fourteen men-of-war of Russian, British, and French nationality were in Nagasaki harbour on Wednesday.

THE Hokkaido colonial troops, who have been staying in Tokyo for some time, will shortly return to Hokkaido.

MR. ERNEST SATOW, formerly Secretary of H.B.M.'s Legation in Tokyo, has been appointed British Minister to Japan.

PREPARATIONS are being pushed rapidly forward to give the Emperor a right loyal "welcome-home," on his arrival in Tokyo.

AFFAIRS in Korea are in a very critical condition. Every Minister of State suspects his colleagues, and several have resigned.

ON the morning of the 19th instant an engine car was derailed at Akagi Station on the Sanyo Railway, but no persons were injured.

THE *Jiyu-to* have refused to join the other parties of the Opposition in vigorously opposing the policy of the present Cabinet.

THE Ministers of State and high Naval and Military men have been feasted by Kobe, Osaka, and Kyoto residents during the week.

SIXTY-SIX houses were burnt at Kumaji-mura, Nanami-gun, Hyogo Prefecture, on the 7th inst. One man and a woman were burnt to death.

COLONEL FUKUSHIMA, of trans-Asian fame, having been appointed Chief of the Bureau of Military Affairs in Formosa, has left Japan for his post.

A CRICKET match, Eleven against Twenty-two, captained respectively by Mr. Mollison and Mr. Walford, was played in Yokohama on the Queen's Birthday.

H.I.H. PRINCE KOMATSU, Commander-in-chief of the Armies operating in China, has returned to Kyoto, and delivered into the Emperor's hands his Marshal's sword.

THE Osaka Mercantile Shipping Co. intend to open steamship communication with Formosa, and with this end in view will raise a further capital of *yen* 2,500,000.

AN up-train from Yokohama, which left about 8 p.m. on the 16th instant, ran over and killed at Tamachi, Shiba, Tokyo, a youth, who from his appearance is supposed to be student.

A CONVICT named Nishio Masakichi, who is working out a life sentence in the Kajibashi Prison, Tokyo, fatally assaulted a jailer, named Kanda Matsushiro, with a hammer on the 19th inst.

THE report and accounts of the Club Hotel, Limited, have been passed at a general meeting of shareholders. The new Board of Directors are Messrs. Arnould, Brower, Ward, Litchfield, Bougouin, Knaff, and Coye.

FROM the commencement of the war up to the 30th ult., the number of casualties, patients, and deaths in the Army, including officers, men and military coolies, was as follows:—persons attacked 41,445; persons wounded 2,891; persons attacked by diseases, 44,137 (this includes slight cases), of whom 2,408 were affected by cholera and 41,729 by other diseases; deaths, 3,284, of whom 623 were killed on the field, 172 succumbed to wounds, and 2,489 died from disease.

THE post of Chief of the Bureau of Commercial Affairs in the Foreign Office, hitherto held by Mr. Hara Kei, who is now promoted to be Vice-Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, has been given to Mr. Fujii Saburo.

IT is stated that the Minister of Home Affairs has instructed the Local Governors to pay particular attention to newspapers and public speeches, and to act with prompt decision in all matters regarded as likely to be injurious to the smooth working of foreign intercourse.

A VERY pleasant garden party was given at the British Legation on the 24th inst. to members of the Imperial family, Ministers of State, the Foreign Representatives, Consuls, and officers of various men-of-war now in the port of Yokohama, and many other guests, to celebrate the Birthday of H.M. the Queen.

REUTER telegraphs:—The French have placed a fortified post at Bajito which is within the limits of the British frontier on the Lower Niger. The French Governor at Dahomey is about to march through the Niger Company's territory to Sokotto, and is said to be seeking to conclude treaties with the Chiefs owning allegiance to the British. The French vanguard, which is marching on Antananarivo, has arrived at Biseva. Count Kalnoky, the Minister of Foreign Affairs for the whole Monarchy, has finally resigned owing to his failure to arrange the differences with the Hungarian Premier. The Commission, which was appointed to inquire into the recent atrocities in Armenia, has discovered at Sassoun the pits where the bodies of the massacred Armenians were buried. The man Taylor, indicted in the Wilde case, has been found guilty on two counts, and sentence has been deferred. Oscar Wilde will be separately indicted.

MONEY is very tight in commercial circles and trade is consequently languishing. A feeling of apprehension and insecurity pervades the Japanese markets, and expression is given to the opinion that this will not be allayed until the Government has returned to the Capital. Cotton Piece Goods, Woollens, and Yarns are dull, without signs of immediate improvement. The market for Metals is also quiet, although dealers and consumers must really be in want of supplies; when business confidence is restored and money is circulating again this state of things will doubtless soon pass away. There is not a great trade in Sugar, prices are easy for Brown and well maintained for White sorts. The week has been very busy for Tea-men, a "cut" in rates by a new Pacific line of steamers having had a stimulating effect. Prices are weakening in the face of plentiful supplies, and buyers still grumble at the quality of the Leaf. The Lankat Oil, mentioned last week, has been put up to auction and fetched prices about $2.30 a case less than well-recognised Russian and American Brands; this should, we think, be satisfactory to importers as an initial venture. A considerable amount of buying has taken place on the Raw Silk market, and the old season stock is now very reduced. Reports from the silk districts are very favourable as to the progress of the silkworms. The [illegible] lock in the Waste Silk trade continues, and holders will have to reduce their demands considerably if they wish to lighten [illegible] before the new fibre is placed upon the [illegible]

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THE SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS DURING THE WEEK.

At no time since it began to exist has the Japanese press been subjected to more stringent censorship than at present. Of the dozen leading dailies in the capital, as many as seven are under the ban of suspension—the *Hochi*, the *Jiyu*, the *Kokumin*, the *Nippon*, the *Niroku*, the *Kokkai*, and the *Mainichi*. Two other minor journals, the *Mezamashi* and the *Yorozu Choho*, are in the same predicament. Moreover, even such papers as the *Nichi Nichi* and the *Jiji* have not come out of the ordeal scatheless. Indeed they were among the first to feel the revived activity of the press censors. As already stated in these columns, the offence committed by the majority of these papers relates to foreign affairs. In the present delicate state of the country's foreign relations, it is well that due restraint should be imposed upon the utterances of the press. But the consequences of applying the muzzle closely may be mischievous. In many cases, it has been observed that suspension served only to draw attention to paragraphs or articles that might otherwise have been passed unnoticed. Many persons doubt whether this vigorous censorship has attained its object, for despite official vigilance, the metropolitan editors know how to convey their meaning clearly enough without provoking the interference of the censors. Any intelligent reader of the Japanese press can not fail to detect between its guarded lines clear indications of the national sentiment on the question of European interference. The impression left after careful perusal of the metropolitan journals is one of respect for the firm and united determination of the whole nation. The indignation of all classes and parties at the conduct of Russia and her allies is keen and intense; so that even the severity of the official censorship can not altogether prevent its public expression. What is most noteworthy about the situation is that, instead of having recourse to excited agitation, the nation seems determined to proceed in a practical manner by increasing the strength of the Navy. All parties are agreed in thinking that the greater portion of the indemnity obtained from China should be employed for this purpose. Opinions differ as to the exact point to which the Navy should be increased; but the majority seem to regard 200,000 tons as the strength required for immediately future purposes.

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The disturbed state of politics in the Korean capital engages the serious attention of Japanese papers. Mr. Boku, Minister of Home Affairs, about whose friendship toward this country no doubt had hitherto been entertained, is believed to have fallen into the snares of the artful Queen, with whom he is apparently involved in an important conspiracy against the dominant influence of the Japanese Minister, Count Inouye. It is even stated that Mr. Boku is acting in concert with the Russian Minister. An impression prevails in Tokyo that the situation is very serious in the peninsula, and that grave complications may at any moment arise. The tone of the metropolitan papers on this subject is strong and unanimous. The task of reforming Korea's administration and securing her independence having been undertaken both for her own sake and for that of Japan, the latter, say these journals, can under no circumstance retreat from the position she has taken up in the peninsular kingdom. Such is the opinion generally expressed on this subject. We shall reproduce a few of the articles dealing with the topic.

* * *

"The enmity between the present Korean Cabinet," says the *Nichi Nichi*, "and the Tai Wŏn-kun is natural and intelligible enough. But what passes understanding is the news of Premier Kim's resignation and Mr. Boku's appeal for the support of the foreign Ministers." It appears, however, that this apparently unintelligible phenomenon may be traced to that incurable disease of Korean politicians, the passion for factions and intrigues. Both Kim and Boku owe their present exalted positions to the recommendation and support of Count Inouye, and by his assistance they have been able to discharge the duties of their offices. Moreover, they all joined in the solemn vow to serve their country with disinterested zeal and public spirit. But these circumstances have not prevented them from acting as they are reported to have acted now. Count Inouye's bodily health is stated to be not at all good. But the disease of the Korean politicians, is it, after all, incurable? Even after repeated changes of *personnel* the evil of faction feuds continues to impair the interests of the country as much as formerly. Is it that Korea is incapable of profiting by instruction? Is her position entirely hopeless?" The *Nichi Nichi* then proceeds to call the attention of the Japanese Government to the urgent necessity of settling the Korean problem in the right manner. Now that Korean independence has been recognized by China, it is not desirable that interference should be made in her internal affairs, but it is incumbent upon Japan to take opportune steps to rescue her from the calamitous consequences of the faction struggles now agitating her court.

* * *

The *Chuo Shimbun* compares Korea to Egypt. The two countries have much in common; "their rulers and people are equally impotent and ignorant as well as destitute of patriotism; their national finances are equally deranged; their armies are not sufficient even for the purpose of maintaining order and peace at home; they are equally incapable of standing erect without the support of some strong hand; and to complete the picture, they claim kindred in the prevalence of faction intrigues and personal feuds." Our contemporary refers to the report that France is moving heaven and earth to get the support of the other Powers in demanding the withdrawal of England from Egypt, and warns the Japanese Government against the possibility of a similar combination in regard to Korea. In conclusion, the National Unionist organ advises its countrymen not to be alarmed, whatever turn events may take. "Be calm and determined, and you will know how to act in case of emergency." Such is the counsel offered by the *Chuo*.

* * *

The *Choya Shimbun* writes as follows:—"The return of the Liaotung peninsula will be regarded by the world at large as an act of chivalry well becoming the spirit with which the recent war was undertaken by Japan. A nation, however, has the right of self-preservation, and there is no reason why this right should be waived in deference to the friendly advice of other States. Japan came to the rescue of Korea originally at her request, but we are entitled by the right of self-preservation to take into our hands the task of maintaining the integrity of the peninsular kingdom. The case is, therefore, entirely different with Korea. We have given up Liaotung; but Korea we can never leave to her own fate." Our contemporary concludes by calling upon the Government to pursue a firm and unbending policy in regard to Korea.

* * *

The same paper observes in another article that the shortsightedness of Boku and his fellow-intriguers invites only pity and contempt. It is Russia's conduct that demands the most serious attention. Then follow two paragraphs that have been rendered entirely unreadable by turning the type upside down. In the concluding paragraph, our contemporary remarks that to forestall others is to control them.

* * *

Concerning the return of the Liao-tung peninsula, the conditions on which the transfer is to be effected still remain unsettled. The *Jiji*, in an article translated separately, insists on an increase of the indemnity and the occupation of the districts as security for its payment. Other papers as yet refrain from expressing their opinion on the subject. It is, however, understood that a large section of the public are not in favour of any increase of indemnity. Having determined to return the peninsula, the Japanese seem to think it more manly not to demand any monetary compensation. Another and perhaps more influential motive in rejecting the idea of pecuniary indemnification, is a sentiment of indignation at the interference of three European Powers. The Japanese do not like it to be supposed that they have made a sort of bargain or obtained some kind of material consolation.

* * *

Apart from the umbrage the Japanese feel and express against Russia and her allies about the loss of Liao-tung, they are not unconscious of the negative benefits of European intervention. The check thus imposed upon this nation will serve as a powerful stimulant to its growth as a military power. This phase of the question has been dwelt upon at some length by a writer in the *Yomiuri Shimbun*. It is idle, he says, to lament over the loss of a large portion of the lawful fruits of Japanese victories. Viewing the matter calmly, it is perhaps a good thing for Japan that she has been compelled to be contented or discontented with only part of her rightful prizes. Had she obtained all that she asked for, she might have become satisfied with her position, a result very injurious to her future progress and development. But as it is, the national pride has been strongly affected by European intervention, and the people are inspired with redoubled energy to increase their resources and strength. Thus the loss of Liaotung may prove to have been a blessing in disguise.

* * *

The question of Formosa receives a due share of journalistic attention. The general impression is that it will be necessary to resort to force in effecting the transfer of the island. Writing on this subject, the *Jiji Shimpo* advises the Governor-General to abstain as far as possible from actual use of force. Our contemporary is persuaded that a mere display of force will suffice. The real difficulty does not lie in the pacification of the island, but in its government. There are two methods of procedure; namely, either to suffer local customs and laws to remain operative, or to replace them by laws and customs of Japan. The *Jiji* advises the Governor-General to pursue the latter course. Among the numerous social evils that ought to be suppressed with a strong hand, reference is made to the use of opium. This pernicious habit must be put down without the slightest indulgence. Should it be suffered to go unsuppressed, there would be danger of its being introduced into Japan herself. The rigorous suppression of the evil may lead to a diminution of the native population. But such a result is not to be regarded, for the vacancy thus occasioned can be very advantageously filled up by emigration from the mother country. The population is increasing in Japan at the rate of about 500,000 per annum, and nothing would be more welcome than the emigration of the superfluity to Formosa or Taiwan.

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The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* is glad to observe that the Chinese Government appears to be earnestly anxious to fulfil her treaty obligations to Japan, as may be seen from the promptitude with which the Commissioner for the transfer of Formosa has been appointed and despatched. The Chinese Emperor is also reported to have issued an edict ordering the officials in that island to leave it at once. Such activity on the part of China is a novel phenomenon, probably the effect of her awakening to the reality of her situation. Our contemporary advises the Government to be quick in discharging its own side of the obligations. It urges the speedy departure of the Governor-General to Taiwan and the new Minister to Peking.

HIS EXCELLENCY VISCOUNT MUTSU is still confined to his bed, but his illness is said to be less severe than it was at the time of his return from Kyoto.

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EDITORIAL NOTES.

SOME EXTREMISTS ON THE RETURN OF MANCHURIA.

ALTHOUGH the tone of the vernacular papers continues, on the whole, fairly free from excitement with regard to the return of the occupied districts to China, the popular feeling on the subject is very deep and is evinced in all sorts of ways. To the perfervid expressions of extremists both the *Nippon* and *Kokumin* have opened their columns, with not-too-happy results. The changes are rung on irony and sarcasm of the most pronounced type, so that the impartial observer is, in many instances, surprised at the leniency of the Press Censors in letting so much pass unnoticed, or, at all events, without forcible protest. On the morning of the 15th instant, the *Kokumin* published a list of "things unforgettable." The paragraph was by no means long, and ran as follows:—"The people of Japan have always to remember that it was Field-Marshal Yamagata who first proposed the return of Manchuria to China." "Moreover, that Mr. Ito is the one who finally yielded to the 'friendly advice' of the Triple Coalition. Him we thank with tears of blood flowing from our eyes. Finally that Russia, Germany and France are Japan's most bitter, most irreconcilable foes." In another portion of the same issue, we find the following story:—"The cry of 'Extra! Extra!' was heard in every street in the neighbourhood. Without asking what the news was, an old and patriotic green-grocer at once displayed the national flag above his doorway. Some jinrikisha-pullers, sitting opposite the house, got angry at this and came up to the old man in a threatening manner. 'What have you hung out the flag for?' was their question. 'My friends,' replied the old fellow,' "don't you know that an extra has been issued? It must surely contain the announcement of some great national success, for I see everybody reading it. So as a good patriot I have hung out our country's flag.' 'Nonsense, you old rogue!' cried the men; 'that extra tells that the Government has returned the Chinchow Peninsula to China—that Peninsula which cost us so much trouble to take.' 'What! Chinchow given back? Awful! Horrible! Here, dame! be quick now and pull down that flag!' yelled the enraged sexagenarian." A storiette with like moral appears in the *Nippon*:—

A.—"Come, friend, here are a lot of books which I promise to give you."

B,—"Aha, another Shimonoseki Treaty, eh? Thanks, I don't want them."

A.—"Now don't be so suspicious: I am neither Li Hung-chang nor the honourable and loyal Count Ito."

We quote finally a few of the pithy letters sent in to the *Nippon* by its subscribers:—

"I have committed suicide. How insane the Kyoto people must be to hoist flags in honour of the termination of the Peace Negotiations! As I have none to discuss the matter with, I have preferred to die. Be so good as to remember me to that most honourable Mr. Ito."—(Signed *Kisaishi*).

"No words can express the degree of joy I feel. Thanks, my dear Mr. Ito. I cannot refrain from shedding bloody tears of joy."—(Signed *Tochu*.)

"Editor of the *Nippon*—Dear Sir, I earnestly request you to burn up all the war correspondence you have in the office, otherwise it will haunt you. To read of the great deeds of the war simply disgusts me and gives me so much pain that I know I have not much longer to live. Before leaving this world, kindly relieve me by letting me know that you have complied with this my last request."—(Anonymous).

All this may be excellent fooling, but it certainly is not calculated to promote the interests of public tranquillity.

EXAMINATION FOR TEACHERS' LICENSE.

At eight o'clock on the morning of the 19th inst., in the Department of Education, began the first day's examination of those desiring to obtain a license to teach English in Government Middle Schools. The examiners were Professors Naibu, Kanda, and Toyama. The number of candidates present was sixty, although eighty-seven, including one lady, had sent in applications of candidature. Of these eighty-seven only twenty-six were found able to stand the rigid test of the Knowledge Pass. The chosen band will be examined orally on the 20th instant, when, for the first time in the contest, they will be allowed access to Webster's Unabridged Dictionary. On this occasion their pronunciation as well as their acquaintance with English grammar will be thoroughly tested. Judging from former contests, more than half will "drop out" on this day. Therefore, on the 24th, those who have succeeded in passing the second sifting, will be examined in the Art of Teaching English, when the examiners will, for the nonce, put themselves in the position of pupils and ask their probably not-too-willing teachers all sorts of puzzling questions. In Monday's preliminary test, the exercises began with Dictation, a passage containing 128 words—from Prof. Blackie's "Essay on Self-Culture"—being selected. The candidates were required to supply marks of punctuation ■ well as correct orthography. This was got through inside thirty minutes. From that time on till noon the would-be licentiates were examined in translations from Japanese into English and *vice versâ*, no dictionary being allowed. Both sets of questions consisted of five short sentences. We subjoin the sentences given for translation from English into Japanese, from which it will be seen that the required standard is a very high one indeed. The sentences are without exception taken from text-books most in use in Middle Schools at present:—

1.—I was ever searching for some short cut to the temple of fame, instead of following the beaten road.—"Commercial Reader," No. 3.

2.—It was not a time when even political enmity could with a good grace have ventured to visit on him the supposed offences of his party.—"The Opium War."

3.—The influence of our associates is so difficult to resist, in fact so completely irresistible in the long run, that people belong far less to the class they are descended from than to the class in which they live.—"Human Intercourse."

4.—Their lamentations and moans completely take away any appetite which the horrors one has witnessed may have left one.—"Life of General Gordon," E. Hake.

5.—There is no crime or enormity in morals which may not find the support of human example, often on a most extended scale.—"The True Grandeur of Nations," Sumner.

Nos. 1 and 4 gave, we hear, the most trouble to candidates, very many being unfamiliar with the phrase "short cut" and still more failing to construe No. 4 properly. We are indebted for the above items to a valued correspondent.

CONCERT AT THE Y.M.C.A.

THE promoters of the concert on the 11th inst. in the lecture-hall of the Young Men's Christian Association in Kanda, Tokyo, must be satisfied with the result of their disinterested labours. Not only was the concert very largely attended—over six hundred being present, including at least one hundred foreigners—but the programme was most enjoyable and ably carried out from first to last. If any objection could be made, it might be to the great length of the entertainment, as it lasted for more than four hours and a half. At the same time no one thought of weariness or fatigue. In the first part of the programme an English Reading from Shakespeare's "Merchant of Venice," was excellently given by a number of pupils of the Ferris Seminary. The Trial Scene was chosen, and done full justice to. The young lady to whom the part of *Portia* fell showed unusually fine elocutionary powers. The "Flower Song," from Gounod's *Faust*, was rendered with Miss Bloxham's sympathetic and finely trained voice in a manner that called forth persistent applause. The *artiste* responded with another song, accompanying herself on the piano, earning a very beautiful floral tribute from the delighted audience. Miss Gardner's Pianoforte solo, a Fantasia by Chopin, was admirably executed. But most finished and noteworthy in this direction was Professor von Koeber's interpretation of Liszt's "Rigoletto." Tokyo is fortunate in possessing a pianist so ready to assist in all good work and whose skill as musician is beyond praise. With the one exception of Baron von Zedlitz some years ago, Secretary of the German Legation, we have never had a finer performer in Japan. The music given by the Yokohama Town Band was well received and loudly applauded, the selections being quite suited to the audience. Of the Japanese musicians we can only say that they were the most noted masters of the several instruments on which they performed; one can not fully appreciate the *shakuhachi* and its wonderful flexibility of tone until one hears the instrument played by Mr. Araki Kodo. The greatest interest perhaps centred in the lecture by Prof. Tsubouchi, of the Semmon Gakko, one of Japan's foremost literati. The learned gentleman spoke in Japanese, choosing as his theme "The Future of Japanese Literature." Our space does not permit of reproducing the lecturer's remarks *in extenso*, but the main argument was as follows:—One of the chief duties of Japanese scholars, as citizens of the world, is that they should endeavour to acquaint themselves with foreign literature and simultaneously strive to make the outer world familiar with the literature of Japan. Science, generally speaking, may be classified under three headings: (1) the Science of the Intellect, which includes philosophy, physics, mathematics, and all exact knowledge; (2) the Science of the Heart, embracing poetry, fiction, emotional compositions of all kinds; and finally (3) the Science of the Will, which is based on ethics, religious creeds, moral codes, and the like. The first and last categories differ greatly in various lands, whereas the second, in a word *literature*, is the same the world over, so far as man is an emotional being. From this we deduce the all-important fact that literature is the only means by which all the world may be made to feel and think in common. At the present time, unfortunately, there are no standard works in the realm of Japanese literary thought. Those works which foreigners read in a translated form, believing them to be the finest literary products of Japan, are without exception old classics, and have nothing in common with the trend of modern ideas. It is impossible to rest satisfied with this state of affairs; we cannot hope that Occidentals will ever rightly understand the Japanese people if they are to have nothing better than these antique and obsolete works ■ their standards. The encouragement of a national literature is thus at the present moment of prime importance. It is the only means which will serve to promote an intimacy with the Western world. We have now to produce a series of masterpieces that will show us in the true light—the progressive, invincible Japanese of the 19th century. It will be seen from this necessarily much abridged sketch that the lecture was both timely and well-conceived. On the whole, the entertainment was one of rare enjoyment.

TOKYO CITIZENS AND THE CONCLUSION OF PEACE.

ACCORDING to the *Kokkai*, the district officers of Tokyo instructed the citizens to hoist national flags on the day of the publication of the Treaty and also on the following day, in order to manifest their rejoicing at the restoration of peace. The instructions do not appear to have been faithfully obeyed, for on the 14th instant in the districts of Shiba and Azabu, flags were seen floating here and there only. This question even occasioned a dispute between the owner of the land on which is situated the office of the Progressionist Party and the officials of the Party. In entering the office two gates must be passed, an external leading both to the office and to the proprietor's residence, and the other, a little back from the road, leading to the Office only. When the instructions concerning the display of flags were received on the 13th inst., the land-owner placed a pair of national flags crosswise over the front gate. Now on one of the pillars of the gate a sign-board of the Progressionist Party was hanging, and so it looked as though the flags were displayed by the Office. A member of the Party saw the proprietor, and, saying that the Party did not like to be misrepresented, took down the board. What happened afterwards is not known, but it was

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observed on the following day that the flags had been taken away, and the board of the Office was again hanging in its place. On Thursday morning, officials of the Kojimachi District Office visited the various streets in jinrikisha, to notify the citizens that the order issued on the previous day as to the display of national flags was withdrawn. The issue of such an order, if it was indeed issued at all, was a curious instance of official blundering, for "rejoicings" are of no value unless they are spontaneous. A man who came yesterday from Senzu, north of Tokyo, to Owaricho, Ginza, stated that he counted only 10 flags along the streets between Senzu and Yorozuyobashi. Between this bridge and Jikkendana, Nihonbashi, three out of four of the houses displayed flags; while between Jikkendama and Kyobashi only a few flags were visible. The city assembly made a significant decision on Thursday afternoon about submitting a memorial to the Throne in connexion with the conclusion of peace. As soon as the Governor and the Secretary of the Municipal Council, and the members of the Assembly took their seats, Mr. Yoshino Seikei, Vice-Chairman of the Assembly, rose and said that in view of the promulgation of the Imperial Rescript about the conclusion of peace he thought it would be most a fitting step to take for the Assembly to cause the Governor to proceed to Kyoto and to get an audience with the Emperor, and to inquire, on behalf of the citizens of Tokyo, after his health. A clerk then read the motion introduced by Mr. Yoshino, which was to this effect: Resolution:—To-day we have most respectfully read the Imperial Rescript proclaiming the termination of the Japan-China war and the restoration of peace. This state of affairs has been arrived at in consequence of the August will of His Imperial Majesty. Therefore, in order to inquire after the health of the Emperor, the Assembly decides to cause Miura Yasu, Governor of Tokyo *Fu*, to proceed to Kyoto. The motion was carried unanimously.

A LESSON IN PATRIOTISM.

A FEW days ago, says the *Yorozu Choho*, H.I.H. Prince Komatsu, while at Port Arthur, signified his intention to visit the Chinese theatre in that place, with a large and brilliant company. The actors were inspired by the occasion to do their best, and gave a spirited representation of a new drama, composed for the occasion, which was meant to portray the destruction of China and triumph of Japan. After the play was over, Prince Komatsu sent for the performers and presented them with fifty *yen*. At the same time he told them he had something to say, to which they should listen with attention. They were, after all, Chinese subjects, he began, so it was strange to him to see them representing, with callous hearts, the overthrow and downfall of their own country. No patriot should think of doing such a thing, no matter how great the profit to be reaped by such a performance. While they remained in allegiance to the Chinese Empire they ought to do all they could for the honour and fame of their native land. The actors listened with profound respect to these remarks and then begged that they might be allowed to perform a dance in token of their gratitude for the princely liberality. This was good-naturedly assented to, whereupon the Thespians gave a really excellent dance, after the fashion of the Japanese *no-odori*, which was meant to portray the Prince's return with honour and in triumph to his own country.

UNITED PROTESTANTS.

ACCORDING to the *Miyako Shimbun* the members of Bishop Nicolai's cathedral at Surugadai recently held a meeting, in the course of which it was unanimously decided to resign, as "they could not consent, from patriotic motives, to have any connection with a church emanating from a land which had done so much material harm to Japan." A number of delegates thereafter called on the Bishop to acquaint him with the resolution of the meeting. Quite a painful scene ensued, but the right reverend gentleman laid special stress on the fact that the truths of the faith were wholly independent of international ill-feeling; they should not, he declared, throw up their membership simply because of their anger at Russia. After several subsequent interviews the parishioners finally consented to keep to their creed, but desired that their strong protest against Russia and everything Russian should go on record. Thus far the *Miyako*. We do not hesitate to doubt the whole story, our usually careful contemporary to the contrary notwithstanding. The bias is too palpable.

RACING AT KAMAKURA.

THE annual meeting of the Kamakura Race Club was held during three days last week, on a course made within the grounds of the Hachiman Temple and circling the lotus pond on the right hand side. Of the racing itself very little can be said, most of the events being processions, but for a purse subscribed by a number of foreigners on the ground a splendid race took place, short heads only dividing the placed ponies. The prizes, $10, $2, and $1 were subsequently presented on behalf of the donors by a young lady well known in Yokohama, who complimented each of the winners in prettily worded speeches in the Japanese language, much to the delight of the recipients and the onlookers, who cheered the fair spokeswoman to the echo. This we believe is the first time where a foreign lady has done the honours at a Japanese sporting festival. A number of well-known Japanese racing-men were on the ground, among whom was Colonel Sagara, who acted as starter.

LATEST NEWS FROM FORMOSA.

THE *China Mail* correspondent, writing from Tainanfoo, May 8th, says: Anping is quite a garrison town now, sentries being posted at all the approaches to the settlement. The Marines, under a lieutenant, are quartered at the old German Consulate and are drilled in the British Consulate ground opposite. Crowds of Chinese flock down from the city to gaze open-mouthed at the wonderful British soldier, and the constant exclamation is "They work together like one man!" As much admiration is also shown for the bluejackets, a gun's crew of whom landed the other afternoon with a field piece and doubled it smartly from the Bund to the Barracks. Football, too, among the "Tommies" and "Jacks" draws quite an admiring crowd of natives. There need be no fear for the safety of foreigners here. The Chinese gunboat *Chinghoi* arrived at Takow to-day from Tamsui with treasure, and 5,000 rifles and ammunition for the Black Flags. New troops are still being levied and all classes are laying up a frightful retribution for themselves by assisting in this resistance to the Japs; for, of course, they will be treated by martial law as rebels. It seems strange that the Japanese, with so many vessels at the Pescadores, could have allowed the *Chinghoi* to slip through their fingers. Chinese say that 50,000 rifles were landed at Tamsui.

AN EARTHQUAKE-PROOF LAMP.

THE *Kaika Shimbun* and other vernacular papers report that Mr. Azabu Shigeo, *Rigakushi*, a professor of physics in the Imperial University, has recently patented a lamp of a novel and practical nature. Its mechanism is so arranged—as far as we can gather from the reports—that anything like a heavy shock will cause a metallic disk to fall on the burning wick and thus immediately extinguish the light. Overturning the lamp makes the mechanism work in the same prompt and effectual manner. As heavy earthquakes are nearly always accompanied by fires consequent upon overthrown lamps, this invention ought to prove exceedingly popular. It is further said that the lamp can be made both cheaply and durably, thus rendering it within the reach of all.

THREE SURPRISES.

AN OFFICER of the British Fleet in these waters, narrates the *Miyako Shimbun*, was recently conversing with a Japanese dignitary on the various events of the war. During the course of the conversation the officer remarked that three things had happened in the East which had caused the profoundest astonishment in England. On being asked what these three events were, he replied. "The first is that, in the recent war, the Japanese never lost a single battle; one victory followed the other in rapid succession. The second is that, in consequence of the wounding of Viceroy Li, Japan was magnanimous enough to agree to an armistice of three weeks, and that despite the fact that her troops were almost before the walls of Pekin. The third and last is that a country so strong as Japan has shown herself should so promptly follow the 'advice' of Russia, Germany and France." The last statement is unquestionably apocryphal.

JAPAN AT THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO.

IT may well be a matter of pride to the Japanese, that their nationals in the faculty of the University of Chicago are doing faithful work and have proved themselves worthy of promotion. Matsuo Ikuda, Ph.D., has been raised from the position of assistant to that of instructor in the department of Chemistry, and has been giving a course on the "Chemistry of Coal-tar Colours." Sho Watase, Ph.D., has been promoted from the position of instructor to that of assistant professor in the department of Zoölogy, and has been giving a "research course" on the "Anatomy and Physiology of the Cell." In this connection it may not be improper to note also, that Edmund Buckley, Ph.D., formerly of the Doshisha, Kyoto, has been made a docent in the department of comparative religion, and gives lectures on "The Religions of China and Japan (except Buddhism)." Japan has a claim also on the head professor of Zoology, C. O. Whitman, who was formerly professor in the Imperial University, Tokyo.

LAUNCH OF A FRENCH COLONIAL STEAMER.

MESSRS. MARTY AND D'ABBADIE have just launched from their yards a cargo steamer which has been entirely constructed in Haiphong, the designer being Mr. Jack, of the Correspondences Fluviales. This is the seventh vessel constructed by the Company, and she is intended for service on the upper reaches of the Red River. Her dimensions are as follows:—Length over all, 35 metres, width 6.50, depth 1.35, height of spar deck 2.25, draught, 0.58. Her estimated speed is 17 kilomètres an hour. The engines are of the latest surface condensing type; the high pressure cylinder is 30 centimètres in diameter and the low pressure 50 centimètres, and the indicated horse power about 150. The hull is of American type.

OFFICIAL APPOINTMENTS.

MR. HAYASHI, Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs, was gazetted on the 21st inst. Japanese Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to China, his former position being given to Mr. Hara Kei, Chief of the Trade Bureau in the Foreign Department, who is succeeded by Mr. Fujii Saburo, a Consul-General. Mr. Nakajima Yu was appointed Secretary of the Japanese Legation in Pekin. It appears that Mr. Hayashi will leave for his mission by the end of this month, and most probably to the *Itsumi Kan*. Mr. Fujita Binro, a student-secretary in a Japanese Consulate, has been promoted to the rank of Consul, and appointed to Singapore. Mr. Kawasaki Hiroyoshi, Secretary of the Foreign Department, has been ordered to proceed to China on official business.

BLOODLESS BATTLES.

THE following amusing passage is cut from a recent number of the *Saturday Review*. It is part of the comments on a French work describing a recent campaign on the Niger:—"The battles are described in greater detail than they appear to deserve. The battle of Bokhodougou, for example, we are told began at 8 a.m.; at 9.20 the fusillade raged round the burning village of Fabala. After being maintained all day with great violence, at 6.25 in the evening the firing redoubled in intensity. The battle finally ended in a triumphant victory for the French. The enemy, we are told, fired 12,000

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cartridges, and the French 6,800. In this terrible struggle, the French had four men wounded. The next fight was even more desperate: the French fired 22,500 cartridges. It was a still more glorious victory. There was more than three times as much smoke. The next battle was not quite so noisy. The French only fired 19,500 cartridges. They had one man killed; so accidents will happen occasionally, even in war. After this we are prepared for a tribute of respect to the bravery of the Sofa soldiers and the military skill of their chief. So the book goes on. In one place a position is carried by a supreme effort of heroism, at the cost of one life and three scratches. In another, the column was enveloped in smoke all day; tobacco smoke would have been as deadly. The expedition apparently suffered more severely from illness and mismanagement than it did from the bullets of the Sofas. The whole of the garrison of Badumbé, except one man, died of yellow fever. We are not told what the original strength of the garrison was. Perhaps it was two."

* * *

Some of the war correspondents that witnessed the recent campaign will sympathise with the troubles of this writer. The fighting was perhaps a little more serious than that above described, but undoubtedly it was often their hard fate to have "to describe battles in greater detail than they appeared to deserve."

FURTHER ADVENTURES OF MR. SHYAKU GENKYO.

Our readers may remember how Mr. Shyaku, a Japanese priest in China, experienced various dangerous adventures at the beginning of the war, when the Chinese Government vigilantly searched and arrested all Japanese remaining in the country under suspicious circumstances. The latest news given some time ago about this extraordinary priest was that he was arrested at the district office of Kwei-yang and that he broke prison together with another Japanese, Mr. Aoki Kyo, a graduate of a certain American College, after having killed or struck down 28 Chinese policemen. Mr. Aoki lately returned to Japan and told some of his friends of the adventures that he and Mr. Shyaku encountered subsequently. After breaking loose from the district office he and his friend proceeded toward Kaiping. On the road, while passing one evening by a certain Police Office, they saw a wooden placard nailed on the gate to the effect that anyone who would bring the head of Shyaku Genkyo would be rewarded with the sum of one thousand taels. On seeing this notification Mr. Shyaku wrote thus on the blank space of the placard:—"If the police can succeed is getting the head of Genkyo, the latter will himself also give a reward of 1,000 taels. Let anyone wishing to earn the reward call on Genkyo to-night at his hotel." Mr. Shyaku then intended to put up for the night at a certain inn close by the Police Office, so as to give the constables another sound chastisement. But Mr. Aoki strongly remonstrated with him and caused him to proceed toward his destination. There are about 18 post stations between Kwei-yang and Kaiping, and in each place the two saw the same placard about the head of Mr. Shyaku and the reward of 1,000 taels. At last the patience of Mr. Shyaku gave way at seeing the placard about his head publicly hung up at one place after another, and at a station called 第[illegible], a place about 45 *ri* from Kaiping, he presented himself before the Police Office. He declared that he was Shyaku Genkyo of Japan, whose head seemed to be in such great demand. He had been suspected as a spy and arrested at Kwei-yang Ken, but had come out of that office after having exercised his swordmanship a little. Since then he had seen wherever he passed a notification promising the reward of 1,000 taels for his head. He was highly dissatisfied, he said, to see his head rated so low. He had already spent several thousand taels in study, and he flattered himself that his head must be worth at least 100 million taels. He humbly besought, therefore, that the high dignitaries would carefully examine him and re-appraise the value of his head. A group of police officials hearing this boast of Mr. Shyaku, rose and exclaiming, "Have you gone crazy, *wojen*," tried to seize Mr. Shyaku's hands. The instant they approached the priest, however, they were all struck down by his extraordinary feat of *jyujitsu*, and seven of them lay sprawling on the floor, all suffering from more or less severe injuries. The rest of the officials brought swords and spears and began to surround him. He kicked one of them and took away his weapon; he then cut down five, and compelled some ten to run for their lives, leaving tracks of blood as they ran. Mr. Shyaku then left that place with his companion, without encountering further opposition, and reached Kaiping in due time. The two were surprised to see that no placard relating the head of Mr. Shyaku could be found in the town, but that, on the contrary, rich traders and other inhabitants of consequence hospitably treated them. Mr. Aoki took leave of his preserver in Kaiping and turned homeward, while Mr. Shyaku still stayed behind with the intention of visiting northern India. It is said that Mr. Shyaku is emaciated by consumption from which he has been suffering for years, and his extraordinary feats were regarded with wonder by Mr. Aoki. We reproduce this tale as it stands from the *Hochi*. The teller must be a near relative of the famous Baron Munchausen.

EXERCITIUM SALAMANDRI.

Some days ago, narrates the *Yomiuri*, with that air of unimpeachable veracity which is the invariable preamble of a "tall" story, some peasants at work in a field at Waseda, Tokyo, had occasion to raise the half-rotten trunk of a fallen tree; and as they did so out popped a most ungainly looking creature, about one and one-half feet long, the like of which they had never seen before. It seemed to be a newt or eft of phenomenal proportions; so, not knowing whether the thing was poisonous or not and fearing, in the former case, that it might prove irascible in consequence of their intrusion upon its privacy, the four men took to their heels and made for the village. On talking of the wonder there, some better informed person said that the reptile might prove a great prize; it might even be the giant salamander, though this was certainly not one of the creature's haunts. At all events they had better go back and capture it, as there would be no lack of people desirous of purchasing it for exhibition. Thus reassured, the men went again to the spot and with great precautions and very gingerly managed to net the reptile and bring it back in triumph. The news of the find soon spread, and before long the four proprietors were besieged with cash offers. One booth-keeper offered sixty *yen*, but this proposal only served to whet the owners' cupidity. They finally said they would not take a *rin* less than one hundred and fifty *yen*. While negotiations were still pending, word reached the finders that the creature—a veritable giant salamander (*Cryptobranchus gigas*)—probably belonged to Count Okuma, for the Count had formerly kept two of these reptiles in the pond at his Waseda residence. The only course left was to make enquiries at head-quarters. This was done, when it was elicited that the salamander was the male of a couple that actually belonged to Count Okuma. It had been missing for some weeks. The finders were rewarded for their honesty in bringing the strange pet back, but instead of their dreams of wealth they had only the sum of eight *yen* to divide between them.

THE FREQUENCY OF EARTHQUAKES.

An old estimate of the frequency of earthquakes was that not a day passed without a shock being felt somewhere on the earth. In a new determination (*Comptes rendus*, vol. cxx. pp. 577-579), M. de Montessus de Ballore obtains a much higher figure. Dividing all the registers we possess into historical, seismological, and seismographical, and assuming the latter to be perfect, he finds, by comparing the different classes for the same region, that in the first 96·24 per cent., and in the second 84·48 per cent., of the total number of shocks escape record. In a group of well-studied earthquake districts, with a combined area of 11,661,000 sq. km., the average yearly number of shocks for the three classes are 341·35, 878·57, and 2222·24 respectively. Hence, multiplying by the proper factors for the first two classes, it would appear that the total number of shocks actually occurring in the above area must be estimated at 16,957 a year, or one in every half-hour. In several papers of great interest (*Atti della R. Acc. dei Fisiocritici*. Siena, vol. v., 1894), Prof. G. Vicentini describes his new seismometrograph erected at Siena, and the seismic record obtained with it from February to July, 1894. The instrument consists of a heavy pendulum, 1½ m. in length and 5 kg. in mass, the base of which is connected with one end of a very light vertical magnifying lever. The other end of this lever is connected with the ends of two light horizontal levers placed at right angles to one another. These magnify the original movement of the ground seventy times, and trace fine lines on two strips of smoked paper moving at the rate of 2 mm. a minute. With this arrangement the heavy mass, it is found, remains stationary during vibrations of the ground, and the trace ceases simultaneously with the removal of the disturbing cause. For seismic purposes, the instrument possesses several advantages, especially the small cost of working and the rapid movement of the paper bands. In the plates accompanying the papers, copies are given of the traces produced by passing carriages, by strong gusts of wind, and by several earthquakes, the most beautiful being those of the Japanese earthquake of March 22nd, the Greek earthquake of April 27th, and the Constantinople earthquake of July 10th.—*Nature*.

"DEAD MEN'S SHOES."

On the 6th day of the present month, says a vernacular contemporary, a many-times-convicted thief named Horii Yasujiro was liberated from gaol, having served his latest term of three months. When captured he had on him only a single long shirt, and so when he returned to the society of his friends this was the only garment in his wardrobe. Thinking quite properly that this was insufficient clothing for his return into aristocratic circles, Horii set his wits working. The thought struck him that he might profit by the death of an acquaintance, with whose demise he had become acquainted just before leaving prison. On the same night he therefore repaired to the cemetery where his quondam associate had been buried, coolly opened the grave and removed from the still untainted body its one garment. But this was not enough; he needed more and better clothing. In the immediate vicinity of the rifled grave was another, and rather more imposing, which bore the marks of having quite recently been dug. This he also opened, and took from the corpse a double garment (*awase*) and a coat in good repair. A third tomb was likewise desecrated, but with unfortunate results for decomposition had completely ruined the grave-clothes of the possessor. Satisfied with what he had got, Horii proceeded homewards and spent the rest of the night in washing and greparing his ill-gotten clothing. The next day he reappeared among his admiring friends in all the bravery of his new apparel; planned a little burglary, and in another twenty-four hours was in funds again. But diligence of this sort, however meritorious from the standpoint of the bread-winner, is contrary to the laws of the land. In less than seven days after Horii was once more in the clutches of the police, and is now so fixed that the Government will assume entire charge of his wardrobe for more than five years to come.

SCIENTIFIC OBSERVATIONS IN JAPAN.

The common impression of the Japanese is, that they are of a very artistic and imitative nature, but that they are deficient in originality and in powers of practical application. This impression is justified to a large extent, but those who know everything of the circumstances of Japan before intercourse was opened with foreign nati[illegible] will have no difficulty in explaining

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couraged, but in many cases was made penal, and therefore it cannot be wondered that for some years after the Japanese came into contact with foreigners they were looked upon simply as clever imitators who were content with the mere form of Western civilisation, but were awanting in its progressive spirit. They laid the foundations of their new departure in a very complete system of national education, which not only provided a general training, but also fitted for the special work connected with industry and for the learned professions. The result has been to show very distinctly that the Japanese are by no means content with merely gathering from foreign sources what is known of the various sciences and their applications, but that they are also determined to enter the field of investigation for themselves. The students who have gone to Europe and America have shown that they are able not only to hold their own in the ordinary class work, but also in investigations in laboratories or analytical research, and in almost all the transactions of the learned societies we find contributions which have done something to advance our knowledge of the subjects of which they treat. The present war with China has shown that even in warfare they are by no means mere copyists, but can think out the problems of warfare for themselves, and their strategy and execution has won the admiration of competent European critics. The Transactions of the Japanese Institution of Engineers show a wide range both of theory and practice, while the success of their industrial and engineering works shows that they have all the qualities necessary to make Japan an important industrial and commercial country. In fact the Japanese are rapidly attaining their ambition and making their country the Britain of the East both in its trade and naval power. The present war will show whether they will be able to exercise the same influence over China that Britain has exercised over India. If they do, it will have a most important effect on the destinies of the world. Our present object, however, is not to enter into details of these matters but to direct attention to the fact that the Japanese do not by any means confine their attention to matters which pay directly. They have grasped the fact, which is too often overlooked in this country, that researches which may not appear directly useful very often have the most important results on industrial operations, and they are content to investigate simply for the sake of truth and to allow the results, whatever they may be, to follow. The paper published in "The Journal" of the College of Science of the Imperial University will bear favourable comparison with any other papers of their kind, not only as regard their quality, but also the variety of their subjects, including, as they do, every department of physical and natural science. They are printed either in English or German, and are thus accessible to all investigators, for the University sends copies very freely to any institution which applies for them. The most striking event of the present age is the birth of a new nation like Japan, and if we are to understand the full significance of that event and form any idea of its probable results, we must go beyond the ordinary impressions which have been formed of Japanese and endeavour to ascertain the real sources of their power.—*The Indian Engineer.*

THOROUGHGOING PRECAUTIONS.

The municipal authorities of Tokyo are, as we have already reported, exerting the utmost efforts in order to protect the city from the cholera scourge. So far, not a single case of even sporadic cholera has been reported, and this is rather unusual, because even under the most favourable circumstances isolated cases have of recent years made their appearance with unfailing regularity about the end of the spring or in the first days of summer. The slight outbreak of dysentery seems to have been completely quelled, for prompt measures were taken in every case, the police requiring that all cases should at once be reported to the nearest station. Drains and sewers have been not only flushed but carefully scraped or dredged, and in suspected quarters the channels have on both sides been plastered with the most powerful disinfectants. Garbage and other refuse have been removed, a large number of very noisome disease-breeding places entirely destroyed, and disinfectants used everywhere with the most pronounced liberality. Moreover, every poor house has been visited by the police, who have required the inmates to raise all the mats, (*tatami*) off the floors, thoroughly scrub and wash the boards beneath them, and even scatter disinfecting substances on the ground beneath the house. This has caused some little disturbance and no small annoyance, as may easily be imagined; still the people know that all these far-reaching sanitary precautions are taken in their own behalf and dictated by experienced skill. Tokyo certainly is improved by all this.

THE INDEMNITY.

The *Shogyo* publishes the following article about the indemnity. The indemnity which Japan is to receive from China in virtue of the Treaty of Peace is 200,000,000 Kaping *taels*. A tael being estimated at 1.40 *yen*, the whole converted into Japanese currency amounts to 280,000,000 *yen*. The total of convertible and bank notes in circulation at the end of April last was 166,932,194.250 *yen*, and the indemnity therefore exceeds the latter by 113,067,805.750 *yen*. This surplus distributed among the Japanese population as given in the 13th census, that is to say, 41,089,640 souls, corresponds to 4 *yen* and odd *sen* per head, but if the whole indemnity be distributed in that way, the amount per head becomes 6.81 *yen* and odd *rin*. The first instalment of 50,000,000 *taels* or 70,000,000 *yen* to be paid up to November 7th, divided by the number of days extending from May 8th to that date, it is as if Japan is to get an income of 380,434 odd *yen* per day. On the supposition that all the installments except the first are to be paid in at the end of the respective periods already prescribed, then the interest that is to accompany each installment is as follows:—2nd installment, 5,250,000 *yen*; 3rd installment, 7,000,000 *yen*; 4th installment, 5,833,333.325 *yen*; 5th installment, 4,666,666.66 *yen*; 6th installment, 3,499,999.995 *yen*; 7th installment, 2,333,333.33 *yen*; 8th installment, 1,166,666.665 *yen*. Besides the above, China is to pay a quarter of the expenses needed in stationing Japanese troops in Weihaiwei, that is to say, 500,000 *taels* a year, for the space of 7 years. This item alone thus amounts to 4,900,000 *yen*. China is therefore to pay besides the actual amount of the indemnity the sum of 34,649,999.995 *yen*. Payment of interest will, however, not be required in case the whole of the indemnity is paid before May 7th, 1898.

SUDDEN DEATHS IN KOBE.

The deaths of two seamen have taken place in Kobe within the last few days under such circumstances as to demand an inquiry. The names of the men are James Breen, formerly of the ship *J. B. Thomas*, and U. Andersen, formerly of the *Dryfesdale*. Breen died on Saturday and Andersen on Sunday, both having paid visits to the Japanese grogshops in one of the narrow lanes running from Sakaimachi to Motomachi, where a vile decoction is sold for five cents a glass and described as whisky, but which should properly be labelled poison. It is to be hoped that an investigation will be made into the deaths of these men, and the attention of the authorities directed to the existence of these grogshops and the vile stuff there sold.—*Kobe Chronicle.*

INTERPORT LAWN TENNIS.

The annual Lawn Tennis Tournament between Hongkong and Canton took place in the second week of May. Last year the victory rested with Canton, the score being 6-3, 3-6, 6-3. On that occasion Canton was represented by Mr. Bent and Mr. Wallace and Hongkong by Dr. Mackie and Mr. Platt. The Canton representatives were the same this year and Mr. Platt and Mr. Firth played for Hongkong. It was generally anticipated that Canton would again prove too strong for the local players, and the anticipations proved correct, Canton winning easily. The match this year was the best of five setts, instead of the best of three, as last year, and the score was 3-6, 6-4, 6-0, 6-0.

KILKENNY CATS UP TO DATE.

A Hongkong contemporary learns from the *Chinese Mail* (*Wah Tzs Yat Po*) that for three successive days last week a stand-up fight was carried on between two paper-colouring guilds in Fatshan on account of one guild doing some work properly belonging to the other. In the fight powder and shot was freely used, and there were wounded and killed on both sides. For a time the two parties seemed ill-disposed to end this internecine warfare, but were rather nursing their wrath to keep it warm, and, but for the timely interference of the local authorities, an illustration of the episode of the Kilkenny cats would have taken place.

TRAGEDY ON A SHIP AT ILOILO.

On May 11th a seaman named E. W. McKenna, of the British ship *Esther Roy*, was brought in custody to Hongkong on the steamer *Chittagong*, charged with causing the death of J. Donald, second mate of the *Esther Roy*, at Iloilo. The Naval Court heard evidence against the prisoner at Iloilo, and then sent him to Hongkong for trial. It is said, remarks the *Daily Press*, that the second mate assaulted the accused, who became angry, pulled out his knife, and fatally stabbed the officer.

HER MAJESTY'S MINISTER TO JAPAN.

The new Minister to the Court of Tokyo, announced by telegraph on Monday, will be remembered by old residents as Japanese Secretary at the British Legation. From Tokyo Mr. Satow was appointed Minister to Siam, where he remained till 1888, when he was appointed Minister to Uruguay. In 1893, at a time when some difficulties were anticipated in Morocco, Mr. Satow was appointed Envoy to that country, where he is at present serving.

"THE LADIES' BATTLE."

The second performance of T. W. Robertson's adapted comedy "The Ladies' Battle," at the Public Hall on Wednesday evening, was attended by as great a success as waited upon its initial representation. The house was quite as full and decidedly more enthusiastic than on the previous occasion. Doubtless this was greatly due to the audience having a clearer knowledge of the play, so that hesitating expectancy gave place to well-assured appreciation, thus allowing of a hearty expression of approval at each good point and sterling situation developed. The players too seemed more at home in their parts, if that were possible, and Mr. Read (*Gustave de Grignon*) in particular infused more individuality into the character allotted to him. Again and again he threw the house into convulsions of heartiest laughter, the recollection of which will linger in the memory for many a day to come. If only he had not been so faithful in his copy of the original dress in which the brave *Gustave* fretted his "brief, short hour" on the Parisian stage—then would the eye have been equally content. Mr. Bayne (*Baron de Montrichard*), and Mr. Sharp (*Henri de Flavigneul*), again played their parts to the satisfaction of everybody, and the applause which each in his separate way evoked was well-deserved. Mrs. Read, as the stately and nimble-witted *Countess d'Autreval*, was charmingly gracious, and again bore away the honours of the evening. As *Leonie de Villegontier*, Miss Wheeler gave another delightful presentation of the character of the young, unspoiled maiden whose impulsiveness under cross-examination so quickly reveals the state of her feelings for the proscribed Bonapartist. From the close of the performance both ladies received a perfect shower of baskets and bouquets of lovely flowers.

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TOKYO'S PREPARATIONS TO WELCOME HOME THE EMPEROR.

Tokyo is now busily engaged in preparations to welcome the return of the Emperor. Among the various contrivances devised to celebrate the occasion, the construction of a triumphal arcade at Hibiya under the direction of a society specially organised by the citizens of Tokyo is most conspicuous. It was designed by Messrs. Tajima and Okamoto, the well known experts of Tokyo, and is being built along the street in front of the official residences of the Presidents of the two Houses of the Diet. It will measure about 120 yards in length, and will be surmounted in the centre by a tower about 100ft. high. On the top an electric lamp of 1,200 candle-power, surrounded by ornamental gas-lights, will be placed. Within the arcade arches, 27ft. high, are to be constructed, and between them will run a corridor 40ft. high and 43ft. wide. The whole edifice is to be covered with evergreens. The design is said to be entirely new, no example of it having been seen in Europe or America, but we fail, for our own part, to detect the alleged novelty. To afford space for the construction of the arcade, the City Council decided to widen the street called Saiwaicho, and since the 18th instant about 1,000 coolies have been at work levelling the bank that encircles the Hibiya Parade Ground and otherwise preparing the street.

Yechigoya, Dai Maru, and other mercers receive every day large orders for pennons to be used on the occasion. There being no time to dye the various devices for these pennons, recourse is had to embroidery. All the political parties and business guilds are to range themselves in suitable places to welcome the triumphal return of His Majesty. The rice-merchants of Tokyo more than 170 in all, are to go out in Japaneae costume—the familiar *haori* and *hakama*—carrying pennons bearing the name of the Guild.

The Constitutional Reformists' programme is somewhat different. They have decided to range themselves at a certain place on the route along which the Imperial procession is to pass, but to strictly abstain from any demonstration whatever. They will simply greet the Emperor with all reverence. Mr. Kusumoto, a prominent member of the party, will attend at the Imperial Household Department to offer the Party's respects to the Sovereign. Letters will also be sent to the Army and Navy thanking them for the suffering they endured in the discharge of their duties.

The City Assembly itself has determind to erect two arches, one in front of the Sakurada Gate, the other in front of the Shimbashi terminus. The two will be exactly the same as to shape and size. They will measure 108 ft. in height and in width, and the thickness of the arch itself will be 10 ft. A tablet is to be fixed at the apex of each. It will carry the four ideographs meaning "Reverential welcome to the Imperial carriage," the ideographs being formed of flowers. Both feet of the arch will bear the ideographs "*Tokyo Fu*" in the same style. Electric lamps of about 50 candle-power are to burn over the arches, and the cost of each arch is estimated at about 450 *yen*.

We may add that the Triumphal Arcade at Hibiya was to be completed by the 23rd inst. but the intention has not been fulfilled.

KOREAN NEWS.

The men guilty of the assassination of the late Vice-Minister of Justice and of plotting treason against the Crown, twenty-three in all, have been punished according to the gravity of their offences. The arch-criminal, Li Shunyo, was at first sentenced, out of special grace of the king, to exile for life, for his offence really deserved capital punishment; but this was again commuted, and the term of his exile was at last cut down to 10 years. Of the rest, five were hanged, and the others sentenced to exile for terms varying from 10 years to exile for life. We take the following particulars of the trial of these malefactors from the Sōul correspondence of the vernacular papers:—

Li was subjected to eight examinations in all, but such was his obstinacy that though much irrefutable evidence was produced against him, and though even his accomplices accused him to his face of having led them astray, Li assumed an air of total indifference, and confined himself to protesting that the charges preferred against him were entirely false. Now, according to the law of Korea, judgment is to be based on the result of the personal examination of offenders, and therefore to make him confess his crime he was subjected to slight torture, which is justified by law. Still the culprit held out inflexibly firm. The letters which he sent to his accomplices, which were produced in court, and other evidence clearly established his guilt, and the Government determined to make a new departure to judge him on the strength of the evidence. The accomplices made a clean breast of their crimes, and, when brought face to face with Li, even complained against him for having tempted them to commit the crimes. On the occasion of their next examination, however, they professed that what they had said before was all false, and that they had been driven to utter such falsehood to escape from the severity of examination under torture. They avowed further that they knew nothing about the so-called treason, and denied ever that they had ever been consulted by Li on any important matter. The judges were more than their match and, by subjecting them once more to rigorous examination, succeeded in making them confess their guilt. The crimes of the defendants having been directly or indirectly substantiated, a special high Court was established, in order to judge and to mete out proper punishment to them. The Court was opened on the 19th instant, the Chief Judge being the Minister of Justice himself, and the associated judges the Vice-Minister of Justice, the Chief of the Criminal Bureau, a Judge of the Korean Law Court, a Privy Councillor, and two public procurators. The indictment preferred against Li and his accomplices was substantially the same as that already given in these columns sometime ago when several of the assassins of the late vice-Minister of Justice were arrested, and the grave plot which Li concocted and intended to carry into practice was disclosed. When the indictment was read and the defendants were asked whether they had anything to say in their own defence, only Kin Koku-jen had the spirit to protest against the accusation. But when the secret correspondence that had passed between him and Li was read and the writers of the epistles were made to identify them, Kin was silenced. The necessary preliminary examination ended, the Chief Judge declared that the sentences against the defendants would be given in two days. That time having arrived, the punishments mentioned above were accorded to the culprits. This was the first occasion that the Minister of Justice acted the part of Judge, but the *Yomiuri* correspondent who was present in the Court writes that the Minister acquitted himself in an admirable manner. It is said that several of the accomplices are yet at large.

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It seems to us (*Japan Mail*) that among Korean reforms one of the first should be a reform in judicial procedure, abolishing the barbarous Chinese system, in accordance with which no accused person can be convicted without confession of guilt, this confession being obtained by torture whenever necessary. Under such a system, justice, in the western sense of the term, is impossible.

Korea seems doomed to perpetual trouble. News of another internal dissension in the politics of the peninsular kingdom has reached Japan. The Queen and Boku are at the bottom of the trouble. Boku's relation with Japan is a deep one, writes the *Yomiuri*. That he could live here in tolerable comfort for about ten years and was treated by the upper classes as a special guest, was due to the chivalrous magnanimity of [illegible] lot and sincerely wished that the day should come when he might complete the task of regenerating Korea, a task that he and his fellow conspirators vainly attempted ten years ago. When he was recalled by the King last year and was given the important post of Minister of Home Affairs, the hoper and well wishes of the Japanese were centred, so to say, upon him. Imagine their disappointment and disgust, therefore, when, soon after he was installed in his present office, he proved himself so forgetful of the past as to show an almost insatiable thirst for power. He seems even to have forgotten his original aspiration of placing Korean independence on a sound basis, for his constant scheming for the attainment of the post of Premier, and the sinister and base means that he stoops to employ for the purpose are now the chief causes of the instability of the Cabinet. Already his jealousy towards the Minister of Finance produced, a short time ago, a grave ministerial complication that was with difficulty settled by the influence and prestige of the Japanese Minister. Signs of another serious Cabinet dissension also attributable to Boku have reached Tokyo. A telegram, despatched from Sōul on the morning of the 16th instant, says that a secret plot of Boku to grasp the military power has brought about a ministerial collision probably ending in the resignation of the Premier and his followers. The military authority in Korea is of course vested in the King, and his chief adviser in this branch of State affairs is Cho Gi-yen, Minister of War. The Vice-Minister of the Department is on good terms with Boku and his faction, and it was Boku's secret intention so to manage affairs, while Cho was away on the King's mission of conveying thanks and compliments to the Japanese army in Manchuria, as to enable the Vice-Minister to oust his superior, the real power going to Boku. For that purpose Boku and his faction spread the most dastardly calumnies about Cho, as another telegram sent about the same time shows. It says that the younger officials of the Government, in order to cause Cho's fall, slandered him, with the result that Cho incurred the King's displeasure, and is now confined to his house.

When Cho came back from his official mission, he told some one that he was aware of the base attempt of certain persons to slander him during his absence so as to deprive him of his power; but that, following the advice of Count Inouye, he was determined to endure as patiently as possible any difficulties set in his path. As he had done nothing wrong that those knaves could employ to his disadvantage, he did not care at all what they had to say against him. He had only pity for them.

But it is easy for a man to find fault with another when he is bent upon doing so. Such proved to be case in this instance. The young unprincipled officials in Boku's faction publicly rebuked Cho, as soon as he returned to Sōul, declaring that he had embezzled public money. Cho was astonished at this unexpected charge, for he was entirely unconscious of any crime of the kind. Nevertheless, he instituted minute inquiries into the accounts connected with his latest official journey, when he was surprised to find that he had unwittingly calculated 5 *mon* coins at the rate of 1 *mon*. This then was the cause of the charge of peculation which Boku and his faction had preferred against Cho with the base object of causing his disgrace. Boku's blameworthy conduct towards Cho does not end here. While the business of the War Department was placed, during Cho's absence, under the care of the Vice-Minister, one of the faction, Boku caused the latter to dismiss scores of able officials that were very much trusted by Cho. This was in itself inexcusable conduct, for a Vice-Minister who has to superintend the affairs of the Department during his superior's absence, is never entrusted under ordinary circumstances with the full competence of the Minister. Boku even went a step further. A Councillor of the Department of War, arrested on the charge of [illegible] was proved subsequently to be entirely innocent. But [illegible]

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respondent wrote this letter, and on one pretext or another he was still confined in a room of the Home Office. Thus, not only did Boku overstep his competence by interference in the affairs of another State Office, but was even audacious enough as not to recognize the existence of the Metropolitan Office, and arbitrarily to confine a Government official in the Home Office.

All this unlawful conduct on the part of Boku seems to be entirely ascribable to his growing intimacy with the Queen and his assurance of her support. The Queen, it is true, recently declared to the Japanese Minister that she would never interfere hereafter in State affairs. This was even included in the programme of reform which the King swore before the spirits of his ancestors. But the restless mind of that crafty woman could never, it appears, forget the pleasure she has so long indulged, of swaying from her chambers the administration of the country. It is just as likely as not that the Queen is plotting to regain the influence that she enjoyed during the administration of the Mings. A telegram from Sŏul says that the relation between Boku and the Queen is growing more and more intimate, and this news has been followed by others of still graver character. It is said that Bin (Ming) Yeishun is likely to return home and that, in consequence of Boku's secret call, inspired by the Queen, the two Mings would shortly after return to Korea viâ Chefoo; and that the suggestion to admit the two into the Government was violently opposed by the Premier and his followers at the Cabinet meeting held on the 16th instant. The Mings are politicians of old days when Korean politics were corrupt to the core; and though their re-entry into political life might not, taken alone, be sufficient to cause serious trouble, yet the very fact that they are to recalled through the Queen's intercession seems to be an omen of further grave troubles. The return of the Mings is corroborated by the news from Shanghai and also from Hongkong, and may therefore be counted upon as a fact.

The latest message from Soul says that Cho has been dismissed, that the Premier, who was opposed to his dismissal and who tendered his resignation when his remonstrance was overruled, has been told to remain in office as before, and that the War Department is likely to fall into the hands of Boku's faction.

THE EXCHANGE OF RATIFICATIONS AT CHEFOO.

(From our Special Correspondent.)

Port Arthur, May 9th, 1895.

The ratifications having finally been exchanged at half-past eleven last night, the Japanese Ambassador and suite got on board at three in the morning, and heaving anchor at five, we arrived here at eleven.

It might be supposed that the exchange of ratifications was a merely formal proceeding, and required little diplomatic skill. Under ordinary circumstances and with a country other than China, such would unquestionably be the case. But where China is concerned, even the most formal and the least important of transactions require tact and management. The difficulties involved in the settlement of the present question, not by any means inconsiderable in themselves, were increased by diplomatic complications of the most delicate kind. When, therefore, the question of the appointment of a Plenipotentiary for the exchange of the peace treaty came before the Cabinet, great importance was attached to the qualifications of the person to be appointed for the post. After the claims of various candidates had been discussed and rejected, the important mission was finally offered to the able Secretary-General of the Cabinet. The way in which Mr. Ito Miyoji has acquitted himself in the discharge of his duties has proved that the trust was not misplaced.

Great anxiety and uncertainty had from the outset been entertained as to China's real intentions in the matter of the treaty of peace. At the time of Mr. Ito's departure for Chefoo it was known at Kyoto—then practically the seat of Government—that the allied Powers, Russia, Germany, and France, were bent upon inducing China to delay the exchange of ratifications. No doubt the Japanese Plenipotentiary was placed in possession of full details as to the complications that had been caused by the intervention of the above mentioned three Powers. But I doubt very much whether any definite understanding had then been arrived at by the Government of Japan with those of the allied European States. Under the circumstances, Mr. Ito was placed in a very difficult position, and it is natural that considerable anxiety and uncertainty should have existed as to the ultimate success of his mission. I shall endeavour in the following paragraphs to narrate, so far as official secrecy allows me, the course of the negotiations between the plenipotentiaries of the two countries.

I concluded my last letter when the first conference had just commenced at the Beach Hotel, a little past 6 p.m. on the 7th instant. It lasted till 8 o'clock, and promised a smooth course of things. The plenipotentiaries separated to resume their conference an hour later at the 廣仁館 (Hall of Benevolence) which had been fitted up as the place of meeting. The Japanese Plenipotentiary and his secretaries proceeded to the above hall at the appointed hour. Their procession was led by guards of Chinese soldiers as on the occasion of their landing the same afternoon. The language used at the present, as well as in all subsequent conferences, was English. His Excellency Mr. Wu, the Chinese Plenipotentiary, spoke in that language, but Mr. Ito, as good a master of that tonque as the former, preferred to use the medium of an interpreter, the task being admirably performed by his accomplished secretary, Mr. Henry Satoh. Everything went on very smoothly until about 10. At the instance of the energetic Japanese Plenipotentiary, it had been agreed by the Chinese Plenipotentiaries to complete the formal exchange of ratifications the following morning, so that Mr. Ito might have time to sail back to Port Arthur and take steps for the despatch of the news to the front of the Japanese armies before midnight of the 8th, when the period of armistice was to expire. At this stage of the negotiation, however, the attitude of the Chinese Plenipotentiaries suddenly changed, probably in consequence of a telegraphic communication from Pekin instructing them to ask for the postponement of the exchange of ratifications to a future date. In the absence of any instructions from home to such effect, Mr. Ito was of course obliged to decline to consider this proposal. The conference broke up at 11 under very unpromising auspices. According to the rumours prevailing in Chefoo on that evening, it was believed that there was no hope for the exchange of ratifications within the stated period; it was even believed and asserted that war was imminent, if not already declared, between Japan and the allied Powers.

On the morning of the 8th, Mr. Ito brought strong pressure to bear upon the Chinese Plenipotentiaries. He again pointed out, what had already been explained at the previous conferences, the absolute necessity of the exchange of ratifications by 5 p.m. at the latest. For otherwise it would be impossible to get the news telegraphed to the Japanese front before the expiration of the armistice. Should the Chinese Plenipotentiaries decline to agree to this final proposal, the Japanese Ambassador declared his intention to leave the hotel at once and sail for home. Upon this, it is said, great excitement and consternation were exhibited by the Chinese Plenipotentiaries. Long telegraphic communications were made by them to Pekin or Tientsin, probably to both places. It might be argued that China had the right to defer the exchange of ratifications until the very last moment, namely midnight of the 8th May. Legally and technically speaking such conduct on her part was no breach of treaty obligations. It must, however, be remembered that Japan and America at the present critical juncture will such a course on her part was entirely at variance with the positive declarations of her Plenipotentiaries of her sincere desire to exchange ratifications. If China was sincerely disposed to carry out her obligations, she ought to do so with a view to the prevention of the disasters that might possibly be caused by the unavoidable failure of the Japanese Government to wire to the front of its expeditionary forces the news of the restoration of peace. That China at the last moment showed an indifference to such eventualities naturally aroused the Japanese Plenipotentiary's suspicion as to the sincerity of her motives. Under the circumstances, it was both natural and justifiable that Mr. Ito threatened to leave Chefoo at five should the Chinese Plenipotentiaries refuse to exchange the ratifications by that time. Actually the *Yokohama Maru* and the *Higo Maru*, which latter had entered the port on the evening of the 7th, were ordered to get steam ready for departure at any moment.

About three in the afternoon, the Chinese Envoys called at the Japanese Plenipotentiary's hotel, and asked for an extension of time to 10 p.m., at the same time offering a solemn assurance that by that time under any circumstances the exchange of ratifications would be proceeded with. It was rather singular that, since they were so resolutely determined to effect the exchange by 10, they could not do so a few hours earlier. But trusting to their solemn assurance, and faithful to the object of his mission, His Excellency the Japanese Plenipotentiary finally gave his consent to the proposed extension of time to 10.

At the appointed hour, the Chinese Plenipotentiaries came to the Beach Hotel, when the anxiety of the members of the Japanese mission was relieved by their declaration of readiness to proceed with the exchange of ratifications. It was a quarter before midnight when the ceremony was completed. Why such a comparatively long time was necessary for the apparently simple formality of exchange, may be easily understood when I mention that the secretaries of the two missions had to read and compare the papers in Japanese, Chinese, and English. When the process was over, cordial greetings took place between the Plenipotentiaries of the two countries and their suites. Mr. Ito presented Mr. Wu and Mr. Lieu with photographs. The Chinese Plenipotentiaries, it is said, requested Mr. Ito to be the bearer of a message addressed to the Japanese Government from the Government of Pekin bearing upon the question raised by the intervention of Russia, Germany, and France. But the request seems to have been politely but firmly rejected. Mr. Ito had no other course to pursue, his mission having related only to the exchange of ratifications. It was about half-past twelve that the Chinese Plenipotentiaries took leave. Before their departure they asked Mr. Ito to take home a large box containing presents from the Viceroy Li to Surgeon-General Dr. Ishiguro, Dr. Sato, and other persons in Japan. The box, which I subsequently had opportunities to see, is large and heavy, and seems to contain a large quantity of valuable things.

I must not omit to mention the visit paid by Admiral Sir Edmund Fremantle to the Japanese Plenipotentiary at his hotel about half-past two in the afternoon of the 8th. He had half an hour's pleasant chat with Mr. Ito and Lieut-Colonel Murata. Mr. Read, U.S. Consul at Tientsin, who was staying at the opposite hotel, was also a frequent visitor. His disinterested endeavours in the interest of peace are highly appreciated by the members of the Japanese mission. Mr. Bredon, of the Imperial Maritime Customs, and Mr. Donnelly, of the American Consulate at Chefoo were also very kind and courteous to the members of the Japanese mission. In short, the friendship and goodwill manifested by the British and the American naval officers and the British and American civil functionaries on shore, were highly gratifying to the Japanese. The spontaneous sympathy and friendship manifested toward them by England

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not be easily forgotten by this high spirited and sensitive people.

Mr. Ito wished very much to return Sir Edmund's visit, but it being necessary for him to leave for home at once with the exchanged documents, he could not do so. He sent a courteous note to the Admiral, thanking him for the visit and regretting his inability to return the courtesy.

The Japanese Plenipotentiary and suite left the hotel at three in the morning. As the party was leaving the port by the *Yokohama* at five, the Customs House hoisted a Japanese flag, while reports of Chinese firecrackers were heard on shore. As the *Yokohama* steamed past H.M.S. *Edgar*, the latter saluted the Japanese Plenipotentiary, her Marines being drawn up at "present arms." Mr. Ito and his suite, who were then on deck, uncovered in response to the English salutation.

RETURN OF MR. ITO MIYOJI.

(From our Special Correspondent.)

Kyoto, May 13th.

As the *Yokohama Maru* slowly steamed into the dock of Port Arthur on the morning of the 9th instant, the band played in front of the Naval Head-quarters in honour of the Japanese Plenipotentiary. It was eleven o'clock, the distance of 62 miles from Chefoo having been covered in six hours. His Excellency immediately proceeded to the Head-quarters of the Commander-in-Chief, where he remained until about three in the afternoon. At Port Arthur, people had thought that the Plenipotentiary had returned without accomplishing the object of his mission for a telegram had been received there from Kyoto the preceding evening, announcing an extension of the armistice for an additional five days. A telegram to some such effect, I should have stated, was likewise received by Mr. Ito just after the exchange of ratifications had been completed. It is needless to say that extension of the armistice would have meant postponement of the exchange of ratifications. The message, however, was too late, and it was immediately followed by another, saying that the Chinese Government had withdrawn its request for an extension of the armistice. This last news does not seem to have been wired to Port Arthur. It was consequently with agreeable surprise that intelligence of the exchange of ratifications was received by the Commander-in-Chief and the staff.

It had originally been fixed that we should return from Port Arthur by the war-vessel *Yayeyama*, and we had been looking forward to a rough voyage. But, fortunately, the Transport Department at Port Arthur placed the *Yokohama* at the service of the Plenipotentiary for his return voyage.

About 4 p.m., the Plenipotentiary and his suite were photographed on the deck of the *Yokohama* by an officer belonging to the military photographic corps. After that, the party repaired to the *Ikai Maru*, where they were entertained by H.I.H. Prince Komatsu. Mr. Ito proposed the toast of the health of His Majesty the Emperor, and His Imperial Highness proposed the toast of the Health of the Plenipotentiary. Captain Du Boulay happening to be among the company, the Health of Her Britannic Majesty was proposed by Prince Komatsu.

Soon afterwards, at a little past five, we returned to the *Yokohama* and the ship weighed anchor. The shore was crowded with an immense number of officers, the principal among them being Lieutenant-General Kawakami, Major-General Terauchi, and Surgeon-General Ishiguro. H.I.H. Prince Komatsu was on the bridge of the *Ikai Maru*. The farewell salutations from the Prince and the officers on shore were enthusiastic and often repeated. The band played in front of the Naval head-quarters as on the occasion of our arrival that morning. As we passed the abandoned fort just inside the entrance of the port, a large number of soldiers saluted us with cries of "Long live the Plenipotentiary," "Long live the Emperor," and so forth. These honest folks are sincerely glad of the return of peace. I had an opportunity to speak with several of them while I spent a few hours on shore that day. They were evidently hoping for an early return to their native country. "Much as I desire," said one of them, "to see my parents and friends, I long still more to see once more the green hills and plains of Japan. I am sick of the bare surface on which my eyes rest here." The simple sons of peasants, for such the majority of the Japanese soldiers are, have discovered the beauty of their own country during their campaign in China.

Early on the morning of the 10th, we observed an American man-of-war passing us in the opposite direction. We could not make out her name; but she was supposed to be the *Baltimore*. There was nothing worthy of notice during the rest of our voyage to Ujina, where we arrived at 10 a.m. on the 12th inst.

Captain Hirayama of the *Yayeyama Kan* at once came on board our ship. The party soon afterwards landed in a steam launch belonging to the Transport Office there. As it passed the *Yayeyama*, the latter fired a salute of 19 guns, a tribute paid only to a Minister President of State and a Plenipotentiary.

On landing, the party were welcomed by Governor Nabeshima, Chief Public Procurator Okumiya, Secretary Seki, and a number of other officials of the Local Government of Hiroshima. A large crowd along the road and a profuse display of national flags greeted the Plenipotentiary both at Ujina and Hiroshima. The townspeople of Hiroshima had in mind to turn out in a mass to welcome home the bearer of peace, but his arrival being a few hours earlier than had been expected, their project was baulked. Their representatives, about thirty in number, entertained Mr. Ito at dinner afterwards at the Kikkawa Hotel. Governor Nabeshima, on behalf of those assembled, addressed a few words of congratulation and thanks to the Plenipotentiary. The latter then replied in a short and well-delivered speech, thanking his entertainers and offering them briefly some advice and encouragement as to the future development of their flourishing city. At the instance of His Excellency, three cheers were given for the Emperor.

We left Hiroshima by the 8 p.m. train, and arrived here at noon to-day. At the station Mr. Ito was greeted by several distinguished officials. He immediately proceeded in a carriage to the Imperial Palace, taking with him the exchanged treaty. This city has resolved to celebrate the return of peace for three days by decorating its house fronts with lanterns and flags. Here as everywhere else the people are heartily glad of the restoration of peace. The inhabitants of Kyoto are comparatively cold about politics, and are perhaps on that very account impartial and fair in judging the course pursued by the Cabinet with regard to the combined intervention of Russia, Germany, and France. They seem to be satisfied that the best course possible under the circumstances has been chosen; and they are little in sympathy with politicians that are preparing to stir up an agitation against the Ministers on account of their action at the present juncture. Their feeling, however, about the intervention of the allied Powers is as keen as that of the rest of their countrymen.

THE STATE OF PUBLIC FEELING AND THE ATTITUDE OF THE OPPOSITION.

(Communicated.)

Tokyo, May 19.

The weather, which for the past few days has been very warm, to-day suddenly became exceptionally cool for the season. A little past five in the afternoon, a part of the metropolis was visited with a hail-storm, which, however, lasted only ten minutes. The sky has since cleared up, and it is now a cool, starlit night.

It is not so easy to describe the state of the weather in the political world. There are signs of considerable activity among politicians in general and those of the Opposition in particular. The leading members of the different parties and factions constituting the so-called Opposition are holding conferences to exchange their views on the situation, and to consider the bearings of the various problems now demanding their attention. Thus far they do not seem to have decided upon any definite line of action. This afternoon I met and talked with a well-known rising politician of independent views. For certain good reasons, I forbear mentioning his name, but his opinion on any subject is well worth quoting, and especially so in the present instance, for he is one of the committee nominated by the combined Opposition parties to draw up a memorandum on the political situation. I shall reproduce the conversation I had with him as far as my memory enables me.

"Now, Mr. ———, what are you Opposition politicians going to do? Are you trying to get up an agitation against the Cabinet, so that you may dislodge it and take its place?"

"No, my good friend, we do not intend anything of the sort. It is true that we cannot consider that the present Ministers of State have done well in the diplomatic sphere. On the contrary, we maintain that they have committed a most serious and disastrous blunder in not having done anything to counteract, and provide against, the intervention of the European Powers. That such intervention would be attempted had been apparent from the beginning of the war. An opportune exercise of a little forethought and diplomatic skill would probably have prevented the present disaster. Yes, I agree with you in thinking that, under the existing circumstances, the course pursued by the Government was the wisest. But you will not dispute the fact that the Government's ineptitude and negligence in the field of diplomacy are largely responsible for the humiliation the nation has had to suffer in the present instance. Why did not the Cabinet effect some understanding with Russia before dealing with China? The thing was not impossible; probably it could have been arranged without much difficulty."

"You hold the Government responsible for the present grievous national humiliation. You are, then, going to build your platform in the coming session on that basis?"

"Well, in a sense, yes. But you must not suppose that, therefore, we are devoting our energies to pulling down the Government. Our attention is now occupied with problems of far greater magnitude and importance. In short, we are investigating the needs of the country in the fields of politics, finance, industry, commerce, education, and national defence, as affected by the recent war with China. So the Opposition will strongly censure the Cabinet for its diplomatic blunders, but they do not now care much who may happen to be in office, so long as the real needs of the Empire are duly attended to. They will no longer refuse to pass measures of practical importance and necessity on the bare pretext of want of confidence in the Government."

"I am very glad to hear you say this. I have no doubt as to the fairness and impartiality of your own views, but I fear that many of your friends, the Progressionists for example, may differ from you and may be disposed to devote their time and labour merely to attacking and embarrassing the Ministers as they have done hitherto!"

"I willingly admit that there are men of such a stamp, but their number, I assure you, is very small."

Such was, in substance, the conversation of Mr. ———. If his views are correct, and I have little cause to doubt them, then it is evident that the war has had a very salutary effect upon the minds of party politicians. Had such a wholesome tone prevailed in the political world during the past five or six years, Japan would have had by this time a Navy that would have made Russia hesitate to act as she has acted. The party politicians have at last found out their mistake, and they

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evidently mean to cancel past faults by more than ordinary enthusiasm for the development of their country's fighting capacity.

There seems to be in certain quarters an apprehension that the recent war, and especially the intervention of the three European Powers, may result in an increase of anti-foreign sentiment among the Japanese. I feel perfectly safe in declaring most positively that no such consequence need be feared. On the contrary, the action of Russia, Germany, and France has taught the nation to value properly the good will of the true friends of the country. The Japanese now recognize the necessity of adopting a foreign policy of a decided character. It is impossible to be on friendly terms with all the Powers at the same moment. Japan's position as the greatest Power in the East does not allow her to continue in an attitude of neutrality. She must now choose her friends and allies and shape her course accordingly. There may be more coldness, nay even animosity, than ever against certain Powers. But, on the other hand, the friendly feelings of this nation will become proportionately more manifest towards some other countries. Under such circumstances, there will be no scope for the development of what may be called anti-foreign sentiment. To put it in a few words: as the result of the recent war and its attendant complications, the Japanese will know their friends from their foes better in future.

What I am most delighted to communicate to you is that the feeling of umbrage caused by the actions or the supposed actions of the British fleet in the first stages of the recent war, is fast disappearing. All well-informed Japanese have been aware all along that public opinion in England was sympathetic toward their country, but the mass could not see beyond what took place nearer home. Some time ago, a certain school-master in Tokyo asked his little pupils, What country shall we fight with next? England, answered the boys unanimously and without a moment's hesitation. But even children are beginning to change their minds. The United States of America, I must confess, occupies the highest place in the hearts of the Japanese. Next comes Great Britain.

FORMOSAN ITEMS.

We take the following items about Formosa from the vernacular papers:—

The temperature of Formosa during the hot season, ranges above 100° Fah. in the open air, but indoors it is always below that degree, moreover, at night, the temperature falls to about 85, thus making it easy for the inhabitants to pass the night. Even in the daytime a cool wind comes down from the mountain ranges situated in the eastern part of the island, and so the hot season is not so intolerable as is commonly supposed.

The higher officials thus far appointed for the Administration Office of Formosa are as follows:—Messrs. Mizuno, ex-Chief Secretary of the House of Representatives; Kimura, ex-clerk of the Educational Department and Assist.-Prof. of Tokyo Higher Commercial School; Chijiiwa, ex-chief of Police; Shimada, ex-district Chief of Osaka *Fu*; Takeshita, ex-chief Police of Tochigi; Takei, ex-compiler of the Naval Department; Nakamura, ex-*sonin* official of the Cabinet; and Egawa, ex-chief of Kobe Customs.

Some scores of others, including officials of the Yusen Kaisha and railway and telegraphic experts, are to accompany Admiral Kabayama, the Governor-General of the Island.

The Government are determined to divide the island into at least three administrative sections, each section requiring about 1,000 officials.

Some might suppose that the remuneration of officials in Formosa would be relatively much higher than that paid to public functionaries at home; but this is far from the case. For instance, Mr. Chijiiwa receives a monthly salary of only 80 *yen*, whereas he used to draw 75 *yen* per month while he was the Chief of Police of Honjo District.

IMPERIAL RESCRIPT.

The following Rescript, addressed to the soldiers and sailors of the Empire, was issued on the 13th instant:—

Our beloved soldiers and sailors: when in the 15th year of *Meiji* the system of organization of the army and the navy was perfected, We, who hold the supreme command of the Army and the Navy, laid down five points which you as warriors ought to observe with all your strength, and We proclaimed to you that loyal, courteous, brave, upright, and frugal, you ought to be permeated with undivided sincerity.

That We were very earnest in Our instructions to you was because We relied on you as Our main pillars.

Since then tranquillity had reigned over the domain for more than ten years. When, however, last year, war broke out with China, you rose up at one word from Us, and endured the sultry heat of summer, and braved the icy cold of winter. Those who stayed behind devoted themselves to securing the safety of the Empire at home; while those who were despatched abroad undertook the arduous task of marching upon and attacking the enemy. The result has been that both by land and by sea a glorious success, never exampled before, has been achieved, thereby accomplishing the object of the war, and displaying the glory of the Empire to the four seas.

We are highly satisfied to see that the Imperial Army and Navy have arrived at such a state of efficiency, and we appreciate at the same time that you, ever keeping in view the five points aforesaid, have disregarded your lives in order to fulfil our orders, and have admirably discharged the duties incumbent upon you as the main pillars of Our State. As to those who fell dead in battle or died of disease, and those that have been disabled, We deeply appreciate their patriotism and sympathize with their lot.

We have concluded peace with China, and are about to share with you the felicity of peace. But We think that the enhanced honour of the Army and Navy and the glory of the Empire have added weight to your duties and responsibilities. Desirous as we are, now that the Imperial glory has been augmented, to enjoy and share with you the honour of the Empire, we cannot but perceive that the future destiny of the State is as yet undeveloped; and we therefore enjoin on you, whether you remain in the respective services or are disbanded and go home, to obey faithfully Our instruction, to keep always in view the five articles, and to observe the duties of warriors, so as to discharge with the utmost sincerity on any necessary future occasion the duties that you owe to the Empire.

THE KOREAN QUESTION.

Recent news from Korea is far from reassuring; the political world in Sōul seems to be still in a state of great unrest. Among the latest reports coming thence, it is stated, for instance, or already detailed in these columns, that a conspiracy has been discovered for the assassination of the King; that the two leaders of the Ming faction now in refuge at Shanghai, have been invited home by a member of the Cabinet; that Mr. Boku, the Home Minister, has made an appeal to the foreign Representatives, and that he is secretly fomenting a conspiracy understood to be unfavourable to Japanese interests. How far these reports are to be credited, we possess as yet no trustworthy means of determining. It seems certain, however, that the Korean statesmen now in power are not free from the national vice of petty intrigue and conspiracy, and that the reformatory efforts of Count Inouye and his energetic assistants have excited opposition and suspicion on the part of the conservatives.

This unsettled state of politic in Sōul naturally receives serious attention at the hands of Japanese journalists. The *Chu-o Shimbun* is informed that Russia has demanded the withdrawal of the Japanese troops from Korea. Whether this report is correct or not, our contemporary confesses itself unable to ascertain. But considering Russia's geographical position, and her policy in the past, the *Chu-o* believes that she is keenly desirous of extending her influence over the peninsular Kingdom. "The Korean Government," continues the National Unionist organ, "may not feel the gravity of the situation. But Japan cannot afford to be so indifferent; for the withdrawal of her forces from the Peninsula would have a disastrous effect upon the peace of the Kingdom, and consequently upon that of the Orient in general." Our contemporary thus dilates upon imperative reforms. "Under these circumstances," it writes, "we earnestly hope that this Empire will not fail to take decisive steps for securing its rights and interests in Korea, so that every contingency may be provided for in advance. To enumerate the steps necessary for securing our interests and rights, we may refer to the control of railways, of the telegraphic and postal services, of finance, and of the military administration; the opening of new trade ports; the acquisition of concessions in navigation and commerce; and the free admission of Japanese into the interior. Some of these points constitute subjects of negotiation between the Governments of the two countries, while in the case of a few others the acquiescence of Korea has already been obtained. But what we desire most earnestly is that these steps be carried out as promptly as possible. Unless they are quickly consummated, it is not improbable that attempts will be made to thwart our object entirely. This is not a time to rest contented with the compilation of laws and the issue of official regulations."

THE LIAOTUNG PENINSULA.

The conditions for the return of the Liaotung peninsula to China are now the principal topic of discussion in political circles. Opinion naturally differs much on the subject. It is reported and believed in some quarters that the Government's idea is not to demand any compensation in the form of money, but to insist on the temporary occupation of the peninsula as a sort of security for China's faithful carrying out of the treaty. The *Jiji Shimpo*, among other journals, thinks otherwise. In its opinion, the Chinese Government should be made to disburse an additional sum in return for the renounced territory. The money should be paid in annual installments extending over a long period, for the Chinese will no doubt experience great difficulty in procuring funds. A demand for such recompense would not be improper, says the *Jiji*, because the Japanese Government was satisfied with only 200 million taels in consideration of the cession of territory. Our contemporary further remarks that, pending the final payment of this additional indemnity, the peninsula should be occupied as security. Another reason is adduced why the temporary occupation of the district for a certain number of years should be insisted on by Japan. In the treaty of peace, China engages "not to punish in any manner, or to allow to be punished, such Chinese subjects as have been in any manner compromised by their relations with the Japanese army during the war." Our contemporary fears that, despite this solemn engagement, the Chinese Government may be disposed to act as it has always acted in the past. To prevent the infliction of barbarous punishments upon innocent people, it is necessary to continue the occupation of the territory for a number of years, during which period the Chinese authorities may come to be convinced of the brutality of such proceedings.

Such, briefly, is the substance of the *Jiji's* opinion on this important subject. Divergent as are the views expressed by men of different parties and schools, they seem to agree on one point, namely the necessity of the occupation of the peninsula for a certain number of years.

A Vienna telegram states that Count Henry Coudenhove, Austrian *Chargé d'Affaires* at the Legation in Tokyo, has married a Japanese lady, who is about to join the Roman Catholic Church. She belongs to a distinguished Tokyo family, all the members of which confess Buddhism. The Coudenhove family are strict Catholics. It is not certain that when the affair becomes known here the Foreign Office will approve.

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THE FAMINE IN SOUTH MANCHURIA.

ONE of the most terrible penalties that the inhabitants of China have to pay for the conservatism of the governing classes is the frequent recurrence of famines. In any country, of course, the failure of the crops over a large area inevitably causes great distress among the inhabitants of the afflicted district; but in a country in which the means of communication have not been properly developed the distress is immeasurably greater. Where communication is free, the price of food is regulated by the general harvest of the whole country; but in an isolated district, dependent upon itself for its food supply, the failure of a single harvest causes the price of food to rise to famine figures, and even those that are fortunate enough to have some store of capital are hardly able to purchase enough food to keep themselves alive.

The great plain that extends for many miles on either side of the lower reaches of the Liau River has always been a district liable to famine. Every year in the spring, when the winter snows melt, large tracts are flooded; but if the waters subside soon, no harm is done, and the people can proceed to sow their crops as usual. A persistence of the floods, or a fresh rise of the waters after the crops have begun to grow, will, however, render a famine almost inevitable. In 1888 there was a terrible famine due to this cause; and this year, owing to the distruction of last year's harvest by floods and to the ravages of the war, the peasantry are again almost entirely without food. The following account, furnished to us by a French missionary who has lived for years in this region, gives an eloquent picture of the state of the country:—

"Last year, on the 25th of June, the crops were magnificent; and, since everything seemed to promise a splendid harvest, the peasants were full of joy. But, alas, their expectations were cruelly deceived. From the 28th of June onwards, heavy rains, unusual at this season, inundated the country, and continued for a fortnight. The ground became saturated with water, and the mountains that lie to the eastward of the plain, having been stripped of their trees by the Chinese who consider nothing but the interest of the moment, vomited forth torrents of water through their thousand valleys. Thus the immense plain that stretches from Yingkow to Moukden was flooded, and every kind of vegetation was covered to a depth of several feet. The wheat and the barley, which were ripe and ready for harvesting, were in part destroyed. The millet, the peas, and the sorgho, which do not ripen till September and form the principal crops of the country, were totally destroyed. In some of the higher parts of the plain the disaster was less general, but on the whole the yield of the ground was less than one-tenth of that of ordinary years.

"Thus poverty, with its hideous attendants, theft and brigandage, was already assured. But it appeared that this was not sufficient. In the autumn the Chinese armies invaded the country, and, since as is usual with Chinese armies, the officers retained for themselves the greater part of the pay of the soldiers, these last had no resource but to live on the people. Not content with mere subsistence, they pillaged their countrymen, stole money and merchandize, wasted fuel and fodder, and in short, behaved like barbarians in a conquered country.

"When the fortune of war had expelled the Chinese, the turn of the Japanese came. But they arrived too late, and the country was already ruined. It is true that the Japanese soldiers were fed on rice that was not provided by the country but was imported from Japan; but the horses of their cavalry, their artillery, and their baggage-train exhausted the last resources of the country and rendered the misery frightful. I must add that in consequence of the war the carts that in ordinary times bring down large quantities of cereals from the north have this winter not ventured to take the road. Since the thaw and the opening of the river we see that the boats are not coming down the river. In order to limit as far as possible the food supplies of the Japanese, the Chinese authorities have forbidden the boatmen to come down the river, forgetting that in a conquered country it is the inhabitants and not the victors that suffer from a scarcity of provisions.

Now has arrived the season for sowing the new crops, but it is extremely doubtful if the peasants will be able to do anything of the kind. In consequence of the requisitions of the Chinese and the Japanese, most of the cultivators have lost the beasts that they need for their work in the fields; many, moreover have no seed to sow. A large part of the country will therefore of necessity remain untilled; and in any case it would be five months before the new harvest could be ready—and GOD knows that five months is a long time to a hungry man."

The prospect for this unhappy district is now even blacker than it was when the above lines were penned a month ago. If the Japanese had intended to retain possession of the conquered territory, they would, if merely in their own interest, have done something to relieve the distress; on the other hand, if the territory were to be restored at once to the Chinese they themselves might be trusted to do something for their unhappy countrymen—for the wealthy Chinese are liberal givers when their interest and sympathy are aroused, as witness the generous support they have given to the various Red Cross Hospitals for wounded Chinese soldiers. But for some months, at least, the conquered territory is likely to be a kind of No-man's-land, in which famine and disorder will rage unchecked.

Though self-interest no longer calls on the Japanese to do anything for the inhabitants of the country they are about to abandon, is it not possible to hope that something higher, the claims of a common humanity, may lead the Japanese authorities, during the short time they will remain in occupation, to do all in their power to relieve sufferings for which they are in some degree responsible? By such an action as this, Japan would exhibit qualities far greater than those that lead to success in war.

GOOD SENSE TO THE RESCUE!

WE note with regret that the Vernacular Press exhibits as freely as it dares a strong feeling of hostility towards the three Powers whose interference led to the determination of the Japanese to abandon their claim to the Liao-tung Peninsula. We are glad, indeed, that England was not one of the Powers that determined to interfere; and we shall be glad if this abstention should lead, as it seems likely to lead, to a growth of renewed good feeling between England and Japan. But on the part of Japan such friendship would be dearly bought if it were bought at the expense of continued ill-feeling towards Germany, France, and Russia. That England's interests were threatened at least as much by the proposed permanent Japanese occupation of the Liao-tung Peninsula as those of France or Germany, can not be questioned, and that the reasons which induced her to hold aloof from the quarrel are appreciated by Japan, we do not doubt. On the other hand, though we may think that Germany and France had no particular interests involved—not even Japan can plausibly maintain that Russian interests in the Far East were not in some degree threatened—yet, after all, that question is one rather for those countries themselves than for any one else to decide. Interference by international agreement, with the distribution of the spoils at the close of a war has many precedents in European history, though none precisely parallel to the present case. A nation that has to submit to such interference, when exercised by overwhelming force, is unwise if in consequence it feels either humiliation or hostility.

In saying this, we premise, of course, that the demands of the interfering Powers are not excessive, for no nation could be expected to acquiesce calmly in deprival of all the gains that were expected from a successful war. Now in this case it is not reasonable to maintain that the demands were excessive. To a keen observer of the situation, it has been

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obvious throughout the war that objection was likely to be offered to the annexation by Japan of territory on the Asiatic mainland. The only question was whether the conflicting interests of the European Powers were likely to prevent the formation of a coalition sufficiently strong to render that objection effective. In the belief that the Powers would fail to combine, the Japanese demanded the cession of the Peninsula. The event proved that they had been mistaken; an irresistible coalition was marshalled against them; and the Japanese had absolutely no course open to them but to retire at discretion. No attempt was made to deprive the victors of the general fruits of their success. There has not been the slightest sign to justify the belief that any one of the allied Powers is acting other than in good faith, or has any intention of turning to its own profit the concession forced from Japan. Under these circumstances, the inevitable surrender may surely be borne with a good grace. Such a grace was exhibited in the admirable Imperial Rescript issued a few days ago as an appendix to the Treaty; and the Japanese newspapers ill display their boasted loyalty to their SOVEREIGN when, under cover of a sarcastic approval of the terms of the Rescript, they thinly veil their hatred of the Powers whose interference has prevented the carrying out of the original terms of the Treaty of Peace.

There is an immediately serious aspect of writing such as that which has led to the suspension of many of the prominent papers; it was writing of this character that preceded, and fitly led up to, the recent murderous attack on the Chinese Ambassador at Shimonoseki. It is true that such an event might have taken place in any civilized country; but it is equally true that of all civilized countries Japan is the one in which such events may most readily occur. No one that knows Japan can doubt that her permeation with the spirit of western civilization is deep and genuine; to speak of her as a country possessing merely "a veneer of civilization" is the idle babbling of a fool: but here and there the fierce spirit of her former type of organization yet lingers and finds unexpected manifestation; and in the *soshi* of to-day we find a degraded but still dangerous reproduction of the *ronin* of the feudal age. It is the widespread existence of such half-crazy enthusiasts as the assailant of LI HUNG-CHANG, men always eager to avenge by personal means the real or fancied wrongs of their country, that makes all inflammatory writing so doubly perilous in Japan. Editors that open their columns to innuendoes such as those that have appeared recently in many of the vernacular papers, incur, therefore, a serious responsibility.

Apart from these immediate dangers, it would be most regrettable did the recent complications lead to the growth of permanent hostile feeling on the part of the Japanese people towards any of the great nationalities of Europe. Japan's interests are not likely in the near future to be so closely identified with those of any of the European Powers that an actual alliance with one of them would be to her advantage; the burden would be greater than could be compensated by the advantages entailed. But Japan's interest undoubtedly lies in the maintenance of the most friendly relations with all her great compeers in the civilized world. A determination to "repay the kindness of the three Allied Powers on some future day" would sadly interfere alike with the peaceful internal development and the much-desired commercial expansion of Japan. The war has given the Japanese what they fought for, and a good deal more besides. Let "Peace and Goodwill towards Men" be now the motto of the island empire.

RUSSIA AND KOREA.

A RUMOUR current in Tokyo says that Russia has purchased a port from Korea; that the transaction has been completed, and that the price is already in the treasury of the Söul Government. The only details needed to round off the story are the name of the port and the amount of the sum paid. It would scarcely be necessary to dub the tale a baseless canard were we not confronted by the fact that the credulity of a certain class of newsmongers in the East is illimitable. Men will be found capable of believing this rumour and of helping to circulate it. The Korean Government, however, is not in a position at present to make such bargains. Welcome to an impoverished exchequer as would be the incoming of a few hundreds of thousands of roubles, and little as some Korean statesmen's patriotism might deter them from selling a portion of their country, Japan is for the moment acting in the capacity of the peninsular Kingdom's guardian, and there is not the remotest probability that Japan would consent to a transaction of the kind described. There exists in some quarters an idea that the public have not learned the whole story of the recent interference of the three Powers and the manner of the affair's settlement. Very likely they have not. Outsiders are seldom allowed to look deeply below the surface of diplomatic arrangements: there remains always a *terra incognita* spacious enough for suspicion and conjecture. When the war was approaching its close, and the period for peace negotiations began to loom in sight, many people conjectured that a secret understanding had been arrived at between Japan and Russia, and that the latter, in consideration of leaving to the former a free hand to deal with China, was to receive a substantial reward. Persons holding by such a theory seemed to forget that Japan had to give heed to the sentiments of other Powers besides Russia, and that to purchase the complaisance of one State by diverting a portion of the spoils in its direction would have been to provoke the jealousy, and perhaps excite the cupidity, of several others. A cognate reflection applies with even more directness to the present case. That Russia should have taken so much trouble for such trivial gains seems to some people incredible. "It is not her habit," they say, "to settle an international account unless a substantial balance stands to her credit, and, after all, to have permanently provoked Japanese enmity for the sake of restoring to China a portion of territory that she has shown herself totally incapable of guarding, is not a very solid or profitable achievement from the point of view of Russian interests. There must be something else to show. Russia has not pulled her hand out of the pie without a plum of some kind sticking to her fingers." To observers imbued with this idea, there is no difficulty in supposing that Russia's alleged purchase of a port from Korea may be a real transaction winked at by the Japanese Government. What, then, of Germany and France? Their recent association with Russia can not, it is true, be reconciled with any acknowledged principles of international law or morality. But is it conceivable that two of the greatest Powers of Europe would go so far as to lend their aid in order that a third might enrich itself at the expense of a friendly Oriental State, in direct defiance of the very principle ostensibly dictating the combination of the three, namely, the principle that no alienation of territory on the East-Asian Continent is at present permissible? Those that can credit such things are beyond the reach of reason, we think. Whatever be the final terms of the settlement resulting from the interference of the three Powers, there will be no item securing to one of the three gains in which the other two have no participation.

H.B.M.'S REPRESENTATIVE.

REUTER'S telegram—published in Yokohama on Monday—naming Mr. E. SATOW as the successor of the Hon. P. LE POER TRENCH in the post of British Representative in Japan, appears to be correct, confirmatory information to the same effect having been received at HER MAJESTY'S Legation in Tokyo. That the appointment has actually been made and gazetted seems improbable, however, for Mr. TRENCH has neither resigned, been transferred, nor placed *en disponibilité*. He has merely left Japan on sick leave, and in the ordinary course of events his successor would not be nominated until his return to London. It is possible, of course, that finding the medical reports from Tokyo

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sufficiently convincing, and being sensible of the advisability of not leaving Japan longer without a Minister, the Foreign Office may have departed from the usual routine, but as to that we can only conjecture. What appears certain is that any hope of sending Mr. TRENCH back to Tokyo, at all events within a period sufficiently brief to suit British interests, has been abandoned, and that Mr. SATOW is to take his place.

We can not sufficiently express the regret that will be felt by the community at losing Mr. TRENCH. His popularity was universal. He served for an exceptionally long period as Secretary of Legation in Tokyo—his attachment to the place inducing him to refuse promotion to Pekin—and during that time he was called upon to discharge the duties of *Chargé d'Affaires* for nearly twenty months consecutively. His countrymen had, therefore, ample opportunity to estimate his official abilities, to learn that their interests would always be safe in his keeping, and to appreciate his genial kindliness and profuse hospitality. Few British officials have ever been more sincerely liked and esteemed in the East. The wish will be universal that he may soon recover his health and be able to resume the active discharge of diplomatic duties for which he is so well qualified.

It goes without saying that Mr. SATOW'S return to Japan in the capacity of British Representative will be heartily welcomed by the old residents, who remember him in the days when, as Japanese Secretary, his eminent scholarship and profound knowledge of the affairs of this country, gave him almost a controlling voice in shaping the policy of the Legation. Belonging originally to the Consular Service, his promotion to a responsible position in the Diplomatic constituted an example of a practice that can never be commendable except in very rare cases, of which his was certainly one. He came to Japan 34 years ago, and serving through the memorable scenes of the Shogunate's last years, acquired experiences such as no other surviving British official possesses. Of course, the plainly probable eventuality of his return to Japan in the capacity of Minister has often been discussed, not always with entire approval, since it must evidently be difficult for any man trained amid circumstances so different from those now existing here to adapt himself to the new state of affairs. But Mr. SATOW has filled important positions in other countries since the beginning of 1884, and there can be no doubt that, when confronted by the radical changes consummated since then, he will recognise and appreciate the difference. For the rest, his unequalled familiarity with the Japanese language and his personal friendship with all the prominent officials of Japan, can not but contribute to promote the close relations that it is Great Britain's interest to preserve with this empire by removing their visible agents. He shares the phanta sy of our forefathers who thought that they could burn the truth by roasting its professors. Count INOUYE'S absolute fearlessness exposes him to such perils more than we like to recognise. He lives in his duties too much to remember himself. Happily, however, he is so sincerely loved and respected by those serving under him that, despite his own indifference to danger, every precaution will doubtless be taken to avert it, and after all, the news that a plot has been discovered is good in the sense that it suggests redoubled caution on the part of its intended victim's protectors.

COUNT INOUYE IN KOREA.

WERE there any element of truth in the old proverb that coming events cast their shadows before them, Count INOUYE'S many friends and admirers might be anxious, just now, on his account, for rumour alleges that a plot to assassinate him exists in Korea, and whether it has been thwarted as well as discovered, we are not told. Count INOUYE strikes us as one of the most picturesque figures in the present crisis of this empire's destiny. Students of Japanese politics that have watched his career closely, recognise among his many high qualities one exceptional trait which, for want of a better term, we are fain to call heroism. The salient characteristic of the true hero, such as poets and romancists love to describe, is a man always ready to step into posts of difficulty and danger without any prospect of commensurate emolument or distinction. That has been the principle of Count INOUYE'S career. He undertakes great tasks out of pure love of performing them, and accepts the most onerous duties for the mere sake of discharging them. It is not of such chivalrous material that men most successful on their own account are manufactured. But their presence is necessary in a world where rewards are fewer than wants, and where without fine examples the general level of humanity would never be raised. Count INOUYE could not hope to enhance his reputation by going to Korea, but he might justly fear to sacrifice it. He had nothing to gain for himself and everything to lose. To purify such a mass of corruption as the Korean body politic, and to breathe the spirit of wholesome progress into a nation so debilitated by centuries of stagnation and self-seeking conservatism, were achievements not, perhaps, impossible, but certainly not compassable with sufficient quickness or breadth of result to bring present honour to their author. We can be quite sure that Count INOUYE, when he agreed to go to Söul, laboured under no misapprehension as to the nature of the work before him. He set his hand to the task with open eyes, and the public, watching the results attained by him, are in a position to gage Korea's chances of a brighter future, for if Count INOUYE cannot succeed in some measure at any rate, the peninsular Kingdom is beyond the reach of Japan's aid. The assassin's dagger is a miserable apparition under such circumstances, but it is, at the same time, a factor that must always be counted with in Korea. The lower we descend in the scale of human reasoning, the more prominently do we find the person recognised and the principle ignored. In Korea the political intriguer knows only one way of arresting the course of events, namely,

THE JAPANESE PLENIPOTENTIARY IN CHEFOO.

VERY exaggerated reports are published by Shanghai papers as to the events that took place at Chefoo when the ratifications of the Treaty of Peace were exchanged. It is alleged, for example, that no less that five foreign Admirals were present during the consultation between the Japanese and Chinese Plenipotentiaries; that the Russian Admiral laid his drawn sword across the Treaty and swore that ratifications should never be exchanged, and that "the Chinese Envoys insolently demanded an extension of time." All this is pure invention. No foreigner was present during the conference, and no insolent demand of any kind was preferred by the Chinese Envoys. What really did take place has been described in great part by our special correspondent—the only newspaper correspondent present with the Japanese mission—and was sufficiently curious to stand alone, without any fanciful embroidery such as that added by the Shanghai papers. When the *Yokohama Maru* arrived at Chefoo, having on board the Japanese Plenipotentiary, there were lying in the harbour eleven Russian vessels—8 ships-of-war, 2 torpedo-catchers, and a torpedo-boat—two German ships, and one French, a squadron of fourteen in all. Very shortly after the *Yokohama Maru* had dropped her anchor, the Russian and German ships began to prepare for action. They uncovered their guns, removed the tampions, ran down their topmasts, cleared their decks, and presently began to repaint their hulls, which last operation had been completed with regard to twelve, and half completed in the case of the thirteenth, as the *Yokohama Maru* steamed away after the exchange of ratifications. It was an unmistakable demonstration, and though it did not culminate in the laying of Admiral TYRTOFF'S naked sword across the Treaty, it showed plainly enough that if a display of armed remonstrance could prevent the exchange of ratifications, Russia and Germany were prepared to prevent it. It is to be observed that throughout this singular performance, the French ship—the *Forfait*—remained

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inactive, taking no part in the demonstration made by rest of the allied squadron. Why she thus differentiated herself from her consorts we can not tell. It is scarcely conceivable that the Russian and German ships acted under orders inapplicable to the *Forfait*, or that the officers in command of the demonstrating vessels prepared, at their own discretion, a pageant of which the French captain did not approve. Be that as it may, however, the Russian and German ships placed themselves in a state of readiness for immediate action, and that they did so with direct reference to the arrival of the *Yokohama Maru* and the impending exchange of ratifications, is beyond question. The Chinese, on the other hand, so far from preferring any insolent demand, behaved with the utmost courtesy. Their preparations for the reception of the Japanese Envoy were most complete, and they left nothing undone that could convey an impression of good faith. What the demonstration on the part of the Russian and German vessels was intended to achieve, there is difficulty in determining. The Governments in St. Petersburg and Berlin had already received from Japan an assurance that the Manchurian territory ceded by the Treaty should be restored at a subsequent date, and had agreed to the exchange of ratifications on that understanding. Such being the case, the assembling of a large fleet at Chefoo, and the clearing of the ships for action immediately after the arrival of the steamer carrying the Japanese Plenipotentiary, must be described, apparently, as acts of wanton unfriendliness. Nothing useful could be accomplished. Russia and Germany were consenting parties to the exchange of negotiations just as much as China and Japan were. If, then, the demonstration was intended to mislead the Chinese Plenipotentiary, it was emphatically an act of bad faith; while, if it was intended to injuriously affect the reception accorded to the Japanese Envoy, and thus produce new complications, it was a procedure for which we have no desire to find an epithet. Another point to be considered is that the vessels of the allied Powers did not have sole possession of Chefoo harbour. There were present also a British war-ship and an American, and it must have been foreseen that officers would be at once despatched from these —as in truth they were—to pay visits of friendly courtesy to the Japanese Plenipotentiary. Had the Governments of Germany and Russia wittingly planned an object lesson with the purpose of bringing into most marked salience the contrast between their own attitude and that of Great Britain and the United States toward Japan at this crisis, they could not have chosen more favourable circumstances than those existing at Chefoo. But surely to compass such an end can not have been seriously contemplated by Germany and Russia. The situation must have been most trying for the Japanese Plenipotentiary, Mr. ITO MYOJI. Fortunately he was just the man to preserve his *sangfroid* in a time of perplexity, and to appreciate the ludicrous character of a hostile demonstration by 13 war-ships in the presence of a solitary merchant steamer, as well as the fruitlessness of a naval display after diplomacy had successfully removed all the complications of the crisis. We imagine that the report prepared by the naval and military officers accompanying him and subsequently handed to the Chief of Staff in Kyoto, must have contained a picture of vividly striking character when it related the story of thirteen Russian and German war-ships clearing for action on one side of the *Yokohama Maru*, while on the other British and American ships were sending officers to exchange friendly visits with the Japanese Plenipotentiary.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[Our readers must distinctly understand that we are in no sence responsible for the sentients or opinions of our correspondents, for the accuracy of their assertions, or for the deductions they may choose to draw therefrom.]

ADVICE TO THE JAPANESE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—National pride is one of the fundamental constituents of national advancement. Elevation of national aspirations, loftiness of national conceptions, are the results of a noble pride entertained by the individual units of a nation dominated by a supreme love of country. National pride is laudable and of value to any people. National vanity is a dangerous concomitant in the character of any people. Vanity does not elevate—it is contemptible. The Japanese are now in that crisis when they may discover to the world that they are a nation proud of their achievements, proud of their country, proud of their government, proud that they are now recognized as one of the powers of the world that commands respect and receives it; or they may so demean themselves as boasters exhibiting that vanity that will bring ridicule in place of admiration. To harvest the fruits of her ambition so nobly developed in the struggle now terminated it does not require the semblance of boasting. A supreme satisfaction in the results obtained should be indulged in without offensive ostentation. To cavil and grumble at what may have intervened to circumscribe the limits of their anticipations and apparently assured achievements in the presence of insurmountable obstacles is to ignore the teaching of experience. To chafe in face of the inevitable is wasteful expenditure of energy: dignified acceptance of the unavoidable is better than bellicose pomposity.

The individual subject should imitate the dignified composure of His most gracious Majesty the Emperor in the face of the situation forced upon the Empire by the concerted action of the three great powers of the Occident. At the cost of the sacrifice demanded and rendered obligatory by preponderence of material force possessed by these three Powers, the Japanese should learn the lesson of patience, fortifying themselves with the satisfaction that it was not at the dictation of one of the great nations that Japan was constrained to divest herself of what she had fought for and was possessed of, but that it was the banding together of three mighty factors that was considered necessary to give potency to the representation that the tranquility of the East depended upon the evacuation of the Liautung peninsula. Japan has reason to entertain a becoming pride in the face of the situation. That Russia, the Collosus of Europe, did not think it prudent to embark upon the enterprise without adequate support should salve the wounds of disappointment. "Prudence is the better part of valour." To retire gracefully before disproportionate odds is no disgrace, it is acknowledge defeat but to accept rep[illegible] march of events has been tending to[illegible]shment of Japanese aspirations. [illegible]ge have crowned her efforts, in as large a measure as could have been hoped for in the commencement of the contest she has waged—that her prowess outran her initial programme is cause for gratulation and should soften the regrets harboured because of the ultimate disposition of results—Japan has shown herself what she can do—the gates of time are forever open, there is ever a to-morrow for those who wait. The career of Japan will be onward and upward in spite of the withdrawal from the peninsula. To attack the government for the disappointment felt because of the results of the interference of the three allied powers would be as wanting in justice, as it would be to hold it responsible for the ruin caused by the earthquake in Gifu. To defy when prepared and able to withstand any onset is one thing, to defy when the logic of circumstances indubitably point to defeat and disaster is another matter—to receive a thrashing is no discreet way of demonstrating that one is fearless.

Japan is in sounder condition nationally without the Liaotung peninsula than she would be with it, counting all the responsibilities it would engender. Formosa is a gain of magnitude. Korean independence now will depend upon Japan and Russia, China will not again appear upon the theatre either of war or diplomacy, so far as Korea is concerned. Japan has established her claim to the leadership in Oriental affairs. Now that peace reigns again, the one sole object of the Empire should be to so consolidate her resources that she may ever retain the position she now occupies. The people have loyally sustained the government in time of war, they should not antagonize it now. History will give a high place to the administration that has guided the Empire of Japan through the momentous era that closed with the Treaty of Shimonoseki. Japan should honour her heroes in statesmanship as well as her heroes in war. An admiring world will do it even if the Japanese fail in doing so.

Yours truly, X.

Yokohama, May 16th, 1895.

TENNYSON IN JAPANESE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—An American friend is making a special study of Tennyson's life and poetry, and would be glad to get information concerning translations of Tennyson's works into Japanese, as well as anything specially interesting in the line of Tennysoniana. I shall be greatly obliged if those who are posted will kindly inform me, either by private letter or through the columns of the *Mail*, what poems have been translated into Japanese, by whom translated, and when and where published.

Respectfully yours,

ERNEST W. CLEMENT.

16, Tsukiji, Tokyo, May 18th.

BIBLIOGRAPHY OF THE JAPANESE EMPIRE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—A very valuable work has recently been published under the auspices of the Japan Society, London, entitled "Bibliography of the Japanese Empire," compiled by Dr. F. von Wenckstern, Hon. Assistant Librarian of the Japan Society. The work is a classified list of all books, essays, and maps relating to Japan that have been published in Europe, America, and the East from 1859 to 1893, and it includes a facsimile reprint of the "Bibliographie Japonaise depuis le XVe siècle jusquà 1859 par Léon Pagès."

The compilation of this work has cost Dr. von Wenckstern a great amount of labour, and he writes me that the sale of his work has so far not compensated him for the actual pecuniary outlay within £100. He therefore offers to sell, through the Asiatic Society of Japan, fifty copies of this valuable work at a discount of 50% from the publisher's price. The price to general buyers is 25 shillings net, and to subscribers 21 shillings. The compiler offers fifty copies at the low rate of 12s. 6d. I am authorized by the Council of the Asiatic Society to get subscriptions for this Bibliography at the reduced price mentioned. The book is attractively bound and printed.

It would be a matter of regret if Dr. von Wenckstern should meet with loss in an undertaking which at its best could yield him no profit and is done purely from a scholarly interest in his work. I beg, therefore, through the medium of your paper to make known this offer and to ask that as many as wish to subscribe for this work will send their names to me at the earliest possible date.

Yours respectfully,

GARRETT DROPPERS,
Corresponding Secretary of the
Asiatic Society,

Tokyo, May 20th, 1895.

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JAPANESE TOPICS IN AUSTRALIA.

Sydney, April 11th.

The increasing prospect of a speedy termination of the conflict between Japan and China has further stimulated the already strong feeling on the part of the Australasian mercantile community to assist in developing trade relations between Japan and the Australasian colonies. Those interested in Australian silver mines are sanguine that the payment of the Chinese indemnity will largely enhance the value of the Broken Hill and other mines by increasing the demand for silver, thus counteracting the recent heavy fluctuations in its value. By each steamer leaving Australia for Japanese ports, Australasian business representatives are finding their way to Yokohama, Tokyo, and elsewhere, with a view not only to ascertain what openings may be found for the disposal of Australasian produce, but also what commodities are procurable for the Australasian market. Much of the information thus obtained has not been made public, but the report of Messrs. S. H. Rowe and I. Kelly, of the Department of Agriculture, Victoria, who recently visited Japan, in accordance with instructions from Victorian Government, has been widely circulated, with the result that Victoria, South Australia, and the other colonies have ascertained that considerable quantities of their produce would find a ready market in Japan, if properly placed on the market. The Victorian premier has been writing to the other colonial premiers on the subject, and Sir Edward Braddon (brother of Miss Braddon, the novelist), premier of Tasmania, has replied to the effect that his Government would be happy to co-operate with that of Victoria and those of the other colonies, but suggested that any action taken should be through the Australasian Agents-General in London, who could make the necessary representations to the British Secretary of State for the Colonies, which suggestion will probably be acted upon.

The Melbourne *Age* publishes an extract from a letter received by a Melbourne merchant from a correspondent in Japan. Mr. Dyer, mentioned in the letter, was commissioned by the Victorian Government to make enquiries similar to those instituted by Messrs. Rowe and Kelly. The writer says:—

Mr. Dyer seemed very hopeful that trade on a mutually profitable basis would be established before long. He seemed a very intelligent man, and also a very sanguine one. I doubt, however, if his expectations will be realised, anyway for some years to come. The interchangeable commodities of trade between you and Japan at the present time would be all in favour of Japan. The requirements of Australian produce in Japan, as far as the Japanese themselves go, are exceedingly small, and will no doubt remain so for another generation or two. Coal, copper, refrigerated or canned meats—especially mutton (there would be no sale for this amongst the Japanese, as they do not like mutton at all)—would find no market. Hides, tallow, and leather might do very well, but then you have the European, Chinese, and Korean markets to compete against. Another thing is, you are badly off at the present time—a very great drawback—for tonnage to Japan, freights being high and times of sailing irregular. Butter and other dairy produce the Japanese don't require, as they don't eat butter; and the milk that is required—also a recently acquired taste—is plentiful enough in Japan. A third consideration is that in dealing with the Japanese you want your credits (or their credits, rather) well secured, or you would most likely 'get left' in the matter of payments, and endless litigation would ensue to get your coin, which you would be very lucky in getting. I fancy the Japanese will get more information out of Mr. Dyer for their future advantage than he will get out of them. And I strongly advise any merchants in Australia, if they don't wish to lose money, to be very cautious before embarking in trade with Japanese firms, whoever they may be, without first taking all necessary precautions to secure themselves—more so than they would require if opening up business connections with their own countrymen. A further consideration in regard to this probable trade of the future is: Australia is a gold currency country and Japan a silver currency one; and it is not likely Japan would purchase from you on a gold basis what she can get from China or Korea on a silver one.

This extract has been widely circulated throughout Australasia, and has created a feeling of uneasiness in commercial circles by reason of the imputations cast upon Japanese mercantile honesty and fair dealing. So far, no one has stepped forth for the purpose of replying to the anonymous accuser, but it is felt that if the efforts now being made to promote commercial intercourse between Australia and Japan are to succeed, some authoritive explanation or denial should be given.

Australian interest in the progress of the war has declined considerably of late, the defeat of the Chinese arms being universally regarded as inevitable, but the approaching visit of Mr Frederic Villiers, the war artist and correspondent, may occasion a reaction. We do not, however, want to hear any more about Port Arthur, for enough has been said and written about it, and what has been done cannot be undone. Recently, at the Wesleyan Conference in Sydney the Rev. Dr. Sellers, moved a resolution expressive of regret at the war, and hoping that the steps that were being taken to secure peace would be successful; also, that the conference while sympathising with the families who had suffered through the war deplored interference with the mission operations of the churches, and urged on the members of the church the duty of offering an earnest prayer for the coming of the kingdom of God. The Rev. J. G. Moulton caused some sensation by dissenting from the resolution, on the ground that he was not sure that the war was a bad thing, as it had led to a disclosure which must be of benefit to China and probably to Japan. This was more than those present were prepared to accept, the result being that the motion was carried by a substantial majority. Commenting on the incident, a writer in the *Sydney Morning Herald* says:—

There is a ring of common sense in the declaration of Rev. Mr. Moulton that he did not see that the war between China and Japan was a bad thing. Don't know why it is that we expect to hear something maudlin from a parson often when he talks of relations between actualities and religious sentiment. The motion carried by the assembled clerics is a case in point. It "contemplates with profound regret" the war raging between China and Japan. Does it really? or does it only say it because it is nice and proper for a religious meeting to regret the shedding of blood? And if it does "profoundly regret" the war, is there anybody else that does not see in it one of the best developments that ever eventuated in the Orient? Perhaps the key to the expression of regret is in the after part, where it deplores the injury the war is doing to the missions. That one understands; but how anyone can see that, taken altogether, the war will not be a blessing to the Orient, to the world, and even to the missions, is what puzzles. To say nothing of the fact that war has in a hundred cases been the harbinger of civilisation, and progress, and liberty in ages past, China had reached the stage at which it must block the way of human development or clear from the track. Japan has come, the *deus ex machina* to solve the difficulty, and Christians as well as philanthropists all should say "All hail, Japan!" Blood must be shed, of course, as eggs must be cracked if we want omelettes; but as a matter of fact the man must be peculiarly constituted in his emotional nature that feels "profound regret" at any such a thing as cracking the nut of China's exclusiveness. The Rev. Mr. Moulton expresses the sentiment of healthful common sense, but it is every whit as Christian as the sentiment of "profound regret," which is something akin to morbid. More than this, his manly utterance of a fact goes far to free the Church of the stigma of a sickly sentimentalism, which is clearly attachable to this expression of "profound regret."

The article by Lord Wolseley, in the *Cosmopolitan*, on "What China should do in her present struggle with Japan," has been read with considerable interest in Australasia, where the Colonies are beginning to comprehend, albeit somewhat slowly, the altered condition of affairs in the East occasioned by the successes of Japan, and the fact that the future influence of Japan may extend into Australasian waters. Among the numerous articles to which the appearance of Lord Wolseley's paper has given rise, not the least thoughtful is one in the Melbourne *Argus*, in the course of which, the writer, after criticising at some length Lord Wolseley's arguments, says:—

What China may yet become, however, belongs to the realm of speculation. What Japan actually is to-day is fact which may well arouse the alarmed wonder of the civilised world. That Japanese generals can plan a scientific campaign, and Japanese soldiers can maintain a discipline of almost Prussian severity, and march and fight in a fashion to excite the admiration of professional soldiers all over the world, is sufficiently wonderful. But the naval feats of the Japanese are even more surprising than their military exploits. The story of the rush of the Japanese torpedo boats into the harbour of Wei-hai-wei, for sheer daring, for cool contempt alike of the violence of the elements and the fire of the enemy, resembles nothing so much as the attack of the British fire-ships on the French fleet in Basque Roads in 1809. Japan, it is clear, aims at being a great sea power; and if she extracts a ransom of £70,000 sterling from China, she will certainly turn those millions promptly into a new and yet more powerful fleet. Japan to-day, according to a writer in the *Spectator*, is at least as strong as Great Britain was when in 1803 the Peace of Amiens was broken and the Great War with France entered on its final stage. And we have to calculate what effect victory may have upon Japan. She will be richer by new provinces and by the gold of a vast tribute extracted from her beaten enemy. A new consciousness of strength, a new eagerness for profitable adventure, will burn in her blood. Japan has already a certain irritable vanity almost French in its sensitiveness, and it is at least conceivable that she may be eager to justify her new place in the world by measuring her strength against some other power. That the result of the present struggle in the East will profoundly effect the larger politics of the world can hardly be doubted. The *Spectator* thinks that Japan, with the wine of conquest fermenting in her blood, will certainly not settle down to the dull prose of peace very willingly. She will be tempted to undertake a policy of adventure; and England is the power whose possessions, scattered over so wide an area of the planet's surface, offer the strongest temptation to attack. Our London contemporary indulges in alarming speculation as to what Japan may possibly do. She may make a dash on Hongkong with its huge wealth; on Singapore, the key of Asia; "even" India or Australia themselves," according to the *Spectator*, "might be the object of attack." We may hear, that is, the thunder of Japanese guns in Hobson's Bay, and see battalions of Japanese invaders, olive-skinned and undersized, encamped in the Treasury-gardens or bivouacking in the Albert-park! The *Spectator* declares that, by way of precaution against Japanese attack, England must create a new Portsmouth in the East, since an English ironclad, crippled in Japanese waters, could find port in which to refit nearer than Bombay. It is an odd example of the manner in which events seemingly remote are related, that a victory won by Japanese over Chinese off the coast of North China should send up the English income tax and cast a shadow of peril on Australian cities!

The superficial manner in which Australian journalists regard the conflicts in which Japan is engaged is illustrated by the following extract from a Sydney paper:—

The London papers are all just now opening their eyes in wonderment at what they call the uprise of a "new power in the East." Because Japan has got the better of China in a few scrimmages between comparative handfuls of men she is spoken of as having been lifted into the first rank of military powers. I cannot see how these exploits have had any such effect. To begin with Japan has not beaten China; between nation and nation there has been no fight. A few Chinamen in no way representative of the strength of the country have been beaten by a superior force of Japanese. That does not make Japan any more formidable to other countries than ever she was. One or the other had to win, and as far as we are concerned it makes very little matter which side the fortune of war favoured. As a matter of fact, the result is to create no new power in the East at all. Japan is not made stronger by the proof of China's weakness. Amongst the blind the one-eyed man is king, but that does not alter his relations towards the two-eyed.

Fortunately these remarks do not in any way represent Australian opinion. The colonists are too well informed to accept such views as those above given, which show but too plainly how slightly acquainted is the writer with the true character of the events taking place in China. If the Chinese had it in their power to hurl back the tide of Japanese invasion, they would most certainly have done so.—JOHN PLUMMER, M.J.S.

THE CLUB HOTEL, LIMITED.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

The annual meeting of shareholders in the Club Hotel, Limited, was held in the large dining-room of the Club Hotel, on Tuesday afternoon. There were present Mr. H. M. Arnould (in the chair), Messrs. T. L. Brower, R. Ward, U. Durand, T. J. Morris, L. Gouilloud, G. Booth, C. D. Moss, G. Hodges, J. W. Hall, J. McDonald, J. H. Curtis, G. C. Booth, A. B. Walford, E. Berard, E. Coye, L. de Micheaux, E. Jubin, L. Jubin, E. B. Jones, Ah Sung, W. Koch, P. Peacock, L. Gros, H. C. Litchfield, G. Allcock, G. E. Gregory, E. Knaff, B. Beretta, G. C. Charlesworth, C. W. Ute, T. Abbey, J. Sibiodon, and J. Danuenberg (Secretary, *pro tem.*).

The SECRETARY having read the notice calling the meeting,

The CHAIRMAN suggested that the minutes of the last meeting be taken as read.

Mr. G. BOOTH proposed and Mr. CURTIS seconded that the minutes of the last general meeting be taken as read.—Carried.

The CHAIRMAN—The business now before the meeting is to adopt the report and pass the accounts. These have been in your hands for some days and have doubtless been well considered by you. I have nothing to add to the report, but I should like to amend a slight clerical error which occurs in the accounts. In the assets, sundry debtors account, the figures are $8,091.71, they should be $9,091.71, the extension has been properly carried out. I now formerly move that the report and accounts as presented be adopted.

Mr. BROWER seconded the motion.

Mr. J. W. HALL—Before the resolution is put to the meeting I should like to ask one or two questions. In the stock account, how has the value been taken, at its cost value or its selling price?

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The CHAIRMAN—At the cost price.

Mr. HALL—And in regard to the property account, are the properties in Tokyo and Yokohama still lumped together? At the previous meeting it was suggested that the separate value of the two properties should be stated in the accounts, so that shareholders might know the seperate value of the Tokyo property and the value of the Yokohama property.

The CHAIRMAN—I don't think that a resolution to that effect was made or carried.

Mr. HALL—Can you give me their values seperately?

The CHAIRMAN—No, not exactly. They have always stood in our books at the same value as they now stand.

Mr. HALL—In the books they stand together at the value of $70,000.

The CHAIRMAN—Yes; and in the 1893 report the same two properties were valued at the same amount.

Mr. HALL—Then they have never had a seperate account?

The CHAIRMAN—They have always been valued together.

Mr. HALL—Is the furniture in the two hotels lumped together in the same fashion?

The CHAIRMAN—Yes.

Mr. HALL—But the figures are not the same this year as last. This year the furniture account stands at $49,861, while last year it stood at $48,000 odd.

The CHAIRMAN—But a great deal of furniture has been bought this year both for Yokohama and Tokyo.

Mr. HALL—I will ask you for the seperate values of these properties.

The CHAIRMAN—I cannot give them. We are not property surveyors or valuers. No doubt you could get a properly qualified man to survey them and give you their values.

Mr. HALL—Then you have never valued the property?

The CHAIRMAN—No.

Mr. HALL—Nor the furniture?

The CHAIRMAN—No. There being no other questions I now put the resolution before the meeting, that the report and accounts be carried, the same carrying with them the suggestion of the Board of Directors that the $6,000 be carried to a reserve account.

Mr. WALFORD—Before that resolution is put, as it includes the suggested disposal of the $6,000, I have a suggestion to make. Why put this money to a reserve account? I think that instead of putting it to a reserve account as a set-off to the depreciation of our property, as proposed by the Directors, that the money be used, so far as the Directors think feasible, in renovating the property, improving its appearance, and increasing the comforts of the hotel. I think that the Directors have worked very hard during the past year, and our position is considerably improved upon that of the previous year. I think this meeting would be acting only rightly in voting $500 of the surplus to the Directors as a remuneration for their services and for all the trouble they have been put to during the past year. The rest of the surplus, a part or the whole, as the Directors think advisable, should be applied to renovations and repairs, and to increasing the comforts of the hotel.—(Applause.)

Mr. MOSS—I second that.

The resolution upon being put to the meeting was lost by a large majority. Mr. Walford then suggested that the resolution be divided into two parts, one being the suggested remuneration to the Directors, the other dealing solely with the disposal of the surplus upon renovations and repairs. The resolution as to the proposed renumeration to the Directors was taken first and lost by a large majority. Then the resolution was put that the $6,797.27 be spent upon the hotels was put and carried unanimously.

The CHAIRMAN'S proposition that the report and accounts be adopted was next carried unanimously.

REPORT.

The working of the Company during the year under review has proved satisfactory, both Branches showing a profit.

The Tokyo branch closes with a credit Balance of $2,358.59, which is extremely satisfactory, as this account is debited with interest on $69,000 at 7 per cent. Yokohama shows a credit Balance of $10,541.79, which is a very considerable improvement on last year's working. After wiping out the Debit Balance in Profit and Loss account of $3,449.93 with which we commenced the year, a net profit remains of $9,450.45.

Your Directors decided to write off $1,153.18 from the Electric Light plant account, Yokohama Branch, and $1,500.00 on account of bad debts, leaving a Balance of $6,797.27 to be disposed of.

Your Directors wish to draw your attention to the fact that the Assets of the Company stand in the books for their full value, nothing apparently having ever been written off for depreciation. Under the circumstances, your Directors think it would be difficult to write off any definite amount for depreciation, but beg to suggest that $6,000 should be taken from Profit and Loss account and put to a Reserve account for depreciation and improvement in Buildings, such account to be added to from time to time as the Company permits. The Balance of $797.27 still standing to the credit of Profit and Loss account to be carried forward to next year. In the early part of the year under review your Directors gave a trial to the Incandescent Gas Light; this having proved satisfactory it was installed thoughout the premises. A comparison of the expenditure for lighting during a corresponding period of the previous year, shows a saving on this account $632.05.

The vacancy caused by the lamented death of Mr. Blakeway, the late Secretary to the Company, was filled by the appointment of Mr. H. Janni to the post. Mr. Booth has resigned from the Board, and your Directors did not deem it necessary to fill the vacancy. Mr. Morris retires but does not offer himself for reelection, and Mr. D. Fraser not being likely to return to Japan, it remains for the meeting to elect Directors to fill the vacancies, and appoint an Auditor for the coming year.

H. M. ARNOULD,
T. J. MORRIS, } Directors.

H. JANNI, Secretary.

Yokohama, May 8th, 1895.

WORKING ACCOUNT—From 1st April, 1894, to 31st March, 1895.

	Dr.	
To Wines, Spirits and Cigars Account		$ 16,333.66
To Stores and Provisions Account	$16,880.15	
Less value of stock	490.00	16,390.15
To Salaries and Wages Account		9,079.73
To Insurance Account		1,869.98
To General Expenses Account		3,265.02
To Firing, Lighting, and Washing Account		4,424.38
To Ground Rent Account		215.12
To Auditor's Fee		200.00
To Repairs and Improvements Account		147.69
Gross Expenditure		$ 52,852.90
To Debenture Interest paid		5,950.00
		$ 58,108.90
To Balance transferred to Profit and Loss Account		10,541.79
		$ 68,650.69
	Cr.	
By Wines, Spirits, and Cigars Account	$ 25,583.84	
Value of Stock in hand	2,344.26	
	$ 28,927.90	
By House Account	54,711.88	
By Steam Launch Account	30.41	
By Share Transfer Fee Account	16.00	
By Rent Account	140.00	
		$ 63,835.60
By Interest Account		4,815.09
		$ 68,650.69

TOKYO BRANCH ACCOUNT.

WORKING ACCOUNT—From 1st April, 1894, to 31st March, 1895.

	Dr.	
To Wines, Spirits, and Cigars Account	$6,279.95	
Less Value of Stock in hand	1,494.50	
	$ 5,785.45	
To Stores and Provisions Account	7,283.82	
To Insurance Account	630.00	
To Salaries and Wages Account	2,434.50	
To General Expenses Account	544.01	
To Firing, Lighting, and Washing Account	1,712.92	
To Repairing and Improving Account	260.18	
To Ground Rent Account	441.53	
		$ 19,892.51
To Interest Account		4,830.00
To Balance Transferred to Profit and Loss Account		2,358.59
		$ 26,881.10
	Cr.	
By House Account		$ 26,881.10
		$ 26,881.10

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.—March 31st, 1895.

	Dr.	
To Balance from last year		$ 3,449.93
To Amount written off value of Electric Light Plant, Club Hotel		1,153.18
To Doubtful and Bad Debts written off		1,500.00
To Balance carried down		6,797.27
		$ 12,900.38
	Cr.	
By Balance transferred from Club Hotel Working Account		$ 10,541.79
By Balance transferred from Tokyo Branch Working Account		2,358.59
		$ 12,900.38
By Balance brought down		$ 6,797.27

ASSETS AND LIABILITIES.—March 31st, 1895.

	Dr.	
National Bank of China		$ 2,985.85
Cash on hand	$ 2,160.34	
Cash on hand Tokyo Branch	200.27	2,360.61
Sundry Debtors	8,091.71	
Less written off	1,500.00	
		7,591.71
Insurance Account		1,217.69
Steam Launch Account		1,900.00
Property Account		170,693.43
Furniture Account		49,861.98
Electric Light Plant Account	5,239.35	
Less written off	1,153.18	
		3,986.17
Incandescent Gas Light Plant Account		2,067.80
Stores Account		490.00
Wines, Spirits, and Cigars Account		4,838.76
		$247,596.00
	Cr.	
Capital Account		$160,000.00
Debenture Account		75,000.00
Sundry Creditors Account		5,472.23
Debenture Interest Account		437.50
Unclaimed Dividend		90.00
Profit and Loss Account		6,797.27
		$247,596.00

E. & O. E.

H. M. ARNOULD,
T. J. MORRIS, } Directors.

H. JANNI, Secretary.

I have compared the above Statements with the Books and Vouchers of the Company and have found the same to be in accordance therewith.

CHAS. W. UHL, Auditor.

Yokohama, May 8th, 1895.

The CHAIRMAN—The meeting has now to elect Directors to the vacancies on the Board. It can, if it likes, enlarge the Board to seven, making four new Directors altogether.

Mr. HALL proposed Mr. Litchfield and Mr. Knaff as Directors.

Mr. GREGORY seconded.—Carried.

Mr. BERARD said that he should like to have an 'explanation of the Directors' reasons for dismissing the late Secretary (Mr. Janni). He had seen something in the papers about it.

The CHAIRMAN asked the speaker to defer the matter till after the election of the new Directors.

Mr. COYE—I ask all the Board to resign.

Mr. KNAPP—I second that.

The CHAIRMAN—I would call the attention of the proposer and seconder of that resolution to Art. 83 of the Articles of Association, in which it says that a Director can be removed before the term of his office expires only by an extraordinary resolution carried at an extraordinary meeting, of which three weeks' notice must be given. This is not an extraordinary meeting, and the resolution is quite out of order.

Mr. COYE—I ask if they will agree to resign.

The CHAIRMAN—Some gentlemen are evidently hinting at trouble, to avoid which we of the Board are asked to resign; the Board of Directors know of no trouble for which, or on account of which, we should resign. The election of Mr. Litchfield and Mr. Knaff, as Directors, having been carried, it is still competent for the meeting to elect two more gentlemen.

Mr. MCDONALD proposed Mr. Walford.

The CHAIRMAN and Mr. BROWER seconded.

Mr. WALFORD—I regret to have to decline the position.

Mr. KNAPP—Then I propose Captain Bougouin and Mr. Coye as Directors.

Mr. WARD—I second the proposition.—Carried.

On the motion of Mr. WARD, seconded by Mr. BOOTH, Mr. Uhl was re-elected auditor.

The CHAIRMAN—That concludes the business before the meeting, unless Mr. Berard wishes to put his question about Mr. Janni.

Mr. BERARD—I saw something in the papers about Mr. Janni and the Directors, and I should like the matter explained.

The CHAIRMAN—Mr. Janni resigned, and the Board accepted his resignation. Then he put his advertisement in the paper. One of my fellow Directors tells me that an explanation of the matter is out of order as the whole affair had to do with the old Board. It is now settled.

Mr. BOOTH—The affair being settled, any explanation is out of order.

The CHAIRMAN—I quite agree with you.

Mr. BOOTH—The Directors have done their duty and the matter is at an end.—(Applause.)

The CHAIRMAN—The sense of the meeting certainly seems to be that the explanation is unnecessary.

A vote of thanks to the Chair, proposed by Mr. BOOTH, and seconded by Mr. PEACOCK, brought the meeting to a close.

THE PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY OF JAPAN.

The annual meeting of the above mentioned Society was held at the Koyokwan, Shiba, Tokyo, on Friday, May, 17th, at 4 p.m., Mr. C. D. West M.A., Vice-President of the Society, in the chair.

There was a good exhibition of photographs by members of the Society, particularly notable being those from the Genrokukwan, and from Mr. Otin A. Poole. There was also a technical exhibition, in which the following items were noticeable:—

By Mr. T. Asaoma, a "Bromide lamp," an adjustable finder making it possible to fix any lens to the camera by the mere turning of a milled ring, Ross's "concentric lenses," a very neat hand camera by the Rochester Optical Co. and other things.

By Mr. R. Konishi, a number of prints of different sizes, some very large, showing the performance of different modern lenses, by Messrs. Dallmeyer & Co. and other opticians.

An exhibit by Messrs. Favre-Brandt, of which more particular mention is made further on.

On account of the large amount of business to be got through, the minutes of the last meeting were taken as read, after which the following gentlemen were unanimously elected members of the Society:—

Mr. Edwin Dun, Minister of the United States

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of America, Mr. Y. Egi, Mr. Walter Elkan, and Mr. C. Oyama.

The officers for the past year having resigned, it was duly proposed and seconded that they be all re-elected, and the proposal was carried unanimously.

It was duly proposed and seconded, and carried unanimously, that Mr. Edwin Dun, Minister of the United States of America, and the Hon. P. Le Poer Trench, be elected Vice-Presidents of the Society.

The Secretaries' report was then read, as follows:—

Your secretaries have to report that the affairs of the Society during the past year have proceeded harmoniously and prosperously. Our membership has been largely increased. There have been regular monthly meetings with a fair amount of attendance. Accounts have been given of various new instruments and processes. In a few cases an entire process has been demonstrated before the society and work by different members has been almost constantly on view. Lantern exhibitions have continued to be one of the most attractive features. One lantern meeting was held in Yokohama. Especial thanks are due to the Messrs. Kajima for hospitalities extended in their new photographic studio and for exhibition of lantern pictures at the same place.

It was arranged for four field-days during the year. The two at Enoshima and Kodzu were highly successful, the third was indefinitely postponed on account of bad weather, and on the fourth occasion, in Kamakura, owing probably to some misunderstanding, only three members were present.

It becomes more and more evident that the Society is in need of permanent quarters of its own. In our present prosperous condition it would not be difficult to procure a good sized room for meetings and lantern shows, with perhaps a smaller room adjoining, and a dark room for the use of members. Such a home for the Society would serve not only for a general meeting place for consultation, etc., but also as a depository for our numerous presents, and for preserving examples of the best work of different members. Should such a place be provided, the gradual accumulation of a photographic library would be sure to follow.

The Secretaries' report having been passed, the Treasurers' report was read as follows:—

PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY OF JAPAN, TREASURER'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDING 1ST APRIL, 1895.

CASH ACCOUNT.

RECEIPTS.

To Entrance Fees and Subscriptions	$294.000
To Bank Interest to December, 1894	3.567
To Balance from 1894 account	271.284
	$568.851

DISBURSEMENTS.

By Printing Report for the Year 1894	$ 26.000
By Hire of Rooms, Refreshments and Expenses of Meetings in Tokyo and Yokohama	47.820
By Expenses and Notices for Excursions to Enoshima, Kosodai, Kodzu, and Kamakura	22.000
By Printing Circulars, Post-cards, Postage and Stationery...	57.730
By Expenses of Correspondence to Europe and America	12.000
By Balance in Cash	424.912
	$568 852

LIABILITIES.

Yokohama Meeting Account, not yet received, say ...	$ 15.000
Expenses of Annual Meeting, 1895 say	20.000
Cost of Preparing and Sending 100 Lantern Slides to American Lantern Slides Association...	55.000
Collector's Expenses	27.000
Balance in favour of Society	531.862
	$663.862

RESOURCES.

Subscriptions and Entrance Fees due from 48 Members (absentees not included), 1892 $6, 1893 $22, 1893 $26, 1894 $45, 1895 $202		$291.000
Property of the Society.		
Cash Box	$1.60	
Flags	7.00	
Stamp (Treasurer's)	.85	
Papyrograph	7.50	
Lantern Screen	9.00	29.950
Balance in Cash		424.912
		$663.862

The report was received with cheers, and was passed.

The following paper was then read:—

PIN-HOLE PHOTOGRAPHY.

Y. ISAWA.

Some couple of years ago, one of our members, Mr. J. Favre-Brandt, of Yokohama, read a very interesting paper upon the above mentioned subject. Pin-hole work, as he said in his valuable paper, certainly claims our attention on account of the quality of photographs that can be obtained in a darkened chamber or camera, without special optical apparatus, simply by means of a small hole in a very thin plate. My intention in this paper is to give you a report of my own experiments with the improved pin-hole apparatus, which Mr. J. Favre-Brandt has forwarded to the Editor of the *Shashin-Sowa*, and which I now show you.

For reference I quote his paper:—"Mr. Metheax says the most suitable hole is round, and drilled in a plate of sheet copper or brass of 2/10 millimeters in thickness; it is necessary that the borders show no burr, and are beveled, forming a cone."

"Captain Colson has remarked that, although the depth of focus is unlimited, the greatest sharpness of definition for each size of hole is found at a determinate distance, and he has succeeded in finding the proper focal distance for different diameters of holes; he has thus found:—

"The best definition of a hole 3/10 m.m. is at 11 centimeters
" " " " 4/10 " " 20 "
" " " " 5/10 " " 30 "
" " " " 6/10 " " 44 " "

Mr. J. Favre-Brandt has quoted Capt. Colson's table about focal distance, and the former's improved pin-hole apparatus is also made in accordance with the above table, as can be seen from the figures on the apparatus itself. On the left side are marked 3, 4, 5, and 6, which mean respectively 3/10, 4/10, 5/10, and 6/10 millimetre, and the figures on the right show the focal distances in centimeters.

It is a great pleasure to work with so perfect an instrument, as it makes experimental or practical work with the pin-hole easy in the matter of focussing the picture and exposing the plate.

The apparatus consists of two brass plates, of which one is rectangular, the other round; the round plate can be rotated on its axle upon the rectangular one by turning a milled head from the other side of the apparatus. The rectangular plate has four holes at the corners, for fixing the apparatus on the front-board of the camera with the round plate inside. On the back of the apparatus, on the round plate, are to be seen four plano-convex lenses of small diameters set in holes of a corresponding size, which are for use as focussing lenses or finders; besides this there are pin-holes of 3/10, 4/10, 5/10, 6/10 millimeters diameter, beveled at the edges to form a cone. The plano-convex lenses are 11, 20, 30, and 44 centimeters in focal length to correspond to the best definition of the holes. On the front of the apparatus, at the centre is a milled head by turning which the round plate inside is caused to revolve; on the left are the figures 3, 4, 5, and 6, and on the right 11, 20, 30, and 44; these figures show that, on reading horizontally, if a 3/10 millimeter hole is used to take the picture, it is necessary to extend the bellows of the camera so as to make the distance between ground glass and pin-hole 11 centimeters, to get the best definition. Also on the front are two openings, of which one is used to bring any of the pin-holes into position for exposure or any of the lenses for focussing, by turning the milled head and bringing the round plate into proper position. There is also a register for the pin-holes and focussing lenses.

For instance, if we are going to use the apparatus, we fix it to the front board of the camera, then we set up the camera, and if we wish to take a picture with 4/10 millimetre hole, first we turn the milled head till the opening registers 4; then the plano-convex lens of the focal length 20 centimeters is in position, we now focus the view or object, whatever it may be; after this is done we turn the milled head again, until 4 is once more registered, but this time with the pin-hole instead of the focussing lens. Now the pin-hole is at the best distance from the ground glass to give a sharp image and is ready for exposure by inserting the dark slide in its place.

I have made practical test of Mr. J. Favre-Brandt's improved apparatus, and have found there is nothing wanting as to the exactness of the pin-hole diameters, and the focal lengths of the focussing lenses, which are the two most essential parts of the apparatus. The working parts also act without hitch. I have revised the focal length by Captain Colson's formula and found the figuring on the apparatus to be quite correct, except that the decimal part is cut off to make round numbers. These decimal parts are of course not necessary in pin-hole work.

On the first introduction of this improved apparatus, Professor W. K. Burton made some experiments with it and got good results. Now my temptation to experiment in this kind of work was that there are other formulæ besides that of Captain Colson's, and too many formulæ for one and the same thing are confusing to unmathematical minds. Though I do not intend to run down any formula, I cannot help deprecating this confusion, especially as the results are such that I can hardly tell that one formula is superior to another.

The method of experimenting was as follows:—First by one formula I found out the focal length or rather distance of best definition for holes of 3/10, 4/10, 5/10, 6/10 millimeters diameter, from these focuses I deduced the angular value of apertures, and then from this the U.S. numbers for ascertaining the exposure. Doing this, I took first Captain Colson's formula as Mr. Favre-Brandt did, in which the focal length corresponds with the figures on his improved apparatus, and then I took that of Mr. T. R. Dallmeyer. According to this preliminary culculation, I made my actual experiments.

1st. Captain Colson's formula for determining the distances between the hole and the sensitive plate to get the best definition is $f=d^2\times.00081$; of which f equals the focus and d the diameter of the hole. By applying this equation I got the following table:—

Diameters of holes. m.m.	The distances of best definition. c.m.	Angular value of the apertures.	U.S. number of the apertures.	Exposure supposing 1 second with. U.S. 32 stop.
3/10	11.11	$f/370$	8555	4′ 27″
4/10	19.72	$f/493$	15200	8′ 0″
5/10	30.86	$f/617$	23793	12′ 24″
6/10	44.44	$f/741$	34317	17′ 55″

2nd. The formula given by Mr. T. R. Dallmeyer is

$$f=r^2/\lambda$$

in which λ is the wave length of light chiefly used in photography, and which is generally taken as $G=.000017$ in.

$$f=r^2/\lambda=r^2/.000432 \text{ m.m.}=d^2/.001728 \text{ m.m.}$$

By this formula, proceeding with the culculation, I got the corresponding table as following:—

Diameter of holes m. m.	The distance of best definition c. m.	Angular value of the apertures	U.S. number of apertures	Exposure supposing 1 second with U.S. 32 stop.
3/10	5.21	$f/174$	1892	1′ 1″
4/10	9.26	$f/232$	3346	1′ 45″
5/10	14.47	$f/289$	5220	2′ 45″
6/10	20.25	$f/336$	7056	3′ 45″

As seen from the above table, the two formulæ differ widely from each other. Mr. A. C. Pouton of Bournemouth expresses the opinion that all formulæ for pin-hole photography are valueless, and that all large apertures give softness and all small ones sharpness, he also expresses the curious opinion that eight times more photographic energy passes through a pin-hole than through a lens having a stop of the same diameter.

According to Captain Colson, 11 centimeters is the distance for best definition with a hole of 3/10 millimeters in diameter, and according to Mr. Dallmeyer 5 centimeters is the distance for best definition with a hole of same diameter, while according to Mr. A. C. Pouton these and all other formulæ are nonsense, so that confusion is only worse confounded.

I have made experiments with both the formulæ above quoted, in each case making exposure with holes 3/10 and 5/10 millimeters diameter, whilst one exposure has been made with an ordinary rectilinear lens with U.S. 32 stop. [Prints were sent round showing results with pin-holes after Capt. Colson's formulæ with 3/10 and 5/10 holes respectively; and after that of Mr. G. R. Dallmeyer's with the same holes respectively. Also the results with a rectilinear lens with U.S. 32 stop.] When I made my experiments the light was most favourable, that is, it was somewhat diffused and bright, the time was ten o'clock a.m.; and the plates were Marion's ordinary actinometer No. 40. With the lens I gave an exposure of one second with 32 stop; with the pin-holes I gave exposures respectively of 4′27″, 12′24″, 1′1″, and 2′45″ respectively. For developement, I took pyro-soda developer, and developed in the same bath, and in all cases the image appeared and was finished at the same time. This proves that in all cases, the proportions of the exposure were quite the same; and it proves also that the energy of light passing through a pin-hole is not much different from that through a lens, in spite of what is stated by Mr. A. C. Pouton. Indeed, if there is any difference in energy, it is so slight that we can not notice it.

As to the definition, which is the most essential part of the experiment, the results by Captain Colson's and Mr. Dallmeyer's equations are barely distinguishable. If there is any difference the results by Mr. Dallmeyer's equation are sharper than those by Captain Colson's, but we must remember that in the former case the exposures were a great deal shorter than in the former, so that there was less chance of vibration of the camera. I do not hesitate to say that the definition in both cases is practically the same, and that there is a great range of pin-hole diameter with the same focal length, or of focal length with the same diameter, giving practically the same definition. Still there is some limit for good definition.

Before concluding my paper, I quote another interesting pin-hole table by the Rev. F. C. Lambert, M. A., as follows:—

TABLE OF COMPARATIVE PIN-HOLE EXPOSURES.

If with a given plate, light, subject, etc., and a lens working at $f/16$ the correct exposure be one second, then under the same circumstances, the

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following table gives the corresponding exposure in minutes:—

Distance of hole from place in inches.	Diameter in inches. 1/50	1/44	1/35	1/25
	min.			
6	*6	41/2		
		min.		
8	10	*8	5	
			min.	
10	16	13	8	
				min.
12	24	18	*12	6
14	32	24	15	8
16	40	32	20	10
18		41	26	13
20			32	16
				*24

* Indicates range of distance of hole from plate for best definitive, e.g., 1/25 gives best definitive from 20 to 24 inches away from the hole.

On examining this table, I found that the marks for best definition corresponded to Mr. Dallmeyer's formula. Also I observe the 1/50 of inch in the table nearly corresponds with the 5/10 millimetre of the two preceding tables; of which 6 inches distance of hole from place, and 6 minutes exposure practically exactly corresponds with my experiment No. IV.; of which 12 inches distance of hole from plate and 24 minute exposure corresponds with that of No. III. Looking at the table in the first column we find the range of focus for 1/50 inch hole, from 6 inches to 16 inches, which lies between Captain Colson's focal length to Mr. T. R. Dallmeyer's focal length.

I shall say, in concluding my paper, that I do not hesitate to state that the best definition of image in pin-hole photography can be got within the range of Captain Colson's formula and that of Mr. T. R. Dallmeyer, and that if the worker takes advantage of Mr. J. Favre-Brandt's improved apparatus, and adopts the figures on the apparatus as the *longest* limits of focus, he may reduce the distances to those of Mr. T. R. Dallmeyer's according to the nature of the subject to be included.

I conclude by quoting Mr. Favre-Brandt's paper as follows:

"To sum up the advantages of using the pin-hole:

(1) More artistic definition than a lens.
(2) Unlimited depth of focus.
(3) Perfect perspective for lines in architecture.
(4) Mathematical exactness in the scale of plans.
(5) The angle of view can include as much as 170 degrees.

Mr. W. K. Burton had had the privilege of reading Mr. Isawa's paper some time before the meeting, and had made a number of exposures with different distances, and different pin-hole apertures, using as subject a landscape in some cases, in others a point of light or "artificial star" in the form of the reflection of the sun from a silvered glass ball placed at a considerable distance from the camera. His conclusion was that the best result were got by holes cut in accordance with Mr. Dallmeyer's equation. Holes either larger or smaller gave worse definition.

Some of the results of exposures on the "artificial star" showed remarkable phenomena produced by diffraction and interference of light.

Mr. Favre-Brandt had sent a neat leather case containing a set of single uncorrected lenses, of various focal lengths. There were also photographs, taken by the lenses, which showed that, making allowance for want of achromatization, as by the table that follows, excellent results could be got with apertures as large as f/10. The following is a translation of a communication in French that was sent by Mr. Favre-Brandt along with the lenses:—

We beg to submit to the Photographic Society a few remarks concerning the use and properties of the "*trousse bésicles*."

Everyone is not in a position to buy costly objectives like those made by Goertz, Zeiss, Dallmeyer, Ross, Hermagis, and others, all so well known by photographers in Japan, thanks, in a great measure, to the efforts of Prof. Burton who, among the propagators of the science of Photography, ranks as an authority of world wide reputation.

We unpretentiously beg to submit the "*trousse bésicles*, to the trial of the Society and to point out that this new contrivance is designed to allow both rich and poor to indulge in cheap photography and in such a manner as will satisfy the most fastidious amateur, as also instantaneous work, portraits, etc.

As photography—the youngest of the graphic arts—grows older, we observe that the line of demarcation, which separates the various art processes becomes more prominent. The architect, the botanist, the naturalist, the astronomer, the physician, and all those who are engaged upon the research and study of microbes and other infinitely small things, cannot help being satisfied with the perfection reached by the modern lens.

Indeed, as far as rectilinearity, exactness of copy, and minuteness of detail are concerned, scarcely anything better could be wished for.

But this mathematical exactness and inexorable clearness at all angles, this rigorous reproduction of lines and points which are invisible to the naked eye, are not intended to please the artist whose aim is to interpret nature (essentially a Japanese artist's aim) rather than to copy it more exactly than we see it.

And, whilst the glass maker improved his glass and the optician his combinations of lenses, whilst the chemist discovered new emulsions and developers, the artist strove to render nature in a broader and more personal manner, to stamp the crude outlines resulting from rectilinearity and to give his pictures an airy aspect without departing from the truth, as supplied by photography,

He has succeeded in this by the aid of the stenope (or pin-hole), and by using rough and unglazed paper, but his surest and simplest means of success is by the use of the *trousse bésicles*. Although the pin-hole is perfect for monuments and lifeless landscapes, it is not suitable for portraits or animate open air pictures owing to duration of exposure.

Coarse paper softens the outlines and stumps details, but it can only reproduce negatives as such, without bringing into relief the main subject of the picture and without correcting any possible errors of the lenses.

The *trousse bésicles* combines all these advantages and gives at the same time artistic rendering of the pin-hole and the short exposure of the lens. In taking only six different numbers of *bésicles*, the picture can be taken on any desired scale (as with the pin-hole), and further more instantaneousness (as with lens) is also procurable.

To this effect the following lengths of focus are taken, viz.:—25 cm., 30 cm., 50 cm., 55 cm., and 60 cm.

The great advantage of being able to change lenses, so as to increase the size, may become an inconvenience when inconsiderate use is made of it.

In choosing a lens with too short a focus the picture will have an exaggerated perspective, and in the case of a portrait the features of the model will be deformed.

It is consequently always preferable to use a lens the focal length of which is equal to twice the length of the plate; for instance in a portrait 9 × 12 cm the lens should at least have 25 cm. of focal distance and the model should at least be four mètres away from the objective.

This distance—four mètres—is the shortest permissible one, and in the case of portraits a distance of six mètres would be preferable. If a larger head than the model's, as furnished by the 25 cm. lens at that distance, is required, a lens with a longer focus should be used.

However, by sacrificing the perspective a little one may reduce the distance in order to obtain very large heads, but this should not be done unless the length of the bellows prevents the adoption of other means.

Generally speaking, it is admitted that a long focus always gives the truest pictures and no mistake will ever be made by using lenses with as long a focal distance as the available camera will allow.

Be it understood that this rule applies not only to the *trousse*. Long ago Dalmeyer made the same remarks *re* his objectives, and if we remind the reader of the same here, it is in order to warn him against the temptation he might fall into by being placed before so many different lenses. For landscapes the rule is ever in favour of long focus; the human eye cannot embrace an angle of more than 45° without displacing itself, and it is not desirable that photography should embrace more, lest the picture be false and altogether different from what was intended.

Again and again we have seen photographs of hotel reading rooms, steamer-dining saloons, and warehouse-façades, in which full advantage had been taken of the exaggerated perspective obtained by wide-angle lenses for the sake of the advertisement. In comparing the pictures with the originals it is generally found that the latter are much more modest than the former!

Herewith is a table for correcting focussing. The plates are moved nearer the objection as per the indication. Measures in millimètres.

* For sizes of Image.

For In- focity.	1/10	2/10	3/10	4/10	5/10	6/10	7/10	8/10	9/10	10/10
Focal length .	200	220	249	260	280	300	310	340	360	380	400
Correction...	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	12.5	13	14.5	16
Focal length...	250	275	300	325	350	375	400	425	450	475	500
Correction...	5	6	7	8.5	10	11	13	14.5	16	18	20
Focal length...	300	330	360	390	420	450	480	510	540	570	600
Correction...	6	7	85	10	12.5	13.5	15.5	17	19.5	22.5	24
Focal length...	400	440	480	520	560	600	640	680	720	760	800
Correction...	7	10	11.5	13.5	15.5	18	20	5	23	26	29	33
Focal length...	450	495	540	585	630	675	720	765	810	855	900
Correction...	9	11	13	15	17.5	20	23	26	29	33	36
Focal length...	500	550	600	650	700	750	800	850	900	950	1000
Correction...	10	12	14.5	17	20	22.5	25.5	29	32.5	36	40
Focal length...	550	605	660	715	770	825	880	935	990	1045	1100
Correction...	12	13.5	16	18.5	21.5	25	28	32	36	40	44
Focal length...	600	660	720	780	840	900	960	1020	1080	1140	1200
Correction...	13	14.5	17	20	23.5	27	31	34.50	39	43.5	48

The proceedings ended with a vote of thanks to the Chairman.

After the meeting, there was a dinner in Japanese style, which was enjoyed by the large number of members who attended, and was enlivened by the performance of the orchestra of Mr. Kajima Seibei, both Japanese and foreign music being played.

THE FAMILY RELATIONS IN JAPAN.

By Daigoro Goh, Chancellor of the Imperial Japanese Consulate-General in London, Hon. Secretary, J.S.[1]

I.—Introduction.

It was just five years ago, when I bade farewell to Viscount Aoki (then Minister for Foreign Affairs, now Imperial Envoy to the Court of Berlin[2]), that, on the occasion of leaving my country for the post I hold here, he gave me invaluable advice in relation to my private studies. "No observer," said this distinguished statesman, "can rightly conceive the national characteristics of the political and social institutions of a country unless he thoroughly study, first of all, the moral or philosophical element which governs and directs the nation's mind. In England, as in other European countries, Christianity being the ethical basis, to study its maxims should be the first step for a student of English life." If the principle laid down by this learned nobleman be likewise applicable to the study of Japanese life, I venture to affirm that its Family System is the primary element that students of Japanese matters should first acquaint themselves with.

It may be asked why I should suggest the Family System for this inquiry, and not the Religions practised by the Japanese, such as *Shinto*, Buddhism, or Christianity? Herein, however, is to be seen the singularity of my country. The Land of the Rising Sun exhibits an almost unique aspect in regard to its religious system on one hand, and, on the other, its Family System exercises a much more effective power over the moral organization of the country than is generally known.

Shinto being the aboriginal faith of ancient Japan and an ancestor-worship, is, of course, the origin of our Family System, yet it cannot be maintained that our national morality and intellect have been nourished entirely by this religion, since its ritual and moral teaching have been very limited and insignificant; while, in truth, Japanese civilization has been developed, in great measure, by the infusion of foreign elements. Buddhism, in its turn, has made such rapid progress during the last thirteen centuries that a great majority of the population is now converted to the Indian creed, although the high metaphysical teaching of Buddhism is adverse in every respect to the vague and almost obscure ideas of ancient Japan. Notwithstanding this, our Family System has continued to exist, without losing much of its originality, up to the present day. On the other hand, Buddhism itself has, at last, modified its form, in certain respects, to suit itself to the old belief of ancestor-worship, the leading doctrine of our Family System. It is hardly questionable that Christianity has but a small share in the advancement of our national morality, its introduction into Japan being comparatively recent, and its sphere of propaganda as yet limited, although now making marked progress.

So much for our religious systems. Let us now consider the characteristic of the Family System.

Whatever their religious faith may be, Japanese families carry out uniformly, throughout the country, the verbal teaching of morality, religious or philosophical, in their own homes. The elders of the house are the instructors of the younger,

[1] Now (1895) Imperial Japanese Consul at Bombay. Honorary Member J.S. since April, 1894.

[2] Also accredited, from March, 1894, to February, 1895, as Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to the British Court, and President of the Japan Society (in succession to H.E. the Viscount M. Kawase, Hon. M.J.S.), during that period. Now (1895) an Honorary Member J.S. Succeeded in his post at the Court of St. James's, and as the President of the Society, by His Excellency Takaaki Kato, March, 1895.

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practising as many rites of reverence and worship in the house as in the temple; every household, however humble, having a family ancestral altar and several domestic shrines of gods, where daily sacrifices and ceremonies are invariably performed; scrupulously preserving and adjusting the external proprieties of etiquette as well as the inner consciousness of juniors in the presence of seniors; pious devotion to the memory of ancestors, filial piety, loyalty, fraternal affection, faithfulness of husband and wife, respect to the old, kindness and sympathy to the young and weak, charity to the poor, and help to relations, being inculcated by the Family teaching. In short, the ethics of the Japanese people are cultivated and kept up, in great measure, by domestic instruction.

Having thus briefly explained the peculiarities of our religious and family systems, it is necessary to advert to another element, requiring more particular attention, as being a main support of our Family System throughout its entire existence; I mean the Chinese Family System and the Confucian philosophy. The stability of the Family System during centuries, notwithstanding the adverse influence of the overpowering Buddhist creed, must be attributed to the almost identical, but more elaborate and systematic, organisation of the Chinese Family System and its doctrines, which were introduced into Japan prior to Buddhism, and devoutly and indiscriminately adopted by our predecessors. I do not hesitate to express my belief that, without the support of Chinese principles, our antique and feeble system might have been obliterated long ago by the pervading influence of Buddhism. But we must not be blind to the demerits of Chinese influence while recognising its merits. There are several Chinese influences prevailing even now among the Japanese which are hardly creditable to my country. In some cases our originality has been completely submerged by the overwhelming Chinese dogma; so much so that even the Japanese themselves, I am afraid, may not be able to distinguish the grafted branches from the original stem. To these discreditable points I have paid particular attention, and propose to point them out as I proceed.

Christianity is manifestly now commending itself to the Japanese mind. It will not be very long ere the Christian voice will echo throughout the Empire. The morality and intellect of New Japan are inclining steadily towards the Western side. Confucian dogma, which has been a main supporter of our Family System, is gradually giving way, and the Western philosophies, such as Individualism, Socialism, "Rousseauism," "Spencerism," &c., which are mostly opposed to the principle of our old system, have begun to re-mould the intellect of New Japan. This must be regarded as one of the inevitable evolutions of human development. This being so, it is not too much to assume that our old Family System is already within measurable distance of its extinction, and then a new form of society will soon occupy its place. Nay, the change has already begun in the social conditions as well as in the political organisation of *Dai Nippon*.

II.—General Remarks.

The Family System in Japan is founded on two elements of human nature—Love and Reverence. On these two virtues the whole fabric of our society is reared. It may be asked, What is the peculiar distinction, then, between English and Japanese families if love and reverence be the fundamental principles of the Japanese system?

The difference in the two systems, I conceive, consists in the unequal degrees of regard attached to the two principles by the respective nationalities. For instance, the Japanese, as a rule, observe reverence towards their elders more strictly than the English do, whilst the latter are less partial in their affections towards particular members of the family than the former.

From reverence grows formality, and I have no doubt that the formality prevailing in a Japanese family will strike an English visitor just as much as the impartial exhibition of affection in an English family struck me at first. I do not certainly advocate excess of formality in the family circle, as in some Japanese houses, since it may possibly produce an undesirable effect on family affection; at the same time, I am not in favour of a total abandonment of formality, because that often makes the younger members irreverent and selfish. As the poet Cowper rightly remarks—

> Without discipline the favourite child,
> Like a neglected forester, runs wild,

The Japanese custom of giving priority of respect to elders is not of modern growth; on the contrary, it has a very remote origin. As I have already said, *Shinto*, or ancestor-worship, being the creed of the ancient inhabitants, has had a direct and natural influence on family relations. Hirata Atsutane, the Martin Luther of *Shinto*, in the last century, in elucidating the initial doctrine of his faith, said that "devotion to the memory of ancestors is the mainspring of all virtues. No one who discharges his duty to them will ever be disrespectful to the gods or to his parents. Such a man will also be faithful to his prince, loyal to his friends, and kind and gentle to his wife and children. For the essence of this devotion is, in truth, filial piety."[5]

From this sentiment sprang the ardent desire of preservation of succession, and, consequently, the custom of adoption. From this come the laws which endow the eldest son with more privileges than the other children, and the male with more than the female issue. From this arose the custom of making marked distinction between older and younger generations, giving natural precedence to the former over the latter. From this, again, grew the strict observance of the seniority of the principal house over a branch house. In short, social customs, judicial decisions, even political administration, in Japan, are influenced by it, as the foundation and guiding principle of our Family Relations.

There, is however, another essential point to be borne in mind by students of Sociology. Human nature is not perfect. It has weaknesses and defects, as well as strength and virtues. This is why all nations, civilised or barbarian, have, in some way or other, religious or philosophical discipline to correct and rule the life and conduct of the people, and these disciplines are often formed in such a fashion as to check and remove the particular weaknesses and defects. I think I am right in saying that man, especially in his youth, has stronger sentiments of love than of reverence. Without proper discipline, this stronger feeling of love may cause a deviation from right conduct. This is, perhaps, why our ancestors were most strict in instructing their descendants to cultivate reverence in preference to love.

In considering these matters, it is almost impossible to form a right judgment on a nation by mere hearsay of its reputed rules and laws (such reports being often manipulated by persons with special objects in view at the time), and without carefully scrutinising the real practice of the country in question. In this way superficial observers, "globe-trotters" particularly, generally err, and industriously circulate their erroneous observations.

III.—Relations in General.

Before entering on the particular branches of this subject, it is necessary to give a general list of the Family Relations in Japan, in order to show what they consist of, and how we Japanese classify them according to the distance of relationship. It is a great disappointment to me, however, that I cannot give a purely Japanese classification of relationship in ancient times, owing to its obscurity and to the total absence of resources for such research in this country. I have to be content, therefore, with what we have followed during the last eleven centuries, known as "*Go Tō Shin*," or the "Five Classes of Relationships," and shown in Appendix I. It must be borne in mind, however, that this classification is doubtless based on, or at least influenced by, Chinese principles, since it was set forth in the "*Tai Hō Rei*," our first codified system of laws on the Chinese model, in A.D. 700. This practically continued until the present Criminal Code was promulgated, in 1882, in which a somewhat modified classification on the more modern principles (as will be found in Appendix II.) was prescribed. Appendix III., a Table of the Periods of Mourning in Japan, will also be useful for the study of the subject.

From Appendices I. and III. we learn the following peculiarities in Japanese relationships:

1st. That there is no equality in the relative positions of male and female relations, and between older and younger generations as well as ages, excepting father and mother, who are considered by children as of equal degree.

2nd. The differences between the paternal and maternal relations, and between the male and female relations. For example; uncle and aunt on the father's side are classed in the second relationship; whereas those on the maternal side are in the fourth relationship. In the same manner, brothers' children (nephew and niece) and sisters' are placed separately; daughter-in-law in the second, but son-in-law in the fifth relationship.

3rd. The differences between husband and wife. For instance, the husband is classed in the first, while the wife is in the second, and corresponding differences will be seen between the relations on the husband's side and wife's side.

4th. The difference between the eldest son and the other children. For example, the periods of mourning for eldest son are ninety days "garment" and twenty days "abstinence,"[6] while for other children they are thirty days and ten days respectively.

Next we have to search for the causes of these peculiarities. The answer is not far to seek. Ancestor-worship being the foundation of our family relations, it is natural that precedence should be given to priority of generation as well as to priority in age. Another reason will be found in the established law of primogeniture, in consequence of which more privileges are conferred on the eldest son than on the other children.

The third reason lies in the old belief that hereditary blood can only be continued, strictly speaking, through the male line issue, the female being regarded as simply an heir-bearer.

The last reason is to be accounted for by the traditional notion of the inferiority of women. I strongly doubt, however, whether this notion is originally Japanese, and not of Chinese introduction. In spite of the superior position, domestic as well be political, occupied, generally, by men in almost all ancient countries, both in the East and West; in spite of the fact that this condition is admitted as a general rule rather than an exception in the evolution of civilisation; in spite of the fact that woman's position, in Japan, at least for the last thirteen centuries, has undeniably been regarded as inferior to that of man, it is my firm conviction that the ancient Japanese, before they became subject to Chinese influence, did not make so much difference in the relative positions of the two sexes as has been the case for the last thirteen centuries. I am not attempting any preferential argument in favour of women in Japan. I have not the slightest hesitation in admitting the actual fact of the inferiority of women in my country, since it was the general condition of almost all the ancient peoples. It is an undeniable fact. If, however, the ancient Japanese had the notion of the inferiority of women, why is the most eminent figure in our mythology—a being of the highest virtue, the ancestor of the Imperial Family—one of the fair sex, namely, the Sun Goddess, contrary even to the usual conception of the sun as a male? Why had the throne of the ancient dynasty of the Empire been occupied by eight Empresses prior to the era of A.D. 770? Why was such an important office as that of Custodian of the Divine Regalia entrusted to a virgin Princess? Why have the wives of the lower classes, who have been less influenced by Chinese education, enjoyed more liberty, and occupied a less subordinate position to the husbands, than those of the higher classes, who have been too much inoculated with the Chinese dogma? Why does there exist in Japan a custom of making the daughter an heiress in case of the absence of male issue? At all events, there is not the slightest doubt that the present disproportionately restricted freedom and unduly lower position of Japanese women is chiefly, if not entirely, due to Chinese influence during the last thirteen centuries. With regard to the relative position of husband and wife, it will be more fully treated under its own heading.

Another fact I should like to point out is, how greatly actual practice occasionally differs from the established law of a country, as I shall have opportunity to show in the following pages. We may see, from the Classification of Relations and the Table of Mourning Periods, how unfavourably the younger children are regarded in Japan in comparison with the eldest, and how indifferently the relations on the wife's side are treated in comparison with those on the husband's. But the youngest child is, as a rule, the favourite of the parents, and it is quite a usual expression that "that child must be the youngest, as he is the pet of the house." Again, it is not uncommon in Japan to find persons who are more friendly and intimate with their wives' relatives than with their own.

One more peculiar case may not prove uninteresting. This illustrates how the Japanese arrange in the case of conflict of the common feelings with legal formality. We sometimes come across a man whose uncle or aunt is younger than himself. It is considered, however, quite improper to call an elder generation by the personal name. But the child-uncle or aunt, as a rule, does not like to be called by the legal title by the older nephew, and it also seems ridiculous to the other members of the family. In order to avoid this awkwardness, the brotherly or sisterly titles are used in addressing the child-uncle or aunt, and the older nephew or niece. But on any ceremonial occasion, such as a family festival, religious feast, &c., the little uncle or aunt is still placed on a seat higher than that of the big nephew or niece.

Having disposed thus far, though briefly, of the

[5] "The Revival of Pure *Shintō*," by E. M. Satow. Appendix, Part I., Vol. III., of "Transactions of the Asiatic Society of Japan." (In the Society's Library.)

[6] The Japanese mourning consists of two things—*Ki* and *Fuku*, or "abstinence from impurity," and "wearing of mourning garments."

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peculiarities of the Family Relations in Japan, I will now proceed with particular cases.

IV.—Parents and Children.

Among the relations of the Japanese family the first and foremost in importance is that between parents and children. Paternity on the one hand, and filial piety on the other, are not only the tie between parent and child; they unite also the whole family. Good parents and dutiful children, according to the Japanese notion, are the makers of family unity and the factors of national peace and order. More importance is attached to this relationship in Japan than even to that between husband and wife. The latter relationship, the Japanese conceive, is a matter of mutual agreement, which can be dissolved by mutual consent; while the former, being a natural tie, cannot be annulled. The consequence is—to take an extreme case—that a husband can divorce his wife on the ground that his father and mother disagrees so much with her as to cause constant family disturbance, but it is regarded, of course, as a most painful incident. Theoretically speaking, Japanese parents possess unlimited power over their children so long as this power is exerted for their benefit. On the other hand, Japanese youths are compelled, by the national system of ethics, to pay the acknowledged duty of obedience to parents. Hence, it might be imagined that Japanese children are far from enjoying happiness and liberty. Happily, however, Japanese fathers and mothers, as in other nationalities, have no lack of love or of goodwill towards their children.

Indeed, it has been remarked by an English observer that "Japan is a paradise for children."[6] Granting every undesirable privilege of the Japanese paternal right, there is no more danger in giving Japanese parents an absolute and unrestrained power over their children than to those of any other country. An exception must be made, however, in the case of the stepmother, who has acquired an unfortunate notoriety for her harshness towards the step-child; and of the mother-in-law, who is also notorious as a terror, not to the son-in-law, as in Europe, but to the daughter-in-law. Practically, Japanese parents are by no means free from restrictions and control. Ancestors are their first controlling power, relatives the second, society the third, and laws the last. If anyone illtreat or neglect his offspring, it is deemed a great offence to ancestors, who expect their descendants to be properly cared for, and the ancestral name to be kept in honour. If any unhappy dispute arising between parents and children become known to relations, and be considered disgraceful to them, they have the right to interpose between the jarring parties and to settle the case as they think best. Social control is as powerful in Japan as in Western countries. No parent would like to be reproached by the public with such a term as "a fiend-like parent" (*Oni-no-yona Oya*), which is a common epithet of aversion for a cruel parent in Japan. The last resort for restraining Japanese parents is the law, which is mostly applied in such extreme cases as cruelty, desertion, infanticide, manslaughter, &c.; and the judicial punishments for crimes are no less severe in Japan than in England.

Besides these restrictions, Japanese parents have legal as well as moral obligations towards their children. Neglect of the education of youth is regarded as an inexcusable neglect of one of the obligatory parental duties. To enforce this moral obligation more effectively, the present Government has adopted a system of compulsory education, and enacted a law by which all parents are compelled to send their children to school and to pay school rates.

The next important duty of Japanese parents has ever been, and still is, to find, choose, and even provide, matrimonial companions for their sons and daughters. Non-fulfilment of this obligation on the part of parents may result in the loss of opportunities of marriage, which is reckoned in Japan a disgrace, not only to the young people, but also to the parents themselves; although a change is now impending in this rather troublesome custom.

The father is, in general, the head of a house, as with the Romans, and is called, in Japan, *Ko Shu*, or "the House Master." He has the sole responsibility, both in political and domestic affairs, of the welfare of his family. It is he who has to officiate in the rites of sacrifice to his ancestors, and to preserve inviolate the legacy and the name of the house; it is he who is responsible for the maintenance and happiness of the family; it is he who has to summon or attend a family council meeting for deliberation and settlement of important family affairs; it is he who has to exercise the right of franchise as representing the family; and it is also he who has to contribute to the local and national revenue.

As great as is his responsibility, so are his power and position. He is the absolute ruler of the house, and all the members of the family have to submit to his direction and decision. Without his knowledge nothing can, or rather, ought to be, done in the house. The mother, on the other hand, is the first counsellor, the chief assistant, and the sole agent for domestic affairs and rearing the children. She is entirely responsible to him for the good condition of her children in dress, food, comfort, general behaviour, and, above all, in health. As to their education, it is not entirely left in her hands. The sons' education is generally conducted by the father, and that of the daughters by their mother. The school instruction, however, may not be so interesting to European Sociologists as the domestic training of Japanese children.

In a house, as in a State, two functions are needed for ruling the children—ethical instruction and judicial government. The Japanese father performs the duty of family magistrate, such as censure or punishment, and is generally regarded by the young people with fear; whilst the mother discharges the office of domestic tutor, explaining right and wrong with all tenderness and gentleness of manner; although the reverse of this is not infrequently met. In any case, however, Japanese children are brought up with a compound of bitter and sweet treatment. Hence, the Japanese father and mother are distinguished by their children with the appellations "*Gempu*" and "*Fibo*," or the "Strict Father" and "Benevolent Mother." So strict are some Japanese fathers that they have been classified by a sharp-tongued boy as one of "Four Fearful Things" in the world, viz., Earthquake," "Thunder," "Conflagration," and—"Father" (*Jishin, Kaminari, Kwaji, Oyaji*). It should not be assumed, however, even for a moment, that Japanese fathers are *only* harsh and severe. Necessity sometimes compels them to be so. Here is a picture that sufficiently illustrates the above statement; but in this I have to expose my own mischief and wickedness during my boyhood, in a fashion far from complimentary or agreeable to myself. One morning—I think when I was only eight years old—my mother having thought that I required a little harsher treatment than she could command, owing to the excess of my naughtiness, asked my father to interfere. He summoned me to him with an angry tone, and scolded me severely for my disobedience to my mother, saying that unless I promised him to alter my behaviour he would lock me in a *Kura*, or store-house. The store-house, being desolate, dark, and gloomy, even in the day-time, is generally a terror to a boy. My mother, sitting by me, whispered to me, in her usual tender and kind way, "You must not disobey your dear father, and do promise him what he asks you, or will have to be in that dismal place all day long." But both these bitter and sweet demonstrations having equally failed to produce any effect on my obstinacy my father carried me to the *Kura* and locked me in there for the rest of the day. When I had completed the term of my imprisonment, my mother took me out of the store-house, and, with her gentle but effectual influence, induced me to tender my apology to my father for my obstinacy and shocking behaviour. Since then it is said I have much improved. Thus, having shown an extreme example of a naughty child in Japan, I will proceed to discuss the subject of Japanese children generally.

The acknowledgment made by children to their parents is known in Japan as *Kō Dō*, or *Kō Kō*, Filial Piety. It is regarded by the Japanese with the profoundest respect as the first and fundamental virtue of man. Indeed, it is the foundation upon which the whole fabric of the Japanese family is built, and it is also the mainspring of all other virtues. Nothing can be compared with it, or substituted for it; even religion can be dispensed with, if the teaching or practice of the creed does not coincide with the filial principle. At the time of the introduction of Buddhism into Japan, the Japanese nobility, even the Sovereign, gave the creed a welcome, and showed much willingness to listen, like the Athenians, to all that the new religion had to say for itself. Nevertheless, in the year 622, such was the popular commotion excited by an impious crime committed by a Buddhist priest, who seized an axe and struck his grandfather with it, that pressure was brought upon the Empress to expel the new religion "*in toto*." There is also a certain amount of truth in the following statement, made by Prof. B. H. Chamberlain, an Honorary Member of this Society:—"No text in the Bible," says this eminent Japanologist, "raises so much prejudice here against Christianity as that which commands a man to leave his father and mother, and cleave to his wife."[8]

The same author, commenting on this virtue, says that "filial piety is the virtue, *par excellence*, of China and Japan."[9]

I find, however, great difficulty in giving an exact definition of this virtue, since the instances popularly credited in the East are not always consistent with experience of human nature. No wonder it is generally believed on this side of the world that Eastern filial piety is but a childish obedience and unnatural self-sacrifice on the part of children. As far as I can describe it, the true interpretation of this virtue is an action inspired by love and reverence towards one's parents, and guided by wisdom. Without wisdom, however devoted and affectionate, one may easily deviate, like a train from the supporting rails, from the proper course of filial conduct. For instance, such a case as that of a poor father who was tempted to bury his only child alive in order to have more food for his aged mother, or that of a child who cut out a piece from his own flesh to feed his sick father in order to cure him, are too obviously ridiculous to admit as fitting examples of this virtue, although the former instance is one of "The Twenty-four Paragons of Filial Piety." In fact, a child has the right, and it is no less his duty, to expostulate with the parent, even at the risk of hurting the feelings of the latter, if he considers the parent's action unjust and wrong. Should anyone, therefore, indiscriminately obey his parent and neglect this right, or rather this duty, to caution and protect the parent from falling into an error, which might cause disastrous consequences, he is deemed an unfilial and disobedient son. I may here recite an instance of one of the eminent men in Japanese annals, which will fully illustrate this point.

Taira-no Shigemori, a Minister of State and General in the reign of the Emperor Takakura (1169-1180), whose memory is to this day highly respected by the people as one of the model filial sons and a great statesman of the time, having one day been alarmed by an urgent message respecting the rebellious conduct of his father, Taira-no Kiyomori, the Japanese Cromwell, hurried up to his father's palace, which was already crowded with thousands of soldiers, expostulated with his enraged parent with deep emotion, but with firmness, showing how criminal he was to attempt to make war against his august Sovereign. "Should I be loyal," concluded the afflicted son in his demonstration, "I cannot be filial. Should I be filial, I cannot be loyal. There is absolutely no alternative for me but to die. If you still persist in carrying out your attempt, pray cut off my head first, and go!" At this ardent pleading the mutinous Kiyomori yielded and excused himself on account of his decrepitude. Then Shigemori went into an inner room, where he severely censured all his brothers, and said, "This unfortunate attempt of our father can only be accounted for by the weakness of his old age; but why did you not all advise and rescue him from the unpardonable crime instead of instigating and assisting him?" So far Shigemori was right in his melancholy position, but it was a great pity that he was not firm enough to go a step further, nor wise enough to understand his own responsible position as a State Minister as well as a pious son, to restrain his presumptuous father with his whole life and soul; but he could not bear any longer to witness the persistent arrogance of his father and the consequent danger impending over him, and he prayed at a temple for death. Subsequently, he died of grief, but left the seditious old man, after all, unchecked.

I might give many other instances of so-called filial piety, but those known to the public are all extraordinary cases, occurring under exceptional circumstances, and do not represent the normal state of the nation. There is no more praiseworthy filial piety than that of one who makes his home harmonious, and lives peacefully with every member of the family, avoiding every tendency to quarrels or scandal.

I ought not, however, to omit reminding European Japanologists, who, as a rule, criticise the filial piety of Japan, in the instances known as "*Ni-ju-shi Kō*," or "The Twenty-four Paragons of Filial Piety," that those Paragons are all derived from Chinese legends, and are not Japanese, and that they are the subject of controversy and criticism even among Japanese moralists; notwithstanding, they are as popularly current in Japan as in China. A most interesting and characteristic narrative is attached to the introduction of the book of the said "Paragons" from China into Japan, though the account is not vouched for by any authentic record. A Chinese Envoy, in the ninth century, making a presentation to the Japanese Court of the book in question,

[6] *Cf.* (Mrs.) M. C. Ayrton, "Child Life in Japan, &c.," 4to., Illustrated, London, no date (1888,) New Edition. (In the Society's Library).

[8] "Things Japanese," p. 168. (In the Society's Library.)

[9] *Ibid*, p. 331.

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said, with profound pride, that his heavenly Sovereign had great pleasure in presenting to the Emperor of "the Land where the Sun rises" a book in which the most admirable examples of his moral subjects were shown. To this the Court of *Dai Nippon*, on the occasion of the "Celestial" Envoy's departure for his country, returned a present, also a book, entitled *Ni-ju shi Fu Kō*, or "The Twenty-four Unfilial Deeds in Japan," illustrating a set of undutiful acts of children, and reminding the Envoy that such a huge Empire as China had produced only twenty-four filial children, whereas every subject of the "Divine Country" was filial and loyal, except, those twenty-four exhibited in the book. This anecdote involves more than usual interest if reliable, for it shows, first, how the ancient people regarded themselves in respect to this virtue before they experienced Chinese influence; and, secondly, the spirit in which our forefathers received the book of the Chinese Paragons of Filial Piety.

In a later century, a set of native Japanese Paragons, numbering also four-and-twenty, was compiled by a Buddhist priest, in imitation, of course, of the Chinese one; but with the view, undoubtedly, of propagating his own creed in a nation noted for filial devotion, and he attached to every legend an extraordinary revelation of Buddha's miraculous power. The tales are full of supernatural incidents, and therefore unreliable.

The future prospect, in this respect, of Japanese youth has become one of the gravest problems of New Japan. With the progressive influence of the less patriarchal Western ideas on the one hand, and some absurdities related by traditional legends of filial piety on the other, the younger generation of the present day have begun to disregard this virtue, and the consequence seems to be the increasing outcry of aged persons against the decrease of devotion paid to them by their children. It must be admitted that this state of change is an inevitable stage of the social evolution through which every nation has to pass. At the same time, it is a great pity that Japanese youths should recklessly destroy the beauty of their national character, while unable, meanwhile, to advance in modern knowledge without losing their inborn love and reverence towards parents. To undervalue filial virtue merely because of imperfections of exceptional instances, is no wiser than to condemn meat on account of its being badly cooked.

I need not detail at length the child-life of the nation, since I find no great difference between the East and West in this matter; and I may go so far as to say that the children in the "Paradise for Babies" share as much the love and care, if not over-indulgence, of fond parents, as those of European countries; every comfort, freedom, pleasure, and amusement being sought for, toys and games abundantly provided, and all the festivals, either religious or social, appearing as if they were held solely for the children. The parental attention does not end there. Two special occasions in the year are set aside particularly for children as their special holidays. One, on March 3rd, is known as *Hina Matsuri*, or the Feast of Dolls, for girls. The other, on May 5th, is the least called *Tango no Setsu*, or May Festival, for boys. On those occasions, every household, from the Imperial family to the working classes, do their best in decorating and exhibiting all sorts of dolls and miniatures of the Imperial Court, and histogic or legendary figures, on the girls' holiday; and armour, helmets, spears, swords, bows, arrows, military emblems, and flags, both in and out of doors, on the boys' festival, when another effective scene is added to the amusement in cities, *i.e.*, huge paper carp, floating in the air from poles, after the manner of flags. These festivals are held not merely to give pleasure to the children, but they combine moral teaching as well. The objects displayed on the Feast of Dolls are all of dainty, exquisite, artistic work, tending to foster and stimulate the instinct of motherly love, refinement, gentleness, propriety, and loyal reverence in young girls. As to the boys' feast, it is obvious that it is intended to keep up and encourage the spirit of bravery, ambition, and dignity in youth. Even the simple paper carp has its symbolical meaning. It is commonly said that "As the carp swims up the rapids against the current, so will the sturdy boy, overcoming all obstacles, make his way in the world, and rise to fame and fortune."[a]

Notwithstanding that so many enjoyments are provided for them, it may, perhaps, be noted that Japanese children enter too early into restrictive training. As soon as they acquire the power of understanding, they are constantly taught the principle of filial duty and obedience to parents among other maxims. At home they must be always ready and willing to execute any [order given by the parents, and it is not at all uncommon, even among the higher classes, for children, particularly daughters, to assist in offering sacrifices to ancestors and other gods at the family altars, serving tea or dinner to a guest, airing and cleaning valuable treasures, even in the work of dusting and sweeping the house. Boys require more outdoor education, while girls need more domestic training under the mother's own supervision, such as sewing, cooking, and house-keeping, besides school education. When they reach the marriageable age, generally over 18 years for men, and over 17 years for women (although later marriage has recently become common), the parents, as a rule, make a suitable match for the son or daughter, who would, in nine cases out of ten, accept the parents' choice unless there were a strong objection on either side. It is not considered quite proper for a son, and particularly for a daughter, to express too strong an opinion on the selection of the parents, although there is no absolute rule to prevent it; and it is still more improper for anyone to marry, at any age, against the parents' will. There is no greater offence to parents, and disgrace to society, than marrying without the parents' consent, or running away from home, and the consequence may be excommunication from the family. After they are married, the young couple, living generally with the husband's parents, have to be ever willing to serve and attend to the parents' requirements; and especially the daughter-in-law, being considered and treated as the daughter of the house, must pay as much, or even more, obedience and attention to the parents-in-law than to her husband. When the parents are old, and retire from business, it is the duty of the heir not merely to support them, but to use his utmost efforts for their comfort and happiness, serving them with everything first. Filial duties do not end when the parent dies. Devotion to the memory of the departed is to be as sincere as to the living. The death of parents, first of all, being regarded as the gravest event in one's life, the time of mourning must be kept by all children, especially by the heir, in the strictest form of the country. The legal periods of mourning are thirteen months for wearing mourning garments, and fifty days for abstaining from impurity. The heir, being the chief mourner, undertakes the obsequies (which generally take place on the second or third day after the death), as well as his means and etiquette allow. As soon as the remains of the parent are interred, a tablet, on which the name of the deceased, and the dates of his birth and death, are written, is place on the most conspicuous part of the family ancestral altar, on which daily sacrifices are offered during the first five or seven days after the death, and on every fifth day according to the *Shinto* rites; or every seventh day according to the Buddhist ceremony; and then, every hundredth day, first anniversary, third anniversary, the fifth, tenth, fifteenth, twentieth, twenty-fifth, thirtieth, fortieth, fiftieth, and hundredth, if it be *Shinto*; or the seventh, thirteenth, seventeenth twenty seventh, thirty-third, thirty-seventh, fiftieth, and hundredth, if it be Buddhist. Visiting the grave with *Sakaki* ("Cleyera Japonica")—the sacred tree of the *Shintō*—or flowers and incense-sticks, on the occasions above mentioned, is also observed.

It is considered also a pious deed for a man to preserve and pursue any family custom or rule ordained by his departed parent so long as circumstances permit.

With reference to the succession, primogeniture being the Japanese system, the eldest son has the natural and exclusive claim to heirship on the occasion of the death or abdication of the father. There are certain exceptions, however, to this rule. For example, where imbecility or profligacy in the eldest son might imperil the honour and the property of the ancestral house, the father has the right, with the consent of the relatives, to transfer the heirship to a younger son, on whom, in his turn, devolve all the fraternal obligations due to his incapacitated and deposed brother.

It is seldom the custom in Japan to divide the property among the children, except personal effects, such as dresses, hair-ornaments, jewels, *inrō*, tobacco-pouches, pocket-books, &c., which would be distributed, mostly in compliance with the verbal directions of the deceased, among the members of the family as tokens of remembrance. The responsibilities of the eldest son are as great as his privileges. It is his duty, after the father's death or abdication, to support, or assist, his brothers and sisters if necessary. The younger son, if not adopted by another family, may establish separately his own house, forming a *Bun Ke*, or a Branch Family, with or without any legacy from the father.

The Japanese daughter, as a matter of course, is expected to be married, and leave her paternal home for that of husband. On this occasion, the parents invariably furnish the bride, as best they can, with the necessary "*trousseau*," but not, generally, with any dowry, certainly not bequeathing to her any portion of their fortune. In the event of male issue failing, a son of some other family would be adopted, and the daughter, if there were one, be given to him as wife. In this case the adopted youth, has to assume the wife's family name, and is, theoretically, entitled to the whole fortune of the house, but practically not so, because, although, in principle, he is exactly the same as to his privileges and obligations as a real son of the house, he may be sent back, at any moment, by the adopting parent to his original home, being even divorced from his wife, leaving all property behind, should there be a sufficient reason to justify such treatment.

Although there is no definite clause in the law to prohibit a son from bringing an action at law against his parent, or "*vice versâ*," it is almost a prohibited usage, and considered criminally unfilial for a son to bring before a court of law a family dispute between himself and his parent. Happily, one seldom hears in Japan of such a case coming before the public authorities, because, firstly, the son is bound, by established habit, to yield to the parent as much as possible; secondly, intervention of the relatives may be sought for if they fail to settle the divergence of opinion between themselves; and, thirdly, a family council may be held for the purpose if the case be too important or intricate to admit of easy adjustment. This would be taken in any case as a final decision.

Such are the natural and customary privileges and rights, obligations and duties, of Japanese children; and we may note that the rights and privileges given to the youth of *Dai Nippon* are more than counterbalanced by the duties and obligations exacted from them, and which leave them exposed to a helpless condition under cruel parents. But we must not forget, at the same time, notwithstanding the practice of efficiently inculcating the filial duties, there are, perhaps, some children to be found in Japan as unfilial as in any other civilised country, whilst there are as malicious parents to be heard of in Western countries as in Japan. There exists, however, as yet, no such institution in Japan as your Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children. I firmly believe, therefore, that keeping up the efficient teaching of filial piety, not in the old dogmatic form, but on a modified and elevated principle, is still eminently advantageous and indispensable for the youth of our thickly-populated country to have so high a standard held up for its own guidance and that of succeeding generations.

V.—Brothers and Sisters.

I have very little to say under this heading; its characteristics differ little from those of this country. So far as I can detect, this only peculiarity of the Japanese is the rigid observance of the priority of seniors over juniors. The distinction of age, however slight the difference may be, must be strictly kept, and the elder has the first in all cases. At dinner, for distance, they have to keep the order of precedence of their births, even in the matter of walking into the room. The elder is allowed to command the younger, if necessary, and to exercise even paternal power on behalf of the father over the younger. Submissiveness and due respect are generally expected from the latter to the former, while kindness must be shown by the former to the latter. It is a common expression in the family, in the case of a quarrel between brothers or sisters, that "You, being a younger (say) brother, ought to yield and submit to your elder brother;" whereas, at the same time, the elder may be warned that "You, being the elder brother should pity and overlook your poor younger brother's shortcomings." The elder brother and sister are always addressed by the younger, not by the personal name, as practised in England, but by the honorific title of *O Ani Sama* or *Nii San*, or Elder Brother; *O Ane Sama* or *Ne San*, or Elder Sister. Should there be several elders, to distinguish one from the other the personal names are prefixed to the honorific; thus, "Keito *Ani Sama*," "O Hana *Ne San*." All younger brothers and sisters are called by their elders by their personal names, affixing *San*,* an honorific title.

The eldest son, as already said, having the natural privilege of primogeniture, is always treated legally with favour distinct from the rest of the offspring, but he has imposed on him also responsibility for the maintenance of his brothers and sisters when he becomes the head of the house. All education, marriage, and future callings of the brothers and sisters, are to be duly provided for, or at least assisted, by the eldest. If a younger brother should set up a separate house, not being adopted by another family, his house forms a *Bun Ke*, or

[a] "Things Japanese," by B. H. Chamberlain, p. 83. (In the Society's Library.)

* Contraction of *Sama*.

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Branch House of the *Hon Ke*, or Principal House, and thence arises a relationship between the allied families. The principle of this relationship is based on the priority of the houses, regardless of the ages of the heads of the houses. The branch house may be sacrificed, or even extinguished, in an emergency, for the purpose of maintaining the principal house, which must be preserved by all means.

The Mitsui family are, by the amplitude of their relations as well as by their great wealth, the Rothschilds of Japan, and have, among many other family customs, an admirable arrangement in respect to this relationship, which may prove interesting. So scattered had their relations become in the towns, and so prolonged their separation, that there ensued a possibility of losing the intimacy, or even of forgetting the relationship, among them. To prevent this it has been established, for a considerable period, as one of their family rules, to hold, at the principal house, an annual banquet, at which all the heads of the branch houses, with their wives, are to be present, to renew their relationship. On this occasion the order of seats is arranged in accordance with the seniority of the houses, regardless of the ages of the individuals, and the head of the principal house, even if younger in age, has to take the first place and preside at the feast. All the wives sit next to their respective husbands. This interesting custom is, I am informed, still maintained in this wealthy family, although its actual condition has necessitated several departures from their ancient usage.

Here is another instance, which, though a complicated case, may prove equally interesting. A certain family at Nagasaki, which has existed over two hundred years—I reserve the name for the moment—consists of a principal and three branch houses. For the sake of convenience, the houses may be indicated by the first four letters of alphabet, A representing the present principal house. According to the family records, the ancestor of house B was uncle of that of A, and consequently, was regarded as the principal of the family, until about a hundred years ago, when a calamity occurred, which not only deprived the house of its wealth, but also of its head. Consequently, house A, by a resolution of a family council, made a younger brother the successor to the ruined house, providing him with the necessary amount of capital to restore the lost fame and fortune. So B was restored to its previous prosperity, but at the same time lost the dignity of the family precedence, which was transferred to house A. A few years ago, however, the present head of house B brought forward a claim for the resumption of the precedence previously enjoyed, on the ground of the seniority of the founder of the house over that of A. In consequence, another family council of the four houses was held, which lasted several days, and it was decided that B should withdraw the claim on the ground both of being junior to the then head of A, and of the indebtedness to the latter for most generous and self-sacrificing assistance rendered to B. Thus the case of which I was eye-witness, was settled, and the whole proceeding arranged to the satisfaction of all the parties concerned.

VI.—Husband and Wife.

Now I have come to one of the most interesting, but serious, problems lying before New Japan, the solution of which demands her utmost prudence, justice, and determination; I mean the relation between husband and wife. In dealing with this subject, however, I have to apologise, first of all, for my disqualification, as lecturer on this intricate and delicate theme, owing to my utter lack of personal experience in the matter; but at the same time, I trust there is an advantage in the fact that, in this matter, I am free from personal prejudice, which often leads one into the mist of partiality and unfairness. I have paid, moreover, particular attention to the subject, so as faithfully to describe the facts, and to discuss the theme impartially and judicially, because there is nothing of greater importance, at least in my opinion, in the social problems of the future Japan, than this, nor is there any subject among Japanese customs more liable to criticism.

Marriage is, in Dai Nippon, as elsewhere, the greatest event in human life. It constitutes a life, a home, a family, a community, and a nation. The union of the two elements of the universe—*In* and *Yō*, or Female and Male—is considered by the people, to speak strictly, as a sacred course of humanity, indicated by the Deities of the nation. The first two "Heavenly Gods," during the creation of the universe, blessed one another with the word "Harmony," which was applied, according to a mythical authority, to married life. Since that time the nation has had an established principle to observe, although the human descendants of the Deities do not always strictly follow the Divine commandment.

The main question for us, therefore, is, how to preserve harmony, and for this purpose we should do well to search for a Divine precedent. Can it be maintained by placing husband and wife on an absolutely equal footing? Our Divine precedent answers in the negative. When God Izanagi and Goddess Izanami, the first married Deities, celebrated their conjugal union, the Goddess spoke first, exclaiming, "How joyful to meet a lovely man!" Izanami, disapproving of the first use of the tongue by a female, proposed to rearrange the ceremony. On the second occasion the male spirit spoke to her first, "How joyful to meet a lovely woman!" To this the Goddess answered, and then they were happily married. This mythological incident constitutes the principle by which the mutual relation of husband and wife has been established, at least for the "Divine Period" of Japan.

Dismissing, however, the Divine attribute of the theme, we being no longer spiritual beings, we may more profitably deal with practical and reliable facts. When we turn the light of research on the "Human Period" of history, we are surprised at the curious contrast of the marriage customs, practised by the ancient inhabitants from almost ten centuries ago (which seem to have been very similar to those of this country), with those of the present time. Our forefathers used to propose directly to the girls whom they loved, without any *Nakadachi*, or Go-between, who is indispensably employed for betrothing by the existing people. The bridegroom, in that simple and happy era, instead of holding the wedding ceremony at the paternal house, whither the bride of the present time has to go first for the wedding, had to betake himself to the bride's paternal home to celebrate the union, and, staying there a night, take back the new wife to his own house the following day. At this ceremony the wedding wine was drunk first by the bride, and the cup offered afterwards to the bridegroom, which etiquette is entirely opposed to the present practice. The two customs last named, I am informed, are in practice at the present day in certain localities of our ancient Empire. These usages seem to have lasted only up to the ninth century of the Christian era, when Chinese influence commenced to remodel the whole framework of social life, and the original initiative of the country, in consequence, gradually lost ground. From these facts alone we can form a tolerable idea how differently the fair sex must have been regarded in ancient times, by the opposite sex, from their sisters of a later period, and how mercilessly the old customs were altered after the invasion of that continently civilisation into *Shiki Shima* (the Isles of Japan).

From the seventh to the fifteenth century of the Christian era, so preponderant was Chinese influence over the Court, laws, science, art, and literature, that even the status of woman was copied from the Celestial Empire, where the fair sex is considered impure in its physical formation, defective in its mental constitution, and consequently inferior in its position, both domestic and social.

Nevertheless, this epoch was the Elizabethan era of Japanese literature, especially as to authoresses, several Court Ladies being conspicuous by their intellectural ability and genius in the literary world, one of them, Murasaki Shikibu, being our most celebrated authoress, whose admirable work of romance, "*Genji Monogatari*," is to this day a classic.[10]

This peaceful, but evolutionary, era was followed by the "Belligerent Age," which lasted till the establishment of the Tokugawa feudalism, three centuries ago. This disorderly "Middle Age" struck another blow at the weaker sex. The intellectual progress was sadly impaired, the civil administration was neglected in a most lamentable manner; military exploits, physical strength, valiant deeds, and adventure were the sole admiration and ambition of the time. At such a period it is but natural that the stronger sex should have ascendency in every way over the weaker, a state which may be easily vouched for by the history of Europe. Moreover, the science and literature of the time were left almost exclusively in the hands of the Buddhist priest, the only ruler of the intellectual and moral world of the age, and who was also another foe to woman. The Buddhist creed in this respect is no better than the Chinese philosophy. "Woman has no home in the three worlds—past, present, and future" ("*Sangai-ni iye nashi*,")—is one of their popular precepts, and thus every right of the fair sex was violated. The next stage was the Tokugawa period. Peace was restored, art and science were recovered and promoted, social order gradually resumed its normal condition. But again, the mania for Chinese assimilation in politics, in social life, in science, and above all, in morality, having risen higher than ever, woman's position had sunk deeper and deeper in the social stratum. This state of things lasted until a quarter of a century ago, when the new light of civilisation was cast from the Western skies upon the intellectual community of Dai Nippon, which, since then, has been ever striving to perfect her social life, restoring the status of woman to the original rule.

I may mention here that a few days ago I received a pamphlet, printed in English, issued by the Japanese Women's Commission for the World's Columbian Exposition at Chicago, in which an account of the work undertaken by our sisters, under the auspices of Her Majesty the Empress, for that grand exhibition, is fully given. From this it appears that they are not only successfully competing, with their known refinement of taste and skill, in all the work of their sex, but also in manifesting their excellence to the most civilised countries by publishing a book in English, "*Nippon Fujin*," or "Japanese Women."[11] This is an opportune illustration of my assertion of what the Japanese women can do now, even in the midst of European culture.

This is a historical epitome of the causes of the inferior position occupied by women in Japan. If, therefore, Japan had been free from external influences, the condition of the present woman, I am convinced, might have been quite different from what we now witness. Whatever the causes may have been, it is my duty to present a faithful picture of the existing state of married life, and to point out its defects as well as its virtues for the consideration of the Japan of the future.

First of all, the fundamental principle of marriage in Japan must be clearly understood before we proceed further. Marriage, to speak strictly in our national sense, is not merely for love, but to constitute a family in order to secure the succession of a man's house established by his progenitor. From this fundamental principle the following characteristics in the married life of the nation can be easily understood.

1.—Supremacy of Husband over Wife.

This is a chief item, which has so much exercised all European writers, especially the lady critics. Although I am myself an uncompromising opponent, up to a certain point, of the old system of married life, it is only just that I should, as an exponent of the subject, desire to defend the Japanese husband, in the first place, against the undiscriminating attacks made by outsiders, since I have found there are some reasonable causes, historical, traditional, political, and social, for the supremacy given to the husband over the wife, and which is not exclusively due to motives of selfishness and oppression on the part of the stronger, as some critics allege. We learn from the fundamental principle above cited that, in Japan, it is the man's house for which the benefit of marriage is intended, it is the man's family for which posterity is to be secured, it is the man's house in which the wife has to live and make her home; and, above all, it is the husband who has the entire responsibility of the maintenance of his wife and family. Moreover, the husband is, in general, the head of a family, and the sole possessor of the property. Even on these points only, the husband deserves due consideration. But there are still more reasons to be given in his favour. The first must be attributed to historical causes, such as the introduction of Chinese civilisation, the influence of Buddhist maxims, and the natural effects of the "Belligerent Age," which I have already alluded to. The exclusion of women from political prerogatives is another ground for the supremacy of the husband. This, however, being similar to any European country, saving in a few instances, needs no further comment. One more cause, which has been an essential factor, is the traditional belief of the people, emphasised, if not entirely taught, by the heresy of Confucius and Buddhism, as to the natural superiority, both mental and physical, of the stronger sex over the weaker. The last reason, but not the least, must be attributed to the social consideration which invariably distinguishes men from the other sex, allowing the former a greater, if not too excessive, liberty and privilege than the latter. Putting together these facts and causes, we are able fairly to come to the conclusion that it has been not unreasonable for the Japanese husband to occupy, in practice as well as in principle, a higher level than that accorded to his wife. In other words, the Japanese conjugal life is not of the nature of a joint stock company, if I may be allowed to use this commercial metaphor, but that of a private firm owned by a certain person, who

[10] G. K. Suyematsu's Translation of this work, 1882. (In the Society's Library.)

[11] Japanese Women's Mission, Tokyo, 1893. (In the Society's Library.)

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has a junior partner to co-operate in the business, the former retaining still the sole power and influence over the whole concern. I even go so far as to admit that it is almost necessary, in principle, to grant the husband—I mean the Japanese husband—a greater, but reasonable, extent of liberty and a higher position than that of the wife in domestic life; as, while the husband is entirely responsible for the welfare of the house, the wife, in Japan, is placed in such a position as to contribute only her indispensable assistance and invaluable advice to him, although it is not uncommon to find a powerful wife exercising irresistible influence over the timid husband. This often occurs in the house of an *Iri Muko*, or "Incoming Husband;" that is to say, where the wife is the daughter of the house to which the husband has succeeded in the wife's name. In this position, the husband's domestic power would scarcely exceed that of his wife, although, in principle, the male be the head of the house. Hence, the popular phrase: "If you possess one *go*[13] of rice, do not become an incoming husband."

What is only objectionable in the Japanese married life, however, has been, and still is, I am afraid, the abuse of this liberty and right of the husband, and, still worse, recognising the abuses as a matter of course. This point will be illustrated under the next heading.

2.—Subordination of Wife to Husband.

This is the natural consequence of what was discussed under the previous heading. The relative position of husband and wife is like the balance of a scale. The rising of one scale is the cause of the depression of the other. As we have already admitted in principle, by recognising the supremacy of the husband, we take as granted the inferiority of the wife. The only question remains where the unevenness of the two sides must be arrested. Unfortunately, the inequality of the Japanese husband and wife in their rights and liberties is rather excessive. Every restriction is imposed on her. Every submission is expected from her. She has to wait upon him at meals in the absence of servants. She has to salute him first on every occasion, and he merely returns her salutation. She walks, sits, eats, sleeps, all after him, and rises before him in the morning. She has to sit up and wait to any hour, in principle, but up to a reasonable time in practice, when he is out. She addresses him at *Danna Sama*, or "My Lord;" whereas he calls her by name. If any friend of the husband calls, while he is conversing with the visitor in the drawing-room, the wife, in the next room, has to attend to, or superintend a servant in serving the guest with *Futon*, or cushion, *Tabako-bon*, or smoking-tray, *Hibachi*, or fire-box, tea, and cake; but she seldom joins in the conversation unless the visitor be a lady. Housekeeping is her sole duty and responsibility, governing and directing the whole of the household affairs; but this is done rather for the benefit of the husband than for herself. In arranging rooms, preparing meals, employing servants, shopping, all his ideas, his tastes, his will, his requirements, are thought of first by the wife.

Generally, Japanese wives are good tailors and dressmakers; I do not mean by profession, but as housewives. The wife makes, or prepares, *kimono*, not only for herself and her children, but also for her husband. He may not know anything about his own clothes, but she must know all about them. If any untidiness or want of cleanliness is found in the husband's attire, it is her fault, not his. If the husband dies, she has to observe the deepest mourning, thirteen months "garment" and fifty days "abstinence," while the husband mourns for his deceased wife for only three months and twenty days respectively. In marrying again, the widower has more liberty than the widow. In principle, a widow, however young and beautiful, is expected to be strictly chaste and faithful to her departed companion for the rest of her life, while this obligation is not so strongly imposed on the young widower. Although remarriage of widows is practised to a great extent, there are still as many faithful widows in Japan as twice-wedded husbands.

The subordination of the wife to the husband cannot be perfected by one day's training. From her early childhood the girl is trained up in one direction only, that of obedience and faithfulness, as, in Japan, every girl is supposed to be destined to marry. Besides the verbal teaching of the parents at home, which is much more effective than anything else, the girl is taught to read books of moral maxims, generally on the Confucian principle. One of the books most commonly taught is "*Onna Dai Gaku*," or "The Great Learning for Women," written by the celebrated Confucian moralist, Kaibara Yekiken, in 1720, of which a few quotations will serve to indicate how the Japanese girl has been moulded. To do this I am again indebted to the translation of the treatise by Professor Chamberlain:

"More precious in a woman is a virtuous heart than a face of beauty," says the Confucian disciple. "The only qualities that befit a woman are gentle obedience, chastity, mercy, and quietness. . . . In China, marriage is called *returning*, for the reason that a woman must consider her husband's home as her own, and that, when she marries, she is therefore returning to her own home. However low and needy may be her husband's position, she must find no fault with him, but consider the poverty of the household which it has pleased Heaven to give her as the ordering of an unpropitious fate. The Sage of old taught that, once married, she must never leave her husband's house. Should she forsake the 'way,' and be divorced, shame shall cover her till her latest hour."[14]

This treatise, as can be seen even from these fragmentary quotations, is too apparently to need pointing out, based entirely on the Chinese discipline, and it will amply prove my statement as to the great influence the Confucian philosophy exercised over Japanese morality.

Now, as to the remedy for the defects of the present condition of married women. A Western adviser might suggest the "Emancipation of Woman" as the very thing needed for Japan. I rather shrink from accepting this advice, for I am afraid that our sisters might copy indiscriminately what their sisters on this side of the world say or do, even to advocating the formation of a band of fair dynamiters and a regiment of female warriors as the means of attaining their objects. This kind of emancipation, I believe, would not be advisable for adoption in our "Land of Gentle Manners;" on the contrary, the Japanese women are objects of all praise for their gentleness, sweetness, kindness, self-devotion, and nobility of spirit, notwithstanding their trying surroundings. This must be, in a great measure, accounted for by the way in which they are brought up. Miss Bacon recognises, in her admirable book entitled "Japanese Girls and Women," that "the Japanese woman is, under this discipline, a finished product at the age of sixteen or eighteen. She is kind, sweet, and amiable, with great power of self control, and a knowledge of what is right to do upon all occasions."[15] If this perfection be the result of the restrictive measures applied in her training, why should not we adopt similar measures with the husband as well? As I asserted before, the existing defects are more on the part of the husband than of the wife, who is, comparatively speaking, so perfect in her observance of discipline, as well as manners, that no special remedy is required for her except providing, of course, for the advancement of her education and the elevation of her studies as the country progresses. I suggest, therefore, instead of the emancipation of women, that the repression of men may be the preferable measure for Japan. Like the balance of a scale, suppressing the excessive ascendency of the husband would be the best means of raising the unduly lowered position of the wife.

3.—The Obligation to live with Parents.

As will be seen from the fundamental principle, the object of marriage is not merely for the gratification of the young couple themselves, but for the husband's paternal house as well. For this reason they have to live with the parents. It is exactly contrary to the precept prevailing in Christian countries, namely, that a married man should "leave his father and mother." It is the woman, in Japan, who has to give up her own father and mother. Not only that, she must love and reverence her parents-in-law as much as her own, and for this rather unnatural disciple she requires a stricter instruction, which will be fully manifested by the teaching of the author of the "Great Learning for Women."

"It is the chief duty of a girl living in the parental house to practise filial piety towards her father and mother," says the moralist. "But after marriage her chief duty is to honour her father-in-law and mother-in-law—to honour them beyond her own father and mother—to love and reverence them with all ardour, and to tend them with every practice of filial piety."[16]

The poor wife's restriction does not end there. "A woman shall be divorced for disobedience to her father-in-law or mother-in-law," is the first clause of the "Seven Reasons for Divorce," another abominable dogma of Confucius, which was fatuously adopted by our reckless forefathers.

Notwithstanding, or in consequence of, so much one-sidedness, we find, generally, more filial daughters-in-law than reasonable mothers-in-law; happily, however, the father-in-law, as a rule, is not so exacting as his narrow-minded wife. Of course, it must not be supposed that mothers-in-law are all harsh, but their notoriety in this respect is too widely spread to escape judicious criticism. It is more so in Japan, because every mother-in-law has herself experienced and must know all the hardships the daughter-in-law has to bear, and yet she shows, not unfrequently, antipathy to her successor. This is really beyond the reason of men. What, then, should be the remedy? Should we let all the young couples live separately from their parents, as practised in this country? No; it is a constitutional change too great to adopt. Besides, I think the present is a good custom if it can be managed, and, in fact, the majority of these marriages are happy and satisfactory. The only way, therefore, to counteract the evil would be the enforcement of restrictive discipline over the peevish mother-in-law.

4.—The Absence of the Dotal System.

There exists no such custom in Japan as that so commonly practised in Europe. No Japanese woman, however, wealthy at her birth, brings any dowry to her husband's house on her marriage other than her wedding *trousseau*. This is simply because she comes to live under the roof of the husband's house, and makes no independent home for herself. Hence, her life is entirely dependent on her husband, and, at the same time, if any man marry a girl on condition of her bringing a dowry, he is considered morally mean and unmanly. About two hundred years ago there were such practices among certain *Daimyo* and *Samurai*, in negotiating a betrothal, as inquiring into the amount of dowry or espousal presents, and this was strictly prohibited as an evil practice by the ordinance of the Shogun in the 7th year of Ho Yei (1711). I do not attempt, however, to deny absolutely the existence of this custom at the present time. On the contrary, I admit this once prohibited usage is now on the increase, perhaps in imitation of Western customs.

5.—"Sho" (or Concubines).

Whatever defects existed in the old Japanese system of married life, this practice was the worst of all. Of course it was not a general practice among the people, being confined to the higher and wealthier classes, and even in these classes not half of them really exercised the right. But, in whatever limited way it was practised, the existence even of such a custom, being recognised as legitimate and legal, must, though painful to me, be alluded to.

The original idea of the practice was attributed to the desire, or rather necessity, of having posterity, in the event of the wife failing of an heir. If this object had been rigidly kept up the practice might not have been so widely extended as it has been. But it was not infrequent to find a man who had several children by the wife, yet exceeding the limit of his right. It is worse still that, whether the *mekake* (concubine) was kept for that express purpose or not, she was legally recognized as a member of the family. On the part of the wife, moreover, it was the established discipline that she ought not even to dream of jealousy, although it was common, and natural too, to find her occasionally losing her self-control in this matter. If she was a good wife, from the old Japanese standpoint, of course, she had to allow her husband to keep a *sho taku*, or a separate house for the *mekake*, or even to receive her rival in her own house. The distinction between the wife and the *sho*, however, must be rigidly observed in the family. The *sho*, however favoured by the master, had to be in the place of a servant; the wife, as well as the husband, called her by name, while the *sho* had to address the wife by the title of *Okusama*, or "Madame;" even her own child did not address her as "Mother," but by name. She was deprived of all the privileges of being present with the master at the public feasts both of the family and of society. If the wife died first, the *sho* might be elevated to the position of wife, but this action on the part of the husband invariably required the consultation and consent of all the relatives. Should the *mekake* have been the mother of the heir, a special favour was given to her, placing her in the second class of Relationships, the same as the wife. Happily, however, this absurd recognition of the *sho* is no longer legal. Thirteen years ago it was erased from the "Five Classes of Relationship" by the law, and no fresh registration of such title is allowed to be entered in the *Koseki*, or registration of the family. Hence, any child other than that of the wife became illegitimate, and no heirship was permitted to such illegitimate posterity. There is, therefore, no more *sho* in Japan so far as the law is concerned; but it is not so easy to do away with the social vice as to erase the illegal title from legal documents.

[13] *Go*, a measure of capacity, containing 55·475 cubic inches.

[14] "Things Japanese," p. 454.

[15] "Japanese Girls and Women," by Miss A. M. Bacon, p. [illegible] Boston, 1891.)

[16] English Translation by B. H. Chamberlain, in "Things Japanese," p. 465.

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seen in our mythological ages, either owing to the obscurity of the record or to the actual absence of the habit, it cannot be said to have had a short existence in Japan, for as far back as the beginning of history *i.e.*, over two thousand years ago, the practice can be found in the ancient annals of the nation. In later centuries the practice was, no doubt, emphasized by a similar custom on the continent of Asia, whence so many social habits were exported to "the Islands of the Dragon Fly."

6.—DIVORCE.

This is a no less painful subject to deal with. Like marriage itself, divorce in Japan is entirely conducted by the family tribunal, and no judicial proceeding is required for it. The only legal forms in the matter are the two following:—The husband gives to the disunited wife *Ri Yen Jo*, or the letter of divorcement, which invariably consists of only three lines and a half of writing. Hence, the phrase "*Mi kudari han*," or the "Three Lines and a Half," became the representative term of divorce. No superstitious person would write an ordinary letter the same length as that of that unlucky document. The second necessary formality is to report the unfortunate event to the local Registrar's Office, and remove the name of the discarded wife from the registered membership of the husband's family. These two steps, in theory, suffice to sever the sacred union. Hence, one might infer the Japanese divorce to be as easy in practice as in its formal proceedings. But the actual state of the matter is very different from the supposition.

Although the Japanese divorce requires no such elaborate public proceedings as in England, it is never settled by the parties themselves, except perhaps among the lowest classes, who may separate as easily as they unite. The reasons of the disagreement between the parties must first of all be submitted to the parents and the *Nakadachi* (the Go-between), who try their best to allay the conflict, and advise the parties not to take such a scandalous course; if this preliminary pacification should not be successful, then the case may be brought before the other relatives of the husband and wife. At this family conference the case may be thoroughly examined, and the consequences of the separation fully discussed with prudence and justice; and the final decision may be given to the effect either of reunion or separation. In the latter case, the legal steps already mentioned may be taken by the husband. It is not fair to assume, therefore, that divorce in Japan is so simple and easy as credited by some Western writers, whose knowledge of the subject is generally confined to the practice of the lower classes of the nation. Furthermore, the dissolution of marriage is considered by the people as much a disgrace as by other civilised nations, and it is often thought an objection, particularly in the case of the woman, to second marriage. The following passage from the "Great Learning for Women" amply shows the sentiment of the people on the matter:—"A woman once married, and then divorced, has wandered from the 'way,' and is covered with the greatest shame, even if she should enter into a second union with a man of wealth and position."[17]

It is also generally said that, owing to its simple and easy process, there is statistically an alarming number of divorces in Japan. This assertion also needs a little rectification. The cases of so-called *Ri Yen* may be more numerous in Japan than so-called divorces in England; but one point must not be forgotten, that there are no such practices in Japan as judicial separation and private separation, which may number as many, if not more than the divorce in this country. Nevertheless, I must confess that the Japanese system of divorce is far from perfect. First of all, the wife, in principle, is deprived of the right of divorce, which is vested solely in the husband, although, in extraordinary cases, the relatives may intervene, and act in compliance with the wishes of the suffering wife. Secondly, the established "Seven Reasons of Divorce" are too one-sided and ridiculous. They were ordained by the law of "*Tai Hō Rei*" in A.D. 700, copying exactly the doctrine of the Chinese Sage. Of course these reasons, practically speaking, are seldom enforced by any reasonable husband, and yet the existence in any country of such an injudicious standard, however nominal, is dangerous enough to become a formidable instrument in the hands of a bad husband. Thirdly, the exceeding simpleness of the legal process is another defect of our system, although such elaborate, detailed, and open proceedings as those practised in England are not advisable for Japan. Reformation on these points is one of the immediate needs of the nation. Happily, the forthcoming Civil Code is expected to aim at bringing this customary usage into closer conformity with European [illegible] in this respect.

[17] English translation in Dickins, 'Primer of Japanese,' p. 456.

Putting together all the defects and disadvantages described in the foregoing pages, one might be impressed with the idea that married life in Japan is by no means a happy one. There are, however, various opinions on this point. One arguer asserts: "The Japanese husband is too selfish to have a happy wife." "No," answers another; "there are undoubtedly more happy couples, devoted and faithful to one another, than outsiders imagine. That is what makes the whole nation so pleasant and cheerful."—"Maybe, but their contentment is due merely to their ignorance of the world; besides, they do not marry for love," is the argument of a third. The fourth observer takes a quite different view: "The advanced nations are not always contented peoples. A love marriage often fails to realise the expectation formed. There is more and truer happiness in the quiet and peaceful domestic life of the East than in the artificial and extravagant associations of the West. Nothing more induces a man to love his wife than her faithfulness, attentiveness, and gentleness, all of which Japanese women are known to possess. A wife, on her side, could not be happier than in having a fond husband."

I myself refrain from joining in the controversy, since there are no available statistics to confirm either argument. Secondly, there seems to be a distinct division among the disputants—male on one side, and female on ther other. Lastly, and more particularly, I have no personal experience. Judgment, therefore, will be better deferred to a future occasion.

VII.—CONCLUSION.

I have, in the first place, explained the characteristics of our Family System with regard to the efficacy of moral teaching, and the singularities of religious influence upon the Japanese people.

Next, I have made general remarks as to the difference of the Japanese system from that of the English, together with the causes of the changes of woman's position in ancient and modern times. Then I have endeavoured to present a faithful description of the relations between parents and children, as being considered the most important in the Japanese family. A short account also of the fraternal relationship has been given. Lastly, I have been careful to give a real representation of the married life in Japan, pointing out every defect. It must be borne in mind, however, that what I have stated in the foregoing pages is but a view of the general state of things, and the normal condition of the people; and there are, of course, exceptional cases, as elsewhere, not representing the nation at large.

Now, Japan is on the eve of a peaceful but decisive revolution in family organisation, and consequently in social institutions. The inevitable enlightenment of the nations, issuing from Western science and philosophy, is, like the rising sun, throwing a new light over the intellect of Dai Nippon, while the faint lustre of the old "*régime*," like the morning star, is fading away. But nothing can be more productive of the future welfare of the nation than the approaching proclamation of the new Civil Code, by which all the rights and obligations of the family union are expected to be definitely prescribed.

The present Government, fully recognising the unquestionable necessity of reconstituting and reforming both the family and social organisations in conformity with the demands of the progressive age, and for the advancement of the national welfare and prosperity, began more than ten years ago the responsible work of the codification of the Civil and Commercial Laws, with the invaluable assistance of several eminent jurists of England, Germany, America, and particularly France. At the completion of the gigantic undertaking, after many and laborious years, the Bill for the enactment of the Codes was, two years ago, brought into the Imperial Diet for the deliberation and consent of the nation's representatives. But, such was the unpopularity of the proposed Codes with the general public, that the two Houses of Parliament threw out the Bill for several successive years, despite the great efforts made by the Government for its immediate enactment. Moreover, a Manifesto, prepared by several eminent and influential lawyers, was circulated throughout the country, protesting against the introduction of the new laws.

The opinions expressed in the Diet and in the Manifesto, and the able reply by M. G. Boissonade, the chief framer of the Codes, are most interesting and instructive in the study of Japanese life. It is impossible for me to give even a few extracts from this complicated and lengthy controversy in the limited scope of this Paper. Summing up the main points, however, I may state that the great objection of the opponents of the Codes was the "too much Europeanisation" expected in the Codes, and, consequently, the possible revolution in the family and social organisations. While the authors of the laws defend themselves by the plea for a reasonable preservation of old customs and usages, with slight, but necessary, modifications, as the exigencies of civilisation demand.

I am not in a position to advance any opinion on the subject, nor do I wish to do so here, except by expressing the hope that the forthcoming Civil Code may have been compiled and revised to such an extent that, at least, all the defects and faults now existing in the family system of the nation, as pointed out in the foregoing pages, may be entirely removed, and at the same time no fresh vices be introduced into the country, so that not only may material progress and prosperity be promoted, but also the moral character and the true happiness of the people of the Land of the Rising Sun may be improved.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[REUTER "SPECIAL" TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

London, May 18.

Mr. Ernest M. Satow, C.M.G., Her Majesty's Envoy to Morocco, has been appointed Minister to Japan.

London, May 21.

The man Taylor, indicted in the Wilde case, has been found guilty on two counts, and sentence has been deferred. Oscar Wilde will be separately indicted to-morrow.

["SPECIAL" TELEGRAM TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

Hakodate, May 22.

The schooner *Herman* came in yesterday with 465 sealskins.

Hakodate, May 23.

The sealing schooner *Vera* arrived here yesterday with 706 seals aboard.

(FROM THE "N.-C DAILY NEWS.")

London, May 10.

The *Temps* believes that the basis for arranging with Japan for the payment of the indemnity will be the allocation of the Chinese Customs under the guarantee and control of the Powers.

The death is announced of Sir Robert Peel.

London, May 11.

It is announced in St. Petersburg that the Russian, French, and German squadrons in the Pacific will not be reduced until a final settlement has been arrived at by China and Japan.

Taipehfu, May 11.

There is great danger of a general revolution in the island against the mandarins. The majority of the soldiery will undoubtedly join the people of Formosa. It is reported that the French have landed a strong force of blue-jackets some distance from Tainanfu.

London, May 13.

The Reichstag has rejected the Anti-revolutionary Bill.

It is stated that Russia is negotiating cordially with Japan with a view to settling the points in the Treaty which are remaining under discussion.

The French have placed a fortified post at Bajito which is within the limits of the British frontier on the Lower Niger. The French Governor at Dahomey is about to march through the Niger Company's territory to Sokotto, and is said to be seeking to conclude treaties with the Chiefs owning allegiance to the British.

Peking, May 14, 8 a.m.

It is reported in official circles that Wang Wen-shao, Viceroy of the Yün-kuei provinces and acting Viceroy of Chihli, will be confirmed in his last post, and the vacancy thus made in the first-named Viceroyalty will be given to Chang Hsu, who was called to Peking from his Governorship of Shansi in the early part of February last. The Viceroy Li Hung-chang has presented a memorial for the third time since his return from Japan on the 21st of April last, asking to be allowed to retire from public life. No Rescript or Edict, however, has, so far, been issued in reply.

Tientsin, May 16, 8.15 p.m.

France, Germany, and Russia object to all the financial schemes of China conferring special

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rights on any nationality. This protest will frustrate the reported proposals of an American syndicate for financing the indemnity to be paid Japan, security for which was to be the concession for the construction of railways, etc.

There is a severe famine in Northern Chihli.

(From Japanese Papers.)

Kobe, May 23.

The staff of the Second Army remains here awaiting instructions from Head-quarters to proceed to Kyoto. Field-Marshal Oyama visited Maiko this morning.

Admiral Kabayama and Mr. Mizuno left here at 4.30 p.m. yesterday by the *Yokohama Maru*.

Kobe, May 24.

The *Chiyoda Kan* left here for Kobe yesterday.

Söul, May 23.

Kim Koshu, Gyo In-chu, Cho Gi-yen, Kin In-shoku, and Yu Kitsu-yei, Ministers of State, informed Count Inouye, Japanese Minister, to-day that they could not any longer co-operate with their colleagues, Boku Yei-ko, Kim Kachin, Jo Ko-han, An Zai-ju, and Li In-yo.

Shanghai, May 24.

Chang Tsi-ling has dispatched 5,000 of his soldiers to Formosa, and affairs are in a critical strait.

Hiroshima, May 23.

Admiral Kabayama, Mr. Mizuno, and suite arrived at Ujina this morning, and pass the night here. They are expected to leave for Formosa at 5 o'clock in the afternoon by the *Yokohama Maru*.

Nagoya, May 23.

The 1st and 2nd reserves of the Third Army Division will be disbanded on the 27th inst.

Kyoto, May 24.

A case of cholera has been reported at Fukuromachi, and communication with other streets is interrupted.

Shimonoseki, May 24.

Field-Marshal Nozu, Commander-in-Chief of the First Army, passed here at 7.21 a.m. by the *Tokio Maru*. Lieut.-General Kurogi, Commander-in-chief of the Sixth Army Division, has also returned from the seat of war.

Moji, May 24.

Lieut.-General Kurogi and staff disembarked here at 8 a.m. to-day. They will pass the night here.

CHESS.

(All Communications to be addressed to the Chess Editor.)

The Yokohama Chess Club is closed for the season: and re-opens on 3rd October.

The Tokyo Chess Club meets at the Tokyo Hotel every Friday from 1 to 7 p.m.

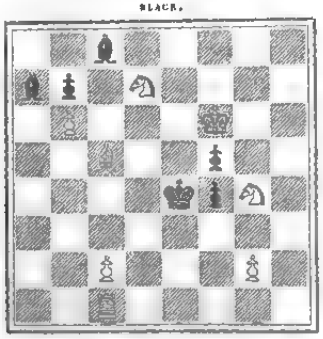
Solution of Problem No. 177.

White.	Black.
1—Q to Q sq.	1—P × Q
2—R to K 4 ch.	2—K to Q 7
3—Kt to Kt sq., mate	
	1—K × R
2—Q to Q 5	2—Any
3—Kt × P, mate.	

Correct solutions received from Omega, Digamma, Kr., and J.D.

Problem No. 179.

By Mrs. W. J. Baird.



White to play and mate in three moves.

Game No. 267.

A brilliant consultation game at Hastings. Score from *Illustrated London News*:—

Irregular Two Knights'.

White. Allies.	Black. J. H. Blackburne.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—Kt to K B 3	2—Kt to Q B 3
3—B to B 4	3—Kt to B 3
4—Kt to Kt 5	4—P to Q 4
5—P takes P	5—Kt to Q R 4
6—B to Kt 5 ch.	6—P to B 3
7—P takes P	7—P takes P
8—Q to B 3	8—P takes B
9—Q takes R	9—B to Q B 4
10—P to Q Kt 4	10—B takes P
11—Q takes P	11—Castles
12—Castles	12—Kt to B 3
13—Q to K 3	13—Kt to Q 5
14—Kt to K 4	14—Kt to Kt 5
15—Q to Q 3	15—P to B 4
16—Kt to Kt 3	16—P to K 5
17—Kt takes K P	17—P takes Kt
18—Q takes K P	18—B to K B 4
19—Q to Kt 7	19—Q to R 5
20—Q to B 7	20—Kt to K 7 ch.
21—K to R sq.	21—Q takes K B P

Note.—The move of 8—Q ■ B 3 is an old-fashioned continuation only adopted by a few players. As usual, Mr. Blackburne's finish ■ strikingly effective.

Game No. 268.

Southern Californian Correspondence Tourney.—Awarded prize for best game in above contest. (Muzio Gambit):—

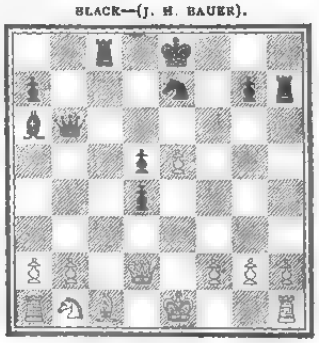
White. C. F. Carrigr.	Black. R. B. Howell.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—P to K B 4	2—P takes P
3—Kt to K B 3	3—P to K Kt 4
4—B to B 4	4—P to Kt 5
5—Castles	5—P takes Kt
6—Q takes P	6—Q to B 3
7—P to K 5	7—Q takes P
8—P to Q 3	8—B to R 3
9—Kt to B 3	9—Kt to K 2
10—B to Q 2	10—Q Kt to B 3
11—Q R to K sq.	11—Q to K B 4
12—Kt to Q 5	12—K to Q sq.
13—B takes P	13—B takes B
14—Kt takes B	14—Q to B 4 ch.
15—K to ■ sq.	15—P to Q 4
16—Kt takes P	16—B to K 3
17—R takes B	17—P takes R
18—Q to K ■ 8 ch.	18—R takes Q
19—R takes R ch.	19—K to Q 2
20—Kt to B 6 ch.	20—K to Q 3
21—Kt to K 4 ch.	21—K to K 4
22—Kt takes Q	22—R takes R
23—Kt to Q 7 ch.	23—K to B 4
24—Kt takes R	24—Kt to Q 5
25—Kt takes R P	25—P to Kt 4
26—B to Kt 3	26—Kt takes ■
27—R P takes Kt	27—P to K 4
28—P to R 3	28—Kt to Kt 3
29—P to Kt 3	29—P to B 4
30—K to Kt 2	30—P to R 3
31—P to R 4	31—P to R 4
32—P to R 5	32—Kt to R sq.
33—K to R 3	33—Kt to B 2
34—P to Kt 4 ch.	34—K to B 5
35—K to R 4	35—P to B 5
36—Kt P takes P	36—P takes P
37—P to Kt 5	37—P takes P
38—P takes P	38—K to B 4
39—P to R 6	39—Kt to R sq.
40—Kt to B 8	40—Kt to B 2
41—P to R 7 and White wins.	

To the *British Chess Magazine* for November Mr. J. A. Robertson contributes a number of extracts from the works of Oliver Wendell Holmes, which indicate that the "Autocrat" must have been a proficient in the game of chess, and that his favourite among the pieces must have been the Knight. The following striking and characteristic passage is taken from "Over the Teacups," Dr. Holmes's last work:—"Your Utopia, your New Atlantis, and the rest are pretty to look at. But your philosophers are treating the world of living souls as if they were, each of them, playing a game of solitaire—all the pegs and all the holes alike. Life is a very different sort of game. It is a game of chess and not of solitaire, nor even of checkers. The men are not all Pawns, but you have your Knights, Bishops, Rooks—yes, your King and Queen—to be provided for. Not with these names of course, but all looking for their proper places, and having their own laws and modes of action. You may play solitaire with the members of your own family for pegs if you like, and if none of them rebel you can play checkers with a little community of meek, like-minded people. But when it comes to the handling of a great state you will find that Nature has emptied a box of chessmen before you, and you must play with them so as to give each its proper move."

End-game No. 26.

We take the position below from the *Weekly Citizen*. It is not new, being the ending of a game played some years ago in Vienna. It is singularly beautiful, exhibiting, as it does, the highest chess. It reminds one of some of Morphy's games. Mr. Bauer was playing against a strong amateur.

Black—(J. H. Bauer).



White.

Black to move and win.

Solution.

In the first place notice the free range of action for Black's pieces and the awkward position of White's. Black might play Queen to Knight's 4, threatening 2. Rook takes Bishop; but White Knight to Rook's 3 would defeat the purpose. Black has recourse, first, to a move which will yield him an immediate mate position, rendering the combination of Rook sacrifice possible and effective. He plays—

Black.	White.
1—R takes R P!	1—R takes ■
2—Q to Kt 4!	2—R checks

He might have played his King at once, as the play of Rook leads to nothing owing to Black's correct answers.

3—K to Q 2	3—P checks
4—K takes P	4—R to R 6 ch.
5—P to Kt 3!	5—K moves
6—Q to B 8 ch.	6—Q interposes

and Black wins the Queen and the game in a few moves.—*Queenslander*.

Game No. 269.

Correspondence Chess.

A brilliancy-prize game recently played. (Hamppe-Allgaier Gambit):—

White. Mr. C. F. Pierce.	Black. Mr. W. Bennett.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—Kt to Q B 3	2—Kt to Q B 3
3—P to B 4	3—P takes P
4—Kt to B 3	4—P to K Kt 4
5—P to K ■ 4 (a)	5—P to Kt 5
6—Kt to K Kt 5	6—P to K R 3 (b)
7—Kt takes P	7—K takes Kt
8—P to Q 4 (c)	8—P to Q 3
9—B takes P	9—Kt to B 3
10—B to B 4 ch.	10—K to Kt 2
11—Castles	11—B to K 2
12—Q to Q 2	12—B to Q 2
13—P to K 5	13—P takes P
14—P takes P	14—Kt to K Kt sq.
15—B to K 3	15—B to ■ sq.
16—Q to K 2	16—P to K R 4
17—Q R to Q sq.	17—Q to B sq.
18—Q to B 2	18—Kt to R 3
19—Kt to Q 5	19—P to Kt 6
20—Q takes P ch.	20—Q to Kt 5
21—B takes Kt ch.	21—R takes ■
22—Kt takes B	22—Kt takes Kt (d)
23—Q to B 2	23—B to B 2
24—R to Q 4	24—Q to Kt 3
25—P to K Kt 4	25—P takes P
26—Q to B 7 ch.	26—Q takes Q
27—R takes Q ch.	27—K to R sq.
28—R takes Kt	28—R takes P
29—B to Q 5	29—R to Q sq.
30—P to B 4	30—R to K 4
31—K to Kt 2	31—P to Kt 4
32—R takes B P	32—R takes P
33—R takes ■	33—P takes P
34—R to B 5	34—R to K 7 ch.
35—K to Kt 3	35—R takes P

White mates in a few moves (e)

(a) This move combined with White's 2. Kt to Q B 3 (an invention of Herr Hamppe, of Vienna) forces the adoption of Allgaier's form of Gambit, in which White plays subsequently Kt to K Kt 5 with the intention of sacrificing the Kt for an attack (Lipschütz.)

(b) A quieter variation results from Black's P to Q 3 here, with no attempt to force matters by attacking the knight.

(c) The Thorold attack, considered the strongest continuation (Lipschütz.)

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(d) Not QxQ, for then Kt to B 5 ch. recovers the queen with a piece gained.
(e) The ending is simple: RxK Kt ♙ with obvious continuations.

There are many fine features in the game, which was awarded the special prize for the most brilliant Hampe-Allgaier in the Southern California Correspondence Tourney. Herr Lipschütz was judge.

Game No. 270.

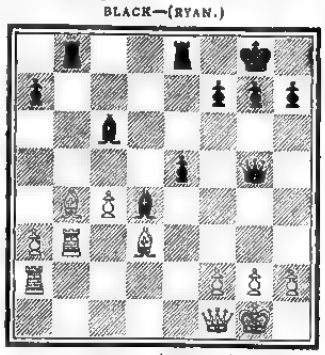
Played in the recent League match, New York.

QUEEN'S PAWN OPENING.

WHITE. Hodges.	BLACK. Ryan.
1—P to Q 4	1—P to Q 4
2—Kt to K B 3	2—Kt to K B 3
3—P to Q B 4	3—P to K 3
4—P to K 3	4—B to K 2
5—Kt to Q B 3	5—P to Q B 4
6—P takes Q P	6—Kt takes P (a)
7—B to Q 3 (b)	7—Kt to Q B 3
8—Castles	8—P takes P (c)
9—P takes P	9—Castles
10—R to K sq.	10—R to K sq.
11—P to Q ♗ 3 (d)	11—Kt takes Kt
12—P takes Kt	12—Q to R 4
13—P to Q B 4	13—B to B 3
14—R to R 2	14—Kt takes P
15—Kt takes Kt	15—B takes Kt
16—B to Q 2 (e)	16—Q to Kt 3
17—Q to K 2	17—B to Q 2 (f)
18—R to Q Kt sq.	18—Q to B 4
19—R takes P	19—B to Q B 3
20—R to Kt 3	20—Q ♗ to Kt sq.
21—B to Kt 4	21—Q to K Kt 4
22—Q to B sq.	22—P to K 4
23—B to Q 2	23—Q to K 2
24—B takes P ch.	24—K takes B
25—Q to Kt sq. ch.	25—P to B 4
26—R takes R	26—R takes R
27—Q takes ♗	27—P to B 5
28—Q to Kt sq. ch.	28—P to K 3
29—Q to Q 3	29—Q to R 5
30—B to Kt 4	30—Q to Kt 5
31—Q to R 3 ch.	31—Q takes Q
32—P takes Q	32—P to K 5
33—R to Q 2	33—B to K 4
34—B to B 5	34—P to Q R 4
35—R to Q 8	35—P to Kt 4
36—R to Q B 8	36—B to Kt 2
37—R to K 8	37—B to K B 3 (g)
38—R to Q Kt 8	38—Resigns.

(a) Inferior to P x P; which gives freedom also to Black's Q B, which cannot well be utilized in close games.
(b) ♗ to K 4 is another way, and generally good when Kt x P.
(c) Generally commendable, as it isolates White's Q P.
(d) Kt to K 5 seems more to the point. The text move is to prevent Kt to Q Kt 5.
(e) White's K R is in danger; otherwise ♗ x P ch, followed by Q x B, would be effective enough.
(f) Black threatens to win a piece by P to Q R 4. With an apparently inferior game Mr. Hodges now turns the tables very prettily. See diagram:—

BLACK—(RYAN.)



WHITE—(HODGES.)

White to play at move 23.

(g) The only way to stop the intended ch. by which White would win the Q B. White's Rook manœuvres in the ending are very well worthy of attention. After so successful an opening Black should perhaps have done better.

Game No. 271.

Played in the recent Gambit Tournament, Metropolitan.

EVANS' GAMBIT.

WHITE. T. E. Webb.	BLACK. W. J. Ingoldsby.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—Kt to K B 3	2—Kt to Q B 3
3—B to B 4	3—B to B 4
4—P to Q Kt 4	4—B takes P
5—P to Q B 3	5—B to B 4
6—Castles	6—P to Q 3
7—P to Q 4	7—P takes P
8—P takes P	8—B to Kt 3
9—P to Q 5	9—Kt to R 4
10—B to Kt 2	10—Kt to K 2
11—B to Q 3	11—Castles
12—Kt to Q B 3	12—P to K B 3
13—Kt to K 2	13—Kt to Kt 3
14—Q to Q 2	14—Kt to K 4
15—Kt to K 4	15—Kt (R 4) to B 5
16—B takes Kt	16—Kt takes B
17—Q to B 2	17—Kt takes ♗
18—Q takes Kt	18—P to K B 4
19—Kt takes P	19—B takes Kt
20—P takes ♗	20—R takes P
21—Kt to Kt 3	21—R to B 2
22—Q R to K sq.	22—Q to Kt 4
23—Q to Kt 5	23—Q R to K B sq.
24—Kt to K 4	24—Q to K 4
25—Q to Q 3	25—R takes K B P
26—Kt takes R	26—B takes Kt ch.
27—R takes ♗	27—Q takes R ch.
28—R to K B sq.	28—Q takes R ch. & wins.

Note.—At move 15 it was necessary to prevent exchange of both Bishops to play Kt x Kt or ♗ to Q B sq. The sacrifice at move 26 is interesting.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From Canada, &c.....	per C. P. R. Co.	Monday, May 27th.*
From America	per O. & O. Co.	Friday, May 31st †
From Hongkong	per P. M. Co.	Sunday, May 26th.‡
From Hongkong	per C. P. R. Co.	Thursday, May 30th.§
From Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Sunday, June 2nd.
From Europe, viâ Hongkong	per M. M. Co.	Friday, May 7th.
From Europe, viâ Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd	Wed'day, June 12th.
From America	per P. M. Co.	Thursday, June 13th.

* *Empress of China* left Vancouver on May 13th. † *Gaelic* left San Francisco on May 14th. ‡ *Peru* left Hongkong on May 18th. § *Empress of Japan* left Hongkong on May 22nd.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For Hongkong	per C. P. R. Co.	Monday, May 27th.
For America	per P. M. Co.	Wed'day, May 29th.
For Canada, &c.	per C. P. R. Co.	Friday, May 31st.
For Victoria, B.C., & Tacoma, Wash.....	per N. P. Co.	Friday, May 31st.
For Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Saturday, June 1st
For Europe, viâ Shanghai	per M. M. Co.	Saturday, June 1st.
For America	per O. & O. Co.	Friday, June 7th.
For Europe, viâ Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd	Friday, June 14th.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Bogstad, Norwegian steamer, 1,981, O. Thorbjornsen, 19th May,—Hongkong, Sugar.—Butterfield & Swire.

Doris, German steamer, 771, Petersen, 19th May,—Yokkaichi 18th May. General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Benlomond, British steamer, 1,754, McIntosh, 20th May,—London viâ ports, General.—Cornes & Co.

Eleanor, American steam-yacht, 405, Scott, 20th May,—New London, U.S.A., viâ ports, Stores.—Mr. Slater.

Polyphemus, British steamer, 1,803, Cartmer, 20th May,—Liverpool viâ ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Tosa Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,589, J. B. MacMillan, 20th May,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ulysses, British steamer, 2,300, Wm. La Page, 20th May,—Liverpool viâ ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Cam, British steamer, 1,630, Mathias, 20th May,—Otaru viâ ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sendai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,034, Crichton, 20th May,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Rhodora, British steamer, 1,692, J. C. Williams, 21st May,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Else, German steamer, 747, Christiansen, 21st May,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Orthes, British bark, 1,206, J. McNeil, 22nd May,—Kobe 18th May, Ballast.—Frazar & Co.

Straits of Dover, British steamer, 1,436, E. Halliday, 22nd May,—Formosa, Sugar. —Raspe & Co.

Victoria, Swedish steamer, 1,181, J. Hellberg, 22nd May,—Moji, Coal.—Japanese.

Doris, German steamer, 771, Bruhn, 23rd May,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Eton, British steamer, 1,736, Brophie, 23rd May,—Middlesboro' viâ ports, General and Iron.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Amoy, German steamer, 647, Wolf, 23rd May,—Kobe, General.—Nada Kogio Kabushiki Kaisha.

Océanien, French steamer, 2,127, R. Schmitz, 23rd May,—Marseilles 14th April, Hongkong 15th May, Shanghai 18th, Nagasaki 20th, and Kobe 22nd, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

Athole, British steamer, 1,478, A. Watson, 23rd May,—London viâ Yokosuka 23rd May, Ballast.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Boynton, British steamer, 1,630, R. Irving, 23rd May,—Otaru viâ ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Merionethshire, British steamer, 1,960, Davis, 23rd May,—Hongkong viâ ports, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

City of Rio de Janeiro, American steamer, 2,296, J. T. Smith, 24th May,—San Francisco 4th May, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Mathilde, German steamer, 1,018, Moos, 24th May,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Angers, British steamer, 2,076, Bannister, 24th May,—Bombay viâ ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Glenogle, British steamer, 2,398, Gasson, 25th May,—Hongkong 18th May, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

DEPARTURES.

Glengyle, British steamer, 2,244, McGilvrey, 18th May,—London viâ ports, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Mount Lebanon, British steamer, 1,555, Chas. Hendry, 18th May,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Rosary, British steamer, 1,426, Dowling, 18th May,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Strathesk, British steamer, 1,720, Foulds, 18th May,—Otaru, Ballast.—Hokkaido Tanko Tetsudo Kaisha.

Else, German steamer, 747, Christiansen, 18th May,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kriemhild, German steamer, 1,638, Foerck, 18th May,—Hamburg viâ ports, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Belgic, British steamer, 2,695, W. H. Walker, 19th May,—San Francisco, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Doris, German steamer, 771, Bruhn, 20th May,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Energia, British steamer, 2,063, Sew, 21st May,—Fushiki, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Rhodora, British steamer, 1,692, J. C. Williams, 22nd May,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Else, German steamer, 747, Christiansen, 22nd May,—Bonin Island, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Amoy, German steamer, 647, Wolf, 23rd May,—Shinagawa, General.—Nada Kogio Kabushiki Kaisha.

Cam, British steamer, 1,630, Mathias, 23rd May,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Doris, German steamer, 771, Bruhn, 24th May,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sendai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,034, Crichton, 24th May,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ulysses, British steamer, 2,300, Wm. La Page, 24th May,—London viâ ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Mathilde, German steamer, 1,018, Moos, 24th May.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Victoria, Swedish steamer, 1,181, J. Hellberg, 24th May,—Moji, Ballast.—Japanese.

Ancona, British steamer, 1,880, W. D. Moore, 25th May,—Hongkong viâ ports, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per French steamer *Océanien*, from Marseilles viâ ports:—Messrs. Sano, Omura, Vaughan, Blanc, S. Mathuren, Firth, A. Secchi, Van Beresteys, W. Cockburn, Cooper, Mrs. Wilmot, Mr. Bullough, Mr. Mitchell, Mrs. MacLaren, Messrs. Haims, Potter, Ah Sam, Ah Sing, Dubois, Michel, Metman, Mrs. Abbott, Messrs. Macnab, Danckwertzs, and Hanny in cabin.

Per American steamer *City of Rio de Janeiro*, from San Francisco:—Lieutenant R. M. Hughes, U.S.N., Mr. Geo. Racine, Rev. and Mrs. J. E. Adams and infant, Miss Jennie Montgomery, Mr. F. B. Nichols, Mr. Wm. E. Curtis, Mr. Elmer Curtis, Mrs. Lu Wheat, Mr. H. Gunn, and Mr. Alex. Terrenschenky in cabin.

DEPARTED.

Per French steamer *Melbourne*, for Shanghai party:—Mr. and Mrs. Blum, Mr. and Mrs. A. Davis, Mr. S. Rosenfeld, Hon. G. Hamilton, Mr. J. E. Hatton, Mr. J. Vidal, Mrs. Moore, Graham, 2 children and 1 amah, Mr. and Mrs. Seaman, Miss Gaskin, Mr. J. B. Maxwell, Mr. and Mrs. Fred. J. Collins and amah, Mrs. Schmidt and child, Mrs. E. Bonger, Mr. M. G. J. Robert Bauld, Comte and Comtesse de Coudenhove, Mr. T. Cowan, Mr. E. Okamoto, Mr. Chee Ko, Mr. M. A. Meyore, Miss Nagle, Mrs. M. J. B. Noordkoek Hart, Mrs. Scott

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Mason, child and amah, Mr. Alex Sharp, Mrs. V. Chobanne and amah, Mr. Anno, Mr. E. Kogaito, Mr. B. Asgy, Mr. L. Pardo, Mr. E. J. Shepard, Mr. C. E. Cushing, et domestique de M. J. E. Hatton in cabin.

Per British steamer *Belgic*, for San Francisco:—Mr. E. J. Bates, Mr. F. J. Bardens, Mr. K. Yamamoto, Mrs. A. R. Cone, Miss Cone, Mr. H. B. Fisher, Mr. and Mrs. S. W. Forman, Miss Forman, Mr. and Mrs. A. M. Hance, Miss Hance, Mr. W. C. How, Mr. J. Edward Lambie, Mr. K. Masuda, Mr. E. B. Michell, Lieut. R. M. E. Ray, H.K.R., Mr. Walter G. Smith, Mr. H. R. Smith, Dr. and Mrs. B. F. Schlesinger, Mr. C. H. Lammerts van Bueren, and Mr. R. S. Whitney in cabin.

CARGOES.

Per French steamer *Melbourne*, for Shanghai viâ ports:—Raw Silk for Europe, 469 bales; Waste Silk for Europe, 30 bales.

Per British steamer *Belgic*, for San Francisco:—

TEA.

	SAN FRANCISCO.	NEW YORK.	CHICAGO.	BOSTON.	DETROIT.	TOTAL.
Amoy	—	10,477	—	1,581	—	12,058
Hyogo	—	291	604	—	—	895
Yokohama	856	1,210	2,518	—	245	4,829
Hongkong	276	—	—	—	—	276
Total	1,132	11,978	3,122	1,581	245	18,058

SILK.

	SAN FRANCISCO.	NEW YORK.	HARTFORD.	TOTAL.
Hongkong	—	66	—	66
Yokohama	—	252	—	252
Total	—	318	—	318

REPORTS.

The American steamer *City of Rio de Janeiro*, Captain J. T. Smith, reports:—Left San Francisco the 4th May at 4.02 p.m. Arrived at Yokohama the 24th May at 10.16 a.m. Passage, 19 days 46 minutes; had moderate strong westerly winds with head sea the whole trip.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

No real improvement. There seems yet to be a feeling of insecurity and apprehension among Japanese dealers. The money market is tight for all commercial purposes, and it looks as if there will not be much spare capital available until China pays up the first installment of the indemnity. We leave quotations unchanged in the absence of any important business. Probably merchants will settle down to work after the Government is back in Tokyo.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirtings—8¼ lb, 38½ yds. 59 inches	$2.25 to 2.85
Grey Shirtings—9lb, 38½ yds. 45 inches	2.70 to 3.20
T. Cloth—7lb, 24 yards, 32 inches	1.60 to 1.95
Indigo Shirtings—12 yards, 44 inches,	1.70 to 2.35
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches,	2.00 to 3.75
	PER YARD.
Cotton—Italians and Satteens Black, 32 inches	0.16 to 0.22
	PER PIECE.
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	7.25 to 9.50
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches,	0.80 to 0.95
TurkeyReds—2.0 to 2.4lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.60 to 1.70
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.75 to 2.05
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.30 to 2.60
Turkey Reds—4.8 to 5lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.80 to 3.10

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.
Flannel	$0.30 to 0.47½
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches best	0.30 to 0.35
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Medium	0.25 to 0.27½
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Common	0.20 to 0.22½
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 21 yards, 31 inches	0.15 to 0.22
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches	0.35 to 0.50
Cloths—Presidents, 54 @ 56 inches	0.60 to 0.65
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0.40 to 0.70
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 5lb, per lb	0.60 to 0.75

COTTON YARNS.

	PER PICUL.
Nos. 16/24, Ordinary	—
Nos. 16/24, Medium	$34.00 to 34.50
Nos. 16/24, Good to Best	35.00 to 36.00
Nos. 16/24, Reverse	—
Nos. 28/32, Ordinary	—
Nos. 28/32, Medium	35.50 to 36.00
Nos. 28/32, Good to Best	36.50 to 37.50
Nos. 38/42, Medium to Best	42.00 to 44.00
No. 32s, Two-fold	42.00 to 44.00
No. 42s, Two-fold	47.00 to 49.00
	PER BALE.
No. 20s, Bombay	—
No. 16s, Bombay	—

METALS.

Market keeps quiet. Dealers and consumers must be in want of supplies but there seems a lack of the "circulating medium" at present. Prices all more or less nominal.

	PER PICUL.
Flat Bars, ¼ inch	$3.45 to 3.50
Flat Bars, ½ inch	3.45 to 3.50
Round and square up to ¾ inch	3.40 to 3.50
Iron Plates, assorted	3.45 to 3.55
Sheet Iron	4.40 to 4.60
Galvanised Iron sheets	8.25 to 8.75
Wire Nails, assorted	5.60 to 6.00
Tin Plates, per box	5.65 to 5.75
Pig Iron, No. 3	1.55 to 1.60

KEROSENE.

The feature of the week was the sale at Auction of 5,000 cases Langkat Oil. This brought about $2.30 a case, or say ten per cent. less than well-recognised brands of Russian or American Kerosene. We should think the price satisfactory to importers, but have no report as to the quality yet. Holders of Western Oil strong, and buyers will have to pay their terms or go without the Oil.

American	Nom. $2.60 to 2.62½
Russian	Nom. 2.57½ to 2.60

SUGAR.

Brown—Fresh arrivals from Formosa (including the 6,000 piculs sold to arrive at $3.42½) have increased the available stock. Not a great trade doing and prices easy. White—Quiet prices maintained, the supplies being in strong hands.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Takao	$3.40 to 3.50
Brown Manila	4.20 to 4.30
Brown Daitong (New)	3.20 to 3.30
Brown Canton	3.30 to 3.50
White Java and Penang	6.40 to 6.50
White Refined	6.40 to 9.20

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Considerable amount of buying continues, so that the old-season stock is reduced to very small dimensions. A few catties of Bushu New Rereels have come to hand fetching rather a fancy price; but the quality of this small parcel cannot be taken as a guide for the crop. In many provinces the worms are progressing well and leaf seems to be abundant.

QUOTATIONS.

Hanks—No. 1	—
Hanks—No. 2 (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 2 (Joshu)	—
Hanks—No. 2½ (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 2½ (Joshu)	—
Hanks—No. 2½ to 3	—
Hanks—No. 3	—
Hanks—No. 3½	—
Filatures—Extra 10/12 deniers	Nom. —
Filatures—Extra 13/15 deniers	Nom. —
Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers	$770 to 780
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den	780 to 790
Filatures—No. 1½, 10/14 deniers	740 to 750
Filatures—No. 1½, 13/16, 14/17 den	735 to 740
Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers	720 to 730
Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	720 to 730
Filatures—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	—
Re-reels—Extra	—
Re-reels—(Oshu) Best No. 1	—
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 deniers	740 to 750
Re-reels—No. 1½, 13/16, 14/17 deniers	720 to 730
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	—
Re-reels—No. 2½, 14/18 deniers	—
Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	—
Kakedas—Extra	740
Kakedas—No. 1	720 to 730
Kakedas—No. 1½	700 to 710
Kakedas—No. 2	—
Kakedas—No. 2½	—
Kakedas—No. 3	—
Kakedas—No. 3½	—
Kakedas—No. 4	—
Oshu Sendai—No. 2½	—
Hamatsuki—No. 1, 2	—
Hamatsuki—No. 3, 4	—
Sodai—No. 2½	—

WASTE SILK.

☞No change for the better. Stock is heavy and holders must give way considerably in price if they wish to clear it before new fibre comes on the market.

QUOTATIONS.

Pierced Cocoons—Good to Best	—
Noshi-ito—Filature, Best	$125 to 130
Noshi-ito—Filature, Good	115 to 120
Noshi-ito—Filature, Medium	105 to 110
Noshi-ito—Oshu, Good to Best	110 to 125
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Best	—
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Good	—
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Medium	60 to 75
Noshi-ito—Bushu, Good to Best	100 to 115
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Best	—
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Good	70
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Ordinary	60 to 65
Kibiso—Filature, Best selected	100 to 105
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds	85 to 90
Kibiso—Oshu, Good to Best	—
Kibiso—Shinshu, Best	—
Kibiso—Shinshu, Seconds	—
Kibiso—Joshu, Good to Fair	30 to 27½
Kibiso—Joshu, Middlingto Common	25 to 22½
Kibiso—Hachioji, Good to Fair	25 to 23
Kibiso—Hachioji, Medium to Low	— to 20
Kibiso—Neri, Good to Common	12 to 8
Mawata—Good to Best	—

TEA.

Business continues on a good scale. Buyers grumble at the quality but keep on purchasing just the same. Prices weakened again as the supplies became more plentiful. A new line of steamers across the Pacific has "cut" the freight rates, and Suez boats with sailers are already on the berth. Altogether it looks as though Tea would have a lively time the next two or three months.

	PER PICUL.
Choicest	$36 to $38
Choice	33 to 34
Finest	30 to 31
Fine	28 to 29
Good Medium	— to —
Medium	23 to 24

EXCHANGE.

Steady at closing quotations.

Sterling—Bank T.T.	2/1½
— — Bills on demand	2/1½
— — 4 months' sight	2/2
— Private 4 months' sight	2/2½
— — 6 months' sight	2/2½
On Paris—Bank sight	2.70
On Lyons—Private 4 months' sight	2.76
On Hongkong—Bank sight	½% p.
— Private 10 days' sight	½% d.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	71
— Private 10 days' sight	72
On India—Bank sight	193½
— Private 30 days' sight	196
On America—Bank Bills on demand	52½
— Private 30 days' sight	53½
— — 4 months' sight	54½
On Germany—Bank sight	2.17
— Private 4 months' sight	2.24
Bar Silver (London)	30 1/16

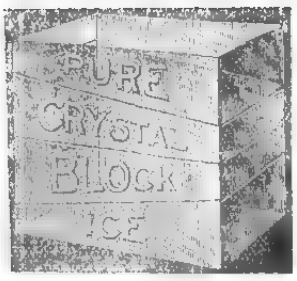
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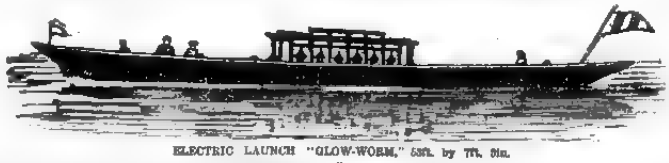
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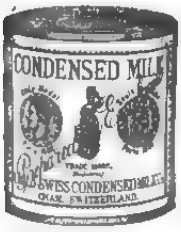
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No. 22.] REGISTERED AT THE G.P.O. AS A NEWSPAPER. YOKOHAMA, JUNE 1ST, 1895. 明治二十八年五月十三日 可認書便 VOL. XXII.

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, JUNE 1ST, 1895.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

THE *Nippon* has been suspended twice within one week.

IN a yacht-race on Saturday, *Sayonara* won the Gibbs Cup from two competitors.

A REPUBLIC has been proclaimed in Formosa by the Chinese officials and residents.

THE authorities are assembling 1,750 mounted gendarmes to be sent to Formosa.

LIEUT.-GENERAL YAMAJI received a rousing reception upon his arrival in Tokyo on Wednesday.

MR. CHINDA, of the Japanese Consular service, has been transferred from San Francisco to Shanghai.

ADMIRAL BULLER, C.B., hoisted his flag at Nagasaki on Tuesday, and took over the command of the British Asiatic Squadron. Admiral Fremantle travels home by way of Canada.

MR. FUJITA, newly appointed Japanese Consul at Singapore, leaves Yokohama on the 3rd inst. for his mission.

ASAMA-YAMA has been in a state of activity for some days past; falls of ashes are reported from the neighbourhood.

No further public subscriptions or presents will be received by the War and Naval Departments after the 31st May.

MR. JUSTICE MOWAT has returned from his trip home, and resumed charge of the British Court on Tuesday afternoon.

CHOLERA has appeared in Tokyo, an Ensign, just returned from the front, succumbing to the malady on the 27th ult.

THE Kanagawa Quarantine Inspection Commissioners now have trains inspected at Yamakita Station on the Tokaido.

MR. KUMANO BINZO has been elected President of the Tokyo Barristers' Association, with Mr. Suzuki Jubi as Vice-President.

MR. JAMES TROUP, H.B.M.'s Consul at Yokohama, has gone home on leave of absence. Mr. J. Carey Hall relieves him.

MR. ERNEST SATOW, the newly-appointed British Minister, is not expected to leave London till the beginning of August.

MESSRS. YANO SUKEYOSHI and Saito Matsuzo were returned in the election of President and Vice-President of the Yokohama Barristers' Association.

A NUMBER of capitalists lately met at Hakodate and decided to construct a railway between Otaru and Hakodate at an estimated cost of *yen* 7,500,000.

A MAN committed suicide on the 27th May by laying himself on the track at Higurashi, Kitatoshima-gun, Tokyo. He was run over by a luggage train.

KOBE won two out of the three interport events in the regatta held at the southern port on Saturday. Yokohama's representatives won the Double Sculls.

THE Hokkaido Colonial troops, which have garrisoned Tokyo during the last few months, left Yokohama for the North on Sunday in the *Tosa Maru*.

KOREAN politics are still very much disturbed, the Queen having been particularly active during the past week. The Mings are expected back at any moment.

MESSRS. SASA TOMOFUSA, of the National Union, and Shiba Shiro, of the Constitutional Reform Party, left the capital on the 24th May on a tour of inspection in Korea.

THE Emperor and Empress have granted *yen* 700 towards the relief of sufferers by the fire which occurred at Funatsu, Yoshiki-gun, Gifu Prefecture, on the 6th May.

MR. IKENAGA, Secretary of Miye Prefecture, has been removed to Ishikawa Prefecture, his former position being taken by Mr. Nakamura, ex-Secretary of Nagasaki Prefecture.

THE case of Cornes & Co. versus Kimura Riyemon, a yarn and general dealer, again occupied the attention of the Yokohama Chiho Saibansho this week, and has been adjourned again the 18th June.

THE Cricket Match on Saturday was not finished when stumps were drawn, Mr. Walford's side making 259 runs for six wickets and Mr. Crawford's 132 for five wickets. The pitch is in a very bad condition just now.

H.I.M. THE EMPEROR left Kyoto on Wednesday, slept at Shizuoka that night, and entered the capital on Thursday. All along the route he was vociferously cheered. Tokyo and Yokohama held high fête all day in honour of the Sovereign's return.

MR. TSUNEYA SEIFUKU, a Japanese gentleman who has been connected with Korean affairs for over ten years, and who has many friends among the progressive politicians of Korea, has been appointed an adviser to the Korean Cabinet.

MR. UCHIDA KOSAI, Secretary of Legation, who was appointed some time ago to represent Japan at the International Railway Convention to be held in London during June, has been released, the appointment being given to Mr. Ijuin Hikokichi, Secretary of Legation.

THE Acting Spanish *Chargé d'Affaires* in Tokyo intimated to the Government that he received on the 23rd ult. a telegram from Spain announcing that Lieutenant Don Maria Rubio y Munez has been appointed naval *attaché* in the Spanish Legation in Japan.

REUTER telegraphs:—The list of Birthday honours includes: Mr. N. R. O'Conor, C.B., C.M.G., Her Majesty's Representative to the Court of Pekin, to be Knight Commander of the Order of the Bath; Mr. Nicholas J. Hannen, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court for China and Japan, and H.B.M.'s Consul-General at Shanghai, to be a Knight. Major-General Sir R. Low and the Head-quarters Staff have reached Chitral. The death is announced of the Duke of Hamilton. There has been a wonderful week's cricket at Canterbury, thirteen centuries having been scored in the big matches. Nottingham made seven hundred and twenty-six runs, the record for County Cricket, defeating Sussex by an innings and three hundred and seventy-eight runs. A Mojanga French native battalion attacked the Hovas with the bayonet, near Maroway. The Hovas fled leaving sixty killed and many wounded. There has been an earthquake in the neighbourhood of Florence, through which many persons have been killed and injured, notably in the adjacent villages. There are renewed rumours in the Lobby that Lord Rosebery has resigned and that a dissolution of Parliament is impending.

IMPORTS are still dull, though a little more business has been doing towards the close of the week, especially in fine counts of English Yarns and 9lb. Grey Shirtings. The usual contracts for special chops of Italian Cloth have begun to be put through, and prices are reported steady. Metals are quiet and weak, and recent arrivals are said to be under previous contract rates. The Lankat auctions have forced holders of Western Oils to come down a bit in prices, but at this season of the year such a step naturally fails to induce much business. Prices are also tending downwards for Brown Sugars, in the face of free arrivals: but White sorts maintain their values. Buying has been very brisk for Raw Silk, and the old stock is now down to 1,000 piculs. Most of the transactions this week have been for Europe. Good reports are being received as to the new crop, and both in China and Japan a full yield is promised. It is too early to speculate as to quality, but there is no reason to fear anything in this respect. Waste Silk is still greatly congested, notwithstanding holders have abandoned their former demands: the stock amounts to 10,000 piculs. Tea has moved briskly and choice grades maintain their values, while others decline as the increase in [illegible]

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THE SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS DURING THE WEEK.

The Emperor's return to the capital on Thursday last furnished opportunity for an unprecedented outburst of loyal sentiment on the part of the metropolitan papers. Not a journal failed to publish on that memorable occasion long leading articles, extolling the virtues of His Majesty and offering thanks, in language of evident sincerity, for the glory and benefits that he has secured for the country at no small sacrifice of his own personal comfort and convenience. The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, whose article may be taken as representative, after enumerating at great length the illustrious virtues and glorious exertions of His Majesty in the sphere of warfare, proceeds as follows:—"His Imperial Majesty has caused the national prestige to be enhanced not in the sphere of war alone, but also in that of foreign policy. While the war was still in progress, His Majesty elevated the position of the Empire among the nations of the world by causing to be exchanged new treaties with England and the United States, while those with Italy and Belgium have also received the signatures of the respective Plenipotentiaries. More than this, His August Majesty has been pleased to complete successfully the exchange of the ratifications of the Peace Treaty with the Emperor of China. With respect to the friendly advice of the three Powers, His Majesty, on the one hand, caused his Ministers to pursue a course consistent alike with honour and with peace; while, on the other, he displayed great wisdom in preventing other Powers from interfering with the settlement of the issues between Japan and China. In this way, a national disgrace has been avoided, while, at the same time, an opportunity has been given to the nation for nourishing its resources. In short, His Majesty's object is unquestionably to bid the nation be united and wait for a future opportunity. It is our earnest hope that our countrymen will lay to their hearts the instruction contained in the four Imperial Rescripts, and by strengthening the foundations of the Empire strive to repay a ten-thousandth part of the great obligations they owe to their illustrious Sovereign. May His Majesty's life be preserved for years without number."

* * *

A wholesome tone of patience and unity prevails in the political world on the whole. But some politicians can not conceal their intense hostility to the Cabinet. It is the fashion with men of this type to draw comparisons between the troops and the Ministers, unfavourable to the latter. Their views are well represented by the *Kokumin Shimbun*. That journal takes much pains—unnecessarily, as we think—to refute a notion said to prevail in certain quarters that the recent diplomatic defeat was owing entirely to absence of willingness to fight on the part of the Army and the Navy. The writer has no hesitation in declaring such an idea to be entirely groundless. At the time when the three Powers protested against the possession of Liaotung by Japan, the writer was at Port Arthur. He subsequently visited Newchwang, Haicheng, and Kaiping, and talked with all sorts of persons, from the Generals down to the common soldier. The sentiments expressed by all were unanimous. When they heard of the interference of the three European countries, they were sincerely glad of the prospect of real combats with enemies braver than the Chinese. The officers and men had then become thoroughly tired of the suspension of all warlike activity and were genuinely delighted at the possibility of resuming hostilities with any foe. As to the Navy, the author quotes a saying of Viscount Kabayama to the effect that, though the fortunes of war cannot be foretold, he would be perfectly willing to take up arms should the Cabinet decide on war. From these and other circumstances, the writer is convinced of the readiness of the Army and Navy to fight, had only the Cabinet been strong enough to pursue such a policy. He concludes that the Ministers of State alone are responsible for the unsatisfactory end to which a glorious war has been brought. In keeping with this mood, our contemporary, in another article, praises the discretion shown by the people of Tokyo when they received the Treaty of Peace with conspicuous coldness. The only houses, says the *Kokumin*, that were decorated with flags on that occasion, were those of a certain official in Azabu, and of Messrs. Okura and Co. in Ginza. In another leader, the same paper laments the dearth of great men in Japan at the present moment. Circumstances, it says, constantly make it wish that the great Saigo were alive, or that Count Katsu were strong enough to rēenter the field of active politics. "There are," continues our contemporary, "the people's spirit, their high aspirations, and their firm resolution; what the country grievously lacks are great men, who, taking all responsibility on their shoulders, can venture to face an enemy, a neighbour, the treaty Powers, or the world." In yet another article, our contemporary strongly urges its countrymen to form a great national league and let the Government known what ideas they entertain. "It is folly to rely upon the Government; the people must point out to the Ministers the course to be pursued by them." In plain language, our contemporary recommends the nation to get up such a loud clamour against the Cabinet that the latter may be forced to resign.

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The writings of the *Nippon* on the situation have been translated separately. Suffice it to say that, in general tendency, that journal evinces a tone similar to that of the *Kokumin*. Now these two papers, the *Kokumin* and the *Nippon*, represent together nearly the whole of the rising generation outside official circles; the former having its readers among the Christians and young men of liberal tendencies, while the latter serves as the spokesman of the conservative section. Of course their respective spheres of influence overlap each other, but such are in general their strongholds. From this fact, it may be inferred that the rising generation is not satisfied with the cautious policy of the elder statesmen. The former claims that the war was undertaken by the Cabinet only in consequence of pressure steadily brought to bear upon the elder statesmen, and that the victories were won by the members of the rising generation. Whatever may be said of the extravagance of such claims, the steady growth of the direct or indirect influence of the younger generation upon the policy of the country is a fact demanding close attention at the hands of students of Japanese contemporary history.

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The *Nichi Nichi* exposes the absurdity of the views expressed by a section of the press. Its remark that a resolute foreign policy requires competent military strength has been misinterpreted by some papers, which accuse it of trying to shift the responsibility of the Government upon the shoulders of the Army and Navy. The *Nichi Nichi* is justly indignant at this baseless charge. It never questioned the courage of the troops or their readiness to fight with whatever foes. But military officers and men have no power to determine whether or not it is advisable to pursue a war policy under particular circumstances: such a matter lies entirely within the competence of the Cabinet Ministers. Consequently, in discussing the question of responsibility, the Army and the Navy have nothing to do. Our contemporary is ■■ enthusiastic in its praise of the bravery of the troops as any other journal, but it heartily detests persons that flatter the soldiers at the expense of their nationals. Supposing that the Cabinet decided on the return of the Liaotung peninsula on the strength of its conviction that the country's fighting power was not adequate to defy the three European States, what then? The Government must, it is true, be held responsible for any insufficiency of military or naval armaments. But the present ministers having done all in their power since their acceptance of office to complete the defences of the country, if any responsibility attaches to them in this matter, it is about their future action, and not about what they have done in the past. Our contemporary challenges the critics of the Government's foreign policy to base their arguments on well attested facts.

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The *Jiji Shimpo* adopts its wonted rôle of mediator between the Government and the people. It acknowledges that the recent turn of events was certainly not calculated to give satisfaction to a spirited nation like the Japanese. But dissatisfaction is not without advantages; it serves as a wholesome stimulus to progress in civilization. The *Jiji* has, therefore, repeatedly advised its countrymen to keep their discontent secret and devote their energies to the development of their country's resources. Our contemporary is grieved to find that its excellent advice is not followed by a section of the public. To those that attack the foreign policy of the Cabinet the *Jiji* once more offers a few words for their impartial consideration. Intricate and difficult as the art of diplomacy may appear at first sight, the determining factor is always the relative strength of the disputing countries: the mere skill of diplomats is merely of secondary importance. Consequently, the *Jiji* denounces it as a great mistake to hold particular statesmen responsible for the return of Liaotung. The thing was an unavoidable result of the existing state of affairs. No person will find it difficult to discover the truth of the above statement, if only he calmly views the condition of the country and the situation abroad. Men not contented with the turn of events think that the Cabinet has been unnecessarily weak and that it does not sympathize with the sentiments of the people. Such a notion, says the *Jiji*, is entirely mistaken. Men thought similarly in 1882 and 1884 when the national honour was sullied in Korea. But what has been the fact? While the people attacked the Cabinet for its weak policy, the latter was steadily strengthening the country's military force, until, finally thinking itself strong enough, it adopted a resolute course last year and achieved splendid success. So in the present instance, too, the Ministers feel the humiliation as keenly as any of their countrymen; the only difference being that their official position forbids them to express the state of their feelings. Thus, in the *Jiji's* opinion, there is no difference of opinion between the Government and the people. The latter are, therefore, advised to unite with the former in taking the necessary measures for strengthening the Army and Navy.

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The *Jiji*, in another article, recommends those in power to act in harmony with the elder statesmen leading the different political parties. Our contemparary thinks that the time has arrived for carrying out its favourite idea, namely, the collection of all the statesmen of the older generation in the Cabinet. It consequently urges the appointment of Count Okuma, Count Itagaki, and others to ministerial posts.

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The Korean question still engages the attention of the press. The views of the metropolitan papers on this subject having been reproduced in separate notes, it will be sufficient for the present purpose to state that they are all agreed in demanding the Cabinet to stand firm ■ the peninsular kingdom.

MR. PAGET'S PROMOTION.

Mr. R. Paget has been promoted to be Second Secretary of Legation. Under ordinary circumstances this promotion would not have taken place for some time longer, but Her Majesty's Government were evidently desirous of marking their sense of the very able manner in which Mr. Paget discharged the exceptionally onerous duties that devolved upon him when suddenly required to assume charge of the Legation after Mr. Fraser's death during the difficult days immediately preceding the outbreak of the recent war. The tact and insight shown by Mr. Paget on that occasion made a profound impression, and fully merited recognition at the hands of the Foreign Office.

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EDITORIAL NOTES.

WAR SCENES IN MINIATURE.

Some months ago we told how the spirit of the late war had been caught even by the manufacturers of all sorts of trifles, such as hair-ornaments, picture-books, and toys. We now notice several novelties in this direction, some of which are really very prettily made. This is especially the case with numbers of those objects that come under the generic heading of *omocha*, or playthings. There is the popular game of chess, quite transformed, the figures being excellent little painted clay images representing Japanese and Chinese soldiers of various ranks, the value of each piece being written on a tiny shield covering the breast. Then there is a long line of mechanical toys, either of tin or wood, which, by turning a crank or by simple clockwork, are made to show Chinese combatants in a large variety of unenviable positions, sometimes pursued by infuriated Japanese troopers who make terrific sweeps with sword or lance in a stately seesaw; or prisoners caught by their queues and trying to avoid the rising and falling blades of their captors. Clay figures representing Chinamen "kotowing" and pleading for mercy are used as paper-weights or desk-ornaments. In another bit of mechanism we find a Japanese war-ship gradually closing with a Chinese vessel, the latter bearing the ideographs *Ting Yuen*. The Chinese ship is struck, her flag comes down with a rush, and the doomed vessel sinks beneath the wild tin waves. A small fortress is next shown, with Japanese soldiers storming it. On the mechanism being set in motion, the Japanese leader brandishes his little tin blade and the Chinamen on the parapet sink one after the other to the ground. A favourite bit of clay modelling represents five or six Chinese cavalrymen in full flight through a dense wood. This is to be found in nearly every toy-shop, and is very graphic, though roughly executed. Among ladies' *articles de luxe* there is a very pretty neckerchief of silk crape, the pattern being formed of two national flags deftly placed together; also a neat lacquered *etui* containing a tiny dab of carthamine and an equally small plater of *oshiroi*, or face-powder, the *etui* being most tastefully decorated with flags and weapons in gold lacquer; finally a little pine-wood box containing toothpicks, on each of which is written some ode, in almost illegibly microscopic characters, in praise of Japan's warriors or in satiric allusion to their late foes. These toothpicks are much affected by *geisha* and their kind. But the list could be swelled indefinitely. A walk through the Shiba Bazaar or any of those in Kanda District, will reveal a hundred other attractive trifles of the same nature, nearly all really pretty and yet ridiculously cheap.

VISCOUNT SHINAGAWA ON BUSINESS ENTERPRISE.

Viscount Shinagawa is still confined to his bed, but the exigencies of the time do not spare him, nor does he wish that they should, his earnestness on matters relating to the welfare of the country being well known. His sick-room in his residence near Kudanzaka, Tokyo, is therefore pretty much frequented by members of the National Unionist Party, of which the Viscount is the leader, and by other political friends, all of whom are eager to hear his opinions on the many topics of the day. The Viscount has humorously named his room "Kudan-ro" which means "bitter conversation hall" and signifies also the locality of his residence. The *Chuo* gives an account of the Viscount's latest conference with a visitor. The subject was business enterprises after the war. There are many things to which Japan ought to turn her attention in future, observed the Viscount, but the most important are the extension of national defences and the further development of the country's industry and manufactures. The Viscount hopes that manufacturers will refrain from producing articles of luxury and devote themselves to developing the staple products of Japan, such as silk, tea, and so forth, and also to the furtherance of foreign commerce. Of the industries that contribute toward the promotion of the country's prosperity, spinning must be placed first. There should be at least half a million spindles at work throughout the country. Japanese manufacturers must not forget the indescribable privations undergone by the soldiers and sailors of this land during the late campaign, and must put all their energy into their work.

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In order to repay the kindness of the three Powers, it is necessary also that men of talent be well educated, and for this purpose the prosperity of the Imperial University must be ensured, especial attention being given to technical courses of study. The Viscount regrets to see that the College of Agriculture, where agriculture, dendrology, and veterinary science are taught, is in a very low condition, the number of students pursuing those three branches of education being lamentably small.

THE REV. J. THOMPSON COLE.

Mr. Cole's numerous friends in Japan will learn with pleasure that on the 2nd April last he was unanimously elected General Secretary of the American Church Missionary Society. The appointment is the more gratifying inasmuch as it was entirely unsolicited and spontaneous. This Society was founded in 1860, on the same lines as the English C.M.S. But any notion of antagonism to the older Society (the Domestic and Foreign) that may once have existed has long since passed away, and for fifteen years the C.M.S. has been auxiliary to the sister Society. Its work is by agreement confined to countries where the other does not labour,—Cuba and Brazil,—while it also supports, either wholly or in part, some thirty-five or forty workers in the Domestic Field. The Society had in trust funds $135,000 unimpaired by the recent unhappy peculation on the part of two of its officers. These funds yield a good income. For the last three years Mr. Cole has held the post of Rector's Assistant in the Church of the Epiphany, Washington, D.C. All who know him will agree that for his new sphere of duty he is emphatically the right man in the right place. Mr. Cole was to remove on May 1st to New York City, where letters will find him if addressed to the office of the Church Missions House, 281 Fourth Avenue.

CONCERT.

A complimentary concert was tendered to Miss Aebersold, who is going home to Switzerland shortly, at the Masonic Hall on Saturday evening. The beautiful room was filled with an enthusiastic audience, and the concert passed off with great success. Programme:—

Part I.

1.—Athalia March.....Mendelssohn.
(Two pianos, eight hands).
Misses Martha Voigt, Ida Orth, Eleanor Poole, Elsa Voigt.
2.—Song, with Violin Obligato { "Du bist mein All" } .....Bradsky.
Mrs. Grösser.
3.—String Quartette..."Serenade".....Haydn.
(Two violins, viola, 'cello.)
Messrs. Kaufmann, Ramseger, Dannenberg, Crane.
4.—Song, Scena, "Questo il loco," Aria: "Ah se tu dormi, sue gliate".....Vaccaj.
Mrs. Walter.

Part II.

5.—Trio for Piano, Violin and 'Cello,
(*a.*) "Abendlied".....Schumann.
(*b.*) "Ave Maria".....Gounod.
Miss Orth, Messrs. Ramseger and Schmid.
6.—Song....."Still wie die Nacht".....Bohn.
Mrs. Grösser.
7.—Pianoforte Duo, "Invitation á la danse" } .....C. Maria Weber.
Mrs. Bayne, Miss Orth.
8.—Song....."Springtime".....P. Vidal
Mrs. Walter.
9.—String Quintette..."Loin du Bal".....Waltz, Gillet.
(For two violins, viola, 'cello and contrabass.)
Messrs. Kaufmann, Ramseger, Poole Jr., Dannenberg, Schmid, Crane.

WARNING TO SILK MEN.

Thus far, writes the *Jiji*, the prospects of this year's sericulture are exceedingly favourable, but it is necessary that silk men should be warned on the following account. As soon as reports come from silk-raising villages to the effect that the cocoons are ready for sale, buyers flock in large numbers from various parts and compete in the purchase of cocoons, the price of which is naturally raised more or less. The buying is carried out without any consideration of the likely state of the silk market at home and abroad. During the last two or three years, owing to the depreciation of silver and the consequent rise in the price of silk, the condition of Japanese silk producers and merchants may well be considered to have been satisfactory. But this has not been altogether the case, chiefly owing to want of prudence in the purchase of cocoons and the disproportion between their price and that of silk manufactured from them. Wholesale silk merchants in Yokohama have repeatedly incurred losses on that account. Last year, owing to indiscretion in the purchase of cocoons, no less than 37 filatures collapsed in Suwa alone, only seven of which subsequently resumed business.

CHARTERED BANK OF INDIA, AUSTRALIA, AND CHINA.

The following is the Directors' Report, which was presented at the forty-first ordinary meeting, held on the 17th April:—The general balance sheet and profit and loss account for the year ended 31st December, 1894, now submitted to the shareholders, show that, after providing for bad and doubtful debts, the net profits, including £16,293 17s. 11d. brought forward from last year, amount to £130,901 2s. 8d. In October last an interim dividend was paid at the rate of seven per cent. per annum, which absorbed £28,000. The amount now available is therefore £102,901 2s. 8d., out of which the Directors propose to declare a dividend at the rate of nine per cent. per annum, free of income tax, making a distribution of eight per cent. for the year; to add £50,000 to the reserve fund, which will then stand at £325,000; and to place £5,000 to the officers' superannuation fund; leaving a balance of £11,901 2s. 8d. to be carried forward. The Bank has now been relieved of its contingent liability in respect of the Baring Guarantee. The proprietors will be pleased to learn that the Bank's charter which expired in December last has been renewed for another period of ten years. Mr. Alexander Patrick Cameron and Mr. John Howard Gwyther, the Directors who now retire by rotation, present themselves for re-election. The Auditors, Mr. William Vanner and Mr. Maurice Nelson Girdlestone, again tender their services.

"IN THEIR RAGGED REGIMENTALS."

Great efforts have been made, according to the *Miyako Shimbun*, to supply a complete new outfit to all the soldiers returning from the seat of war, as there is to be a grand review shortly after H.M. the Emperor's return to the capital. But despite the greatest diligence it has been found impossible to get everything ready in time, and there is a feeling of chagrin in certain quarters that this should be the case. For our part we think that the war-worn uniforms, the badge of their most meritorious services, will be far superior and more attractive than the finest outfit money could buy. The Japanese are justly proud of their soldiers and of what they have done, and no gaudy clothes could make them seem any grander or more heroic in the eyes of their countrymen. Let them be reviewed in their ragged regimentals.

A MONSTER CRAB.

Jules Verne's books have of late years proved prophetic in more than one direction. Nearly all of the apparent possibilities that lend such a charm to his "Twenty Thousand Leagues Under the Sea," have been shown to be scientifically possible, and their discovery quite within the bounds of reason; indeed the majority of the marvels there narrated have been actually realised. But that Rider Haggard's wierd compositions should receive any additional weight from reality, was hardly to be expected. Yet his Caves of Kôr are not one whit more marvelous that Prof. Flinder Petrie's recent discoveries at Thebes; while it has been reserved for the *Yomiuri Shimbun* to unearth—we use this word advisedly—a crab that might well rival the hideous brutes described as inhabiting the subterranean river. Crawling out of the ground Shimosa, certain farmers were recently astonish-

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to discover a huge crab, six feet across the back. They did not stop to make further investigations; and the marvel is that the exact measurement across the dorsal shield had been taken before they decamped. Truth is thus once again demonstrated to be far stranger than fiction, that is truth from the *Pomiuri's* standpoint.

THE DERBY.

THE Blue Riband of the turf has been carried off by Lord Rosebery twice in succession, and, including this occasion, this feat has been accomplished only half-a-dozen times during the present century—in 1804-5 by Lord Egremont with Hannibal and Cardinal Beaufort, in 1809-10 by the Duke of Grafton with Pope and Whalebone, in 1852-3 by Mr. Bowes with Daniel O'Rourke and West Australian, in 1858-9 by Sir Joseph Hawley with Beadsman and Musjid, and in 1888-9 by the Duke of Portland with Ayrshire and Donovan. Exactly a hundred years ago, Sir F. Standish won the Derby with Spread Eagle and the following year with Didelot. It will be remembered that two of the placed horses in the Epsom race were also placed in the Two Thousand Guineas—Kirkconnel and Sir Visto—but their positions are now reversed. Sir Visto, a bay colt by Barcaldine—Vista, only ran twice last year, his first attempt being in the Woodcote Stakes at Epsom, where he ran unplaced: but the colt cut a better figure in the Imperial Stakes at Kempton Park, over a mile, in which race he showed his heels to a dozen others, though he only won by a short head. Curzon is owned by Mr. T. Cannon, and is a brown colt by Ocean Wave out of a half-bred mare, Tib. As a two-year-old he started eleven times, but so completely in and out was his running that he won each alternate race. He began at Kempton Park, where he finished in a five furlong race two lengths behind the winner—Choice, but was successful at Epsom, where he won by four lengths from eight others, Choice running fourth. At Ascot he ran second to Grey Leg, who beat him by three lengths, and at the Bibury Club Meeting he won the Champagne Stakes by two lengths in a field of eight. At Stockbridge he ran unplaced in the Hurstbourne Stakes, but at the same meeting he pulled off the Troy Stakes, though he only had two competitors and started at 100 to 14 on. At Goodwood he met Kirkconnel, who beat him by a length, and at Kempton Park he won by a length and a half from six others. Curzon next appeared at Derby, where Raconteur beat him by a neck in a field of ten, and starting with only one opponent at 100 to 7 on in the Troy Stakes at Newmarket October, he won by a length, closing his two-year-old career at the same meeting in the Free Handicap, where he ran unplaced. Kirkconnel is a bay colt by Royal Hampton—Sweet Sauce. His two-year-old career will hardly warrant his being described as a brilliant performer, when compared with some others of recent years, as, sent to the post half-a-dozen times over as many different courses, he is only credited with winning brackets in three events, neither of which can be looked upon as a great performance. But the colt evidently took the fancy of a good judge, Sir J. Blundell Maple, as in the back end of last year he was attached to the latter's string at a cost of 5,000 guineas. Kirkconnel first sported silk at Newmarket Second Spring in the Bedford Plate, which he won from eight others by three lengths, but in the New Stakes at Ascot he could get no nearer than third. He won the July Stakes at Newmarket and the Lavant Stakes at Goodwood, but though starting favourite in the Middle Park Plate he ran unplaced, and wound up his somewhat in and out two-year-old racing by getting home second to Raconteur in the Dewhurst Plate. His winning the Guineas sent him up in the Derby betting, and he doubtless started at very short odds. The three colts are all in the St. Leger, and are otherwise heavily engaged.

ORIENT MARK LODGE.

THE annual Installation Meeting of the Orient Mark Lodge, No. 304, E.C., was held in the Masonic Temple, Main Street, Yokohama, on Tuesday evening. Wor. Bro. Hodges, P.M., most impressively installed the W. M.-Elect, Bro. Robert Hay, after which the in-coming Master installed his officers as follows:—W. Barrie, I.P.M.; E. P. Pallister. S.W.; W. Tucker, J.W.; G. Hodges, P.M., Treasurer; A. B. Brown, Reg. and Sec.; H. Moss, P.M., D. of C.; T. Browne, M.O.; S. E. Unite, S.O.; R. N. St. John, J.O.; T. Simpson, S.D.; L. Ph. von Hemert, J.D.; G. R. Bermingham, Steward; C. F. Rhine, I.G.; H. Ivison, Tyler; A banquet followed, the W.M. presiding, and during the evening harmony was greatly promoted by Bros. Sharp, Unite, Davieson, Patterson, Rhine, Hodges, etc.

CUSTOMS RETURNS.

THE following is a summary of the Customs Returns for April showing the foreign trade of the empire for the month:—

	1894: SILVER YEN.	1895. SILVER YEN.
Exports	7,726,308.020	8,498,406.640
Imports	9,905,888.230	9,974,473.310
Total exports and imports		18,472,879.950
Excess of imports		1,476,066.670

CUSTOMS DUTIES.

Exports	79,716.092
Imports	330,432.617
Miscellaneous	12,820.002
Total	422,968.711

TOTAL VALUE OF EXPORTS TO AND IMPORTS FROM VARIOUS FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

	Exports. Silver Yen.	Imports. Silver Yen.	Total. Silver Yen.
China	749,796.530	2,003,969.060	2,753,765.590
Hongkong	1,424,334.490	640,487.080	2,064,821.440
British India	362,462.710	731,011.740	1,093,474.450
Korea	287,977.390	270,822.240	558,799.630
Russian Asia	168,783.800	202,509.230	371,293.030
Philipine Islands	19,275.150	227,572.790	246,847.940
Annam & other French India	970.000	285,735.510	286,705.510
Siam	216.000	—	216.000
Great Britain	587,916.990	3,109,856.810	3,697,774.100
Germany	728,032.150	846,551.030	1,574,583.180
France	514,928.270	434,754.790	949,683.060
Belgium	1,865.000	156,346.840	157,611.241
Switzerland	12,504.000	84,609.070	97,113.070
Italy	73,446.900	8,976.100	82,423.000
Sweden & Norway	—	67,185.600	67,185.600
Austria	42,610.950	2,490.890	45,101.840
Holland	5,807.890	4,273.380	9,441.110
Russia	1,395.600	5,762.360	7,157.960
Turkey	3,216.480	239.570	3,456.050
Spain	525.000	1,326.400	1,851.400
Denmark	1,505.000	10.000	1,515.000
Portugal	—	370.360	370.360
United States of America	3,270,653.400	845,564.010	4,116,217.410
Canada & other British America	41,168.490	317.360	41,479.850
Australia	45,630.180	77,900.870	123,531.050
Hawaii	32,510.650	945.420	32,456.070
Other Countries	74,848.720	64,935.540	139,784.250
Total	8,349,687.900	9,974,473.310	18,324,161.210

TOTAL VALUE OF EXPORTS AND IMPORTS FROM AND TO EACH PORT.

Yokohama	4,277,081.790	4,058,618.010	8,335,699.780
Kobe	3,073,030.450	5,084,122.170	8,158,052.620
Osaka	53,695.000	219,543.950	273,108.970
Nagasaki	329,640.010	363,350.060	682,990.070
Hakodate	9,215.460	—	9,115.460
Niigata	23,533.440	—	23,533.440
Shimonoseki	457,904.320	46,509.780	504,414.100
Moji	202,079.000	—	202,079.000
Hakata	485.000	765.020	1,250.020
Karatsu	34,085.600	—	34,085.600
Kuchinotsu	141,785.000	—	141,785.000
Idzugahara	3,697.150	379.880	4,077.030
Shishinoi	2,937.800	200.000	2,297.800
Sasuna	2,065.550	205.500	2,271.050
Fushiki	8,221.610	2,816.950	10,018.620
Specie and Bullion { Exports	3,471,822.690		
Specie and Bullion { Imports	84,918.290		
Total			3,556,740.980
Excess of exports			3,386,904.400

VALUE OF EXPORTS AND IMPORTS BY JAPANESE MERCHANTS AND GOVERNMENT.

By Japanese Merchants { Exports	2,062,320.330	
By Japanese Merchants { Imports	2,728,553.220	
Imported by Government		160,106.810

VALUE OF COMMODITIES IMPORTED INTO AND EXPORTED FROM JAPAN EACH MONTH THIS YEAR.

	Exports.	Imports.	Total.
January	22,704,459.900	9,862,419.680	32,566,879.670
February	8,633,963.380	8,239,136.430	16,873,099.810
March	9,638,313.280	9,939,827 600	19,578,160.880
April	8,498,406 640	9,974,473.310	18,472,879.950
Total	39,475,163.290	38,015,857.020	77,491,020.310

SEALERS AND THE BEHRING SEA.

THE *Daily Colonist* of Victoria, says:—It will be remembered that last year an agreement was entered into by Great Britain and the United States under which sealing schooners for Behring Sea were allowed to pass through the waters where sealing was prohibited during the close season, conditional on their arms and implements being sealed up. This was to enable them to enter the Sea at the earliest possible moment after the close season had ended, and to render it more difficult for the vessels to offend against the provisions of the sealing regulations. This year the British authorities have refused to enter into the same convention, as is shown by the following telegram from Ottawa:—

Ottawa, Ont., May 11, 1895.

A. R. Milne, Collector of Customs, Victoria,

Her Majesty's government have decided not to renew the agreement with the United States respecting sealing up of arms and implements of sealing vessels. Notify all concerned.

JOHN HARDIE, Acting Deputy.

OFFICIAL APPOINTMENTS IN FORMOSA.

THE following appointments are announced in connection with the organization of the civil administration in Formora:—

CIVIL ADMINISTRATION OFFICE.

Messrs. Mizuno Jun, Masa Bokushin, Chiba Iwayeiichi, Takeshita Yasuyuki, Goto Matsukichiro, and 26 others.

SECRETARIAT.

Mr. Kinoshita Shiuzaburo and 10 others.

FINANCE BUREAU.

Mr. Kimura Kyo and 15 others.

COMMUNICATIONS BUREAU.

Mr. Kuri Kintaro and 9 others.

PETITIONS BUREAU.

Mr. Nomura Saiji and 15 others.

BUREAU OF TRANSLATIONS AND INTERCOURSE.

Messrs. Nakamura Junkuro, Furusho Kado, Kodama Toshikuni, Izawa Shuji and 52 others.

HOW TO MAKE JAPAN WEALTHIER.

WE find in the *Chuo Shimbun* some remarks on the subject of Japan's economic condition, which commend themselves to the attention of those that would see the country enjoy greater domestic prosperity than at present. Economically speaking, says our contemporary, the districts lying to the west of Nagoya are industrial, while those eastward are material, or, in other words, manufactures are at their best to the west and south, while production of raw material is greatest in the east and north. There is nothing more popular in Japan's trade with foreign lands than silk; for of the total exports of last year, 110,000,000 *yen* in round numbers, no less than 42,000,000 *yen* represented the amount of silk exported to foreign consumers. Nearly all of this was made by the great silk-worm breeders in Shinshu, Joshu, and Fukushima. Yet here the silk-men are capable of handling the raw material only, and know little or nothing of woven fabrics. On the other hand, west of Nagoya a vast quantity of raw silk is annually purchased in order to produce textile fabrics for European and American markets, such as handkerchiefs, umbrella-covers, and the like. And, strange to say, the districts west of the pivotal city are exceedingly prosperous because of their manufactures, while this is not always the case with the productive towns of the east and north. It is thus patent that the proportional wealth of the two districts is in exact ratio to the amount of the local industry. Industrial centres are invariably well-to-do. Hence we (*Chuo Shimbun*) hold that Japan's wealth is to be found rather in industrial than in material undertakings; and we would have manufacturing centres located in the heart of the regions of production, in order to assure their well-being. As things now stand, the arrangement is wholly one-sided and unsatisfactory.

JAPANESE LIGHTHOUSES.

WE beg to acknowledge receipt of the "List of the Japanese Lighthouses, Lightships, Buoys, and Beacons," for the twenty-eighth year of *Meiji*. The list, which is issued by the Lighthouse Office of the Department of Communications, is corrected up to January 31st, 1895. It can be obtained for 15 *sen*, an extremely moderate sum for the information afforded.

JACK AS A JOCKEY.

"DAYBREAK" in the course of some Sporting Notes to our Shanghai morning contemporary, tells the following little anecdote:—Mentioning the Sailors' Race reminds me that on the second day two Jacks from a man-of-war, in the politest manner possible, entered the weighing-room and thus addressed our Senior Steward, "Excuse me for speaking to you, Sir, but ain't

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you going to 'ave no Sailors' Race on the fourth day?" "No," was the reply, "we found that we had to discontinue it as there were one or two accidents and it was too dangerous." "Ay, ay, Sir," was the next remark, and then a smile came over Jack's face, "won't you 'ave one, Sir, this time? One bluejacket more or less don't make no difference."

A TALE.

A TALE is related in the vernacular press about the family of Mr. Kawashima Chunosuke, agent in Lyons of the Specie Bank of Yokohama. Mr. Kawashima lived altogether 16 years in France and is said to have won the esteem of the business men in that country. He is one of the most trusted officers of the Bank. His wife, now deceased, the daughter of Mr. Ishii Chuzyo, ex-Governor of Wakayama, was respected and loved by all who knew her. Married about ten years ago, Mr. and Mrs. Kawashima went to France together, and there three daughters were born, the eldest being now not more than 6 years old. Mrs. Kawashima contracted that malady so common among Japanese, disease of the lungs, and despite the best medical aid, became worse and worse, till at last she was advised by her physician to return home, in the hope that the air of her native land might have a beneficial effect. Her husband at once made preparations for departure, and engaged berths in the *Melbourne*, that started from Marseilles some weeks ago. The family consisted of Mr. Kawashima, his wife, three children, and one nurse. Everything went well up to Singapore, but after leaving that place the ship caught fire, and it seemed at one time that Mrs. Kawashima and the children must be lost. Fortunately the flames were extinguished, but the shock proved too much for the sick lady, followed, as it was, by the removal of the passengers to a smaller steamer. Between Hongkong and Shanghai she breathed her last. The rules on board ship do not permit a dead body to be kept longer than 24 hours. The Commander therefore told Mr. Kawashima that his wife's corpse must be consigned to the deep. Mr. Kawashima earnestly entreated that an exception be made in his case, and the Commander consented to keep the corpse as far as Nagasaki. But even this last consolation was denied by fate. As the steamer passed Woosung, she grounded on the bar and some time elapsed before she could be floated off, so that it finally became necessary to lower the coffin into the sea.

* * *

That is the whole tale. We have reproduced it, not because it contains any extraordinary incidents but precisely because it lacks such incidents altogether. Thousands upon thousands of men have lost their wives on a voyage and have been obliged to endure the sorrow of seeing the body buried at sea, but our experience does not furnish any example of such a bereavement's being deemed sufficiently remarkable to warrant journalistic reference. The story as quoted by us is shorn of various comments that accompany it in the columns of the vernacular press, such as the grief of the three children in the presence of their mother's dead body, and the husband's pain when he found his wife's relatives assembled on the wharf at Nagasaki to greet her. It has been the custom with critics of Japanese character to note complete absence of feeling in the presence of bereavement, so far, at any rate, as outward display is concerned, and to infer callousness of heart. It is hard to reconcile that theory with the publication of stories like the above.

THE FERRIS SEMINARY.

THE English Exhibition by the girls of the Ferris Seminary was given last night at 8 o'clock in the Van Schaick Hall, No. 178, Bluff. The day had been fine and sunny—rather too hot for comfort—and the heavens clouded over towards sundown, and rain fell, while every now and again vivid flashes lightning played across the sky, causing more or less inconvenience to the guests. In spite of this, however, many foreign ladies and gentlemen, some English-speaking Japanese gentlemen, and several lady pupils of the Mission Schools in Yokohama were present by the time appointed for the commencement of the proceedings, and shortly afterwards the hall was filled to overflowing. All the items in the excellent programme were given with great taste and received hearty applause. Amongst the gems of the night's entertainment was the motion song, "Lullaby," rendered by ten pretty little girls. The recitation of a scene from "The Merchant of Venice," which was given at a charity concert in Tokyo the other day, was repeated and excellently well done.

THE "NATAL"-"YEIHO" COLLISION.

THE *Mainichi Shimbun* was in error when it stated that the Messageries Maritimes Company agreed to pay the damages, amounting to *yen* 100,000, in the case brought in the French Consular Court by Mr. Kusaka Kojiro, counsel for Mr. Kobayashi Daikichi, owner of the cargo vessel *Yeiho Maru*, against the Messageries Maritimes, for losses sustained through the *Yeiho Maru* being run down by the French steamer *Natal*, off Iyo, while the former was conveying a large cargo of coal from Hokkaido in September last. The M.M. Co. did not agree to pay the plaintiff's claim. They requested the Court, before judging the affair, to appoint surveyors to ascertain the circumstances of the collision and fix the respective responsibility of each party. This request was accepted by the Court, who will appoint Marine Officers, French and Japanese, for the purpose.

MR. LOWTHER'S EYES.

AGREEABLE intelligence is offered to the pessimists who habitually complain that officials charged with the care of British interests in the East are incompetent, and that the prestige of the old country is fairly involved in the path leading to the dogs. The comforting intelligence is contained in the columns of the *Asahi Shimbun*, and is to the effect that whereas the Russian Representative remained buried in sombre thoughts during the farewell banquet to Mr. Hayashi last Tuesday, H.B.M.'s Chargé d'Affairs "scattered smiles broadcast, and from time to time cast scrutinizing glances at his colleagues." Mr. Lowther was in Miyanoshita that evening. He scattered his smiles and directed his glances from a distance of five-and-forty miles. He is the first official of really telepathic capacity that we have had in the East. The pessimists must admit that the situation is saved at last.

DEPARTURE OF MR. TROUP AND ADMIRAL FREMANTLE.

MR. TROUP, H.B.M.'s Consul at Yokohama left by the *Empress of Japan* this morning. He entertained the members of his staff at dinner at the Grand Hotel last evening.

* * *

Another distinguished public servant who left for home this morning is Admiral Fremantle, whose lot it has been to hold command of the British Far Eastern Squadron during a very stirring and history-making period. He carries away with him the best wishes of the British communities scattered throughout the Far East for many years of vigorous, active life. His rest is well deserved.

MR. AND MRS. NICKERSON.

MR. NICKERSON, Vice-President of the 1st National Bank, Chicago, and Mrs. Nickerson, are now staying in Yokohama. Mr. Nickerson is a great collector of Japanese ancient *objets d'art*. Last Sunday they were Mr. Satoh's guests and visited Mr. Kodama's collection. On Tuesday (28th), they were to be the guests of Mr. T. Masuda of Tokyo, when the old time tea ceremonials and the inspection of his collection were the principal features of entertainment. Mr. Nickerson is said to be one of the very few Americans who have critical knowledge of gold lacquer and bronze works.

STEAMER DAMAGED.

THE steamer *Wieland*, with munitions of war from Hamburg, arrived at Woosung on Wednesday, May 15th, with her bow considerably damaged, the steamer having run on "The Brothers" rocks between Swatow and Amoy on her way up. She struck the rocks in a dense fog, but owing to the tide rising succeeded in backing off in about three hours, and the weather fortunately being fine, managed to reach Shanghai. Her forehold is full of water and her bottom badly damaged.

ENGLISH SHILLINGS MADE IN CHINA.

THE *Daily Press* hears that English shillings are being manufactured in Canton and shipped to Australia, where they are exchanged for sovereigns, which are shipped in return to China. If it be true that such a business is carried on it will yield a handsome profit at the present price of silver, but we should think there would be a great risk of detection by the Customs at the Australia ports if the shillings were shipped in large quantities.

CHINAMAN RELEASED.

JUDGMENT in an appeal brought by Ho Kai-so, a Chinaman residing in Yokohama, against the decision of the Yokohama Local Court, by which he was sentenced to one year's confinement for having used opium, was given by the Tokyo Court of Appeal on the 27th inst., when the Chinaman was released owing to the insufficiency of the evidence.

MARK MASONRY IN THE FAR EAST.

A NEW Mark Master Masons Lodge, working under the English Constitution, has been consecrated in Shanghai, under the name and title of the Orient Mark Lodge, No. 482, E.C. The ceremony of consecration was performed by R.W. Bro. Cornelius Thorne, P.D.G.M. of North China. The W.M. of the new Mark Lodge is Bro. F. M. Gratton.

RESIGNATION OF THE BELGIAN FOREIGN MINISTER.

THE Belgian Minister in Tokyo has informed the Japanese Government that he received a telegram from his Government on the 26th inst. stating that Count de Mérode-Westerloo, Minister of Foreign Affairs, had resigned.

MR. HAYASHI'S "BOOK ON THE CAUSES OF THE WAR."

IN our last issue we quoted from a vernacular contemporary a statement that Mr. Hayashi, Vice-Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, had compiled a "book on the causes of the war." We have made inquiries on the subject, and are in a position to say that the rumour is groundless.

A TRANSPARENCY.

MR. BOTTLEWALLA, general agent for Singer's Sewing Machine Company, for China and Japan, has erected a very attractive transparency, advertising the world-renowned machine, near the Railway Station. The transparency is lighted every evening at sundown.

DEATH OF MR. SECRETARY GRESHAM.

THE U.S. Minister telegraphed to Mr. McIvor, Consul-General of the United States of America, on Wednesday forenoon :—"Mr. Secretary Gresham died at a quarter past one yesterday morning."

LOSS OF A STEAMER.

THE Spanish steamer *Gravino* has been lost off the Philippines during a typhoon. The loss of life is very great; out of a crew of 49, and over fifty passengers, only three were saved.

THE BELGIAN MINISTER.

WE are glad to be able to state that the illness—typhoid fever—of His Excellency Baron d'Anethan has passed its worst stage, and that an improvement is now reported.

RETURN OF JUDGE MOWAT.

JUDGE and Mrs. Mowat returned to Yokohama on Tuesday by the P. & O. steamer *Siam*, after a vacation spent in England.

WE are requested to state that, in consequence of absence from Yokohama, Madame Nab will not receive during the month of June.

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THE EMPEROR'S HOME COMING.

Never did Tokyo wear a gayer appearance and never were all classes more thoroughly represented in the vast crowd that surged through the streets than on Thursday, when His Majesty the Emperor, so long absent from his Imperial city, returned to the metropolis, crowned with the laurels of a victorious war. No matter how great the friction between political parties and the Cabinet, no matter how deep-seated the dissatisfaction on account of the inevitable retrocession of Manchuria, all hearts have ever shown unswerving loyalty and prompt obedience to the Emperor's will. His Majesty's indefatigable labours, frugality, and actual discomfort while at Hiroshima, for so many months the Head-Quarters, have created a profound impression on the hearts of the people, with whom "fidelity to the Imperial House" has ever proved a watchword potent to still all storms. The kindly interest expressed in the welfare of those engaged in the war, the frequent visits to Hospitals and the sick and wounded, the numerous Imperial donations of little comforts and luxuries that mean so much to the soldier or sailor far from his native land—all these things will remain indelibly impressed on the memory of the present generation and be the boast and pride of its descendants. The days to elapse before the Emperor's return have been eagerly counted, and as one postponement followed another the peoples' heart grew sick with hope deferred, and an ugly, though of course wholly baseless, rumour began to be circulated. Even when the *Official Gazette* announced that His Majesty would positively arrive in Tokyo at 2 p.m. on the afternoon of 30th instant, there were still many who doubted, or rather feared that the date would again be postponed. But when the telegrams began to come in telling of the Imperial progress from city to city, and of the joyous enthusiasm of the people along the route, all doubt was removed and yesterday all Tokyo turned out to give the revered Sovereign a right imperial welcome-home.

We have already spoken of the triumphal arches erected along the broad avenue leading past the Houses of Parliament (Saiwaicho), that at Shimbashi, and that facing the Sakurada Gate—erected by the Municipality of Tokyo. Work was not finished on these striking and gigantic structures until late on Wednesday afternoon (29th instant), and then the cordage and planks were thrown down from dizzy heights in a manner calculated to endanger the lives of passing pedestrians. No mishaps, however, were recorded, and everything was in readiness early yesterday morning, the finishing touches being given shortly after daybreak. Long before 10 in the forenoon, the route to be followed by the Imperial cortége was packed close on either side with a mighty concourse of people. All traffic was suspended for several hours before the appointed time, and the streets were patrolled by hundreds of gendarmes and police-constables. The weather was everything that could be desired, though somewhat too hot for comfort. A strong breeze did spring up a little before noon, but this was provocative of one of those dust-storms for which Tokyo is unfortunately famous. Nearly every avenue leading to Shimbashi was densely crowded with people, dressed in their best, all desirous of seeing the passing of the Imperial cortége. But the throng was so great and the eagerness of the people so intense to get as near as possible to their goal that the united strength of the police and gendarmerie proved powerless to keep more than a small avenue open in most cases. Noblemen jostled with commoners, and lackeys from the Palace shouldered past simple country-folk that had come up to the city to catch a glimpse, even if a distant one, of their victorious Emperor. About noon the main avenues about the Shimbashi terminus were closed to further passage, except in the case of officials. No tramcars were running, and the vast multitudes near the station preserved a decorous silence as impressive as it was unusual. Lining the canal and either side of Shimbashi the throng was tremendous, the police being often compelled to strike with their scabbards or the flat of their swords. The four or five front rows of onlookers were made to crouch on the ground, so that the less fortunate behind them might get a chance to see what was going on; and it must be said that most examplary patience was exhibited on the part of the constabulary. At half-past one the space about the station presented a most striking picture, with the Imperial carriage, all red and gold, drawn up before the exit, and mounted lancers waiting in serried ranks for the signal that the train was sighted. The great arch just in front of the station was very imposing; on either side waited the guard of honour, at the and back of the troopers were the carriages of those who were to follow in the cortége. To the left stood another vast multitude of people, who had taken this position of vantage, and waited patiently there since early in the morning. Inside, the station was no longer the somewhat dingy place it generally is. All the pillars and cornices were wreathed in evergreens, mingled with pink and red roses, nasturtiums, pinks, and jasmine. To the right and in the waiting-rooms were the members of the two Houses of Parliament, all the Cabinet Ministers in Tokyo and members of the Privy Council, while the platform was taken up by other high dignitaries of State, the *personnel* of the Imperial Household, and the Kyododan Band, in gala uniform. Elsewhere were officers of rank belonging to both the Army and Navy, and members of the Tokyo Municipality, headed by Mayor Miura. The utmost decorum reigned, though every one was visibly in a fever of expectation. At last the long-expected train, consisting of the Imperial car, eight or nine first-class carriages and two baggage-vans, drew slowly into sight. As it entered the station the band struck up the solemnly impressive strains of the national anthem, which had an instant echo in the loudly audible stir and bustle outside. The engine drawing the train bore the Imperial Crest on either side, while the whole fore part was decorated most prettily with evergreens. Just in front of the boiler a dwarf pine had been affixed, and on one of its branches was perched a hawk, stuffed so as to appear as if just alighting. The Imperial and national flags were crossed behind the pine, while the naval and national flags were displayed at the rear of the engine. Every head was bared as the train drew slowly up, the music of the band enhancing the charm of the whole scene. After a few minor functionaries had alighted, the Premier, Count Ito, appeared, and following him came T.I.H. Princes Komatsu and Kanin, and then H.M. the Emperor, dressed in an unostentations military uniform and looking unusually well. His Majesty walked with a brisk step and was immediately followed by Counts Yamagata, Saigo, and Oyama, the last-named in particular beaming with friendly smiles. Viscount Hijikata, Mr. Yukichi Ito, Master of Ceremonies, General Nozu, Vice-Admiral Ito, and nearly a dozen Chamberlains brought up the rear, with a score or two of other notables. The Imperial State Carriage was at once entered, His Majesty responding as he passed out of the station to the profound salutations of the assembled dignitaries. As His Majesty entered the carriage the band stationed outside began playing the national anthem, and every head was bared in reverential salutation. The stillness of the whole was remarkable; the feeling of the people was evidently too deep for words. But as the cortége began to move, the pent-up excitement of the multitudes manifested itself in waving hats and handkerchiefs, and before the bridge was reaching the whole great concourse was rending the air with cheer upon cheer, the stirring cries of *Tenno Heika Bansai! Teikoku Bansai!* coming from tens of thousands of patriotic throats with a thunderous roar such as Tokyo has never heard before. Then ensued an indrawing of the crowd from all sides, and just here several unfortunate accidents occurred, some quite serious injuries being inflicted. Up to eight o'clock yesterday it was reported that over thirty people had been severely wounded, mostly in the immediate neighbourhood of Shimbashi, and others along the line of the route, but as yet we have no official figure. Another great outburst of enthusiasm occurred as the Imperial cortége passed the Rokumei-kan—where there was a fine floral display with a suitable inscription—and entered the evergreen arch upon which so much time and labour have been expended. In front of the Imperial Palace the throng was suffocating, and many minor accidents occurred; not to speak of a very angry collision between certain constables and gendarmes near the Sakurada Gate, a squabble which at one time threatened to assume serious dimensions. In the open space before the Nijo-bashi and the Imperial Household Department day fireworks had been going up for a long time, and as the cortége entered the broad sweep leading to the historic bridge, sheaf after sheaf of rockets filled the air with fantastic smoke, balloons, and symbolic paper figures. The whole embankment here was packed with human beings, and the wonder is that there was so little injury done. For in crowds like that of yesterday the sentiment of selfishness is predominant and there is very little of that fellow-feeling supposed to make men "wondrous kind."

All along the route were various corporations and guilds, dressed in gala costume and bearing flags with patriotic inscriptions; nearly all the schools of the metropolis, public as well as private, were represented, particularly noticeable being the elegantly dressed pupils of the Nobles' Girls School and the Female Normal School, besides deputations from the various metropolitan clubs and exchanges. Indeed all Tokyo was *en fête*. Most attractive were the decorations along Ginza, the approach to which showed two huge flags mounted on tall crossed poles surmounted by great gilt balls. Another gaily decorated place was the 119th National Bank, from the windows and roof of which thousands of lanterns hung. The lanterns bore the imperial and national standards on a white ground, the front being inscribed with ideographs reading *Teikoku Bansai*. Numerous parasols also, pretty though very flimsy, were modelled after the imperial standard, with a border of naval and military insignia. Going up Ginza and toward Nihonbashi, the scene was striking, all the houses displaying flags and lanterns in every available place. Some of the flags were of exceptional beauty, gold brocade, or hand-painted on satin, with huge tassels of gold cord. It was evident that the people had entered heart and soul into the occasion. Everything was practically over by three o'clock in the afternoon, as the Imperial train had arrived promptly on time. But the people had evidently resolved to make the whole day a holiday, and so the streets were filled with the crowds until long after dark. Fireworks were let off opposite the Imperial Palace until after nine p.m. On the whole, the day was memorable, and the home-coming of His Majesty the Emperor was celebrated in a manner worthy of the occasion. We may add that the enthusiasm of the crowds was not evoked by the passage of the Emperor only. Field-Marshals Yamagata and Oyama, Count Ito, and Viscount Mutsu also received ovations at various points.

IN YOKOHAMA.

Yokohama was gaily bedecked with flags, bunting, evergreens, and lanterns, both in the foreign Settlement and in the native town, from a very early hour, the brilliant sunshine materially assisting to enhance the picturesqueness of the decorations. The foreign banks were shut, but unfortunately, owing to the lateness of the hour on the previous day at which the "express" was issued, only a few of the stores could close. Silk, tea, and other hongs closed, so that very nearly a general holiday prevailed. Long before noon troops of girls and boys in gala attire were wending their way towards the Railway-station accompanied by their elders, and upwards of forty different processions, with bands playing and flags and bannerettes flying marched through the streets leading in the same direction. The School Cadets Corps were prominent among them. Here and there along the route

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were hung mottoes of a highly patriotic and loyal character, and many of the banners borne in the processions bore devices of a similiar kind. The station-yard and platform were kept clear by the police, except to individuals that bore upon their breasts medals suspended from a green and white ribbon. These belonged to the Town's deputation, and by that token possessed privileges denied to the majority who had assembled in the neighbourhood of the railroad. Noge, and the roads in its vicinity, were densely packed, every little nook and corner being taken advantage of by the eager spectators. The Imperial train arrived about 1 p.m., and its appearance was the signal for a mighty outburst of cheers. The train pulled up just at the foot of the hill and the populace had a full view of the distinguished travellers. In the first car rode the Ministers of State, among whom Count Ito was conspicuous. The second contained His Majesty, with members of his immediate household. In another car were Admiral Ito, and officers of both the land and sea forces. The train stopped for several minutes and opportunity was taken to present His Majesty with some big stands of flowers. These were representative of the season and were arranged with symbolical meaning. They were presented in the name of the town and its various trading and other Guilds by Mr. Kimura Riyemon and Mr. Asada Matashichi. A representative of Mr. Sato Kizaemon, Mayor of Yokohama, then stepped forward and presented a loyal address, which the Minister of the Household handed to the Emperor. His Majesty rose and bowed his acknowledgements, and the cheering broke out anew. The Sovereign looked remarkably well, but for some lines of care about the eyes, and when the schoolboys raised another vociferous cheer he rose and bowed to the assemblage in every direction. Fully 5,000 persons must have been in and around the station; among them were several foreigners. The engine of the Imperial train was decorated with flowers and evergreens, with a large falcon as a centrepiece. As the train steamed out, a shout of *Dai Nippon Teikoku Heika Bansai* was raised and then *Rizu-Kai-gun Bansai*; which cries were repeated long after the Imperial traveller had been lost to sight. The whole ceremony was remarkable for its air of quiet sobriety, and notwithstanding the crowds assembled in so narrow a space as the station and station-yard no accidents are reported by the police.

RETURN OF THE EMPRESS TO TOKYO.

Her Majesty the Empress returned yesterday to Tokyo, following the same route and arriving at the same time as His Majesty the Emperor on the preceding day. The streets were again crowded and the greatest enthusiasm prevailed, the progress of the Imperial cortége from Shimbashi to the Palace being greeted everywhere with tumultuous cheers. It is noticeable that now for the first time have Japanese crowds begun to open their lungs as the Sovereign passes. The most complete silence, decorous and reverential, used invariably to be preserved, but bursts of cheering have at length become the rule. "*Bansai*" is an excellent form of shout. It has a fine full sound, and a man finds no difficulty in putting his whole voice into it. But though the people have readily adopted this innovation from the West, the Emperor and Empress retain the traditional attitude of dignified calm. Throughout the drive from the train to the Palace, each of the Imperial personages, obeying the same rule, gazed steadily at the line of troops presenting arms, and took not the slightest ostensible notice of the cheering crowds. The dominant colour of the Empress' costume was mauve—an essentially gay costume well suited to the occasion. Several carriages of Chamberlains and Court Ladies followed the Imperial chariot, and in the rear came the Ministers of State, Count Kuroda following last of all in a quiet unassuming one-horse-shay, and wearing a hat that seemed to typify the troublous times. Count Ito sat on the front seat of one of the Court carriages, facing two ladies in waiting, with whom the Premier kept up a laughing conversation, as though the whole pageant were a pleasant picnic winding up an interval of holidays. On the nights of the 30th and the 31st alike Tokyo was illuminated, but the former day was differentiated from the latter by a magnificent display of fireworks.

YOKOHAMA'S WELCOME.

Yokohama was not behind in its welcome to the Empress on Friday. Again flags and lanterns were hung out in the foreign Settlement and the native portions of the town, and again a huge crowd assembled at the Railway Station, nearly all the Japanese business places being closed for a considerable portion of the day. The various public bodies and Guilds of the town ranged under their respective banners, and every school sent its pupils, male and female, to extend a welcome home to the Imperial Consort. Many foreigners were also among the throng. When the Imperial train left Hodogaya, the first lot of day fireworks was discharged: then the assembly grew quiet again until the train was seen approaching. This was a signal for the bands to strike up the National Anthem, and a general shout of *Bansai* was raised. When the train pulled up alongside the temporary platform Mr. Kimura Riyemon and Mr. Asada Matashichi stepped forward and presented some stands of symbolic flowers, while representatives of various guilds presented cakes. The Mayor then handed the Town's address to the Grand Master of Services, who handed it to the Empress. Her Majesty, who was dressed in a foreign costume bowed her thanks. She appeared to be in excellent health and spirits. As the train began to move cries of *Kogo Heika Bansai* (Long live the Empress) were raised, only to be repeated again and again whenever the crowd caught sight of Her Majesty. All the ladies in attendance upon the Empress were attired in foreign costume.

FORMOSA.

A telegram from Shimonoseki, dated 8 a.m. on the 25th instant, says that the Imperial Guards, under the command of H.I.H. Prince Kitashirakawa, embarked at Port Arthur on the 23rd instant in 12 transports for Formosa. The *Jiji Shimpo* publishes this telegram, and refers in the same issue to the fact that the Chinese Government, in accordance with its pledge to hand over the island by the 8th of July, has ordered the withdrawal of all the troops stationed there. Rumour says, however, that both the civilians and the military on the island are determined not to surrender to Japan, but the *Jiji* does not think that their resistance will amount to much.

It is not probable that the republic of Formosa will be a long-lived affair. We believe that there is truth in the rumour as to some silly patriots having set up such a form of Government, but Viscount Kabayama will make short work of it. He has at least 12,000 troops, we believe, under his command. The republicans are going to have a rapid time.

Referring to the report that the islanders of Formosa have set up a Republic, the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* seems to regard it as not improbable, but the assertion that the Republic has received the recognition of the different Powers is, of course, ridiculed by our contemporary, as, indeed, by every other paper in Tokyo. The *Nichi Nichi* is convinced that the disorderly movements of the islanders have neither the countenance nor the encouragement of the Chinese Government. The latter's inability to maintain order within its own borders deserves only pity. Should, however, the Pekin Government be found secretly assisting or instigating the insurgents, it will have to answer dearly for its treacherous conduct. The *Nichi Nichi* then gives an extract from the *She-pao* of the 15th instant—an extract interesting not merely as an exposition of Chinese opinion on the question of Formosa, but also revealing a new political tendency in China. The Chinese writer compares Formosa to Madagascar, and says that the latter is only one-fourth larger than the former. Yet Madagascar was able ten years ago, to resist with success the invasion of French troops. From this it is inferred that the people of Formosa ought to be able to defy the military power of Japan. The writer, therefore, seems to regard with no small amount of hope Formosa's desire for an independent Government. What pleases him most, however, is not that Formosa aims at becoming an independent country, but that the democratic form of Government set up there may prove the forerunner of a similar revolution in China itself. He proceeds as follows:—Among the accumulated evils of China, the most serious is the existence of an impassable gulf between rulers and ruled. Some persons, consequently, advocate the regeneration of the country by adopting Occidental laws. The first needs of the situation are the establishment of a Parliament and revision of the official organization, with a view to setting up a form of Government in which sovereignty shall reside both in the Emperor and in the people. Proceeding in this way, it will not be impossible in course of time finally to establish a democracy. . . . . It is well that Formosa has set an example to the Middle Kingdom." As the *Nichi Nichi* justly observes, the Chinese journalist is preaching treason to the present dynasty. Another paper quoted by our contemporary is the *Shen-pao* of the 11th instant. Like every other Chinese journal, it evinces strong sympathy with the insurgents in Formosa.

We may observe that the defiant attitude of the people of Formosa is owing to the instigation and powerful support of one man, namely, Liu. He occupies in Formosa the position occupied by Spreckles in Hawaii. The greater part of the wealth of the island is in his possession, and he consequently exercises overwhelming influence there. Had his property been wholly situated in the island, he would probably have remained quiet and become a naturalised subject of Japan. But on the mainland of China also he has possessions even more valuable than those in Formosa, so that a change of nationality would seriously impair his interests. Under these circumstances, he is evidently placed in a serious dilemma. In order to save his property on the mainland, he can not become a Japanese subject. He must therefore dispose of his property in Formosa within two years and leave the island, for Japanese law does not sanction the possession of real estate by foreigners. The difficulties of his situation are duely appreciated by the Viceroy Li, who, we the informed, brought the matter to the notice of Count Ito and Viscount Mutsu at Shimonoseki when the question of the session of the island was under discussion. The Chinese Plenipotentiary asked for a special licence to Liu, authorizing him to own real property in Formosa after its transfer to Japan, without becoming the latter's subject. This application was of course rejected, and Liu seems to have been driven to his present course out of desperation. The Black Flags, it is said, are in his employ. This resistance on the part of the people may cost Japan a few lives and some money, but it will prove a good thing that Liu and his dependents have revolted, for the troublesome question about the disposal of his property will be very easily settled once for all. The affair will also serve as a means of ridding the island of all undesirable characters.

In the interior of Australia is a series of great lakes which are occupied by water only at long intervals. The mud which remains when the water is absent is filled with the bones of geological monsters.

The entire population of the globe is upwards of 1,400,000,000, of whom 35,214,000 die every year; 96,480 every day; 4,020 every hour; 67 every minute; and 1 and a fraction every second. On the other hand the births amount to 36,792,000 every year; 100,800 every day; 4,200 every hour; 70 every minute; and 1 and a fraction every second.

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COUNT YAMAGATA.

Count Yamagata has been relieved of his temporary office of Minister of State for War, and retains only the post of Inspector-General of the Army. The Emperor has issued a Rescript, directing that, in consideration of his distinguished military services, the Count shall receive the treatment of a Minister of State.

THE NEW AUSTRO-HUNGARIAN MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

Telegrams received in Tokyo announce that Count Goluchowski has been appointed Austro-Hungarian Minister of Foreign Affairs. The Count, who is married to the Princess Murat, served last as his country's Representative in Roumania.

THE OFFENSIVE AND DEFENSIVE ALLIANCE.

What has become, we wonder, of that offensive and defensive alliance recently so much discussed by well-informed journalists, and so confidently adduced as a proof that Japan, despite her bath of Western civilization, had returned to wallow in the mire of Eastern mud so soon as ever a convenient opportunity presented itself. We ourselves had the pleasure of receiving, on that occasion, one of the doses of dirt that do duty for polite argument among local types of foreign journalism. Some very pretty names were given to us. We were charged with deliberate deception because we pointed out the manifest absurdity of imagining such an alliance. Where then, is the alliance now? Whither has it vanished? Is it possible that the very wise folks who knew all about it and were so thoroughly cocksure, can have been dealing with a mare's nest all the while?

GARDEN PARTY AT THE BRITISH LEGATION.

Her Britannic Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires gave a Garden Party on May 24h to celebrate the Queen's Birthday. The weather was perfect—veritable Queen's weather—and the grounds of the Legation looked beautiful in their spring foliage. The members of the Foreign Corps Diplomatique were all present, of course, as were many Japanese and nearly all the leading foreign residents of Tokyo and Yokohama. Refreshments were served in the lawn on the east of the main building, and the band played in the garden on the south. This was the first official party of any size given in Tokyo since the war broke out, and it probably occurred to many of those present that the resumption of social festivities after the conclusion of peace fell with special opportuneness on the Queen's Birthday.

POLITICAL GOSSIP.

Various rumours are circulated in Tokyo about probable changes in the Cabinet. It is stated, for instance, that Count Ito will resign, that his place will be taken by Count Yamagata; that Viscount Mutsu's resignation—as though it were a fact—has been approved by the Emperor; that his successor will be Viscount Enomoto; that the latter's place at the Department of Agriculture and Commerce will be taken by Mr. Ito Miyoji; that Mr. Ito will be succeeded in the Secretary-Generalship by Mr. Suyematsu Kencho, Chief of the Legislative Bureau; and that Mr. Suyematsu will in turn be succeeded by Mr. Kaneko Kentaro, Vice-Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce. It is needless to say that no well informed person places the least credence in these stories. They are evidently the fabrications of irresponsible speculators, always on the watch for a change. Count Ito is not the man to leave office at a time of supreme importance like the present; neither is the sickness of Viscount Mutsu, we are informed, of such a nature as to necessitate his r[illegible] from active business life.

THE NEW JAPANESE MINISTER TO CHINA.

Mr. Hayashi Tadasu, hitherto Vice-Minister of State for Foreign Affairs and now appointed to represent Japan at the Court of Pekin, was to leave Tokyo on the 28th instant, but his departure has been deferred for a few days in order that he may meet and discuss matters with the Minister President, now in Kyoto and soon to return to Tokyo. He is to make the voyage to Taku in a man-of-war, and will proceed thence overland. Mr. Hayashi takes with him as Secretaries Mr. Nakajima Yu, who has had fifteen years' experience of Legation life in Pekin, and Mr. Kawashima Kwambi, whose residence of six years in Paris has made him thoroughly familiar with the French language, and who speaks English also with proficiency. The Chinese Secretary will be Mr. Tei Yeiho. The Minister himself speaks English with exceptional fluency and accuracy, so that there will be no lack of linguistic ability in the Legation. Upon Mr. Hayashi will doubtless devolve the task of conducting the negotiations with regard to the restoration of the Liaotung peninsula. The task looks difficult, but the Chinese are practical people, and will probably appreciate the advisability of getting back the ceded territority as quickly as possible on reasonable terms. Mr. Hayashi will certainly be a success in Pekin. His frank, genial ways, broad views, and clear insight can not fail to be appreciated. It is a curious coincidence that four Japanese Representatives successively in Pekin should have been "Tokugawa men"—Mr. Shioda, Viscount Enomoto, Mr. Otori, and Mr. Hayashi.

FAREWELL DINNER TO MR. HAYASHI.

On Tuesday evening the members of the Tokyo Club entertained Mr. T. Hayashi in the Rokumei-kan at a farewell dinner, in consequence of his appointment to represent Japan at the Court of China. Seventy-two covers were laid, among those present being all the Chiefs of Missions now in Tokyo, Marquis Hachisuka, and several Japanese and foreigners of note. The health of Mr. Hayashi was proposed by Mr. W. H. Stone, Vice-President of the Club, in the following terms:—

Your Excellencies and Gentlemen—It is always pleasant to meet our friends; but it is painful to say good-bye! We have met this evening to say farewell to our esteemed Vice-President, Mr. Hayashi, who is about to leave us to take up the duties of one of the most responsible positions that any one can be called upon to fill. As members of the Tokyo Club we have all reason to feel most thankful for the many services rendered by Mr. Hayashi. He was a member of the first Committee appointed when this Club was formed. Since that time, as Vice-President, he has taken much trouble on our behalf, and has rendered us such specially valuable services that it is difficult to estimate them, indeed few except those who have been on the Committee can fully appreciate them. —(Applause.) To a great many of us he has been a valued and obliging friend for many years. A few of us have had the pleasure of knowing him, of having had relations of duty with him in some one or other of the various high offices he has held for nearly a quarter of a century, and I speak with full knowledge and experience when I say, that his urbanity, kindness, and readiness at all times to oblige, could not be exceeded.—(Cheers.) This country has now successfully terminated a great struggle with the neighbouring Empire of China. Peace has been restored. Our highly esteemed Vice-President has had the honour of being selected by his Sovereign and of being appointed Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to the Court of Pekin, a position with responsibilities and of an importance almost beyond our knowledge. Whilst saying a temporary farewell to our Vice-President and friend, I ask you to join with me in wishing the best of success, health, and happiness to His Excellency the Minister. May his stay at Peking be a pleasant one. On our part we can assure him how glad we shall be to see him again, whenever a well earned holiday may permit of his revisiting Tokyo. —(Cheers.)

Mr. Hayashi, whose rising was the signal for a long outburst of cheers, said:—

Your Excellencies and Gentlemen—I feel highly honoured to be the recipient of this distinguished mark of your friendship, and I thank you most heartily for the kind words just spoken regarding myself. In taking leave of you, I beg to say that your society for the past few years in which I have been associated with you will be looked back upon always with the most pleasant recollection by me. Fully reciprocating the good wishes expressed towards me, I hope for the continuation of the hearty fellowship that has characterized this club, and I beg to propose the future prosperity of the Tokyo Club.—(Loud cheers.)

FORMOSA AND THE TEA AND SUGAR INDUSTRIES.

The *Shogyo Shimpo* earnestly urges Japanese tea-manufacturers to despatch commissioners to Formosa and to thoroughly inspect the tea industry in that island. The "Oolong tea" produced in Formosa is much liked by Americans. Not only in the Eastern States, but almost in every other part of that big country, it is in great demand. Compared with Japanese tea no particular superiority can be claimed for the tea produced in Formosa, but it holds a better place in the American tea market, commanding a price higher by 10 to 20 dollars per 100 catties. The total export of Oolong tea every year to America is about 17 million pounds, worth 5 to 6 million *yen*.

As differences of locality affect the nature of the leaf, the tea produced in one district varies in flavour and in other respects from the tea produced in another. Thus in Japan the *Gokuro* is obtainable only in *Uji*, as the *Tenkaichi* is in Shizuoka. So it is with the Oolong of Formosa. During some years past Japanese tea manufacturers have been trying to produce tea of the kind grown in Formosa. But the result is far from satisfactory, the two being different in essentials, so that any attempt to grow Oolong tea in Japan is a mere waste of labour and money. But Formosa having now become Japanese territory, Japanese tea-men, instead of trying to produce an imitation of its leaf, should endeavour to improve the original Oolong and to extend the channel for its disposal. The *Shogyo* advises the Tea Guild and similar associations to lose no time in despatching commissioners to the new dominion to inspect the tea industry and to take steps toward promoting its development.

The Hokkaido Sugar Refinery has decided to make a new departure in connection with the sugar industry in Formosa. The Refinery has hitherto used beet as the material of extracting saccharine, but the directors think, apparently with good reason, that a much more profitable result might be obtained by using cane produced in Formosa. On the other hand, since to keep the refinery in Hokkaido and import the cane from an island so far south as Formosa, re-exporting it subsequently to Japan proper, would be a plainly uneconomical method, the owners of the refinery have decided to transfer the whole plant to the south, and to resume operations on a new and more extended scale.

THE HOME MINISTER'S ANXIETY.

The other day, writes the *Chuo*, a certain person called upon Viscount Nomura, Minister of State for Home Affairs, and suggested that, an Imperial Rescript having been issued with reference to Japan's renouncing the permanent possession of the Liaotung peninsula, the Government might relax its control of the press so far as to suffer it to express the sentiments by which it is animated. On this His Excellency, assuming a very grave mien, replied that, though he thought the suggestion very reasonable so far as it went, he could not altogether approve it under existing circumstances. It was, he said, of the utmost importance so to regulate the tone of the press at this juncture as to prevent it from producing fanatics of the type of Tsuda Sanzo and Koyama Toyotaro. The assassin's pistol, not any outbreak on a large scale, was the thing to be really dreaded and guarded against. The bitter anguish caused to the nation by the fanaticism of Koyama was

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still fresh in the minds of all. Just sorrow it was too, for the glory that the Army and Navy had achieved by their bravery and endurance had been almost completely dimmed by a single shot of that culprit's pistol. The officers and men of the two services had been so enraged against the miscreant that their anger would not have been appeased even though they cut him to pieces. Let only one more such madman appear, and the fair fame of the Empire would be destroyed for ever. Recently some silly folks were said to be contemplating base attempts against foreign Legations. Nothing required more vigilance than the prevention of such incidents. A foreign Minister represented a strong Western country. How could he possibly be moved by a threatening letter, or by stones thrown at his Legation? All those rash acts merely impaired the honour and interest of the Empire. That was one of the points that caused the profoundest anxiety to the Authorities at present. The conduct plainly dictated by national exigencies to-day was that every true subject of the empire should spare no pains nor shrink from any sacrifices such as might promote the prestige of the empire after the lapse of a decade or two. But to make violent attacks upon persons or to have recourse to secret conspiracies, abandoning the route of orderly and fair measures, was a course that no magnanimous and high-minded nation could fail to despise. It was a matter of grave concern whether fanatics of the Tsuda and Koyama type might not appear again. Unless they could be thoroughly suppressed, it was extremely doubtful whether Japan could ever rise to the rank of a first-class Power in the world. One of the Government's most urgent duties was so to enforce its control over public affairs as to totally destroy the germ of fanaticism. As to criticisms of himself and his conduct, he did not care in the slightest degree, for he was bent solely upon preserving and augmenting the honour of the nation. Under the circumstances, he could not depart from the routine thus far taken by the Government in the matter of press censorship.

ADMIRAL ITO'S SPEECH AT KOBE.

Admiral Ito delivered a speech on the 15th instant at the Kobe Normal School, in compliance with the request of the faculty. After thanking the teachers and students of the school for having welcomed him warmly the preceeding day, the Admiral addressed them as follows on certain points in his naval career that seemed likely to be instructive to students:—"When the relations between Japan and China grew strained and war became imminent, so that preparations had to be made with all urgency, I was commanded by the Emperor to take charge of 28 war-ships and 28 transports, in all 56 vessels. Combining the Saikai Squadron and the Standing Squadron into one fleet, we cruised constantly off the coasts of Kyushiu and Korea. By and by the Hiroshima Division received orders to start for Korea, and the ships carrying its van, the Mixed Brigade under Major-General Oshima, were convoyed by our vessels to Ninsen. Soon afterwards, news reached the Fleet that the *Kwang-yi*, the *Kwang-ping*, and the *Tsi-yuen*, a portion of the Chinese Squadron, were *en route* for Korea, escorting the transport *Kowshing* laden with Chinese troops. The *Naniwa*, the *Yoshino*, and the *Akitsu* were despatched to meet them, and this they did off the coast of Phung-do. At the same time the Chinese troops, numbering between 5,000 to 10,000, that were quartered at A-san, were dispersed by the Japanese Army. It was thought at this juncture that China might adopt the plan of making her troops that were collecting at Phyŏng-yang, cŏoperate with the Squadron, and might cause the latter to proceed to Ninsen, so as to land troops on the adjacent coast. Our vessels therefore blockaded the harbour of Ninsen, and visited the neighbouring waters so as to reconnoitre the movements of the enemy. The Chinese squadron did not make its appearance, however, so that finally we determined to proceed to Weihaiwei and attack it. Not one of the enemy's ships having been found in the harbour, the fleet, after exchanging shots with the forts, turned back without having ascertained the place where the Peiyang Squadron was at anchor. Meanwhile a bold programme for assaulting the Chinese assembled in Phyŏng-yang had been elaborated, but as the position was very strong and complete success could not be attained unless the Fleet coöperated, we raised the blockade of Chemnipho, and proceeded toward the Ta-dong, making its mouth our temporary head-quarters. Thence vessels of small draught were sent up the river to assist the land troops in the attack of Phyong-yang, while the rest of the fleet remained outside to prevent any attempt on the enemy's part to strengthen the troops entrenched at Phyŏng-yang. While the Fleet was engaged in these tasks, an order came from Head-quarters to convoy Marshal Yamagata, and transports carrying the troops of the 5th Division, ■■ far as Ninsen, the convoy and transports numbering in all 62 ships. It was a splendid sight to see them steam in gallant array. This mission ended, the Fleet again resumed it duties at the mouth of the Ta-dong. Not long afterwards news was received from Colonel Fukushima, who was with the van of the columns despatched against Phyŏng-yang, to the effect that the enemy's vessels were off the coast of Takushan. It was conjectured, on the arrival of this message, that the Chinese squadron might have convoyed troops to that quarter, and that it might still be anchored there. The Fleet was at once ordered to put to sea. It consisted of nearly the whole of the Saikai and the Standing Squadrons, together with the *Akagi* and the *Saikyo*, which belonged to the Second Flying Squadron. The ships steered toward the north. The reason why such a small vessel as the *Akagi* was associated with the Squadrons was to be prepared for work in shallow waters. At last the enemy was discovered off the coast of Takushan. His squadron was the most powerful that China could muster. From 1 p.m. of September 16th, a fierce contest ensued, lasting for several hours, and ending in a glorious victory for our side, a victory entirely attributable to the virtue of the Emperor and the valour of the officers and the men. Two days previously the Army also defeated the enemy at Phyŏng-yang and occupied that place. Thereafter the Japanese Squadrons began to cruise about the China Sea, reconnoitring Port Arthur, Weihaiwei, and the Gulf of Liaotung. About the same time another order was received from Head-quarters to convoy the Second Army that was to attack Port Arthur. Fifty transports conveying Marshal Oyama and the troops under his command, were escorted safely as far as Kwayuenkow, in the Liaotung peninsula. The place being very near to the harbour where the enemy's Squadron was presumed to be lying, great apprehensions were entertained lest the transports should be attacked, but nothing of the kind occurred. When the troops assaulted and took possession of Talien and Port Arthur, the Squadrons co-operated with them from the sea. Port Arthur fallen, there remained only Weihaiwei to be taken. On reconnoitering that strong naval depôt, it was ascertained that fifteen thousand men were assembled to guard the landward defences, while on the sea side the Squadron kept vigilant watch. We thought that a solitary attack, whether from the sea or the shore, could not ensure any complete success, and that the place must be assaulted from both directions. Marshal Oyama, the Commander of the 2nd Army, endorsing this plan, it was submitted for the approval of the Head-quarters Staff over the joint signatures of the Marshal and the Admiral. The plan was approved, and, in order to carry it out, a detachment of the 2nd Army was landed at Yungcheng on the 31st of January. The plan was eminently successful and, within a few days, the shore defences of Weihaiwei fell entirely into the hands of the Japanese. But on the sea side the attack was more difficult. Liukung island lies at the mouth of the harbour and the enemy's squadron took shelter behind it. Moreover, booms were laid across the entrance, and the defence was altogether so perfect that it could not be reduced easily. At last, after various attempts, the booms were destroyed and an opening of about 50 metres long was made. Through this the torpedo-boats entered under cover of night with the intention of torpedoing the enemy's ships. The result was more satisfactory than had been originally expected. This bold attempt was repeated next day, with a similarly satisfactory result." Having given this brief outline of the operations in which he had taken part, the Admiral then specially addressed the students as follows:—"The issue of these brilliant successes is that while the prestige of the country has been raised to an extraordinary degree, formidable enemies have been created on all sides. Indeed, it is unavoidable that in proportion as the power of the Empire is extended, greater and more numerous foes should confront us. Consequently any Japanese subject that does not desire to see the national prestige lowered, but wishes, on the contrary, to enhance it more and more, must ever preserve in his heart of hearts the stern certainty of coming into collision sooner or later with the great Powers. Keeping that contingency always in view, he must pursue his business with indefatigable diligence and strive to nourish the resources and strength of the nation, so that whatever contingency occur, the people may be found thoroughly ready and perfectly composed. Students must not rely much on the superiority of mere learning. Even a man of the most profound scholarship sometimes proves as useless for the promotion of the national interests ■■ though he were a mere machine. The main-spring of indefatigable energy, physical or mental, is to be found in one's spirit, and there alone. The war has significantly illustrated this truth. A proverb says that where there's a will there's a way. Nothing can be truer. I myself saw on the battle-fields that the Japanese dead were always facing the enemy, whereas the Chinese almost always lay with their backs to the foe. This fact alone proves that while the Japanese soldiers were spirited and valorous, the Chinese had no inclination to fight and were, for warlike purposes, just ■■ useless as mere puppets. The cause of the success or failure of the two belligerents is not far to seek. The daring exploits of the torpedo-boats were sufficient in themselves to explain why Japan gained such signal triumphs. Not in war alone is spirit found to play such ■ conspicuous part: the fact is equally true in every affair of life. Any Japanese lacking this invaluable spirit is a useless burden: he had better die and give place to someone else."

CHOLERA IN TOKYO.

Cholera, according to the *Jiji Shimpo*, has made its appearance in Tokyo. It appears that Ensign Tajiri Toyohiko, of the Infantry, set out from Hiroshima on the 18th instant, and while *en route* for the capital was attacked by symptoms of a choleraic nature. On the 20th he reached Tokyo, and took lodgings in Omote-jimbo-cho, Kanda district. Apparently his malady improved for ■ time, but on the 24th it again asserted itself. Not until the following day, however, after microscopic examination, was the presence of numerous coma bacilli detected. The same day Captain Kutsuda of the Engineers, who had nursed the Ensign in his illness, was also attacked by true cholera. Another case, seemingly cholera, is also reported by the *Chuo*. It occurred on the morning of the 26th in the third ward of Kojimachi district, and the victim was a coolie who had left Kobe on the 24th, having lately returned thither from the seat of war. It is to be feared that with the arrival of the troops the tendency of the cholera to establish itself in Tokyo will be very difficult to overcome.

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COUNTS ITO AND YAMAGATA AT OSAKA.

Last week the leading citizens of Osaka, in order to celebrate the restoration of peace, entertained, at the Nakanoshima Hotel, their Excellencies Count Ito, Minister President of State; Count Yamagata, Minister of State for War; Count Matsukata, Minister of State for Finance; Count Saigo, Minister of State for the Navy; and Viscount Hijikata, Minister of the Imperial Household, as well as other distinguished functionaries, civil and military, present at the Imperial Head-quarters. Counts Ito and Yamagata delivered speeches, the gist of which is given by the vernacular press. The Minister President is represented as saying that reverential gratitude must be felt toward the Sovereign, who immediately after the breaking out of war between Japan and China, raised his standard at Hiroshima, and, for a space of nearly a year, personally discharged the functions of Generalissimo, at the cost of no small hardship and privation. That the Emperor himself assumed supreme control of the army and navy was in accordance with the august policy and instructions handed down by his Imperial Ancestors, and was also a proceeding calculated to assert the reality of the restoration of Imperialism. The uninterrupted victories that had attended the Japanese arms by land and by sea, and had signally elevated the national status in the eyes of the world, were due, in the first place, to the virtue of the Emperor and to the bravery of the officers and men, who, in faithful obedience to the orders of their Sovereign, zealously discharged the duties assigned to them. But they were not less due to the hearty support of the nation, which support had enabled the Army and Navy to push on boldly, undeterred by any financial considerations. In other words, the achievement of such glorious successes in a war lasting about a year, had undoubtedly been the result of hearty unity and cōoperation between the Government and the people. On that account the speaker acknowledged a heavy debt to the people. Osaka was an important commercial centre, and, during the war, its market had remained entirely undisturbed, so that it had been able to indirectly aid the military operations and conduce to the glorious results attained. The citizens of Osaka must therefore be regarded as having played a very conspicuous part in the present war. The struggle was now over and peace had been restored, but the citizens must not relax their vigilance. As set forth in the Imperial Rescript, the goal of the Empire was still far distant, and the people must direct unremitting attention toward the development of the country's resources and the assertion of the national prestige. A treaty of commerce was to be negotiated with China, as provided in the treaty of peace. This was a question that had caused much embarrassment to the Authorities from time to time. Japan had never enjoyed in China privileges such as were guaranteed by treaty to Western countries, and it had always been believed that to bring about the removal of that discrimination would be a very difficult task in time of peace. Thus the war had afforded Japan a good opportunity in this respect: she had been able to accomplish a revision of her treaty such that her people would henceforth hold in China the same position as held by the subjects and citizens of other Powers. Moreover, Suchow and Hangchow, newly opened to Japan for commercial purposes, were noted as among the richest districts of China. It behooved the citizens of Osaka to exert themselves so as to reap the full benefits of the treaty and promote the tradal expansion of the country. It was a drawback inevitable in the early stages of a nation's constitutional career that a tendency to theorize too much should prevail. The men of Osaka should hereafter endeavour more earnestly than ever to ensure the full development of practical enterprises.

When the Premier resumed his seat amid the cheers of the guests and hosts, Count Yamagata rose and addressed the assembly in a similar strain. The unity and cōoperation of all classes in the Empire during the war had been truly wonderful, so wonderful, that nothing similar had ever been previously witnessed in the history of the country. When, last year, news reached the army on the field that the Imperial Diet, in its extraordinary session held at Hiroshima, had unanimously decided, after a few minutes discussion, to vote a war budget of 150 million *yen*, the troops and the Count himself, for he was at that time in Korea as Commander-in-chief of the First Army, felt as though they had received a reinforcement of several Divisions. Unquestionably this act of the Diet had materially contributed to rouse the military ardour of the nation. At the same time the spirit shown by the citizens of Osaka and the example they had set to other districts could not have failed to exercise a most beneficial effect. Before so close a combination of the people of the Empire no fortress, however strong by nature, could hold out. It was to be earnestly hoped that the citizens of Osaka would continue to apply the same power of combination to promote the commercial and industrial business of the country and to augment its prestige.

NEWSPAPER SUSPENSIONS.

In a recent issue we translated a statement of views attributed to the Minister of State for Home Affairs with reference to the unexampled severity of the press censorate at present. From the *Mainichi Shimbun* we now learn that Messrs. Shigeno Kenjiro (of the *Jiyu-to*), Atsuchi Masatoshi (of the *Kokumin Kyokai*), and Koizuka Ryo (of the *Kaishin-to*) repaired, on the 24th instant, to the Department for Home Affairs with the object of interviewing the Minister. In the absence of Viscount Nomura, they were received by the Vice-Minister, Mr. Matsuoka. To him they pointed out the extraordinary number of suspensions that had recently take place as well as the unusual length of time during which the punishment had been inflicted. The interview is thus reported:—

Spokesman of the Deputation—In recent sessions of the Diet, when the question of amending the Press Regulations came upon the *tapis*, the Government Delegates expressed the opinion that the power of suspension should be limited to a week. Of late, however, newspapers have been kept under the ban for much more than a week. So long as the Regulations exist in their present form, it is, of course, inevitable that they should be enforced according to the judgment of those administering them. But their immoderate application can not be to the advantage of either governing or governed.

The Vice-Minister—The Government, I need scarcely say, does not court collisions with the people. The suspensions of newspapers have been unavoidable. It is true that they have been numerous and for long periods. Doubtless there will be questions raised in the ninth session of the Diet. For that the Government is prepared. The authorities see nothing objectionable in the fact that newspapers should discuss Cabinet changes or Cabinet responsibilities, but when the principal Tokyo journals publish violent articles, some notice must be taken of them. The Government is determined that there shall be no breach of courtesy toward foreign countries, though in cases of necessity it would not hesitate to adopt suitable measures. If, however, the amenities of international intercourse are to be violated by the wielding of a solitary iron staff or the firing of a single pistol, so that trouble is brought upon the country, could anything be more unfortunate? The Tokyo journals wield great influence in the provinces. Misinterpretation of their writing begets Tsuda Sanzos and Koyama Rokunosukes, to the great disgrace of the nation. Sensible of these things, the Government, though well aware that it is incurring unpopularity, does not hesitate to resort to suspension. It is a serious step, undoubtedly, but not comparable with the security of the State.

One of the Deputies—The appearance of men like Tsuda and Koyama does not depend upon the leniency or severity with which the Press Law is enforced. Sanzo perpetrated his mad act when the whole nation was engaged welcoming the Russian Prince Imperial and rejoicing at his advent. Seasons of national joy may beget madmen: they are not, I think, produced by violent writing only. That, however, is a matter of individual opinion. If you believe that the way to restrain fanatics is to suspend newspapers, you are entitled to your opinion. We do not undertake to say that you are wrong. All we ask is that the utmost circumspection be employed in this matter of suspension.

Another of the Deputies—The Vice-Minister's statement that the Government does not object to journalistic discussions about changes of Cabinet or Cabinet responsibilities, is worthy of all commendation. To forbid such discussions in a constitutional country is like putting ice in one's mouth and then complaining that it is cold. We imagine that among the public, and especially in the ranks of officialdom, there are not a few persons guilty of that inconsistency. It gives us much satisfaction, therefore, to hear Mr. Matsuoka's statement. We trust that the Government may be thoroughly permeated with a similar view.

THE FOREIGN OFFICE AND MR. TRENCH.

It appears that Mr. Satow has been actually appointed to represent the Queen at the Court of Japan and that his arrival in Tokyo may possibly take place before the end of July. As to the latter point, however, nothing definite is thus far known. We can not but think that the Foreign Office has departed from its best traditions in this matter. The British public have always been accustomed to expect from that Department of the Government above all others the most considerate and courteous attitude towards the officials under its control, especially when they have served so long and so meritoriously as to attain the position of Minister. Mr. Trench left Japan on sick leave. He had been unwell for only two months, and when he started for home his health was already so far restored that the possibility of his being able to resume his duties at no very distant date was quite conceivable. At any rate it is understood that he had received no intimation whatever of an intention to supersede him immediately. Above all there could not have been any supposition that even before he reached London and reported himself at the Foreign Office, his post would have been given to another. We believe that the incident is unique, and the longer it stands alone, the better. Of course a partial explanation is not difficult to conceive. Since Mr. Fraser's death, a year ago, British interests in Japan have not been under the care of a Minister except for a few months subsequently to Mr. Trench's arrived. On the other hand the country, during that time, passed through a crisis of unprecedented importance, and it can not be supposed that things have yet resumed their normal condition. It is therefore very possible that Her Majesty's Government may have felt it essential to send out a Minister with all expedition. Many of the Queen's loyal subjects would be well pleased if the same expediency were recognised with regard to the despatch of a few more ships.

ARRIVAL IN TOKYO OF LIEUT.-GENERAL YAMAJI.

The vicinity of Shimbashi, shortly before noon yesterday, was exceedingly animated and presented a most striking picture; for thousands upon thousands had gathered to welcome the popular hero of the late war, Lieut.-General Yamaji, who, by acclaim in a dozen different journals, has been voted the "bravest of the brave." The Third Regiment of the Tokyo Garrison was sent to Shimbashi to meet the returning General, this being his old command. The soldiers lined the street on both sides from Dobashi to the station, and around and between surged a great throng of eager spectators, many bearing flags with words of congratulation and welcome inscribed thereon. The vicinity of the station, in particular, where a mounted guard waited, was a veritable *impasse*, the steps leading up to the main entrance being crowded with sightseers, while only a very narrow avenue was kept open in front and on towards the canal by a large force of constables. As the train drew into the station the cheering began; and when, ten minutes later, Lieut.-General Yamaji followed by a score of other officers of high rank, appeared, the shouts were deafening. The General looked well and seemed greatly gratified with the popular ovation. As he stepped into a low barouche

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awaiting him, the mounted guard fell into line on either side and the people seemed half-frantic in their endeavour to get as near as possible to their hero. In the carriage with the general were Major Niiyama and Lieutenant Fukuda, both of whom have been frequently extolled for their dash and bravery, the latter in particular having performed several notable exploits. Again and again did the General rise from his seat to salute the cheering crowds, hundreds of eager admirers running after his carriage and shouting *Yamaji Chûjo Banzai!* until their breath failed them. A large number of high rank officials had gone to Shimbashi to meet and greet the General, among them being their Excellencies Count Kuroda, President of the Privy Council, Mr. Yoshikawa, Minister of State for Justice, Major-General Kodama, Vice-Minister of State for War, Viscount Sano, Privy Councillor, and Lieut.-General Baron Shigeno. The majority of these followed in the wake of his carriage until it reached the War Department, when all dismounted. The universal sentiment was one of wonder at the large concourse of people: "If such a multitude can gather here to-day, what will it be to-morrow when the Emperor returns?"

THE MANIFESTO OF THE RADICAL PARTY.

The Radical Party has issued the following Manifesto:—

The ideas and motives actuating the individual members of a community have the closest bearing upon its prosperity or adversity. He that has the good of his country at heart must, consequently, fix his ideas and decide upon his course of action only after mature consideration of the prevailing condition of affairs. All blunders and errors must be carefully avoided, for they may seriously affect the well-being and safety of the State and the people. When, however, things are in a critical state, men not infrequently become confused and lose all power of independent judgment and action. To act in such instances with firmness and decision requires a large measure of self confidence.

In declaring our views on the present situation, we are bound to discuss the future by the light of the past. When the question of national defence first came to attract general attention, most persons insisted on the increase of the Army, there being very few advocates of the development of the Navy. Our Party, on the contrary, in view of the insular position of the Empire, declared itself from the first in favour of augmentation of the Navy. Thinking that such increase must be preceded by reform, we attached importance to unification of the Navy by abolishing the system of maintaining different independent Naval stations; to the adoption of a policy of aggressive defence by constructing large battle-ships; to the increase of the Navy up to 150,000 tons, and so forth. In short, our Party's object has always been to make Japan the first Naval Power in the East. The correctness of the views entertained by our Party has been proved by the events of the recent war.

From the first our Party enthusiastically advocated war, declaring that it would afford an opportunity for effecting a permanent settlement of the situation in the East. We endeavoured strenuously to convince those in power of the truth of this view. After the outbreak of war, the selection of Korea for the field of operations, the consequent necessity under which the enemy laboured to distribute his forces over a wide area, and the invasion of Shinking, elicited, on the whole, our approval. We, however, offered advice to the authorities as to the time when hostile operations should be commenced, so that the proper opportunity might not be missed by the Government. Our Party did not advocate war from mere love of war. Hence we took care to point out the importance of confining the field of belligerent operations within as small a space as possible, and of quickly attaining the object in view by dealing rapid and effective blows against the enemy. As to the cession of the provinces of Kirin and Shin-king by way of security for the independence of Korea, the despatch of reinforcements on different occasions to the First Army, the occupation of Newchwang, the reduction of Weihaiwei, and the undesirability of withdrawing part of the country's forces to the south,—on these matters the course followed by the Government, though not perfectly coincident with the views of our Party, did not, on the whole, depart far from our expectations.

As soon as the expeditionary forces began to be drafted out of the country, there was an instantaneous and extraordinary outburst of enthusiasm throughout the land, and the Diet voted a large war budget without one dissentient voice. Being conscious of the importance of exercising control over the financial affairs of the Government, and desiring that the Authorities might not be guilty of mismanagement, our Party gave a timely warning on that occasion. Has there been no financial mismanagement? That is a point requiring most explicit explanation. Moreover, has the course followed by the Government at the time of the conclusion of peace been wise, in view of the state of things existing among European Powers? Again, were proper steps taken when it became known that a certain country had decided to concentrate its forces at a certain place? Finally, were measures adopted for ordering our Navy to make a counter movement, when the fleets of certain countries commenced combined demonstrations? On these topics the time has not yet come for our Party to deliver its judgment. Suffice it to state here that events have thus far proved the correctness of the views entertained by our Party. Whenever there arises a necessity to offer advice to the Government, our Party will not fail to do so.

As to the ideas entertained by our Party about the future of the country, they may be reduced to two points, namely, the consolidation of the foundations of the Empire and the promotion of its permanent wealth and strength. The strength of a country does not primarily depend upon its fighting power; morality lies at the base. The reason why this country, alone among the nations of Asia, is able to maintain its position on an equal footing with the Powers of Europe, is that it stands on a firm basis of morality. The recent war has demonstrated beyond doubt the great difference that exists in the relative strength of Japan and China. The brilliant success of our arms is to be attributed principally to the illustrious virtues of His Majesty the Emperor and his August Ancestors, as well as to the loyalty and bravery of the Military and Naval forces. But another reason may be found in the fact that both Government and people have been united in the firm consciousness that the nation was waging a righteous war. Being members of a self-governing community, the Japanese soldiers know very well that it is their duty to defend the country, and do not hesitate to die in the cause of right. This must be regarded as the fruit of a constitutional form of Government. The perfecting of our system of constitutional Government will, therefore, be a means of consolidating the foundations of the Empire and of promoting its wealth and strength. Our Party was the first to advocate a constitutional form of Government, and it is our intention to be the protectors of that system. The different Powers of the world pride themselves on their civilization, but what decides the relative position of each of those countries is its actual strength. That is fact of which we have always been aware, but at no time have we appreciated it so strongly as at present. An armed force is an engine of evil, and as respecters of morality and lovers of peace, our Party does not insist on the increase of the country's fighting power through any tendency to mischief; but in order to uphold the right and preserve peace by keeping our place among the nations of the world, it is absolutely necessary that we should rely upon an armed force. It will thus be evident that the augmentation of our military power is a measure of urgent necessity. The indemnity to be paid by China only covers the actual expenses of the war. Out of this money must first of all be defrayed the annuities and pensions to the wounded and the families of the dead, as well as rewards for officers and men. The remainder ought, under ordinary circumstances, to be employed for the redemption of the War Loan. But the course of events makes it necessary that this residual sum should be appropriated for the purpose of national defence, and especially for the increase of the Navy. Industry, it is true, is at the root of national wealth and strength, and its development is, of course, a matter of great importance. But, in the present state of affairs, priority is claimed by military exigencies, and it must also be remembered that military measures are of positive importance for the protection of industry itself. However, should there still be any remnant of the indemnity, it ought to be used for the redemption of the War Loan, or, in case of necessity, for the encouragement of industry. Even should there remain no such available sum of money out of the indemnity, undertakings of great national advantage ought to be inaugurated with funds obtained by the reduction of official expenses or by some other means. All such undertakings must be carried out by the united efforts of the Government and the people.

From what has been stated it will be seen that the coming session of the Diet is one of paramount gravity, as upon it devolves measures of the greatest national importance. Should a collision take place between the Diet and the Cabinet, the result would be most unfortunate, for it would then be impossible to consider those measures of national importance. This is a matter that causes grave anxiety to our Party. It is to be highly desired that those in power should properly discharge their duties. Our Party will not attack them for the mere love of fighting. With regard to questions seriously affecting the honour and dignity of the country or the income of the national Treasury, it will be incumbent upon the Diet, as the representative of the nation, to take decided steps for discharging its responsibility over State affairs. What is now most important for this nation is that every person should be disinterested; and, forbearing to give vent to feelings of indignation, should endeavour to bring about the harmony and union of the whole country for the achievement of one common aim. Peace has been concluded and our victorious troops are returning home, but there lie at our door questions requiring deep meditation and mature examination. It must not be forgotten that, while, on the one hand, suddenly acquiring the reputation of being a great Power, we have, on the other, excited the envy and suspicion of countries. The situation in the East is daily growing more and more serious, and it is imperatively necessary to unite the nation and nourish our national strength. In times like the present, one should shape his conduct with calm deliberation and fearlessly follow the dictates of justice and right. Such is the advice we offer to all the members of our Party.

CHINA NEWS.

The new Governor of Kwangtung, Ma Peiyao, inspecting the Bogue Forts, has found that more than half of the torpedoes placed at the entrance to the Forts and in the Canton river were loaded with worthless native gun-powder. He has caused the responsible officers to be arrested for purposes of investigation. It is a pity that China has not a few more Governors of this type.

Steps have been taken by Admiral Fremantle, in conjunction with the Captain of the German ship *Irene*, to land marines in Formosa for the protection of the foreign residents. From all accounts this measure was unavoidable.

Attempts have been made to contrive that three Chinese papers published in Shanghai should insert an advertisement denouncing Li Hung-chang and other high officials for having sold Formosa to the Japanese by persuading the Emperor to ratify a Treaty ceding that island. Of course the newspapers declined to be parties to this extravagant indictment.

The *N.-C. Daily News* has a very shrewd remark about the interference of the three Powers. It says that by compelling Japan to restore the Liaotung Peninsula, the three Powers have completely marred the effect of the lesson that would otherwise have been taught to the Middle Kingdom. "China," says our contemporary, "will now be enabled to turn an unabashed face to her people and manufacture what explanations she pleases for the war and its cessation." As a corollary to this remark the same journal urges that European Powers should now do what Japan has been prevented from doing, namely, parcel up China. That would be a magnificent scramble involving the shattering of some of the scramblers.

Speaking of Japan's work in Korea—and speaking of it as we think in premature and impatient terms—the *N.-C. Daily News* says that Orientals can never reform Orientals, and in support of its theory adduces the case of Japan herself, who, it alleges, had she been "left to herself, or to the company of Orientals, would never have risen to a higher level than Korea." That is a sweeping statement. Our contemporary would have laid its readers under a greater obligation had it stated at what period of her existence Japan was on the same level as Korea. A very great deal is written about Korea and Japanese reform by gentlemen sitting comfortably in their arm-chairs, whose opinions doubtless deserve the utmost consideration. But for our own part we are inclined to think that Count Inouye

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knows a great deal more about what he is doing than all these erudite critics.

The Pekin correspondent of the *N.-C. Daily News* denies emphatically that China had anything like a secret treaty with Russia before the peace negotiations, but admits that the Viceroy Li, before leaving Pekin, obtained from the Russian Legation a promise of intervention in respect of Japan's terms of peace should these prove unfavourable to Russian interests.

The same correspondent writes that while "foreigners as a whole have been amazed at the moderation of Japan's terms, apart of course, from the cause of the quarrel, the Chinese have stood aghast at them." He expresses great regret that Japan did not enter Pekin, for he thinks that nothing else would have roused China to a genuine sense of her weakness.

Writing from Amoy, a correspondent of the leading Shanghai journal says :—

There is a widespread interest as to the fall of Formosa down here, and opinion seems to be a good deal divided as to whether it would be better or not for the island to pass into Japanese hands. Apparently many feel that if it must pass out of Chinese control, some European nation, say England, would do more good with it than Japan. Still, it is generally admitted that Japan would do far more than China has ever done to open up its stores of mineral and other wealth, and also would settle the aborigines once and for all. It certainly seems a discredit to China to have had it in possession for more than 200 years, and not to have been able to subdue, or control the savages up to this very time. We hear, however, that the Chinese in Formosa are mad at the idea of being given over to the Japanese without any fighting. No wonder there are rumours of insurrection among the soldiers and consequent danger to foreign residents and native Christians. If things are not settled one way or other before long, there is bound to be much trouble and perhaps loss of life in many parts of the island.

It appears to be confidently believed in Shanghai that Sir Robert Hart has undertaken to finance the indemnity due by China to Japan, and that by his advice also the re-purchase of the Liaotung Peninsula has been agreed to by the Tsung-li Yamên. If this be so, the American syndicate who took so much trouble to secure a plum for themselves by acting as money-lenders will have to go home disappointed.

The *China Gazette* seems very confident that the Chinese Government is responsible for the resistance that Formosa threatens to offer to Japanese occupation. It alleges that the people of the islands made their declaration of independence immediately after the arrival of General Tcheng Ki-tong who was secretly despatched from Shanghai after the exchange of ratifications. It seems to us hardly fair to prefer such a charge against the statesmen in Pekin. The whole affair is too fatuous to be associated with the deliberate action of any reasoning Government.

We take the following paragraph from the *China Gazette* :—

From our Tientsin Correspondent we learn that a reign of anarchy prevails at Shanhaikwan and in the camps on the Liao river. The soldiers have passed out of the control of their officers, whom they openly revile as cowards and incapables. Twenty thousand Hunan troops have been sent by Liu Kun-yi to suppress the seditious outbreak, but the new-comers, by joining their companions in arms, only add fuel to the fire. So seriously is the situation regarded that some of the men-of-war here have received notice to be ready to proceed to Shanhaikwan at short notice. From Hunan comes equally disquieting news, and it is not unlikely that the number of foreign gun-boats on the river in that neighbourhood will be increased. It is said that Wu Ta-cheng was so terrified by the attitude of the Hunanese that he bolted in the night from Wuchang back to Wuhu, where is now waiting for the excitement against him to subside.

A very earnest attempt is being made to introduce an electric tramway into Shanghai. There appears to be an unaccountable objection among some of the residents to the scheme. The recalcitrants ought to visit Kyoto where they would receive a striking object lesson in the convenience and handiness of the electric tram.

Howie, the parole-breaker, whose capture by the Japanese at Weihaiwei was expected to lead to striking developments, has evidently been released by the Japanese authorities, for he is now in Shanghai under no sort of restraint.

The *N.-C. Herald* has a peculiar paragraph with reference to the coming of the new British Minister :—

Mr. Satow will be welcomed back to Tokyo with open arms by numerous kindred spirits and the Japanese, and will naturally be speedily absorbed into the select circle between which and the commercial community of Yokohama, with the spirit of the nation, there is a wide gulf fixed. With each British Minister since the days of Sir Harry Parkes, this exclusiveness has been increasing, and once within the atmosphere of the capital a species of hypnotism seems to supervene which results either in utter and intense apathy, as in the case of Mr. Fraser, or in scientific and artistic mania such as Mr. Satow. The air of Tokyo is redolent of research; the study of the language casts a glamour; the charm of official courtesy and official function is irresistible, and the verdict goes forth to Downing Street that the "daughter of my people is healed" when the trader and residents in other parts of the country, brought into daily contact with the people themselves and not the moulding record of their moss-grown stones, can tell you she lies sick unto death. All this, though it contains a germ of truth, seems us a great exaggeration. The foreign community of Tokyo is made up of three elements, the diplomatic, scientific, and the missionary, with a very small scattering of folks that belong to none of the three. So far as the diplomatic and missionary circles are concerned, it cannot be said that they are exclusive for the sake of exclusiveness. It is true that the missionaries have for years been subjected to such wantonly savage criticism by the newspaper professing to be the organ of the Yokohama merchants, and so described indeed by the Citizens' Committee, that any member of the fraternity might be excused who shrank from putting his foot within the precincts of the Settlement, but the missionaries have always borne this brutality with admirable patience. Never in any single instance, so far as we know, have they made complaint, or shown resentment. Some of them have made their homes in the foreign settlements, and, by the devotion and purity of their lives, have won the esteem of impartial men. If the bond between them and the mercantile community is not closer, no one has any difficulty in determining where the fault lies. The scientific section of the Tokyo residents is certainly a thing apart, just as the Professors of a University in any great city live in a world distinct from that of the mass of the citizens. But it is nonsense to say that any gulf separates these men from their fellow countrymen in the settlements. On the contrary, close friendships exist between the two in many cases and the specialists of Tokyo have never been small enough to feel offence at the attempts made from time to time by Yokohama writers to class the foreign *employés* of the Japanese Government in a category below respect. It is a faded old fancy that is dragged once more into the light of day by our Shanghai contemporary. Yokohama is just as near to Tokyo as Tokyo is to Yokohama, and the so-called "gulf" can be crossed with equal facility from either side.

The Tientsin correspondent of the *North-China Daily News* reviews the situation in the East with remarkable perspicacity, as we think. The tendency of his remarks, though he does not follow them quite to their logical conclusion, is that the fight between China and Japan took place five or six years sooner than Russia had anticipated. That the great Northern Power would have welcomed such a fight when it was ready to reap the fruits of the combatants' exhaustion may be asserted without any insult to Russia. But the end of this century or the beginning of the next would probably have been the time chosen by the St. Petersburg statesmen had the course of events been under their control. In the interval their hope was to preserve the *status quo*, above all, to prevent any troublesome development of self-defending strength in China or Korea. The expulsion of Japan from the Liaotung Peninsula is thoroughly consistent with that policy, and her compulsory withdrawal from Korea would be equally in accord with Russian designs.

It is alleged that the Viceroy Li keeps applying to Pekin for extensions of leave, since he dare not visit the capital where the Emperor and the Censors are said to be equally infuriated against him. But His Majesty and his advisers are reported to be equally mad with Russia, France, and Germany who have not rubbed Japan's nose in the dust half as vigorously as Pekin hoped. On the whole, we doubt whether the sentiments of the Chinese Court or the Tsung-li Yamên can be analysed as easily as some writers imagine.

THE SECOND SIFTING.

The second examination of those desirous of obtaining a license to teach English in Middle Schools was held, as we have already announced, on the 20th instant at the Mombusho. The twenty-six who had successfully stood the preliminary test of their knowledge were this time examined *viva voce*, each competitor being closeted separately for from fifteen to twenty and, in one case, even thirty minutes, with the triad of examiners. The hard work, requiring limitless patience and trained skill, of putting various grammatical questions to the students, of making them orally parse and construe and paraphrase, devolved upon Professor Naibu Kanda, than whom there could scarcely be a more strictly just examiner. The book chosen in this instance was a reprint of certain chapters in Scott's "Ivanhoe," the part describing the Tournament at Ashby-de-la-Zouche being selected. This reprint, under the style of "The Tournament at Ashby," has now become a text-book in Middle Schools. Of the twenty-six who went up for this second test, no less than sixteen failed to satisfy the examiners. The remaining ten were to be put through their final paces on the 24th, when it is expected that not more than one-half will obtain the coveted licence. It may be urged that these examinations err on the side of severity, but we are of wholly different opinion. The teaching of English in Government schools is now vastly superior to what it was a few years ago, surprisingly rapid progress and improvements having been made. Peter Parley's wholly untrustworthy historical miscellany is not now, as it used to be, the *ultima Thule* of Japanese instructors of English. First-class teachers are expected to be fully competent to explain any of Thackeray's works, as well as those of Herbert Spencer, Lord Macaulay, George Eliot, Charles Sumner, and a host of verbose if correct modern essayists. Moreover, the standard of Middle Schools has been so raised that their alumni can at once enter a Higher Middle School, in which a further three years' course—it used to be five—fits them at once to matriculate at the Imperial University. In a word, a graduate of a Middle School has had, on the average, nearly if not quite six years of thorough instruction in English, during the last two of which, in most cases, he has been taught to express himself conversationally in the Anglo-Saxon idiom. For these reasons those who aspire to hold a teacher's license for the Middle Schools must needs be very good English scholars indeed; fluent speakers and ready writers. It is for considerations of this description that the examinations are of so severe and exacting a type, and it is quite right that they should be so. Many, indeed most, students never go farther than the fifth and final year of the Middle Schools, and it stands to reason that their six years' training in English should be of so high and finished a grade that they may be enabled to make some practical use of their knowledge. For a thorough acquaintance with this world-wide language means a competence and ready employment at once; while those of exceptional skill are almost invariably sure of official preferment.

During the forenoon of the 30th inst. letters and telegrams of congratulation upon the return of the Emperor were received by the Imperial Household Department to the following amount: —Over 3,000 letters from public associations and 1,200 letters from individuals, 2,000 telegrams from public associations and 500 telegrams from individuals.

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THE NIPPON IRON FOUNDRY IN TROUBLE.

The Nippon Iron Foundry is again in trouble. Our readers are aware that, in consequence of having failed to fulfill its contract with the Tokyo City Council for the supply of pipes to be used in the Water-works, the company had its surety money of 50,000 *yen* confiscated; and that with the view of realizing its original aim, it raised an additional sum of 250,000 *yen* from its shareholders, and re-commenced work after having effected thorough reforms in its office and factories.

The contract with the City Council was then renewed and the company obtained an order to supply ten thousand tons of pipes. It has already furnished 4,000 tons, and the pipes are said to be of such excellence as to fully support comparison with foreign-made articles. The pipes laid between Yodobashi and Hongo reservoir were all manufactured by the company, but the business has never been a paying one. The Company seems to have been so intent upon manufacturing pipes of excellent quality that it did not give sufficient attention to financial considerations. The undertaking, which could never have paid even in times of peace, has been confronted by additional difficulties owing to the war, the disturbance of exchange, the rise in the price of coke and other necessaries, and also by the enhanced cost of wages. The result is that not only has a sum of 300,000 *yen* been lost, but also a debt amounting to over 100,000 *yen*, has been incurred. The Company claims, however, that the chief cause of its troubles is the abnormally low price at which it undertook to supply pipes to the City. It agreed to furnish them at the rate of about 57 *yen* per ton, an excessively low figure, seeing that the ruling rate at present varies from 100 *yen* to 150 *yen*. Even iron pipes of rude manufacture command a price of about 80 *yen* per ton. Thus the company has been subjected to a loss (?) of more than 50 *yen* for every ton of pipes it supplied to the City Council, and that it has been reduced once more to a very miserable financial condition is not strange. It has been obliged to devote its whole strength to the manufacture of pipes, rejecting many offers of profitable contracts on other accounts. Its affairs have now fallen into a state beyond its power to control, and rumour says that it will soon submit a petition to the City Council. Its perplexities are accentuated by internal troubles. Mr. Totake Hideyuki, who was one of its managers until a few months ago, is said to have sued the Company, demanding that certain machines now in active use be stopped, and also that the sum of 10,000 *yen* be paid to him in consideration of their use up to the present time. Another of the ex-managers intends to seek restitution of the amount contributed by him toward the expense of starting the Company. The re-election of managers took place a few months ago, and well-known capitalists, as Messrs. Hamano, Amenomiya, and Abe, were chosen on the new Board. Many old debts of the Company are said to be constantly coming to light, and its affairs, in short, are tottering on the verge of bankruptcy. People in Tokyo are waiting to see how the new President, Mr. Hamano, will contrive to tide over the difficulties. We take the above account from the *Shogyo Shimpo* and several other journals.

THE NEED OF ALLIES.

Under the above heading, the *Jiji Shimpo* strongly advises the Japanese Government to seek allies among the Great Powers of the world, so that Japan may always be prepared for any hostile combination organized against her. In proportion as her position is raised by the recent war with China, so must also increase the difficulties of effectively preserving her new prestige as the strongest State in the East. What is most urgently required, in the opinion of the *Jiji*, as, indeed, of every other leading Japanese journal, is the increase of her military power in general, and the augmentation of her Navy in particular. The greater part of the indemnity obtained from China must be appropriated for the construction of men-of-war. On this point we are told that there will be no dissentient voice in the whole nation. As to the foreign policy of the Empire, it would be Japan's wisest course, were such a policy possible, to stand aloof from any diplomatic combination and endeavour to be the commanding Power in the East without assistance from other countries. Such, in fact, was the policy formerly advocated by the *Jiji*. But the force of circumstances has compelled our contemporary to acknowledge the impossibility of carrying out such a policy. "Now that the Powers of Europe have begun to pay vigilant attention to Eastern affairs, it must be expected that Japan's efforts to protect and further her prestige and interests may at any moment produce complications with not only one but even two or three of those Powers. In such an event it would be little short of madness for Japan to defy their combined forces without the assistance of any ally. Evidently the wisest course will be to confront combination by counter-combination. Some of our countrymen may be disposed to reject the idea of a foreign alliance as suggestive of an abject and craven spirit alien to the heart of the *samurai*. Such persons ought to recollect that not a country in the world is bold enough now-a-days to rely upon its own military strength alone for the maintenance of its independence. All the Powers vie with each other to increase their allies, for they know that it is dangerous to maintain a solitary position in the present state of civilization. Diverse as are the particular foreign politics pursued by European countries, the ultimate object aimed at is in every instance to secure the friendship and alliance of as many States as possible. The conclusion of secret conventions for mutual assistance is thus one of the most common practices in the world of civilized diplomacy. . . . Hitherto her geographical position has enabled Japan to stand aloof from all diplomatic combinations with European Powers. But with the increase of direct contact with those countries, it cannot fail to become more and more necessary for her to have some allies. The statesmen responsible for the direction of the Empire's foreign policy ought therefore, to study closely the condition of affairs abroad and to form a clear idea as to which nations may be counted as friends and which must be reckoned as enemies. It is already high time to take such precautionary measures so that there need be no confusion and consternation in case of emergency."

FORMOSAN CAMPHOR.

Formosan resources and industries are of course attracting a good deal of journalistic attention in Tokyo. The camphor forests of the island are spoken of as a probable source of wealth, in view of the facts that Japan and Formosa are practically the only camphor-producing countries in the world—the Borneo vegetable being of a different character—and that the demand for camphor has increased of late years. A naïve comment is made by one of our vernacular contemporaries, namely, that camphor has been discovered to have properties fatal to the mildew parasite; an assertion that might have been addressed with greater interest to our ancestors several generations ago. What we specially note, however, is that the writers in the vernacular press seem to ignore the important point that Formosan camphor can not be suitably refined without the addition of a certain proportion of the Japanese vegetable. If the experts of this country can discover the cause of that peculiarity, they may succeed in imparting a greatly increased value to the camphor forests of Formosa.

MR. H. S. WILKINSON.

Yesterday evening a Conversazione, by way of farewell to Mr. H. S. Wilkinson, was given in the Public Hall, Yokohama, under the auspices of the following ladies who acted as hostesses:—Mrs. Bayne, Mrs. Bennett, Mrs. Center, Mrs. Cook, Mrs. Dare, Mrs. Dodds, Mrs. Dunlop, Mrs. Eldridge, Mrs. Fraser, Mrs. Hepburn, Mrs. Litchfield, Mrs. Mollison, Mrs. Moss, Mrs. Reid, Mrs. Rickett, Mrs. St. John, Mrs. Thomas, Mrs. Vivanti, Mrs. J. Walter, Mrs. W. B. Walter, Mrs. Wheeler, and Mrs. Whittall. Virtually all the leading residents of Yokohama and Tokyo were present, and a most delightful evening was spent. Mr. Wilkinson starts for Shanghai to-day, the place temporarily occupied by him as Judge of the British Court being resumed by Judge Mowat. It would have been impossible for any official to win greater popularity in this Settlement than Mr. Wilkinson has won during the year of his residence. He possessed, it is true, a wide circle of friends before he re-visited Japan to preside over the Court at Kanagawa, but even without such antecedents his open-handed hospitality and genial kindliness must have opened every heart to him. Of his capacity as a Judge it is unnecessary to say much. Thorough research, conscientious accuracy, and sound insight have always been characteristic of him, and he displayed these high qualities during the year of Judgeship in a manner that commanded universal respect and confidence. His departure from Japan is a matter of genuine regret.

THE BOTANICAL GARDEN OF THE IMPERIAL UNIVERSITY.

Under the able direction of Prof. Matsumura, the Botanical Garden at Koishikawa, Tokyo, which is connected with the Imperial University, is making vast and rapid strides in the right direction, and will soon be an institution of which scholastic Japan will have every right to be proud. The grounds are very extensive and most picturesquely laid out, with all the skill peculiar to Japanese landscape-gardening and yet with scientific precision and accuracy. The Garden, at all times deserving a visit, is at present unusually attractive in consequence of the large number of strange and beautiful varieties of roses in bloom, including two remarkable and odorous species from Yezo. In the hothouses we notice several new orchids, two or three of which are said to be as yet unknown to science. The orchid display is really magnificent and deserves a better or rather more commodious building. Peculiarly appreciated by foreigners must be two large beds of mignonette, the fragrance of which is redolent of old memories and bygone times. Few people are aware, we believe, that cut flowers of the choicest description are always to be had at the garden, at a very modest price. Moreover, the management annually publish a list of seeds, taken from plants and trees growing in the garden, that is as instructive as it is indicative of patient skill. In the first place both the Latin and Japanese names of each species are given, thus rendering the list of more than usual philological value; and secondly, a large number of rare things are there enumerated, calculated to make the mouth of any floriculturist water. The "List of Seeds collected in 1894-1895" is just out. Twenty-one well-printed pages are devoted to the enumeration of hundreds of species, nearly every known Japanese plant figuring therein. Among others we find ten species of oaks; nine of cherries; sixteen of chrysanthemums, including the beautiful Satsuma variety and the arctic form; fifteen kinds of asters; seven different laburnums; six rhododendra; nine species of hibiscus; and an equal number of ilex. Among the roses, of special interest are *adcularis, indica, yessaensis, rugosa, microphylla, multiflora, var. platyphylla*, and *Luciæ*. All these seeds can be had for prices that will compare favourably with those of any seedsman in Europe or America.

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THE SITUATION.

DESPITE the conclusion of peace there appears to be an uneasy feeling in Japan. The proverbial tendency of the Korean official mind to seek in foreign aid a solution of domestic perplexities is supposed to have been accentuated by the action of the three European Powers in compelling the restoration of the Liaotung Peninsula to China. Foreign interference is in the air, and now that Japan is playing the part of the Old Man of the Sea in the peninsula, the device of getting Russia to pull off the incubus is said to commend itself to the imagination of the Korean Sinbad. There can be little doubt that Russia would be well pleased to accept a commission the successful discharge of which would endow her with control of Korea's destinies. A port on the eastern coast of Korea—Gensan, for example—would be a much more convenient terminus than Vladivostock for the Siberian railway, not only saving a distance of several hundreds of miles, but also affording the desideratum long coveted by the Northern Colossus, namely, free access to the Pacific all the year round. But, as usual, rumour seems to have outrun reality in this instance. We believe it to be untrue that any section of Korean statesmen have thrown themselves into Russia's arms, or that any demand for the evacuation of the peninsula by Japan has been officially formulated from St. Petersberg. It is true that Russia's naval force in Eastern waters is now conspicuously stronger than that of any other Western Power. She has seventeen ships-of-war and fourteen torpedo-boats, and among the former are seven vessels powerfully armed and well protected. The Japanese Navy outnumbers this Squadron, but Japan's ships are inferior in protection, and many of them must stand in need of re-fitting after the campaign just concluded. Thus, for the moment, Russia seems to have command at sea, and the public naturally suspects her of desiring to utilize this unique opportunity to obtain paramount influence in Korea where the distasteful nature of Japan's reform programme has led the conservative party to look abroad for a deliverer. From Russia alone, however, it is impossible that Japan would recoil. Russia backed by Germany and France represented a combination that Japan dared not defy, but Russia unaided, above all, Russia endeavouring to achieve the very consummation that Japan fought the recent war to avert, could scarcely browbeat the Japanese nation without first getting the better of it conclusively in a fair trial of strength. The situation between Japan and Russia with regard to Korea closely resembles that between England and France with ard to Egypt. Russia does not want n to become a permanency in Korea, and despite the assurances that the statesmen in St. Petersburg have received of this Empire's resolve to establish, rather than to overthrow, Korea's independence, they may possibly deem it wiser to push Japan out of the peninsula at once than to wait until she vacates it of her own free will. On the other hand, Japan fought with China primarily to avert the contingency of Korea's falling into the hands of a Western Power, a contingency always in sight so long as the peninsula remained a no-man's land, neither Chinese nor Korean. Japan, therefore, could not consent to scuttle at Russian dictation without deliberately resigning all the fruits of her victories and tamely submitting to an issue which, more than all others, would menace her own national integrity. Thus little perspicacity is needed to detect that the situation at present is fraught with serious eventualities supposing Russia's mood to bé resolute and enterprising. But that supposition is precisely the turning-point of the crisis. It might be worth Russia's while to risk a war with Japan alone, the Korean peninsula being the prize of victory, but Russia knows perfectly well that she has to reckon with England also in any venture of the kind. We strongly suspect that the situation perplexes Russian statesmen just as much as their intention perplexes the general public.

THE YINGKOW AFFAIR.

INVESTIGATIONS conducted by the Japanese Authorities at Yingkow tend to remove much of the odium attaching to the use of misleading house-flags by Chinese merchants. Our readers have been told that when the Japanese took possession of Yingkow, they found that, at a number of stores obviously belonging to Chinese and used by the latter for carrying on business, flags were hoisted and notices posted, representing the places to be the property of this or that British firm. It has been further suggested very plainly that permission to employ these flags was accorded by the British firms for a consideration, and that the whole transaction savoured of the worst possible faith. We know now, however, that the device, though dishonest strictly speaking, is not by any means open to the invidious interpretation put upon it by critics always ready to score a point against the fair fame of England in the East. The prime object contemplated in hoisting the flags was to protect the houses of Chinese tradesmen against marauding bands of their own country's soldiers. Bitter experience has shown what may be expected from defeated Chinese braves, and if the display of a foreign flag could deter these gentry, to lend it for that purpose would have been an act of common benevolence, not of simulation or chicanery. The Japanese officials, who were sent to take civil charge of the town after its capture by the military, are now agreed that among the British house-flags displayed at Chinese stores and residences, seven out of every ten were intended to serve as a protection against outrages by the Chinese soldiery. That in a few cases a similar precaution should have been employed with regard to the Japanese troops was perfectly natural. Reports representing the behaviour of the Japanese in a favourable light had doubtless reached Yingkow, but they had not been uniform, and if the Chinese, not trusting such reports explicitly, made application to friendly English firms, with which they had long been dealing, for such protective aid as the display of a flag or a sign-board might afford, we can easily understand the difficulty and even the harshness of a refusal. Besides, the thing did not partake in any sense of the nature of a fraud. The Japanese were not cheated out of anything properly belonging to them. Under no circumstances would they have appropriated the houses of peaceful Chinese merchants without duly paying for them. Thus the upshot of the matter is that a few English merchants lent aid to guarantee Chinese traders against risks not really to be apprehended, but which, had they in truth existed, it would have been a plain duty to avert even by hoisting deceptive flags or sign-boards. That appears to be the whole case in a nutshell. We understand that the temporary Japanese Civil Governor of the place, Mr. SANNOMIYA, took steps to convey to the Army a clear knowledge of the facts of the case, and to spread the information that no serious blame attached to any of those concerned.

Before dismissing this subject, we feel constrained to add a word about the conduct of the men on board the United States ship-of-war lying in Yingkow river at the time of the Japanese troops' entry. We have said that in cheering the Japanese soldiers, and in banquetting a number of the Japanese officers in the ward-room, a distinct breach of neutrality was committed, and some Ameriuan correspondents have taken exception to our verdict, on the ground, apparently, that such demonstrations of sympathy between brave men are natural and inevitable. So they are, perhaps, but none the less their import is unmistakable, and persons indulging in them cease to occupy the position of neutrals. At the same time, it would not have occurred to us to write a word of censure had not a contrast unfavourable to Englishmen been drawn between the demeanour of the men on board the American vessel and that of those on board the British ship at Ying-kow. In view of such a comparison, it seemed necessary to point out that the discipline preserved in a British ship-of-war would not allow of any display such as that made by the Americans, and that to infer absence of sympathy from absence of an impossible demonstration is obviously unfair.

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THE NUDE IN JAPANESE ART.

THE first appearance of the nude in Japanese art has provoked much controversy. It has often been remarked, by way of adverse criticism, that the Japanese artist neglects the human figure altogether, and confining himself entirely to trivial studies of scenery, bird and insect life, or foliage and flowers, misses almost the whole field of human emotions as well as the finest types of symmetry and grace that nature has given us. The criticism is true in some degree, but seems to err on the side of severity. Facial emotion and physical action have never eluded faithful representation at the hands of the Japanese artist, though broad and powerful displays of either have always been vetoed by the wretched canons of a conventionalism that sets narrow limits to the choice of subjects. A discussion of that phase would lead us, however, beyond our present purpose, which is merely to note that the nude has invariably been banished from Japanese pictures, except in cases where immoral effects are openly contemplated. Curious as this may appear at first sight, it is nevertheless a fact that while modesty, as we of the West understand the term, receives little practical recognition among the lower, and even the middle, classes in Japan, the Japanese artist has always obeyed rules of modesty such as would satisfy the prudest representative of Occidental puritanism. But significance of his restraint in this respect may easily be over-rated, just as absence of such restraints among the people may be falsely interpreted. Long observation convinces us that apparent indifference to modesty in matters of every-day life must not be regarded as conclusive evidence of immorality. Absence of concealment, which in Europe or America would inevitably be associated with absence of moral restraint, has no such significance in this country, and doubtless the low conception of Japanese morality so common among superficial foreign critics is the result of inferences which, though justifiable under corresponding circumstances in Europe, are false and misleading in Japan. The Japanese live much closer to nature than we do, and connect no sense of shame with acts which, being unavoidable in themselves, ought not, they think, to be too closely circumscribed by sentimental canons. We have to remember their different point of view before we attempt to construct any moral deductions with the materials that their departures from our own practical standards furnish. Similarly, their artists' uniform avoidance of the nude implies no special rigidity of morals, but is simply, as we believe, due to the fact that the unclothed body has always been associated in this country with the idea of physical toil, and consequently suggests subjects not invit-ing contemplation by the noble and gentle. In whatever is natural the Japanese sees no harm. He does not object to a walker's girding up his loins, to a mother's feeding her baby in public, to a labourer's removing any articles of clothing that impede his muscular movements, or to a woman's bathing near the road-side. But since he permits such displays solely on the ground of convenience and even necessity, he finds no excuse whatever for the exhibitions purposely made by Western ladies in evening costume, and it has never occurred to him to dissociate the nude from the conditions that alone warrant nudity in his eyes. Western art consequently presents to him a perplexing problem, for Western art revels in the nude, and has carried its worship of the human body to excesses as revolting as they are unpardonable. There have been and there are sculptors and artists so gifted as to be able to divest nudity of all material suggestiveness, and to hide from us everything save the perfect curves and exquisite graces of the female body, or the grand contours and noble proportions of the male. But such men do not number one in a hundred thousand, and the etherialism with which they clothe the nakedness of their subjects becomes, in the hands of their host of imitators, a torn garment, revealing more than it conceals. Should the new excursion of the Japanese into the domain of Western art be extended to the study of the nude, or should it stop short of that exceedingly debatable ground? Hitherto the Japanese painter in oils tacitly solved the problem for himself by avoiding the nude altogether. But the canon thus established is violated by a picture now displayed in the Fine Arts Department of the Kyoto Exhibition. It is a picture of a woman standing before a mirror so that the back and front of her body are completely displayed. The artist is Mr. KURODA, a young painter said to give promise of high attainment. He has received his education in Paris. There he painted the picture of which we write, and there also he obtained for it some sanction in the form of a public prize, or corresponding mark of approbation, as to the nature of which we are not fully informed. What mood of tolerance possessed his judges it is difficult to conceive. The picture has not one redeeming feature. In technique and conception alike it is wretched. What has art to do with a nude woman standing before a mirror? What has a woman to do with self-contemplation in such a condition? There lately began to come into vogue in Europe a certain rough style of execution adapted only to distant inspection. Mr. KURODA seems to have followed this fashion, but, as is usually the case, mannerism in the hands of an imitator has degenerated into a travesty. We can not conceive what induced the Committee to admit the picture to the Exhibition. Its display has naturally provoked an outburst of protest, which is met by the uniform explanation that paintings of the kind are freely admitted to the best European salons. They are not. We affirm that no hanging committee in Great Britain would have consented to expose this picture to public view. It is a disgrace to the art that it professes to illustrate. The only consolation we find in the incident is that it may probably exercise a deterrent effect. Every Japanese visiting the Exhibition in Kyoto must carry away from the contemplation of this painting a disgusted impression. We are sorry that Japan's acquaintance with the nude in Western art should be made under such misleading circumstances, but we are not sorry that she should appreciate the immense difficulties environing this branch of painting.

THE TAKING-OVER OF FORMOSA.

IT could scarcely have been supposed that credence would be given to the Shanghai rumour of Lord LI'S having asked the Japanese Government to suppress the troubles in Formosa before his own journey thither to effect the transfer. Surely it should not be necessary to point out that such a story is absurd on the face of it. If there devolves upon the Chinese Government any responsibility to hand over the island without trouble to its new possessors, an open attempt to shift the responsibility to Japan's shoulders could be regarded only as a practical joke, and Lord LI is not the kind of man to deliberately set about making his country a world-wide laughing stock. We do not, for our own part, understand clearly what is meant by "the transfer" of Formosa. If the island were a species of chattel kept by the Chinese in one of the capacious sleeves that form part of their national costume, the act of taking it out of that receptacle and placing it in Japan's hands would satisfy the ordinary definition of the term "transfer." But to us it seems that so soon as possession of an island or district is conventionally renounced by the Power hitherto holding it in favour of another Power, then the transfer is a *fait accompli* for all practical purposes, and nothing remains except that the latter Power should send officials to administer the newly acquired territory, supplementing them by troops in the event of such a course seeming necessary. In the Treaty of Peace, however, it is stipulated that, immediately upon the exchange of ratifications, each of the High Contracting Parties "shall send one or more commissioners to Formosa to effect a final transfer of that province, and within the space of two months after the exchange such transfer shall be completed." Whether the drafters of this clause had in mind some form of ceremony such as the hauling down of

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Chinese flag and the hoisting of the Japanese, in certain positions, or whether they contemplated the posting of proclamations or the removal of troops and officials, we cannot tell. Elsewhere in the Treaty there is a provision securing to the inhabitants of China's ceded territories the privilege of removing from the ceded districts within two years after the exchange of ratifications. Hence the two months allowed in Formosa's case can not have reference to anything of that kind. Doubtless the object was to give time for the Chinese Government to carry away its troops and officials, and now it seems that the troops and officials are not disposed to go, but incline rather to setting up on their own account. If China adhere strictly to the letter of the Treaty her commissioner ought to have been in Formosa before now, and he ought, moreover, to have been provided with means to carry out the transfer by force if necessary. But the task is an exceedingly unpleasant one for China, and we can not be surprised if she seeks, by every possible means, to shirk its worst obligations. Viscount KABAYAMA ought to have reached the Pescadores by this time. He is entitled, by the terms of the Treaty, to land unmolested, but if, as seems probable, an attempt be made to resist him, we may assume that he will not hesitate to employ the strong force at his disposal. As to the contingency of a stubborn resistance on the part of the Chinese in the island, we think it scarcely worth serious consideration. Many strange rumours are afloat with regard to the secret springs of the republican force, some people professing to suspect that the hand of a European Power is in the affair, and others that the whole business has been fomented by the Chinese Government. Neither hypothesis seems to deserve any credence. The only disquieting contingency discernible is that foreign interests may become involved in the struggle, and that a pretext may thus be furnished for interference which, perhaps, there is distinct willingness in certain quarters to exercise.

THE BLOWITZ INCIDENT.

THE BLOWITZ Incident has terminated for the moment, but M. DE BLOWITZ has still to anticipate indictment on other counts. The charge against him was that in his correspondence to *The Times* he had made a statement suggesting that the tone of the French press is influenced by the Foreign Embassies in Paris. The representatives of the Parisian journals, deeming that their honour was touched by such an implication, called a syndicate to consider the question, and, if necessary, to take action on it. At first there was much doubt as to the competence of the syndicate. Evidently M. DE BLOWITZ might snap his fingers at the whole affair, were he disposed; might decline altogether to attend the *séances* of the syndicate, and might treat its decisions with indifference. But he was not inclined to adopt any such independent course. On the contrary, he resolved the syndicate's perplexity as to its power to invite his presence by intimating that he should be only too happy to attend and to offer any explanations required of him. The syndicate held its first meeting in the hall of the Alcazar d'Italie, on April 17th. This meeting was not empowered to pronounce any decision, but only to hear and record the case against M. BLOWITZ, in order that the facts might be submitted in writing to a full meeting of press representatives the following day. The proceedings of the syndicate as well as of the subsequent meeting were not allowed to be published, the only matter given to the world being a copy of the principal question addressed by the President to M. DE BLOWITZ, together with the latter's reply. Only 30 representatives of the press, directors and editors, attended the full conclave, so that it was by no means a very imposing affair. The result, indeed the whole story of the incident, is clearly set forth in the extract of which publication was authorized :—

> The President asks M. de Blowitz whether he knows a journal or a journalist having with any ambassador interested relations that can explain that it is by such motives that ambassadors are able to soften, control, or rectify the opinion or the tone of French journals.
>
> M. de Blowitz replies that he does not know absolutely any journal or any journalist having submitted to the interested action in question, or any ambassador that has been able to exercise it. What he said, what he intended to say, was that the English Embassy was the only Embassy that had no press bureau; that is to say, according to his idea, an organization having for its object to follow exclusively the movements of the press, to interpose with it, directly or indirectly, and by these means to apply itself so that the tone of the press toward the English nation should not assume the irritable character that it has recently assumed.
>
> M. de Blowitz added that he knew no instance of venality on the part of the French press, and that, if in any of his recent correspondence, his pen had not been true to his thought, he should regret it profoundly.

The above having been read out, the following resolution was adopted by the assembly :—

> The Assembly, noting the declaration of M. de Blowitz, limits itself to asserting the contradiction that has long existed between his correspondence and the quality of Frenchman that he has thought himself able to take, leaves his conduct to the judgment of public opinion, and passes to the order of the day.

We have not followed the letters of M. DE BLOWITZ with sufficient accuracy to appreciate the rancour evidently existing against him in Paris. But looking at the special incident under consideration, the whole business seems most strange. It is a matter of the commonest knowledge that the relations existing between an Embassy or Legation and the editor of a newspaper can not fail to influence its tone, for this reason, if for no other, that the character of a journal's writings must depend, in great measure, on the information at its command. If an Ambassador or Minister takes any trouble to correct the facts on which an editor's false impressions are based, or to convey a just analysis of the motives guiding the country he represents, it is inevitable that his influence should make itself felt in the columns of the journal concerned. Such action is absolutely legitimate. Any editor resenting it would be extremely silly. There are men, it is true, who carry their strange ideas of independence so far that to mislead and agitate the public by diatribes founded on erroneous hypotheses seems in their eyes, preferable to seeking correct knowledge from the only trustworthy sources. The mischief done by the press in this manner is incalculable, and we certainly do not think that the palm for moral balance and absence of hysteria can be accorded to the newspapers of Paris. Absolute abstention from any attempt to exert pressure on journalistic writing is an honourable and proud tradition of British officialdom, and not even the most excitable and ignorant of French journalists can have imagined that M. DE BLOWITZ, writing in the columns of *The Times*, intended to advocate the slightest deviation from that admirable rule on the part of a British Embassy. But we doubt whether absolute indifference toward the press can be an advisable attitude for the British Embassy in Paris. Such an attitude ought to be possible and proper, and would be so were the press guided by a true sense of responsibility. When, however, newspapers allow themselves to play the rôle of international incendiarism, as has of late been the fashion with many journals in France, and to precipitate strife by appeals to passion and prejudice, then it certainly becomes the duty of every one in a position of power—a duty dictated not merely by the interests of one nation but by the principles of humanity—to employ all legitimate means for correcting so pernicious an influence. A man of such profound tact and wisdom as Lord DUFFERIN is not in the least likely to have neglected this duty, and the British public will not be disposed to think that the criticism of M. DE BLOWITZ has any solid basis. The point is, rather, that the journalists of Paris should have interpreted his comments, first, in the sense of a suggestion that illegitimate and venal methods ought be resorted to by HER MAJESTY'S Representative in Paris in order to influence the tone of the press, and, secondly, in the sense of an implied charge that such methods were habitually resorted to by all the other Embassies. That, and nothing else, is what we come to when we push the procedure of the Parisian journalists to its logical sequel, and it certainly does not redound to the credit of the French press that its principal representatives should have allowed themselves to be carried away by a vertigo of the kind.

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POLITICAL PARTIES AND THE GOVERNMENT.

IT has been a point of great interest to know what course the various political parties would take with reference to the Cabinet's action in agreeing to restore the Liaotung Peninsula to China. The opportunity was one that might have been turned to account by an Opposition more self-seeking than patriotic, and as politicians are generally self-seeking, many onlookers predicted a troublous time for the Government. But their prediction does not seem likely to prove correct. The *Kaishin-to*, implacable enemies of the Government as they always are, together with a portion of the Reform Party (*Kakushin-to*), did indeed seek to bring about a union of all the political coteries for the purpose of attacking the Cabinet, and several meetings of delegates were held with the hope of arranging a common platform. But the *Jiyu-to*, which, as our readers know, is incomparably the most powerful among the political parties, refused to join the combination, and its example was followed by the *Kokumin Kyokai* as well as by the smaller bodies that usually vote with the Opposition. The motive of this display of moderation, as described by the vernacular press, is that serious politicians, sensible of the many important undertakings now inviting national effort, and aware that if the old state of perpetual collision between the Government and the Diet be re-established, all useful business must be blocked, have made up their minds to follow constructive rather than destructive lines. It is not to be assumed that the Government's action with regard to the Liaotung Peninsula meets with universal approval. The Japanese are human; no nation could be expected to reconcile itself easily to the surrender of territory won in war, especially when the surrender is dictated by Foreign Powers. But we can be pretty sure that whatever heat of resentment may be felt in the first moments of disappointment, the longer the course adopted by the Government is examined, the better will the people become convinced of its wisdom, and the more thoroughly will they endorse the conviction now expressed by nearly all the political leaders, namely, that the one and only course for the nation is to develop its military capacity, increase its navy, and bide its time. We do not pretend to like that expression "bide its time." But it meets us everywhere. Whatever vernacular journal discusses the situation, somewhere, in its estimate of the nation's present duty, we find the words, "wait for a good opportunity on some future day" *(ta-jitsu no yoki kikwai wo matsu)*. If Japan's recent experience has taught her that her claims as a victorious nation weigh little against the exigencies of European politics, it has also taught her that nothing may be trusted but her own strength. Every one that has lived here a dozen years must remember what frequent and excellent counsels used to be given to the Government of this country with regard to the wisdom of developing the Empire's material resources and the folly of spending money on military or naval armaments. That was advice consistent with the best principles of civilization, but whatever inclination Japan might have felt to follow it in the face of the diametrically opposite practice of the most civilized Powers, she has abandoned all such disposition now. Left in undisturbed occupation of the Liaotung Peninsula, she might have over-rated her successes sufficiently to become careless, and her finances would certainly have been strained so as to narrow the margin available for military preparation. But she has received at the hands of the three European Powers a blow that effectually convinces her of her weakness, and drives her to take precautions against any repetition of such humiliations. Critics unable to see below the surface of the nation's mood, predicted intense political ferment in the sequel of the Cabinet's surrender, and foresaw an unprecedented outburst of energy on the part of the Opposition. But just as the exigencies of the war stilled the clamour of factions, so the old political animosities are now numbed by the sting of the new situation. The country seems to feel that it has grave work before it, and that there is no time for party squabbling. Whether this practical mood will last, we do not venture to predict, but it can be affirmed with certainty that the action of Germany, Russia, and France has contributed materially to Japan's military growth.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[Our readers must distinctly understand that we are in no sence responsible for the sentients or opinions of our correspondents, for the accuracy of their assertions, or for the deductions they may choose to draw therefrom.]

ARE THE FAULT-FINDERS LOGICAL?

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

SIR,—This question is suggested upon reading the article communicated to the *Japan Mail* of the 21st inst. wherein is reproduced the conversation of Mr.——one of the committee of the Opposition parties, to which is assigned the drawing up of a memorandum on the political situation. Mr.——is reported as saying, "It is true that we cannot consider that the present Ministers of State have done well in the diplomatic sphere. On the contrary, we maintain that they have committed a most serious and disastrous blunder in not having done anything to counteract, and provide against, the intervention of the European Powers." "Why did not the Cabinet effect some understanding with Russia before dealing with China? The thing was not impossible; probably it could have been arranged without much difficulty."

Mr. —— is associated with others, named by the combined Opposition, who must represent the mature diplomatic experience of the consolidated parties. Mr. —— is mentioned "as a well known rising politician of independent views." It is safe to assume that he has not had experience as a diplomat. How he can assume that "an understanding could have been arranged with Russia before dealing with China" is probably clearer to his mind than it is to others. To have come to an understanding with Russia alone would have provoked the antagonism of all the other European Powers. To have asked the consent of Russia to make terms with China would have been cause enough to foment a tremendous outburst of indignant protests from the very parties and men who now condemn the neglect so to do. It would have placed Japan in a most humiliating position, the position of a suppliant holding herself ready to do the will and behest of Russian arrogance. It was not thought necessary to petition Russia before the invasion of Korea and the subjugation of the Liaotung peninsula were effected; would the Opposition parties have counselled such an overture? Was the campaign in Korea entered upon with the obtained permission of Russia or any other Power? Japan was ostensibly fighting for the independence of Korea; in prosecuting that undertaking the necessities of the situation demanded the subjugation and occupation of Chinese territory, it demanded the extirpation of the Chinese forces marshalled in Manchuria. Should she have requested the permission of Russia to do this? The initial stages of the war were subject to the hinderances that Russia and the coalition could interpose as largely as the treaty negotiated at Shimonoseki was. The impetus and momentum of continuous victories on land and sea carried Japan further on the road of conquest than she herself anticipated—very much further than the European Powers were prepared for or believed possible. To have courted intervention by approaching either Russia, France, or Germany or any other European Power with supplications for their consent to act with a free hand in concluding a treaty with China, would have merited the disapprobation of the combined Opposition parties, and with good reason. No man or set of men foresaw the end of the complications growing out of the war at the commencement of the struggle; it was simply impossible. It was only when the end was attained that Russia, France, and Germany became alive to the condition of affairs. To have escaped from the repression Japan has suffered she must have either contented herself with freeing Korean territory of the Chinese armies, resting then, or have obtained the consent of Russia to follow the defeated foe into Manchuria. That the Liaotung Peninsula would fall such an easy prey to Japanese valour was a surprise to European Powers other than Russia. She, after the treaty transferring the peninsula had been negociated, entered her protest. How diplomacy could have averted the protest it is difficult to determine without having exhibited a large degree of cringing impotence in the premises. The Ministry should receive the plaudits of patriotic Japanese. They carried the war to a successful conclusion, they concluded an honourable treaty. No statesmen could have done more. It will require the best diplomacy to ensure the tranquillity of the Orient for many years to come, no amateur diplomats should be entrusted with the interests of the Japanese Empire. Now that there is peace prepare for war.

Yours, etc.,
X.

Yokohama, May 21st, 1895.

"PHALLICISM IN JAPAN."

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

SIR,—In the letter of Dr. Griffis published in the *Japan Mail* of the 7th May, I find the following statement:—

"As evidence that all the facts in the development of mind and religion are to be fated, appraised and correlated, we notice the issue of a pamphlet on the worship of the Phallus, by Mr. Edmond Buckley, who lived several years in Japan as teacher and investigator, at first hand, of a profound subject. His dissertation is set forth in a thirty-four paged pamphlet, with the title, 'Phallicism in Japan,' with photographs, bibliography, etc. The pamphlet is on sale by the Chicago University, and the treatment is that of a thorough scholar."

Permit me kindly to inform the readers of the *Japan Mail* what the work of this "thorough scholar" really is. It is a pamphlet containing nothing of mortal interest except the statement of one very surprising fact. That fact is that the author, Edmond Buckley, ex-teacher of the Doshisha missionary school in Kyoto, has been exhibiting at Chicago, as objects of the State Religion of Japan, certain obscenities which he acknowledges having obtained, or caused to be obtained, from various Japanese houses of prostitution;

Having made this criticism, permit me to substantiate it.

On page 14 of the pamphlet, its writer introduces the account of a list of articles in his possession with the following words: "I cannot do otherwise than describe the phallic part of my own collection of Shinto cultus—implements now on exhibition in the Walker Museum of the University of Chicago." This language is rather plain. Certain implements are exhibited as

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belonging to Shinto. Immediately following begins the list; and the first object is described as being "from one of the very numerous brothels at Yamada." Article No. 6 has a similar origin; and the rest of the poor collection of some thirty nonsensical trifles, which it took the author four years to collect, appears to contain less than a dozen articles which could have any phallic signification to the normal mind. Enormous *research, truly!* It would require not four years, but just four minutes to make a much larger collection, not in Japan indeed, but in Chicago itself, in New York, or in any large Western city.

The first 10 pages of this pamphlet are occupied with the writer's statements about his reading on the subject he treats, and his opinions on that reading,—both of no consequence themselves, except as betraying ignorance of sources and some familiarity with compilations. There are two sentences in these pages, however, worth citing, for reasons to be seen hereafter. The first is on page 6, declaring, after a mention of Mr. Satow's article on Japanese mythology in the *Westminster Review* for July, 1878, as well of treatises by Chamberlain and others:—

"It is noteworthy that each of these correct and learned treatises altogether overlooks the phallic cult," etc. Obviously—because they are correct and learned. The other sentence occurs on page 7. "In fact the rule seems to be, as stated to me by Dr. Reid of the British Museum, that as soon as one begins to study phallicism he goes crazy." The possible truth of this sweeping statement is certainly not contradicted by the evidences which the writer of "Phallicism in Japan" gives of the results in in his own case. For him the toys of children have assumed obscene significations. The Buddhist symbol of the *hoshi-no-tama* is obscene (page 15); —the image of the horse in a Shintō temple is obscene (though he is utterly unable to tell us why), see p. 29;—candy in the shape of peaches sold to children is obscene (p. 17);—the awabi and the cowry shells are obscene (p. 16); a picture of a tiger is obscene (p. 16);—the symbol accompanying every Japanese present is probably obscene (p. 33); and finally it is hinted that even the colours red and white, as used by Shintō in its costumes, ought to have an obscene origin (p. 34).

In the space of about twenty pages which he allows himself for indexing objects, quoting sections from the Latin parts of Chamberlain's *Kojiki*, and indulging in theories somewhat below the capacity of a street-urchin with a natural turn for the ludicrous, the ex-Doshisha teacher cannot very well attempt either argument or proof. Possibly there is as little room for the former in the head as upon the page. As for the *proof*, the non-existence of any is thought (p. 2) sufficiently excused by the writer's fear that "the lower sensibility" of the reader might be "unduly stimulated." The most we might reasonably expect are reasons. But when we come to look for reasons for those obscene suggestions the pamphlet offers, what do we find? Such statements as that, on page 17, "there is evidence in Mr. Satow's article in the *Westminster Review*" for the phallic character of a certain deity. Yet on page 4 he has already assured us that the article contains nothing on the subject! His scholarship on this theme seems to be confined to quotations from Rein, from Murray's Handbook, from Professor Chamberlain's *Kojiki* (which he re-interprets after a fashion new to the Professor), and from a few other sources which do not establish his point at all. What is his point? To show a relation between Shintō and Phallicism? Why? For a "Christian" purpose. The man, he tells us, must be like the God. Hence the God is like the man. The man is obscene. The God is obscene. The Gods of Shinto are obscene. The followers of Shinto are obscene. The religion of Japan is Shinto. The religion of Japan is obscene.

Here we are at least in reach of the writer's meaning.

But has he proved his point? Well, on page 32 he confesses that there are doubts about the matter; that there are "philological and archæological facts that point to the Ainus as the source of the cult, which [*the facts*] require consideration before the connection with Shinto can be considered settled." And nevertheless the writer exhibits in Chicago, as emblems of Shinto, obscene images obtained from brothels!

Further notice of the pamphlet is scarcely necessary,—except, indeed, to remark the absolute untruthfulness of the statement that the form of superstition referred to has priests, temples, rites, and ceremonies to-day. This is simply conscious falsehood. The superstition, lingers, if at all, only in forms and ways as little public as those kindred superstitions which, in spite of a thousand years of Christianity, still linger among the peoples of Southern Europe,—relics of the antique civilization. The Japanese government vanished the matter out of sight more than a *generation ago*; and it was reserved for missionary zeal apparently, to dig up the buried emblems for fresh exhibition,—exactly at what may have seemed a fine time for the feat. It was never a very awful matter—this "cult"—though not exactly suited to drawing-room exhibition; and was suppressed chiefly to avoid the wounding of Occidental modesty. But to bring out its corpse to the light of day, with an accompaniment of obscene verse translated from the Japanese,—and to make this cheap phallic procession with the aid of printer's ink for the diversion of western good people, was only possible for those fanatics whose intellectual capacity is well guaged by their capacity to see only the obscene and the monstrous in any other faith than their own. It would be rather severe to judge the pamphleteer by his own measure: "Show me your man, and I will show you his God." Nevertheless, he who can discover only the obscene in a national religion, might well be answered: "Your God, then, appears in the photograph on the first page."

Yours, &c.,
Z.

May 23rd, 1895.

CHRISTIAN CHAPLAINS FOR THE ARMY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Pending a fuller official report at some later date by an authorized member of the committee, it may not be amiss for me to give informally a few items of news concerning the special work for soldiers that has attracted such wide attention during the past months. The response to the committee's appeal was so prompt and generous that some $2,300 (silver) has come into Treasurer Wilson's hands at Hiroshima. All parts of Japan, also America, England, and Australia are represented in these gifts. Five Chaplains, Rev. Messrs. Miyazawa, Terada, Honda, Aoki, and Yamanaka were sent to the front and did excellent service.

A telegram recently received from Hiroshima announces that the *three* last have just returned, the two first having done so some weeks since.

The committee have fully $1,000 still in hand, and at a meeting held last week in Kobe, voted to send three new men to Formosa. It is hoped that Rev. Messrs. Hiraiwa, of Shizuoka, Hosokawa, of Nagoya, and Yoshikawa, of Kobe, may consent to go.

There is much enthusiasm over this continuance of what has proved to be exceedingly timely and telling work. Considering the limited number of workers, a great deal of helpful personal service as well as effective preaching has been done. A few first class men rather than a larger number of non-influential workers, has been the thought of those who had the matter under supervision.

This unique movement is worthy the continued sympathy of all who believe in a patriotism that is Christian and a Christianity that is patriotic.

Yours very truly,

J. H. PETTEE.

Okayama, May 28th, 1895.

ASIATIC SOCIETY OF JAPAN.

A meeting of the Asiatic Society was held at No. 17, Tsukiji, Tokyo, on Wednesday, May 22nd, at 4 p.m. Mr. J. H. Longford, the Vice-President, occupied the chair.

After the preliminary business of the meeting was transacted, the President, Rev. Dr. D. C. Greene, read the second and concluding part of his paper on *Tenrikyo*, or the Teaching of the Heavenly Principles. The writer devoted his attention mainly to the doctrines and worship of the sect.

ABSTRACT OF THE SECOND PAPER ON THE TENRIKYO.

As was stated in the former paper, the hymns are the only portion of the sacred writings which have been printed; hence it is natural that much interest should centre in them. They are called "The Kagura Hymns," or often simply "The Twelve Hymns," for the number is only twelve. There is no well sustained imagery in these hymns. The language is rough, with little or no attempt at rhythm, and hence there would be no fitness in a metrical translation. There is a balancing of clauses or phrases in most of the stanzas, however, which reminds one at first sight of the parallelism of the Hebrew Psalms, but the resemblance is purely a matter of external form. Many stanzas of these hymns are almost unintelligible as they stand, but they may have been plain enough in their original setting. Yet broken and imperfect though the hymns may be, there are noble thoughts enough to account for the impression they have made. One of them has been set to music, both according to the staff and the Tonic Sol-fa methods of notation. Dr. Greene read a few extracts from a translation of the Hymns, after which he passed on to an account of the doctrines of the sect.

The founder drew much of her material from the stock of popularized Confucianism which is represented by the Shingaku and Kiuo Dowa. She assumed the truth of the Chinese philosophy of the male and female principles embodied in all nature, and also the general truth of the type of Shintoism called the Ryobu Shinto. Apparently, she had no wish to start a new sect or to enter into conflict with her old teachers. Her simple purpose was to add certain new doctrines to the common faith.

While placing at the head of her system the Ten Gods, and while the phrase, *Tenno no Mikoto*, is constantly repeated in the services of the sect, Omiki plainly taught that the real objects of man's allegiance were the moon and the sun, for she insists upon this order and takes the German view of the gender of these heavenly bodies. The almost exclusive use of the formula, *Tsuki-hi*, (Moon and Sun), in the didactic and hortative portions of Omiki's discourses, would indicate that she had approached as nearly as her Chinese philosophy would allow to what Max Müller has called henotheism. Practically she believed in two gods and two only, which are represented in nature by the Moon and Sun and by the heavens and the earth, but in human society by the relation of husband and wife. These deities are endowed with personality, and are capable of all the emotions which sway the human heart.

She appears at times to assert that these deities are, taken together, the great First Cause, but at other times she appears to assume the eternity of matter. Such inconsistencies are natural. She was not versed in philosophy and was under no bonds to avoid dualism, but her dualism, so far as it appears, is that of childhood, and does not obscure the tendency to monotheism in her teaching, which became still more apparent in the discourses of some of her later followers. This tendency is shown in the use of the formula *Tsuki-hi*, but quite as much by a somewhat intangible undercurrent which can hardly be accounted for as due to the imagination of the reader.

This, though interesting, is not the feature of her teaching which Omiki emphasized. Her great doctrine was the parental relation of the Gods to men. Men are their children whom they yearn over and seek to save, especially from suffering and disease. This led to the doctrine of faith healing. At first she taught that neither physicians nor medicine were necessary, but under the pressure of public opinion her charges against the doctors have been withdrawn and the faithful are allowed, if not encouraged, to seek their help. Singularly enough, in view of the part played by the *kamioroshi* ceremony in the first revelation, there is little or no evidence that it is practiced by the sect at present. Probably this is another concession to public opinion.

While teaching the divine love, Omiki did not fail to warn her hearers that this love must not be trifled with and that no amount of religious service would avail without purity of heart.

The doctrine of the parental character of the gods led naturally to its corollary, the brotherhood of man, which is emphasized, however, more strongly by later preachers than by Omiki. Even the Emperor is the Elder Brother, the head of the family, and the special representative of the Divine Parents. With this doctrine is connected the claim to universality. The Japanese are in the direct line and nearer the parent stock, but all men will eventually acknowledge the Divine Parents and gather at the Yamato shrine.

She assumes, rather than expressly teaches, a future state of rewards and punishments. She also assumes the truth of the theory of transmigration, but is careful to state that this theory must not be allowed to weaken in any degree the sense of individual responsibility.

This imperfect analysis justifies the statement that this is an ethical movement. The stage occupied by Omiki cannot be called high, but her teaching was an attempt to make men better, and her followers have followed in her foot-steps. It is true, charges of gross immorality are often brought against this sect. They may generally be traced to bitterly partisan sources. There are evidences in plenty, no doubt, of a low standard of morality, but the opponents of the Tenrikyo might find within their own class instances of similar failings hardly less glaring. Some of the charges owe their origin, it may be, to sporadic cases of misconduct, but the rules and practice, so far as is known, are not open to objection in this regard. Men and women do not dance together now, whatever may have been the custom in earlier times.

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Dr. Greene then considered the question of the indebtedness of *Tenrikyo* to Christianity. In his opinion Omiki did not consciously draw from Christian sources, but possibly the influence of the teaching of Xavier and his followers may be seen not only in the *Tenrikyo* but also in the Kurozumi and other sects. No decisive answer to this question can be given until a more careful study has been made of the history of religion in Japan. The followers of Omiki, however, are clearly borrowing from Christianity and some of them are apparently students of the Christian Scriptures.

The theory underlying the worship of the *Tenrikyokwai* is that nothing pleases the Divine Parents more than to see their children happy. Hence the exhibition of cheerful, happy hearts is the truest worship. Accordingly, dancing and music are the prominent features of this worship, though prayer is by no means neglected. Preaching is also given a large place in their temples, which are rather preaching halls than temples.

This preaching naturally constitutes the main reliance in propagating the doctrines of the sect, and preaching places are found everywhere. Faith healing is emphasized and remarkable cures are said to be effected, and this need not be doubted. Money is said to be used to some extent in the way of gifts or loans as a means of gaining favour, but the very rapid growth of the sect would seem to show that no great reliance is placed upon such charity. The great cause of this rapid growth must be found in the popular belief in these faith-cures; but it is evident that back of this faith—indeed as its predisposing cause—there must be posited a loss of interest in the older sects, if not a downright distrust of their methods. There are multitudes who are looking for a new leader, and they see in the enthusiasm of the Tenrikyo preachers, as well as in their apparently miraculous powers, an evidence of spiritual authority. The seat of authority with this sect rests with the Chief Priest at Mishima. There are, however, in the principal cities superintendents who preside over what are called divisional congregations (*bunkyōkwai*), and possess a certain jurisdiction over the smaller branch congregations (*shi kyōkwai*), each of which has its own president. There are two of the divisional congregations in Tokyo, and perhaps fifteen branch congregations. The preachers are appointed by the Chief Priest on the recommendation of the heads of the branch and divisional congregations. The number of preachers is very large, probably a hundred or more in Tokyo alone. It is asserted that none of these officers or preachers, unless it be the Chief Priest, receive salaries, and that even the care of the temples is secured entirely by voluntary labour.

Although the limit of growth is by no means reached, it is probable that the rationalizing tendency already manifest will ere long weaken faith in the supernational element of the teaching and lead to the decay of the organization. However short-lived the sect may be, it is worthy of study, but its full lesson will not be known until it finds its place as a chapter in a comprehensive history of religion in Japan.

When the reading was finished, the Chairman stated that the Society owed special thanks to Dr. Greene for his scholarly paper. It was not easy even under favorable circumstances to get materials for an essay on a Japanese subject, but Dr. Greene had to contend against greater difficulties since he had to gather his knowledge from manuscripts and hearsay. Unless one had actual experience he could hardly appreciate what labour this involved. After an interesting discussion of the paper by the members present, the meeting adjourned at 5.30 p.m.

AN APPEAL.

A SHORT LETTER FROM MR. HISAO KANEKO TO HIS FOREIGN FRIENDS.

DEAR FRIENDS:—As some of you know, in June 1892, I began to take into my home a few orphans. The house I hired was small, but so at first was the number of the children, only five or six. I was resolved from the start to take in only as many as I could find means of supporting, either by my own efforts or by contributions. Owing to the lingering illness and the death of my first wife, our household continued small, but now that God has given me another efficient helpmeet, it has become possible to increase the number, and we have now a family of sixteen. This means that our small house of four rooms is very badly crowded.

In the first place, the boys and girls, some of them thirteen or fourteen years old, cannot be properly separated. This is a great hindrance to their proper moral education.

Moreover, in our present narrow quarters, the children have no place to play. In the street they are despised by other children, and they have no place to go where they can romp and not be ill-treated.

Again, in time of sickness, we have no separate room for the invalid. This is troublesome in cases of ordinary illness, but becomes a dangerous matter when a child takes an infectious disease.

These are all negative considerations. What I plan to do is not simply to save these children from beggary and crime, but give them something to do. Every one now has some little duty, but in our cramped quarters, no large work can be undertaken. In a larger place we could raise vegetables, have a pond for raising fish, carry on silk culture, pound rice and do other kinds of work which would not only save but bring in money.

One other consideration. The plan of the asylum includes provision for depraved children and those who have been convicted of crime and imprisoned, in fact a sort of child reformatory. But so far our attempts in this direction have proved failures because, with our present accommodation, such children, even if put in the asylum, immediately run away, and we cannot prevent it. So we want a place where they can be kept long enough to make them contented to enter the regular asylum. At present the children who are set free from penitentiary immediately go back to bad ways. My hope for these, if not to make them model citizens, is at least to save them from being an injury to society. In order to fulfil these hopes and carry out these plans we need more room, out doors and in. Fortunately we have obtained from the provincial government some two and a half acres of land rent free. This shows their sanction and approval of the institution, but in order to make use of their gift, a building is necessary, and I write to you in order to enlist your interest. If you can either contribute anything yourself or collect contributions from others, will you kindly forward the money to Mr. W. H. Noyes, of Maebashi. In the name of the Friend of Children;

Yours most sincerely, HISAO KANEKO.

Maebashi, Joshu, May, 1895.

CRICKET.

MR. WALFORD'S ELEVEN V. MR. CRAWFORD'S ELEVEN.

The wicket during the match on Saturday afternoon was again most unsatisfactory, and at one time serious talk was indulged in by members about the Pavilion as to the extreme probability of cricket being abandoned till the autumn and baseball substituted. We earnestly hope, however, that these gloomy views are premature, much as we like to witness a good game of baseball, and that the Committee will be able to get the refractory pitch into working order again without recourse to violent measures. A feature of Saturday's game was the tall score compiled by Lieut. Allenby. He was favoured once or twice by the fielders, but his 110 includes eighteen 4's besides several 3's. He retired amid great applause. Other good scores were made by Walford, 56, Crawford, 49, and Dickinson, 39. Mr. Walford's team knocked up 259 for 6 wickets, but time did not allow Mr. Crawford's side to do little more than halve this total for five wickets; and then it was close to half-past six o'clock. Scores:—

MR. WALFORD'S ELEVEN.

Rev. T. S. Tyng, c. Crawford, b. Johnson	20
Mr. J. Dodds, b. "Lohmann"	2
Lieut. Allenby, retired	110
Mr. A. S. Walford, b. Johnson	56
Dr. Todd, c. Dickinson, b. Crawford	7
Mr. E. O. Kenyon, not out	10
Mr. A. S. Garfit, c. Johnson, b. Crawford	6
Mr. W. J. Kenny, b. Johnson	5
Mr. Kingdon, not out	8
Mr. Drummond, Mr. Summers } did not bat	—
Extras	15
	259

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

	B.	R.	M.O.	W.	W.
Mr. Johnson	135	56	3	3	6
"Lohmann"	60	69	1	1	1
Mr. Crawford	65	37	4	2	2
Mr. Showler	15	18	0	0	0
Mr. Wheeler	25	20	0	0	0
Mr. Dickinson	20	21	0	0	0

MR. CRAWFORD'S ELEVEN.

Mr. H. V. Dickinson, b. Allenby	39
Dr. Wheeler, b. Kenyon	10
Mr. K. F. Crawford, l.b.w., b. Allenby	49
Mr. R. H. Johnson, c. Walford, b. Allenby	23
Mr. G. H. Cocksedge, b. Kenyon	1
Mr. W. Y. Showler, not out	2
Mr. F. Gillett	—
Mr. D. Tyng, Mr. E. Flint Kilby, Mr. Allcock, "Lohmann" } did not bat	—
Extras	8
	132

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

	B.	R.	M.O.	W.
Allenby	85	59	4	3
Walford	55	39	1	—
Kenyon	30	32	—	2

TWENTY-FOUR VERSUS ELEVEN.

A rather dull and uninteresting game was played on the Queen's Birthday between Twenty-four led by the President (Mr. Mollison) and an Eleven captained by the Vice-President (Mr. Walford). The wicket was anything but good, and towards the close of the afternoon became so dangerous that it was deemed advisable to abandon the game. Score:—

PRESIDENT'S TWENTY-FOUR.

	1ST INNINGS.	2ND INNINGS.
Mr. Johnson, b. Murray	2	
Mr. Black, st. Dickinson, b. Walford	0	
Lieut. Allenby, c. and b. Murray	23	
Mr. G. Philip, c. Tyng, b. Walford	20	
Mr. Denne, c. and b. Murray	0	not out 2
Mr. Easton, c. Crawford, b. Walford	2	
Mr. Whyte, b. Murray	5	
Mr. Sutter, st. Dickinson, b. Murray	0	
Mr. Mollison, b. Murray	0	c. Crawford, b. Morriss 4
Mr. A. S. Garfit, run out	1	
Mr. D. Tyng, b. Murray	3	
Mr. Kingdon, st. Dickinson, b. Murray	0	
Dr. Stokes, c. Murray, b. Morriss	1	
Mr. Gillett, b. Braess	8	
Mr. Bogbird, hit wicket, b. Morriss	7	
Mr. E. Irwine, c. Crawford, b. Morriss	0	
Mr. Young, b. Braess	4	
Mr. Cruickshank, b. Braess	1	
Mr. Kenyon, st. Dickinson, b. Murray	0	
Mr. H. E. Harris, out not	27	not out 0
Mr. N. Walter, st. Dickinson, b. Walford	5	
Mr. Drummond, b. Morriss	0	
Mr. Summers, b. Morriss	0	
Mr. Showler, b. Murray	5	
Extras	22	
	105	6

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

1ST INNINGS.

	B.	R.	M.O.	W.
Mr. Murray	125	46	8	20
Mr. Walford	65	19	5	4
Mr. Morriss	58	14	3	5
Mr. Braess	50	17	5	3

2ND INNINGS.

	B.	R.	M.	W.
Mr. Morriss	10	5	0	2
Mr. Walford	6	1	0	0

VICE-PRESIDENT'S ELEVEN.

	1ST INNINGS.	2ND INNINGS.
Rev. T. S. Tyng, c. Mollison, b. Denne	6	Did not bat.
Mr. W. J. Kenny, c. Tyng, b. Allenby	3	
Mr. E. R. Morriss, b. Denne	6	b. Allenby 3
Mr. H. V. Dickinson, c. Allenby, b. Denne	7	c. Mollison, b. Black 0
Mr. Murray, c. Denne, b. Allenby	0	b. Allenby 0
Mr. K. F. Crawford, not out	6	not out 50
Mr. A. B. Walford, c. & b. Denne	8	c. Mollison, b. Black 0
Mr. H. J. Cocksedge, run out	6	c. Harris, b. Allenby 3
Mr. L. J. Healing, c. & b. Denne	0	b. Johnson 0
Dr. Todd, c. Kenyon, b. Denne	6	b. Johnson 2
Mr. G. Braess, c. Showler, b. Allenby	8	b. Sutter 2
b. 2	2	b. 6, w. 3 9
	44	71

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

1ST INNINGS.

	B.	R.	M.O.	W.
Mr. Allenby	78	20	7	3
Mr. Denne	75	22	5	6

2ND INNINGS.

	B.	R.	M.O.	W.	WIDES.
Mr. Allenby	85	17	8	3	2
Mr. Black	45	23	2	2	2
Mr. Johnson	35	27	1	2	—
Mr. Sutter	20	4	0	2	—
Mr. Philip	5	0	—	—	—

COMMITTEE'S TWELVE V. CAPTAIN'S TWELVE.

Advantage was taken of the holiday on Thursday to play a match in the afternoon. The teams were picked up by the Committee and Captain respectively and a fairly good game resulted. The Committee, who went in first, won the match by forty runs. Their best scorers were White 51, who retired hurt, and Dickinson 23. Stewart headed the scoring for the defeated team, putting together a useful 42. Scores:—

COMMITTEE'S XII.

Mr. Dickinson, b. Walford	23
Mr. Kenyon, b. Walford	25
Mr. White, retired hurt	51
Mr. Morriss, b. Braess	27
Mr. Black, b. Braess	15
Mr. Showler, b. Stewart	1
Mr. Philip, b. Braess	1
Mr. Summers, c. Harriss, b. Braess	0
Mr. Kenny, not out	23
Mr. Kingdon, b. Braess	2
Mr. Irwine, b. Braess	1
Mr. Drummond, c. Murray, b. Braess	2
Extras	6
	145

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

	B.	R.	M.O.	W.
Mr. Walford	50	29	3	2
Mr. Braess	58	54	5	7
Mr. Johnson	45	24	2	0
Mr. Campbell	20	12	0	0
Mr. Stewart	30	20	0	1

CAPTAIN'S XII.

Mr. Mair, b. Philip	8
Mr. Campbell, b. Philip	4
Mr. Harriss, l.b.w., b. Black	5
Mr. Johnson, c. Showler, b. Philip	4
Mr. Walford, b. Black	8
Mr. Stewart, c. Showler, b. Philip	42
Mr. Dodds, b. Philip	0
Mr. Hooper, b. Philip	2
Mr. Bogbird, c. Showler, b. Philip	6
Mr. Braess, not out	8
Mr. Allcock, c. and b. Showler	13
Mr. Walter, st. Dickinson, b. Philip	4
Extras	10
	105

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Bowling Analysis.

			B.	R.	M.O.	W.	WIDES
Mr. Philip	...	...	120	38	7	8	0
Mr. Black	...	...	40	31	1	2	5
Mr. Kenyon	...	...	50	[illegible]	1	0	0
Mr. Showler	...	...	25		1	1	0

THE TREATY OF PEACE.

In a supplement published on May 18th, the *Peking and Tientsin Times* gives in full the principal documents that passed between the Chinese and Japanese Plenipotentiaries at Shimonoseki. The documents were evidently furnished by the Viceroy Li to our Tientsin contemporary with the object of vindicating, in the eyes of the foreign public, his Excellency's manner of conducting the negotiations, and their publication is made the occasion of a panegyric with the spirit of which no one will quarrel, though more moderate terms of expression might have become the subject better. A considerable number of the documents have already appeared in these columns. We now re-produce the most important and interesting of the rest :—

Japan's First Draft of Treaty of Peace.

Shimonoseki, April 1st, 1895.

His Majesty the Emperor of Japan and His Majesty the Emperor of China, desiring to restore the blessings of peace to their countries and subjects and to remove all cause for future complications, have named as their Plenipotentiaries for the purpose of concluding a Treaty of Peace, that to say,

(Here insert names and titles of Plenipotentiaries.)

Who after having exchanged their Full Powers, which were found to be in good and proper form, have agreed to the following Articles :—

Art. I.—China recognizes difinitively the full and complete independence and autonomy of Korea, and *in* consequence the payment of tribute and the performance of ceremonies and formalities by Korea to China in derogation of such independence and autonomy, shall wholly cease for the future.

Art. II.—China cedes to Japan in perpetuity and full sovereignty the following territories together with all fortifications, arsenals and public property thereon :

(*a*).—The southern portion of the Province of Sheng-king within the following boundaries :

The line of demarcation begins at the mouth of the River Yalu, and ascends that stream as far as San-cha-tsu, thence it runs directly North to Yü-shu-li-hsin; thence it run directly West until it strikes the River Liao, it follows from thence the course of that river southward to the 41° North latitude; from thence it coincides with that parallel of latitude to the westward as far as 122° longitude East of Greenwich and from that point of intersection *it* follows the same meridian of longitude Southward to the coast of the Bay of Liao-tung where it terminates.

This cession includes all Islands appertaining or belonging to the Province of Sheng-king situated in the eastern portion of the Bay of Liaotung and in the northern part of the Yellow Sea,

(*b*).—The Island of Formosa together with all Islands adjacent or belonging to the said Island of Formosa.

(*c*).—The Pescadores Group, that is to say all Islands lying between the 119° and 120° longitudes East of Greenwich and 23° and 24° North latitudes.

Art. III.—The alignments of the frontiers described in the preceding Article and shown on the annexed map, shall be subject to verification and demarcation on the spot by a Joint Commission of Delimitation consisting of two or more Japanese and two or more Chinese Delegates to be appointed immediately after the exchange of the ratifications of this Act. In case the boundaries laid down in this Act are found to be defective at any point either on account of topography or in consideration of good administration it shall also be the duty of the Delimitation Commission to rectify the same.

The Delimitation Commission will enter upon its duties as soon as possible as will bring its labours to a conclusion within the period of one year after appointment.

The alignments laid down in this Act, shall, however, be maintained until the ratifications of the Delimitation Commission, if any are made, shall have received the approval of the Governments of Japan and China.

Art. IV.—China agrees to pay to Japan as a war indemnity the sum of 300,000,000 Kuping taels. The said sum to be paid in five installments; the first installment being 100,000,000 taels and the four remaining installments being 50,000,000 each. The first installment is to be paid within six months after the exchange of ratifications of this Act and the four remaining installments are to be respectively paid on or before the same date of the four succeeding years. Interest at the rate of 5 *per cent. per annum* shall begin to run on all unpaid portions of the said indemnity, from the date the first installment falls due.

Art. V.—The inhabitants of the territories ceded to Japan who wish to take up their residence outside the ceded districts shall be at liberty to sell their real property and retire. For this purpose a period of two years from the date of the exchange of the ratifications of the present Act shall be granted. At the expiration of that period those of the inhabitants who shall not have left such territories shall, at the option of Japan, be deemed to be Japanese subjects.

Art. VI.—All treaties between Japan and China having come to an end in consequence of war, China engages immediately upon the exchange of the ratifications of this Act, to appoint Plenipotentiaries to conclude with the Japanese Plenipotentiaries a Treaty of Commerce and Navigation and a convention to regulate Frontier Intercourse and Trade. The Treaties, Conventions, and Regulations now subsisting between China and European Powers shall serve as a basis for the said Treaty and Convention between Japan and China. From the date of the exchange of the ratifications of this Act until the said Treaty and Convention are brought into actual operation the Japanese Government; its officials; commerce; navigation; frontier intercourse and trade; industries; ships and subjects shall in every respect be accorded by China most favoured nation treatment.

China makes in addition the following concessions to take effect six months after the date of the present Act :

1st.—The following cities, towns, and ports, in addition to those already opened, are opened to the trade, residence, industries and manufactures of Japanese subjects, under the same conditions and with the same privileges and facilities as exist at the present open cities, towns, and ports of China :

1.—Peking.
2.—Shashih in the Province of Hupeh.
3.—Siangtan in the Province of Hunan.
4.—Chung-king in the Province of Szechuen.
5.—Wu-chow in the Province of Kwang-si.
6.—Su-chow in the Province of Kiang-su.
7.—Hang-chow in the Province of Chekiang.

The Japanese Government shall have the right to station Consuls at any or all the above named places.

2nd.—Steam navigation for vessels under the Japanese flag for the conveyance of passengers and cargo shall be extended to the following places :

1.—On the Upper Yangtsze River from Ichang to Chung-king.
2.—On the Siang River and Lake Tung Ting from the Yangtsze River to Siangtan.
3.—On the West River from Canton to Wuchow.
4.—On the Woo-sung River and the Canal from Shanghai to Suchow and Hangchow.

The Rules and Regulations which now govern the navigation of the inland waters of China by foreign vessels shall, so far as applicable, be enforced in respect of the above named routes, until new Rules and Regulations are conjointly agreed to.

3rd.—All goods imported into China by Japanese subjects, upon the payment, either at the time of entry or subsequently at the option of the importer or owner, of a commutation tax or duty of two per cent. upon the original cost, shall thereafter in every part of China, be exempt from all taxes, imposts, duties, charges, and exactions of whatever nature or under whatever denomination levied in the name or for the profit of the Government, public functionaries, private individuals, corporations, or establishments of any kind. In like manner and to the same extent but without the payment of any commutation tax or duty whatever, an equal immunity from every kind of taxation shall be accorded by China in respect of all Chinese goods and produce purchased in China by Japanese subjects and declared to be for export, such immunity from taxation shall exist from the date of such declaration up to the time of actual exportation. All Chinese goods and produce intended for home consumption, when conveyed in Japanese vessels from one open port to another open port in China, shall, upon the payment of the coasting trade dues, existing at this time, be, in the same manner and to the same extent, exempt, during the whole process of such conveyance, from all kinds of taxation, including import and export duties. It is, however, understood that the foregoing stipulations do not in anywise affect any arrangement for the time being in force regarding the taxation of imported opium.

4th.—Japanese subjects purchasing goods or produce in the interior of China or transporting imported merchandise into the interior of China, shall have the right temporarily to rent or hire warehouses for the storage of the articles so purchased or transported, without the payment of any taxes or exactions whatever and without the interference of any Chinese officials.

5th.—The Kuping tael shall be taken to be the tael in which all taxes, duties, and fees are payable by Japanese subjects in China, and all such taxes, duties, and fees may be paid in standard Japanese silver yen at their face or representative value.

6th.—Japanese subjects shall be free to engage in all kinds of manufacturing industries in China and shall be at liberty to import into China all kinds of machinery, paying only the stipulated import duties thereon.

All articles manufactured by Japanese subjects in China, shall in respect of inland transit and internal taxes, duties, charges, and exactions of all kinds, and also in respect of warehousing and storage facilities in the interior of China, stand upon the same footing and enjoy the same privileges and exemptions as merchandise imported by Japanese subjects into China.

7th.—China engages to at once proceed under the advice of experts to remove the Woo-sung bar at the mouth of the Huang Pu River in such manner as to maintain constantly a clear channel of at least twenty feet in depth at low water.

In the event additional Rules and Regulations are necessary in connection with these concessions, they shall be embodied in the Treaty of Commerce and Navigation provided for by this Article.

Art. VII.—Subject to the provisions of the next succeeding Article, the evacuation of China by the Armies of Japan shall be completely effected within three months after the exchange of the ratifications of the present Act.

Art. VIII.—As a guarantee of the faithful performance of the Act, China consents to the temporary occupation by the military forces of Japan of the following places :

Fengtien Fu (Mukden) in the Province Sheng-king.

Weihaihai in the Province of Shantung.

Fengtien Fu shall be evacuated by Japan upon the payment of the first two instalments of the war indemnity herein stipulated for, and Weihaiwei shall be evacuated upon the payment of the final instalment of said indemnity. It is, however, expressly understood that no evacuation shall take place until after the exchange of the ratifications of the Treaty of Commerce and Navigation.

All expenses connected with this temporary occupation shall be defrayed by China.

Art. IX.—Immediately upon the exchange of the ratifications of this Act, all prisoners of war then held shall be restored and China undertakes not to ill-treat or punish prisoners of war so restored to her by Japan. China also engages to at once release all Japanese subjects accused of being military spies or charged with any other military offences. China further engages not to punish in any manner nor to allow to be punished those Chinese subjects who have in any manner been compromised in their relations with the Japanese army during the war.

Art. X.—All offensive military operations shall cease upon the exchange of the ratifications of this Act.

Art. XI.—The present Act shall be ratified by their Majesties the Emperor of Japan and the Emperor of China and the ratifications shall be exchanged at.....on the.....day of the.....month of the 28th year of Meiji, corresponding to.....

In Witness whereof the respective Plenipotentiaries have signed the same and have affixed thereto the seal of their arms.

Done at Shimonoseki in duplicate, this.....day of the.....month of the 28th year of Meiji, corresponding to .....

China's Reply.

Shimonoseki, April 5th, 1895.

In the brief time agreed upon within which I was to make my examination and reply to the draft of Treaty proposed by Their Excellencies the Japanese Plenipotentiaries, I have given to the important subject the most earnest study and care which it has been possible to devote to it, in view of the physical disability under which, unfortunately for my country, I am now suffering. If, therefore, this memorandum should not be as complete as might be desired, I can only plead these causes in excuse, and trust that within a few days I shall be able to answer fully and specifically all the points desired by the Japanese Plenipotentiaries.

Without taking up every Article in detail, I might, perhaps, group together my views under the

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four important questions involved in the negotiations and embraced in the draft of Treaty, namely: 1st, Korea; 2nd, Cession of Territory; 3rd, Indemnity; 4th, Commercial Privileges.

1.—Korea.

The Chinese Government some months ago indicated its willingness to recognize the full and complete independence and guarantee the complete neutrality of Korea, and is ready to insert such a stipulation in the Treaty; but in due reciprocity, such stipulation should likewise be made by Japan. Hence the Article will require to be modified in this respect.

2.—Cession of Territory.

The preamble to the proposed draft of Treaty sets forth that the object of making it is "to remove all cause for future complications." But this Article in place of promoting that object, contains provisions which, if insisted upon and enforced, will be the sure and fruitful source of complications which may be transmitted through many generations.

It is the duty of the Plenipotentiaries of the two Governments, and it is a part of wise statesmanship, to negotiate such a peace as will make true friends and allies of these two great nations of the Orient, who are and must remain neighbours, and who have in common so many things in their history, literature, art, and commerce. Territory long held by a nation, through many centuries and dynasties, becomes a priceless heritage. Nothing will so arouse the indignation of the people of China and create in them a spirit of undying hostility and hatred, as to wrest from their country important portions of their territory.

This will be especially the case with that portion of territory described in clause (*a*) of this Article, because it gives Japan foot-hold and base for military and naval operations within easy reach of and constantly threatening the capital of the Empire, and because it takes from the present dynasty of China a portion of its ancient possessions. In this clause China hears Japan saying: "I am going "to be your ever-threatening and undying "enemy, with my army and navy ready to "pounce down upon your capital when it suits "me, and I propose to humiliate your Emperor "by taking from him a valuable portion of his "ancestors' home."

It further means a line of fortifications along the whole coterminous frontier; large standing armies and navies near at hand at great expense to both nations, and constant danger from frontier broils and from the lawlessness on both sides of the dividing line.

Japan, inaugurating the war, announced her object to be to secure the complete independence of Korea, and her diplomatic ministers in Europe and America declared that it was not the purpose of their Government to wage a war of conquest. If it should be consistent with these declarations, it is entirely possible to so modify Article II. and other Articles to be specified, as to make a lasting peace and one which will in the future make the two great peoples of the East sincere friends, and thus stand as an immovable bulwark against the encroachments of hostile nations. But if a peace is to be exacted by Japan through the successful fortunes of war, which will necessarily awaken in the Chinese people a spirit of hostility and revenge, it may well be anticipated that both nations, without any bond of sympathy or interest, will fall a prey to outside enemies.

3—Indemnity.

China does not think it is just to require her to pay an indemnity for the expenses of a war in which she does not regard herself as the aggressor, and during which she has not invaded Japanese territory; hence it seems illogical for China to pay an indemnity. But in view of the fact that my Government, desiring to bring the unfortunate war to a close, so as to relieve the people from suffering, in October last promised through the American Minister to pay indemnity, and in view of the further fact that an indemnity was one of the conditions mentioned among the terms announced by Japan on the 17th of February last, through the Minister of the United States in Peking, I am prepared to insert in the Treaty a provision for a reasonable indemnity.

In the first place, it is to be noted that Japan stated the object of the war was to secure the complete independence of Korea. On November 2nd of last year it was announced to the foreign Governments that China was ready to acknowledge the independence of Korea; and the expenses of the war beyond that time ought not to be included in the indemnity.

In requiring an indemnity of China it should not be fixed at a sum beyond her ability to pay, as her failure to pay would be held by Japan to be a violation of the Treaty and might lead to a renewal of the war. Japan, at the opening of the war, knew the ability of China to pay under her present system of taxation. To increase the internal or domestic taxes at this time would lead to great discontent and probably to insurrection, especially when added to the dissatisfaction of the people with the Emperor and his Government for making what they will style a humiliating and dishonourable peace. The Customs tariff on imports and exports cannot be increased, because of treaties with foreign Governments which require ten years notice and the unanimous consent of the Governments concerned.

This latter source of revenue is the only available fund which can be hypothecated or pledged to bankers or capitalists in negotiating foreign loans. It is already so fully pledged for war loans that only a part of it can be made available for a loan to pay off the indemnity. From a statement prepared by the Commissioner of foreign Customs at Shanghai, March 1st last, it appears that the Customs revenues of China were on that date pledged for the payment of war loans, in 1895, of Haikuan Taels 3,937,420; in 1896, of Haikuan Taels 6,281,620; in 1897, of Haikuan Taels 5,142,238, and that upon these war loans it will be necessary within twenty years to pay Haikuan Taels 78,017,103 out of the Customs revenues. It is to be noted that since March 1st the amount of these loans has been considerably increased.

The credit of the Chinese Government and its ability to negotiate a loan have been greatly injured by the war. It has been compelled to pay 7 and even 8½ per cent. interest, and the lowest rate it has obtained abroad (and that for a small sum only), was 6 per cent. with a heavy discount on the face value of the bonds. It is claimed by prominent and experienced bankers that the best rate which can be obtained at the conclusion of peace is 6½ to 7 per cent. on the full value of the bonds.

The average annual total revenue received from Chinese Customs including transit dues and opium likin, from 1890 to 1893 inclusive, amounts to Haikuan Taels 22,548,150; and of this sum it has heretofore been customary to pay over to the Provincial authorities six-tenths. If this important sum of ready cash is diverted to pay the indemnity, new taxation will have to be imposed in the Provinces and the people would complain. If a foreign loan is sought to be made to meet the indemnity asked by Japan, it would require in principal and interest, at 6½ per cent., if redeemable in twenty years, the enormous sum of Haikan Taels 690,000,000, an amount entirely beyond the possibility of the Chinese Government to negotiate and beyond its ability to meet by taxation.

This will be apparent to any one at all acquainted with Chinese revenues, when it is remembered that the indemnity to Japan is not the only financial burden which has been brought upon China by the war, and which must be immediately provided for. As already mentioned, the terms of peace when made known will cause the present dynasty and the Government to become unpopular with many of the Chinese people, and local discontent and disorder may be expected. Besides, there have been called into the field large numbers of raw and undisciplined troops, which with the conclusion of peace must be disbanded, and there is great danger that they will commit acts of robbery and lawlessness which will seriously tax the Government to suppress. The energies of the Government will be tried to the utmost to preserve the peace, and without peace and order it will be impossible to raise even the revenues. It will therefore, become necessary, in order to preserve internal tranquility, to organize and equip an army according to modern methods of warfare, and to rebuild the navy which has been practically destroyed by the war. These will require large and immediate expenditures of money, but it will be impossible to raise the money for these purposes if this heavy indemnity is to be paid. The Government is contemplating various reforms and improvements in the country, but all these will be paralyzed if Japan does not largely reduce her demand.

The indemnity is termed in the draft of proposed Treaty "a war indemnity," which it is supposed means an indemnity to pay the expenses incurred by Japan in the prosecution of the war. But if that is the case, I think the Japanese Plenipotentiaries must admit that the sum demanded is largely in excess of that amount. It is not possible for one not possessed of the official details to know the exact amount of the war expenses of Japan up to the present time, but there are certain official and public data and statements which seem to fix the limits within which that sum may be approximately estimated, and the Japanese Plenipotentiaries will be able to confirm or correct it. It is understood that there was in the Public Treasury of Japan, at the opening of the war, [illegible] for war purposes is not known to the public, but it may be assumed that all of it was appropriated for that purpose. Soon after the opening of hostilities a war loan of 150,000,000 *yen* was authorized. According to the report in the public press of Japan, the Prime Minister, His Excellency Count Ito, made a speech in the Lower House of the Japanese Parliament on the 20th of February last, in which after referring to the failure of negotiations at Hiroshima early in that month, he used this language: "From the subsequent state of the war and under the present circumstances it is difficult to tell when peace will be restored, and it is not improbable that the war fund may become insufficient." He thereupon asked the Parliament to authorize an additional war loan to meet the emergency of a considerable prolongation of the war.

It seems fair to infer from this speech that the first war loan had not been exhausted and would not be unless the war was continued for some time. The Japanese vernacular newspapers, in referring to this speech and the action of the Parliament on the subject, stated that "the actual need of the fund will be some time in June or July next, and the Government is said to have submitted it to the Diet, not because the money is in urgent need, but because the Diet is just now sitting" (see *Asahi*, quoted in the *Yokohama Gazette*, February 23rd); and the following, "of the first war loan there remains 50,000,000 *yen* to be raised, and of the 80,000,000 already floated a considerable sum has still to be paid up" (see *Kokumin*, as quoted in the *Japan Mail* of February 23rd). In addition, account is to be taken of some popular contributions. But if these statements are to be accepted as approximately correct, it would seem reasonable to believe that the total money expenditure of Japan in the war up to the present time does not exceed 150 million *yen*.

In estimating the war expenditure of Japan, it should not be forgotten that victory has given that country many valuable spoils of war, such as the captured naval vessels and the large amount of military material and supplies, which should fairly be deducted in fixing the gross amount of the indemnity.

To charge China with interest on the deferred payments of the indemnity is an onerous and unreasonable provision, and becomes doubly so when the enormous amount demanded is considered.

4.—Commercial Privileges.

In the very brief time allowed for an examination and reply to the Treaty draft, it has not been possible to study fully the complex and detailed questions to which the commercial privileges and stipulations asked for give rise. The following must be taken as merely an expression of views, and full reservation is made to add to or correct them hereafter. It is hoped, however, that the following statement may aid the Japanese Penipotentiaries in understanding some of the clauses to which China is disposed to agree and some respecting which modifications will be asked.

War having suspended the operation of the late Commercial Treaty, a new agreement is recognized by China as necessary, and she is ready to accept the existing treaties with Foreign Powers as the basis of negotiations; it will require, however, in due reciprocity that a stipulation be added to the introductory paragraph of the Article, granting favoured nation treatment to China in Japan.

Reply is for the present reserved on the 1st and 2nd Clauses.

The 3rd Clause provides for a reduction of the transit dues on Japanese imported goods to two *per cent.*, or a practical decrease of one half of one *per cent.*; and it is proposed to abolish altogether the existing dues on goods exported. When it is remembered that this same Treaty draft contains an Article demanding of China the payment of an indemnity beyond her present power to make, it seems most inappropriate to ask China to give up up any of her existing sources of revenue. Rather ought Japan in view of what has been stated respecting the Customs revenues, to agree to an increase of that tariff. At the same time that Japan is negotiating with Foreign Powers to secure an increase of her own tariff, it is hardly consistent to demand of China a reduction of her already low tariff.

The effect or object of the 3rd clause appears to be to exempt foreign goods from any dues or likin tax whatever after they have passed out of the hands of the importer or foreign owner. This is a subject which has been often considered with foreign diplomatic representatives at Peking, and the fairness of such a claim has never been shown. There is no government which more jealously guards it commercial privileges than Great Britain, and her subjects engaged in the Chinese trade [illegible] moved her Ministers

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Peking, and exacted from China after the occupation all the commercial privileges which he deemed just on the part of the victor, rejected the claim as now proposed and said he "did not see his way clear to further protection of imports against taxation once they have passed into the hands of a Chinese purchaser." (British Government Blue-book on Revision of Treaty of Tientsin, 1871, p. 443.) The British Board of Trade, having official supervision of foreign commerce, examined this subject at the request of the British Office of Foreign Affairs, and decided that "to insure the sale of the (imported) goods to their ultimate consumer with no enhancement of cost derived from taxation * * * * is a view which cannot be entertained by Her Majesty's Government. There is nothing in the Treaty which appears to my Lords to justify such a sweeping demand, and in view of the internal taxation to which native goods are subject in China, it would be in their opinion both unjust and inexpedient to enforce such a demand, event if it were warranted by the terms of Treaty stipulations" (Ib. p. 357.) Sir Thomas Wade, so familiar with Chinese trade, and so long the able representative of Her Majesty's interests at Peking, said the likin tax "is not in its nature more open to objection than our income tax, nor, indeed, to any extraordinary tax by which a State short of money may recruit its finances." And again, referring to the abuse to which the privilege asked for in 3rd clause would give rise, he said, "it is hard enough on the Provincial Governments that they must give up their tolls on goods that are foreign-owned; but it will be harder still if Chinese, armed with foreigner's certificates, are to carry Chinese-owned goods toll-free from end of the Empire to the other." (Ib. pp. 444 and 447.) In view of these declarations, so well founded in justice and propriety, I feel sure the Japanese Plenipotentiaries will be willing to modify their proposition so as to secure the protection of imported goods only as they remain in the possession of the foreign owner. This will be secured by granting to Japan favoured nation treatment, and Japan should be satisfied with that.

It may be remarked on the 4th clause that, laying aside for the present the consideration of the justice of this claim, its prudence may be seriously questioned. To allow foreign merchants to temporarily establish themselves at great distances from the treaty ports, beyond the protection and control of their Consuls, would seem to be inconsistent with the practice of extraterritoriality, and greatly embarrassing to the Chinese authorities. Sir Thomas Wade, in discussing a similar proposition presented by British merchants, said: "I am decidedly against any sweeping demand with reference to it. * * * * We are bound to ask nothing from her (China) except when we see our way to a fair provision for the control of the extraterritoralized foreigner." And again, "if our merchants are to congregate in any number in a Chinese town or suburb inland, I shall be much mistaken if we do not soon find the necessity of a land concession forced upon us." (Ib. pp. 435 and 449).

The 6th clause refers to the privilege of importing machinery into China to convert Chinese raw materials into manufactured goods, a question which has been much discussed with the Diplomatic *corps* at Peking, and which has been settled against the privileges asked for in this clause. The prohibition of foreigners from engaging in China in manufacturing industries has been one of long standing and in which Foreign Governments have acquiesced, as a prohibition which properly belongs to the sovereignty and independence of a nation. To allow foreigners to enter and establish factories for converting the natural products into manufactured goods would tend to destroy the livelihood of the Chinese and work a serious injury to native industries which it is the duty of the Government to protect. The regulation is one which has been in existence for many years and one which has been adopted by other nations, and should not now be abolished. The provision inserted in the 6th clause exempting all articles manufactured by Japanese in China from all internal taxation is most objectionable and unduly discriminating. Besides, if these privileges are granted to Japanese subjects, they must necessarily be extended to all nations which have treaties with China, and the ruin of the native industries would be swift and certain.

The provisions contained in Article VIII., making the evacuation of the places named therein dependent upon the conclusion of the Treaty of Commerce provided for in Article VI., seems an unnecessary and [illegible]nable provision. By the terms of the la[illegible] Japan is at once guaranteed the mo[illegible]ion treatment, and thereby placed [illegible] in respect to com[illegible]merce with [illegible]

The foregoing embraces a review of all the important and essential provisions contained in the draft of Treaty submitted for my consideration, and to which I have made a frank and as complete a reply as has been possible under the circumstances. A few Articles of minor importance or of mere detail have not been noticed, but it is believed that if an accord should happily be reached on the four questions above discussed, the Articles not treated of may be arranged in due time.

I trust I may be pardoned for saying that I have served my country for half a century, and it may be that I am nearing the end of my days. This mission is probably the last important service I will be permitted to render my Sovereign and his subjects. It is my sincere desire and my highest ambition to reach such a conclusion of our negotiations as will bring lasting peace and friendship to the people and Governments which we represent.

We should listen to the voice of reason; we should be so controlled by the highest principles of statesmanship as to safeguard the interests and the future welfare of these two great peoples, whose destinies and happiness for many generations are now in our hands.

It matters little to Japan, in this time of her abounding prosperity and greatness and in the abundance of able men, whether she to-day receives a larger or smaller indemnity, or whether she enlarges her boundaries by the annexation of a greater or smaller portion of the territory now within the reach of her armies; but it is a matter of vast moment to her future greatness and the happiness of her people, whether or not by the negotiations now in hand her Plenipotentiaries make of the Chinese nation firm friends and allies or inveterate foes. As their representative, I stand ready to join hands with Their Excellencies the Plenipotentiaries of Japan, in making such a peace as will leave no seeds of enmity to spring up and curse us in future generations, and such a peace will bring honour to us and blessing and enduring friendship to the two great nations of the Orient.

LI HUNG-CHANG,
Ambassador Plenipotentiary of
His Majesty the Emperor of China.

China asked to formulate Her Proposals.

Shimonoseki, April 6th, 1895.

At the meeting of the 1st day of the 4th month of the 28th year of Meiji (April 1st, 1895), the Plenipotentiaries of His Majesty the Emperor of Japan, proposed that in presenting the conditions of peace, a mode of procedure should be adopted by which the draft Treaty of Peace would be presented Article by Article, and the Plenipotentiary of His Majesty the Emperor of China should express his acceptance or non-acceptance of the several articles one by one, thus disposing of each article in succession.

In view, however, of a desire repeatedly expressed by the Chinese Plenipotentiary that the draft Treaty might be presented to him *en bloc*, the Japanese Plenipotentiaries finally complying with his wishes, presented to him the draft Treaty in its entirety, under an assurance that he would, within the space of four days' time either signify his acceptance of the Treaty as a whole or indicate the particulars in which it was unacceptable.

In now examining the memorandum presented by the Chinese Plenipotentiary, the Japanese Plenipotentiaries are disappointed to find that the communication is confined to an elaborate recital of the domestic difficulties of the Empire of China coupled with a request to the Japanese Plenipotentiaries for a reconsideration of the conditions of peace.

The memorandum not only cannot be taken as a reply to the draft Treaty presented by the Japanese Plenipotentiaries but it fails even to definitely express the wishes or desires of the Chinese Plenipotentiary.

In conclusion, reminding the Chinese Plenipotentiary that the domestic difficulties of China do not properly fall within the sphere of the present discussion, and that demands arising as a consequence of war cannot be regarded as matters for negotiation in the ordinary acceptation of that term, the Japanese Plenipotentiaries beg to express their desire that the Chinese Plenipotentiary will, without additional delay definitively announce his acceptance or non-acceptance of the draft Treaty of Peace already presented, either *en bloc* or severally article by article, and in case any alterations are desired, that he will present them in concrete form.

Counter Proposal by the Chinese Plenipotentiary.

Shimonoseki, April 9th, 1895.

It is a source of much regret and disappointment to me that the Memorandum which I received from the Japanese Plenipotentiaries on the 5th instant should not have been regarded as satisfactory. So far from its being confined to a recital of the domestic difficulties of China, it will be found to be a specific expression of my views on every important Article and paragraph in the draft of Treaty submitted for my consideration.

But in my earnest desire to conform to the utmost of my power to the wishes and convenience of the Japanese Plenipotentiaries, I have prepared and send herewith a counter-draft of Treaty which will be found to constitute a reply to every Article in the draft of Treaty submitted by the Japanese Plenipotentiaries. It will be noted that a new Article has been added, which I trust will be found acceptable.

The counter-draft made under my responsibility as a Plenipotentiary is the extent to which it is possible for me to go in the present stage of negotiations. If the propositions therein contained do not meet fully the views of the Japanese Plenipotentiaries, I feel sure an agreement may be most readily promoted by verbal conferences; and, in view of the short time remaining of the armistice, I hope the Japanese Plenipotentiaries will fix a time for a conference with the least delay possible.

China's Counter-draft of Treaty of Peace.

Shimonoseki, April 9th, 1895.

His Majesty the Emperor of China and His Majesty the Emperor of Japan, desiring to restore the blessings of peace to their countries, and to establish upon a solid basis relations of friendship and intercourse which shall confer reciprocal benefits upon the subjects of both, and assure the harmony and mutual confidence which should subsist between good neighbours, have named as their Plenipotentiaries for the purpose of concluding a Treaty of Peace, that is to say:

His Majesty the Emperor of China ..... and His Majesty the Emperor of Japan ..... who, after having exchanged their Full Powers, which were found to be in good and proper form, have agreed to the following Articles:

ART. I.—China and Japan recognize definitely the full and complete independence and autonomy and guarantee the complete neutrality of Korea, and it is agreed that the interference by either in the internal affairs of Korea in derogation of such autonomy, or the performance of ceremonies and formalities by Korea inconsistent with such independence, shall wholly cease for the future.

ART. II.—China cedes to Japan in full sovereignty the following territories together with all towns and cities, public offices, granaries, barracks, and public buildings therein.

(*a*). One prefecture, one sub-prefecture, and two districts in the South of the Fêng-tien Province, namely:

1.—The district of An-tung.
2.—The district of Kung-tian.
3.—The prefecture of Fêng-hwang.
4.—The Sub-prefecture of Hsiu-yen.

The boundaries of the above-mentioned prefecture, sub-prefecture and districts shall be taken in strict accordance with the Chinese official surveys.

(*b*).—The Pescadores group of islands, lying within the 23rd and 24th parallels of latitude and the 119th and 120th degree of longitude East.

ART. III.—(Japanese text accepted without change.)

ART. IV.—China agrees to pay to Japan as a war indemnity the sum of 100,000,000 Kuping Taels. The said sum is to be paid in five installments, the first installment being 28,000,000 Kuping Taels, and the four remaining instalments being 18,000,000 Kuping Taels each. The first installment is to be paid within six months after the exchange of ratifications of this Treaty, and the four remaining instalments are to be respectively paid within each of the four succeeding years which terminate six months after the exchange of ratifications of this Treaty; but China shall have the right to anticipate at her pleasure any or all of said installments.

ART. V.—The inhabitants of the territories ceded to Japan, who wish to take up their residence outside the ceded districts, shall be at full liberty to sell their real and personal property and retire, without their being subjected, on this account, to any contribution, tax, or charge whatever. For this purpose a period of two years from the date of the exchange of the ratifications of the present Treaty shall be granted. At the expiration of that period those of the inhabitants who shall not have left such territories shall be deemed Japanese subjects.

The property in the ceded territories, real and personal, owned by non-resident Chinese shall be respected by the Japanese Government, and shall enjoy the same guarantees as if belonging to [illegible]

ART. VI.—All treaties between China and Japan [illegible] in consequence of war [illegible]

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China and Japan engage immediately upon the exchange of the ratifications of this Treaty, to appoint Plenipotentiaries to conclude a treaty of commerce and navigation and a convention to regulate frontier intercourse and trade. The treaties, conventions, and regulations now subsisting between China and European powers shall serve as a basis for the said treaty and convention between China and Japan, and as regards all the open ports, navigation, taxation, storage of goods, the mode of taxation, &c, Japan will be treated in the same way as the most favoured nation. From the date of the exchange of the ratifications of this treaty until the said treaty and convention are brought into actual operation, the Japanese Government, its officials, commerce, navigation, frontier intercourse and trade, industries, ships, and subjects shall in every respect be accorded by China most favoured nation treatment.

And reciprocally from the date of the exchange of the ratifications of this Treaty until the said Treaty and convention are brought into actual operation, the Chinese Government, its officials, commerce, navigation, frontier intercourse, and trade, industries, ships, and subjects, shall in every respect be accorded by Japan most favoured nation treatment.

ART. VII.—Subject to the provisions of the next succeeding Article, the evacuation of China by the armies of Japan shall be completely effected within one month after the exchange of the ratifications of the present Treaty.

ART. VIII.—As a guarantee of the faithful performance of the stipulations of this Treaty, China consents to the temporary occupation by the military forces of Japan of Weihaiwei in the province of Shantung. Upon the payment of the first two installments of the war indemnity herein stipulated for, one half of the Japanese forces stationed there shall be withdrawn and upon the payment of the final installment of the said indemnity, the said place shall be evacuated by the remaining Japanese forces.

ART. IX.—(Japanese draft accepted without change.)

ART. X.—All offensive military operations shall cease upon the signing of the Treaty by the Plenipotentiaries of both countries.

ART. XI.—In order to avoid future conflict or war between China and Japan, it is agreed that should any question hereafter arise as to the interpretation or execution of the present Treaty of Peace, or as to the negotiation, interpretation, or execution of the Treaty of commerce and navigation and the convention for frontier intercourse provided for in Article VI. of this Treaty, which cannot be adjusted by the usual method of diplomatic conference and correspondence between the two Governments, they will submit such question to the decision of an arbitrator to be designated by some friendly Power to be selected by mutual accord of the two Governments, or, in case of failure to agree as to the selection of said Power, then the President of the United States shall be invited to designate the arbitrator; and both Governments agree to accept, abide by, and carry out in good faith the decision of said arbitrator.

ART. XII.—The present Treaty shall be ratified by Their Majesties the Emperor of China and the Emperor of Japan and the ratifications shall be exchanged at .....on the..... day of the.....month of.....

In witness whereof the respective Plenipotentiaries have signed the same and have affixed thereto the seal of their arms.

JAPAN REPLIES TO COUNTER-PROPOSAL AND REDUCES DEMANDS.

Shimonoseki, April 10th, 1895.

Preamble.

The Japanese Plenipotentiaries cannot consent to any amendment of the Preamble.

ART. I.—The Japanese Plenipotentiaries find it necessary to adhere to this Article as originally presented to the Chinese Plenipotentiary.

ART. II.—The Japanese Plenipotentiaries find it impossible to accept the amendment hereunder, proposed by the Chinese Plenipotentiary. They consent, however, to modify this original demand so that it shall read as follows:

"China cedes to Japan in perpetuity and full sovereignty the following territories together with all fortifications, arsenals, and public property thereon:

"(*a*).—The southern portion of the Province of Shengking within the following boundaries:

"The line of demarcation begins at the River Yalu and ascends that stream to Anpinghokou; from thence the line runs to Fenghuang; from thence to Haicheng, and from thence to Yingkow where it terminates. The places above named are included in the ceded territory.

"This cession also includes all Islands appertaining or belonging to the Province of Shengking situated in the eastern portion of the Bay of Liaotung and in the northern part of the Yellow Sea.

(*b*).—The Island of Formosa together with all islands adjacent or belonging to the said Island of Formosa.

(*c*).—The Pescadores Group, that is to say, all Islands lying between the 119° and 120° longitude east of Greenwich and the 23° and 24° North latitudes.

ART. IV.—The Japanese Plenipotentiaries cannot accede to the proposal of the Chinese Plenipotentiary hereunder. They will, however, consent to amend their original demand as follows:

"China agrees to pay to Japan as a war indemnity the sum of 200,000,000 Kuping Taels. The said sum to be paid in eight installments. The first instalment of 50,000,000 Taels to be paid within six months, and the second installment of 50,000,000 Taels to be paid within twelve months after the exchange of the ratifications of this Act. The remaining sum to be paid in six equal annual installments as follows:—The first of such equal annual installments to be paid within two years; the second within three years; the third within four years; the fourth within five years; the fifth within six years; and the sixth within seven years after the exchange of ratifications of this Act. Interest at the rate of 5 per centum per annum shall begin to run on all unpaid portions of the said indemnity from the date the first installment falls due. China shall, however, have the right to pay by anticipation at any time any or all of said installments.

ART. V.—The Japanese Plenipotentiaries cannot consent to the Amendments proposed to this Article.

ART. VI.—The Japanese Plenipotentiaries are unable to give their adhesion to the counter proposal hereunder, of the Chinese Plenipotentiary. They will, nevertheless, consent to the following modications of the original Article:

"All treaties between Japan and China having come to an end in consequence of war, China engages, immediately upon the exchange of the ratifications of this Act, to appoint Plenipotentiaries to conclude with the Japanese Plenipotentiaries a Treaty of Commerce and Navigation and a Convention to regulate Frontier Intercourse and Trade. The Treaties, Conventions, and Regulations now subsisting between China and European Powers shall serve as a basis for the said Treaty and Convention between Japan and China. From the date of the exchange of the ratifications of this Act until the said Treaty and Convention are brought into actual operation the Japanese Government: its Officials; Commerce; Navigation; Frontier Intercourse and Trade; Industries; Ships, and Subjects shall in every respect be accorded by China most favoured nation treatment.

"China makes in addition the following concessions to take effect six months after the date of the present Act:

"1st.—The following cities, towns and ports, in addition to those already opened, shall be opened to the trade, residence, industries and manufactures of Japanese subject, under the same conditions and with the same privileges and facilities as exist at the present open cities, towns, and ports of China:

1.—Shashih in the Province of Hupeh.
2.—Chung-king in the Province of Szechuen.
3.—Suchow in the Province of Kiangsu.
4.—Hangchow in the Province of Chekiang.

The Japanese Government shall have the right to station Consuls at any or all of the above-named places.

"2nd.—Steam navigation for vessels under the Japanese flag for the conveyance of passengers and cargo shall be extended to the following places:

1.—On the Upper Yangtsze River from Ichang to Chung-king.

2.—On the Woosung River and the Canal from Shanghai to Suchow and Hangchow.

"The Rules and Regulations which now govern the navigation of the inland waters of China by foreign vessels shall, so far as applicable, be enforced in respect of the above named routes, until new Rules and Regulations are conjointly agreed to.

"3rd.—Japanese subjects purchasing goods or produce in the interior of China or transporting imported merchandize into the interior of China, shall have the right temporarily to rent or hire warehouses for the storage of the articles so purchased or transported, without the payment of any taxes or exactions whatever and without the interference of any Chinese officials.

"4th.—The Kuping tael shall be taken to be the tael in which taxes, duties, and fees are payable by Japanese subjects in China and all such taxes, duties, and fees may be paid in standard Japanese silver coin at their face or representative value.

"5th.—Japanese subjects shall be free to engage in all kinds of manufacturing industries in China, and shall be at liberty to import into China all kinds of machinery, paying only the stipulated import duties thereon.

"All articles manufactured by Japanese subjects in China, shall in respect of inland transit and internal taxes, duties, charges, and exactions of all kinds, and also in respect of warehousing and storage facilities in the interior of China, stand upon the same footing and enjoy the same privileges and exemptions as merchandize imported by Japanese subjects into China.

"In the event additional Rules and Regulations are necessary in connection with these concessions they shall be embodied in the Treaty of Commerce and Navigation provided for by this Article."

ART. VII.—The Japanese Plenipotentiaries are unable to accept the amendment hereunder.

ART. VIII.—The Japanese Plenipotentiaries cannot accept the substitute proposed hereunder, but they will agree to amend the original Article as follows:

"As a guarantee of the faithful performance of the stipulations of this Act, China consents to the temporary occupation by the Military forces of Japan of Weihaiwei in the Province of Shantung.

"Upon the payment of the first two installments of the war indemnity herein stipulated for and the exchange of the ratifications of the Treaty of Commerce and Navigation, the said place shall be evacuated by the Japanese forces, provided the Chinese Government consents to pledge under suitable and sufficient arrangements, the Customs Revenue of China as security for the payment of the principal and interest of the remaining installments of said indemnity. In the event no such arrangements are concluded, such evacuation shall only take place upon the payment of the final installment of said indemnity.

"It is, however, expressly understood that no such evacuation shall take place until after the exchange of the ratifications of the Treaty of Commerce and Navigation.

"All expenses connected with the temporary occupation shall be defrayed by China."

ART. X.—The Japanese Plenipotentiaries find it necessary to adhere to this Article as originally drafted by them,

ART. XI. (New).—The proposal hereunder cannot be accepted by the Japanese Plenipotentiaries.

JAPAN'S ULTIMATUM.

Shimonoseki, April 11th, 1895.

His Excellency Count LI HUNG-CHANG, His Imperial Chinese Majesty's Plenipotentiary.

Excellency,—I deem it advisable to confirm in writing the substance of the observations which I had the honour to verbally address to Your Excellency yesterday in connection with the modified conditions of peace which I then presented to you.

I informed Your Excellency and I now desire to repeat that those modified demands must be regarded as final, and that a categorical reply will be expected within the space of four days from yesterday.

I acquainted Your Excellency that the Japanese Plenipotentiaries had not failed to take into serious consideration the remarks with Your Excellency had made respecting the demands of the Imperial Japanese Government as originally formulated, and I stated that a reduction in those demands to the lowest possible point of concession had been made in consequence of those remarks in which Your Excellency had pointed out the difficulties that would confront China if the full measures of Japan's original conditions were insisted upon.

The reduction of the indemnity by one-third; the adoption of easier terms of payment; the acceptance of one place instead of two for temporary occupation; the opportunity of substituting a financial in place of a territorial guarantee; the suppression of the clause regarding commutation and other internal taxation, and the withdrawal of the claim for the removal of the obstruction to navigation at the mouth of the Huang Pu River, would, I explained, relieve China of those financial embarrassments, which in Your Excellency's estimation rendered the full realization of Japan's monetary demands extremely difficult.

I also made it clear to Your Excellency's appreciation, I trust, that the same spirit of conciliation had also contributed to bring about the very large abridgment of Japan's territorial demands.

In conclusion, I permit myself to repeat what I have frequently endeavoured to impress upon Your Excellency's mind, that war is progressive in its consequences as well as its operations and that it is not to be expected that conditions of peace which Japan is now happily able to accept will be possible later on.

I renew to Your Excellency the assurance of my distinguished consideration.

ITO HIROBUMI,
H. I. M.'s Plenipotentiary.

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China's Last Protest and Appeal.

Shimonoseki, April 12th, 1895.

His Excellency Count Ito Hirobumi, Plenipotentiary of His Majesty The Emperor of Japan.

Excellency,—The note which your Excellency did me the honour to address to me yesterday respecting the progress and incidents attending the Peace negotiations makes it necessary, in justice to my Government and myself, that I should submit thereto a brief reply.

It is to be borne in mind that I was required to present in writing a categorical reply to the terms of peace demanded by Japan before I should be granted any conference with the Japanese Plenipotentiaries for discussing the terms of peace, and at the first conference granted me for that purpose I was met by the Japanese final proposal as now urged by Your Excellency before any oral discussion had taken place. Under such circumstances, it can hardly be claimed that Japan's final proposal had been reached after a full opportunity had been afforded me to make known the views of my Government.

While it is gratifying to know that the enormous indemnity originally demanded has been somewhat reduced, it still remains an amount far greater than the cost of the war and constitutes a burden too heavy for China to bear, and one which would make it impossible to carry out much-desired reforms and improvements in the country.

It has not been possible for me to understand how the conditions of peace have been made much less onerous by what Your Excellency terms "the very large abridgement of Japan's territorial demands." The line of demarcation in the final proposal includes, with slight exceptions, all the territory in the Province of Shengking which has ever been occupied by the Japanese forces; and in addition the final proposal has demanded the cession of a rich, populous, and important part of the Empire (Formosa) where on no Japanese soldier has yet set foot. Such a demand is not in accord with the practice of nations negotiating for peace.

While I cheerfully recognize the action of the Japanese Plenipotentiaries in abating some of their objectionable commercial demands, the final proposal still remains unprecedented and unreasonable in its terms in this regard and highly derogatory to the sovereignty of an independent nation. It requires the negotiation of a Commercial Treaty and frontier regulations under the duress of retaining Chinese territory and refuses to submit any question of variance to the arbitration of a friendly Power. Pending the negotiation of the Commercial Treaty, it demands favoured nation treatment for Japanese in China, and refuses the same guarantee or any stipulation for Chinese in Japan. It claims the privilege for Japanese to rent warehouses and import and purchase goods and produce at any place in the interior of China away from the Treaty ports, without the interference of any official; also, that the Japanese should have the right to engage in manufacturing industries anywhere in China and without the payment of any domestic taxes on the goods manufactured; and that Japanese coin be made receivable at its face value for payment of duties and taxes.

I have written the foregoing not with the view of provoking further discussion, but with the object of concisely repeating what I said to your Excellency when the terminal proposal was presented to me at the only conference afforded me for discussing terms of peace, and in the hope that the objections here set forth may be carefully considered by Your Excellency and that I may be informed of the result thereon at the next Conference promised me by Your Excellency, at which I expect to submit the reply to the final proposal which my Emperor shall authorize me to make.

I renew to Your Excellency the assurances of my high consideration.

Li Hung-chang,
Ambassador Plenipotentiary of
His Majesty the Emperor of China.

Final.

Shimonoseki, April 13th, 1895.

His Excellency Count Li Hung-chang, His Imperial Chinese Majesty's Plenpotentiary.

Excellency,—I have had the honour to receive Your Excellency's Note of yesterday, which professes to be in reply to mine of the day previous.

The object of my communication of the 11th instant, was, by repeating in writing what I had previously verbally declared, to make Your Excellency fully alive to the actual situation. I wished Your Excellency to understand that full consideration had been accorded to Your Excellency's representations and that the modified demands of the Imperial Government must be regarded as final, admitting only of a categorical reply.

I fear, from the Note now under acknowledgment, that my purpose was misinterpreted, since Your Excellency, while disclaiming any wish to provoke a discussion, criticises the final demands of the Imperial Government, as well as the course of procedure which has been followed, and expresses the hope that Your Excellency's objections may be taken into consideration.

It only seems necessary for me to say in response to Your Excellency's Note, that the demands which I handed to Your Excellency on the 10th instant, being final, are no longer open to discussion.

Demands arising as a result of war are not proposals in the ordinary sense of that word and the Japanese Plenipotentiaries by permitting the demands of the Imperial Government to be made the subject of discussion, went to the extreme limit of concession in the interest of peace, and if their spirit of conciliation has been misunderstood they have the right to disclaim all responsibility for the consequences.

It only remains for me to add, in order to prevent future misunderstanding, that my refusal at this time to enter upon a new examination of Japan's demands, does not imply an acquiescence on my part in Your Excellency's observations or conclusions.

I renew to Your Excellency the assurance of my distinguished consideration.

Ito Hirobumi,
Plenipotentiary of His Majesty The Emperor of Japan.

FOREIGN MISSIONARY RIGHTS IN THE INTERIOR OF CHINA.

The Convention Berthemy.

We are glad to be able to lay before our readers, especially our numerous missionary readers of all denominations, the correspondence between the French Government and the Tsung-li Yamen, *re* the "Convention Berthemy," regulating the aquisition of land and houses by Roman Catholic missions (and equally so, of course, by all others whose governments have the most favoured nation clause) in the interior of China, which has been lately ratified and put into force after lying for *thirty* years pigeon-holed in Peking.

Letter from the Tsung-li Yamên to M. Berthemy, Minister of France.

CONVENTION BERTHEMY.

The 25th day of 1st moon of the 4th year, Tungchi, February 20th, 1865.

We have the honour of making known to you the following decision (made) with regard to the collective property of the Catholic missions. In future if French missionaries buy ground or houses in the interior of the country, the vendor..... (name) must specify in the title-deed that his estate has been sold to form part of the collective property of the Catholic mission in the locality. It will not be necessary to insert the names of the missionaries or Christians.

Letter annexed to the Convention Berthemy, 1865.) Copy of the letter addressed by Tsung-li Yamên to the Governor of the Kiangsu, Li, To His Excellency Chao-Tsi-nan (surname of Li Hung-chang).

Distant with much regret from your flowery dwelling our modest thoughts turn unceasingly towards you, with firm hope, and standing on tip-toe to seek your presence, our sentiments augment as time increases. We like to think that at the present moment happiness, ever increasing, accompanies your footsteps, as the joy attached to your honourable person offers an image of peace. We turn towards the contemplation of your brillant deportment, and our expressions are on every point in keeping with our sincere sentiments. With regard to actual information concerning the question of France buying ground for the raising of religious edifices, our Yamên has decided, after discussing the matter, that henceforth French missionaries penetrating into the interior and buying ground or houses must take care that the contract contains the following stipulation—(..... name and surname of the vendor) in selling the estate in question to become the collective property of the Catholic mission in the place. It will not be necessary to enumerate the names of the missionaries or of the Christians.

This is the subject of the present letter that we address to you, and beg that you should notify to your subordinates that they conform to the above regulations.

In acting thus the religious establishments will remain the collective property of the Christians which will in no way cause detriment to China.

We take occasion of this opportunity to present you our best wishes.

Letter from M. Gerard, Minister of the French Republic in China, to His Highness the Prince Ching and to their Excellencies the Ministers of the Tsung-li Yamên.

Your Highness, Your Excellencies:—

In your reply of the 16th of this month to my letter of July 16th, concerning the affair of Lo-Icho-hien, Your Highness and Your Excellencies make a citation from an official letter, dated from Moukden in the 8th year of the reign of T'oungchi (1869), and containing besides the substance of the Berthemy Convention with regard to missionaries buying ground or houses, this passage:

"The vendor must firstly take advice of the local authorities and demand their authorization; they will decide whether it be expedient or not to agree to this. I take this opportunity to remind your Highness and Excellencies in a general way, without referring to any particular affair of the terms of the Convention agreed to the 20th February, 1865, between the Tsung-li Yamên and M. Berthemy, Minister of France, and destined to define clearly the conditions under which the Catholic Missions may buy ground and houses in the interior of the country.

We have the honour of making known to you that the undermentioned has been decided with regard to the collective property of the Catholic missions. For the future if, French missionaries wish to buy land or houses in the interior of the country; the vendor . . . . . (his name) must specify in the contract that his estate has been sold to form part of the collective property of the Catholic mission in the locality, it will not be necessary to inscribe the names of the missionaries or Christians.

This Convention is integrally reproduced in the letter which the Tsung-li Yamên wrote about the same date to the Governor of Kiang-su and which His Highness the Prince Kung communicated to M. Berthemy. The letter likewise ends with these same words: "In treating this affair as we have done, the churches will remain the property of the Catholic community, which will in no way bring prejudice to the interests of China." Nothing can be clearer than this arrangement, which mentions no obligation whatever of the vendor being first obliged to obtain the authorization of the local authorities. Certain doubts, however, had arisen with regard to this point, and one of my predecessors M. Bouree, wrote to the Tsung-li Yamên for information on the 30th of January, 1882; they replied the 5th of February. Herewith *enclose* a copy of letter.

(ENCLOSURE.)

We had the honour of receiving on the 30th of last month (11 of the 12 moon) a letter from Your Excellency relative to the buying of land in the interior by missionaries (here follows a summary of the letter). This Convention (The Convention Berthemy) has been drawn up; it is comformable with the Treaty, and its special end is to surround the acquisitions made by religions missions with sufficient guarantees.

"Your Excellency in the letter demands that the transaction be simply carried out according to the terms of the Convention and all unnecessary regulations suppressed.

The Convention here referred to is thus worded:—"The name of the vendor must appear in the Title-deed, which latter must also contain the assertion that the purchase has been made in order to become the collective property of the religious missions. It will be useless that the contract contain the name of the missionaries or of the Christians," etc. Now if the vendor does not present the contract to the local authorities for examination, how will the latter be enabled to testify that the document contains the name of the vendor and is drawn up clearly to prove that the aquisition is made to form part of the collective property of the mission? It is only by examining the deed that the local authorities can make sure that the articles of the Convention have been adhered to, and ascertain if it be necessary to register the deed so drawn up. In this way no fraud can be committed and it at the same time prevents any return upon the transaction.

The fulfilment of these formalities doubtless offer the greatest advantages to religious missions.

As a rule any agreement between Chinese with regard to the buying of land or houses is drawn up in the form of a contract, which is presented to the authorities to be registered. If the parties omit this formality the contract is null and void, and in the case of a lawsuit would of course be of no value as testimony. Transactions of this kind require the payment of a duty and it is only after the contract has been examined that the document may be registered. The presentation of a document to the sub-prefecture, its examination and

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the payment of dues for the appending of required seals must evidently take place after the property has been transferred to its new owner, and not before its sale.

The local authorities must not only act conformably to the Convention, but also according to the stipulations of the treaties. Moreover, when a religious mission buys land or houses, the aforesaid authorities must examine if the acquisition has been made in accordance to established rules, and if these have been adhered to they must in turn fulfil what has been prescribed by these regulations.

Your Excellency well knows that the Convention in question here offers great advantages.

Presenting the contract to the authorities for registration is a formality quite conformable with the spirit of the Convention, and there is no exceptional regulation in demanding it. We hope that Your Excellency will take due consideration of the matter."

It results from this reply that if the Tsung-li Yamên consider it necessary that the contract be presented to the local authorities for registration with payment of dues, this formality must take place according to the letter after the transaction has been concluded and not previous to it.

I have no objection to raise against this act of registration, which is in accordance with the Chinese law and not contrary to the stipulations of the treaties. But it is a well understood fact that the formality of presenting the document for registration must follow and not precede the transaction. It is also to be understood that this proceeding in no way comprises a previous authorization from the local authorities. The Emperor's wishes will thus be accomplished, as he has desired to ensure to the missions the free use of their rights of buying property in the interior of the Empire.

This being an understood thing I beg your Highness and your Excellencies in order to avoid disagreeable misunderstandings to notify the Convention Berthemy to the Marshals, Viceroys, and Governors and give them the necessary instructions so that the formality for presenting documents for registration may be fulfilled, as indicated after the conclusion of the bargain and without the vendors being obliged to ask for any previous authorization, which is quite contrary to the Chinese law as it is to the treaties and conventions.

If Your Highness and Your Excellencies thus understand your duties, as I have no doubt you do, I am quite ready on my part to direct the Apostolic Vicars and chiefs of the missions to comply, as they already do, to the formality of presenting the contract for acquiring land or houses to form part of the collective property belonging to their communities, to the local authorities for registration, without the vendor, however, being obliged to obtain any previous authorization.

This is of the greatest importance and destined to avoid many difficulties in the future. It is, moreover, necessary that these instructions receive adequate publicity and that no authority in the country ignore the conditions under which the treaties have insured to the missions the right of acquiring property.

I am, etc., (Signed) A. GERARD.

Letter from the TSUNG-LI YAMÊN (Prince Kung, Prince Ching, Fou, King, Sauen, Siu, Leao, Chang, and Wang). To His Excellency Mr. A. GERARD, Minister to the French Republic in China.

The 17th day of the 10th moon of the 20th year Kwang Hsü, 14th November, 1894.

OFFICIAL COMMUNICATION.

The 29th of the 9th moon of the 20th year Kwang-su (27 October, 1894) we received a letter from you in which you state that you had written us official letters several times during the months of July, August, and September of this year, with regard to the Convention concluded in February 1865, between the Minister of France, M. Berthemy and our Yamên, respecting the acquiring of property by the religious missions, in which you notified to us that it was owing to certain passages contrary to the original Conventions having been introduced after its conclusion, that the local authorities (agreed) that vendors should make a previous declaration and obtain their authorization for the selling of their property. You also begged that our Yamên should send copies of the original text of the so-called Berthemy Convention free from any passage introduced in the provinces, so as to conform to previous treaties.

Our Yamên, since the 23rd of the 9th moon of this year (21st October), has sent circulars to all the provinces to make known that with regard to the religious missions buying property it is necessary to conform to the Convention concluded in 1865 between our Yamên and M. Berthemy, Minister of your honourable country.

We hereby officially inform your Excellency of what has been done.

Letter from M. A. GERARD, Minister of the French Republic in China, to their Highnesses the Princes KUNG and CH'ING and to Their Excellencies the Ministers of the TSUNG-LI YAMÊN.

Peking, November 19th, 1894.

Your Highnesses and Your Excellencies:

I have the honour of acknowledging the receipt of your letter of the 14th of this month, in reply to my official document of October 27th.

By sending the authorities the rectified text of the Convention Berthemy into the provinces your Highnesses and your Excellencies have given proof of respect for their legal engagements, and also of the desire they have to give the religious missions every guarantee with regard to acquiring property according to the Treaty of June 27th, 1858, confirmed by the Convention of the 20th February, 1865.

The natural result, moreover, of this correspondence is not only to state that the text of the Convention Berthemy is the only legal document giving the missions the right of acquiring property, but also that in the same document has no additional passage introduced by which vendors would find themselves obliged to give previous notice to the local authorities and obtain authorization to sell their property.

Your Yamên will doubtless have insisted particularly on this latter point in the circular, as being of essential importance, and in order to avoid any further misunderstanding, I shall take care that the text of the Convention Berthemy, with these instructions, be again communicated to all the Consuls of the Republic in China and to the religious missions as the document on which their legal rights are founded.

Will Your Highnesses and Your Excellencies give me the assurance that the above entirely agrees with the spirit and letter of the document communicated by your Yamên to the Taotais, Marshals, Viceroys, and Governors of the Empire.

I am, etc., A. GERARD.

Official Communication from the TSUNG-LI YAMÊN to M. GERARD, dated 28th November, 1894.

The 22nd day of the 10th moon of the 20th year Kwang-su (November 19th, 1894), we received a letter from Your Excellency in which you state that you had received our official reply with regard to the question of religious missions buying property, which contained likewise the statement that our Yamên had sent circulars into all the provinces with the text of the Convention concluded in 1863 with his Excellency M. Berthemy, that whenever the religious missions would desire to buy property the above mentioned Convention may be exactly carried out. You, moreover, added that the additional clause concerning the previous notice given to the local authorities and the demand of authorization being completely suppressed, you supposed that our Yamên in writing to the provinces had certainly given particular instructions on this point.

Our Yamên states that circulars containing the necessary instructions relative to this affair were sent to all the provinces on the 23rd of the 9th moon of this year (21st October, 1894) so that the Convention concluded in 1865 with M. Berthemy, Minister of your honourable country, may be fully carried out. We have also officially replied to Your Excellency as is recorded in our archives. As our Yamên has clearly expressed the original regulation, it is not necessary to consider stipulations not contained in the aforesaid treaty.

Letter from M. A. GERARD, Minister of the French Republic in China, to Their Highnesses the Princes KUNG, CHING, and Their Excellencies the Ministers of the TSUNG-LI YAMÊN.

Peking, December 3rd, 1894.

Your Highnesses and Your Excellencies:—

The official reply of your Highnesses and Your Excellencies proves that there is a perfect understanding between the French Legation and your Yamên upon the exact and faithful application of the Convention Berthemy, as it was concluded on February 20th, 1865. The right of acquiring property, ground, or houses in the interior of China is thus assured to the Catholic missions, and the restrictions which have so far altered or limited the free exercise of the treaty are completely dispelled.

I congratulate myself upon this happy result and the good effect it will have upon the intercourse between the missions and the provincial authorities of the Empire.

Your Yamên having despatched circular instructions to all the provinces, I have likewise sent the necessary instructions to the Republic and chiefs of the missions, enclosing the text of the Convention Berthemy in both languages, French and Chinese, as also a copy of the correspondence which has passed with regard to this subject between the Legation and your Yamên.

I am, etc., (Signed) A. GERARD.

CHESS.

(All Communications to be addressed to the CHESS EDITOR.)

The Yokohama Chess Club is closed for the season: and re-opens on 3rd October.

The Tokyo Chess Club is now closed for the holiday season and will reopen on Friday, 4th October, 1895.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 178.

WHITE.	BLACK.
1—B to Q Kt 8	1—Any

2—Mates accordingly.

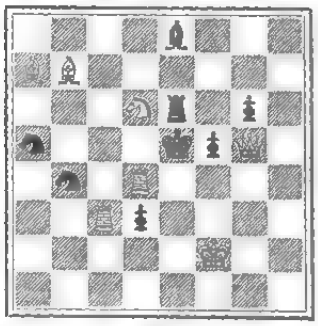
Correct solutions received from Omega, E.D., Digamma, Kr., W.H.S., E. J. King, and J.D.

Additional correct solution of No. 177 received from W.H.S. and E. J. King.

PROBLEM No. 180.

By G. J. SLATER.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in two moves.

BARDELEBEN-BLACKBURNE MATCH.

London, May 10th.—Bardeleben beat Blackburne to-day in the seventh game of the match at the British Chess Club. The present score: Blackburne 3, Bardeleben 2, drawn 2.

GAME No. 272.

IRREGULAR OPENING.

WHITE. Mr. Schwarts.	BLACK. Dr. Tarrasch.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—P to Q 4	2—P takes P
3—P to Q B 3	3—Q to K 2

Considered by Dr. Tarrasch a good reply to White's last move.

4—P to K B 3	4—P to Q 4
5—Q takes P	5—Kt to Q B 3
6—B to Q Kt 5	6—P takes P
7—P takes P	7—Kt to K B 3
8—P to K 5	8—B to Q 2
9—B takes Kt	9—B takes B
10—Kt to B 3	10—R to Q sq.
11—Q to K 3	

■ to K B 4 looks somewhat superior.

	11—Kt to Kt 5
12—Q to Kt 5	12—Q to Q 2
13—Castles	

Fatal, but it does not appear that any move would be satisfactory in this position.

	13—B to B 4 ch.
14—K to R sq.	14—Kt to B 7 ch.
15—R takes Kt	15—Q to Q 8 ch.
16—Kt to Kt sq.	16—Q takes Kt ch.

Dr. Tarrasch here, as in so many of his games, finishes elegantly.

17—K takes Q	17—R to Q 8 mate.

Champion Lasker has opened a class in London for teaching chess by means of weekly lectures. His terms are two shillings for a single lecture, or one guinea for a complete course of 13 lectures.

The *Chess Monthly* outlines the four lectures already given as follows:—

First lecture—Mr. Lasker established four propositions concerning openings. (1) Don't move any piece twice, but put it at once on the right square, line or file. (2) Don't move any pawns except the Q and K P. (3) Don't play your Q B before you have brought out your two knights. (4) Don't pin the adverse K Kt before your opponent has castled.

Second lecture, the Ruy Lopez—Mr. Lasker propounded the following propositions: Whenever a player, especially in the early part of a game, sacrifices a pawn for position (1) take it and defend it according to the principles of development; (2) and when, after some time, the pressure becomes too strong, give it back for development. He thereupon pointed out the correct defence to the Ruy Lopez to be 3..... Kt to K B 3.

Third lecture—Mr. Lasker dwelt upon t

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inferior defences to the Ruy Lopez, especially pointing out the weakness of 3..... P to Q R 3.

Fourth lecture, Evans' Gambit—Mr. Lasker established three propositions: (1) The compromised defence is favourable to the second player; (2) the normal position gives White a lasting and harassing attack with his king side pawns; (3) he gave a safe defence to the gambit, which is based on the sacrifice of a pawn.

Game No. 273.

A pretty consultation game recently played at Nuremberg between Dr. Tarrasch and Messrs. Gutmann and Kürschner:—

WHITE. Dr. Tarrasch.	BLACK. Allies.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—P to K B 4	2—P to Q 4
3—Kt to K ■ 3 (a)	3—Q P takes P
4—Kt takes K P	4—B to Q 3 (b)
5—P to Q 4 (c)	5—Kt to K B 3
6—B to Q B 4	6—Castles
7—Castles	7—P to Q B 4
8—B to K 3	8—Q to B 2 (d)
9—Kt to Q B 3	9—P takes P
10—Kt to Q Kt 5	10—Q to Kt 3
11—Q takes Q P	11—B takes Kt
12—P takes B	12—Kt to Kt 5
13—Q R to K sq.	13—B to Q 2
14—Kt to Q 6	14—Kt takes ■
15—Q takes Kt	15—B to K 3
16—R takes B P (e)	16—Q takes Q ch.
17—R takes Q	17—B takes R
18—P to K 6	18—B takes P (f)
19—B takes B ch.	19—K to R sq.
20—Kt to B 7 ch.	20—K to Kt sq. (g)
21—Kt to K 5 dis. ch.	21—K to ■ sq.
22—Kt to Kt 6 ch.	22—P takes Kt
23—R to R 3 mate.	

(a) Here White often plays 3—P takes Q P, and Black's best move then appears to be P to K 5 as in the regular Falkbeer Counter-Gambit.

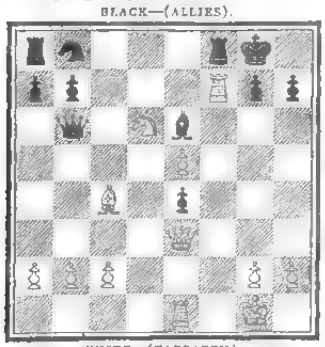
(b) Commended by Dr. Tarrasch as best; but B 4 seems also a good square for this piece.

(c) Dr. Tarrasch quotes an elegant game by Andersen, who played ■ this point 5—B to Q B 4, and the game continued:—5....., B takes Kt; 6—P takes B, Q to Q 5; 7—Q to K 2, Q takes K P; 8—P to Q 4, Q takes Q P; 9—Kt to Q B 3, Kt to K B 3; 10—B to K 3, Q to Q sq.; 11—Castles, P to K R 3; 12—B to B 5, Q Kt to Q 2; 13—Q takes P ch., a somewhat surprising and abrupt finish.

(d) This turns out badly. About this period it was necessary to develop the queen's knight, for which, curiously enough, there was no further opportunity.

(e) A charming sacrifice (see the diagram). If 16....., B takes R; 17—Q takes Q, P takes Q; 18—Kt takes B, R takes Kt; 19—R ■ K B sq., regaining the rook with a fine game.

BLACK—(ALLIES).



WHITE—(TARRASCH).

Position after White's 16th move—R takes K B P.

(f) Best; for if the bishop moves, P to K 7 dis. ch. wins the exchange.

(g) Anticipating only a perpetual check. The Allies should have taken the knight instead. Now mate follows speedily and prettily.

Mr. Mason says that "the Bishop acts strongly against the King's position, especially after the King has castled, and against the Pawns. He attacks as they do, and from a distance, and greatly hinders their advance. A single Bishop will easily halt three Pawns, but he cannot destroy them as can the Rook. It is difficult to direct the Bishops against the centre, in conjunction with the perpendicular action of the Queen and Rooks; but they easily combine with these against the wings, doing much harm. If bearing on the King's position, two Bishops on parallel diagonals are exceedingly dangerous. They should be opposed by similar force, or exchanged, or shut out, as soon as possible. One Bishop without his fellow is not half so strong. Still he should be opposed if bearing on the King's position."

Game No. 274.

Here is a game played between Taubenhaus and Vasquez at the Havana Chess Club, island of Cuba:—

PHILIDOR'S DEFENCE.

WHITE. Taubenhaus.	BLACK. Vasquez.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—Kt to K	2—P to Q 3
3—P to [illegible]	3—P takes P
4—Kt takes P	4—Kt to K B 3
5—Kt to Q B 3	5—B to K 2
6—B to Q 3	6—Castles
7—Castles	7—Kt to B 3 (a)
8—Kt takes Kt	8—P takes Kt
9—P to K R 3	9—Kt to Q 2 (b)
10—B to K 3	10—Kt to K 4
11—B to K 2	11—P to K B 4
12—P to B 4	12—Kt to Kt 3
13—B to B 3	13—B to R 3 (c)
14—P takes P	14—B takes R (d)
15—P takes Kt	15—B to ■ 3 (e)
16—B takes B P	16—R to Kt sq.
17—B to Q 5 ch.	17—K to R sq.
18—Q to R 5	18—P to R 3
19—Kt to K 4 (f)	19—Q to Q 2
20—B to Q 4	20—B to B 3
21—Kt takes B	21—Q to R 5
22—P to B 4	22—P to B 4
23—B to Q B 3	23—R to Kt 6
24—Q takes P ch.	24—P takes Q
25—Kt to K 8 ch.	25—R takes ■
26—P to Kt 7 ch.	26—K to R 2
27—P takes R (Queen)	27—K to ■ Kt 6
28—B to Kt 4 ch.	28—Resigned (g).

NOTES BY D. M. MARTINEZ.

(a) So far the opening has been correctly conducted on both sides, but now Black indulges in a novelty that does not pan out satisfactorily. 7—B to Q 2, or 7—P to K R 3 are the moves recommended here.

(b) Kt to K sq. seems to be better.

(c) This move is ruinous. The bishop should be held watching the K B 4 square. 13—Kt to ■ R 5 to capture the troublesome bishop at White K 3 seems to be the best move.

(d) Inopportune just now. 14—Kt to K R 5 is a much better move at present.

(e) 15—B to Q B 5 to bring it to the defence of the King's side, was a more prudent move.

(f) The rest of Taubenhaus' play cannot be excelled. It is simple, sound and beautiful.

(g) Black resigns, as White can give mate speedily by 29—Kt to B 6.

Van Vliet, the chess player, has been acquitted by a jury of the charge of theft in a London court of justice. After Lasker had spoken as to the good character of the prisoner, the jury refused to hear any more evidence and found a verdict of not guilty.

Walbrodt announces that he will play Tarrasch a return match at Nuremberg, and that the first game will be played on June 15th. After the termination of this contest which will be one of "seven games up," Tarrasch will play a return match with Tschigorin at Berlin of ten games up, and as the first match played between these experts at St. Petersburg last year ended in a draw, the fight will be sure to be watched with interest.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[REUTER "SPECIAL" TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

London, May 29.

The following is the result of the Derby, ran to-day:—

Sir Visto	1
Curzon	2
Kirkconnel	3

["SPECIAL" TELEGRAM TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

Hakodate, May 27.

The *Merriman* arrived with 797 skins, and the *Alton* with 300 skins, yesterday.

Hakodate, May 28.

The *Boreas* has put in with 733 seal skins, and the *City San Diego* with 371.

Hakodate, May 30.

Her Majesty's ship *Peacock* arrived here ■ four o'clock this afternoon.

Hakodate, May 31.

The *Retriever* has arrived here with 562 sealskins.

(FROM JAPANESE PAPERS.)

Shanghai, May 30.

The manager of a telegraph office at Foochow reports that the Chinese Government has issued a notification to the effect that as war has broken out at Keelung all private telegrams to Formosa, with the exception of Keelung and Taipeh, can not be delivered until further notice.

Shanghai, May 31.

The newspapers of this port have issued extras stating that Japanese soldiers have landed to the north of Keelung.

A report from North China states that the Pekin Government has ordered the Governor-General of Nankin to desist from assisting the insurgents in Formosa.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From America	per O. & O. Co.	Sunday, June 2nd *
From Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Sunday, June 2nd †
From America	per P. M. Co.	Thursday, June 13th ‡
From Europe, viâ Hongkong	per M. M. Co.	Friday, June 7th §
From Hongkong	per P. M. Co.	Wed'day, June 5th ‖
From Europe, viâ Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd	Wed'day, June 12th.
From Canada, &c.....	per C. P. R. Co.	Monday, June 17th.
From Hongkong	per C. P. R. Co.	Thursday, June 20th.

* *Gaelic* left San Francisco on May 14th. † *Arona* left Kobe on June 21st. ‡ *City of Peking* left San Francisco via Honolulu on May 15th. § *Ernest Simons* (with French mail) left Shanghai on May 31st. ‖ *Coptic* left Hongkong on May 28th.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For America	per O. & O. Co.	Friday, June 7th.
For Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Saturday, June 8th.
For Europe, viâ Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd	Friday, June 14th.
For Europe, viâ Shanghai	per M. M. Co.	Saturday, June 15th.
For Victoria, B.C., & Tacoma, Wash.....	per N. P. Co.	Saturday, June 15th.
For Hongkong	per C. P. R. Co.	Monday, June 17th.
For America	per P. M. Co.	Wed'day, June 19th.
For Canada, &c.	per C. P. R. Co.	Friday, June 21st.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Salvadora, Spanish steamer, 978, Ramon, 25th May,—Manila, Sugar.—Browne & Co.

Chingwo, British steamer, 2,556, Shaw, 25th May,—London viâ ports, General.—W. M. Strachan & Co.

Peru, American steamer, 2,540, D. E. Friele, 25th May,—Hongkong viâ ports, 18th May, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Empress of China, British steamer, 3,003, R. Archibald, 26th May,—Vancouver, B.C., 13th May, Mails and General.—Frazar & Co.

Omba, British steamer, 1,907, Munroe, 26th May,—Hongkong viâ ports, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Turbo, British tank-steamer, 2,356, 27th May,—Batoum, Oil.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Siam, British steamer, 1,897, E. G. Andrews, 28th May,—Hongkong viâ ports, 19th May, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Asamor, British steamer, 1,560, Nicholls, 29th May,—Bombay viâ ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Aglaia, German steamer, 1,666, Petersen, 30th May,—Hamburg viâ ports, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Tacoma, British steamer, 1,661, R. Crawford, 30th May,—Hongkong viâ ports, General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Empress of Japan, British steamer, 3,003, G. A. Lee, R.N.R., 31st May,—Hongkong viâ ports, 22nd May, Mails and General.—Frazar & Co.

DEPARTURES.

City of Rio de Janeiro, American steamer, 2,240, J. T. Smith, 25th May,—Hongkong viâ Nagasaki, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Polyphemus, British steamer, 1,803, Cartmer, 26th May,—Hongkong viâ ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Straits of Dover, British steamer, 1,436, E. Halliday, 26th May,—Hongkong viâ Moji, Ballast.—Order.

Empress of China, British steamer, 3,003, R. Archibald, 27th May,—Hongkong viâ ports, Mails and General.—Frazar & Co.

Peacock (6), gunboat, Lieut.-Commander Lanton, 27th May.—Hakodate.

Hazel Branch, British steamer, 1,610, Lee, 27th May,—Hongkong viâ ports, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Benlomond, British steamer, 1,754, McIntosh, 28th May,—Kobe, General.—Cornes & Co.

Abner Coburn, American ship, 1,878, Geo. A. Nichols, 29th May,—New York viâ Kobe, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Bogstad, Norwegian steamer, 1,981, O. Thorbjornsen, 29th May,—Kobe, Sugar.—Butterfield & Swire.

Omba, British steamer, 1,907, Munroe, 29th May,—Hongkong viâ Moji, Ballast.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Peru, American steamer, 2,540, D. E. Friele, 29th May,—San Francisco, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Chingwo, British steamer, 2,556, Shaw, 30th May,—London viâ ports, General.—W. M. Strachan & Co.

Salvadora, Spanish steamer, 978, Ramson, 30th May,—Manila viâ ports, General.—Browne & Co.

Brindisi, British steamer, 2,186, R. A. Peters, 1st June,—Bombay viâ ports, General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Caroline (14), cruiser, Captain C. J. Norcock, 1st June.—Hakodate.

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Empress of Japan, British steamer, 3,003, G. A. Lee, R.N.R., 1st June,—Vancouver, B.C., Mails and General.—Frazar & Co.

Ochanien, French steamer, 2,127, R. Schmitz, 1st June,—Shanghai viâ ports, Mails and General. —Messageries Maritimes Co.

Tacoma, British steamer, 1,661, R. Crawford, 1st June,—Tacoma, Wash., viâ Victoria, B.C., Mails and General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per British steamer *Empress of China*, from Vancouver, B.C.:—Mr. A. A. Anderson, Mrs. A. A. Anderson, Miss Anderson, Rev. and Mrs. Chalfont and children, Mr. G. W. Ellis, Mr. R. M. Hobson, Mr. and Mrs. R. W. Little, Mr. Jan Huk Leong, Captain A. B. Munter, Mrs. Munter, Master Munter, Miss Munter, Mrs. R. W. Matteer and child, Rev. R. W. McKibben, Mr. H. E. Pollock, Miss Georgina Roberts, Mr. J. K. Robb, and Mr. John L. Uhlaub in cabin; 13 passengers in second class, and 76 passengers in steerage.

Per British steamer *Siam*, from Hongkong viâ ports:—From London: Mr. and Mrs. Mowat, Miss M. Moss, and Mr. Coghill Jackson in cabin.

Per British steamer *Empress of Japan*, from Hongkong via ports:—Surgeon and Mrs. O. Regan, Mr. H. Schubart, Mr. J. Rankin, Mr. and Mrs. Kirby, Mr. Crompton, Rev. and Mrs. Goodrich and 3 children, Mr. F. Angus, Mr. Estein, Mr. C. Davies, Miss Jones, Mr. and Mrs. Chalmers and 2 servants, Mr. and Mrs. Ohmori, Mr. M. Johnston, Mr. and Mrs. Tilliacus, Mr. H. F. Arthur, Mr., Mrs., and Miss Lucas, Mr. D. E. Brown, Mr. W. Ross, Miss Braess, Mr. Parcher, Mr. Bicknell, Mr. T. Cowen, Mr. Coulter, Hon. Gordon Hamilton, and Mr. S. E. Hatton in cabin; 5 passengers in second class; 15 passengers in third class, and 6 passengers in Asiatic steerage. In transit:—Mr. R. K. Phillips, Mr. and Mrs. D. Marr Henderson and servant, Mr. and Mrs. Alford, 2 children, and servant, Mr. H. M. Schultz, Mr. A. Motley, Mrs. and Master Pratt, Mr. H. Bourchier, Mr. and Mrs. Mair, Rev. and Mrs. Fenn and infant, Admiral Fremantle, Captain McQuhae, Mr. and Mrs. Paul, Lieut. Leatham, Captain Fleet, Mr. Denman, R.N., Mr. Davis, Mr. Tearle, Mr. and Mrs. B. Matsuki, Mr. M. L. Smead, Mr. K. Minami, Mr. C. Dubois, Mr. M. Wignall, and Mr. Phelps in cabin; 14 passengers in second class, and 244 passengers in Asiatic steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per American steamer *City of Rio de Janeiro*, for Hongkong viâ Nagasaki:—Mr. D. K. Sliman, Mr. D. Haskell and native servant, Lieut. R. M. Hughes, U.S.N., Rev. and Mrs. J. E. Adams and infant, Mr. T. J. Palmer, Mr. H. J. White, and Mr. J. W. Bitner in cabin.

Per British steamer *Empress of China*, for Hongkong viâ ports:—Mr. R. Bould, Mr. J. G. Bould, Mr. F. Casati, Mr. F. Lutscher, Dr. A. de Flesch, Mr. Bremner, Mr. D. E. Brown, Mr. W. Ross, Mr. F. Sale, Mr. H. A. Baggallay, Mr. J. S. Parcher, Mr. F. A. Bicknell, Mr. Cocksedge, Mrs. Munster, Mr. M. Marians, Mrs. Voigt, Misses Voigt, Mr. Gobhai, Lieut. Daehm, Mrs. and Misses Wissensky, Dr. Horsey, and Mr. Schanz in cabin; Mr. S. S. Smith in second class.

Per American steamer *Peru*, for San Francisco:—Dr. Ogden Backus, Mr. and Mrs. I. Weinberg, Mr. A. Brofeldt, Mr. G. W. Wood, Mr. A. Forman, Mrs. Bercovill, Mr. G. E. Moore, and Mr. Chas. Cutter in cabin.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

Still dull. A little more business has been done in English Yarns fine counts, but there is not much life in the trade. Grey Shirtings—There has been a little done in 9lb. Other weights neglected. Fancies—Nothing doing beyond a few sales of Turkey Reds. Woollens—The usual contract business in special chops of Italian Cloth has begun, but all else dormant, although prices are said to be steady.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE.	
Grey Shirtings—8½ lb., 38½ yds. 39 inches	$2.25	to 2.85
Grey Shirtings—9lb, 38½ yds. 45 inches	2.70	to 3.10
T. Cloth—7lb, 24 yards, 32 inches	1.60	to 1.95
Indigo Shirtings—12 yards, 44 inches,	1.70	to 2.35
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches,	2.00	to 3.75
Cotton—Italians and Sattoons Black,	PER YARD.	
32 inches	0.16	to 0.22
	PER PIECE.	
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	7.25	to 9.50
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches,	0.80	to 0.95
TurkeyReds—2.0 to 2.4lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.60	to 1.70
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.75	to 2.05
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.30	to 2.60
Turkey Reds—4.8 to 5lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.80	to 3.10

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.	
Flannel	$0.30	to 0.47½
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches best	0.30	to 0.35
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Medium	0.25	to 0.27½
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Common	0.20	to 0.22½
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 21 yards, 31 inches	0.15	to 0.22
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches	0.35	to 0.50
Cloths—Presidents, 54 @ 56 inches	0.60	to 0.65
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0.40	to 0.70
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 3½ lb. per ℔	0.60	to 0.75

COTTON YARNS.

	PER PICUL.	
Nos. 10/24, Ordinary	—	
Nos. 16/24, Medium	$34.00	to 34.50
Nos. 16/24, Good to Best	35.00	to 36.00
Nos. 16/24, Reverse	—	
Nos. 28/32, Ordinary	—	
Nos. 28/32, Medium	36.00	to 37.00
Nos. 28/32, Good to Best	37.50	to 38.50
Nos. 38/42, Medium to Best	42.00	to 44.00
No. 32s, Two-fold	42.00	to 44.00
No. 42s, Two-fold	47.00	to 49.50
	PER BALE.	
No. 20s, Bombay	—	
No. 16s, Bombay	—	

METALS.

Market quiet and weak, prices for Bars and Plates being lower. Very small "spot" business; most of the recent arrivals are said to be under previous contracts. Wire Nails and Tin Plates move slowly.

	PER PICUL.	
Flat Bars, ½ inch	$3.30	to 3.35
Flat Bars, ¼ inch	3.35	to 3.40
Round and square up to ½ inch	3.30	to 3.40
Iron Plates, assorted	3.40	to 3.50
Sheet Iron	4.40	to 4.60
Galvanized Iron sheets	8.25	to 8.75
Wire Nails, assorted	5.60	to 6.00
Tin Plates, per box	5.65	to 5.75
Pig Iron, No. 3	1.55	to 1.60

KEROSENE.

Holders of Western Oil have reduced quotations, but without inducing much business. This is probably to meet the Langkat brand, which is offering at $2.30 per case.

		PER PICUL.	
American	Nom.	$2.45	to 2.47½
Russian	Nom.	2.40	to 2.42½
Langkat		2.23	to 2.35

SUGAR.

Brown—Fair sales of China and Takao sorts; but with free arrivals and a plentiful stock, prices are tending downwards. White—Rather more doing at unchanged rates.

	PER PICUL.	
Brown Takao	$3.40	to 3.50
Brown Manila	4.20	to 4.30
Brown Daitong (New)	3.10	to 3.15
Brown Canton	3.00	to 3.50
White Java and Penang	6.30	to 6.40
White Refined	6.40	to 9.20

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Buying has continued on a good scale; chiefly for Europe, and the total stock is now down to 1,000 piculs. Crop news is good, both China and Japan promising a full yield. Too early yet to pronounce an opinion on quality, but no reason to fear anything in that respect.

QUOTATIONS.

Hanks—No. 1	—	
Hanks—No. 2 (Shinshu)	—	
Hanks—No. 2 (Joshu)	—	
Hanks—No. 2½ (Shinshu)	—	
Hanks—No. 2½ (Joshu)	—	
Hanks—No. 2½ to 3	—	
Hanks—No. 3	—	
Hanks—No. 3½	—	
Filatures—Extra 10/12 deniers	Nom.	—
Filatures—Extra 13/15 deniers	Nom.	—
Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers	$770	to 780
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den	—	
Filatures—No. 1½, 10/14 deniers	740	to 750
Filatures—No. 1½, 13/16, 14/17 den	740	to 750
Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers	720	to 730
Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	720	to 750
Filatures—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	—	
Re-reels—Extra	—	
Re-reels—(Oshu) Best No. 1	—	
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 deniers	—	
Re-reels—No. 1½, 13/16, 14/17 deniers	—	
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	—	
Re-reels—No. 2½, 14/18 deniers	—	
Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	—	
Kakedas—Extra	—	
Kakedas—No. 1	—	
Kakedas—No. 1½	720	to 730
Kakedas—No. 2	—	
Kakedas—No. 2½	—	
Kakedas—No. 3	—	
Kakedas—No. 3½	—	
Kakedas—No. 4	—	
Oshu Sendai—No. 2½	—	
Hamatsuki—No. 1, 2	—	
Hamatsuki—No. 3, 4	—	
Sendai—No. 2½	—	

WASTE SILK.

Small business. Dealers offer concessions in price, but buyers are not easily tempted at present. Quotations more or less nominal. Stock nearly 10,000 piculs.

QUOTATIONS.

Pierced Cocoons—Good to Best	—	
Noshi-ito—Filature, Best	$115	to 130
Noshi-ito—Filature, Good	115	to 120
Noshi-ito—Filature, Medium	105	to 110
Noshi-ito—Oshu, Good to Best	110	to 125
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Best	—	
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Good	—	
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Medium	60	to 75
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Good to Best	—	
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Best	—	
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Good	70	
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Ordinary	60	to 65
Kibiso—Filature, Best selected	100	to 105
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds	85	to 90
Kibiso—Oshu, Good to Best	—	
Kibiso—Shinshu, Best	—	
Kibiso—Shinshu, Seconds	—	
Kibiso—Joshu, Good to Fair	30	to 27½
Kibiso—Joshu, Middlingto Common	25	to 22½
Kibiso—Hachoji, Good to Fair	25	to 23
Kibiso—Hachoji, Medium to Low	22	to 20
Kibiso—Neri, Good to Common	12	to 8
Mawata—Good to Best	—	

TEA.

Plenty of buying, and choice Teas maintain their value while other grades decline. Present arrivals are mostly of the lower grades and quality is poor, consequently whatever is offering above Finest holds its own as to price. There are plenty of shipping opportunities and buyers are kept busy firing and packing.

	PER PICUL.	
Choicest	$37	to $40
Choice	33	to 35
Finest	29	to 31
Fine	26	to 28
Good Medium	24	to 25
Medium	22	to 23
Good Common	20	to 21
Common	18	to 19

EXCHANGE.

Rates are very steady.

Sterling—Bank T.T.	2/1⅝
— — Bills on demand	2/1⅝
— — 4 months' sight	2/2
— Private 4 months' sight	2/2⅛
— — 6 months' sight	2/2⅛
On Paris—Bank sight	2.70
On Lyons—Private 4 months' sight	2.76
On Hongkong—Bank sight	½% p.
— Private 10 days' sight	½% d.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	72
— Private 10 days' sight	72
On India—Bank sight	194
— Private 30 days' sight	196½
On America—Bank Bills on demand	52½
— Private 30 days' sight	53½
— — 4 months' sight	54½
On Germany—Bank sight	2.17
— Private 4 months' sight	2.24
Bar Silver (London)	30½

Eight Gold Medals Awarded.—Thousands of Testimonials from all parts of the World.

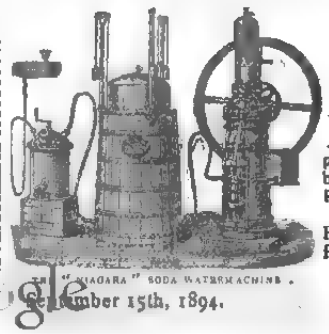
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PERSONS suffering from weak or debilitated constitutions will discover that by the use of this wonderful medicine there is "Health for all." The blood is the fountain of life, and its purity can be maintained by the use of these Pills.

Sir Samuel Baker, in his work entitled "The Nile Tributaries in Abyssinia," says—"I ordered the dragoman Mahomet to inform the Fakir that I was a Doctor, and I had the best medicines at the service of the sick, with advice gratis. In a short time I had many applicants, to whom I served out a quantity of Holloway's Pills. These are most useful to an explorer, as, possessing unmistakable purgative properties, they create an undeniable effect upon the patient, which satisfies them of their value."

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Is a certain remedy for bad legs, bad breasts, and ulcerations of all kinds. It acts miraculously in healing ulcerations, curing skin diseases, and in arresting and subduing all inflammations.

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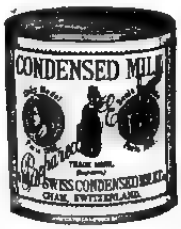
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Printed and Published for the Proprietor at 51, Main Street, Settlement, by James Ellacott Beale, of No. 58, Bluff, Yokohama.—Saturday, June 1, 1895.

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The Japan Weekly Mail:

A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

No. 23.] REGISTERED AT THE G.P.O. AS A NEWSPAPER. YOKOHAMA, JUNE 8TH, 1895. 明治二十八年六月八日 郵便物認可 VOL. XXII.

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same: and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, JUNE 8TH, 1895.

BIRTH.

At Osaka, on the 2nd inst., the wife of the Rev. G. H. POLE, M.A., of a Daughter.

DEATHS.

At 6.30 p.m. yesterday, 4th June, at his residence No. 45-D, Bluff, of Bright's disease of the kidneys complicated with pneumonia, LEWIS DAVIS, aged 54 years.

On the 5th inst., at Tokyo, the wife of JOHN HARINGTON GUBBINS, Esq., of a Daughter.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

COUNT YAMAGATA has gone to Oiso for the benefit of his health.

THE "Mary" Cup has been won by *Tori*, Capt. Weston's new 39-rater.

MR. HAYASHI TADASU, the newly appointed Japanese Minister to the Court of Peking, received a hearty send-off before leaving in the *Idzumi Kan* on Wednesday for Tientsin.

THE *Sans Nom*, a new 17 rater, has won the "Hokiboshi" Cup.

THERE have been 940 cases and 570 deaths from cholera since the beginning of the outbreak.

LIEUT.-COLONEL HAGIWARA will be appointed Chief of the Gendarmerie Force in Formosa.

THE Kyoto Exhibition drew 60,427 visitors, including 107 foreigners, during the week ended the 2nd inst.

RUMOUR has it that General Viscount Nozu will be appointed Commander-in-Chief of the Guards in Tokyo.

MR. KOKUBUJI SHINSAKU has been appointed second secretary of the Japanese Legation in England.

THE death is reported of Mr. W. Q. Gresham, Secretary of State in Mr. Cleveland's administration.

THE Cricket match on Saturday proved a tie, both sides compiling 76. The pitch was all in the bowler's favour.

MR. MIYAJIMA KAMASABURO, a Judge of the Nagano District Court, has been appointed to the Yokohama Local Court.

H.I.H. PRINCESS KITASHIRAKAWA gave birth to a daughter on the 28th of May last. The little Princess has been named Hiro-ko.

RUMOUR has it that Mr. Hoshi Toru, Japanese adviser to the Korean Government, intends to resign his position in the peninsula and return home.

THE German cruiser *Arcona*, when entering harbour on Saturday evening, got aground near the Lightships and remained fast for an hour or so.

THE Japanese Combined Squadron, which was composed of the Standing Squadron and the Western Squadron, during the war, has been dissolved.

THE Japanese have landed in Formosa at a place near Tamsui. They were opposed, but after a short fight, in which 300 Chinese were killed, the enemy retreated.

THE six battalions of the Second Reserve now staying in Korea at the request of the King, are to be relieved by men of the first line in August or September next.

MR. KUSUMOTO MASATAKA, President of the House of Representatives, who was lately elected a member of the Tokyo City Assembly, has sent in his resignation of the latter position.

LIEUT.-GENERAL YAMAJI, Commander-in-Chief of the First Army Division (Tokyo), proceeded to the Palace on the 4th inst. and was received in audience by the Emperor and Empress.

M. LE CHEVALIER DE KONTSKI, Court Music Director to the Emperor of Germany, has arrived in Japan on his way home, *vid* Siberia. The distinguished musician is 79 years of age.

CHOLERA, which was very prevalent in the Pescadores for some time, is now nearly stamped out. Of two hundred coolies lately dispatched to erect barracks there, twelve only were attacked by the epidemic.

FIRE occurred at Tamikawacho, Fukagawa, Tokyo, on the 2nd inst., destroying 25 houses; 11 others were damaged. Two dwellings were destroyed and five damaged at Kitakiyoshimacho, Asakusa, Tokyo, the following day.

THE leader of the Formosa republicans is said slightly, but has been fairly stea[illegible] to be General Tcheng Ki-tong, formerly of the Chinese Embassy at Paris, where he was disgraced for embezzling public money and communicating certain letters to the Press.

ON Saturday last Mr. James Troup, H.B.M.'s Consul at Yokohama, and Admiral Fremantle, late Commander-in-Chief of the British Asiatic Squadron, left Yokohama for home: Mr. H. S. Wilkinson, who has been Acting Judge of H.B.M. Court for the last year, left for Shanghai the same day.

REUTER telegraphs:—The Monometallists in the House of Commons are forming a committee to combat the Bimetallic League. Sir Joseph W. Pease's motion on the Opium Question has been rejected by one hundred and seventy-six votes against fifty-nine (one hundred and seventeen votes majority). Mr. C. T. Ritchie, formerly President of the Local Government Board, has been elected Member of Parliament for Croydon, unopposed, replacing the Hon. Sydney Herbert, who has succeeded to the Peerage. Oscar Wilde has been found guilty of the charges preferred against him, and has been sentenced to two years' imprisonment with hard labour. His associate Taylor has received a similar sentence. The French troops, while continuing their march upon Antananarivo, have driven the Hovas from Ambato. A Conference of German Bankers has resolved to fight against any changes in the Currency Law, which may be intended in favour of silver, and the Conference states that it is to be deplored that Germany is joining the Monetary Conference. H.M.S. *Terrible*, the largest ironclad afloat, has been launched on the Clyde. At the request of Great Britain, Italy has forbidden the importation of arms into Abyssinia through Somali ports, owing to the Menelek's hostility. The emigrant steamer *Don Pedro*, bound for Argentina, has foundered. The ill-fated vessel carried a Captain and a crew of twenty-six. Eighty of the passengers were saved, but twenty-two of the crew were drowned.

THERE is no improvement to note in the Import trade. Yarns are quiet, the only transactions reported being a few parcels of "doubles." There is no change in the condition of Shirtings and T.-cloths, and only a small business in Turkey Reds and Velvets. Woollens are generally stagnant, the only thing taken in this line being a few cases of Italian Cloth. The Metal trade remains dull, and large arrivals continue to further depress the market. Kerosene does not appear to have been dealt in to any extent, though deliveries continue so good as to suggest the idea of private transactions. The tank steamer *Turbo* has arrived with the equivalent of 65,000 cases of Russian, and a cargo of American is about due at this port. The Sugar market is steady, though an idea is prevalent that supplies will be short in Brown sorts, and prices for these are consequently hardening. For White sorts there is a good enquiry, and buyers have operated freely at full rates. The principal Export has been taken daily until the stock of Raw Silk now on offer is reduced to a small quantity of poor quality, very little of which is fit for export, and prices are irregular. The new Crop is going on favourably and an increase is reported as being a certainty in many of the largest districts. There is a good deal of Waste yet on hand, and holders are at length beginning to listen to the offers made, with the result that transactions have ensued, but there is still a large quantity to be disposed of. In the Tea trade there is less doing, and prices are lower all round. Exchange [illegible] fluctuated [illegible] whole.

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THE SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS DURING THE WEEK.

There being a continued tendency in political circles to attack the Cabinet on account of the return of the Liaotung peninsula, in deference to the protest of three European Powers, the *Jiji Shimpo* and other non-party journals repeat their advice to their countrymen as to the necessity of patience and perseverance. The *Jiji* confesses itself highly dissatisfied with the result of the recent diplomatic complications, but at the same time is forced to recognize the impossibility of acting under the circumstances otherwise than the Cabinet acted. What the nation ought to do now is not to lay the blame upon the shoulders of particular persons, but to persevere with its efforts for the completion of its military preparations, and to bide its time. Our contemporary illustrates this point by reference to a scene in the drama of the *Chiushingura*, now being performed at one of the best known theatres in Tokyo. The scene alluded to is that in which Oishi Kuranosuke (Oboshi Yuranosuke), the prime minister of the unfortunate Baron Asano, dissuades his fellow retainers from committing themselves to a rash and foolhardy course. The hot-blooded *Samurai* propose to resist the Shogun's order for the delivery of the family castle of Asano. Oishi tells them that the object of their hatred is not the Shogunate Government, but the enemy of their late unfortunate Lord, and that their duty requires them to submit without murmur to the decree of that Government and bide their time for an opportunity to avenge the death of their wronged master. Oishi even threatens to commit *hara-kiri* if his advice be not accepted. His touching appeal brings the infuriated retainers to their senses, and the result is the glorious achievement of the forty-seven *Ronin*. The *Jiji* advises its countrymen to imitate the conduct of the faithful retainers of Asano, and instead of wasting their time in useless attacks upon the Cabinet, to occupy their minds with the best method of getting square with their true enemies.

* * *

The *Jiji* once more urges the importance of giving Ministerial posts to Counts Goto, Okuma, and Itagaki. Their entrance into the Government is stated to be absolutely necessary for harmony and unity between it and the people, and without such harmony it will be impossible to attain the common object of the nation. Our contemporary fears that, should these statesmen be left outside the Cabinet, it will be impossible to avert disastrous conflicts between the Diet and the Ministry. To ordinary observers such a plan appears impracticable, but the *Jiji* is evidently convinced of its feasibility. The three statesmen mentioned above belong to the same category of men with the elder statesmen in the Cabinet. They are equally the originators of the present order of things; they were cooperators in the same task. They have more in common with their former colleagues in the Government than with their new associates in political circles. There are men who think it more practical to let the Opposition form their own Cabinet instead of trying the impossible task of collecting all the statesmen of the elder generation in the same Ministry. Such a plan would go little toward the solution of the problem. The outgoing statesmen would form an Opposition and the same conflict between the Cabinet and the Diet would go on with undiminished bitterness. Our contemporary, consequently, sees little good in the projected inauguration of Government by Party, and urges the statesmen of the elder school to bury all their personal prejudices and unite for the benefit of their country.

* * *

The question that now occupies the most prominent position in the columns of the vernacular press is that of Korea. Count Inouye's return, the reported demand of Russia for the withdrawal of Japanese troops from the peninsular kingdom, the rumour about the combination of Boku Eiko with the Russian Minister,—these and other things combine to make the people believe that the situation in Korea is one of extreme delicacy and danger. The metropolitan papers are unanimous in calling upon the Government to pursue a firm and uncompromising policy. To retreat from the position taken up in Korea by Japan, would be to suffer a humiliation incomparably greater than that involved in the return of Liaotung. The Opposition papers show a tendency to hold Count Inouye and the Japanese cabinet responsible for the unsettled condition of the political world in Söul. The utterances of the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* on the subject have already been reproduced in these columns. Our contemporary recognizes the immense difficulties of the task undertaken by Japan as the guardian of Korean independence and administrative reform. There seems to be a feeling almost of despair as to Korea's capacity to play the part of an independent country.

* * *

The *Mainichi Shimbun* is rash enough to infer from the return of Count Inouye that the Cabinet contemplates a change of policy with regard to Korea, in the sense of abandoning her to her own fate. What, asks our contemporary, was it that induced Count Ito to part with his life-long political associate and send him to the Korean capital? Was it not because the Cabinet was impressed with the necessity of a first-rate man for carrying out the policy it had decided to pursue toward Korea? Although the Progressionist organ can not approve of all the measures taken by Count Inouye during his stay in Söul, it has hitherto been impressed with the courage and enthusiasm displayed by him. It has believed that Count Inouye would at least refuse to leave his post before so far reducing things into order as to make it possible for a younger man to discharge the duties of the office as his successor. Consequently our contemporary pretends to have been surprised by the news of Count Inouye's return home, and strongly suspects that the Government is meditating a humiliating retreat such as it made in 1882 and 1884. Should that course be followed, the Cabinet is threatened with severe attacks by the people at large.

* * *

The *Nippon* is likewise convinced that the Cabinet in Tokyo is primarily responsible for the situation in Korea. Were the Government resolute enough, our contemporary thinks, there would have been no room for such a state of things as is said to prevail in Söul just at present. The task of regenerating Korea's internal administration having been undertaken by Japan for the maintenance of peace in the East and the safeguarding of her own interests, she cannot allow Korea to break her understanding with this country and to rely upon the assistance of any other Power. Such ingratitude would deserve a severe chastisement by Japan, who has thus far assisted Korea at an enormous sacrifice of blood and money. But if Korea thinks that Japan is not a Power upon which she can rely, the blame, in our contemporary's opinion, attaches to the Japanese Cabinet and the Minister in Söul, whose policy has not been sufficiently strong and consistent to command the respect of the Koreans. The *Nippon*, therefore, thinks it a great mistake to accuse Korean politicians of ingratitude.

* * *

The *Kokumin Shimbun* discusses the question in a more practical manner and points out the more urgent measures to be adopted for the effective regeneration of Korea. In the first place, Japan must be resolved to persevere in the task at whatever cost and peril. Without such a firm resolution it is impossible to gain the confidence of the Koreans. At the same time the Japanese Government is advised to be prompt and dexterous in the management of the foreign affairs of the country. The second measure of importance is the removal of the capital of Korea to Phyöng-yang. That step would be especially useful as a means of purging the Korean Government of the curse of faction intrigues. The removal of the Japanese capital from Kyoto to Tokyo was advantageous in that respect. The third and the last measure recommended is that reform shall be first introduced in the local government system. For this purpose, an adequate staff of Japanese officials should be lent to Korea. At the same time several thousand police sergeants and constables should also be sent to the peninsula to introduce a perfect system of police. When in this manner life and property shall have been made secure for the Korean peasant, it will matter little what follies may be committed by political intriguers in the capital. In this way alone is it possible to effect the regeneration of Korea.

* * *

The question of the return of Liaotung continues to engage the attention of the metropolitan papers. They repeat their demand that the peninsula should be occupied by Japan as security for the payment of an indemnity by China. The ground of the Three Powers' objection being the permanent possession of the district by Japan, they can have no reason to interfere with its temporary occupation. Japan was originally contented with the stationing of troops at Wei-hai-wei only by way of security, because the opposite peninsula of Liaotung was to become her dominion. Had it been otherwise, she would certainly have insisted on the occupation of Liaotung at the same time with Wei-hai-wei. Without the occupation of that peninsula, the stationing of troops at Wei-hai-wei would have been of no practical use. The *Jiji Shimpo* urges the importance of rendering relief to the native population of the Liaotung peninsula who are stated to be in great distress on account of the recent war. That district having been the field of hostile operations, it was unavoidable that the people should be put to much inconvenience and hardship. It behoves Japan as a civilized Power to give succour to the people so that they may be saved from the certain calamity of starvation. The measure may require a considerable outlay, but money thus disbursed may be demanded from the Chinese Government after the final return of the peninsula. At all events, relief should be given to the poor people in distress.

* * *

On the question as to the possibility of China's awakening to her real position, opinion is divided among Japanese thinkers. The majority seem to be convinced that she is incapable of effective regeneration under the present dynasty. But there are men that think otherwise, and positively declare that the recent war has had its effect even upon the conservative statesmen of Pekin. The *Mainichi Shimbun* belongs to this class of thinkers. It points to the salutary effect that the war with France had upon China. To the lessons of that war are ascribed by our contemporary the augmentation of the Northern Fleet and the improvement of the troops under Li Hung-chang's command. That the Viceroy has been unable to increase still more the fighting forces under him, is attributed to the suspicions awakened in Pekin about his ultimate motives. His Chinese extraction has never been ignored by the Manchu rulers, and his movements have always been watched with jealous eyes. It was, perhaps, to bring home to these conservative statesmen the necessity of increasing China's fighting power that Viceroy Li ventured to come to blows with Japan in Korea. He did not think that the Japanese Cabinet, engrossed with internal politics, would really fight. But the end sought by him has been attained, namely the opening of the eyes of the Pekin statesmen to the imperative necessity of reorganizing the Army and the Navy. Our contemporary is informed that, before accepting the mission to Japan, the Viceroy extracted from the Pekin court a promise of thorough reforms in this respect. At all events, the *Mainichi* has little doubt that China will now begin a new career as a military Power.

Mr. E. Grasmann, a German instructor in the College of Agriculture in the Imperial University, leaves for home at the beginning of next month, the term of his engagement in Japan expiring this month.

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EDITORIAL NOTES.

THE LOST TORPEDO-BOAT.

It appears that the loss of life on the occasion of the recent wreck of a Japanese torpedo-boat near the Pescadores was not so great as the first reports represented. Of the sixteen men forming the crew, three escaped, not one only. The whole sixteen clung to the keel of the boat after she capsized, but finding that she turned over repeatedly in the water, thirteen set out to swim ashore. These were all lost. The other three remained by the boat until she began to sink, when they, too, struck out for the shore, one heading for Fisher Island, and two for a small island named Liao-tai. The two that swam together were cast on the beach insensible at about half-past five in the evening, but the islanders found them, and by careful nursing, brought them to. The man that swam toward Fisher Island had a current in his favour. He reached shallow water and waded to the beach, but fainted on finding himself safe. He was picked up and tended by Japanese soldiers from a fort in the vicinity. Great credit is due to the Chinese on Liaotai Island for their humane treatment of the two castaways. Even in times of peace such conduct would deserve praise, but when we remember that in the Pescadores and Formosa a state of war may still be said to exist between the Japanese and the Chinese, the kindly behaviour of the latter toward two of their enemies, placed completely in their power, can not be too much extolled.

A PRETTY STORY.

When Sergeant Nagai, of the 6th company, 13th Regiment, of the Kumamoto Division, was quartered at Port Arthur, a nice looking Chinese boy, of about 13 or 14 years of age, clad in worn out clothes, came to the Sergeant's room and besought him to buy 3 or 4 eggs that he carried. The boy was followed by an old man, between whom and the Sergeant a written conversation took place. The old man wrote that he was the grandfather of the boy, whose father, a Captain of Cavalry, had been taken prisoner when Port Arthur fell, and sent to Japan, while his mother had returned to her people in Chinchow, the lad and the old man being the only members of the family left behind. The war had reduced the two to a state of great distress: they barely managed to keep body and soul together, the old man earning a little money by carrying drinking water to Japanese soldiers, and the boy by selling eggs. The Sergeant, a kind-hearted man, was much moved by the pitiful account of the old man, and proposed that when his regiment returned to Japan he should take the boy and bring him up as one of his own family till he reached the age of thirty, after which he should be free to shape his career in any way he desired. The old man declared himself deeply gratified by this kind offer, and the boy, having been placed under the care of the Sergeant, now lives with him, obeying and respecting him, as though he were his true father. A similar instance of a Japanese soldier's adopting a Chinese child has already been related by the vernacular press.

CAPTAIN INGLES ON THE RELATIONS BETWEEN FOREIGNERS AND JAPANESE.

Captain Ingles, R.N., in a recent interview with a representative of the *Morning Post*, said that "the feeling between the resident English in the Treaty Ports and the Japanese is very far from cordial." This assertion has brought about his ears a whirlwind of denunciation. The most withering sarcasm is levelled at him, and one local English journal winds up a vitriolic paragraph with these words:—

> Is Captain Ingles a fit person to say what is or what is not the prevalent feeling between the residents and the Japanese in the Treaty ports? No one who knows anything of Captain Ingles' comparatively short stay in this country and of the work he was engaged in while here will pretend to claim that he is. For such an one to dogmatize on such a matter is to exhibit a measure of pretension and superficiality such as one is loth to couple with the name of any officer of Her Majesty's Navy.

Captain Ingles spent six years in Japan, in the capacity of Naval Adviser to the Japanese Government. His duties brought him into constant contact with the best classes of Japanese in Tokyo, and his social qualities and hospitable inclinations gave him a wide knowledge of the foreign residents. Why such a man should be unfit to judge of the prevalent feeling between the residents and the Japanese in the Treaty ports, and why his venturing to express an opinion on the subject should be considered an exhibition of pretension and superficiality unbecoming an officer of Her Majesty's Navy, we are at a loss to conceive. Besides, it happens that what Captain Ingles said is absolutely true. The prevalent feeling between the residents and the Japanese in the Treaty ports is very far from cordial. Just as there is an anti-foreign party in Japan, so there is an anti-Japanese party in the Treaty Ports. The fact is not to be disguised. No Japanese newspaper, however prejudiced and ill-balanced, can compare with some of the foreign local journals in unceasing hostility and contemptuous malevolence. A residence, not of six years, but of six months, is sufficient to make that fact clear. Captain Ingles spoke the truth, and however unpleasant his remarks may seem to those that they touch, no amount of abuse and clumsy ridicule can gainsay them.

NEW WORDS.

People say that the vocabulary of the modern Japanese tongue, observes the *Miyako Shimbun*, is constantly receiving additions in the shape of words borrowed or adapted from Western languages. That may be true. We have, however, a list of popular phrases and expressions, *hayari-kotoba* or *ryuko-kotoba*, which are one and all evolved within our own borders, and generally have connection with passing events. Some of these idioms remain current for years, and are then forgotten. At all events the occurrences of the past few weeks have given us half-a-dozen excellent new phrases, that are nowadays on the lips of everybody. A "cutting sarcasm" is now spoken of as *Sankoku Domei*, or the "Triple Coalition;" "angry dissatisfaction" known simply and pertinently as *shimbun*; "honeyed words" are paraphrased by "Li Hung-chang;" a prize just beyond one's grasp is aptly termed "occupied territory; while "fulsome flattery"—for this we (*Japan Mail*) take to be the meaning of *obekkaru-koto*, an obscure but very popular phrase—is finally termed a "Chinese conference," *shintei no sodan*.

"FAR FROM THE MADDING CROWD."

A good deal has been said, remarks the *Yomiuri Shimbun*, concerning the ignorance of the greater part of the Chinese that a war actually had been declared and was going on between their country and Japan. It is quite true that tens of thousands of Chinese in the western and south-western provinces of that vast Empire may not yet have heard a word about the war; but with the absence of railways and telegraphs this is by no means surprising. Yet what shall we say to the fact that until a few weeks ago over two thousand Japanese had no idea that the war was in progress? Strange though it be, it is absolutely true. A vessel recently sailed from Hakodate to the island of Iturup, one of the Kuriles (Chishima Group). It was seven months since any ship had arrived there from any other port; and the inhabitants were found to be in blissful ignorance of the war and the great victories achieved in its course. So soon as the story was told, the whole population to a man set about celebrating the triumphs of Japan's arms, in order to make up for lost time. These great feastings and rejoicings lasted for nearly a week, and a general disposition to enlist for the front was observable. The people have now quieted down; but if another war ever breaks out they desire to be regularly informed of the course of events.

EXECUTION OF A SOLDIER.

Izukashi Nobukichi, a soldier in the 4th Regiment of the Osaka Garrison, was executed about the middle of last month, for having murdered Nakao Chuzo, a bugleman, and wounded Nakano Teijiro, also a bugleman, and Ito Toyoichi, a sergeant-major of the same garrison, in the early part of March. The accused was the eldest son of one Izukashi Noburo, a restaurant keeper in Hotsuse, Yamato Province, and was noted for his bad conduct. He had frequently been reprimanded by a certain sergeant, but this reproof, instead of making him improve, only roused his anger against his superior. One evening he, as ringleader, and a few others plotted to belabour the sergeant after having wrapped him up in his bed-clothes so that it would be impossible for him to recognize his assailants. Someone warned the sergeant of the affair, however, and it fell through. Izukashi and his comrades, thinking that Nakao must have been the bearer of the information, resolved to have their revenge upon him. Next evening, therefore, after the barrack lights had been put out and the soldiers had retired for the night, the confederates stole into Nakao's room and beat him soundly after having envelopped him in his bed-clothes. The noise was heard by a sergeant sleeping in another room who appeared upon the scene and suddenly turned on the electric light. The intruders then ran away, followed by Nakao, who pursued Izukashi into his room, and saying, "Now I will pay you back," struck him. At this Izukashi, infuriated, instantly took a dagger and stabbed Nakao in the heart. Then, remembering that he had also a grudge against Nakano, he determined to kill him too, and afterwards to commit suicide. With that object in view, he entered Nakano's room and stabbed him in his sleep. The blow was not fatal, however. Nakano jumped out of bed and, rushing out of the room, raised a loud alarm. Sergeant Ito then appeared and was also attacked by Izukashi, but the latter was overpowered by several soldiers who had come out of their quarters and was arrested. His trial by Court Martial ended in a sentence of death and he was shot a few days afterwards.

THE NEW ROMAN CATHOLIC BISHOP OF HONGKONG.

Monsignior L. M. Piazzoli, the newly-elected Bishop of Hongkong, has been duly consecrated at the Roman Catholic Cathedral. The new Bishop was born in 1845 at Alzaro, Bergamo, Italy, and received his education in Bergamo and afterwards at Milan. He was ordained in 1868, arrived in Hongkong the following year, and was appointed to mission work on the mainland, where he remained until 1892, when on the lamented death of the late Very Rev. Father Burghignoli, he was called to Hongkong by the late Right Rev. Bishop Raimondi and was appointed Pro-Vicar Apostolic. On the death of Bishop Raimondi, Father Piazzoli was elected, at a Consistory held on the 11th January, 1895, Bishop of Clazomene and appointed Vicar Apostolic of Hongkong. The office of consecration commenced at half-past seven and lasted until ten o'clock. Monsignior Pozzi, Bishop of Krishnagore, pontificated, and was assisted by Monsignior Chausse, Bishop of Canton, and another Bishop from Tonkin. A second Bishop from Tonkin was present, also a representative of the Bishop of Macao, and there was a full attendance of the local clergy. There was a large congregation, which included the French, Spanish, Portuguese, and Mexican Consuls, Colonel O'Gorman, Major the Hon. E. Noel, and the Captain and officers of the Spanish cruiser *Maria Cristina*.

JAPANESE COTTON CARPETS.

The cotton carpets manufactured at Sakai near Osaka promise to become an important staple of export. Immense strides have been made by the industry of late. Admirable combinations of colours and thoroughly artistic designs are now the rule, whereas formerly they were the exception. The dimensions of the looms, too, have been so increased that one-piece carpets of great size can now be produced at remarkably low prices. Concerning this industry the *Kobe Herald* has the following interesting note:—"The rug industry at Sakai and Sumiyoshi in Osaka Fu has been rapidly extending of late, the export to foreign countries steadily increasing, especially to America. The rugs manufactured during the first four months

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of the year represented a value of 800,000 *yen*. The number of manufacturers has increased and there are now in the Sakai Rug Manufacturer's Guild (which includes the city of Sakai, 4 *guns* of Izumi province and 5 *guns* of Kawachi province) 2,758 factories and 198 branches, employing 23,618 operatives. The quantity produced from January to April last was 443,687 pieces, valued at *yen* 709,899.20. In the Sumiyoshi guild (comprising Sumiyoshi, Nishinari, and Higashinari *guns*) there are 650 factories, employing 4,000 operatives. During the four months above mentioned this guild produced some 110,000 pieces, valued at *yen* 100,000. Some vicious practices have been adopted by a few of the manufacturers we read, and trouble is expected by certain manufacturers in consequence. Mr. Fujimoto, president of the Sakai Guild, is making efforts to put an end to the malpractices. The condition of some of the foreign markets for the rugs, just now, the *Osaka Asahi* says, is anything but active, and many manufacturers have been obliged to suspend work to the great distress of operatives."

HOBSON'S CHOICE.

SOME years ago, according to the *Yomiuri Shimbun*, a Japanese scholar of note returned from a prolonged sojourn in the United States. He left behind him a great reputation for diligence, having graduated high up in his class from a well-known college. Many were the friendships he had made during his stay, and in particular there was one young lady for whom he had conceived rather more than a friendly esteem. For some time after his return to Japan a correspondence was kept up; but this gradually grew less active and the letters less fervent and more far between, until finally five year's passed without a word from either party. A week or so ago, however, the gentleman was surprised and pleased to receive a letter again from his fair correspondent—a Miss Hobson, by the bye—and he opened the missive with pleasurable anticipations, expecting nothing short of a reëstablishment of their epistolary intimacy. But he was doomed to disappointment. The young lady had married in the mean time and wrote simply to make a request. She had, of course, heard of Japan's recent notable victories by land and sea; she was making a collection of naval buttons; would he, for their old friendship's sake, send her a lot of the various kind of buttons worn by officers and men in the Japanese navy? Somewhat downcast but willing to stretch a point—or rather several—in favour of the faithless fair, the gentleman set to work to carry out the somewhat unusual request; and the probability is, concludes our witty contemporary, that Miss Hobson will shortly be better supplied with buttons than any other young lady in the United States.

THE VICISSITUDES OF THEATRICAL LIFE.

THE up and downs of theatrical life, especially where touring companies are concerned, have become proverbial. Yet we venture to think that a more curious scene than that which was witnessed at the entrance of the Theatre Royal, Hongkong, on May 27th, would be difficult to beat:—

Miss Grace Hawthorne's benefit, says the *Daily Press*, was announced, for which the patronage of H.E. the Governor, H.E. Major-General Black, and Commodore Boyes had been promised. Sir William Robinson and General Black on arriving found the doors closed and in company with a large crowd wondered what had happened. Commodore Boyes was unable to attend and so missed the fun, but was represented by his Secretary, Mr. Waymouth. After some delay the doors were opened, but there were no ticket collectors in attendance. Miss Hawthorne appeared on the stage and explained that some of the members of the company having had a difference with "their former manager," Mr. Saville Smith, had refused to act and left the theatre, but the remaining members, she said, were willing to do their best if the audience wished the performance to go on, or, if it was so desired, would postpone it until another evening. The answer was "to-night," and the performance proceeded. The piece was "Theodora" and the diminished company gave a very good representation of it. Miss Hawthorne, in the title rôle, played with much power, while Mr. Montgomery, who doubled the parts of *The Emperor* and *Andreas*, gave an excellent account of each. Mr. Armadale took the part of *Marcellus*, and in one of the scenes that of *The Emperor*. There was an unusually large audience, who seemed well satisfied with the performance. The tickets were collected during the intervals, and a notice was posted at the door requesting gentlemen who had forgotten to pay to do so before leaving.

A RISKY RIDE.

A BIG crowd assembled yesterday about tiffin time in the vicinity of Maidabashi, where preparations were being made by an elderly Japanese, in ancient costume and sporting a *chon-magi*, to ride up and down the "Hundred Steps." He had brought three ponies with him, but the first would not start over the course either mounted or led. A second was tried, and it also objected for some time, but was ultimately led up and then down the precipitous flight. The rider, Ishikawa Seima, then mounted and rode up, but the pony being iron-shod slipped several times and when about twenty steps from the top came down on his knees and slid back three or four steps. Ishikawa then came off and walked the pony to the top. After a few minutes, the rider again mounted and rode down without accident. It was a daring performance, but not a feat of horsemanship for all that—simply a man risking a nasty fall and a poor beast struggling for a foothold. Ishikawa, so the story goes, was in Shogunate days rough-rider to the Daimyo of Sendai. He had several sons in the late war, and had vowed at the Sengen Shrine that if they all returned alive he would take the risky ride up to the shrine and down again. The warriors having duly returned with their regimental numbers, Ishikawa kept his vow, but inasmuch as Master Ishikawa has pitched his tent in Isezakicho, the performance looks very much like a circus advertisement.

AN OFFENCE REDEEMED.

SERGEANT TSUJI of the 3rd Company of the 1st Regiment, Artillery Corps, is not very punctilious about small matters. He used, therefore, to be frequently remiss in the discharge of his duties, and repeatedly incurred the displeasure of his superiors. While in Manchuria he was degraded on account of some transgression, and was even told that he would be sent back to Japan. The Sergeant repented sincerely of his misdeed and thought that rather than return home in disgrace it would be better to die a gallant death. He resolved, therefore, to undertake a bold adventure, even if he lost his life in the attempt. On the evening of the 22nd of February, he secretly escaped from the temporary barracks in which his Regiment was quartered, which were in the premises of the Kaiping Castle. He jumped down from the northern corner of the castle—a height of about 30 ft.—without sustaining any injury, then running to the nearest village he exchanged his uniform for that of an ordinary Chinaman. Thus disguised, he went that night as far as the hamlet on the other side of Taping, and passed the rest of the night in a farmer's house. Before reaching there, he met Chinese soldiers several times, but, thanks to his costume, they suffered him to pass unmolested. The following day Tsuji proceeded further north and reached a certain village. He was utterly unacquainted with the Chinese dialect, so that whenever he was accosted by a Chinaman, he feigned to be deaf or dumb. Happening to meet a Celestial who could write a little he succeeded in making out that the place was Tungtsilikow, that the Chinese Army, totalling more than 10,000, was quartered in the vicinity, that the van was at Sitsilikow, and that the main portion was quartered in Laoyamiao. The Sergeant was not satisfied with this bare information, however, and resolved to ascertain more precise particulars. With that idea in view, he continued his journey northward, assuming the air of an idiot, now singing and now laughing and, altogether constituting a source of amusement to wayfarers. On reaching Sitsilikow he entered the enemy's camp secretly as one of its coolies and thoroughly investigated the military arrangements of the place. As soon as the sun set, he slipped away and hastened back southward. Reaching the vicinity of Peitaipingshan, he knocked at the door of a farm-house and, by means of gestures, asked for food and lodging, but his inability to speak the dialect and queueless head at once roused the suspicion of the master of the house, who, taking him for what he really was—a Japanese spy—unceremoniously shut the door in his face. Worn out by his journey and by hunger, the Sergeant proceeded wearily on his road, when, after walking about two miles more, he came across the cordon of the Japanese Army, and was arrested and taken to the head-quarters of the 2nd Brigade. On being examined by an interpreter he spoke for the first time since he had set out on his adventure, and told who he was and what he had gone through. Everyone present was astonished at Tsuji's exploit, and, after having received refreshment, he was sent to the commander of the Brigade to whom he recounted more fully the story of his journey. Particulars of the brave deed were submitted to Lieut.-General Yamaji who controlled the Brigade. The General praised the Sergeant's bravery warmly and he was at once restored to his former position. It is said that the bold adventurer ate nothing but a few vegetables during the two nights and one day occupied by his journey.

A LOVE AFFAIR.

THERE are three places in Tokyo notorious for the many suicides which occur in their vicinity. One is the pond in Asakusa Park, quite close to the Kwannon Temple. As many as three successful or attempted suicides have there taken place in the course of a single night. The second is the Ryogoku Bridge, always well patrolled and carefully watched, yet the scene of scores of *mi-nage* annually. The third is the steep slope known as *Ushigafuchi*, on the steep side of the moat just a little to the right of the Manaita Bridge in Kanda District. On the 7th instant a fresh attempt at suicide was made here, the rash actress being a comely young woman of eighteen years. Her story is not an unusual one, but is related in the columns of the vernacular press with evident sympathy for the victim. It appears that O Ito, for so the girl is called, was a maid-servant in a house adjoining one of the Tokyo Military Hospitals. While engaged in her household work the happened to attract the attention of a handsome young sergeant, invalided from China. Having nothing better to do, he made advance to the unsuspicious maiden. Letters were exchanged, then photographs and locks of hair. Finally the sergeant wrote that he was about to leave the hospital and would marry her immediately, as he had given up all idea of re-entering the army. This promise he failed to keep; he rejoined a part of his regiment still in the metropolis, and paid no attention to repeated letters and petitions that came from the erstwhile lady of his choice. Receiving no reply whatever to her appeals in writing, the poor girl resolved to take her own life as near the barracks in which her faithless lover lived as she could get. The sergeant was quartered in the barracks above the *Ushigafuchi*, and it was from this place that the girl threw herself madly into the sluggish moat beneath. The splash of her fall aroused the attention of a passing police-constable and he got the suicide on dry land again before life was quite extinct. She had, however, severely injured herself in falling, so that the doctors hold out but small hope of her recovery.

Es ist eine alte Geschichte,
Doch bleibt sie ewig neu;
Und wem es just passieret,
Dem bricht das Hers entzwei.

But O Ito had probably never read Heinrich Heine.

SAPPORO.

A CORRESPONDENT writes from Sapporo:—"If you have any sick friends likely to come to Hokkaido this year, it may perhaps be well to let them know that the doctors have had a meeting, and determined to charge foreigners

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just *treble* the price for medicine that they charge their own people! That is a fact of which I am absolutely certain, and have even had to pay the *trebled* price already myself. Should you know of any one purposing to come, and should you mention this matter to them, they might perhaps think it advisable to purchase their medicines before leaving the south, so that, armed with these and a medical pratitioner's recipe, they might make the required mixtures for themselves."

CHINESE PRISONERS AND PEACE.

NUMBERS of Chinese prisoners, says the *Kokkai*—which re-appeared on the 31st after having undergone the ban of suspension for about a week—were treated in the Hiroshima Military Hospital, but most of them subsequently left it, their wounds having been cured. There remain at present only seven. Their cases were of such a grave nature as to necessitate amputation of one or even two limbs. They are now convalescent and able to move about in the grounds of the hospital. They seem to entertain feelings of loyalty not habitual with Chinese soldiers, since from the first they took a keen interest in the progress of the war, and were visibly concerned about the future of their country. Their greatest pleasure was to hear each morning either from interpreters or nurses more or less acquainted with the Chinese language, news of the war as given in Japanese papers, and they used to wear a melancholy expression throughout the day when they could not learn how things fared. Recently, when newspapers reached the Hospital giving the text of the ratified Treaty, and the men were told that they were to be sent home, secured against any punishment that their Government might have been disposed to inflict on the returned prisoners, they were so transported with joy that, forgetting their amputed legs, they hastened hither and thither, assembling and talking over the joyful news. They seemed to be specially grateful on account of the considerate provision in the Treaty by which China was precluded from taking any barbarous steps against the returned prisoners, and they expressed great eagerness to get home and see their parents, wives, and children once more. Of the seven, four have had their limbs amputed, and hearing that the Empress has the gracious intention of bestowing on them artificial limbs, they were extremely anxious to enjoy that favour before returning home, for though in China they can get artificial limbs imported from England, such articles are very dear, and, moreover, are not of first rate quality, whereas artificial limbs that the Empress has thus far bestowed upon Chinese prisoners are reported to be of the very best kind, so well fitted and cleverly made that men wearing them do not feel any inconvenience. The Hiroshima prisoners would be willing, they say, to remain some time longer in Japan, if there is any chance of their becoming objects of Her Majesty's benevolence in this respect.

WASHINGTON OPINION.

IT may interest our Japanese readers to hear what was thought in Washington about the issue of the struggle had the interference of the Three European Powers led to war. Germany, it will be observed, is not included in the Washington forecast. Nobody has been able to conceive that Germany was really in earnest, since nobody could discover what interests she had at stake outside the dictates of European politics. Here is the epitome of opinion in Washington telegraphed to the *New York Herald*:—

Russia and France would have a long and expensive war on their hands if they should undertake to coerce Japan into a modification of her demands on China.

This is the consensus of opinion among naval officers here. The geographical position of Japan is regarded as being largely in her favour. She can be approached only by water, and she is so far from the base of supplies of either nation as to make an invasion of her territory in the face of her well disciplined troops, flushed with their victories over the Chinese, a very difficult problem.

Russia would be within easy striking distance if her railway in the Pacific were in working order throughout its entire length, and she could move large bodies of troops promptly across Siberia and embark them on transports for Japan. It is not believed at the Navy Department, however, that she is yet prepared mobilize any such large force to the Pacific as would be necessary to carry out any attempt to invade Japan. It is regarded as practically out of the question for France to mobilize an efficient army to such a distant field of operations, in view of the danger of capture that transports would necessarily encounter in making the long voyage.

The Japanese navy has shown in its encounters with the Chinese that its officers are fully qualified to manœuvre and fight the modern ships of which it is composed, and the men have shown themselves to be skilful and effective gunners, and while there is no doubt that in the end a naval conflict between Japan and the two great European Powers would result in disaster to the Japanese navy and possibly in its complete annihilation, it is yet believed that for the first few months of the war at least the Japanese vessels would be able to hold the enemy at bay and make all attempts at landing forces from transports very dangerous. A great deal would depend on the attitude of Great Britain in the conflict. It is taken for granted by naval officers who have followed events in the Orient closely that Great Britain, even if she did not openly espouse the cause of Japan, would do all in her power to help that nation indirectly, and it is pointed out that if she should go no further than to close the Suez Canal to the ships of Russia and France, she would add greatly to the expense and difficulty of the campaign of those nations.

Both France and Russia have at this time effective squadrons in the Pacific, but the closing of the Suez Canal would greatly delay them in bringing to the scene of action their largest and most efficient vessels, which are now in European waters. France would also be hampered by the necessity of keeping a large part of her fleet in her home waters, for the reason that the questions between her and Great Britain are of such a character as to make it possible that the added friction that would be sure to result from the war might bring on a war with England at any moment. She would also be restrained from sending enough troops to weaken her home army by the constant menace of Germany and the Triple Alliance, and though an attack upon Japan by France and Russia might eventually be successful, officers here do not see any reason to believe that the campaign would be short or easy.

CHOLERA.

THE Home Department received the following cholera returns during 24 hours ended noon on the 5th inst.:—One case at Kyobashi, one case at Azabu, 2 deaths at Nibonbashi, and one case at Itabashi, Tokyo; one case in Kyoto, 6 cases in Osaka, one death and one case in Hyogo Prefecture, one death in Okayama Prefecture, 10 cases in Hiroshima Prefecture, 4 cases and 7 deaths in Yamaguchi Prefecture, one case in Ehime Prefecture, 10 cases in Fukuoka Prefecture, one case in Kumamoto Prefecture, 2 cases at the Nishima quarantine station, Hiroshima Prefecture: total, 39 cases and 11 deaths. The full total is now 964 cases and 570 deaths from the commencement of the outbreak.

STRAINED RELATIONS.

BY the direction of the Secretary of State, H.E. the Governor has forwarded to Mr. J. J. Francis, Q.C., a handsome Silver Inkstand, bearing the following inscription: "Presented by the Hongkong Government, with the approval of Her Majesty's Government, to J. J. Francis, Esq., Q.C., Chairman of the Permanent Committee of the Sanitary Board, in recognition of services rendered during the Epidemic of Bubonic Plague at Hongkong in 1894." Mr. Francis is also specially thanked in an accompanying letter. The *China Mail* understands that Mr. Francis has returned the inkstand, with thanks, and a long explanatory letter.

A VALUABLE FIND.

THE *Asahi Shimbun* states that the Namikawa Shoten of Sakaicho, Yokohama, has long been engaged in salving operations around the wreck of the U.S. man-of-war *Oneida*, which was run down by a British mail steamer off Hashirimizu, Soshu, some twenty-five years ago. On the 1st inst. one of the divers found an iron case measuring two feet by one foot. The case was raised, and when opened £600 in gold and 500 pieces of silver coins were discovered.

MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

THE *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* states that Viscount Mutsu, Minister of Foreign Affairs, has obtained leave for one month for the benefit of his health, and will proceed to Oiso in a few days. Marquis Saionji, Minister of Education, was ordered yesterday to act temporarily as Foreign Minister.

THE FOREIGN OFFICE.

MARQUIS SAIONJI, Minister of State for Education, has been gazetted temporary Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, pending the recovery of Viscount Mutsu, whose illness necessitates a period of rest.

CASUALTIES IN THE ARMY DURING THE WAR.

The Central Military Medical Board has compiled a table showing the total casualties in the Army from the commencement of the war up to the end of April. The figures are as follow:—

Killed in battle	623	.....	795
Died of Wounds	172		
Died of cholera	1,323	.....	2,489
Died of other diseases	1,166		
Wounded (not fatally)		.....	2,981
Attacked by cholera (not fatally)	2,400	.....	44,137
Attacked by other diseases (not fatally)	41,737		
Grand Total of Casualties		.....	50,402

It will be seen from the above that the total number of killed and wounded in battle was only 3,776. But whether this estimate is quite trustworthy, we can not tell. The *Kokkai* has a vague statement that the killed and wounded on the Japaness side aggregated only 1,861 up to the 2nd of June, whereas the corresponding number for the Chinese was 27,915, but whatever may be said of the latter figure, the former is certainly too small. The same journal puts the total Japanese expenditure at 950,000,000 francs (nearly 400 million *yen*) and adduces comparative figures relating to the war between Prussia and Denmark. But our contemporary's statistics or its type-setting is plainly erroneous.

"THE TIMES" UPON GERMANY'S ACTION.

The London *Times* has this to say about Germany's action in the matter of the Liaotung Peninsula:—"If the interests of France in the matter are obscure, those of Germany would appear to be obscurer still. So obscure are they indeed, that it is impossible to help speculating as to how far Germany is likely to go in an enterprise so very remotely connected with those substantial advantages she usually bears so prudently in view. It is, of course, conceivable that all the three Powers are not equally determined in their protest. It is imaginable even that some of them may not be determined at all. Precedents are to be found in diplomatic history of demonstrations undertaken by a combination of Powers, which some of them never intended to push beyond a certain point. Naturally those precedents relate for the most part to combinations in which the interests of the several parties were unequal. Nations, like individuals, have the utmost repugnance to pulling the chestnuts out of the fire for their friends to eat. The friends who can induce them to perform such an operation have achieved a rare diplomatic victory, on which they are entitled to the admiring congratulations of the lookers-on. Perhaps in the present case Russia has earned such a claim to our felicitations. Perhaps, on the other hand, one or other of the Powers who have acted so far with her, is secretly resolved that she will not act with her any further. It is even possible that both of them may have come independently to that conclusion. In that case the protest is merely an example of diplomatic "bluff." The game is sometimes a successful one to play, though it is not, perhaps, altogether compatible with the dignity of a great Power."

The Berlin correspondent of the *Daily News* gives the following explanation:—"I learn that Germany's attitude towards Japan arises from the conviction that if she held aloof a formal alliance between Russia and France would be effected. She believed this would be a menace for European peace, and therefore joined the protest and prevented the alliance."

Almost every civilised country will be represented at the International Geographical Congress, to be held in London this Summer. Official delegates will be sent by France, Australia, Hungary, Belgium, Holland, Italy, Spain, Portugal, the United States, Japan, and Turkey. General Annenkoff and Baron Toll will be two of the delegates representing Russia, and Professor Vamberg and Prince Roland Bonaparte will be among those who will represent the Hungarian and Paris Geographical Societies respectively.

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OFFICIAL AND POLITICAL.

It is now confidently asserted that Count Inouye, Japanese Minister in Sōul, will soon come home. Various reasons are assigned for his return, such, for example, as sickness, disappointment, official promotion, and so forth. There seems to be no doubt that his health is more or less impaired: rumour goes even so far as to say that he is suffering from pleurisy. We presume, however, that bad health alone would not have induced him to return. Probably some urgent necessity has arisen for a personal conference with the Ministers in Tokyo.

Count Matsukata, Minister of State for Finance, has been confined to his house since his return from Kyoto. His malady, originally gastric, is now reported to be complicated by symptoms of brain trouble. We understand however that his case is happily not at all likely to prove serious.

Count Ito, Minister President of State, seems to be in good spirits and is immensely busy. He commands the respect and gratitude of the whole sober section of his nationals. But unfortunately there are many to whom the epithet "sober" does not apply at all. Various petty and cowardly attempts are made by the hirelings of his political opponents to discredit him in the eyes of the populace. The commonest practice resorted to is the circulation of baseless rumours personal, political, and what not. There seems to be reason even to apprehend resort to violent devices, for the Metropolitan Police Board has doubled the escort usually attached to the Premier.

The *Nai-gai Tsushin-sha* (Domestic and Foreign News Agency) is responsible for the statement that several members of the House of Peers are about to wait on the Minister President for the purpose of offering some advice to him, but what the advice will be, the public is not informed. Having regard, however, to other rumours circulated from the same source, it may be fairly inferred that the political busybodies of the Upper House intend to suggest to the Premier the advisability of resigning.

Another news agency in the capital reports that a section of the members of the House of Representatives are drawing up an elaborate memorial on the political situation, which will be presented to the Premier in a few days. The memorialists number about thirteen, but none of them, with the single exception of Mr. Suzuki Shigeto, are men of any importance. Mr. Suzuki, too, has little political weight. Being an honest, amiable kind of person, he is sometimes in request when a motion requiring the cōoperation of the various parties is about to be introduced. That is his sole use, however: apart from it, he carries no political weight either inside or outside the House.

All the political parties have vied with each other in presenting addresses to the Emperor, praising His Majesty's virtues and thanking him for the brilliant successes of the Imperial forces. Some have also presented congratulatory addresses to the Army and Navy. The representatives of the various parties that have carried these documents to the Court all express themselves highly gratified with the courteous and considerate treatment they received there. One of them, Mr. Asaka of the Progressionist Party, according to the *Mainichi*, compares his polite reception at the Household Department with the arbitrariness shown by the Metropolitan Board of Police when it prohibited the display of party pennons on the occasion of the return of the Sovereign to Tokyo. The police authorities in that instance seem to have acted with more official zeal than discretion.

The annual conference of Local Governors will be opened on the 5th instant. The date had been fixed for the 1st, but on that day, although all the Governors assembled at the Home Office, preliminary arrangements only were made. The topics of discussion have not yet been published, but it is generally understood that no matter of any great importance will be laid before the conference this year.

POLITICAL AND MISCELLANEOUS.

We have already stated that the first attempt of the Opposition politicians to get up an anti-Ministerial agitation on the question of the return of the Liaotung peninsula, fell through on account of the refusal of the Radicals and the National Unionists to join such a combination. But these politicians seem to be nothing daunted by the failure of their first attempt. On the 1st inst., they held a conference at the Atagokan, Shiba. There were present Messrs. Suzuki and Kudo (Reform Party), Mr. Motoda (National Union), Messrs. Ozaki and Koizuka (Progressionist Party), Mr. Sato (Ote Club), Messrs. Inukai and Kanao (*Chugoku Shimpo-to*), Mr. Taguchi (Economical Reform Party), Messrs. Suyehiro and Shiga (Central Political Association), and Mr. Komuchi Tomotsune. The last named politician does not belong to any political party. It was resolved at this meeting that the combination should consist of men in their individual capacities, and not of professed members of particular parties, and that another conference should be held on the 4th inst. to consider the methods by which the object of the combination might be attained. From the first part of this resolution, it may be inferred that the promoters of the movement think it possible to remove the scruples of the Radicals and the National Unionists by means of the fiction of individual action. It is even stated that several influential members of the Radical Party, as Mr. Kono Hironaka and Mr. Shigeno Kenjiro, consented in their private capacity to attend the conference fixed for the 4th inst. The object of the promoters of the movement seems to be to bring about the resignation of the Ministers responsible for the conduct of foreign affairs, so that all cause for conflict between the Cabinet and the Diet in the coming session may be removed. It is very doubtful whether the movement will obtain the support of the majority of the Opposition parties.

The various political bodies, as already stated, have vied with each other in presenting letters of thanks to the Army and the Navy. In several cases, the writers were so indiscreet as to make allusions to the return of the Liaotung Peninsula and to use language highly offensive to the Ministers of State. Believing that the younger officers of the Army are dissatisfied with the step taken by the Government, they probably desired to enlist the assistance of these officers in the political agitation that they are taking so much pains to organize. But they overshot their mark: their letters of thanks have been returned from the General Staff Office. The parties that have received this humiliating rebuff are the *Kaishin-to*, the *Chugoku Shimpo-to*, the *Kakushin-to*, and the Ote Club. The silly and thoughtless conduct of these politicians is severely criticised by the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, which justly observes that to attempt to draw the Army and the Navy into the vortex of political agitation is an insult to them, seeing that the first principle of military discipline forbids all association with politics.

Count Inouye is expected to leave Sōul in a few days. The impression gathers strength that he will not go again to Korea, and that the situation demands the presence of a man of his resolution in the Cabinet. At all events, little importance seems to be attached to the rumour that he has become tired of Korea or that his ill health requires complete repose. But in point of fact Count Inouye has for years suffered from a malady that asserts itself chiefly in summer, and can be alleviated only by sea bathing. His continued residence in Sōul throughout July, August, and September, would not have been likely under any circumstances.

The public is not disposed to consider that peace has been finally restored. Not that apprehensions are entertained of complications with foreign Powers in relation to Formosa. So far as that island is concerned, no doubt is apparently entertained that the resistance of the local Chinese will be easily overcome, and that no interference will be attempted by any other country. The centre of attention for the moment is the peninsular kingdom. The situation there is believed to be so critical that war may at any moment break out once more, not with China but with Russia.

The umbrage against the three European Powers does not seem to diminish, but, on the contrary, the subsequent course of events apparently embitters it still more. Such, at least, is the case with regard to Russia. According to the *Mainichi Shimbun*, Bishop Nicolai recently received from some Japanese a document the contents of which are not revealed, but our contemporary remarks in a knowing manner that since then the Russian Cathedral at Surugadai is strictly guarded by police constables both in uniform and in plain clothes. Another journal, the *Hochi Shimbun*, is responsible for the statement that the Authorities having warned the Bishop not to make any journey for the present, his consequent inability to proceed to Sendai has led to the postponement of the general meeting annually held there by the members of the Greek Church. A street rumour in Tokyo states that the number of worshippers at the Russian Cathedral on Surugadai has visibly decreased since the intervention of the three Powers.

Siu Uten, a descendant of an adherent of the Ming dynasty, who was the first to welcome the Second Army under Marshal Oyama, is now in Japan. He will be received as a naturalised subject, in consideration of the valuable services he rendered to the Japanese Army. His relatives desired to accompany him and settle in Japan, but the Japanese Military Authorities advised them not to act in haste, but to make up their minds after receiving a full report from Siu Uten about the condition of things in this country. Besides these descendants of the Ming families, about a hundred and fifty respectable Chinese of Liaotung are said to have applied for permission to emigrate to Japan. Altogether the inhabitants of the peninsula are reported to have been greatly disappointed on hearing that the territory was not to be incorporated into the Japanese Empire.

Now that the Japanese Minister to Pekin is about to start for his post, there is much speculation as to who will be sent here by China. Lord Li and Wu Ting-fang (Ng Choy) have been most frequently named in this connection. About the latter a suggestive anecdote is told by a private member of the suite of the Japanese Plenipotentiary for the Exchange of Ratifications. In one of his visits to Mr. Ito at the Beach Hotel at Chefoo, Mr. Wu was talking with our informant, while the Japanese Envoy was engaged with a certain other visitor. "I must confess," said the Chinese Plenipotentiary, "that I have hitherto coveted the appointment of Chinese Representative in Tokyo. But my experience with the energetic Mr. Ito has changed my mind. I think the Japanese are in too great a hurry to be pleasant folks to deal with."

POLITICAL AND PERSONAL.

In spite of the great exertions of the Progressionists and other extreme sections of the Opposition, the agitation against the Government does not seem likely to command sympathy even in political circles. As to the attitude of the general public, there is no room for doubt; men of sense and judgment, unless perverted by party prejudices, evidently unite in thinking that, under the circumstances, no second course was possible for the Cabinet to pursue in regard to the intervention of the three European Powers. All classes of the people at large appear to hold unanimously by the opinion that the nation cannot afford to waste time and energy in petty party contests, but that, burying all political dissensions, every one should work in harmony for the development of the country's Military and Naval strength. These points are recognized even by the bitterest enemies of the Government. Indeed, it is noteworthy that this very attitude is assumed by the promoters

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of the present agitation; the principal reason that they allege for demanding the resignation of the Ministers of State responsible for the conduct of foreign affairs, is that all sources of friction between the Diet and the Government ought to be removed. Yet, if they recognize the imperative necessity of increasing the country's fighting capacity, they ought also to be aware of the impossibility of acting otherwise than the Cabinet has acted in the present juncture. Perhaps, however, it is too much to expect such truculent politicians to divest themselves entirely of their party prejudices. Their present purpose, according to rumours, is to present to the Minister letters advising them to resign. That is the best proof, if indeed, proof be needed, that they have no hope of obtaining a majority in the House of Representatives next session. Had they any ground, however slight, for such a hope, they would scarcely have recourse to a device hitherto regarded as belonging specially to the *métier* of the *soshi*.

It has been believed up to the present that the *Kakushin-to* (Reform Party) is divided on the question of the anti-Government agitation, and that a section of the Party is opposed to any such movement. According to information obtained by the *Kokkai*, however, no such difference of opinion exists. It is, indeed, asserted that the project of the movement was originated by the very section of the party supposed to disapprove of it, namely, the section led by Mr. Kawashima Jun. Our contemporary even goes so far as to declare that the Reformists are prepared to be more uncompromising in their opposition to the Cabinet than their allies the Progressionists.

Rumours are circulated in the columns of the vernacular press about the probable resignation of this or that Minister of State. The *Hochi*, for instance, alleges that a certain Count, who for some time has shut himself up in his private residence, declining to receive any visitors, has tendered his resignation. Perhaps our contemporary means Count Matsukata, Minister of State for Finance, who, as we stated some time ago, is confined to his house by indisposition. Count Oyama, Minister of War, and Count Yamagata, President of the Privy Council, have obtained leave of absence for some weeks, as their health requires recouping. In a few days we shall perhaps be told that they too have sent in letters of resignation.

It is apparently taken for granted that Count Inouye will never go again to Korea as Minister. The Tokyo journals are competing to name probable candidates for the position. Mr. Oishi Masami is one of them. Apparently the only basis for the belief that he has been offered, or offers himself for the post, is that he has of late paid visits to Count Ito and Viscount Mutsu. Men acquainted with his official record in Söul while he represented Japan, are not inclined to think him particularly fitted to be Count Inouye's successor. Another alleged candidate is Mr. Suyematsu, Director of the Legislative Bureau, whose knowledge of the country and the people as well as his known ability, certainly qualify him for the important position. Some people seem to think that Count Goto is ambitious of obtaining the appointment, while others point to Mr. Hoshi, legal adviser to the Korean Government, as the most likely candidate of all. But the difficulty in Mr. Hoshi's case is that he is apparently not inclined to accept the post even if offered. The *Jiyu* tells us that he has sent to his Party in Tokyo a paper containing his views on the position of Korea and the policy to be pursued by Japan toward that country. The principal members of the Radical Party will, in a few days, hold a conference specially for the purpose of considering the opinions embodied in the document.

It is believed in Tokyo that Li Shunyo, the Tai Wön-kun's grandson, is dead. If this be true, it will assuredly be suspected that the young man was poisoned in his prison by emissaries of either Boku Eiko or the Queen. Such things are not rare in that country. The Queen was once believed to have contemplated the despatch of assassins to the village where Li is confined. If the recent report about the construction of the prison-house be correct—a little room 6ft. by 9ft., with a small opening for ventilation in the roof—then the prisoner's death may have been due to easily explained causes.

It is stated by the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* that a special Bureau will be established in the Government for the transaction of business relating to Formosa. Preparations with that object were going on in the Government from the time of the departure of Viscount Kabayama for Formosa. The new Bureau will be presided over by a functionary of high rank.

The position of Chief Secretary of the House of Representatives is now vacant, its former occupant, Mr. Mizuno Jun, having been appointed head of the civil department of the Government of Formosa. It will be difficult to find a worthy successor to a man of such capacity as Mr. Mizuno. Endowed with tact and presence of mind, and having a clear and distinct enunciation, he was specially fitted for the post of Chief Secretary. Among the names thus far mentioned as candidates for the post, we may refer to Mr. Okuda Yoshito, Director of the *Official Gazette* Bureau, Mr. Nagai Kyuichiro, Secretary of the Department of Education, Mr. Motono Ichiro, Councillor of the Department of Foreign Affairs, and Mr. Koike Seiichi, Secretary of the House of Representatives.

ECONOMICAL AND COMMERCIAL.

The Monetary System Investigation Council held its fourth general meeting in the Department of State for Finance on the evening of the 29th ultimo, with President Viscount Tani in the chair. There were present Mr. Tajiri Inejiro, Vice-Minister of State for Finance, Mr. Kawashima Jun, M.P., Mr. Sonoda Kokichi, Mr. Kurihara Ryoichi, M.P., Mr. Hara Kei, Vice-Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, Viscount Hotta Seiyo, Member of the House of Peers, Mr. Shoda Heigoro, Mr. Soyeda Juichi, Mr. Sakatani Yoshiro, both officials of the Finance Department, Mr. Watanabe Hiromoto, member of the House of Peers, Professor Kanai Nobu, Mr. Shibusawa Eiichi, President of the First National Bank, Mr. Taguchi Ukichi, M.P., editor of the *Keizai Zasshi*, Professor Wadagaki Kenzo, Mr. Masuda Takashi, Director of the Mitsui Bussan Kaisha, Mr. Takata Sanaye, M.P., editor of the *Yomiuri Shimbun*, and Mr. Hayakawa Senkichiro, Private Secretary of the Minister of Finance. The subject of discussion was a report presented to the Council by a special committee selected from among its members for the purpose. The principal speakers were Professor Wadagaki, and Messrs. Shoda, Sonoda, Taguchi, Masuda, and Watanabe. The meeting was closed at a little past eleven, the next conference being fixed for Wednesday, the 5th inst. In which direction the opinion of the Council is tending, no clear information is yet forthcoming. But that its labours are very near completion may be taken for granted.

The Tokyo Rice Exchange, which had been closed since the 24th ult., was reopened on the 1st inst., the complicated troubles that necessitated its closure having been successfully arranged through the mediation of Mr. Hamano Shigeru, one of the most successful speculators of modern Japan in rice and stocks. The Osaka Rice Exchange, was also closed on the 25th ult. on account of grave disputes between buyers and sellers, but a telegram announces its reopening on the 1st inst. Similar troubles led to a similar result at the Hakodate Exchange. In its case, however, the difficulty was more easily adjusted, and transactions were resumed from the 29th ultimo. As to the causes of these troubles, we propose to describe them at length in a separate note.

The question of the advisability of introducing electric tramways into the chief cities of the empire has been investigated by Mr. Asano, scientific expert of the Department of Communications, and Professor Yamakawa of the Imperial University. The newspaper notices about the results of their joint researches are neither accurate nor full. It is stated that, according to their opinion, the regulations in force in England for electric tramways are inapplicable to Japan, especially with reference to the degree of electric pressure applied. The point still undecided is whether or not the electric current escaping from the tramway is likely to affect water pipes injuriously.

The Tennoji-Tamatsukuri section of the Osaka Railway, two miles and a half in length, was opened for traffic on the 28th ult.

Trade is far from brisk at present all over the Empire. The business in coal shares the general dulness. The exportation of that mineral is at a standstill, and the quantities heaped up at Wakamatsu and Moji are reported to be enormous. As a natural consequence of such a state of affairs, the price of coal is constantly falling. It must, however, be noticed that this sudden depreciation is in great part a natural reaction from the fictitious price prevailing during the war.

It is reported that the Nippon Yusen Kaisha has raised the rate of freight from the 1st instant. The increase will be more than 20 per cent. between Yokohama and Hakodate. For example, the charge for carrying 100 *koku* of salted codfish was formerly 1.25 *yen* but has now been raised to 1.50 *yen*.

The Mitsui Bussan Kaisha, says the *Keizai Zasshi*, will shortly reopen its branch offices at Tientsin, Shanghai, and Newchwang, the managers being Messrs. Go Nagatoshi, Komuro Sankichi, and Shimauchi Kumetaro respectively.

Money is still very tight throughout the country, and there seems to be little prospect of improvement, as may be seen from the action of some of the best known banks in Tokyo. The Mitsui Bank raised its rates of interest on deposits from the 1st inst. as follow:—

	Rate of interest.	Increase.
Current account.....	$\frac{1}{100}$ % per diem.....	$\frac{1}{100}$ %
For three months	5 % per annum...	1 %
For six months	5½ % per annum...	1 %
For twelve months.....	6 % per annum...	1 %

The 1st National Bank followed suit, raising its rates as follows:—

	Increase.
For three months .....4% per annum.....	½%
For six months .....5½% per annum ...	½%
For twelve months ....6% per annum.. ...	½%

The Bank of Japan received the approval of the Minister of Finance on the 31st ultimo, for an issue of convertible notes, the amount of which, though not yet made known, is believed to be about 2,000,000 *yen*. This step has been taken, according to the *Jiji*, in view of the fact that, the period for the payment of an instalment of the War Loan (13,500,000 *yen*) being near, large applications for advances are likely to be made to the Bank.

ECONOMICAL AND INDUSTRIAL.

The foreign trade of Japan for the year 1894 showed considerable development, despite the war, the total value aggregating over 230 million *yen*. The steady increase in this source of national wealth is a matter for sincere congratulation, but the *Jiji Shimpo* reminds its countrymen of the backward state of the carrying trade. The whole tonnage of ships entering and clearing from the treaty ports of Japan during 1894 was 2,689,871 tons, of which Japanese vessels represented only 296,919 tons. The number of ships was in all 1,517, of which only 828 were owned by Japanese. Of the whole value of the imports and exports, 230,728,041 *yen*, the amount carried by Japanese ships was only 16,830,497 *yen*. The total exports and imports reduced to tonnage were 3,372,566 tons, of which 444,791 tons were carried in Japanese bottoms. Computing the freight of exports and

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imports at 2 *yen* 50 *sen* per ton, the receipts by Japanese ship-owners amounted to about 1 million *yen*, while foreign vessels obtained as much as 7 millions and a half. A nation that aims at commercial prosperity ought not to be contented with such a state of affairs.

There seems to prevail some misconceptions in business circles concerning the recent issue of convertible notes (2,000,000 *yen*) by the Nippon Ginko. The *Jiji Shimpo* has thought it advisable to make inquiries at the Bank, and now assures its readers that from what it ascertained there, no injurious result is likely to follow the issue of such notes. On the contrary, they may be issued to the amount of 20 million *yen* without inconveniently affecting the market, according to the estimate of the officials of the Bank. The reserve of specie, 20 million *yen* in amount, has all been advanced to the Government, and has, in great part, left the country. Simultaneously with the advance of this money to the Government bank notes of corresponding amount have been redeemed. Consequently, the managers of the Nippon Ginko are confident that there still remains a wide scope for the issue of convertible notes.

The Iron Foundry Investigation Committee held a conference in the Department of State for Agriculture and Commerce on the 3rd instant. Mr. Kaneko, Vice-Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce, was in the chair. There were present Mr. Matsumoto, Director of the Imperial Railway Bureau; Lieut.-Colonel Nakamura, Imperial Engineers; Viscount Naito, member of the House of Peers; Mr. Noro Kageyoshi and Mr. Takayama Jiutaro, scientific experts of the Department of Agriculture and Commerce; Mr. Wada Tsunashiro, Mr. Hasegawa Yoshinosuke, and Mr. Harada Sosuke. The proceedings were opened by Viscount Enomoto, Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce, who addressed to those present a few words of encouragement and salutation.

At the instance of the Bankers League of Kyushu, the business men of the southern island are about to hold a grand conference at Fukuda on the 20th inst. The principal object of the meeting will be to consider the promotion of trade and industry in Kyushu in view of the opening of new commercial relations with Formosa.

Work on the railway connecting Nagoya with Kuwana on the opposite side of the Bay of Ise has been completed, with the exception of the bridge over the Kisogawa. The river is to be crossed in boats for the present. The sections just opened for traffic are Nagoya-Kaniye (5 miles 70 chains), Kaniye-Mayegasu (4 miles 31 chains) and Tomita-Kawana (4 miles 66 chains).

The surveys of the railway lines to be constructed in the First Construction period, as provided in the Railway Bill, have just been finished, and the preparation of reports is now in progress at the Imperial Railway Bureau.

EDUCATIONAL AND LITERARY.

The subjects of discussion at the conference of principals of normal schools, held recently in Tokyo, are kept secret, for what reason we fail to understand. But from the statements that have appeared in the press, we gather that the principal topics under consideration related to moral education in schools, the education of school teachers, the prevention of disturbances among students of normal schools, and so forth. Of these, the question of moral education seem to have received the lion's share of attention. According to the information of the *Kyoiku Jiron*, the apparent object of the new Minister of State for Education is to place moral education in schools on a broader and more liberal basis. In other words, Marquis Saionji is not in favour of the too exclusively nationalistic character of moral instruction now in vogue.

The great educational conference in Kyoto came recently to a conclusion. It was attended by educationalists from all parts of the Empire, and the exchange of their views may well be supposed to have been productive of good results. But curiously enough, the proceedings of their meetings have not received from the press anything more than cursory notices. This strange negligence on the part of the Japanese papers may possibly be attributed to the fact that attention has of late been almost entirely absorbed by the burning political questions of the day.

A large number of Korean youths are now receiving education in this country. Most of them are entered at the Keiwo Gijuku (Mr. Fukuzawa's School), the number there being over a hundred. Several are also studying in the Tohoku Gijuku of Sendai, which is conducted on Christian principles. Mr. Oshikawa's connection with the latter institution is a guarantee that the Korean boys placed there will receive a broad and liberal education. The latest batch of students from Korea, 20 in number, expected to arrive in Japan soon, are to be educated at Shizuoka, in a school specially established for the purpose by the Rev. Mr. Sano of the *Nichiren* sect, who spent some time in Korea with the object of propagating the tenets of his sect. Korean students are scattered in smaller numbers among various other educational institutions throughout the country, both Governmental and private.

The question of the advisability or inadvisability of the use of Chinese ideographs in Japanese literature is again beginning to attract the serious attention of Japanese men of letters. Our readers may remember the enthusiastic rival movements that agitated the literary world ten years ago for the displacement of Chinese ideographs by the national alphabet (*kana*) of Japan, on the one side, and by Roman letters, on the other. For various reasons neither movement bore any practical fruit, and in two or three years both came to be entirely neglected by the public. The problem, however, is of living interest and importance, and the sense that the nation is about to enter upon a new career of expansion and progress in every direction seems to have awakened leaders of thought in educational and literary circles to the necessity of deciding this question once for all. It is discussed in various magazines, such, for instance, as the *Taiyo*, the *Waseda Bungaku*, the *Kyoiku Jiron*, and so forth. In addition to the Japanese *kana* and Roman letters, the Korean alphabet is beginning to receive attention. At the present stage of discussion, it would be premature to say in which direction opinion is tending. The confidence with which the advocates of linguistic reform set forth the advantages of their respective systems is worthy of all praise, but they would do well to be less sanguine seeing that the difficulties lying in their path are both numerous and formidable.

Mr. Shiga's *Nippon Fukei-ron* (Discussion on Landscape Gardening) has been an extraordinary success. In the short space of about seven months, it has gone through four editions, a reception not accorded to any Japanese book in recent years. The latest edition has a large number of new illustrations. This success is certainly deserved by the talented author.

THE TOKYO CHESS CLUB.

The members of the Tokyo Chess Club wound up the season on Friday, the 31st ult., by dining together at the Tokyo Hotel. The occasion was utilised to entertain the Rev. K. Munzinger, one of their number, before his departure for Europe, and to present the Club Tournament prizes to the successful competitors. Mr. C. A. W. Pownall occupied the chair, and announced that Mr. E. Dun, President of the Club, who was unavoidably absent owing to the recent death of the U.S. Secretary of State, had presented the Club with three handsome chess sets, a gift of which the members were not slow in showing their appreciation in the most practical way. Altogether a very pleasant evening was spent.

FAREWELL BANQUET TO MR. HAYASHI.

A farewell banquet on an exceptionally large scale was given to Mr. Hayashi last evening, in the official residence of the Minister President of State. More than one hundred persons were invited, among them being the Cabinet Ministers, the Privy Councillors, all the Field-Marshals, General officers and Admirals present in Tokyo, the principal functionaries of the various Departments, and so forth. We may mention Field-Marshals Oyama and Nodzu, Generals Kawakami and Terauchi, Admirals Saigo, Ito and Yamamoto, etc. The Vice-Ministers of the various Departments were also present, as were many officials of the Foreign Office and of the Imperial Household Department. More than one half of the convives were officers of the Army and Navy. The banquet commenced at 6.30 p.m., and it was 11 o'clock before the party broke up. In the dining salon the tables were ranged in three rows, H.E. Count Ito presiding at the middle table, with Mr. Hayashi on his right, and the Cabinet Ministers in order of precedence on either side. Count Yamagata was absent owing to indisposition, and so was Viscount Mutsu, who is still unable to support any fatigue whatever. As the party entered the dining salon, the Marine Band played the national anthem, and throughout dinner it performed a number of pieces, including Japanese airs, as "Samba," "Oimatsu," and so forth. Rarely has Tokyo seen a banquet on such a scale, and above all so agreeable and gay. It was like a reunion of a markedly friendly character among the military and naval officers and the civil functionaries. At a given signal the whole of the guests rose, and most cordially wished *bon voyage* and a successful mission to Mr. Hayashi. It was easy to see that every one had complete confidence in the ability of Mr. Hayashi to accomplish the difficult task entrusted to him. Indeed most of those present took occasion to express themselves in that sense. The banquet may be said to have been specially imposing in the fact that every branch of the administration was represented, as well as of the Army and Navy. Mr. Hayashi evidently takes with him the earnest wishes of all his countrymen.

DEPARTURE OF MR. HAYASHI FROM TOYKO.

Mr. Hayashi, the new Japanese Representative at the Court of Pekin, left Tokyo, as previously announced, at 10.25 a.m. on the 5th instant. Several hundreds of officials and private persons assembled to see him off, among them being Count Kuroda, Count Saigo, Field-Marshal Nodzu, General Kawakami, Mr. Yoshikawa, Minister of State for Home Affairs, Mr. Watanabe, Minister of State for Communications, Viscount Enomoto, the Representatives of the United States, France, Great Britain, Italy, and members of the Staffs of the Russian and German Legations, Baron Gutschmid being unable to attend owing to his recent accident, and Mr. Hitrovo making his *adieux* in Yokohama. It was a demonstration of very marked character, indicating, as did the banquet given in Mr. Hayashi's honour by the Minister President of State, that the nation greets with satisfaction the restoration of friendly relations between the two empires, and places full confidence in Mr. Hayashi's tact and ability to deal with the varied problems that will present themselves at the outset of renewed intercourse.

We may mention here that it is a mistake to anticipate, as the public apparently anticipates, that the duty of conducting negotiations with regard to the restoration of the Liaotung Peninsula has been entrusted to Mr. Hayashi, and that Pekin is to be the place of conference. The negotiations will be held in Tokyo, and their commencement will be deferred until the arrival of a Chinese Representative. China appears to be in no hurry to send a Minister to Tokyo. Not even a nomination has yet been made, so far as we can learn. It is not easy to understand her delay, but probably she sees no occasion for expedition.

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SENTENCES OF COURT MARTIAL AT CHINCHOW.

The Court Martial at Chinchow passed sentences on the 14th ult. upon the Japanese non-commissioned officers, privates, and coolies, in connection with the skirmish that took place between them and certain villagers in Shantung in February last. The fight ended in the death of one Japanese and the wounding of several others, while four Chinese were killed and seven wounded. The trouble arose with the construction of telegraph wires. Sergeant Tsurumi, the Chief of the Communication Office in Chintaichuwan village, Shantung Province, was extremely vexed at the constant cutting of the wires by Chinese fugitives, and at the ignominious, even brutal, treatment to which the coolies under him were repeatedly subjected by the inhabitants of the district. He resolved, therefore, to arrest the guilty Chinese and punish them. On the 10th of February, while two coolies of the office, Yokoyama and Katakura, were passing through the village of Tienkö on their way from Yungcheng, whither they had carried an electric battery, they saw several Chinamen at the side of the road, pointing and apparently jeering at them. The coolies, suspecting that these were the cutters of the wires, resolved to ask their names for the sake of future enquiry. Approaching the group, they began to address it in broken Chinese, but they could not make themselves understood, and a scuffle soon ensued, the number of the Celestials increasing in the meantime to over twenty. Encouraged by the thought of the victories of their countrymen over the Chinese, the two coolies would not retreat even though the odds were so much against them. Katakura instantly picked up a handy pole and striking at the skull of one of the Chinamen with all his might felled him to the ground, where he expired after uttering several groans. Seeing this, the crowd, taking axes and other weapons, surrounded Katakura, who was eventually battered to death. Yokoyama carried on an unequal contest for some time, his head and arms bleeding; then thinking it useless to share his comrade's fate, he watched for an opportunity and taking to his heels, returned to the Office to give the alarm. The chief was highly incensed when he heard of what had occurred, and he too thought that it must have been the scoffing Chinamen that had cut the wires. The Sergeant immediately set out toward the scene of the encounter at the head of 14 Japanese with Yokoyama as guide, to search for the body of Katakura. They ascended a hill overlooking the village and saw the inhabitants gathered together here and there, apparently guarding against further accidents. The sergeant told the little band to push on into the village and look for Katakura, striking down anyone, regardless of age, that offered opposition. The party was divided into three sections, one being led by Sergeant Tsurunin, the second, by Sergeant Ishida, and the third, by Sergeant Sato. When Ishida's men entered the village, they saw several Chinese grouped together. Intending to ask about Katakura's body, the sergeant beckoned to them, calling out at the same time "Come, come!" The ignorant Chinamen answered by a volley of stones, upon which Ishida fired a pistol at one of them, wounding him in the face. This frightened the Celestials, and they ran into the premises of a merchant, the gate of which they attempted to fasten, but Ishida and his men prevented this by means of a pole. The inmates then grew desperate, and armed with poles, rushed out of the gate upon their assailants, being joined by several women. The Japanese struck down the latter, wounded another man with a pistol, and, after having kicked to the ground a Chinaman and his wife, proceeded to join their comrades who had also been engaged in fighting resisting villagers, some of whom they had either killed or wounded. At last Katakura's body was found and carried back to the Office. When leaving the village, the Japanese saw fire rising from two ends. The villagers subsequently lodged a complaint with the Japanese authorities stating the party, and Tsurinin and the others were sent to Chinchow and there examined by Court Martial. Sergeant Tsurunin was sentenced to major confinement for a period of one year and one month. The others—with the exception of three coolies, who were acquitted—were sentenced to imprisonment for periods varying from one year to 20 days. We take the above particulars from the *Yomiuri*.

FORMOSA.

No report has yet been received from Governor-General Viscount Kabayama since his arrival in Formosa waters, and consequently there are no means of verifying the recent telegrams from Shanghai. The *Nichi Nichi* announces the receipt by the Government, on Saturday last, of the following telegram from the Governor-General, under date of the 27th ultimo:—

"I left Ujina at 6 p.m. on the 24th ult., accompanied by the civil and military officers under my command. While passing through the Buzen Strait a gale began to blow and continued during the succeeding two days, the 25th and 26th. But the party arrived in the Bay of Nakashiro in Okinawa safe and sound at 9 a.m. to-day. The first batch of the Imperial Guards has already reached here by the transports *Hiroshima*, *Nagoya*, *Wakanoura*, *Akashi*, *Hokoku*, *Eijo*, *Toshima*, *Matsuyama*, and four others. The remainder, in four transports, are expected soon. I leave here at noon to-day for Tamsui, and the Imperial Guards will follow me at 6 p.m."

From this telegram, our contemporary infers that Viscount Kabayama and his party must have reached their destination, Tamsui, by the 30th ult. Supposing that a despatch boat was sent thence either immediately before or immediately after the landing of the party, it would require five days to make Saseho, so that an official report of the landing can not reach Head-quarters in Tokyo earlier than the 3rd or 4th inst.

CHINA, RUSSIA, AND THE LIAOTUNG PENINSULA.

The *Peking and Tientsin Times* contains a paragraph that appears to astonish some readers of that journal, though the main fact related has long been perfectly familiar to the public. "Previous to the exchange of Ratifications," says our Tientsin contemporary, "Japan had given to Russia an official assurance that she would not permanently occupy Liaotung." Of course she had. The Treaty was signed on the 17th of April; it was ratified by the Emperor of Japan on the 20th of April, and the ratifications were exchanged at Chefoo on the 8th of May. In the interval, between April the 20th and May the 8th, the Three European Powers interfered, and obtained from Japan a promise that the idea of permanently occupying the Liaotung Peninsula would not be acted on. These facts were long ago made public. Why the *Peking and Tientsin Times* talks as though Russia were the only European Power concerned, we do not understand, but, for the rest, it merely reports stale information. The same journal intimates, however, that "China has not yet consented to any change in the arrangement of the Treaty, and that before making a final settlement, she will probably reopen the question of Formosa." That seems to us a rather comical hypothesis. Does China imagine that because the interference of three European Powers has saved her from losing a portion of the territory ceded to her conqueror, she has thereby acquired a title to recover the whole? We can not imagine that the Pekin statesmen are so quick to deceive themselves. European interference has certainly unsettled the situation, but Japan is not likely to submit tamely to being despoiled of all her rights.

PRICES IN JAPAN.

The *Chugai Shogyo Shimpo* has just concluded a series of interesting articles on the present condition of prices in this country. Despite complaints of tradal stagnation in general since the commencement of the war, prices show a marked appreciation, with the exception of a few commodities. To mention some examples; the price of hulled rice, as compared with that in the beginning of May last year, shows an increase of 11 per cent.; *miso*, 8¼ per cent.; sugar, 5 per cent.; *saké*, 22 per cent.; cotton goods, 10 per cent.; Japanese iron, 18 per cent. In the case of articles required by the armies operating abroad, the rise of prices has been even more marked; *katsuobushi* (dried bonito), for instance, has risen 100 per cent., while preserved meat, and woollen cloths show an increase of at least 50 to 60 per cent. Barley and wheat are probably the only commodities that constitute exceptions to the general appreciation. The steadiness of prices in their case is ascribed to the exceptionally good crop of last year. As to the causes of this general rise of prices, two are mentioned by our contemporary, namely, the depreciation of silver and the recent war. Even had there been no war, prices would still have risen more or less as the inevitable consequence of the constant fall of silver. To show the connection between the state of exchange and the price of commodities, the *Chugai* tabulates some figures. The first table gives the quantities of hulled rice that could be obtained for 1 *yen* in the first week of May in 1893, 1894, and 1895:—

Quantity	1895.	1894.	1893.
	Sho.	*Sho.*	*Sho.*
1st	77	87	100
2nd	80	90	104
3rd	83	93	110
4th	87	95	116
5th	91	99	123

It will be seen from these figures that the appreciation of the price of rice during the last three years has been a little over 27 per cent. The depreciation of silver has been nearly in the same proportion as may be noticed from the following table, showing the rate of exchange in the first week of 1893, 1894, and 1895:—

	1895. Silver.	1894. Silver.	1893. Silver.
100 *yen* (gold) =	187.25	187.30	148.46

Comparing the rate of exchange in May, 1893, with that in May, 1895, an appreciation of over 26 per cent is noticed in the value of gold. A comparison of these two tables, says the *Chugai*, will explain the connection between the rise of prices in general and the state of exchange. But the fall in the value of silver alone can not account for the appreciation of prices since last year. The immediate cause must be sought in the war. Our contemporary then goes on to explain briefly the different ways in which the war has affected prices. In the first place, the increase of money in circulation receives attention. Much credit is given to the Authorities for the skilful manner in which they have maintained the equilibrium of the money market. But a war so expensive and on so large a scale, must unavoidably cause more or less increase of the money in circulation. The following table shows the amount of paper money in circulation at the end of April in 1894 and 1895:—

	1895. Yen.	1894. Yen.
Government paper money	12,793,895	15,495,773
Bank notes	32,298,374	24,282,603
Convertible notes	103,360,289	207,898,227
Total	137,452,499	245,676,603

There has thus been an increase of 11,781,896 during the year ending April last. But the actual increase in the volume of money in circulation must have been, in the opinion of the *Chugai*, considerably larger than these figures, for the surplus in the Treasury has been paid out as war expenses. The amount of that surplus, at the commencement of the war, had reached 26 million *yen*. Of course considerable portions of the money thus disbursed are still withdrawn from general circulation, in the form of reserves at the various commissariat offices of the army, and the private boards of officers and coolies, while a part [illegible]

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and the Chinese territory in Japanese occupation. Taking these circumstances into consideration, our contemporary believes that the actual increase in the volume of circulating money must be not less than 12 million *yen*. An addition of such magnitude to a circulating currency of about 150 million *yen* could not fail to produce its effect upon the price of things. Besides the increase of money in circulation, various other circumstances incidental to war must have conspired to produce the rise in prices. Such circumstances are diminished facilities of transportation, the withdrawal of young men from the field of productive labour, the expectation of a boom after the war, and the actions of speculators in rice. Will prices fall, now that peace has been restored? Our contemporary does not offer any direct answer to this question, but seems to take it for granted that prices will continue on the whole much the same as at present. The rise of price will cause increase of imports, but on the other hand, as the result of the brilliant successes obtained by Japan in the war, Japanese articles are in great demand abroad and the export trade will increase proportionately. The *Chugai*, therefore, thinks that there need be little fear of an undue exportation of gold and silver from the country.

INSTRUCTION TO SHINTO AND BUDDHIST PRIESTS.

The Department of Home Affairs has issued the following instruction to Shinto and Buddhist priests:—"Priests of either Shinto or Buddhist sects, charged as they are with the grave duty of propagating religious doctrines, ought to combine both learning and virtue so as to command the respect of the people. Hence the processes pursued for testing their qualifications should be specially scrupulous and exact, everything savouring of partiality being carefully avoided. It is nevertheless commonly reported of the priests now in holy orders that not a few are distinguished neither by learning nor virtuous conduct, and entirely unfitted for their posts. Not only do these defects disqualify them to discharge their duties but the evil also tends to bring about the decline of religious tenets and of general morality, even to the extent of causing the decay of sects and encouraging the spread of false ideas throughout the country. The causes of this misfortune are numerous, but it must be chiefly attributed to defects in the law of organization of sects and in the provisions relating to the licensing of priests. The time has fully come for each sect to take prompt steps to amend the above provisions.

Since the Common School Law was issued in 1890, children between the ages of six and fourteen are required, with the exception of those that fall under Art. XXI. of that Law, to receive ordinary education in either Common Schools or similar scholastic institutions. Consequently, priests that have to preach religious doctrine to these people can not be said to be qualified for the duty unless, in addition to being thoroughly versed in religious tenets and doctrines, they possess scholarship at least equal to the standard of ordinary middle school education. In accordance with the above considerations and the undermentioned standards, chief priests should amend or supplement the rules relating to the organization of each sect or the provisions pertaining to the licensing of priests; or should frame detailed regulations in a corresponding sense, and should, further, in accordance with Notification No. 19, issued by the *Daijyokan* in 1884, submit, before Sept. 30th of the current year, such amended or re-enacted rules or regulations for the sanction of the Minister of State for Home Affairs." The standards referred to give directions as to the mode of licensing priests, as to the periods and places of granting such licenses, as to the number, qualifications, &c., of licensing committees, and as to associates.

JAPAN'S FOREIGN POLICY.

It would seem that one of the most conspicuous results of recent events has been a great improvement in Japanese feelings toward England. There are evidences not only that the umbrage caused by various misunderstandings in the early stages of the recent war is fast disappearing, but also that a section of the public entertain the project of an alliance with England. Many Japanese, we are well aware, have always been convinced that events would sooner or later bring the two maritime Powers into close relations. But even men holding that view have hitherto thought it wise for their country to keep aloof from any European combination as long as possible. Now, however, they seem to believe that the time has come for Japan to adopt a decisive foreign policy and to act in concert with some of the European Powers.

We have already reproduced an article from the *Jiji*, in which the above idea was advocated. Our influential contemporary now returns to discuss the same subject. This time it goes a step farther than before and plainly indicates that the Power with which Japan ought to be in close alliance is England. After examining the condition of the various countries of Asia, the *Jiji* declares that none of them is powerful enough to be of much use as an ally. Among European Powers, only three need be considered in this connection, namely Russia, France, and England. The *Jiji* proceeds to review at some length the diplomatic history of the continental States of Europe, its purpose being to prove how changeable and inconstant are the relations existing between these countries. It points out how Austria, despite the help received by her from Russia for the suppression of the Hungarian revolt of 1848, acted in an unfriendly manner to the Great Northern Power in 1856; how, by a secret agreement, Prussia secured the neutrality of France at the time of her Austrian war of 1866; how that promise was broken by Prussia after the war; how, at the time of the war between Prussia and France, the former succeeded in exciting the suspicion of Austria by publishing diplomatic papers relating to an abortive arrangement between Russia and France for the partition of Austria; how Germany, despite her large obligations to Russia, which had been friendly to her in 1866 and 1871, joined hands with England and France in cutting up the treaty of San Stefano; how the breach with Russia drove Germany to organize the Triple Alliance; and how Germany is now again courting the friendship of Russia. The continental Powers being thus continually involved in ever changing combinations and alliances, it would be very dangerous, if not impossible, to rely upon an alliance with any of them, for Japan might at any time be sacrificed to their interests in Europe. Alone among the Powers of Europe, England is to a large extent independent of the continental diplomatic system. Moreover, her position in the East is mainly defensive, her care in this quarter of the globe being, not to extend, but to preserve and consolidate the territories that she has already obtained. Russia, on the contrary, is irrevocably pledged to a policy of aggradizement, being feverishly anxious to get a good naval station in the Pacific. Under these circumstances, the *Jiji* does not hesitate to declare that, if there is any Power with which Japan can advantageously act in concert, it is England. "The Japanese," says our contemporary in conclusion, "ought to keep under control their present feeling of indignation and devote their whole energies to strengthening the Navy. They ought, further, to court the friendship of a Power with which they have a community of interests, and to patiently await for a future opportunity."

Such is the gist of the views openly advanced by a journal representing the larger portion of the independent educated classes. The same sentiment is breathed by the organs of political parties, notably by the *Mainichi Shimbun*. The Japan-China war, says that journal, is about to break up the European alliances organized as the result of the Congress of Berlin. Circumstances no longer permit Japan to stand aloof from European diplomacy. Without openly declaring England to be the natural ally of Japan, the Progressionist organ says enough to leave little doubt in the minds of its readers as to the direction in which its predilection lies. Whichever be the Power with which Japan may most advantageously ally herself, the *Mainichi* declares it certain that it is now high time to adopt a definite foreign policy.

BANK DEPOSITS.

The *Chugai Shogyo Shimpo* publishes some interesting figures relating to bank deposits. From the early part of last year, deposits in the various banks steadily increased, but of late the tendency began to be reversed, and a steady decrease is noticed. The increase during the past year or so was, of course, caused by the war with China. The following table shows the amounts of deposits in the 18 banks of Tokyo and Yokohama belonging to the Bankers' League, for the month of March in 1894 and 1895:—

Kind of Deposits.	March, 1895.	March, 1894.
	Yen.	Yen.
Government money	1,097,887,285...	1,199,058.784
Fixed deposits.	9.752,782.182...	10,377,719.612
Current deposits.....	14,594,280.042...	14,450,290.664
Miscellaneous deposits.....	14,498,114.809...	10,209,591.750
Total	39,943,064.318...	36,236,660.810

Thus, on the whole, there is an increase of 3,706,403 *yen*. But a slight decrease appears in the case of Government deposits and fixed deposits. The decrease in the deposits of Government money needs no explanation. As to fixed deposits, the reason is to be sought in the fact that, since the commencement of the war, most persons thought it desirable to secure the facility of drawing out their money at any moment. From the middle of April, deposits began to decrease, as may be seen from the following table, showing statistics for the 18 banks above alluded to:—

Kind of Deposits.	March, 1895.	April, 1895.
	Yen.	Yen.
Government money	1,097,887.258...	899,299.400
Fixed Deposits	9,752,782.182...	9,852.086.799
Current Deposits	14,594,280.042...	15,801,696.383
Miscellaneous Deposits ...	14,498,114.809...	9,905,493.593
Total	39,943,064.318...	36,548,576.175

Comparing the two totals in the above table, it is seen that the amount of deposits in the 18 banks under consideration fell off in the month of April by as much as 3,394,488 *yen*.

No accurate figures have yet been obtained for May, but in the opinion of experienced bankers the decrease in that month was still greater. Our contemporary mentions three circumstances responsible for this steady diminution, namely, first, need of money for payments on account of War Loans; secondly, extensive purchases of shares in the expectation of a revival of trade after the restoration of peace; and thirdly, replenishment of the stocks of merchandize on the termination of the war. Supposing that these are the true causes, the *Chugai Shogyo* expects that the decrease of deposits will go on for some time to come. For the present, it will not seriously affect the resources of the banks. But more or less difficulty will be experienced before long, inasmuch as applications for advances of money will pour in as the business season advances. Perceiving this prospect, the bankers have begun to raise the rate of interest on deposits, hoping thus to check withdrawals and encourage new lodgments. Whether this expedient will have the desired effect remains to be seen.

In Australia great inconvenience is experienced in telegraph construction by the fondness of the natives for wire for bracelets, ear, and nose rings, and their weakness for the porcelain insulators, which they fashion into arrow-heads.

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THE GENERAL MEETING OF THE NIPPON YUSEN KAISHA.

The Nippon Yusen Kaisha held its half-yearly general meeting in the Kinkikan, Kanda, on the 28th ultimo. About 800 shareholders representing 77,200 odd shares attended. Mr. Kondo, Vice-President of the Company, took the chair, and a clerk read the report for the half-year ending on the 31st of March. After the Chairman had explained the report, a few questions were put by some shareholders, and the report was then voted without dissent. Thanks were offered to the officers of the Company in the name of the shareholders for the services rendered by them during the war, and the meeting was dissolved after cheers had been given for the Emperor and the Company. The profit and loss account stood thus:—

	Yen.
Total profit for the half-year.....	288,647.895
Brought forward from the previous account	397,262.823
Total	685,910.718
For depreciation of the value of buildings	9,857.803
To reserve fund	30,000.000
Rewards to Special Managers ...	7,850,000
Dividend (10 per cent per annum)	440,000.000
Carried forward to the next account	198,202.715

The freights earned by ships requisitioned for Government use during the war was separated from the ordinary takings, and, with the view of settling accounts on the termination of the affair, a special profit and less account was compiled as given below. According to that account, a balance of more than 1,370,000 *yen* remained in favour of the company, but as considerable outlay would be needed to thoroughly repair the ships, which had been constantly on service throughout the war, the actual profit may not amount to much. It is expected that for each ship a sum of 10,000 *yen* at least will be needed to effect repairs, according to which estimate a total of half a million *yen* must be set apart, supposing that 50 ships were requisitioned for the public service. Moreover, to the crews that encountered dangers not differing greatly from those to which the soldiers and seamen of the Navy were exposed, suitable rewards must be given. But these points can not be precisely determined prior to the final settlement of the affair. The actual state of the profit and loss account as it stood on the 31st of March was as follows:—

REVENUE.	Yen.
Freights of ships requisitioned for Government service	3,300,895,825
EXPENDITURE.	**Yen.**
Expenses of running ships	1,323,595.674
Depreciation in the value of ships...	158,943.912
Insurance	276,737.490
Reserve for important repairs	163,245.193
Total	1,922,522.269
Balance Profit	1,378,373.556

The total number of ships on the 31st of March was 57, representing 101,342.28 tons. There were also 21 small steamers, aggregating 572.63 tons. From this statement vessels temporarily chartered are excluded.

The statistics of voyages during the half-year stood as follows:—Number of voyages, 603, of which chartered steamers undertook 199; total mileage covered, 481,108, of which chartered steamers covered 281,073 miles. These statistics do not include voyages undertaken by the requisitioned steamers.

The total number of branch offices and agencies was 58, of which 24 were abroad and the remaining 34 at home.

Last February, in compliance with a request from Mr. Tata's firm—one of the parties connected with the Bombay service—the engagement into which the Company and the Firm had mutually entered was dissolved, and at the same time the Company had resolved to undertake the service alone. From the middle of March the Shanghai-Vladivostock line was extended as far as Hongkong. Two steamers were placed on the Bombay line, one to be [illegible] made every three weeks from both termini. On the return voyage from Bombay a steamer is to connect with the extended Shanghai-Vladivostock line at Hongkong, thus avoiding the necessity of calling at Shanghai, and shortening the voyage between Bombay and Japan.

SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT.

During this half-year, owing to the progress of the war, the need for transports grew more and more urgent, so that, with the single exception of the *Tosa Maru*, which, owing to a special reason, could not be applied for the purpose, all the other steamers of over 1,000 tons capacity owned by the Company, were requisitioned for Government service, while, toward the end of the half-year, even smaller vessels were used as transports. Five steamers, the *Yeijyo Maru*, *Kaijyo Maru*, *Ikai Maru*, *Tairen Maru*, and *Tenshin Maru*, were purchased during the same period, but as they were converted into transports as soon as they were bought, only seven or eight small vessels and the *Tosa Maru* were used for ordinary traffic. Consequently, not only on the trunk line of the Kobe-Otaru service, but also on the Yokkaichi, the Loochoo, the Bombay and other lines, chartered steamers were run. The total number of these steamers varied according to time, the maximum having been 26, representing over 65,000 tons.

At the commencement of the half-year, as in the latter part of last year, the amount of guano, &c., consigned from Hokkaido for the interior was specially great and the export trade of Yokkaichi grew more and more active, while since about last October, owing to the rise in the price of cereals, great quantities of grain had to be carried from the Hokuriku districts to Tokyo and Osaka. It was specially important that the transportation of cereals should be attended to promptly, as the market depended chiefly upon the relative facilities of transportation. The *Tosa Maru*, and other large steamers at the Company's disposal, proceeded, consequently, to the Hokuriku districts, and in a comparatively short space of time over 100,000 *koku* of grain was carried away from there. The demand for ships, which was at one time so urgent, became gradually less, and after the end of last year the normal state of affairs was restored, except in connection with Korea. Towards the end of the half-year, when the season of regular services to Hokkaido and Vladivostock arrived, the demand for shipping grew active once more and the market began, at the same time, to present a brisk appearance.

Excluding, for the moment, the business incidental to the war, although the condition of ordinary business was unexpectedly good, the result was, all things considered, only a little above the average, chiefly owing to the fact that the charge for chartered steamers was high and the passenger accommodation of those vessels defective, while they were generally unfit for the Japanese coast service. Five steamers, representing 14,579 odd tons have been purchased during the last half-year, so that including the re-estimation of the capacity of the *Tosa Maru*, *Ninsen Maru*, and *Moji Maru*, the total addition to the shipping of the Company equalled about 15,160 tons. Two small ships, aggregating 26.96 tons, have also been bought, but as one craft of 12.94 tons was sold in their place, the addition in this item was only 14.02 tons. The total number of steamers in the service on the 31st of last March was 57, representing 111,342.28 tons and of small craft, 21, their aggregate tonnage being 572.63.

As 9.45 p.m. on the 29th of last January, the *Shibata Maru*, a vessel entrusted to the care of the Company by the Government, struck on a submarine rock near the coast of Onanasa-mishima, in the Inland Sea, and her bottom was considerably damaged.

The time table of the Japan Railway Co. was restored to its usual order on the 5th inst., with the exception of the Shinagawa section, which is still suspended.—*Mainichi Shimbun*.

COUNT OKUMA ON KOREA.

The *Mainichi Shimbun* publishes an account of a conversation that its representative recently had with Count Okuma on the question of Korea. The leader of the Progressionist Party spoke in this strain:—"Count Inouye's mistake consists in leaving undone what he ought to have done and in doing what he ought not to have done. What ought he to have done? He ought to have endeavoured, on the one hand, to impress both the Government and the people of Korea with the idea that only by Japan's assistance could they hope to promote the welfare of their country; and on the other, to place the Central Government of Sōul on a firm and sound basis, so that the unity of the nation might be adequately preserved. Nothing was of more urgent necessity for Korea than the attainment of the above mentioned objects. But Count Inouye did not pay any attention to them. He devoted his energies to the compilation of laws, such as the Royal House Law and the Law of the Constitution of the Law Courts. The consequence of these legislative labours was simply to confuse and bewilder the Korean statesmen, and to invite the disgust and hatred of both the rulers and the ruled. It must be remembered that the present state of civilisation in Korea is far inferior to that of Japan at the time of the Restoration. Consequently it is but natural that the Koreans should have revolted against wholesale importation of administrative machinery as improved and perfected by Japan during thirty years of striding progress. The newspapers tell us that Boku Eiko has combined with the Russian Minister, but I can not believe it. He may have stated his grievances to some of the foreign Ministers, but he is not likely to form an alliance with any of them. Just imagine how difficult it would be for Count Inouye, even in his own country, to discharge the functions of a post of trust in the face of general unpopularity. How much more difficult then, must it have been to effect his purpose in a foreign country and in cōoperation with ignorant people, whom he did not hesitate to rebuke and abuse. A little intimidation may have been of use during the war. But the case is entirely different now. Moreover, he made a blunder in taking with him men who had acquired ill fame at home. There are in Korea persons like Boku Eiko and others who know enough about Japan to perceive the character of the men thus thrust upon Korea. I am also informed that Count Inouye's return is for the purpose of deciding upon one of three courses; to leave Korea to her own fate, to bring her under more thorough and complete guidance by Japan, or to place her under the joint protection of the Powers. If this report be true, Count Inouye must be a man of slow understanding. There is no longer any room for the choice of a new policy. Considered by the light of the historical relations of the two countries during the past ten centuries or more, or in the light of the policy followed by Japan since the Restoration, it is evidently this country's duty to lead Korea into the path of progress. Such indeed was the primary object of the recent war with China. What has been done can not be undone. Fortunately, though Korea may be disgusted with a particular class of Japanese, she is not disgusted with the Empire of Japan. Japan is in duty bound to defy all difficulties and dangers in her endeavours to guide Korea toward civilization. Such a task is beyond the capacity of men who can be easily vexed by trifling matters." Count Okuma then referred to the Formosan question. He seems to believe that Viscount Kabayama is just the man to deal properly with the various difficulties connected with the pacification and settlement of that island.

It seems to us (*Japan Mail*) that either Count Okuma is most indiscreet or that he is cursed by the possession of most indiscreet friends. Time and again during the past two years, the *Mainichi Shimbun*, which, as the organ of Count Okuma's Party—the *Kaishin-to* [illegible] the credit of being well informed about the Count's views, and is certainly a jour-

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nal that he can control, if he pleases, at least to the extent of preventing it from openly ascribing to him opinions that he does not hold and statements that he has never made—time and again this *Mainichi Shimbun* has brought him into public ridicule by publishing interviews that no responsible statesman could be supposed to have held. All this criticism of Count Inouye is in the worst possible taste. It has primarily the fault of vagueness that amounts to animus. How can Count Okuma pretend to judge whether Count Inouye has not taken sufficient steps to impress upon the Government and people of Korea a due sense of the imperative necessity of Japanese guardianship, or whether he has not made every possible endeavour to place the central government of the peninsula on a firm and sound basis? We confess that we have grown utterly weary of the inevitable journalistic and political formula in Japan "a sound and permanent basis." Every student of statesmenship, every political agitator, talks of placing the affairs of the country, or the affairs of something else, on "a sound and permanent basis," but is careful never to commit himself by explaining how that large step is to be taken. The whole solution of the Korean problem is to accomplish what Count Okuma is represented as accusing Count Inouye of having failed to accomplish in half a dozen months. If the Koreans could be persuaded that Japanese protection is a *sine qud non*, and if the Korean Central Government could be reorganized so as to exclude all elements of corruption, oppression, and nepotism, there need not be much apprehension about the future of the peninsula. We find it impossible to believe that Count Okuma used the language attributed to him by the *Mainichi Shimbun*. He knows perfectly well that no attempt was made to import wholesale into Korea systems the assimilation of which has cost Japan three decades, and he knows perfectly well that Count Inouye would be the last man to suggest or countenance such extravagance. Irresponsible and claptrap criticism of the kind put into Count Okuma's mouth by the *Kaishin-to* organ is more injurious to the person uttering it than to the person against whom it is directed.

KOREAN NEWS.

The latest telegram from Sōul announces the appointment of Mr. Boku Teiyo, Minister of Education, to be Minister President of State. He must not be confounded with the celebrated Boku, Minister of Home Affairs, whose movements have of late provoked so much suspicion and criticism among the Japanese. It had been supposed, indeed, that the latter would be appointed Premier, for he was already discharging the duties of that office in the capacity of acting Minister President. But the expectation has happily been falsified, and the choice has fallen upon his namesake, a comparatively obscure politician. The new Minister President's antecedents are not known to the public, though he is by no means a *novus homo*. He was Minister of Finance under the old ascendancy of the Bin family. Even in those days he was understood to be well disposed toward Japan. Under the new régime inaugurated by the advice of Count Inouye, Boku Teiyo seems to have maintained a more or less neutral position, and in the recent intrigues of the crafty Queen and her dupes, he managed not to be involved in their unscrupulous machinations. In the absence of detailed intelligence, it is impossible to pronounce any decided opinion about the bearings of his promotion upon the political situation. But if our information be correct, it is certainly not a bad sign that the ambitious Boku Eiko has not obtained the coveted post of Premier.

Meanwhile, all letters from the Korean capital concur in asserting that the situation grows more and more critical. Despite the defence set up by some persons in Tokyo, that Boku Eiko's real motive is not to throw Japan overboard but perhaps simply to revolt against the interference of the Japanese Minister, there seems to be little doubt that he is now so completely under the influence of the cunning Queen as to be no longer friendly to Japan. [illegible] and Mr. Shiba Shiro, M.P., both intimate friends of Boku, have gone to Korea for the express purpose of finding out the truth. Should the rumour about him be correct, they will try to lead him back to the right way of thinking. On the 22nd ultimo, Count Inouye is said to have invited Boku to the Legation and administered to him a timely warning. Mr. Saito Shuichiro and Mr. Hoshi Toru, advisers of the Korean Cabinet, are also reported to have called on Boku and offered him some salutary advice. But the correspondents of the vernacular press in Tokyo doubt whether any good can result from these admonitions.

Concerning the rumoured connection between Boku and the Russian Minister, the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun's* correspondent writes as follows, under date of May 21st:—"Mr. Boku received several letters from the Russian Minister seeking an interview. The partisans of Boku maintain that the solicited interview has never taken place. But it is an indisputable fact that Mr. Boku has repeatedly visited the Russian Legation on the pretext of seeing his daughter, who is receiving education under the direction of a certain foreigner. It is said that on such occasions confidential conversations take place between the guest and host, the task of interpreting being undertaken by Mr. Jo, Minister of Justice." The same writer then proceeds thus:—"Perhaps these conferences are not responsible for what I am about to relate, but it is a fact that a secret messenger has been sent by the Queen to recall Bin Ei-yoku (Ming Yon-ik). It is not known, however, whether or not Bin Eishun will also return home. The recall of Bin Eiyoku indicates that the Queen is harbouring some scheme. One of the most talented men in Korea, and above all elder brother of the powerful Queen, his position is compromised by the fact that he owes a large sum of money to the Russian Minister, who at one time demanded a lease of seven estates owned by him in Han-gyōng-do by way of security for the money. Under these circumstances, his return will not benefit the Queen alone. I doubt the possibility of a coalition between Boku and Bin, but since there are many perplexing contingencies in sight, it will be well to watch the course of events with the keenest vigilance."

While, on the one hand, employing the simple-minded Boku Eiko and his followers as instruments to purge the Government of all men of independent views, the Queen is accused on the other, of making things as uncomfortable as possible for the Tai Wōn-kun and his deluded grandson. The former is nothing but a State prisoner, his residence being guarded by a hundred constables. His grandson is undergoing sentence of imprisonment in a small room, 6 ft. by 9, with a little aparture in the ceiling as the only means of ventilation and lighting. It is predicted, with apparent reason, that, as soon as the Queen's ultimate object—the re-instatement of the Bins in power—has been attained, she will say good-bye to Boku and his associates, who, though hated by her as heartily as is the Tai Wōn-kun, are tolerated for the moment as convenient instruments.

Writing on the situation in Korea, the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* regrets to observe that the great and thus far successful labours of Count Inouye to place the Royal House of Korea on a sound basis and to regenerate her administration, are apparently doomed to end in failure. The persecution of the Tai Wōn-kun; the disgrace of Cho, Minister of War; the resignation of Kim, Minister President of State—these and other recent phenomena of like nature may be traced, says our contemporary, to the working of one and the same original force in Korean politics. Not without reason is the blame generally attached to Boku Eiko directly and to the Queen indirectly. But the malady lies far deeper. What causes Boku and the Queen to behave as they are reported to have behaved, is that incorrigible propensity of all Koreans to sell their country rather than sacrifice their own private interests. This supreme selfishness and want of patriotism is the root of all the evils in the peninsula. At first the Japanese Government aided the Tai Wōn-kun, but he proved false and opened treasonable communications with the Chinese Generals at Ping-yang and with the Tonghaks. Next, by way of reward for having strengthened the positions of the Queen and the Crown Prince, the Japanese Minister has been held "at a respectful distance." As to Boku Eiko, he owes his present position almost entirely to the powerful support of the Japanese Minister. Besides, he vowed on several occasions to forget all private feuds and serve his country with his whole heart. But these ties of obligation and honour have been snapped by him with supreme indifference. "Under these circumstances, we may conclude that the Koreans are not endowed with capacity for independence. Having once accepted the advice and guidance of Japan for the maintenance of their country's independence, Korean statesmen ought to have acted in accordance with that advice and guidance. To compel them at the point of the bayonet to carry out the counsel given them by Japan would be to transgress the limits of friendly suggestion. What, then, is to be done, now that the Korean Government has proved itself incapable of exertion in the right direction in accordance with advice unsupported by force? Having discovered that no good result can be anticipated from friendly representations, three courses remain for Japan to pursue, namely, to annex the peninsula; to place it formally under her protection; or to abandon it to its fate. Annexation is not Japan's object; while the advantage or disadvantage of a protectorate is uncertain. Neither ought the peninsular Kingdom to be abandoned to its own fate, without carefully considering the bearings of such a step. Should Korea possess capacity for independence, it might be advisable to declare her a neutral State under the recognition of the Powers. But she has no such capacity. We wonder to what fate she may be destined. It is a matter of the greatest interest to know what course our Government intends to pursue."

THE SOCIETY OF THE SCIENCE OF STATE.

In commemoration of the hundredth number of the monthly journal issued by the *Kokka-Gaku-Kai* (Society of the Science of State), a general meeting of the members was held in the Seiyo-ken, Uyeno, on the 1st instant. The exercises of the day opened at 4 p.m. Mr. Sakatani Yoshiro, of the Department of Finance, read a report on the work done by the Society during the past year. Besides publishing valuable papers treating of the Science of State, the society did very useful work, not the least important being the collection of subscriptions to the War Loan. Lieutenant-General Viscount Soga, then rose to address the meeting on the subject of the Military Organization of China. While the founder of the present dynasty of China was still in Manchuria, his army consisted of four "Flags," designated by four colours, yellow, white, red, and green. The force was subsequently increased to eight flags; the additional four divisions carried banners of the same four colours, the only difference being that the new banners were cut at the corners. After the entrance of the Manchu chief into China proper, his army was further increased to twenty-four divisions, the aggregate strength being about two hundred thousand men. These Manchurian soldiers were distributed all over the Empire, a small portion being retained in Pekin as the Emperor's body-guard. Besides these Flags composed of Manchu soldiers, two other kinds of military forces were established in course of time. They were the Green Flags and the Braves, both composed of Chinese. In course of time, the Manchu soldiers lost all their former courage and the Chinese braves came to be regarded as the most daring of all the forces of the Empire. But men like these are of use when opposed to foreign troops, as was shown in the recent war with Japan. The conclusion arrived at by the speaker was that the Tsing dynasty has lost all military power in China.

The next speaker was Mr. Kaneko Kentaro,

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Vice-Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce. His subject was the Economic Condition of the Country after the War. Her insular position, abundance of coal and iron, and the extraordinary development of her industry—all these circumstances make it but natural and inevitable for Japan to occupy a commanding position in the economic world of the East. Mr. Kaneko enumerated some instances of the striking progress made by Japanese industries. Speaking of the spinning industry, he observed that the number of spindles, which was 360,000 at the end of 1893, must have now reached from 650,000 to 700,000. The development of this industry has been in the direction not only of quantity but also of quality. For instance, the Meiji Spinning Company of Osaka has exhibited at the Kyoto Exhibition Yarns as fine as No. 80. While the steady development of the manufacturing industries in Japan had been slowly awakening the attention of Europe and America, the brilliant victories won by the Japanese in their recent war with the Chinese have suddenly opened the eyes of the world to the real strength of the country. English merchants and manufacturers are already crying out that the position hitherto occupied by them east of the Straits Settlements has been taken from them by the Japanese. England is now seeking to sell machinery to Japan; America is endeavouring to find out what can be done in the way of supplying cotton of superior quality to the Japanese factories; and even Australia is interested in opening tradal communications with this country. Such being the present situation of this country, the eloquent Vice-Minister advised his countrymen to avail themselves of the splendid opportunity thus offering.

In the course of the dinner that followed, speeches were made by Messrs. Soyeda Juichi, Sakatani Yoshiro, Tsuchiko Kinshiro, and Watanabe Hiromoto, Viscount Sogo, and Captain Kimotsuki, I.J.N. Viscount Soga and Captain Kimotsuki opened a discussion as to the relative importance of the Army and the Navy, and the dispute being soon taken up by the rest at the company, the scene resembled that at a debating club.

MEMORIAL BRASS TO THE LATE MR. FRASER.

An appropriate event marked the anniversary of the death of Mr. Fraser, the late British Minister. The members of the S. Andrew's congregation in Tokyo and a few other personal friends had subscribed to place a memorial Brass to his memory in the new Church at Shiba. There was a natural desire that the Brass should be completed by June 4th, the anniversary of Mr. Fraser's death, but the time allowed for the execution was too short to justify the entertaining of a hope, which was reluctantly abandoned. However, on the eve of the day, contrary to all expectation, the Brass was duly delivered and no time was lost in erecting it and sending out notices that a service of a special character would be held in the Church on the following day at 5.30, being the ordinary hour of Evensong. Owing to the shortness of the notice, and the fact that there was a meeting of importance taking place that day, many who would otherwise have been present were prevented from attending. Amongst others, a letter of sincere regret was received from Mr. Lowther, the British *Chargé d'Affaires*. The congregation, however, was good and the service a very impressive one. The first part was conducted by the Rev. H. Moore, and the concluding prayers were read by the Rev. L. B. Cholmondeley. In the interval the Bishop delivered from the pulpit the following address:—

My words must be very few. We shall, I believe, all feel that it is well to be reminded by such a service as has brought us together this afternoon—and not now only but from time to time as we meet in this church, by the silent witness of this memorial brass—of the permanent element in human life. After great crises in a nation's history—after great changes in a public service—as lives one by one are ended which, even if quietly and unostentatiously, have been a pivot on which the actions of others have turned, we are inclined to ask ourselves what remains? Was not the great Greek thinker right after all who made the fact of change the chief principle of his philosophy? We are inclined, I say, so to ask. But the answer from our Christian standpoint cannot be doubtful, and it is emphatically, No. Make all you will of the immediate aspect of things around you; do not attempt to give any fictitious character of permanence to that which is transitory; emphasize even the differences which days and years bring with them, still our Faith will not allow us to say that change, decay, or death are the primary facts in this world of ours. They are facts, but they are subordinate to others of a higher order. In the light of the Christian Faith, not change but permanence, not decay but resurrection, not death but life, successfully assert their claim to the place. The apostle gathered up all into one brief phrase when he asserted that to Christians the things which are not seen are eternal. The things which are not seen—above all these two, character and influence. Character: which is formed day by day, on the one hand through communion with the Infinite Love and Righteousness, and on the other by the innumerable circumstances which go to make up the outward environment of each individual history. This certainly is an inalienable possession which each carries with him into the eternal world. And influence, the power which each exercises consciously or unconsciously but inevitably over those around him, this too knows no limit, and no end. It tells on from heart to heart, from life to life, from age to age, like the waves of physical sound, which they tell us never really cease to flow. And it is when we have been allowed to see that, as the inscription on this brass reminds us, by the help of devout worship and regular communion, a character has so taken form and shape that in a conspicuous position and with widest opportunity its influence has been only for good, we do well to remind ourselves that that character and that influence do not belong to the category of the transitory and the perishable, but are in a real sense eternal, permanent, true; and so, if it may be, to quicken our own sense of responsibility that we too may live and work by like help of God for like benefit of men.

The two lessons for the day were read by the Rev. Arthur Lloyd and the Rev. A. E. Webb, and the three hymns were sung again which were sung at the funeral last year.

The Brass, which is placed on the wall above the Legation seats, bears this simple inscription surmounted by the coat of arms and motto:—

IN MEMORY OF HUGH FRASER,
BRITISH MINISTER IN JAPAN,
WHO DIED AT THE LEGATION IN TOKYO, JUNE 4, 1894,
AND IS BURIED AT AOYAMA.
A DEVOUT WORSHIPPER AND REGULAR COMMUNICANT
IN S. ANDREW'S CHURCH.

When we say that the design was by Mr. J. Conder, and that the engraving was executed by by Mr. Choissone, we need say no more to testify to their artistic merit and excellence.

MR. OYE TAKU ON THE ECONOMIC ISSUES OF THE WAR.

On the occasion of the ceremony held at Nakamura-ro, Ryogoku, Tokyo, at the end of last month, by about two hundred share-holders and brokers of the Tokyo Stock Exchange, to celebrate the restoration of peace, Mr. Oye Taku, President of the Exchange, made the following speech on the economic issues of the war:—The 200 million Kuping silver taels that Japan is to receive as war indemnity from China, correspond, if one tael be considered equivalent to 10.152$\frac{1}{10}$ *momme*, to 380,620,333.3333 silver *yen*. International law recognizes the mixture of alloy to the limit adopted by Japan, so that the above sum of more than 300 million *yen* may be regarded as consisting of so many *yen* in debased silver. Supposing, however, that the sum were of unalloyed silver, it would weigh 2,030,416.666 *kwamme*, which is equivalent to 7,553$\frac{1}{3}$ tons, and be 5,760$\frac{1}{3}$ *koku* in capacity. If carried by horses, 50,000 animals would be required, while if railway cars were loaded with it, 71 trains, each consisting of 19 cars, would be necessary. Turned into one-*yen* convertible notes the amount would measure in length 11,430 odd *ri*, or over 1,471 *ri* more than the circumference of the earth. Again, supposing that the convertible notes were to be counted at the rate of 200 a minute, and that 8 hours a day were to be applied for the purpose, the total period required for counting the sum would be 10 years and 125 days. If the amount be considered as the result of daily accumulation from the first year of the Japanese era, that is to say 2,555, a sum of 326 *yen* must have been gained every day without interruption.

The indemnity equals about twice the currency now in circulation, and is much as the aggregate funds of existing Japanese banks and companies. It corresponds to about 3$\frac{1}{2}$ times the Revenue of the realm. The Japanese money market is subjected to fluctuation by the exodus or influx of about 10 million *yen* worth of specie every year, and it is evident, therefore, that the influx of so much specie must have an extraordinary effect upon it. A sudden rise of companies and the extension of national defences will result. The tension of the money market will be relaxed, but unusual relaxation is as injurious as unusual tightening, and it is important that the authorities should be careful about this point. Such an institution as the stock exchange cannot but become very active, under the circumstances. Prosperity is, however, unusually followed by adversity, and those connected with the exchange should not allow themselves to be taken by surprise at the turn of affairs.

ARRIVAL OF A GREAT PIANIST.

The musical public will learn with pleasure that a pianist of great eminence has arrived in Japan. M. le Chevalier de Kontski, Court Music Director to the Emperor of Germany, has the reputation of being one of the greatest living artists on the piano. He is a pupil of Beethoven, and has earned fame in nearly all the capitals of Europe. Additional interest attaches to his performances from the fact that he has reached the great age of 79. The Chevalier is making the tour of the world, and is now on his way back to Germany *vid* Siberia. He is a celebrated composer as well as performer. We believe that it is his intention to give some concerts in Japan.

FRANCE AND JAPAN.

It is now evident that France has not attempted to interfere in any way with the annexation of Formosa by Japan. There was a plain impression among the Japanese that her interference might be apprehended, and that the additions recently made to her Squadron in the East indicated some such purpose. Foreigners also entertained the same idea, for telegrams coming *via* Shanghai associated intelligence as to the whereabouts and doings of the French ships with news of the steps taken by the Japanese forces of occupation. But nothing of these forecasts has been verified by events, and it may reasonably be hoped that the interference of foreign Powers between China and Japan is at an end. With regard to France's attitude as a member of the Triple Alliance that compelled Japan to surrender the Liaotung Peninsula, *The Times* says:—

If the protest had extended to all acquisitions of Chinese territory by Japan, the position of the French would have been less perplexing. France has long had her eye upon Formosa and the Pescadores, which the treaty assigns to Japan. But the protest is apparently limited to continental acquisitions, and accordingly Japan is at liberty to retain Formosa and the Pescadores. The result is, as the *Soleil* complains, that Japan is to be free to do what France tried to do and failed. France, as that journal observes, took Formosa and the Pescadores in her last war with China, but she had to give them up, Japan had taken them, and France, which protests against Japan's occupation of the Liao-tung peninsula, seemingly sanctions Japan's retention of the islands France once seized and perhaps yet hankers after.

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SPEECH OF THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION.

On the 20th ultimo Marquis Saionji, Minister of State for Education, invited to his official residence the directors of ordinary normal schools then in Tokyo for the purpose of consulting on educational matters, and addressed them as follows:—His Excellency first dwelt on the importance of physical education, and observed that in order to increase a countrys' power it is essential that the nation be robuts and healthy. He could not but regret to see that matters relating to physical culture and hygiene were not considered so important by the Japanese as by Europeans and Americans. To pay more attention to those points is, therefore, of urgent necessity. Many are apt to think that physical culture consists merely in exercise, and labouring under this misconception, they often subject students, whose brains are already tired out by study, to undue exercise. Such a method is not hygienic, for is it not most essential to avoid excesses both in mind and body. In dormitories, too, strict control of students with a view to keeping them quiet should be avoided, and more or less freedom allowed. Turning to the subject of female education, the Marquis remarked that in order to bring up a nation well, woman's help must be called in, and that it is on this account that female education is thought so much of in the West. As to the study of foreign languages, His Excellency hoped that educationalists would encourage this branch more earnestly than hitherto. The intercourse between Japan and other countries was becoming gradually more and more intimate, and the necessity of introducing foreign inventions and so forth being felt with greater force than ever, the importance of acquiring foreign languages has also increased. The Marquis observed in conclusion that although Japan's progress of late years in matters pertaining to refinement is indisputable, the advancement of the West on the path of civilization is equally striking. As the present century is a vast improvement on the last, so will it be left behind by the one succeeding. It is the duty of the educationalists of the day, therefore, to bring up men fit for the next generation. To be merely self-satisfied and to content ourselves with vaunting about the so-called *Yamato-damashii* without discerning the importance of keeping up with the world at large, is a course with which the Marquis cannot sympathize. The saying of a celebrated French educationalist must always be borne in mind, namely that those that place undue confidence in their country and neglect to acquaint the people with the affairs of other lands cannot be regarded as the nation's true friends.

SUICIDE OF A WARRANT OFFICER.

The sense of honour and indifference to death of the Japanese are sometimes carried a little too far. Over ten men have committed suicide since the commencement of the war, mostly for some slight cause, as a trifling mistake or failure in the discharge of duty or inability to go to the front on account of illness, or for some other reason. A case of the kind occurred last month at Port Arthur, the suicide being Mr. Uyezaki Tatsujiro, a special warrant officer of No. 6 torpedo-boat. He had been on No. 6 torpedo-boat since the commencement of the war, and the operations of the machines were under his care. He was a veteran seamen, having spent more than 20 years in the service of the Navy. On the occasion of the attack at Weihaiwei, No. 6 was one of the boats entrusted with the perilous task of torpedoing the enemy's vessels. To the great regret of the crew, as the boat neared the *Chen-yuen*, intending to discharge a torpedo, the tubes refused to work, owing to the frost, and the boat was obliged to go back without having accomplished anything. Of the little crew, no one took this untimely accident more to heart than Mr. Uyezaki, but he tried to stifle his keen regret with the thought that an opportunity would soon be furnished for him to blot out what he considered a deep stain upon his honour. News of the restoration of peace came to him as a death knell and he almost immediately resolved to die. For two or three days previous to his death, which took place on the 14th ult., he complained of headache and frequently confined himself to his cabin. On the 13th he wrote two letters, one to his wife and the other to the Engineer of the boat. At about 4 p.m. on the following day a sailor, entering Mr. Uyezaki's room for the purpose of oiling the engine, found the officer lying face downwards on his bed in a pool of blood. An alarm was given, and the other officers of the boat hastened to the spot and found their comrade cold in death. He had committed *seppuku*. A surgeon was called in from one of the Japanese men-of-war anchored in the harbour, but life was already extinct. The letter to the Engineer was to the effect that no excuse could be made for the failure of the torpedo-tubes to discharge their missiles, and that the officer wished to atone for the accident by his death. The funeral was conducted at Yokosuka on the 25th ult., more than 2,000 friends and sympathizers being present. The eldest brother of the deceased is Captain of Artillery in the Sendai Corps.

ENGLISH NEWS.

Emphatic official denials have been published in London of the story that an offensive and defensive alliance between China and Japan was one of the issues of the Shimonoseki negotiations. The Japanese Representative in Paris, among others, ridicules the idea as wholly extravagant.

The Chitral Expeditionary Force found in Umra Khan's camp a letter from a British firm in Bombay offering to supply the Khan with every kind of modern weapon, and enclosing photographs of quick-firing guns.

The story of the fight made by the Pathans north of Pangkora bridge in the Chitral expedition includes some very interesting incidents. The Pathans, observing the construction of a bridge by the British Sappers, conceived the idea of sending a number of heavy logs down the stream, and these, striking the bridge, demolished it. About 1,000 of the expeditionary force had already crossed, and the Pathans thought that they had these men in their power. But the thousand instead of waiting to be attacked, advanced and then retreated slowly, using their rifles so skilfully that the enemy could never come to close quarters. Then a night attack was planned by the Pathans. Two thousand of them crawled through the wet fields under heavy rain, and lay for hours, awaiting the word to spring forward. Instead of that word, however, there came from the British camp a star shell, showing a brilliant magnesium light as it burst, and the Pathans, crying aloud to Allah to abate his great wrath against them, fled pêle-mêle, even their Mullahs being totally confounded.

The Report of the Royal Commission on Opium should put a final stop to the hysterical agitation long kept up by the opponents of the drug. *The Times* sums up the result thus:—

The inquiry has been conducted on a great scale, and has resulted in the accumulation of a mass of evidence full of strange and instructive information as to the habits, manners, and domestic lives of many millions of men belonging to different races, believing in different creeds, and appertaining to all ranks in the societies in which they live. Over 720 witnesses were examined by the Commissioners, and of these 152 were called at the desire of the Anti-Opium Society. Every care was taken to obtain representative testimony, and the Commission record their conviction that the evidence taken forms a trustworthy ground for the conclusions they have reached. Upon the crucial issue submitted to them, the issue whether the use of opium as it is habitually practised in India is or is not injurious to the people, the Commissioners have rightly relied to a great degree on the statements of the 161 medical witnesses. The evidence of the doctors in the service of the Government was "practically unanimous;" it was corroborated by other medical men in private practice and by some of the medical missionaries. "The medical witnesses who advocated prohibition were "few, and all of them were equally if not more "opposed to the use of alcohol than to that of "opium." The general effect of the medical testimony is declared in the Report to be "that the "temperate use of opium in India should be viewed "in the same light as the temperate use of alcohol "in England. Opium is harmful, harmless, or "even beneficial, according to the measure and "discretion with which it is used." That is the judgment of science upon the actual consequences of the opium habit.

The Pope has addressed a long letter to the English people for the purpose of bringing them into reunion with Rome. It is an eloquent letter, redolent of holiness and redolent also of the sacred authority claimed by the head of the Roman Church. Leo XIII. is nothing if not diplomatic, and in this letter he shows his tact by the tone of respect and eulogy adopted toward the English people. He invokes blessings on their heads, and calls on Augustine "and those other Saints of God, through whose wonderful virtues and no less wonderful deeds, England has merited the title of 'Island of the Saints.'" But the Pope's appeal will fall on deaf ears. It follows almost immediately on a declaration by the Archbishop of Canterbury that any such union was "absolutely visionary and impossible so long as Rome retained her distinctive and erroneous doctrines and advanced her present unprimitive and unscriptural claims."

Among *The Times'* correspondents, several have urged that England should cease to be the only country in the world where Greek is taught as a dead language. The Hon. Sir G. F. Bowen, formerly Governor of Hongkong, a distinguished Greek Scholar, lends the weight of his voice to the contention. He points out that languages like French and German have changed immensely, in respect of pronunciation, from what they were several centuries ago, yet no one thinks of learning or teaching them in their obsolete and deceased form.

Mr. A. R. Sennett suggests that the industry of sericulture should be resumed in England by way of compensating for the unprofitable character of ordinary agriculture. Once upon a time Englishmen derived large profit from silk-growing. In 1694 the Huguenots had a thousand looms in Canterbury alone, giving employment to some 3,000 men, and during the reign of James I. a number of mulberry trees were planted in the midland and eastern countries. The skill developed by English sericulturists and weavers was widely celebrated, in so much that Keysler, the traveller, writing in 1730, remarked:—"At Naples, when a tradesman would highly recommend his silk stockings, he invariably protests that they are right English." To avoid the inconvenience that would attend the inception of the industry owing to the slow growth of the mulberry tree, Mr. Sennett suggests that, by using the electric light, the young trees might be grown continuously day and night. He thinks that the same process of forcing might, perhaps, be applied advantageously to the silk worm.

AMERICAN ITEMS.

It is considered necessary to guard the President of the United States perpetually. Five metropolitan policemen are detailed for duty daily at Woodley, where Mr. and Mrs. Cleveland reside, their instructions being not to leave the President's country seat unguarded for a moment.

Mr. Ito Miyoji becomes Count Miyoji in the American papers. It does not appear to be understood that he held the independent position of Plenipotentiary for the Exchange of Ratifications. He is said to have acted for Viscount Mutsu in consequence of the latter's illness.

Mr. James Creelman is steadily augmenting his reputation for veracity. He resides at present in Marietta, Ohio, where he is occupied writing his "historical work" on the war. Apparently the brilliancy of his work as a correspondent has procured for him respite from all journalistic employment. He considers it a blessing to a civilized world that "Russia forced Japan to abandon all the ports of consequence

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on the Chinese mainland," and he is further "seriously alarmed because nothing has been heard recently from his colleagues in the East —Mr. Cowen of the London *Times*, and Mr. Ward of the *Pall Mall Gazette*. After the massacre at Port Arthur, he says, the European correspondents were always in danger among the Japanese troops." Mr. Creelman is really too prodigal of his falsehoods; it amounts to wastefulness. Correspondence from Mr. Cowen and Mr. Ward has appeared regularly in the journals they represent, and their movements have been thoroughly well known to the British public. It is possible that Mr. Creelman's retreat from the field of operations was owing to the fears inspired by a guilty conscience, but such apprehensions were never shared by any one else and never had the smallest basis of fact.

Corbett and Jackson are to meet at last, but it appears that they see no prospect of being allowed to fight to a finish in any part of the United States, and that they will accordingiy have their arena in the National Sporting Club of London. It is strange to hear that prize-fighting is not so strictly prevented in England as in the United States, but such seems to be the fact. The contest is to take place in August or September.

The *San Francisco Chronicle* says :—"The Russian journals are inclined to think that the diplomatic victory of their country over Japan may have been dearly purchased. One of them warns Russia 'to consolidate her position in the far East,' claiming that Japan will never forgive her for her diplomatic defeat. The warning is not an unnecessary one. Japan at present is not in a position to speak out plainly to Russia, but there is not the slightest doubt that in a few years she can put herself in such shape that she may with safety attempt the feat of driving Russia out of Eastern Asia. When the proper time comes Russia will no doubt hear from Japan in a way she will not like. It is incredible that the Russ should have made the phenomenal mistake of creating an enemy in the Orient who may one day prove an ally of Great Britain in a contest for supremacy in Asia."

Several American journals persist in fomenting a sensation about what is called "the gold ring conspiracy." Last February the gold reserve in the Treasury had fallen to 44 million dollars, and the Government considered that the situation demanded a special step. They accordingly contracted with a syndicate—the Morgan-Rothschild Syndicate—to furnish 64 millions of gold in return for 4 per cent thirty-year bonds, which the Syndicate received at 103¾. These bonds are now selling at 121½, and there can be little doubt that the Treasury could have sold them at something between 112 and 120 had it placed them in the open market in February. The Syndicate, of course, made an enormous profit. It happened that the contract was negotiated by the President's former law-partner, and the connection is exploited for all that it is worth by Mr. Cleveland's enemies. The Syndicate also obtained a promise to receive any bonds issued by the Treasury before October next, and a belief is growing that, by clever financial manipulation, the Treasury will be again drained of its gold before that time, and compelled to resort to another issue of bonds, with similarly huge gains to the Syndicate.

The *Sun's* London correspondent cables, under date of May 11th :—

The impression is beginning to obtain in some quarters that a new grouping of the European Powers may be one of the results pending the solution of the Eastern problem. Japan will be in no hurry, now that the original treaty with China is ratified, to settle the points raised by Russia and her allies. The new triple alliance will therefore continue, at least in nominal existence, for some time.

The report has been allowed to circulate in Paris this week, with some show of authority, that France is to receive a reward for playing Russia's game in the far East in the shape of the Czar's active support in her demand for the English evacuation of Egypt. The French are very ready to believe this pleasing news. They point out that it is the most natural thing in the world for the Czar to retaliate thus to England's really antagonistic position as to the Japanese-Chinese affair. It is widely hinted, also, that France will find a way to give Russia valuable support if she chooses to reopen the question of the Pamirs, and further, that the whole African question will soon be taken vigorously in hand by Russia, France, and Germany in a decidedly anti-English spirit.

The most significant feature of this Parisian talk is the fact that it shows, for the moment at any rate, that the hatred of England is distinctly stronger than the dislike of the enemy across the Rhine. The political phenomenon of a Franco-German alliance, with Russia as a connecting link, cannot, of course, last long; but the fact that it has been made even tolerable to the French people by their overwhelming national antipathy toward perfidious Albion is a feature in the European situation which looms big with importance.

In America it is expected that considerable gain will accrue to the United States from the Treaty of Peace between Japan and China. We find the following telegram from Washington to a San Francisco paper :—

Large opportunities for the introduction of American machinery and the investment of American capital are offered by the peace agreement Japan has just effected with China. A provision is made that China shall hereafter be open to the introduction of all forms of modern machinery, and that such machinery shall be admitted free of duty.

American cotton machinery should benefit especially from the new opening presented, and also telephones, electric lights, printing presses, and many other devices of civilization which heretofore have been kept out of China.

The Emperor of China has heretofore prohibited the introduction of modern machinery. As a result the Chinese are using wooden ploughs similar to those used centuries ago here. Modern tools are included under the head of machinery and mechanical devices, so the American plough and other implements and tools will enter China free of duty.

It is stated that cotton machinery will be bought at once into extensive use, thus enlarging the demand for the raw cotton of the Southern States. The Chinese use so much cotton that the Emperor granted a monopoly of using cotton machinery to the Viceroy of the southern provinces of China. He has since produced large quantities, and has prevented the British and Americans at Shanghai and elsewhere from using similar machinery. Now, however, the Viceroy's monopoly is at an end, and American machinery is expected to be freely introduced there.

The privileges secured by Japan are enjoyed by the world at large, as the most favoured nations clause compels China to give other countries the same favours extended to Japan.

Mr. W. G. Smith, correspondent of the *San Francisco Chronicle*, concludes an interesting letter about the signing of the Treaty of Peace at Shimonoseki with these words :—

Since Japan, by dictating peace at the close a successful war, has become the first among independent Oriental powers, there has been a marked change in the tone of local English criticism. Hitherto the British papers of the far East have vied with each other in belittling and ridiculing the navy and the Goverment, but now that Japan can stand among the nations without taking off her hat the hostile journals roar as gently as a cooing dove. It is "great Japan" now where it was "little Japan" before. One British paper pathetically says that, "Had we been wise before the event we might be allies of Japan."

RAILWAY FREIGHTS NORTH AND SOUTH OF THE USUI PASS.

Practical illustrations are given by the *Nichi Nichi* of the difference existing in railway freights north and south of the Usui Pass on the Takasaki-Naoyetsu line. Formerly, when the Shinano and Echigo railway was completed as far as Nagano, with Naoyetsu, a port in Echigo, as the starting point, the latter place, being the only supplying depôt for Shinano, became the most flourishing town in Echigo, and indeed on the entire northern coast of Japan. But since the construction of the line over the Usui Pass and the completion of railway communication between Tokyo and Naoyetsu, the prosperity of the latter town has waned and Tokyo has encroached more and more upon the Shinshu market. The year before last the total amount of table salt supplied Shinano by Naoyetsu was over 350,000 bales, but last year it was only 200,000 bales, while, judging from the state of affairs thus far, the amount this year is not likely to exceed 150,000 bales. Again, about sixty or seventy thousand bales of beans used to be sent annually between the end of May and the middle of July from Naoyetsu to Shinano, for the purpose of fertilizing mulberry trees, but it is said that no order for the vegetable has yet been received this year. The supplies of other sorts of fertilizers that used to be sent from Hokkaido to Shinano *vid* Naoyetsu to the amount of 1,260,000 *kwamme* per annum have also fallen off during the last two or three years. It is not to be wondered at, therefore, that the merchants of Naoyetsu are striving to bring back the former prosperity of the place. The chief cause for the decline of that prosperity is the great difference between the railway freights on the section of the Tokyo-Naoyetsu line beyond the Pass, and that on this side of it. In the first place, there is no method of specially discounting freight on the trans-Usui line as there is on this side of the Pass. Consequently, supposing that one hundred *koku* of rice were to be sent from Karuizawa, which is about half-way between Tokyo and Naoyetsu, to both places, the freight to Tokyo would only be 19.80 *yen*, while that to Naoyetsu would be 46 *yen*. The difference is greater still in the freight for certain goods. It is natural, therefore, that the merchants of Naoyetsu have to give way to those in Tokyo.

Last year a merchant of Annaka, a town in Joshu not far the Usui Pass, purchased a large quantity of rice in Naoyetsu. On comparing the freights of land and sea transportation, he found that it would cost 7 *sen* a *koku* less to convey the staple to Tokyo from Naoyetsu by sea and then to consign it to the railway, than to send it by rail the whole way. This roundabout route of transportation is, therefore, now generally resorted to for large quantities of goods that do not require speedy conveyance.

Another serious inconvenience on the trans-Usui line is the insufficiency of luggage cars, there being only 20 at the Naoyetsu terminus. The merchants of Echigo are agitating for the removal of these defects on the section of the Tokyo-Naoyetsu line with which they are directly concerned, but they are not likely to find the task easy. The Railway Authorities have, doubtless, good reasons for the course they have taken.

THE DEFENCES OF OKINAWA.

Kelung, in Formosa, according to the vernacular press, is more than 700 nautical miles from Kyushu, and with the incorporation of that island into Japan's dominions, the defence of the Okinawa group that lies between, becomes a very important matter. The construction of a submarine cable, of lighthouses, and of a military harbour, is regarded by the public as requiring speedy attention. The first and second points are now being investigated by the Authorities, but considerable difference of opinion appears to exist with respect to the third. It is true that a good military harbour in the group is considered necessary, but the difficulty is the want of any place that can be used for the purpose. Nawa, where the Prefectural Office now stands, is situated about in the middle of the group, but it affords very poor shelter for ships. Oshima possesses better accomodation, but is only a short distance from Kagoshima, while the harbour of Fushu, in the Yayeyama group, also a good anchorage and an important place on account of the coal and sugar produced in the group, is not more than 90 leagues or so from Kelung. The construction of a good military harbour, conveniently located, cannot, therefore, be hoped for unless a large sum of money be expended. The Authorities are said to be inclined to think that the matter should be left till the prosperity of the Empire is such that a sufficient amount can be spared for the purpose.

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THE KYOTO EXHIBITION.

THE Kyoto Exhibition, though by no means the largest of its kind hitherto held in Japan, is the most commendable in one respect, namely, the comparative absence of works of art representing an erroneous conception of foreign taste. At every previous enterprise of the kind the discriminating section of the public were shocked by articles that bore to Japanese art the same relation as the overdressed and shameless *musume* of a Noge tea-house bears to the exquisitely polite and modest little waiting-maid of old Japan. Each alike is the outcome of a false interpretation of Western fancy. Happily, there have always been in Japan artists with sufficient insight to perceive that products of Japanese art derive their attractiveness not from any meretricious attempts to pander to plebeian love of gaud and elaboration, but from fidelity to genuine Japanese canons of taste. The products of these artists have the field almost entirely to themselves at the Kyoto Exhibition. There are, indeed—especially in the section of Kaga exhibits—a few examples of thoroughly bad art, but, on the whole, Japan is represented as Japan, not as a caterer to the lower grades of European taste.

The difficulty of finding materials for a general verdict as to the degree of progress indicated by the Exhibition, is greatly enhanced by the method of arrangement. Instead of dividing the specimens according to species, so that in one hall the visitor might be able to view the textile fabrics of the Empire, in another the porcelains, in another the bronzes, in another the works in metal, and so forth, each Prefecture or City has a separate space assigned to it, and is left free to group its exhibits at will within that area. Doubtless, something is gained by the spirit of local emulation thus excited, but the larger purpose of a national exhibition is sacrificed: an exhaustive synthesis of the country's industrial capacities is rendered almost impossible.

There can not be much question that Japan is greatest in the section of textile fabrics. Fifteen years ago, a competent critic's verdict with regard to her first industrial exhibition was that the textile exhibits showed a poverty of design inconsistent with previous records. No such comment is possible now. Days might be spent, pleasantly and profitally, examining the myriads of admirable designs woven, worked, printed, or fixed by other processes on the textile fabrics at Kyoto. It is not a decadence of the old designing faculty that we have to note, but an extraordinary development. That the products of Japanese looms will one day occupy a prominent place in all the great markets of Europe and America, no intelligent observer can doubt. They are already finding their way to America in considerable quantities. A tariff intended to be prohibitive can not counterbalance the advantages of the cheapest skilled labour and almost the greatest wealth of artistic conception in the world. We observe that the Kyoto artisans still devote considerable attention to cut velvets. The results, as shown at the Exhibition, are very wonderful and attractive. But they are mere *tours de force*. Cut velvet has no use except for decorative purposes, and even in that field its applications are very limited. So little is known to the general public about this interesting fabic that we quote an account of it from a brochure just published, in connection with the Kyoto Exhibition:—

Yusen-birodo, better known as cut velvet, is one of the most remarkable fabrics of modern Kyoto. As yet the staff of cutting artists that have reached a really expert grade is small. Perhaps the best way to appreciate the immense interval between the elaborateness of the result attained and the extreme simplicity of the cutting process is to visit the cutters and watch them as they work, for although the velvet has undergone many processes before it passes into their hands, it is to their knives that it owes its ultimate charm. Among the best known of these cutters are Asada Bunshichi and his two sons. They live in a house of the most modest dimensions and character, opening on to the street, and they work at a bench of about the quality of a cook's pastry-board. They have only one tool, a small, sharp chisel, the edge at an acute angle to the back so as to give a point. This chisel is passed into an iron pencil, having at the end guards between which the point of the chisel projects, it being thus impossible for the user to cut beyond a certain depth. He has no other tool of any kind. The velvet comes to him finished so far as the limning and dyeing of the design are concerned. It has already been subjected to the *yusen* process and has received a coloured picture permanently fixed. The wires, however, have not yet been drawn out. It is, in fact, velvet without a nap; or velvet that has been subjected to all the usual processes of manufacture except the cutting of the thread along each wire and the withdrawal of the wire. The cutting artist takes the piece of velvet thus far finished, and laying it before him on a wooden bench, proceeds to carve into the pattern with his chisel, just as though he were shading the lines of the design with a steel pencil. There is a limit of necessity to the depth of his cutting, for he must never injure the fine wires woven into the velvet. Did the point of his sharp tool weaken one of these wires at any place, the subsequent extraction of the wire would become difficult, if not impossible. Within that limit he cuts to all degrees of depth. When the pattern is lightly traced, he uses his knife delicately. When the lines are strong and the shadows heavy, he makes the point pierce deeply. In short, the sharp little chisel becomes in his deft fingers a painter's brush. It is as though he reproduced by cutting a picture already depicted by the brushes of the artist and the dyer. When we remember that the basis upon which he works is simply a thread of silk, and that his hand must be trained to such delicacy of muscular effort as to be capable of arresting the edge of his knife at varying depths within the diameter of the tiny filament, the achievement seems truly marvellous. Of course such painstaking and tedious manipulation is not employed in every case. Many specimens of *Yusen-birodo*, beautiful enough, though not of the highest quality, have no pictures chiselled in the nap. In manufacturing them, it has been thought sufficient to throw certain portions of the design into soft relief by the comparatively simple process of cutting the silk threads right down to the wire, and thus producing the ordinary velvet nap. The finer the specimen the more painstaking the process. Of many of the more exquisite pieces shown in the rooms of Nishimura, it may truly be said that upon a field not thicker than a thread of silk the cutter has engraved a design, putting in the chiaroscuro and marking the relative distance of objects almost as faithfully as though he were working with brushes of varying sizes and colours of graded tones. Of course, it will be understood that the edge of the cutting tool is never allowed to trespass upon a line which the design require to be solid. The veining of a cherry petal, for example, the tesselation of a carp's scales, the serration of a leaf's edge—all these lines would remain intact, spared by the cutter's tool, while the leaf itself, or the petal or the scales of the fish, would have the threads forming them cut so as to show the familiar velvet nap, and to appear in soft low relief. Charming and admirably realistic effects are obtained, but the process is infinitely laborious. A manufacture demanding such immense expenditure of time, toil, patience, eyesight, and artistic ability is possible in Japan alone. Even in Japan there are very few skilled cutters: probably not more than five in the whole empire. In Kyoto, indeed, tradesmen affirm that with the exception of Asada and his eldest son, whose study of painting has given him special art facility, no cutter can be trusted with first-class work. Cutting horizontally or vertically, that is to say, directly along or directly across the wires, is comparatively easy, but to cut diagonally and at the same time to preserve firmness and delicacy of touch, tests the skill of the most expert. It has been stated that the lives of persons thus employed are very short owing to the deleterious results of inhaling the particles of cut velvet. No basis appears to exist for the theory. In the first place, the art has not been practised long enough to test its effect upon the life of any one; and in the second, the process does not shred off any portions of the silk thread. Were the knife applied so as to cut away the thread altogether, a crude and comparatively poor result would be obtained. The most that is done is to open the threads forming a rib of the velvet so that their released ends become the nap. In cases where a slip of gold foil is laid under each wire, and left in position after the wire is withdrawn, the cutting tool is used with freedom in some parts of the design, so that the gold gleams through the severed thread, producing a beautifully rich and suggestive effect. Gold thus used plays the part performed by certain colours in brocaded silk: the light striking it at various angles produces varied degrees of sheen. Viewed in some positions, the gold does not show as gold, though its presence produces an undefinable impression of richness. Under other aspects its full glow is plainly seen; while occasionally it merely peeps out from the pattern like an accidental sparkle. Velvet, however, is not capable of being made the basis for pictures so elaborate and microscopically accurate as those produced by the *Yusen* process on silk crape or *habutaye*. The richly toned yet soft plumage of birds or the magnificent variety of colours in a bunch of peonies, chrysanthemums, and so forth, can not be obtained with fidelity on the ribbed surface of velvet. The artist is obliged to select subjects of severer type; as a landscape in sepia with a few touches of colour; a school of swimming carp; a clump of bamboos or autumn grasses, and so forth. Peacocks, mandarin ducks, and such things are attempted occasionally but without marked effect.

We need scarcely speak of the cloisonné enamels. These are essentially a product of the *Meiji* era. Their manufacture has now attained a standard of truly remarkable excellence. Kyoto and Tokyo have both been deposed from their pride of place by Nagoya. Monochromes of the most exquisite delicacy and richness dispute the palm with specimens showing decoration not less perfect from a technical, than from an artistic, point of view. When we remember how poor, sombre, insignificant, and defective were the Japanese cloisonné enamels of pre-Restoration days, it is almost startling to observe the splendid skill that has now been developed. Such colours as are shown at the Kyoto Exhibition have never been excelled—we question whether they have ever been equalled—in the art products of any country. Not more than half a dozen years have elapsed since a well known English collector directed the attention of Japanese enamel-workers to monochromatic effects by offering an unlimited sum for a pair of canary-yellow vases. Within that brief interval the production of monochromes has attained

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heights of beauty and excellence such as the most sanguine could not have looked for in three times the period. Every note in the scale of noble or delicate colours is struck with fidelity, and now a new vista of shading and toning begins to unfold. We can not attempt to conjecture the limits to which this art will be carried by Japanese patience and skill, but it already stands on an eminence far above expectation. Lately a new variety was added in the form of transparent enamel on a silver ground (*gin-suki-jippo*). As yet tiny objects alone are produced in this class. They are very beautiful. The silver base has a wealth of incised decoration which shows through the transparent enamel with charming softness. Great prices are asked for these enamels. Their producers apparently ignore the fact that work of a similar and not inferior kind is done in Russia.

The exhibits in bronze, iron, silver, lacquer, and wood carving call for no special comment. In every one of these branches the best skill ever developed in Japan is to-day equalled and even surpassed. One can scarcely conceive a higher grade of work in lacquer than that of the TOKUGAWA times. Yet the same level is unquestionably reached at present. It would be extravagant to suppose, too, that in the days when armour and sword furniture were of all objects the most valuable in Japan, workers in metal did not, in some respects, surpass the efforts of an age when the chisel and the graving tool find employment in the field of decorative art only. We can not hope to see finer chiselling than that of the sword-guards, dagger handles, breast-plates, and helmets of feudal times. But other efforts, some of them scarcely thought of then, are now achieved with wonderful success. Speaking generally, it is safe to say that the Japanese artist of the present era is as great as he ever was in all the lines enumerated here. Even the marvellous articulated reptiles, crustacea, and birds of the MIYOCHIN family are re-produced now as faithfully as ever, and are often purchased, we may add, by collectors labouring under the false impression that no such work can now be done in Japan, and that consequently all fine examples of it must be old. Men that attach to a specimen merely because of its age greater value than to an equally perfect product of modern skill, deserve to be victimized by unscrupulous dealers.

It is, perhaps, in Keramics that Japan may be said to have made her most remarkable strides of late years, for this was precisely the branch of art that seemed to have eluded her mastery in the early days of the *Meiji* era. She has now at least half a dozen experts—SEIFU, KOZAN, TAKEMOTO, HIGUCHI, HANSUKE, and MASAKICHI—whose technical skill exceeds that of any of their predecessors, and who have, moreover, made thoroughly successful excursions into domains hitherto supposed to be entirely out of reach. Even the Chinese potters of the *Yungching* era did not excel SEIFU in the production of monochromatic porcelains, and the best "laced *céladons*" of the *Tsing* dynasty are not finer than his. Add to this that the vitrifiable enamels of his "jewelled" porcelains are as lustrous, as rich in colour and as faultlessly applied as were these of the *Kanghsi* keramists, and that his ivory white stands on a higher plane than even the celebrated *Ming chen-yao*, and it will be seen that Japan possesses in him an artist of whom she may well be proud. If—as will one day be the case we do not doubt—SEIFU could apply his monochromatic glazes and jewelled decoration to egg-shell *pâte*, he would be the first keramist in all the world. Of KOZAN and TAKEMOTO we have so often spoken that nothing need be added here, especially since they have neglected to send any really representative specimens to the Exhibition. HIGUCHI has some grand examples of "grains-of-rice" decoration—"fire-fly pattern," as the Japanese call it—whose very high prices indicate the difficulty of producing them, and the porcelains of Seto have suddenly branched out into a new direction in the hands of HANSUKE and MASAKICHI. In the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries, KATO SHIROZAYEMON and his five successors made Seto prēeminent among all Japanese potteries by their remarkable glazes, chesnut red, russet brown, honey yellow, buff, claret, and so forth. But the objects produced in those days were insignificant—miniature tea-jars, cups and other tiny utensils for the tea club. The Seto kilns then turned out faience only. Working among mountains of Kaolin, the potters were nevertheless unable to make translucid porcelain, nor did they obtain a knowledge of that branch of their art until the beginning of the present century. Thenceforth they devoted themselves chiefly to decoration with blue under the glaze, neglecting the polychrome glazes for which their early predecessors had been famous. Now, however, HANSUKE and MASAKICHI have revived this kind of work with remarkable success. They exhibit at Kyoto some polychromatic glazes, admirable in tone and technique. We doubt, however, whether such work will ever attain great distinction; it has rivals of high excellence in both England and America. But Seto contributes also some egg-shell porcelains even finer than the celebrated *Yung-lo* "bodiless bowls," and side by side with these we find excellent reproductions of *Kanghsi* "hair-line" decoration, and "liquid-dawn" tinging. In a word, the potters of modern Japan stand head and shoulders above their predecessors. Familiarity with the best products of Chinese kilns and the generally progressive spirit of the time have inspired efforts such as could not have been anticipated by the most hopeful a dozen years ago.

The only section of the Exhibition unredeemed by any evidence of present talent or even promise of future, is the picture gallery. It is an old truism that painting must be in touch with the spirit of the time. Japanese pictorial art entirely lacks that essential affinity. Its students seem to drift farther and farther from the inspiration of their predecessors, while, at the same time, tradition and conventionalism limit them to subjects with which the era has little in common. Amid a multitude of worthless daubs shown at the Exhibition, pictures of merit are not even numerous enough to constitute a feature. The oil paintings seem more hopeful. Two or three show distinct technical progress, and several deal with subjects finely conceived and well calculated to enlist public sympathy and interest. But a very long interval still seems to separate Japan's painters in oils from any achievement that would command admiration in Europe or America. It is easy to see why this should be, but we have discussed the matter before and need not revert to it here. As for the old school, the typical Japanese school, it unquestionably has still a few, a very few, excellent exponents. They are not represented at the Kyoto Exhibition, however, so far as we could see.

FRIENDLY WARNING.

THE fiction that Japan received due warning from the Three Powers of their intention to interfere should she include the cession of any part of the Asiatic mainland in her terms of peace, continues to be offered for public credence by a section of the press. The *Cologne Gazette*, for example, after claiming that, at the outset, "the German Government emphatically and successfully opposed the attempts of foreign Powers to interfere prematurely in the struggle," goes on to say that, being aware of "the endeavours made by the Japanese radical war party to drive the Japanese Government from the moderate course it was pursuing into a path which might lead to the violation of important European interests and thereby to a deterioration of the friendly relations between Japan and the European Powers, the German Government, at the beginning of March, instructed its Minister in Tokyo to recommend to the Japanese Government a policy of moderation in drawing up the conditions of peace, adding that the demand for a cession of territory on the continent would, in the eyes of Germany, be particularly calculated to provoke an intervention of European Powers." The *Cologne Gazette* then proceeds thus:—

"When a few weeks later, the first news as to the conditions of peace seemed to point to the fact that

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the Japanese Government had paid less attention to this friendly advice than to the importunity of the party of action, the first steps were taken towards bringing about an understanding on this subject between the European Powers. A complete agreement of opinion between Germany and Russia was obtained, and as the co-operation of France is also secured, these three Powers will take diplomatic action in common for guarding their interests in Eastern Asia.

Let us accept this version as it stands, and consider exactly what it signifies. In the first place, the German semi-official organ represents Germany as having, from the outset, "emphatically and successfully opposed the attempts of foreign Powers to interfere prematurely in the struggle." It claims, in short, that Germany acted as a kind of keeper of the lists so as to ensure to the belligerents a fair trial of strength, thus enabling Japan to pursue her victorious career without alien interruption. Such was Germany's rôle up to the early days of March. Then this Power, hitherto distinguished by its attitude of friendly non-interference, suddenly became apprehensive lest the war party in Japan might drive the Cabinet beyond the bounds of prudence. Accordingly, the German Minister in Tokyo was "instructed to recommend to the Japanese Government a policy of moderation in drawing up the conditions of peace," and to add that "the demand for a cession of territory on the continent would, in the eyes of Germany, be particularly calculated to provoke an intervention of European Powers." It is well to understand exactly the situation as it existed at this stage, according to the *Cologne Gazette*. Let us put the case into a more concrete form. A and B are engaged in a struggle. C stands by, "emphatically and successfully" holding back several other letters of the alphabet that are inclined to interfere before the drubbing administered by A to B is completed. A gets B down and is about to despoil him, when C says:—"You had better not take any part of B's coat, for, if you do, I am persuaded that some of those meddlesome letters will combine to preserve the integrity of that garment on B's behalf." What interpretation would A put upon such a warning? Could he, by any stretch of imagination, translate it to mean that if he meddled with B's coat, C would not only cease to keep the lists, but would actually collect a party of the other letters and act as their leader in a combined attempt to take back B's garment from the victorious A? To anticipate such a contingency, A would require a singularly elastic imagination. Were he accustomed to measure events by any ordinary standard of perspicacity, and to look for some consistency in the procedure of responsible persons, he could never construe C's warning as an indication that C himself intended, in the given contingency, to abandon the rôle of a friendly neutral and assume that of an active interferer. He would necessarily regard the intimation simply as a well disposed hint that unpleasant combinations might be formed by outsiders unless he displayed moderation in the matter of the coat. Such, we may be assured, was the interpretation put by Japan upon the warning addressed to her by Germany early in March. We now proceed to the next chapter of the story as related by the *Cologne Gazette*. A few weeks later, Japan's conditions of peace having been conveyed to the European Powers, Germany discovered that her counsels of moderation lest other Powers should interfere, had not been observed, and that a portion of Manchuria was included in the territory demanded from China by Japan. What did the Cabinet in Berlin do then, according to the *Cologne Gazette?* It proceeded to organize the very combination against which, as a friendly outsider, it had warned Japan. We are not speaking from our own knowledge. We are simply following the *Cologne Gazette*. There is no possibility of misunderstanding that journal's statements. When Germany, we are told, found that attention had not been paid to her "friendly advice," "the first steps were taken towards bringing about an understanding on this subject between the European Powers." No such understanding, we are led to conclude, had existed previously. The "first steps" were then taken to bring it about. They were successful steps. "A complete agreement of opinion was obtained between Germany and Russia, and the cöoperation of France having been also secured, the three Powers took diplomatic action for guarding their interests in Asia." Germany, therefore, was the head and front of the whole affair. Up to a certain point she held the other Powers in check. Then she gave to Japan a friendly warning, bearing only one rational construction, namely, that of a warning against a possible combination in which Germany herself would take no part. Then she proceeded to organize the combination, and to direct its irresistible strength against Japan.

All this seems to us curious enough as an evidence of amicable intention. But we are further asked to believe that, under the circumstances related by the *Cologne Gazette*, Japan is bound to admit the sufficiency of the warning given to her. What was the warning, and when was its given? It was an intimation "that a demand for a cession of territory on the continent would, in the eyes of Germany, be particularly calculated to provoke an intervention of European Powers," and it was given before any Powers had formed a combination to intervene. Why did neither Germany, Russia, nor France convey to Japan a syllable of intimation after they had entered into an agreement to combine? Japan's terms of peace, as originally formulated, were known to Europe on April 6th. The modified terms, as accepted by China, were known a few days later. The Treaty was signed on April 17th and ratified by the Emperor of JAPAN on April 20th. During all that time not a syllable was breathed about a European coalition for the purpose of dictating to Japan a material change of terms. The Japanese Representatives in Berlin, in St. Petersburg, and in Paris were carefully excluded from the slightest knowledge of what was going forward. Early in March, that is to say, a month before any coalition existed in Europe, Japan received a "friendly hint" that certain procedure on her part would be likely to provoke European intervention, but after that she was kept entirely in the dark. Not even from the Power that had originally conveyed the "friendly hint" and was now engaged in preparing the very embarrassment against which it had warned Japan, did she obtain the slightest intimation of what was impending. Of course Japan has no right to prefer a complaint on that score. She must keep her eyes open on her own account. If she fail to discover the contingencies threatening her, she must accept the consequences. But as a chapter of contemporary history the facts are worthy of note, especially when an attempt is made to construe them in a manner opposed to the truth. The plain truth is that, before any combination existed, Japan received a warning that it might possibly come into existence; that the warning was given by a Power whose action precluded all hypothesis of its own association with the combination; that the combination was subsequently organized by that very Power, and that after its organization not a syllable was breathed to Japan by any of the Powers concerned until the Treaty had been concluded and ratified. If that can be called due or sufficient notice, the language of international relations must be something not contained in any lexicon.

Another question calls for a few words. What right had Germany to play the part described by the *Cologne Gazette?* What principle can be advanced in support of her action? Had she any interests at stake that entitled her to organize and lead a coalition of European Powers for the purpose of intervening between China and Japan? The *Cologne Gazette* attempts to furnish an explanation. Here it is:—

In the first place, the territorial changes are under consideration, partly because the economic terms are not sufficiently known, and partly because it is assumed that the establishment of Japan in important parts of the continent—above all, the possession of a portion of the Liaotung peninsula and the occupation of Weihaiwei as guarantee for the payment of the war indemnity—would constitute a political preponderance of Japan over China, and would exercise a determining influence on the development of China's economic condition, and of the sway of Japan in that country. From this it is concluded that Japan is endeavouring to post itself as a sentry, as it were, before all the chief import routes of China. As Japan commands, by Port Arthur and Weihaiwei, the approach to the Yellow Sea, and, by Formosa and the Pescadores, the chief commercial

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route to China, it is taken to be desirous of encircling it with a firm girdle, in order, if necessary, to seclude it completely from the outer world. The European Powers, therefore, wish to ward off in time any steps prejudicial to their interests. The Japanese Government has hitherto, in its military action, shown that it possesses calm reflection and a true appreciation of what is attainable, so that the hope is justified that in her diplomatic policy she will take care that the bow be not overstrung. Germany, in particular, will always be glad to see Japan in the full enjoyment of the well-earned fruits of military ability, whilst expecting that these successes will not lead to a violation of German interests.

Can any of our readers discover a grain of substantial reasoning in this remarkable assemblage of words? We can not. The only fact we can find is that Germany suspected Japan of a design to obtain command of the commercial routes to China "in order, if necessary, to seclude it completely from the outer world." Here are two Eastern empires, one liberal, progressive, wedded to Western civilization, and pledged to throw open every part of its territories to the trade of all the world; the other conservative, stagnant, bitterly hostile to everything foreign, and anxious to keep its dominions hermetically sealed to Western intercourse in every form. Yet, when there is a prospect of the former's obtaining a situation of command over the latter, the German Government is represented as apprehending that the result may be the second empire's complete seculsion from the outer world! In short, Germany organized and headed a combination of European Powers in order to save China from the anti-progressive and seclusive influence of Japan! Such is the farcical justification that men of common sense are asked to accept. And even that does not cover the whole ground. For it must be remembered that in the very Treaty whose territorial clauses induced Germany to interfere, there were inserted several other clauses providing for the opening of additional Chinese ports to the commerce of the world, and the granting of additional privileges to Western merchants. Thus, despite the strongest practical evidence that Japan's desire was to employ her victory as a means of breaking down Chinese exclusiveness, Germany is represented as fearing that her victory might be made the means of "secluding China completely from the outer world." Germany, the Germany of our time, commands the respect of all nations. She is the type of highly organized strength and splendidly systemized resources. We take it to be miserably unbecoming that plainly deceptive and grotesque excuses should be formulated in defence of the action of such an empire. Let us rather frankly acknowledge that considerations of European policy induced the statesmen of Berlin to take the step here discussed. The East is nothing to Germany: the West is everything. That she should sacrifice the former to the latter is natural. It is not pleasant for Japan to find herself the football of European politics, but it is, perhaps, less insulting than to be told that her seclusive and conservative influence constitutes a menace to the progress of China.

As Englishmen we are interested in learning that the German Government "emphatically and successfully opposed the attempts of foreign Powers to interfere prematurely in the struggle" between China and Japan. We must be allowed to observe, however, that the spectacle of Germany's "emphatically and successfully" controlling Great Britain's procedure in the East will require a great deal of rehearsal before the world can be induced to regard it seriously.

FORMOSA AND THE SUGAR INDUSTRY.

HONGKONG is naturally much interested about the probable effect that Japan's occupation of Formosa will exercise upon the sugar-refining industry of the colony. The *Daily Press* has an article upon the subject, from which we learn that the China Sugar Refining Company was formed in 1878 with a capital of six hundred thousand dollars which has since been increased to two millions. During the first six years of its existence the Company paid dividends varying from 8 to 12 per cent., but in 1884-5 its prosperity diminished, and its dividend fell from 4 to cipher. In 1886, however, it entered upon a new period of success, the dividend never falling below 11 per cent., except in 1890, when it was 9. Twice it rose to very abnormal figures, namely, 19 per cent. in 1890 and 25 in 1889. Of course such prosperity provoked competition. Another company was organized, and despite gloomy forebodings as to the insufficiency of the market to support two concerns, both proved excellently remunerative enterprises. Having passed safely through a crisis of keen competition at its very doors, the China Company, according to our colonial contemporary's view, need not be greatly concerned about the results of Japanese competition in Formosa, especially as the organization of the Formosan enterprise will require some years. There can be little doubt, however, that the Japanese market will be lost to Hongkong, and the Japanese market is an important factor. Last year the value of the white sugar sent from the Hongkong refineries to this empire was 8¼ million *yen* in round numbers. So far as concerns the cost of labour, there is little to choose, as the *Hongkong Daily Press* points out, between refineries started under Japanese auspices in Formosa and refineries conducted under British auspices in Hongkong. But the Formosan refineries will have their material on the spot, whereas Hongkong has to incur the expense of importing the cane from Formosa; and, moreover, sugar sent from Formosa to Japan will be exempt from the import duty of 20 per cent. leviable upon sugar exported from Hongkong under the new tariff. It is evident, therefore, that the Japanese manufacturers in Formosa will possess advantages sufficient to secure to them the command of the home markets. Even under such circumstances, however, the *Daily Press* does not anticipate any serious decadence in the prosperity of the Hongkong refineries. It looks to the Chinese markets for compensation. In 1884 Hongkong sold only 440,784 Tls. worth of sugar to the Chinese, whereas in 1894 it sold 7,428,635 Tls. worth, and there is no reason to anticipate that the development indicated by these figures will cease. We trust that the forecast may prove correct, but it has to be remembered that in the Chinese markets also Hongkong sugar will have to encounter Japanese competition and that improved conditions of cultivation in Formosa may materially assist the Japanese industry.

We may add that the total foreign trade of Formosa for 1894 was 12,895,779 Tls., and the total duties collected amounted to 1,033,902 Tls. Nominally there are four ports open to foreign trade, but of these Keelung and Tamsui are practically one, and the trade of Takow is done entirely at Tainan. Thus, in effect, there are only two open ports, Tamsui in the north and Tainan on the south-west, the harbour of the latter being Anping, where the Custom house stands.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[Our readers must distinctly understand that we are in no sence responsible for the sentients or opinions of our correspondents, for the accuracy of their assertions, or for the deductions they may choose to draw therefrom.]

SYMPATHY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—The Japanese nation will never know how solicitous every man, woman, and child in America is about the peace settlements with China. Japan won a great victory after a magnificent campaign. America has been with her every moment. The result of each day's battles have been cabled to 44,000 daily newspapers.

In the final settlement Americans cannot help showing deep feeling. By the law of nations and according to all previous wars Japan was entitled to Weihaiwei, Port Arthur, and Liaotung, as much as Germany was entitled to Alsace, Lorraine, and Metz. Americans feel this. We know great Powers have shown might but not right and our people are burning with indignation.

Still Japan is wise. It were better to take what she can get now and abide her time for justice.

We hoped Japan would have Manchuria and its capital, Mukden, and be able to plant civilization on the mainland of China.

American feeling is so strong for Japan that an alliance with her for defense of mutual rights would be popular for either of the leading political parties.

Yours truly,

MELVILLE D. LANDON.
"Eli Perkins."

New York, May 10th, 1895.

The Chinese Government has just received from the Schichau works at Elbing a number of ocean-going torpedo-boats, which were ordered some time ago but could not be delivered on account of the war. On the trips an average of 24·4 knots and a maximum speed of 24·7 was attained. As a speed of only 23 knots had been contracted for the vessels have given great satisfaction. They will sail for the East shortly.

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CRICKET.

SETTLEMENT VERSUS BLUFF GARDENS AND TOKYO.

A glance at the scores given below will show that Saturday was a bowler's day, only three bats out of the twenty-four getting into double figures. The heavy rain of the previous night, combined with a baking sun from nine o'clock onwards, made the wicket very sticky, though towards the close of the afternoon things improved in this respect. The Settlement went in first and were disposed of, shortly before four o'clock, for 76 runs, the only decent scorer among them being Bugbird, who carried out his bat for 36. The Bluff representatives opened badly, Dr. Wheeler being dismissed without making a run, the ball, which broke badly, glancing from his chest on to the wickets. Walford made a good stand, and compiled the best score of the day, 43, before being bowled by Johnson. Tyng, junior, had just brought the side's total level with their opponents, when Drummond made a fortunate catch, off Lias, and the game concluded, 76 all. Scores:—

SETTLEMENT TWELVE.

Mr. E. O. Kenyon, b. Philip	0
Mr. Johnson, c. Walford, b. Philip	8
Mr. K. F. Crawford, b. Philip	8
Mr. F. J. Lias, b. Walford	0
Mr. E. I. Libeaud, c. Tyng, jun. b. Walford ...	3
Mr. F. H. Hooper, l.b.w., b. Walford	2
Mr. F. R. Bugbird, not out	36
Mr. A. Kingdon, c. Garfit, b. Philip	2
Mr. G. Allcock, b. Walford	3
Mr. G. Braess, b. Philip	4
Mr. E. Irwine, c. Pulford b. Walford	0
Mr. F. Drummond, c. and b. Walford	5
Extras	6
Total	76

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

	B.	R.	M.	W.	WIDES.
Mr. Walford	105	27	8	4	0
Mr. Philip	108	37	4	6	1
Mr. Pulford	20	6	0	1	0

BLUFF GARDENS, ETC., TWELVE.

Dr. Wheeler, b. Lias	0
Rev. L. J. Tyng, b. Braess	3
Mr. T. G. Healing, b. Lias	0
Mr. A. B. Walford, b. Johnson	43
Dr. Todd, c. and b. Braess	1
Mr. A. S. Garfit, b. Lias	0
Mr. G. Philip, c. and b. Braess	2
Mr. J. Dodds, c. Kingdon, b. Lias	8
Mr. L. Pulford, c. and b. Johnson	10
Mr. N. Walter, run out	0
Mr. T. Tyng, jun. c., Drummond, b. Lias	2
Mr. G. Summers, not out	0
Extras	15
Total	76

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

	B.	R.	M.	W.	WIDES.
Mr. Braess	60	10	6	3	0
Mr. Lias	92	41	4	6	0
Mr. Johnson	35	14	0	2	2

LETTER FROM WASHINGTON.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

Washington, D.C., April 30, 1895.

A wedding of international interest has just taken place in Washington, the union of the Hon. George N. Curzon, M.P., of England, and Miss Leiter of this city. The gentleman's name figured in some popular ballad during his Oxford undergraduate days as

I am George Nathaniel Curzon:
And a very superior person.

His manners impressed some of the reporters as entirely in keeping with the spirit of this couplet, the other daily accounts represented him as not stuck-up. The lady is a daughter of a wealthy Chicago merchant, who has been living here for several years past in what was described as the finest private house in the Capital. The marriage filled columns of the daily papers for two or three days, and any one who waded through the stuff could find the most minute biography of the pair for nearly a week, what they wore, what it cost, how many times they smiled, how often they shook hands with others, who were invited to the Church, who to the refreshments, who stood on the streets, and how many smelling bottles were received as presents. Undoubtedly there is flunkydom in the midst of our republican simplicity, else such details would not be published.

The jingo element in this country has been in a flutter for some months, first over Hawaii, then the Cuban rebellion, and now the Nicaraguan difficulty with Great Britain. A short time ago this little Central American republic was guilty of aggressions against England, she seized the property and imprisoned the persons of some English citizens, and unceremoniously bounced the British Consul out of her borders. England acting on principles of diplomacy demanded an indemnity of some $75,000 and finally delivered an ultimatum that unless her claim was satisfied in three days she would forcibly collect the sum from the Nicaraguan customs. [illegible] come to time, and two days ago on the expiration of the limit, Corinto, the chief port of entry for Nicaragua, was occupied by British marines and all import dues will be paid to the English Admiral. Some wild vapourings have been indulged in by politicians and papers that are always ready to vaunt their *patriotism*, and cutting criticisms of the administration have been uttered, but there seems to be a clear and even a cordial agreement between President Cleveland and Lord Rosebery that the Monroe Doctrine shall not be violated. Under all the bombardment of Republican and lukewarm Democratic journals, and congressmen hostile to the present policy, our State Department remains serene and secretive. It is certain that Mr. Cleveland would be firm against the permanent possession of a foot of Nicaraguan soil by England, and it is equally certain that England has shown no desire for an inch.

The most curious thing about jingoism with us is the home of its chief exponents. Forty years ago when Slavocracy wanted more soil for its "peculiar institution" to expand upon, some leading Southern politicians issued the Ostend manifesto declaring it was for the interest of the United States to acquire Cuba. This open avowal of robbery pained New England piety to the core, and yet to-day the same shameless sentiments of plunder are uttered by Senators Lodge and Frye, both representing that Godly section. The latter is especially frank in his game of spoliation. He declares that we must have Cuba, and also the Bermudas, and any other islands in the upper Atlantic or Northern Pacific that we may take a fancy to. Senator Lodge was very hopeful that Spain would insult us in some way so that we could get an excuse to plant the stars and stripes on Cuba, that tropical garden spot. This is the Puritan in the cold North. Away down in the genial South he finds his brother of the same bullying notions. Senator Morgan, of Alabama, is always seeing some dire monster in the shape of English cupidity and lust, ready to swoop down on America and pluck out our very eyes.

But these foreign questions fill but a small part of public thought now: we are engaged chiefly with our own affairs. The financial problem will be the chief issue before us until it is settled by the general election next year. A few day since President Cleveland in a letter to a committee of business men from Chicago, laid down the lines for the fight that will end only at the poll in the Fall of 1896. The struggle as he says is between sound money and silver monometallism. There can be but one issue to this contest; the American people have always finally declared for sound money and they will do so again. It does not appear clear now which of the great political parties will have this victory or whether a new one will cut out both the old ones. The peculiar position of Mr. Cleveland adds to the perplexity of foreseeing. He is now the dominant personality in our politics, aside from his high place, and the greatest representative of sound money men, regardless of party ties. It is not known whether he would accept another nomination; shrewd politicians charge him with laying plans to get it, and besides he would have to combat the prejudice against third times. Again, he is not in accord with large numbers of Democrats who have always loyally supported him. In fact from surface indications, about half of his party would refuse to follow him on any question. Whether these can be reasoned into the ranks again, or whether Mr. Cleveland can draw sound money admirers from the Republican camp to take their place are matters of speculation. Still more troublesome is it to reconcile our guesses with the conviction that a stable currency must win, and that the logic of the situation points out Mr. Cleveland as the standard-bearer.

It is evidently a matter of sincere regret to all true friends of bimetallism that this issue has been forced to the front at this juncture. Our pride, our main tradal interests, our chief commercial connections, all steel us against a silver basis, and it is solemnly asserted by all our best financiers that we cannot alone maintain the two metals at any fixed ratio. We must get at least England to help us bear the burden, and of that there seems at the present no hope. If free silver is defeated next year, and it is sure to be unless some international agreement can be reached beforehand, the double standard move will receive the most serious check it has ever received, and the final day of success will be put so much farther into the future. If we would only wait for the material development of Asia, especially China, then the two great divisions of the earth must come to an understanding as to the unit of value, so as to bridge over the gulf of gambling between the East and the West which merchandise now has to cross, often at fatal risk. There is no reason to believe that either side will change its standard. The [illegible] two-thirds of the world are just as attached to their gold. Besides, with the present financial system, neither metal is sufficient to supply the world's needs; this is indisputable. With the two camps coming nearer yearly, and the volume of traffic and intercourse leaping up by bounds, some fixed yoke of exchange must be hit upon. If only the American worshippers of their white mistress would curb their fever for a time, their shining goddess would all the sooner be restored to the pedestal from which they claim she was stricken in 1873. But once stamped with the zeal of decisive defeat, silver will be shunned by practical America, and propositions and overtures for rehabilitation will knock all the longer for courteous recognition.

But to turn from politics to industry, the real factor in our progress. One of the street railways here is making a million dollar experiment with an underground system of electrical propulsion for their cars. It is a modification of the Buda-Pesth system, but experts are not agreed as to its adaptability to the numerous short and sharp curves and steep grades on the line here. On account of these conditions it was feared that a cable would require too many expensive repairs, but the company very shrewdly chose a plan that allows them to try either method. The conduit between the tracks is equally applicable for a metal rope or electric wire. If this venture with the subtle current gives satisfaction, then the other horse lines in Washington will hasten to do the same. The overhead trolley is forbidden by law in the city limits on account of the unsightly poles and danger from broken wires.

Electricity has become a grave competitor with steam on the regular railroads. Over a year ago a charter was obtained for an electric road from here to Baltimore, and there was prospect that the enterprise would be pushed through in a few months. Nothing further has been done, because, it is said, the two railroads made arrangements to string wire alongside, and run light electric cars on their regular tracks, and charge as low fare as their rival could. The most serious competition has been felt in thickly settled portions, as Massachusetts and Connecticut. Railroad officers report a falling-off of as much as fifty per cent. at some stations. Here in the suburbs of Washington there has not been much effect seen on the bulk of railroad traffic, though this may be changed when people get more accustomed to the silent fluid.

American push and energy have received another flattering testimonial in entering European markets. The English manufacturers were almost struck dumb when it was discovered that Yankee clothes and shoes had actually undersold corresponding English grades in English towns. A few days since a New York paper had an interview with an expert globe trotting drummer, and he was enthusiastic over our prospects for invading foreign fields with our manufactured products. We already have a large part of the Canadian custom, and we are stretching out to Europe in a small way at first, but rapidly growing. We are shouldering out low priced labour with our high paid workman, because we make such enormous use of machinery. At first German hand-made barbed wire could undersell ours, but we invented a machine, and now we have almost the world's trade in this article. The same thing practically happened with cut wire nails. I myself have noticed this tendency to machines in a small way here in Washington. The Chinese here still have a large part of the laundry-work in their hands, charging two cents each for collars, and for other things on the same scale. But of late a machine laundry has cut these figures to about half, and it does even better work than the Celestials.

A matter of interest to many missionaries will be the appointment of Rev. J. T. Cole, as General Secretary of the American Missionary Society. This gentleman will be remembered as a missionary in Japan for a term of years. He returned home in 1892, and was chosen rector of the church of the Epiphany here in Washington, and he has filled the position with unusual popularity.

JAPANESE TOPICS IN AUSTRALASIA.

Sydney, May 1.

The sudden termination of the war between Japan and China, although not wholly unexpected, occasioned a profound impression throughout the whole of Australasia, the leading colonial papers commenting favourably on the moderate character of the terms imposed by the victorious power. Curiously enough, in no part of Australasia have the Japanese or Chinese residents manifested, publicly at any rate, the slightest interest either

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in the progress of the war or the manner in which it has been brought to a close. Even in Northern Australia, where the Chinese, said to outnumber all the other races, white, black, and brown combined, no demonstrations of any kind have been reported. Among Australian silver miners it is very different. The possibility that the conclusion of peace will tend to increase the demand for the precious metal, is tending to stimulate the work of silver production, and enhance the value of the Broken Hill and other miners, the principal one of which has just been provisionally sold for £175,000.

At the same time the Australasian military authorities are seeking to impress upon the various Colonial Governments the fact that the elevation of Japan to the rank of a first-class Power imparts additional importance to the subject of Australasian naval and military defence. Recently, at Adelaide, South Australia, Rear Admiral Bridge, commander of the British Squadron in Australian waters, said, in reply to an interviewer, that there was little doubt that the people of the Australian colonies would recognise before long the importance of the new Eastern question which recently opened many degrees further East than Constantinople, and would most likely come to the conclusion that the eyes of modern statesmen were directed much more anxiously towards the Yellow Sea than to the Black Sea or the Bosphorus. About the same time a cablegram from London announced that Colonel Maurice, the well-known strategic expert, had declared that, if Japan chooses to insist on the same right of entry to Australia for the Chinese that the Japanese enjoy, her naval force is now sufficiently large to establish that claim. Commenting on these facts, the Melbourne *Argus*, in the course of a lengthy article, says:—"With the balance of power in the East in the hands of an ambitious and active race like the Japanese, who are expected to secure by the terms of the treaty some sort of controlling and directing power over the policy of China, these conditions will gain a definiteness and directness which hitherto they have not possessed. The importance of this is being recognised by the diplomacy as well as by the press of Europe; although the extreme and, it may be said, the diplomatic moderation of Japan in the terms of the treaty, so far as they are known to us, has disarmed the West to some extent of any reasonable pretext of interference." That the New South Wales military authorities fully recognise the altered condition of affairs is illustrated by the customary Easter military exercises in Sydney taking the form of repelling a suppositious attempt by a couple of Japanese war-vessels to enter Sydney Heads. But the Melbourne *Argus* thinks that Japanese dominance, if ever it is achieved, will be of a commercial, not a military character. It says:—

If it can be conceived for a moment that China will be opened up under Japanese control, and that the enormous forces of population and industrial activity thus set free will be under Japanese direction, it is simply impossible to put limits to the effect of the competition with the West that will ensue. On this the best authorities are agreed. We have seen how the East has all the economic conditions of production in its favour. Its low wages, its long hours, its utter freedom from legislative limitations, place its industrial enterprise on an economic plane quite different from that of the West. Japan has had time to naturalise among her own people the mechanical aids to production that gave the West an advantage in the past. Her industries have been built up to a condition of serviceable efficiency which is the wonder of those experts who have written upon the subject. She has learnt the arts of production from her teachers, and applied them under less costly conditions. One effect of the war, if she gains all she appears to aim at, will be to create a sudden expansion in the market for her manufactured products, and at the same time, probably, to practically shut out her Western competitors from the same market. What the opening up of China under such conditions would mean has been explained for us by competent authorities and observers on the spot. It would mean, says one such observer, the discovery practically of a new hemisphere, thickly populated with an industrious race, and abounding in agricultural, mineral, and other resources. We are told that the country has millions of acres fit for cotton culture, and as an evidence of Japanese appreciation of the fact it may be mentioned that in December, 1893, no less than five ocean-going steamers lay at Shanghai loading with raw cotton for the mills in Japan. At present the country has to import its staple largely from America; but this would not long continue if China were once opened, improved by water and rail carriage, and relieved of the cramping rule of the mandarins. When the late war began it was the fashion to speak of it as a conflict between the forces of Oriental progress and Oriental stagnation, and those who favoured the Japanese did so because they were on the side of civilisation. It is not entirely clear yet that civilisation will be the gainer. So far from the opening of China being a benefit to the British manufacturers, says one writer, it may only become the field of their greatest defeat. If this is the case under unrestricted conditions, the situation is not likely to be improved if the Japanese obtain by treaty a secret right of control. This is what the European nations seem to fear; and whatever the reality of a war-scare may be, the issue is of sufficient general importance to ourselves to give us a direct interest in the forthcoming ratification of this important treaty.

The impression that a conflict between Russia and Japan is not only possible but also extremely probable, is steadily gaining strength in Australasia, where scores of newspaper articles have been published to the effect that in the event of any such conflict, the Japanese would come off second-best.

The Melbourne *Argus* says:—

A quarrel between Russia and Japan would be a very pretty quarrel just now, and might be no joking matter for Russia. True, she has a port in the sphere of operations, the proudly named Vladivostock, but she has no communication with Vladivostock save by the long deep sea route, and the port itself is frozen for four months in the year. Any war would be essentially a naval war, and the Russian admiral thus situated might have his hands full. An alliance between France and Russia for the coercion of Japan would of course be a very different matter, inasmuch as the French have a big navy, and they must by now have some sort of coaling depôts in Tonquin, so that they might succeed better than they did in their inglorious operations against the Chinese coast some few years back. The French mean to have their share of China some day in the south—by the extension of Tonquin—as the Russians mean to have theirs in the north in the shape of open Korean ports; and hence, apart from the European situation, there would be a reason for joint action on the part of the two nations in the far Pacific. But such a collision does not appear probable. Japan is credited with being as shrewd as the coon in the story. Faced by any European coalition she would almost certainly climb down. She will certainly do so, unless her victory over the feeble, panic-stricken, and noncombative Chinese has turned the heads of her rulers.

The Sydney *Daily Telegraph* remarks:—

Russia finds that the colossal railway she is constructing with the object of connecting St. Petersburg by a continuous line with the Pacific, at an "estimated" cost of £92,000,000, will have at least an inconvenient terminus at Vladivostock, with its ice-bound waters. Her ambition is, therefore, to carry the terminal end through the Manchurian territory now ceded to Japan and on southward through Korea, the "independence" of which is at present secured by the treaty. This aspiration achieved, Russia would at a bound become the dominant, as she is the most ambitious, Power in the Southern Hemisphere. Thus, she would become—indeed, has already become—the life and soul of the new "Eastern Question" as of the old. Possibly, some amicable arrangement may be arrived at whereby immediate trouble may be averted, but at best it will be but tentative if Russia's ambitions in the direction of a free seaboard there are left unsatisfied. This she is bound to have by hook or crook, and until she gets it our "Eastern Question" will only be in its first stage of complexity. When she does get it, the second stage will open.

The foregoing extracts fairly represent Australasian opinion respecting the probable future relations between Japan and Russia. In the meantime it is difficult to convince the Australasian labouring population, with its enormous share of political power, that the favourite policy of restricting Japanese and Chinese immigration may be pushed too far. True, China is not in a position at present to do more than complain, but with Japan, we admit it to be different. In connection with this it may be mentioned that while the conference of Australian premiers was being held in Tasmania in January last a deputation of Chinese merchants resident in New South Wales, waited upon Mr. Quong Tart, a leading Chinese resident in Sydney, urging him to represent to the conference the serious and special disabilities the Chinese residents of the various colonies suffered from by enactments dealing with the restriction of Chinese immigration, and to ask for some mitigation of these disabilities. Mr. Quong Tart forwarded a letter to the conference, and stated that while the Chinese in Australia did not presume to comment upon the broad principle of restriction of immigration, they prayed the conference to consider the matter to which principal exception was taken; that is, the difficulty, and in cases the impossibility, of Chinese obtaining permission to pass from one colony to another, even in cases of the death of blood relations and intimate friends. No reply was received to this letter till 11th April, when Sir Edward Braddon, the Tasmanian Premier, wrote, regretting that the time at the disposal of the conference did not admit of the discussion of this matter and other important questions. The Chinese merchants of Sydney are somewhat hurt at the cavalier treatment of their "moderate and reasonable" petition."

The possibilities of an extensive trade with Japan is now unreservedly recognised in Australia. According to the Melbourne *Herald*, which has been interviewing the Japanese Consul in the Victorian Capital, Mr. Marks is in hopes of succeeding in bringing a line of Japanese steamers into direct communication between this country and the Land of the Rising Sun. As soon as he gets to Tokyo, he will enter into negotiations with the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, and he is sanguine of inducing them to run a line of fast ships between Australia and the Mikado's realm. Being asked which—Melbourne or Sydney—would form the best Australian port of call, Mr. Marks said:—"There is little doubt about it that Sydney offers greater advantages to foreign vessels than Melbourne. The charges are not so high, the conveniences are greater, and, though a Melbourne man, I am bound to say that Sydney offers better opportunities for direct trade than Melbourne. Of course, the heavy duties here are largely responsible for that. But even in respect to exports, my experience goes to show that New South Wales is better fitted for carrying out orders for foreign trade than Victoria. Here is an instance." He took from off his desk a sample of leather, such as would be used for boot soles. "Just lately," he continued, "I had to execute an order for the supply of £35,000 worth of leather like this for Japan. Of course, I tried to get it executed here. But I found that I could not, and I had to complete the order in New South Wales. It is a pity that it should be so, but that it is so is, I regret to say, beyond question."

The *Sydney Morning Herald*, *Brisbane Courier*, Melbourne *Argus*, and other papers have published lengthy reports from a special correspondent in Japan respecting the openings which exist or may be created for the disposal of Australian commodities. The Victorian Government has also received a copious report from Mr. Jerome Dyer, representing a number of Victorian merchants and producers, also a courteous letter from His Excellency Viscount Mutsu, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, to whom Mr. Dyer had presented a letter of introduction from the Victorian Premier. At the same time, a private letter has been published in Melbourne—written by an Australian in Japan, in which the writer, after alluding to Mr. Dyer's efforts to promote trade between the two countries, says—"The Japanese steamers will do what they are doing in the Indian trade, under Government subsidy—giving unlimited rebates in freight to Japanese, so as to cut out all Europeans; and as long as European ships compete with them they will give bigger and bigger rebates, until they carry free. But we Europeans never get a cent. off full rates. The Japanese cannot be trusted with an order or credit. Once start them, and they will overrun Australia. They are less desirable than the Chinese, because they are smarter, and have an outward show of civilization. They will learn your business, and then come down and take it from you. They brag that they are now the foremost nation in the world in arms, in trade, and in civilization; and speak about colonising Australia, and introducing Japanese civilization. They hate the English, and will have a slap at England after this war, so proud are they, and then look out for your side. They want Australia for their surplus population. They will tell your no, yet it is so. Dyer has promised large orders to the Japanese for matches, fish oil, paper (meant to save duty), isinglass, vegetable wax for candles," etc. This letter has produced a most injurious effect in some places, not having been contradicted in any way, but among the more intelligent members of the Australian mercantile community it has received little or no attention. The steamer *Catterthun* takes from Sydney 660 bales of wool for the Japanese market, and similar consignments will follow by succeeding vessels. It is anticipated that the exports of wool to Japan during 1895-96 will exceed those during the same period to the United States. At a recent meeting of producers in Melbourne, the following extract from a report was read:—"There is no country in the world where skins, hides, and leather are cheaper than in Australia, for obvious reasons. Japan, though as yet in its infancy in these manufactures, imports 420,000 *yen* of hides and skins, yet only imports 150 *yen* of that from Australia. It imports 800,000 *yen* of leather, yet only 300 *yen* came from Australia. It imports 140,000 *yen* of bones, hoofs, and horns, yet only about 12,000 *yen* came from Australia. It imports about 1,250,000, *yen* worth of flour, butter, tinned meats, and other porvisions, of which Australia supplied only about 31,000 *yen* last year, chiefly in one or two large orders for war stores. Surely these figures shed a light on the magnificent possibilities for Australia's prospective market in Japan!"

The reading of this extract led to considerable discussion, and it was decided to take

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steps for utilising the information thus obtained. It is in Melbourne, where the long continued industrial and commercial depression appears to have stimulated the energies of producers, that the greatest activity is shown in preparing the way for closer commercial relations between Australia and Japan. The National Wool Company of Australia, which has its head-quarters in the Victorian capital, early in the year addressed a letter to those interested in the wool trade throughout the colonies, on the subject of promoting trade with China and Japan, but New South Wales, being the terminal port of the lines running between Australia and Japan, held aloof, having already taken initiatory steps so far as the business in wool was concerned. In New Zealand the producers do not seem to share the views entertained by their Victorian brethren, who, while ready to aid in exporting any quantity of Australian produce to Japan, would allow a hostile tariff to practically exclude Japanese goods from the Australian market. On this point the *New Zealand Herald* says :—"A short time since, Victoria sent Commissioners to the far East, who reported that for several colonial staples a good market might be opened up. But one thing seems to be forgotten, and that is, that no trade of any extent can be opened which is not mutual. The Victorians apparently have an idea that they may send to China and Japan ship-loads of meat and wool, and receive back cargoes of sovereigns. Trade is not done in that way. Such a commerce would be exceedingly unprofitable for all parties. Trade is barter, a mere interchange of commodities for mutual profit. That is the original and simple truth which no protectionist theory can alter. If Victoria wants to commence a trade with the East, she ought to look at her own tariff."

JOHN PLUMMER, M.J.S.

H.B.M. COURT FOR JAPAN.

Before R. A. MOWAT, Esq., Judge.
TUESDAY, 4th June, 1895.

THOMAS ABERCROMBIE WELTON, Liquidator of the New Oriental Bank, Limited, in Liquidation, *v.* COCKING & Co.

This was an action raised to enforce the specific performance of a contract. Mr. Litchfield represented the plaintiff, and Mr. Scidmore the defendant.

Mr. Litchfield briefly intimated that the petition was made by Thomas Abercrombie Welton, the liquidator of the New O. B. C., Ltd , plaintiff, and Samuel Cocking, defendant. The plaintiff, the New O. B. C., Ltd., in the year 1892 suspended payment, when Mr. Welton was appointed liquidator by the creditors of the concern, Samuel Cocking being a large debtor.

Mr. Litchfield then proceeded to read the Petition and Answer as under :—

The Petition of Thomas Abercrombie Welton shows as follows :—

1.—The New Oriental Bank Corporation, Limited, suspended payment on the 9th day of June, 1892, and by a special resolution passed for the winding up of the said Corporation voluntarily the said Thomas Abercrombie Welton was appointed Liquidator.

2.—At the time of the suspension of the said Corporation the Defendant, Samuel Cocking, was largely indebted thereto.

3.—As security for the payment of the said debt the Defendant had agreed to hold on trust for the Bank all goods and merchandize stored in his godowns which had been from time to time imported by the Defendant under bills of exchange which had been taken up or retired by him by means of advances obtained from the Bank.

4.—To facilitate the liquidation of his affairs an agreement was entered into between the said Samuel Cocking and the Liquidator and dated the 1st of November, 1892, by which among other things in consideration of the said agreement the Defendant covenanted with the said Liquidator that he would pay or cause to be paid to the Liquidator as and when realized the proceeds of the sale of the goods, wares, and merchandize set forth in the schedule marked A (being the goods in the last preceding paragraph referred to). And that in event of any of the said goods, wares, and merchandize not having been sold or realized before the determination of the said agreement would pay or cause to be paid to the Liquidator the values set opposite to the same in the schedule aforesaid, and that the said goods, wares, and merchandize should be entered in a separate stock book and that all sales and deliveries of the same should be under the sole control and supervision of the Liquidator and shall be entered in a separate day book and godown order books and shall be placed to the credit of the Liquidator in a separate account in the ledger.

5.—And for the consideration aforesaid it was by the same agreement further agreed that the expenses [illegible] should be paid out of

moneys received by the said Defendant from the proceeds of sales of goods other than those in the last preceding paragraph referred to.

6.—That in pursuance of the said agreement sales of some of the before-mentioned goods have been made by the said Defendant and part of the proceeds of the said goods have been paid to the Liquidator, but the Defendant has retained and still retains the sum of $2,956 part of such proceeds and refuses to pay same to the Liquidator and also refuses to allow the Liquidator the sole control and supervision of and over the sale of goods described in schedule A aforesaid.

7.—That all conditions have been fulfilled, all things have happened and times elapsed necessary to entile the Plaintiff to have the said sum of money paid to him and to have the control of the said goods allowed to him.

The Plaintiff therefore prays :—

1.—That an account may be taken of the sums now due to Plaintiff by the Defendant.

2.—That the Defendant may be decreed to pay to the plaintiff the said sum of $2,956 or such other sum as may be found to be due by the Defendant to the Plaintiff.

3.—That the Defendant be decreed to perform his agreement aforesaid by placing the sale of the goods and merchandize specified in the schedule A under the sole control of the Plaintiff.

4.—That as an alternative relief a receiver of the estate of the said Plaintiff be appointed by the Court.

5.—That the Plaintiff may have such further or other relief as the nature of the case may require.

Answer filed April 26th, 1895 :—

1.—I consent to the accounting prayed for in the said petition.

2.—I consent to the appointment of a receiver of my estate as prayed for in the said petition.

Continuing, Mr. Litchfield assumed that defendant denied the right of the plaintiff to have the sole control and supervision of the goods under Schedule A, and he understood that was the question to be decided that morning.

Mr. Scidmore replied that the inference was correct, but he did not agree with his learned friend as to the question before the Court. The plaintiff had got all he had asked for, as a result of an application made by him in Chambers, that a Receiver be appointed, but that so far he had been unable to enter upon his duties in consequence of impediments placed in his way by plaintiff. Plaintiff had got practically all he had asked for.

His Honour desired to know what construction Counsel would put on Art. 2 of the petition.

Mr. Scidmore replied that that would have to be construed by the Court.

His Honour understood then the plaintiff had not got all he had asked for.

Mr. Scidmore contended that he would obtain his ultimate relief in the accounting on the 15th of November next, the date fixed for the Receiver's report which would show the actual condition of affairs. Until this was done, no step could be taken in the premises.

Mr. Litchfield contended that sole charge should be given to the plaintiff.

His Honour—What about prayer 2 ?

Mr. Litchfield replied that was a question to be decided by the Court in construing the contract.

His Honour questioned paragraph 3 ?

Mr. Scidmore replied that was rendered impossible by the fact of appointing a Receiver.

Mr. Litchfield said a Receiver was appointed by consent pending action, but the fact of the appointment of a Receiver would not preclude the ordering of a specific performance of the agreement.

His Honour understood Counsel to ask for an Order upon clause 3, or in the alternative for the appointment of a Receiver. The alternate relief asked for surely disposed of clause 3 asking for primary relief.

Mr. Litchfield replied that it had only been put in for the protection of the creditors.

Mr. Scidmore contended that sole control could no longer remain in plaintiff's hand after the appointment of a Receiver. He had waived that right by asking the Court to give him something different, consequently he could not now ask for it again.

His Honour remarked that plaintiff asked, in paragraph 3, for sole control of Schedule A, while in paragraph 4 he asks for the appointment of a Receiver.

Mr. Litchfield—Failing paragraph 3.

His Honour understood he asked for a Receiver. That would take the sale of the goods out of his control.

Mr. Litchfield replied that would be only in respect of other property.

His Honour understood Mr. Litchfield to say the Receiver was authorized to deal with the whole property. In that case he was empowered to deal with Schedule A, as the whole was comprised in the minor part. He desired to know whether the expenses would be paid out of the proceeds of Schedule A, or out of all the goods?

Mr. Litchfeld said out of goods irrespective of Schedule A.

His Honour—A Liquidator has been appointed—

Mr. Litchfield—Subject to—

His Honour—Subject to what? Under your agreement you were to have the selling of the goods included under Schedule A. Under the Order was not this given to the Receiver?

Mr. Scidmore understood such was the case. It struck him the question to be arrived at was to ascertain the powers and duties of the Receiver—the order was much simpler.

Mr. Litchfield here read the Order referred to.

His Honour said that was practically placing the goods under the control of the Receiver. Having asked for this, could plaintiff now come and ask for the sole control of the sale of the goods? After giving up the right, could he come and ask for it to be given back to him?

Mr. Litchfield said this was hardly in consonance with what took place in Chambers. The appointment of a Receiver, he contended, did not preclude the rights of the plaintiff.

His Honour replied in that case they would have two parties controlling the business. That was hardly possible. Plaintiff was desirous of selling, whereas the Receiver was not. Continuing, His Honour supposed plaintiff would read the Order to mean without prejudice of any previous incumbrances including the plaintiff.

Mr. Litchfield replied plaintiff had come to the Court to enforce his rights as an incumbrancer, and the appointment of a Receiver would not oust him of his rights.

His Honour was of opinion that if it had been made clear plaintiff was an incumbrancer, he doubted whether the Order would have been made.

Mr. Litchfield thought otherwise. If the goods had been placed in the hands of plaintiff then lots of time would have been saved.

His Honour—Why ask for a Receiver?

Mr. Litchfield said it was to prevent the Court not granting the third paragraph of the petition. The proceedings were not stayed by the appointment of a Receiver.

His Honour remarked that inasmuch as the two clashed, he could not understand his contention. Did it matter very much who was in charge?

Mr. Litchfield said it would save considerable expense.

His Honour—You admit the second prayer is covered by defendant agreeing to an account. Now you ask that the goods included in Schedule A be handed you irrespective of the alternative prayer.

Mr. Litchfield said this was granted plaintiff by the deed of 1892.

His Honour believed plaintiff could have asked for a separate Order covering Schedule A.

Mr. Litchfield admitted that he could.

Mr. Scidmore said he had no argument to make. The case was very clear, as the documents before His Honour would show, and he trusted that a satisfactory order would be made as to costs in the proceedings as the action of plaintiff had been vexatious and unnecessary. His Honour's predecessor had consented to the appointment of Mr. Rutter, the representative of the liquidator, if he would give security. The Court considered it its duty to protect other parties. After ten days had elapsed and nothing had been heard from plaintiff, information was received that he had no security, and consented to the appointment of Mr. Moss. The proceedings were very vexatious and unnecessary; the business being so tied up that no one knew who was in possession. One creditor held possession of No. 55 and goods contained therein. He would not argue upon the evident contempt of Court in the action of certain parties, but would leave the case as it was.

His Honour remarked that Counsel had not said anything relative to Mr. Litchfield's argument.

Mr. Scidmore replied that it required no answer. He waived all the right, and all that fell under that right. He did not consider it necessary to say anything about rights in Chancery, as His Honour must be quite familiar with it.

Mr. Litchfield contended the deed gave him the right as an incumbrancer.

His Honour having read the Order of the Court,

Mr. Litchfield decided upon calling witnesses.

George William Rogers, sworn, said—I am a British subject carrying on business on my own account in Yokohama. In the month of April I received instructions from the Bank of China and Japan to take possession of defendant's premises, No. 55. I took possession on the 25th. The bank claimed to be mortgagees of the premises and the electric light plant. After I was in possession I received instructions from Mr. Rutter, the agent of the liquidator of the New O.B.C. This was on 26th. I was to take and hold possession of all goods contained in Schedule A, on behalf of the liquidator. I was seven years in the employ

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of Mr. Cocking. I knew all the goods comprised in Schedule A. I had the keys of the godowns on behalf of the Bank of China. After receiving Mr. Rutter's instructions I acted on them.

Cross-examined—I am an import and export merchant. I left Cocking's employ as he wished to economise. I have still possession of these goods. I have heard Mr. Moss had been appointed receiver. Mr. Moss asked me to hand over the goods, but I refused to do so under instructions from Mr. Rutter. I still have possession of the goods.

Counsel had no authorities to cite.

Mr. Litchfield remarked that the words in the Order were very simple.

His Honour said that they decidedly were not so.

Mr. Scidmore placed his case on the common reading of the Order appointing a Receiver.

His Honour understood plaintiff's contention was this—that at the time he asked for the Order it was not intended that it should cover the goods mentioned in Schedule A.

Mr. Litchfield said that was so.

His Honour—If that was so, why did you not state it clearer?

Mr. Litchfield replied because the Judge told him he should explicitly follow a specified form. (*Book handed in.*)

His Honour remarked that plaintiff had brought in the appointment of a Receiver himself.

Mr. Litchfield said the form was drafted after an Order made by the Judge.

His Honour reiterated what he had said before, that at the time of asking for the Order had he set up his right against a Receiver's right the Court would not have made the Order of a Receiver, as it brought about a conflict causing much inconvenience and great expense. He was in possession, and if satisfied with his right as an encumbrancer he should have upheld his position. But he asked for an Order, which was made, and was now estopped by that. Having obtained an order for the appointment of a Receiver it must remain so. If he was an incumbrancer he must prove himself so; the rule relating to incumbrancers being for the protection of outside parties, whereas plaintiff held possession.

Mr. Litchfield—There was other property besides schedule A.

His Honour—I am quite aware of that. You asked for an order for a receiver for the whole of the property; and this goes with the rest. I refuse the third prayer of the petition; the first is granted; the second is covered by the first; the third, as I have said, I refuse; and the fourth has already been done. As to costs, here is a Plaintiff who comes to the Court to establish rights, and I cannot understand how the Defendant's Counsel should ask that I should order the Plaintiff to pay the costs.

Mr. Scidmore said everything since the receiver was appointed had been unnecessary and vexatious; and the Plaintiff was not justified in any proceedings since.

His Honour thought a hearing must have taken place sooner or later. It might be an advantage to the parties to know where they were, for the Plaintiff to know that he had not the rights he thought he had, and that the receiver had the right to deal with all the property.

Mr. Scidmore—I think that was plain.

His Honour—I wish you could have convinced Mr. Litchfield of its plainness.

Mr. Litchfield—If the Defendant will pay us $400,000, we shall be quite willing to pay the costs. He says he is solvent.

HAKODATE.

(From our Correspondent.)

Hakodate, May 29th.

On the 24th instant the American schooner *J. Eppinger*, Captain M. White, put in for provisions and water with 785 seal skins aboard. She reports having spoken the following schooners:—

		skins.
20th May...	... ... Jane Grey	800
20th do ...	... ... Mattie T. Dyer	530
22nd do ...	... ... Pioneer	729

The *Eppinger* picked up at sea on the 17th of April a boat and 3 men belonging to the *C. G. Cox*, and put them aboard their schooner the next morning.

On the 25th instant the British schooner *Mary Ellen*, Captain Geo. R. Ferry, put in for water and provisions with 797 skins. Unlike other schooners, she carries 3 boats and 12 canoes with crew of 8 Europeans and 24 Siwash Indians from Vancouver. Most of the schooners she had spoken have been in and their catches published. On the 26th instant the American schooner *Penelope*, Captain A. Anderson, put in with 790 skins. She reports having spoken on the 25th instant the schooner *Corona*, from San Francisco, bound for Vladivostock. On the 15th instant she spoke the schooner *Arctic* with 90 seals. The *Arctic* picked up a boat and 3 men (B. Morse, hunter, and 2 others) belonging to the *Chishima Maru No. 3*, and put on them board their vessel. The *Chishima Maru No. 3* had over 600 skins at the time.

On the 27th instant the British schooner *Borealis*, Captain E. F. Robbins, put in for the second time this season, having increased her previous catch of 362 to 733. As on the last occasion, she has come in with some men for the Hospital. The *Borealis* reports having spoken the following:—

		skins.
6th May...	... ... Allie J. Alger	500
8th do ...	... ... City of San Diego...	290
9th do ...	... ... Chishima Maru No. 3...	515
13th do ...	... ... Annie E. Paint	830
14th do ...	... ... Arctic	100
16th do ...	... ... Agnes McDonald	570
23rd do ...	... ... Ocean Belle	850
23rd do ...	... ... Pioneer	729
25th do ...	... ... Casco	1,200

Shortly after the *Borealis* had anchored the British schooner *City of San Diego*, Captain Samuel Pike, came in with 371 skins. She reports having spoken:—

		skins.
8th May...	... ... Pioneer	570
12th do ...	... ... Rattler	265
14th do ...	... ... Mattie T. Dyer	530
14th do ...	... ... Algae	700
25th do ...	... ... Annie E. Paint	1,070

On the 28th instant the American schooner *Rattler*, Captain F. Nielson, came to an anchor at 2 p.m. She had 345 skins. The *Rattler* is a smart looking schooner, and is said to be the fastest sailer amongst the sealing fleet. She is a sister vessel to the *Henry Dennis* which went ashore near this port last year. The *Rattler* left San Francisco on the 1st of March last, and made the passage to the sealing grounds in 33 days, most of the time being too calm for good sailing. She reports having lost on the 5th May on a calm day her stern boat with the Captain's brother, J. Neilson, and another man. As yet no information of their having been picked up or landed has been received.

On the 28th, Mr. J. C. Hall, the British Consul at this port, left for Yokohama to relieve Mr. James Troup, much to the sorrow and regret of the handful of Europeans here, to whom he has endeared himself by his ever courteous manner and kind attention.

The American bark *Colusa*, 1,129 tons, Captain Charles Backus, left here to-day for San Francisco with a cargo of sulphur.

THE SILK CROP.

The *Chugai Shogyo Shimpo* is publishing an interesting series of reports from the various centres of sericulture relating to the prospects of the crop and the ruling prices of silk and cocoons. We shall reproduce them from day to day as they appear in the original paper:—

Honjo, Province of Musashi, May 30th.—There being abundance of mulberry leaves on account of good weather, the crop of cocoons will be the best obtained in recent years, the increase over last year being fully 30 per cent. Nobody has yet commenced the spinning of silk yarns, and it is difficult to make any estimate of the quantity to be manufactured, but the crop of cocoons being large, the manufacture of silk yarn may be expected to be proportionally abundant. Cocoons are beginning to appear in the market, but there have not been as yet any transactions worth speaking of. The present quotation is 3 *yen* 30 *sen* per *kwmame*, but the price will fall.

Mayebashi, Prefecture of Gumma, May 30th.—The worms are now in their fourth sleep. Their growth being very good, the crop of cocoons is expected to be plentiful. The cocoon market will be opened from June 4th. A producer in Nishi-Gumma Gun brought 2 *kwamme* of cocoons to my house to-day, and I purchased them at the rate of 5 *yen* 25 *sen* per *kwamme*.

Kameyama, Prefecture of Miye, May 30th.—The crop of cocoons will be better than that of last year by 20 per cent. The quantity of silk yarns produced in this locality will show an increase of 10 per cent. The cocoons will appear in the market in largest quantity about the 10th of June. The price of cocoons of the best quality will be about 40 *yen* per *koku*.

Takata, Province of Izu, May 30th—The crop of cocoons is expected to be splendid this year, the estimated increase over last year's crop being more than 20 per cent. The quantity of silk yarn produced will also be larger than that of last year. The crop being good, prices will be rather low.

Wetarai, Province of Ise, May 30th.—The produce of cocoons will exceed that of last year by about 20 per cent. The quantity of silk reeled will be less than that of last year by about 10 per cent. The price of cocoons is 10 *sen* per 24 or 25 *momme* for those of superior kind, and per 30 *momme* for those of inferior quality. The price was at first high, but has gradually fallen. Cocoons will be most abundant in the market between 5th and 10th of June.

Mayebashi, Prefecture of Gumma, May 31st.—The worms of the earliest variety are making cocoons, but those of the ordinary kind are just emerging from their fourth sleep. The growth of worms being very good, the crop of cocoons will show an increase of 15 to 20 per cent. Both the weather and the growth of the worms having been favourable, the yield of silk will be good. Cocoons are beginning to appear in the market. At present the ruling price is 10 *sen* per 30 *mommé*, but when they begin to be offered in larger quantities, 10 *sen* will probably buy 33 *momme*. Mulberry leaves are becoming dearer and dearer, a horse load being sold at from 2 to 3 *yen*.

Kasugai-gun, Province of Owari, June 1st.—The crop of cocoons will be unusually plentiful, the increase over that of last year being probably 50 per cent. The estimated produce of silk is 12 *momme* from 150 *momme* of cocoons. The price of cocoons is higher than that of last year by about 40 to 50 *sen* per *kwamme*, the present quotation being from 3 *yen* 50 *sen* to 4 *yen* 10 *sen*.

Hachioji, Province of Musashi, June 2nd.—The crop of cocoons will be larger by 20 per cent. as compared with that of last year. The produce of silk will also show an increase of 15 per cent. The cocoon market will be opened from June 4th. The price of cocoons is yet unsettled, but it will probably range, according to quality, between 3 *yen* 20 *sen* and 3 *yen* 60 *sen* per *kwamme*.

Hachioji (a different report)—The yield of both cocoons and yarns is expected to be larger than that of last year by from 20 to 30 per cent. The price of cocoons will be 10 *sen* per 25 *momme*.

Tatsusaki, Prefecture of Ibaraki, June 2nd.—This year, crop of cocoons will exceed that of last year by 50 per cent. The yield of silk will also be larger and the lustre better. The price of cocoons will be from 3 *yen* to 3 *yen* 80 *sen* per *kwamme*.

Saga, Prefecture of Saga, May 28th.—The crop will be more or less larger than last year. The price will be lower.

Toriti, Prefecture of Ibaraki, June 2nd.—The produce of cocoons will be larger than that of last year by 40 per cent. The yield of silk will also be larger. The price of cocoons is from 2 *yen* 50 *sen* to 3 *yen* per *kwamme*.

(To be continued.)

"BIRIBI."

SIDELIGHTS ON THE DISCIPLINE OF THE TROOPS EMPLOYED BY FRANCE IN HER COLONIAL CONQUESTS.

Biribi, a word unknown to most Englishmen, is one of dread to the whole French army. Biribi represents to the French soldier a long term of dangerous foreign service, made subject to the most extraordinary conditions of discipline, and such savage punishments as that of the *crapaudine*. When France is bent on a policy of colonial conquest, she is careful not to risk the lives of too many of her more cherished sons, and the corps that is sent to carry the tricolour to the most distant parts of the world is largely made up of men whom society can well space, and who are, in fact, considered as being best expended in such service.

It was doubtless observed by many that when the Madagascar question came before the French Chamber, an effort was made to limit the choice of the Minister for War to "Colonial Troops," certain disinterested deputies insisting that at all events no Parisians should be drafted from their regiments for service in Madagascar. But although General Mercier claimed a free hand in the matter, the expedition to Madagascar will doubtless be composed of the same elements as the army which subjugated Tonkin. Black troops, such as the Turcos will be mingled with the motley soldiers of the Foreign Legion, while the famous *Compagnies de Discipline* will certainly send a strong contingent. These men will be sent to bear the brunt of the fighting; any especially dangerous work will be thrust upon them if it is possible to do so; and to render justice to these troops, and to say at the same time all the good that can be truthfully said about them, they fight well, and certainly are not wanting in courage. Still, such troublesome, dare-devil regiments have never been brought together under any other flag. Half the time the men are a perfect terror to their officers; while on the other

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hand, the officers are allowed to punish their men with a savage severity which would never for a moment be tolerated in the regiments of the line or any other branch of the service.

Whilst admitting that these troops generally fight well, it must be said that they are most difficult to keep in hand, and they seldom fail to become a terrible scourge to the unfortunate country on which they are let loose. The Foreign Legion is from its very origin a most extraordinary body of troops. No questions are asked of the man who wishes to become a *Légionnaire*. Provided he is physically fit, he is enlisted under any name he may choose to give, whatever his nationality may be. The Legion naturally becomes a refuge for the *déclassé*, the deserter from other flags, and the adventurer of every degree. It is said that there are highly educated men of good family in the Legion, and in this there is nothing improbable. In Tonkin I saw one of my own countrymen, wearing the dismal uniform of the Legion, quarrelling with a German belonging to the same regiment. They came to blows, and were finally beaten into something like order by an officer who struck them with the flat of his sword.

If, however, the Foreign Legion embodies some very questionable elements, how much worse must be the *Compagnies de Discipline*, which are entirely composed of what are really military convicts! These luckless soldiers, the *séphirs* and the *joyeux* of French military slang, are the refractory and criminal cases of the whole army. When a hardened offender becomes too much of a nuisance in his regiment, he is tried before a special military tribunal; his *livret matricule*—a sort of personal register of his deeds and misdeeds, which every French soldier is bound to produce at any moment—is put in, and his long list of punishments is read out for the edification of the Court. The trial almost invariably ends in the man being sentenced to serve for a term of years in one of the *Compagnies de Discipline*. Our *séphir* is then shipped off to Africa, where he joins his new regiment under the charge of a gendarme, and with his wrists shackled in handcuffs, a befitting commencement to the career in store for him.

The convict companies are scattered over the dreariest and most desolate districts of the French African possessions, in which they are often employed in road-making and constructing buildings for military purposes. Harassed, moreover, with constant drills under a burning sun, badly fed, isolated from all but their own miserable society, and punished with the most relentless severity for the slightest offence, the unhappy soldier realises what it is to be *envoyé à Biribi*. The derivation of the word Biribi appears to be obscure, but its meaning soon becomes clear enough to the victim of the system.

We, of course, have nothing like it in our own diminutive army; but if we had over half a million of men with the colours in times of peace, we should find ourselves confronted with a good many problems which we are not at present called upon to study; and it is a more or less recognised fact that the African campaigns of the French have had a rather brutalising effect on their troops, who have borrowed much that is undesirable from their Arab foes.

To the soldiers of the convict companies, active service is a pleasant relief from the well-nigh intolerable bondage in which they are held, and considering that they suffer such terrible punishments as the *crapaudine*, which can easily be prolonged to a fatal issue, it is small wonder that they are merciless men. They are perfect adepts at "eating up a country," and leave a trail of desolation and ruin behind them wherever they go. But in commenting upon any excesses committed by the French troops in Tonkin, it must be remembered that they were frequently subjected to intolerable provocation. The Chinese with their fiendish barbarity inflicted the most atrocious tortures on their wretched prisoners; and the French on more than one occasion came upon the bodies of their unhappy countrymen who had been actually and literally skinned alive! Men flushed with the heat of battle and with arms in their hands cannot look calmly upon such things.

It would, of course, be no easy matter for France to conquer any country with troops composed entirely of the soldiers of the Foreign Legion, the *Fusiliers de Discipline*, and her African regiments. In all her colonial campaigns, a most honourable part is borne by the regiments of the *infanterie de marine* than whom it would be hard to find better and steadier soldiers anywhere. They are really the backbone of the whole expedition, and, apart from their services in the field, they are much in demand as a military police to keep the turbulent irregulars in something like order. The navy is another mainstay of France in her colonial conquests, and French sailors, both officers and men, must be acknowledged to be very fine fellows. Nothing, for instance, could have been much better done than the way in which the *Inconstant* and *Comète* passed and fought the Paknam batteries through a shallow and obstructed channel laid with mines and torpedoes, in the teeth of a fleet of Siamese ships which ought to have swept them out of existence. The dash and pluck with which these two little gunboats were handled deserved the success they achieved. The French blue-jackets, with their machine guns and light artillery, will no doubt contribute their full share to the successes of the columns invading Madagascar.

There is seldom much scope for cavalry in these colonial enterprises; but during the Tonkin War, the French sent some *Spahis* from Algeria; and amongst other troops, I noticed a very fine Zouave regiment at Haiphong, which I once saw employed in restoring order. Although, at the time to which I refer, the war was in full swing, General de Négrier having just been defeated at Langson, the French in Haiphong were in full enjoyment of a theatre—that is to say, a ramshackle barn, with a stage at one end of it, constructed of planks laid over a number of empty barrels. Notwithstanding the primitive nature of the stage and its accessories, the acting of the adventurous little troupe which ran the theatre was excellent; and such pieces as *La Fiano de Berthe* were played to the intense satisfaction of crowded houses of soldiers and sailors. The theatre stood near what is now a fine square, surrounded by handsome buildings, but which was then a howling wilderness, known as the *carrefour des écrasés*, around which were scattered the miserable *paillotes* or attempts at huts in which such of us lived as were fortunate enough to go in for "house-keeping" at all.

During a performance one evening, I heard the sounds of a row going on outside; and quietly creeping out of the theatre, I saw surely enough a regular pitched battle going on between a number of blue-jackets from the fleet in the river and a crowd of men belonging to the Foreign Legion. Before long, the rapid regular tramp of troops coming up at the double was heard—it was a company of Zouaves sent to put things straight. The way in which they wheeled into line and charged across the open ground was a sight worth seeing. They simply swept everything before them with the butts of their rifles, and were formed up and marched off again almost as rapidly as they had come. Then everything was quiet again—especially quiet were the dark recumbent forms which dotted the surface of the suggestively named *carrefour des écrasés*, but they were picked up before morning, and very little was said about it next day.

There were a good many executions amongst the troops in Tonkin. Some of the unfortunate rogues—more to be pitied than punished—deserted with the idea that they would actually find gold lying about the country, which they could take away with them. The famous stories floated about the *pépites d'or* to be found in Tonkin made a few victims in this way; nor was I at all astonished to read the other day of a gentleman in Madagascar having gone for a morning ride, and finding on his return that a nugget of gold had obligingly embedded itself in his horse's hoof. Why not? In fact, such occurrences appear to be inevitable in a country about to be invaded by France.

Much worse things happened, however, than the desertion of soldiers in search of gold. There was the case of an officer of one of the *Compagnies de Discipline* being shot dead on parade. He had been a bit too hard on his men, and four of them had settled by means of a pack of cards which of them was to kill him; and the loser availed himself of the first opportunity he had of murdering his unfortunate officer. To men of this stamp, death has very few terrors if they are simply to be shot by a firing party; and I believe that these four men endured the tortures of the *crapaudine* until they died under them.

The French are, of course, at liberty to maintain discipline in their own army in any way they please, but the punishments to which their irregular troops are subjected are certainly very cruel. Take the case of a man sentenced to the *cellule avec fers*. The *cellule* may be any hut or tent, or, for that matter, the open air will serve. The irons consist of two heavy rings on a bar about eighteen inches long; the whole thing screws up, and, is fastened by a padlock. The man's ankles are shackled by the rings to the bar, and the contrivance is more fit for chaining up a wild beast than a man. In addition to this, however, the man's hands are brought behind his back, and fettered by two rings moving on an iron rod worked by a powerful screw, so that any pressure desired may be brought to bear on the man's wrists. This also is secured by a padlock. The man thus put in irons is placed on his stomach; he gets his *gamelle* of soup once in thirty-six hours, and a *litre* of water every twenty-four hours, which he has to lap up like a dog if he wants it.

The *crapaudine*—obviously from the word *crapaud*—is simply this punishment made much more severe and dangerous by having a rope rove through a ring provided for the purpose in the wrist shackles. One end of the rope is made fast to the bar to which the man's ankles are ironed, and then a good pull on the rope running through the ring at the man's wrists brings his hands and feet together, when all is made fast, and the sufferers is left in that position. If he cries out, he is immediately gagged. Should the man not be released in time, he generally dies in convulsions, it is said; but a man thus treated may die from any cause, and at times he has been known to quit this world when it has not been the intention of his officers that he should do so.

It is not astonishing that the *séphirs* should try to desert when they think they have a chance. Not so very long ago, about half-a-dozen of them jumped overboard from a French hired transport as she was leaving Singapore harbour. The sentries on board immediately opened a hot fire on the fugitives, of whom but two reached the shore; the bodies of the others were swept out to sea by the currents of the New Harbour, and whether they were shot or drowned matters but little. They at least will fight no more to extend the colonial empire of France.—JOHN DILL ROSS, in the *Chambers' Journal*.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[REUTER "SPECIAL" TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

London, June 5.

The Porte's reply in reference to the Armenian atrocities has been handed in to the different Embassies, but is believed to be unsatisfactory. The situation is regarded as grave.

["SPECIAL" TELEGRAM TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

Hakodate, June 3.

The schooner *Pioneer* has arrived here with 847 sealskins, and the *Annie Paint* with 1,134.

Hakodate, June 4.

The *Sadie Turpel* has arrived here with 750 seal-skins.

Hakodate, June 7.

Her Majesty's ship *Caroline* has left this for the Behring Sea.

The *Kaiwo Maru* has arrived here with 632 sealskins.

(FROM JAPANESE PAPERS.)

Hiroshima, June 5.

The Japanese occupied Keelung immediately and at once proceeded to attack Taipeh. The latter town is expected to have been taken about the 4th.

Shanghai, June 5.

An Amoy telegram states that the German cargo steamer *Auther* has been fired on. Taiwan is completely blockaded.

Rome, June 5.

An Ordinance has been issued to the effect that an extraordinary general election will take place on the 26th inst.

Nagasaki, June 6.

Kim Ko-shu, ex-Premier of Korea, says a Söul correspondent, has gone to the province which lies over seven miles away from the Korean capital. The correspondent also states that a separation has taken place among the supporters of Boku Yeiko, Minister of Home Affairs.

Shimonoseki, June 6.

The *Suma Maru* arrived here this morning with 224 officers and men, 3 military coolies, and 53 horses, belonging to the Sixth Army Division.

Nagoya, June 6.

An up-train which passed here last night, reported a case of cholera, and the infected passenger was at once removed to the epidemic hospital.

Shanghai, June 6.

It is stated that the Chinese fired upon the German steamship *Auther*.

Hiroshima, June 6.

The *Fuyo Maru* left for Formosa last night, and the *Kioto Maru* will probably leave to-morrow for the same destination.

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Shanghai, June 6.

The steamship *Formosa* arrived at Amoy to-day from Tamsui. When she left Tamsui some boats, which were leaving the port with soldiers and officials attempting to escape, were being fired upon by the forts. The *Formosa* left suddenly, and was unable to bring any postal matter. Her Captain states that great commotion prevailed yesterday, and in order to prevent the escape of President Tang the Chinese fired at the German steamer *Auther* during the night of the 4th, as they considered that Tang was probably on board the *Auther*.

A telegram from Twatutia, which reached here to-day, says that the foreign settlement is safe. At Taipeh two powder magazines have been exploded, and the official buildings and railway station burnt down. Another telegram states that the German warship *Iltis* has bombarded the Hobe forts, and has silenced them.

An official of the Telegraph Office at Foochow reports that Japanese soldiers are already in Taipeh, and they have now the command of the submarine cable office there.

Shimonoseki, June 7.

Some 26 Korean students arrived here by the *Suruga Maru* this morning.

Sôul, June 7.

The King dispatched the Acting Minister of the Imperial Household to the garden party given on Independence Day, and expressed his pleasure at the observance of such a celebration.

Shimonoseki, June 7.

A Sôul dispatch under date the 3rd inst. states that the British *Chargé d'Affaires* in the Korean capital is said to have stated in conversation to Captain Kurooka of the *Tsukuba Kan*, that the administrative reforms in Korea made by Japan and the stay of Japanese soldiers in the peninsula are most reasonable and proper, and no one has any reason to propose objections.

Shanghai, June 7.

President Tang has been discovered by Tai Ko-gen, leader of the revolting soldiers, and was at once slaughtered.

CHESS.

(All Communications to be addressed to the Chess Editor.)

The Yokohama Chess Club is closed for the season: and re-opens on 3rd October.

The Tokyo Chess Club is now closed for the holiday season and will reopen on Friday, 4th October, 1895.

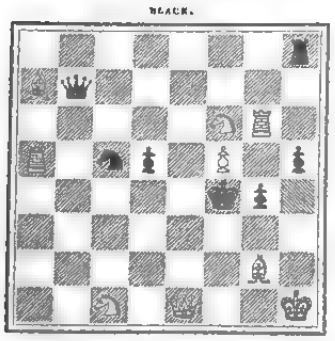
Solution of Problem No. 179.

WHITE.	BLACK.
1—K to K Kt 5	1—K to Q 4
2—P to Q B 4 ch.	2—K to Q B 3
3—Kt to K 5, mate	
	if 2—K to K 5
3—Kt to B 2, mate	
	1—B or P × Kt
2—Kt to B 6 ch.	2—K to K 4
3—R to Kt sq., mate.	

Correct solutions received from Omega, E.D., Digamma, W.H.S., E. J. King, and J.D.

Problem No. 181.
By J. H. Blackburne.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in three moves.

Tokyo Chess Club.

At the closing of the Club for the present season the members passed a very pleasant afternoon and evening on the 31st ultimo. One feature of the day was a Consultation game, lasting five hours, between Messrs. Pownall and Krug (White), against Messrs. Mason and Cox (Black). Play began at 3 p.m. and at 7.30 an adjournment was made for dinner with a drawish position. Mr. Pownall, however, would not listen to any "draw," and the game was resumed at 9.30. The post-prandial play justified Mr. Pownall in his belligerent attitude, and Black was eventually obliged to succumb. We hope to publish the game, with notes, next week.

In the absence through political mourning of His Excellency the United States Minister (President of the Club), Mr. Pownall took the chair at the dinner, distributed the tournament prizes, and in a series of graceful little speeches proposed the customary toasts.

The prize-winners were Mr. Walz (first prize, a handsome silver Knight) and Mr. Mason (second prize, a copy of Macdonnell's "Kings and Knights of Chess). The President (Mr. Dun) sent a present to the Club of three sets of Staunton men and boards which were used by the enthusiastic members after dinner. Altogether a charming evening, to be long remembered by those who had the privilege of being present. We hope that our Tokyo friends, after a season of severe training, will find themselves strong enough to meet their old opponents in another set match next autumn.

Game No. 275.

The following is one of the "Three Hundred Games" recently published by Dr. Tarrasch. It was played in the Hamburg Tournament, July, 1885.

SCOTCH OPENING.

WHITE. Dr. Tarrasch.	BLACK. Herr Weiss.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—Kt to K B 3	2—Kt to Q B 3
3—P to Q 4	3—P takes P
4—Kt takes P	4—Kt to B 3
5—Kt takes Kt	5—Kt P takes Kt
6—B to Q 3	6—P to Q 4
7—Kt to Q 2	7—B to Q B 4
8—P to K R 3 (a)	8—Castles
9—Castles	9—R to K sq.
10—Q to B 3	10—R to Q Kt sq.
11—P takes P	11—P takes P
12—Kt to Kt 3	12—B to Q 3
13—B to K 3	13—P to Q R 3
14—B to Q 4	14—Kt to K 5
15—P to B 4	15—Q to R 5
16—B to K 3	16—Kt to B 3
17—K R to Q B sq.	17—B to K 4
18—P takes P	18—R to Kt 5
19—R to B 2	19—B to Kt 5
20—P takes B	20—Q to R 7 ch.
21—K to B sq.	21—R takes Kt
22—P takes R	22—Q to R 8 ch.
23—K to K 2	23—Q takes R (b)
24—P to Kt 5	24—Kt to Q 2
25—B takes P ch.	25—K takes B
26—Q to B 5 ch.	26—K to Kt sq.
27—Q takes Kt	27—R to Q Kt sq.
28—P to Kt 6	28—Q to R R 8
29—Q takes K B P ch.	29—K to R sq.
30—Q to B 5	30—B to Q 3
31—R to B sq.	31—Q to R 7 (c)
32—R to B 4	32—R to K B sq.
33—Q to Kt 5 and wins.	

NOTES.

(a) Dr. Tarrasch says that this move is in his earlier style, and is to be avoided as it weakens the King's side. This becomes more obvious after Black's 13th move.

(b) The doctor notes that he had looked a little further than this.

(c) 31..... Q takes Kt P would lead to the loss of a Rook in a few moves without any compensating advantage in the way of a perpetual check.

Bardeleben-Blackburne Match.

Nothing fresh since we last wrote: neither have any of the published games reached us. The encounter should be finished by now and probably the score will be close judging by the last information received.

Game No. 276.

A pretty French Defence, the eighteenth game in the match between Herr Albin and Mr. J. W. Showalter in New York.

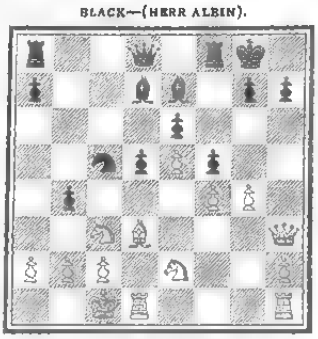
WHITE. Showalter.	BLACK. Albin.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 3
2—P to Q 4	2—P to Q 4
3—Kt to Q B 3	3—Kt to K B 3
4—B to Kt 5	4—B to K 2
5—B takes Kt	5—B takes B
6—P to K 5	6—B to K 2
7—Q to Kt 4	7—Castles
8—B to Q 3 (a)	8—P to Q B 4
9—P takes P	9—Kt to Q 2
10—Q to R 3	10—P to K B 4
11—P to K B 4	11—Kt takes B P
12—Castles Q R	12—B to Q 2
13—K Kt to K 2	13—P to Q Kt 4 (b)
14—P to K Kt 4	14—P to Kt 5
15—P takes P (c)	15—P takes Kt
16—P takes P	16—Kt takes B ch.
17—R takes Kt	17—P takes P ch.
18—K to Kt sq.	18—B to Q Kt 4
19—R to K Kt 3	19—B to B 4 (d)
20—P to B 5	20—B takes Kt
21—Q to R 6	21—Q to B 2
22—P to B 6	22—R takes P
23—Q takes R (e)	23—R to K B sq.
24—Q to Kt 5	24—Q to K 2 (f)
25—Q takes Q	25—B takes Q
26—K R to Kt sq.	26—P to Kt 3
27—R to Kt 3	27—B to B 5
28—R to Kt 7	28—R to K sq.
29—R to K Kt 3	29—P to Q 5
30—R takes Q R P	30—B takes P
31—R to Q 3	31—R to Q Kt sq. (g)
32—R to Q sq.	32—B to Q Kt 5
33—R to R 3	33—B to Q B sq.
34—R to Q B 6	34—B to Q 2
35—R to B 4	35—P to B 6
36—R takes B	36—P takes R
37—R takes B	37—R to K B sq.
38—R to Q sq.	38—R to B 5 (h)
39—R to K sq.	39—K to B 2
40—P to Q R 3	40—R to B 7
41—P to R 3,	41—K to K 3
42—K to R 2	42—R takes P
43—K to Kt sq.	43—R to Q 7
44—P to Q R 4	44—P to B 7 ch.
45—K takes P	45—R to Q 8 & wins.

(a) So far the moves on both sides are such as may be considered safe according to the most recent analyses. Moves 1 to 14 have been adopted, with slight variation, in several games of this match.

(b) A good and sound sacrifice, offered evidently for attacking purposes. With the Q Kt file open White's position would be defenceless.

(c) The crux of the whole game. There is much to be said for White's line of action, sacrificing a piece for pawns and attack. The alternative, Kt to Q Kt sq., was also inferior. See diagram.

BLACK—(HERR ALBIN).



WHITE—(J. W. SHOWALTER).

White to play at move 15.

(d) Supposing Black had accepted this second sacrifice, then 20—Q to R 6, B to B 3 (there is apparently no other defence); 21—K R to Kt sq., Q to K 2; 22—P x B appears a winning variation. The text move makes way for the queen to defend and prevents K R to Kt sq. now or later.

(e) Not 23—P x R, because then Black replies Q x R and easily wins.

(f) White's most interesting attack now vanishes, and he is left with a hopeless ending.

(g) Another point of great interest. White dare not capture the bishop because of B x R P ch., followed by P to Kt 8 (queening) ch., and a speedy mate.

(h) The winning move, preventing P to Q R 4. The game is entertaining from start to finish and reflects credit upon winner and loser alike.

Game No. 277.

Played in the New York Tournament. We are indebted to the *Baltimore News* for the score and notes:—

QUEEN'S GAMBIT DECLINED.

WHITE. W. Steinitz.	BLACK. J. W. Showalter.
1—P to Q 4	1—P to Q 4
2—P to Q B 4	2—P to K 3
3—Kt to Q B 3	3—Kt to K B 3
4—B to Kt 5 (a)	4—B to K 2
5—P to K 3	5—Q Kt to Q 2
6—R to B sq.	6—Castles
7—Kt to B 3	7—P to B 3
8—B to Q 3	8—P to K R 3 (b)
9—B to R 4	9—P takes P
10—B takes P	10—Kt to Q 4
11—B to K Kt 3	11—Q Kt to Kt 3 (c)
12—B to Q 3	12—Kt takes Kt (d)
13—P takes Kt	13—B to B 6 (e)
14—R to B 2	14—B to Q 4
15—Kt to K 5	15—B to K sq.
16—Q to B 3	16—P to K B 4?
17—Castles	17—Kt to Q 4
18—R to Q Kt sq. (f)	18—P to Q Kt 4
19—P to B 4	19—Kt to Kt 5
20—R takes Kt (g)	20—B takes R
21—Kt takes B P	21—B takes Kt
22—Q takes B	22—Q to Kt 3
23—P takes P	23—Q takes Q
24—P takes Q	24—P to R 3
25—P to B 7	25—K R to B sq.
26—R to B 6	26—B to R 4
27—R to B 4	27—K to B sq.

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28—B takes K P	28—K to K 2
29—B takes P	29—Resigns.

NOTES.

(a) A strong continuation, occasionally adopted. It is by no means easy to dislodge the B satisfactorily.
(b) This weakening step might perhaps have been dispensed with.
(c) We do not approve of the judgment of this rather remote move. Kt to B 3 might be better.
(d) And this is unfathomable, merely strengthening the opponent's pawn centre.
(e) Apprehending, perhaps, the manœuvre of B to Kt sq., with Q to Q 3.
(f) From here to the end White plays exceedingly fine chess.
(g) Having got his opponent's pawns demoralised, White, by this beautiful sacrifice, is enabled to pick them off one by one.

GAME No. 278.

ZUKERTORT OPENING.

WHITE. T. B. Gerard.	BLACK. F. J. Hingley.
1—Kt to K B 3	1—Kt to Q B 3 (a)
2—P to Q 4	2—P to Q 4
3—B to B 4	3—B to B 4
4—P to B 3 (b)	4—P to K 3
5—P to K 3	5—B to Q 3
6—B takes B	6—Q takes B
7—Kt to R 4	7—B to Kt 3
8—Kt takes B (c)	8—B P takes Kt
9—Q to Kt 3	9—Kt to B 3
10—Kt to Q 2 (d)	10—Castles K R
11—B to Q 3	11—P to Kt 3
12—Castles Q R (e)	12—K to R sq.
13—P to K R 4	13—P to Q R 4
14—Q to B 2	14—Kt to K Kt 5 (f)
15—Kt to B 3	15—P to K 4
16—P takes P	16—Q Kt takes P
17—Kt takes Kt	17—Q takes Kt
18—Q R to B sq.	18—R to B 3
19—Q to K 2	19—Q to K 3
20—P to R 5	20—P to K Kt 4
21—K to Q 2	21—R to K sq.
22—B to B 2	22—Q R to K B sq.
23—P to B 3	23—Kt to K 4
24—B to Kt sq. (g)	24—Kt to B 5 ch.
25—K to Q 3	25—P to Kt 5
26—P to Q Kt 3	26—P takes P
27—P takes P	27—Q to B 4 ch.
28—P to K 4	28—P takes P ch.
29—P takes P	29—Q to Q 2 ch.
30—K takes Kt	30—P to Q Kt 4 ch.
31—K to B 5	31—Q to ■ 3 ch.

And Black mates in two (h.).

NOTES.

(a) This is contrary to the principles of a close game. The Q ■ Pawn is generally moved before the Q to Kt is developed to B 3.
(b) To prevent Kt to Q Kt 5; but a P to Q R 3 would have been better, as the Q B P ought to be advanced two squares at the earliest opportunity.
(c) The exchanges at moves six and eight are not in White's favour. The open K ■ file subsequently gives Black the advantage.
(d) Q takes Kt P would not benefit White. E.g.,

20—Q takes Kt P	20—R to Q Kt sq.
21—Q to R 6	21—R takes P (best)
22—B to Kt 5	22—K to Q 2
23—Kt ■ R 3	23—R to Q Kt sq.

If then

24—P to B 4	24—P takes P
25—Kt takes P	25—Q to Kt 5 ch. (winning a piece)

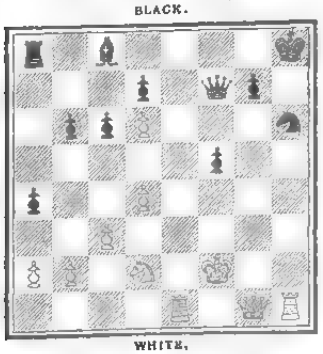
And if

24—B takes Kt ch.	24—Q takes B
25—Q takes Q ch.	25—K takes Q

And Black has the better position.
(e) Castle K R would have been stronger, for then the weakness of the K B P would not have been so apparent.
(f) Black plays excellently from this point.
(g) 24—P to Q Kt 3 would have been much better; but even then White would have had the inferior game.
(h) The ending is calculated to a nicety.

END-GAME No. 27.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and win.

WHITE.	BLACK.
1—R takes Kt ch.	1—P takes R
2—R to K 7	2—Q to Kt sq. (a)
3—Q to R 2	3—Q to Kt 4
4—Q to K 5 ch.	4—K to Kt sq.
5—Kt to K B 3 and wins	
If 3—	3—Q to Kt 3
4—Q to K 5 ch.	4—K to Kt sq.
5—R to K ■ ch. and wins	
(a) If 2—	2—Q to K B sq.
3—Q to Kt 6 and wins	
And if 2—	2—Q to K B 3
3—Kt to K 8 ch. and wins.	

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MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From America	per P. M. Co.	Thursday, June 13th.*
From America	per P. M. Co.	Friday, June 21st.†
From Canada, &c.....	per C. P. R. Co.	Sunday, June 16th ‡
From Europe, viâ Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd	Wed'day, June 19th. ‖
From Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Sunday, June 16th. §
From Hongkong	per C. P. R. Co.	Thursday, June 20th.
From Europe, viâ Hongkong	per M. M. Co.	Friday, June 21st.
From America	per O. & O. Co.	Tuesday, July 2nd.

* *City of Peking* left San Francisco via Honolulu on May 25th. † *China* left San Francisco on June 4th. ‡ *Empress of India* left Vancouver on June 3rd. § *Hohenzollern* left Hongkong on June 6th. ‖ *Ancona* left Hongkong on June 7th.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Saturday, June 22nd.
For Europe, viâ Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd	Friday, June 14th.
For Europe, viâ Shanghai	per M. M. Co.	Saturday, June 15th.
For Victoria, B.C., & Tacoma, Wash.....	per N. P. Co.	Saturday, June 15th.
For Hongkong	per C. P. R. Co.	Monday, June 17th.
For America	per P. M. Co.	Wed'day, June 19th.
For Canada, &c.	per C. P. R. Co.	Friday, June 21st.
For America	per O. & O. Co.	Saturday, June 29th.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Chittagong, British steamer, 1,241, O. Davey, 1st June,—Hongkong viâ ports, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Izumi Kan (10), Japanese cruiser, 1st June,—Kobe.

Presto, German steamer, 870, Stehr, 1st June,—Manila viâ Kobe, Sugar.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Arcona (18), German cruiser, Captain Hoffmeyer, 1st June,—Chefoo.

Gaelic, British steamer, 2,690, W. G. Pearne, 1st June,—San Francisco 14th May, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Berthia, Norwegian bark, 693, P. Wahl, 2nd June,—Rangoon, Teak Wood.—Captain.

Esmeralda, British schooner, 130, J. T. Harrison, 2nd June,—Guam, Copra.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Saipan, British schooner, 75, J. T. Blanchfield, 2nd June,—Guam, Copra.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Tetartos, German steamer, 1,578, Lawson, 2nd June,—Hongkong viâ Kobe, General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Verona, British steamer, 1,878, C. H. S. Tocque, 2nd June,—Hongkong viâ ports, 25th May, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Glenfarg, British steamer, 2,646, Selby, 3rd June,—London viâ ports, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Ernest Simons, French steamer, 3,370, Vimont, 4th June,—Marseilles 28th April, Hongkong 27th May, Shanghai 31st, Nagasaki 1st June, and Kobe 3rd, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

Specialist, British steamer, 1,685, Mass, 4th June,—Middlesboro' via ports, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Coptic, British steamer, 2,940, H. W. G. Lindsay, 5th June,—Hongkong viâ ports, 28th May, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Agamemnon, British steamer, 1,342, Steeves, 6th June,—Liverpool viâ ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Glamorganshire, British steamer, 1,845, Vyvyan, 6th June,—London viâ ports, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Antwerp City, British steamer, 2,237, Borug, 7th June,—West Hartlepoole, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Razboynik (12), Russian cruiser, Captain Ziloff, 7th June,—Kobe.

Braemar, British steamer, 1,876, Porter, 8th June,—London viâ ports, General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Lawang, German steamer, 1,578, Formes, 8th June,—Hamburg viâ ports, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

DEPARTURES.

Eton, British steamer, 1,736, Brophie, 2nd June,—Kobe, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Gaelic, British steamer, 2,690, W. G. Pearne, 3rd June,—Hongkong viâ Nagasaki, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Asamor, British steamer, 1,560, Nicholls, 3rd June,—Bombay viâ ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Aglaia, German steamer, 1,666, Peterson, 4th June,—Hamburg viâ ports, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Chittagong, British steamer, 1,241, O. Davey, 4th June,—Portland, Oregon, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Orthes, British bark, 1,206, J. McNeil, 5th June,—Portland, Oregon, Ballast.—Order.

Izumi Kan (10), Japanese cruiser, 5th June,—Tientsin.

Glenogle, British steamer, 2,398, Gasson, 6th June,—New York viâ ports, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Coptic, British steamer, 2,840, H. W. G. Lindsay, 7th June,—San Francisco, viâ Honolulu, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Turbo, British tank-steamer, 2,356, Moses, 7th June,—London viâ ports, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Verona, British steamer, 1,878, C. H. S. Tocque, 8th June,—Hongkong viâ ports, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per British steamer *Gaelic*, from San Francisco:—Judge I. C. Grubb, Captain W. P. Biddle, U.S.M.C., Lieut. Wm. M. McKelvey, U.S.M.C., Mr. G. Matsuo, and Mrs. Lange and 2 children in cabin. For Hongkong:—Mr. Thos. M. Boyd in cabin.

Per British steamer *Verona*, from Hongkong viâ ports:—Mr. J. Crowe and Mr. D. H. Antoine in cabin, and 6 Chinese, 1 Chinese woman, and 4 Chinese children in steerage.

Per French steamer *Ernest Simons*, from Marseilles viâ ports:—Mr. Morimas, Mr. A. Saphiere, Mr. Taichi Takesawa, Mr. John D. Hanbury, Mr. Adam, Lieut.-Colonel Chard, Mr. P. H. Galston, Mr. H. Rudolph, Mr. Cabeldu, Mr. A. Pereira, Mr. O. Kama, Mr. Bonnet, Mr. Paillat, Mr. Robert, Mr. M. Mounies, Mr. Clement, Mrs. Michelot, Mr. and Mrs. V. Faga, Mr. L. Vilmotte, Mr. H. Quin, Mr. and Mrs. Wylen and governess, Mr. I. Matsukawa, Miss Haimovitch, Mrs. R. Elias and child, Mr. R. J. Wilkinson, Mrs. Nepean, Mrs. Vason, child, and amah, Mrs. J. B. Nordhoek Hegt, Mrs. Burkhardt, Mrs. and Miss Daremberg, Mrs. Marshall, Mr. W. Elkan, Mr. J. M. Arthur, Mr. C. Christensen, Mr. E. W. Smith, Mr. and Mrs. Dibble, Mr. M. Bockhurst, Mr. Kanmatsu, and Mr. Knebel in cabin.

Per British steamer *Coptic*, from Hongkong viâ ports:—Mr. J. N. Wallace, Mr. C. F. Cartledge, Mr. O. Harley, Mr. L. L. Backler, Mr. J. Farrow, Mr. P. Hageao, Miss T. Groom, Mr. S. W. Penple and son, Mr. T. R. Munro, Mrs. T. R. Munro, Mr. Lum Chong Wa, Mrs. Lum Chong Wa, Mr. J. N. Boyd, Rev. G. J. Williams, Mrs. G. J. Williams, Mr. P. W. Kenny, Captain H. Webber, Mr. E. Mackintosh, Mrs. E. Mackintosh, Mr. F. S. Unwin, Mr. Geo. Eckley, Mrs. Geo. Eckley, Mr. T. W. Brown, Mrs. Loomis and 2 children, Mr. W. G. Bayne, Rev. and Mrs. Ewing and 4 children, and Mr. Z. Iasakaya in cabin.

DEPARTED.

Per British steamer *Empress of Japan*, for Vancouver, B.C.:—Mr. Dyke Acland, Mrs. Dyke Acland, Hon., and maid, Mr. E. F. Alford, Mrs. E. F. Alford, 2 children and amah, Mr. Allen, Mrs. W. Ashmore, Miss Edith Ashmore, Master Ashmore, Dr. Baker, Mrs. Baker, Mr. F. Bartlett, Mr. Bell, Mrs. Bell, Mr. Bettheimer, Mr. G. S. Blake, Mr. A. D. Boden, Mr. Bondfi, Captain Bourceier, Mr. Cairns, Mrs. Cairns, Miss Louisa Cummings, Mr. F. S. Curtis, Mr. Davis, Mr. R. N. Denman, Mr. C. Dubois, Rev. Mr. Fenn, Mrs. Fenn and infant, Captain Fleet, R.N., Mr. Ford, Master Fraser, Admiral Sir E. R. Fremantle, Miss Greary, Mr. Robt. S. Greene, Mr. D. N. Henderson, Mrs. D. N. Henderson and child, Mr. B. E. Kinsley, Mrs. B. E. Kinsley, Mr. A. Knight, Mr. A. G. Laflin, Mr. L. Laflin, Lieut. Leatham, R.N., Mr. Levy, Mr. Geo. H. Mairs, Mrs. Geo. H. Mairs, Captain McQuhae, R.N., Mr. A. Maschwitz, Mr. B. Matsuki, Mrs. B. Matsuki, Mr. K. Minami, Mr. A. Morley, Miss Moses, Mr. W. L. Muir, Mrs. W. L. Muir, Mr. Samuel M. Nickerson, Mrs. Samuel M. Nickerson, Mr. Paul, Mrs. Paul, Mrs. B. Hyde Pearson and child, Mr. Phelps, Mrs. Phelps, Miss Phelps, Mr. R. R. Phillips, Mr. S. Poté, Mr. N. Pratt, Master Pratt, Col. Ramsden, Mr. A. S. Rowbotham, Mr. H. M. Schultz, Mr. A. Smead, Hon. Wyndham Smith, Mr. Murray Stewart, Miss Stewart, Mr. R. de St. Mathurin, Mr. N. H. Swayne, Mrs. N. H. Swayne, Mr. J. Henville Thresher, Mr. J. Troup, Surgeon Major White, Mr. N. Wignall, Mr. I. T. Williams, Mrs. I. T. Williams, Mr. O. Wortmann, and Mr. Wrigley in cabin.

Per French steamer *Océanien*, for Shanghai viâ ports:—Mr. J. M. MacLaren, Mr. and Mrs. Courant and 2 children, Mr. J. Wilkinson, Mr. and Mrs. Pafaye de Michaux, Mr. Muir, Mr. W. H. Devine, Mr. E. J. Marshall, Mr. and Mrs. Meier, Miss Meier, Mr. H. Cornes, Miss B. Chapin, Prince Cantacuzine, Messrs. Akb. J. Koch, J. J. Dare Abell, H. Bachs, B. Guggenheim, H. Schmitz, W. G. Bayne, J. Henningsen, Grimbold, M. E. Bottlewalla, J. B. Cunning-

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ham, W. Kochen, M. Uhlaub, Mayesono, Miss C. Papritz, Mr. J. Inuzuka, Mr. Tupas, Mr. W. McIntosh, Mr. Bargiz, Miss Nagashima, Mr. Konishi, Mr. Yamaguchi, Mr. Shan Ting, Mrs. and Miss Konishi, Mr. Misoguchi, Mr. A. V. Evans, Mr. Tanaka, and Mr. and Mrs Statzenko in cabin.

Per British steamer *Gaelic*, for Hongkong viâ Nagasaki:—Mrs. Jordan, 6 children, maid, and amah, Miss Bush, Mr. and Mrs. Boyd, 2 children, maid, and amah, Judge I. C. Grubb, Captain W. P. Biddle, U.S.M.C., Captain W. M. McKelvy, U.S.M.C., Mr. W. T. Gerwin, and Mr. H. A. Davis in cabin.

Per British steamer *Coptic*, for San Francisco, viâ Honolulu:—Mr. C. J. Aldham, Miss M. W. Butler, Mr. T. W. Brown, Mr. L. Best, Mr. Chas. Biehler, Mr. G. Bullough and servant, Mr. and Mrs. A. Barnes, Mr. and Mrs. Lum Chong Wa, Mr. and Mrs. John Crosfield, Mr. and Mrs. C. C. Campbell, Mr. Del' Medico Antoine, Mr. and Mrs. W. Dreer, Mr. and Mrs. S. K. Davis, Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Eckley, Mr. E. A. Field, Mr. R. E. Faulkner, Mr. W. E. Faulkner, Rev. and Mrs. C. C. Goodrich and 3 children, Mr. P. Hagean, Mr. J. S. Hutchinson, Miss Hutchinson, Mr. E. C. Hutchinson, Mr. Lincoln Hutchinson, Lieut. M. Johnson, U.S.N., Mr. H. Lobell, Mr. G. T. Lyon, Miss Lyon, Miss A. Lyon, Mr. and Mrs. J. MacDonough, child, and amah, Mr. and Mrs. T. R. Munro, Mr. R. Mitchell, Mr. and Mrs. E. Mackintosh and maid, Rev. Dr. C. Munsinger, Mr. J. E. Owens, Mrs. S. W. People and son, Mr. A. Phelps, Mrs. Stillman, Mr. and Mrs. S. W. Shaw, Mr. and Mrs. M. Story and maid, Mr. R. S. Sinclair, Mr. Thos. Suffert, Mr. C. H. Schimawabar, Miss Tucker, Mr. F. S. Unwin, Mr. J. N. Travaso Valdez, Mr. and Mrs. L. Wilmotti, Mr. and Mrs. F. A. Waylen, child, and maid, and Captain H. Webber in cabin.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

No improvement. An enquiry here and there leads to some small transaction in Double Yarns, but all else quiet. Shirtings and T.-Cloths—No change from last advices. T.-Reds—Some business at last quotations, and a little doing in Velvets. Other Fancy Cottons neglected. Woollens—No business beyond the sale of a few more cases of Italian Cloth.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE.	
Grey Shirtings—8¼lb, 38½ yds. 30 inches	$2.25	to 2.85
Grey Shirtings—9lb, 38½ yds. 45 inches	2.70	to 3.10
T. Cloth—7lb, 24 yards, 32 inches	1.60	to 1.95
Indigo Shirtings—12 yards, 44 inches	1.70	to 2.35
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches	2.00	to 3.75
Cotton—Italians and Satteens Black, 32 inches	PER YARD. 0.16	to 0.22
	PER PIECE.	
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 20 inches	7.25	to 9.50
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches	0.80	to 0.95
Turkey Reds—2.0 to 2.4lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.60	to 1.70
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.75	to 2.05
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.30	to 2.60
Turkey Reds—4.8 to 5lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.80	to 3.15

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.	
Flannel	$0.30	to 0.47½
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches best	0.30	to 0.35
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Medium	0.25	to 0.27½
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Common	0.20	to 0.22½
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.15	to 0.22
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches	0.35	to 0.50
Cloths—Presidents, 54 @ 56 inches	0.60	to 0.65
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0.50	to 0.70
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 3½lb, per lb	0.60	to 0.75

COTTON YARNS.

	PER PICUL.
Nos. 16/24, Ordinary	—
Nos. 16/24, Medium	$34.00 to 34.50
Nos. 16/24, Good to Best	35.00 to 36.00
Nos. 16/24, Reverse	—
Nos. 28/32, Ordinary	—
Nos. 28/32, Medium	36.00 to 37.00
Nos. 28/32, Good to Best	37.50 to 38.50
Nos. 38/42, Medium to Best	42.00 to 44.00
No. 32s, Two-fold	42.00 to 44.00
No. 42s, Two-fold	47.00 to 49.50
	PER BALE.
No. 20s, Bombay	—
No. 16s, Bombay	—

METALS.

Arrivals continue and yet further depress a dull market. Dealers appear to be full of stock, with no appetite for a fresh meal.

	PER PICUL.
Flat Bars, 4 inch	$3.30 to 3.35
Flat Bars, ½ inch	3.35 to 3.40
Round and square up to ¾ inch	3.30 to 3.40
Iron Plates, assorted	3.40 to 3.50
Sheet Iron	3.40 to 3.60
Galvanized Iron sheets	8.25 to 8.75
Wire Nails, assorted	5.60 to 6.00
Tin Plates, per box	5.65 to 5.75
Pig Iron, No. 3	1.55 to 1.60

KEROSENE.

Still no open business; but it seems incredible that some transactions are not done privately, for deliveries continue on a fair scale for the time of year. The steamer *Turbo* brought the equivalent of 65,000 cases Russian, which increases the stock in that department. Quotations remain more or less nominal.

American	Nom.	$2.45 to 2.47½
Russian	Nom.	2.40 to 2.42½
Langkat		2.25 to 2.35

SUGAR.

Brown—Prices have steadied, and indeed are tending upwards. The reason seems to be that buyers apprehend short supplies, although there is no immediate sign of dearth. White—Buyers are in the market and operating pretty freely at full rates.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Takao	$3.50 to 3.60
Brown Manila	4.20 to 4.30
Brown Daitong (New)	3.10 to 3.15
Brown Canton	3.00 to 3.50
White Java and Penang	6.30 to 6.40
White Refined	6.40 to 9.20

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Buying has gone on daily until the stock is reduced both in quality and quantity. Buyers have sorted out what is available for export and the remainder will probably find its way back to the interior. Prices irregular, in the face of excellent reports all round as to the progress of the New Crop.

QUOTATIONS.

Hanks—No. 1	—
Hanks—No. 1 (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 2 (Joshu)	—
Hanks—No. 2½ (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 2½ (Joshu)	—
Hanks—No. 2½ to 3	—
Hanks—No. 3	—
Hanks—No. 3½	—
Filatures—Extra 10/12 deniers	Nom.
Filatures—Extra 13/15 deniers	Nom.
Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers	$770 to 780
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den.	—
Filatures—No. 1½, 10/14 deniers	740 to 750
Filatures—No. 1½, 13/16, 14/17 den.	740 to 750
Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers	720 to 730
Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	720 to 730
Filatures—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	—
Re-reels—Extra	—
Re-reels—(Oshu) Best No. 1	—
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 deniers	—
Re-reels—No. 1½, 13/16, 14/17 deniers	—
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	—
Re-reels—No. 2½, 14/18 deniers	—
Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	—
Kakedas—Extra	—
Kakedas—No. 1	—
Kakedas—No. 1½	730 to 730
Kakedas—No. 2	—
Kakedas—No. 2½	—
Kakedas—No. 3	—
Kakedas—No. 3½	—
Kakedas—No. 4	—
Oshu Sendai—No. 2½	—
Hamatsuki—No. 1, 2	—
Hamatsuki—No. 3, 4	—
Sodai—No. 2½	—

WASTE SILK.

The good Crop news has made holders anxious to get rid of their old stock, and they have been willing to listen to offers. Some business in the better grade of Noshi and Kibiso has consequently been done, while the bulk of the stock, which is of low grade, hangs fire.

QUOTATIONS.

Pierced Cocoons—Good to Best	—
Noshi-ito—Filature, Best	$125 to 130
Noshi-ito—Filature, Good	115 to 120
Noshi-ito—Filature, Medium	105 to 110
Noshi-ito—Oshu, Good to Best	110 to 115
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Best	—
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Good	—
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Medium	60 to 75
Noshi-ito—Bushu, Good to Best	—
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Best	—
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Good	70
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Ordinary	60 to 65
Kibiso—Filature, Best selected	100 to 105
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds	85 to 90
Kibiso—Oshu, Good to Best	—
Kibiso—Shinshu, Best	—
Kibiso—Shinshu, Seconds	—
Kibiso—Joshu, Good to Fair	30 to 27½
Kibiso—Joshu, Middlingto Common	20 to 22½
Kibiso—Hachoji, Good to Fair	20 to 23
Kibiso—Hachoji, Medium to Low	22 to 20
Kibiso—Neri, Good to Common	12 to 8
Mawata—Good to Best	—

TEA.

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Good Medium	23 to 24
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EXCHANGE.

Exchange has fluctuated slightly, but has been fairly steady on the whole.

Sterling—Bank T.T.	2/1⅞
— — Bills on demand	2/1⅞
— — 4 months' sight	2/1⅞
— Private 4 months' sight	2/2⅛ @ ¼
— — 6 months' sight	2/2⅛ @ ⅜
On Paris—Bank sight	2.69
On Lyons—Private 4 months' sight	2.75 @ 6
On Hongkong—Bank sight	½% p.
— Private 10 days' sight	½% d.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	71⅞
— Private 10 days' sight	72⅛
On India—Bank sight	193
— Private 30 days' sight	195½
On America—Bank Bills on demand	52
— Private 30 days' sight	53⅛ @ ⅛
— — 4 months' sight	54 @ ¼
On Germany—Bank sight	1.16
— Private 4 months' sight	2.23
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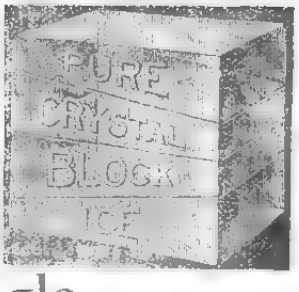
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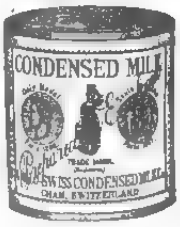
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No. 24.] REGISTERED AT THE G.P.O. AS A NEWSPAPER. YOKOHAMA, JUNE 15TH, 1895. 明治二十五年六月十三日 可認書信通用 VOL. XXII.

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, JUNE 15TH, 1895.

MARRIAGE.

On Wednesday, June 12th, at the British Legation, Professor JOHN MILNE, F.R.S., of the Imperial Japanese University, to TONE, daughter of the late Horikawa Noritsune, Abbot of Ganjo-ji, Nishi Hongwan-ji, Hakodate.

On June, 12th, 1895, at Trinity Cathedral, Tsukiji, Tokyo, by the Rt. Rev. John McKim, D.D., the Rev. GEORGE PECK PIERSON to Miss IDA GORPP, both of Japan.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

NOTWITHSTANDING the heavy rain of Saturday, two sailing races came off in Yokohama. That was startled by the issue of a bogus telegram announcing an engagement between Japanese and German war-vessels.

REUTER telegraphs—The rumoured Russo-Chinese Loan has been confirmed. It is for seventeen millions sterling, and is received with disfavour in London and Berlin, because it places China in a position subservient to Russia. Five French banks have signed an agreement to lend China fifteen millions sterling on the guarantee of the Russian Government. The Bedouins outside Jeddah have attacked the British Consul (Mr. W. S. Richards), the British Vice-Consul (Abdur Razzach), the Russian Consul, and the French Consular Secretary. The British Vice-Consul was shot dead, and the British Consul was wounded. The Russian Consul and the French Consular Secretary were seriously injured. A British squadron has been ordered to proceed to Beyrout in this connection, and three ships have been detached for service at Jeddah. The Sultan of Turkey has conveyed his regrets to the several embassies for the outrage on the Consuls at Jeddah. It is reported in St. Petersburg that the Government intends to extend the Trans-Caspian railway to Marghilan, and from thence to Urutube, eighty miles from Chitral. A large Russian force, hitherto stationed at Marghilan, has been advanced to Urutube. The Turkish police at Moosh have grossly affronted the foreign delegates of the Armenian Outrage Commission. The Porte yielding to the pressure of the Powers has promised to reply to their joint note before the festival of Bairam. Gloucester has beaten Middlesex by five wickets. Mr. Grace made 169 runs, thereby completing his one thousand this season. He received a great ovation and a national cricket testimonial is being organized. The Prince of Wales wrote a letter to Mr. Grace congratulating him on beating the record.

THERE is nothing new to say about the Import trade. Money remains tight, and will probably continue so until the first installment of the Chinese Indemnity is paid. The result of this condition of affairs is a continued restriction in trade, and so far as textiles are concerned the smallest possible business has been done—necessities to fill immediate requirements. In the Metal market a similar state of things is found—some enquiry, but resulting in next to nothing so far as business is concerned. The Kerosene market is quiet, though there are transactions which have not yet been reported, and holders are firm generally. There has been a fair demand for all kinds of Sugar, and prices are without quotable alteration throughout the list. There have been further transactions in Silk which have tended to nearly making a clearance of Old Crop. New has been brought to market—sample lots from different filatures, but nothing very definite can be said about these. As to the Crop generally, reports now to hand indicate a large and general increase in the outturn visible, and it is confidently stated that in many districts, quality—we refer to cocoons only—will be exceedingly good. What the filatures will do to enhance the improved quality of *mai* is an unknown quantity. It is seldom that finer, brighter mulberry has been seen than has been cut for the *kaiko* this season. Small sales of Waste have been effected, but there is a big heap yet to get rid of, and it is said that offers are much wanted for some of this lot that do not appear to be forthcoming. The Tea trade has quieted down, and prices, which are firm for good quality, are easier for common grade leaf. A few days ago about 2,000 piculs choice quality first crop leaf, fired, boxed, and ready for shipping, were destroyed.

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THE SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS DURING THE WEEK.

The Vernacular press has been engaged during the present week discussing the foreign policy of the country, the situation in Korea, the colonization and government of Formosa, and various topics connected with Russia. As to the agitation that politicians of the Opposition are trying assiduously to organize, its success remains a matter of considerable doubt. Even if formally organized, the combination is not likely to become powerful. The *Jiji Shimpo's* proposal for the formation of a *Genkun* Cabinet has not been received seriously, so far as the journalistic world is concerned, the idea being generally considered impracticable. Experience has proved the difficulty of such a coalition, yet the *Jiji* urges its favourite idea over and over again, telling its countrymen that a juncture like the present requires extraordinary measures, and that the leaders of the people must completely sacifice private considerations for the benefit of their country. Whatever may be said about the feasibility of the plan, it cannot be doubted that our distinguished contemporary's disinterested solicitude for the welfare of the nation deserves full commendation.

* * *

The metropolitan papers urge the Cabinet to adopt a definite and consistent foreign policy. Their contention is that the Japanese Government has hitherto been devoid of any distinct foreign policy. Now that Japan's real position in the East has been for the first time recognized by the Powers of Europe, it is of imperative necessity that her statesmen should have always in view some well defined and consistent line of action in the field of diplomacy. The *Nippon*, discussing this subject, laments that absence of definite ideas on the question of foreign policy is a characteristic common to the statesmen in power and to those outside officialdom. None of the papers openly advocates alliance with an Occidental Power. They rather caution the Cabinet against any precipitate step in that direction. But they all unite in pointing out the importance of paying close attention to the ever-changing relations between the different Powers of Europe, and maintain that the foreign policy of the country must be shaped in such a manner as to utilize to the utmost the state of affairs prevailing at the moment in Europe. It is not difficult, however, to read between the lines the direction in which the heart of the Japanese public inclines. Judging from the tone of the press, whatever may be the feeling of the Japanese against Germany and France, they seem determined never to forget or forgive the high-handed procedure of Russia. The Tokyo journals write that, as a result of the recent war with China, Japan has created strong and definite enemies, and that, consequently, the choice of definite friends among the rest of the Powers is a matter of absolute necessity. Journals of standing and influence like the *Jiji Shimpo* do not hesitate to indicate that the natural ally of Japan is England. It is a remarkable fact that, notwithstanding her cOoperation with Russia in the recent protest against the permanent possession of Liaotung by Japan, the Republic of France still seems to retain its hold upon the hearts of the Japanese people. An evident propensity is discernible among Japanese journalists to minimize as much as possible the part played by France in the recent drama. The nation apparently does not forget the warm sympathy evoked by its warlike exploits in France and is willing to recognize that she reluctantly lent assistance to Russia, solely because, unless she did so, her interests elsewhere would have been seriously jeopardised. The attitude toward Germany is less forgiving; it being generally believed that she was in a sense the organizer and leader of the coalition. Moreover, the association of distinguished German officers with the Chinese Army and the suspected partiality of the German Naval officers to China in the recent war, largely contribute to lessen the friendly sentiments of the Japanese towards that country. Still the feeling toward her may even be described as amicable when compared with the animosity prevailing against Russia.

* * *

As a first step toward inaugurating a new epoch in the foreign relations of the country, several of the metropolitan papers recommend the replacement of the present Ministers in European countries by men of higher standing and greater ability. They strongly criticise diplomatic officials whose principal business is said to be the utmost possible financial economy. Men actuated solely by such an object cannot but be profoundly ignorant of the events passing around them. The *Kokumin Shimbun*, writing on this subject, observes, that the officials now representing Japan in Western capitals were sent to their respective posts before this Empire received recognition as the first Power in the East, and are consequently accustomed to be treated with comparative indifference by the Governments to which they are accredited. It is conceivable that they may find it difficult to bring about a change in that respect, and to command treatment proportionate to the dignity and consequence of their country as a great Power. The *Kokumin* considers it necessary that new men be appointed to Occidental Courts. The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* points out the difficulties that lie in the path of Japanese diplomatic representatives in Europe and America. In the first place, they have not received a general diplomatic training; and secondly, they are not paid on a sufficiently liberal scale to maintain social intercourse with prominent men in the countries of their residence, as well as with their colleagues of the diplomatic corps. It is only a few years since the Japanese diplomatic service was placed on an independent footing, and candidates for it were required to pass special examination and possess special qualifications. Necessarily some time must intervene before the new system bears fruit. Pending the production of capable officials under that system, a mere change in the *personnel* of Ministers abroad would do little good. As to an increase of salary and expenditures, it can be effected only by degrees. Under these circumstances, our contemporary thinks that there is little room for immediate improvement in the diplomatic service of the Empire.

* * *

As may easily be imagined, every item of intelligence relating to Russia and her policy attracts keen public attention. The utterances of the Russian press are specially noted. Discussing Russia's avowed object to obtain a naval station on the Korean coast, the *Jiyu Shimbun* observes that the Northern Power's ambition must be to get Fusan, if possible; failing that, to seize Gensan; and in case that too proves impracticable, to be contented with a port called Ung-kwi, which lies in the extreme north of the peninsula. In either event, Japan's interests and safety would be seriously endangered, and the Government is urged to increase the military forces now stationed at Fusan and Gensan as well as to induce Korea to open Ung-kwi to trade with Japan.

* * *

The *Kokkai Shimbun* devotes several leading articles to the discussion of Russian topics. In the first of these articles, it enumerates the various routes by which Russia may be expected to push southward toward the sea; such, for instance, as Turkey, Persia, Afghanistan, and so forth, and concludes that her intention is probably to attain her long cherished object—an all-year-open naval station on the northern coast of Korea. Port Lazareff, says the *Kokkai*, has been found to be unsuitable for naval purposes on account of the abundance of adjacent islands offering convenient bases of operations for an enemy. The Russians are said to have discovered another and better port sixty miles north of that place; they call it Siestukoff. The *Kokkai* further discusses the dangers incidental to the possession by Russia of a port on the Yellow Sea. Lastly, it refers to the proposal advanced by a Russian semi-official organ that the consent of the Chinese Government be obtained for the leasing of land to extend the Siberian Railway to a sea port on a place of self-respecting ghost might haunt.

the Yellow Sea. Such an event, should it ever come to pass, would constitute a manifest danger to the peace of the East, and Japan would have an indisputable right to protest against it. "We do not believe," concludes the *Kokkai*, "that the utterances of the semi-official organ represent the views of the Russian Government; we should rather regard them as an irresponsible expression of the editor's individual opinion. But whatever may be the intention of the St. Petersburg Cabinet, such a plan would be difficult to carry out. At the same time, we invite the attention of our authorities to the importance of combination with friendly Powers for awakening China, who is now slumbering over the crater of a latent volcano ready to burst forth in terrible eruption at any moment."

* * *

With regard to Korea, Japanese papers of all shades of opinion are united in urging the Government to maintain, at whatever cost, the position already taken there. There seems to be an apprehension among the public lest the return of Count Inouye may prelude the adoption of a new policy with a view to slackening Japan's hold upon the peninsula. The *Jiji Shimpo's* article may be taken as representative on this subject. It is uncompromisingly opposed to any policy tending to leave Korea to her own fate. To the contention that continued interference in Korean affairs would be inconsistent with the avowed object of Japan's war with China—namely, the independence of Korea—the *Jiji* replies that in order to attain that object it is but proper and necessary for Japan to continue for some time to guide and instruct the peninsular kingdom how to play the new rôle secured to it by the successful issue of the war. Japan did not declare how long she would continue to act as Korea's guide and instructor; that point was left entirely to her own discretion. As to the objection that Japan is doing just what she blamed China for doing in Korea, our contemporary remarks that there is all the difference in the world between the conduct of China and that of Japan toward the little Kingdom. China's policy had a blighting influence upon Korea; while Japan is honestly endeavouring to breathe new life into the Korean people and bring them under the beneficent influence of modern civilization. Such being the case, no civilized nation has any right to protest against what Japan is doing in Korea. Should, however, any Power have assurance enough to make such a protest, the *Jiji* advises the Government to have no hesitation in rejecting it. "It will be easy enough to act in common with some of the Powers. At all events, Japan has advanced too far to be able to retreat.

* * *

Much is written about the colonization and development of Formosa, but, on the whole, want of information about the island and its resources compels the vernacular press to be contented with general statements. The papers seem assured that Viscount Kabayama will not fail to take whatever steps may be necessary.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

A PORT ARTHUR GHOST.

IN these days of rank scepticism, where everything that smacks at all of the supernatural is at once laid bare by the scientific scalpel, it is refreshing now and then to meet with a ghost story of the good old type; particularly when it is corroborated by several independent witnesses and all the circumstances connected with it dovetail to a nicety. We take the subjoined tale from the *Chuo Shimpo*, wherein it is narrated with truly delightful *vraisemblance*, and attested by persons whose word it would be rank heresy to doubt. On one of the many promontories about Port Arthur, at a spot that has often been the site of Chinese encampments, a company of soldiers belonging to the inevitable "certain regiment" was left on guard; and one of the small native houses there fell to the lot of a "certain" sergeant-major. It was a lonely place at best, and particularly so at night: just the sort of

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But undisturbed by such reflections, the sergeant-major retired on the first night of his occupancy with every hope of refreshing slumber. Shortly after midnight, however, he suddenly awoke from a confused dream to find a woman seated near his pillow and gazing at him with mournful intensity. The woman was a Japanese, well-dressed, and young—about eighteen years of age, apparently. A minute's reflection sufficed to convince the sergeant-major that there was no flesh and blood woman thereabouts, especially none of his own nationality; this then was an apparition—and here the *Chuo* observes that the ghost-seer actually drew nearer his supernatural visitant for purposes of closer inspection, a statement that, with all due apologies, we take the liberty to doubt. After sitting in melancholy silence for about an hour, the poor spirit vanished. The following day the sergeant-major concluded that he had been the dupe of a lively imagination; but again, at precisely the same hour that night, the ghostly maiden appeared. This time he strove to make her speak, but to no avail. The vanishing occurred after the stereotyped fashion. Three nights running did the spectre thus arouse the warrior from his sleep, and the thing grew monotonous. He resolved to, and did, on the fourth day move into another house. The next occupant of the dwelling was a private of the first-class. The ghost was promptly on hand, turning up early in the evening. On being somethingrudely addressed, it vanished. The following night the soldier awoke to find the peristent spirit at his pillow, "looking as if it had something to complain of," and the same thing happening for several successive nights, the soldier, like his predecessor, found quarters elsewhere. The next to move in was a wine-dealer, named Fujii Tsunesaburo. He had heard nothing whatever of the spectre, but was doomed to speedily make its acquaintance, for the dreary figure was in evidence for thirteen nights running. On this Fujii, by profession an ardent believer in spirits, conferred with one of his acquaintances and learned, to his joy, that a priest of the Hongwanji persuasion was in Port Arthur at the moment. To call on this priest and relate his grievance was the work of a short space. The bonze professed willingness to attempt to exercise the ghost though ill-prepared for so important an undertaking, none of the pertinent Buddhist *sutras* being in his luggage. He would try to recite from memory; perchance the ghost, being Japanese, would not be over-particular with a countryman, and so overlook any little *lapsus linguæ*. Accompanied by several interested persons, the priest visited the house at the indicated hour. The ghost gradually grew less distinct as the recitation went on, and finally faded from sight. It never made another appearance. "At all events," observes our contemporary, "the event was a strange one, and it is still more remarkable that three men should have repeatedly seen the same apparition at the same hour, without informing each other of the spectre. According to subsequent investigations the lighthouse on the Keikwan promontory was, until the capture of Port Arthur, in the keeping of certain foreigners, one of whom had a fair Japanese maid-servant, Yuki by name, just eighteen years of age. She disappeared in the Port Arthur battle, and there is little doubt that she fell a victim to the barbarism of the fleeing Chinese. The room in which the spirit was so often seen had formerly been her bed-chamber."

COOLIES FROM THE FRONT.

News has frequently appeared in the columns of the vernacular press of alleged unfeeling treatment accorded to coolies by their contractors, the commission of the latter having been considered too high, and so forth. Coolies that accompanied the First Division from Tokyo exceeded 10,000, most of whom were supplied by the Okura *Gumi*, the Arima *Gumi*, and a few other firms. These contractors deducted a commission of 15 *sen* a day from each of the coolies engaged by them, whose wages from the Army were 50 *sen* each per diem. The deduction of the commission was perfectly legal, as the coolies were doubtless aware of it when they entered the service of the Army. The coolies now complain that, although the contractors have enjoyed so much profit, they not only refused to pay the remnant of the wages while the coolies were still at the front, but withold it even now that the men have returned, and that, moreover, the contractors treat wounded or sick coolies with cruelty. It is said, writes the *Kokkai*, that some scores of these discontended coolies, backed by Miura Kamekichi and other noted *kyokaku* of Kanda, Tokyo, are resolved to agitate strongly against the contractors with the object of obliging the latter to give 50 *yen* to each coolie as a parting gift. They consider that the contractors ought to be able to spare a little of the enormous profits they have enjoyed. A commission of 15 *sen* per head amounts to a large sum when a contractor supplies thousands of coolies to the Army. For instance, the Okura *Gumi* sent 5,000 men to the front, thus gaining through them 750 *yen* a day, or 22,500 *yen* per month. Out of this of course certain expenses had to be paid by the firm to the coolie inspectors. The same paper writes to the effect that the authorities are contemplating a project to be applied to coolies returned from the front, who number, it is said, over 100,000. The war furnished a good outlet for many of the lower classes who were in want of employment or who made a subsistence by gambling or theft, so that in Tokyo and other large cities the number of petty offenders has been unusually small of late. Now that the men have returned, however, with elated spirits, the lawless among them are likely to become worse than hitherto, and the Authorities are anxious to control them effectively. They propose, therefore, to organize a standing transport corps for military purposes which is to be composed of the fittest coolies out of those returned from the war, who will, in time of peace, be trained in the carriage of arms and provisions.

COMING OF AGE.

A large fashionably attended ball was given on the 8th April, says the *Bedfordshire Standard*, in celebration of the coming of age of Mr. Eaton Woolley, an old Bedford Grammar School boy. He is the eldest son of Mr. W. A. Woolley, H.M.'s Consular Service (retired), of West Kensington, and was born in Yedo, Japan, and educated at King's College. The rooms were most tastefully decorated with Japanese lanterns, white flowers, and violets. Most conspicuous was a very large horse-shoe of gold-coloured flowers on white satin ground, and the name "Eaton" worked in the centre with blue violets (blue and gold being the colours of Mrs. W. A. Woolley's coat of arms). There were a number of very pretty young girls present, Miss Kathleen Woolley and Miss Nellie Taylor included, and some of the toilettes were very handsome. Mrs. W. A. Woolley wore black Genoa velvet trimmed with cut jet, and plume of white ostrich feathers on left shoulder, fastened with diamond stars; Miss Kathleen Woolley, pale pink satin and pearls; Miss Nellie Taylor, rose-coloured crépon festooned with old Bedford lace; Lady Liuton, gold coloured moiré trimmed with splendid lace; and many others far too numerous to mention. Mr. Eaton Woolley's health was drunk with great enthusiasm, which he deserved, as it would be difficult to find a more conscientious, hard-working, and gentlemanly young fellow, and he is still a great favourite with many of his old schoolfellows. Dancing was kept up until half-past four o'clock, and each guest when departing wished Eaton Woolley a peaceful and happy life, and success in his future career.

MARRIAGE IN TOKYO.

On the 12th instant the marriage of Professor John Milne with Miss Tone Horikawa took place at the British Legation in Tokyo. As the ceremony was of a purely civil character, the usual accessories of best man, bridesmaids, and so forth, were dispensed with, the bride and bridegroom being accompanied by Captain and Madame Bougoin only. The wedding breakfast took place in the Imperial Hotel. The United States Minister and Mrs. Blakiston, several of Mr. Milne's foreign colleagues in the University, and some other old friends were present. The health of the bride and bridegroom, proposed in a few earnest words by His Excellency Mr. Dun, was drunk with the greatest enthusiasm, and amid fervent wishes that the happy couple's return to Japan might be as speedy as possible. Professor Milne, returning thanks, said that his heart was in the country he was leaving, and that if any effort of his own could accelerate his return, his friends might rely on his making it.

THE EUROPEAN INTERVENTION.

It is interesting to read the various views set forth in the European press after learning the contents of the new Treaty between Japan and China, but before the intervention of Germany, Russia, and France was known. This is particularly the case with regard to the press of Germany, and clearly demonstrates the fact that the subsequent intervention on the part of that Power was as little thought of in Germany as in Japan. To illustrate this, we quote the following from a leader in the *Hamburgischer Correspondent*, a widely-read paper in the German Empire. The *Correspondent* first speaks of the fact that Japan, during the ten months' war, has risen from comparative obscurity into extraordinary prominence before the whole civilized world. True, it was known that Japan was zealously adopting western civilization, but it was not so easy to determine whether its efforts, in this respect, would ultimately be crowned with success. When, therefore, Japan undertook a war against China, some regarded it as a "headless venture." Englishmen in particular shrugged their shoulders and perdicted defeat, even if Japan should be successful at first before the "Chinese giant" had become fully awake. This illusion, however, soon passed away, and Lord Rosebery began to fear the breaking up of the Chinese Empire, and as he, for good reasons, hesitated to interfere alone, he proposed joint intervention of the Powers. Leaving North America out of consideration, it was no doubt true that the Powers were of the opinion that it would have been preferable that the *status quo* in Eastern Asia should remain unchanged. But as Lord Rosebery submitted no proposition upon which the Powers could unite, nothing further was done in that direction. Germany, in particular, could not help remembering the serious time when, in its war with France, it had to ward off outside interference, and considered that Japan, too, ought not be deprived of the fruits of its splendid victories. "This kindness towards Japan, on our part, has secured us the sympathy of Japan, which England has lost." Then, after recounting some of the principal engagements by land and sea, the capture of Port Arthur and Weihaiwei, the excellent equipment of the Japanese army and navy, and the magnificent transportation facilities, &c., the *Correspondent* comes to speak of the Japanese diplomacy, which, it says, from the beginning and throughout maintained an exceptional high standard and never relaxed. It might almost be said that in the armistice and the Treaty of Peace which soon followed, this diplomacy outdid itself. It seemed in fact as though the Japanese had attended the school of Moltke and Bismarck. While European diplomacy was thinking that the time was not yet ripe for action the whole affair was completely settled, and while the world was repeatedly surprised by what was taking place during this ten months war, the greatest surprise came at last in Japan's moderate demands. It is possible, of course, that there were reasons as yet not discernible for this great moderation, but the chief cause lies no doubt in the field of diplomacy. The military situation left for Japan nothing to be desired, both with regard to China's utter helplessness and the danger of the interference of one or more Powers. If England was not in a position to do this, no other Power was, and England has not for a moment entertained such a foolish thought. Never-

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theless, Japan carefully considered the possibility of such action on the part of England, and was prepared for it. Much less could Russia think of interfering. She has as yet only 5,000 men on the Manchurian frontier, and her Siberian fleet numbers only four gunboats and two transports. To these have now been added four ships from the Black Sea. What does this all amount to? England has at least 27 ships, though mostly old ones, in Chinese waters. Moreover, the English and Russian interests are most divergent. Russia's commerce is as insignificant there as England's is important. How could these two Powers unite, especially as it lies in the interest of England to secure the friendship of Japan over against Russia? This is now understood in England. And if England and Russia cannot join hands every other coalition is excluded. But what, underthese favourable circumstances, can have induced the Mikado to discontinue the war and impose such moderate conditions of peace upon a crushed enemy? The war indemnity must be regarded as very low, and the concession of Formosa (about the size of Wurtemburg and Baden put together) means very little for such a giant empire as China. And in Manchuria Japan was content with the little tail of the hilly Liaotung Peninsula, measuring not more than 10,000 square kilometers. Here, too, one is involutarily reminded of Bismarck's moderate course towards Austria in the year 1866. Considerations of the future obviously determined the wise course of the Mikado. This future may bring about great changes in the world at large, which, however, as yet, cannot be fully surveyed. The future political relations and the commercial conditions which may possibly arise, are what some people regard with no little concern. True! But we have already arrived at a period of extraordinary commercial transformation, which, in consequence of Japan's development, and perhaps that of China, will no doubt become somewhat more acute. But who can ask of Japan to desist from developing her intellectual and material resources merely that the old fashioned commercial relations of Europe may not be disturbed? And bearing in mind, as we have already pointed out, that no one is in the position to dictate to the Japanese what they should do, it will not be less wise to do as they did and make the best of the situation.

MR. WALTER BESANT ON CRICKET.

MR. WALTER BESANT, writing in the *Queen*, says:—The *Spectator* is mournful over the expenditure recently incurred by the London evening papers in reporting the cricket matches between Australia and England. "There is no objection," says this paper—the italics are mine—"social or moral to cricket, which is a most healthy and educative, *though excessively tedious*, game, but if this elevation of it into a subject of international interest does not *mark an increase in the appetite for frivolity there is no meaning in words*." It is by such paragraphs, as these that the *Spectator* occasionally shows itself quite out of touch with the things of the day, and it is by reason of such paragraphs, despite its very great ability, its desire to be fair, and its wide sympathies, that the *Spectator* fails to become such a power in the land as in other respects it deserves to be. First of all, to call cricket tedious! Why, there is no game in the world, to one who understands anything about it, that is less tedious. As for myself, short sight and incurable awkwardness always rendered me useless as a cricketer. I went in, as a boy, when I had to, in order to make up an eleven; I never got any runs, or bowled anybody—my ball never would go anywhere near the stumps—or caught anybody. Yet to me, as to thousands and millions of Englishmen, cricket has always been the king of games. There is no skill like the skill of the batsman or the bowler. There is no dexterity like that of a good fielder. There is no game which so commands admiration. There is none so full of the changes and chances of fortune. Tedious? Cricket tedious? Then what in the world is interesting? "It marks," says the *Spectator*, "an increase in frivolity . . . grave interests no longer fill the minds of men." Oh! But, really, what foundation is there for this? That people bought eagerly the news of the Australian match; that tens of thousands are interested to see whether, in this king of games, we are to hold our own, or whether we are to yield to the colonists, is true enough. How long did it take to satisfy that interest? Five minutes only. Five minutes reading of the paper decided the question, after which everybody returned to the graver questions of the day, which were, I suppose, the County Council and the influenza. The *Spectator* appears to suppose that the whole conversation and thoughts of men have been occupied for days by this match. Nonsense! The human mind is quite able to take a proper and healthy interest in a noble game, yet not to neglect more important things. The Broad Street and Liverpool Street trains of that evening were full of men who bought their paper, who turned with eagerness to the report of the match, talked of it for five minutes, and then went back to the graver interests of the day.

CHITRAL.

THE following account of the Chitral affair, which we take from the *St. James's Budget*, puts the case in a nut-shell:—

Our latest "little war"—a tolerably big one, by the way—illustrates very forcibly the irresistible tendency of our Empire to extend its boundaries. A few short years ago Chitral was but a vague geographical expression; to-day it is an important *point d'appui*; to-morrow it may include a thoroughly established and well-equipped military station in which Tommy Atkins will be as familiar a figure as he is in Hyde Park. This sudden leap into prominence of one of the most obscure and inaccessible of trans-frontier States, though immediately due to the ill-regulated aggressiveness of the usurping Prince, Umra Khan, has really been brought about by causes which lie far beyond the internecine feuds of the troubled dynasty which exercises sovereign sway in Chitral. Our interest in the State arose out of the extension of Russian influence on the northern slopes of the Hindoo Koosh. The vapouring of bellicose Russian generals, and the pronounced unfriendliness which marked all the actions of the St. Petersburg authorities toward us led the Indian authorities to carefully examine the northern frontier of India, with the somewhat disquieting result that through Chitral was discovered a route perfectly practicable for troops despatched from Central Asia. Immediate steps were taken to safeguard this open door to India, and in 1876 Major Biddulph went to Gilgit as political agent, and thus for the first time opened up direct relations with the rulers of the State. Since then our influence has increased apace; and though fuller acquaintance with the locality has tended to throw doubt on the military importance of the route through Chitral, the position is one of sufficient strategical value to give a high significance to the operations which are now being carried on.

From the purely commercial point of view this new conquest, if conquest it is to be, is not likely to bring us much benefit. The State—to use Captain Younghusband's picturesque phrase—is "a sea of mountains," and there is little in its sparsely populated and indifferently cultivated valleys to repay the enormous cost of the present expedition. But if the enterprise does not prove a lucrative one, it will help us to a better understanding of a little-known and highly interesting race. All authorities on the subject, from Major Biddulph to Mr. Curzon and Captain Younghusband, agree in thinking that, despite a certain disagreeable habit of homicide which is exercised on the smallest provocation, the Chitrals are a most agreeable and interesting people. Their gaiety is astonishing, and they are as impressionable as children, whom, indeed, in many of their characteristics they greatly resemble. Some of their customs, perhaps, would hardly be considered quite correct in the West, but at least they have the merit of originality. For instance, marriage with a deceased husband's brother, so far from being improper, *is* an act of devotion imperative on the widow or widows, for the Chitrali, as a rule, is a much-married man. This custom, no doubt, arises from the small esteem in which female kind is held in Chitral. Women there are absolute chattles, and are bartered and sold like merchandise. In fact, not so long since Chitral was, owing to the extreme beauty of its women, the favourite recruiting-ground for the harems of Cabul and other Central Asian centres.

A SERIOUS CHARGE.

IN Hongkong, on June 4th, Mr. H. E. Wodehouse, heard evidence in a charge preferred against Capt. Jas. Pattie, master of the steamer *Strathnevis*, of putting two men ashore in the Colony and leaving them destitute, and also with aiding and abetting them in deserting from Her Majesty's service at Singapore. One of the men belonged to the 25th Company, Royal Engineers, and the other to the Northumberland Fusiliers. From the evidence it appeared that the men were discovered as stowaways about an hour after the steamer left Singapore. They were in uniform, and were given civilian clothing on board. They were put upon the articles of the ship at Saigon, one employed as fireman and the other as a deck hand. The chief engineer said the Captain did not know the men were deserters. Mr. H. L. Dennys, for the defendant, stated that the men told his client that they were formerly employed on the *Maple Branch*. Mr. Wodehouse said there was no necessity to go into the charge of aiding and abetting deserters. Mr. Dennys then pointed out that the desertion of the men from the ship in Hongkong was reported in the ordinary course to the Shipping Master. He pointed out that the steamer had been in the Colony for sixteen days, the men had been in the Colony to the knowledge of the police for several days, and the case was only brought that day when the vessel was about to sail. Inspector Mann said the police did not know that these men were deserters. His Worship, in dismissing the case on account of insufficiency of evidence, said it required a good deal of credulity to believe that the Captain was unaware of the fact that these men were military deserters, a fact that seemed to be perfectly well-known to the crew and officers. There was nothing to show that the captain was a party to leaving the men behind in the Colony, though His Worship was of opinion that if the men had been wanted back they could easily have been procured. He was of opinion that the chief engineer was a guilty party to the men being told to clear out in Hongkong, and if the police decided to prosecute he would go into the charge the next day. Mr. Dennys reminded His Worship that the chief engineer was unaware when the men left the ship that they were deserters from Her Majesty's service.—*China Mail*.

CLAN FIGHTS NEAR CANTON.

GRUESOME details concerning the recent clan fight between the surnames Yung and Li in the San Ui district continue to be received by the *Chinese Mail* (*Wah Tsz Yat Po*). At the time of the marching of the Li clan into the enemy's village on loot intent, some of the villagers got so scared as to seek to relieve their fears by jumping into the wells to be drowned there, while in one family six members ended their existence by hanging themselves from the rafters. A few were taken prisoners by the Li clan and disposed of with shocking brutality. Some of these unfortunates were wrapped up with cotton soaked with oil and made big candles of, while others were skinned alive and disembowelled. The distress of the defeated clan baffles description. With nearly all the houses burned to the ground, the majority of them were rendered houseless and homeless, and had to throw themselves on the neighbouring villagers, who provided them with shelter in a big ancestral temple and gave them food. The fearful fight has ceased now, but both parties have not yet given up their culprits, that is the participators in the fight, although demanded by the military officer sent from Canton to restore order.

A SHAM FIGHT AND ITS RESULTS.

GREAT trouble has developed among the teachers of elementary schools in Kita-morogata District, Miyazaki Prefecture. In April last the schools in that District engaged in a sham fight, and a species of mine was used during the manœuvres. The police regarded this as an infringement of the rules relating to gunpowder, and fined the presidents and instructors of the elementary schools one *yen* each. The president of the Tojo School immediately resigned his position in consequence. His example was followed by the instructors in the same institution, and over one hundred masters of other schools, who were present at the sham fight and agreed to use the mine, propose to resign in a body.

A COMICAL INCIDENT.

THE re-election of one-half of the members of the Tokyo City Assembly has just been closed. An amusing thing happened in Hongo district in connection with the re-election of a member to represent electors of the first class. There are in that quarter of the town only three such electors—exclusive of the two rival candidates, Messrs. Seki and Kazama—namely, Marquis Asano, Mr. Iwazaki Hisaya, and one other. Each candidate was confident of one vote, and

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the election depended upon the ballot of the Marquis. The latter was, however, absent on the occasion, so that the attention of the candidates was turned to dissuading the rival's supporter from voting. So successful were they, that when they appeared before the district Office on the appointed day, neither of the voters were to be seen. The election of the day was therefore declared null and void, and was postponed to some future date.

MISS CHERRY-BLOSSOM OF TOKYO.

JAPAN is not wholly a new field for the international novel, but its possibilities are far from exhausted, and Mr. John Luther Long, the latest writer to exploit its opportunities, must be credited with a distinct success. Both in setting and in characterization, "Miss Cherry-Blossom, of Tokyo," offers convincing evidence of intimate acquaintance with its subject. The Japanese heroine has been, to be sure, a little sophisticated by a term of residence in America, at the "Bryn Mawr Gakko," but the author sees better than most observers that the Oriental offers no exception to the rule of *cælum non animum mutant*. We are too apt to think that the subjects of the Mikado, by contact with things European, have really become occidentalized at heart—Mr. Long helps us to learn the lesson that their inner life remains all but wholly impenetrable to our barbarian gaze, just as we have learned a similar lesson from Mr. Kipling concerning the natives of British India. Some concessions, indeed, he is forced to make to the exigencies of the love-story which it was his main purpose to tell, and as far as it has charm for us in this respect, we must admit that he has strained the ethnical probabilities. But so extremely winning a figure as Miss Cherry-Blossom is her own excuse for being (in the pages of a novel), and we follow her fortunes, listen to her delightful broken English, and share in her griefs with the acutest sympathy. Aside from this lovingly-delineated central figure, the book does not offer us anything particularly notable as characterization or as constructive workmanship.—*Dial.*

TSUKIJI LITERARY AND MUSICAL SOCIETY.

THE Tsukiji Musical and Literary Society met on Monday evening, June 10th, at the residence of Rev. and Mrs. G. W. Taft, No. 30, Tsukiji, when the following programme was carried out:—

1.—Piano Duet....."Poet and Peasant".....Suppé.
Mrs. Wadman and Mrs. Clement.
2.—Song....."Erl Koenig".....Schubert.
Mr. Matheson.
3.—Piano Solo....."Impromptu No. IV."....Schubert.
Miss True.
4.—Song.....
Mr. McNair.
5.—Vocal Solo, Selected.....
Master Arthur Tyng.
6.—Quartette....."The Triton's Song".....Molloy.
Mrs. Wadman, Mrs. Taft, Mr. Miller, Mr. Davison.
7.—Piano Solo....."Kamennoi Ostrow".....Rubenstein.
Miss Thomas.
8.—Solo....."Gondolier's Song".....De Koven.
Mrs. Taft.
9.—Piano Trio....."Der Bettel Studcnt".....Millocker.
Miss Thomas, Mrs. Taft, Mrs. Clement.

As this was the last meeting of the season, it was purposely made a social occasion; and several friends were invited to share in the festivities, so that the entire number of those present was about fifty. After the musical programme was finished, the Secretary-Treasurer, Mr. Wadman, made report for the season, and passed around, as a souvenir for each one present, a programme giving the dates, subjects and places of the session. The President, Mr. Taft, was given a vote of thanks for the graceful manner in which he had officiated. The constitution was then shelved, so that those present might enjoy ice-cream, cake, and lemonade.

A SCULLING RECORD.

THE Rev. Sydney Swann has now made the sculling record from the Boathouse at Kobe to the Concession at Osaka (about 16¾ miles) in 2 hours and 43 mins. He started, says the *Chronicle*, at 4.42 p.m. on Tuesday evening, accompanied by Mr. Sim in a steam launch as time-keeper and pilot. The weather was perfect for the attempt. There was a gentle breeze from the south-west, and the water was as smooth as a mill-pond for nearly the whole way, while the tide was favourable and scarcely any obstruction was met with in the river when Osaka was reached. At 4.50 p.m. Mr. Swann was rowing 27 strokes to the minute; at 5.15, 27; at 5.30, 28; at 5.45, 31; at 6, 30; at 6.15, 32; at 6.30, 30; and at 7, 28 strokes. The time when in line with the first fort at Nishinomiya and Bismarck Hill was 5.54 p.m.; the beacon at Tempo-san was reached at 6.35; and Mr. Swann landed at the Concession in Osaka at 7.14.

HANDSOME INKSTANDS.

SAYS the *China Mail*:—We understand that Messrs. H. P. Tooker and J. R. Crook, of the Public Works Department, have been awarded silver inkstands in recognition of the valuable services they rendered during the plague epidemic. Has "the returned trophy" undergone a process of segmentation, like the plague bacillus? If so, the disease may spread through the whole service; in fact, develop into a virulent epidemic of inkpots!

* * *

Apropos of this, a Hongkong bard in the same paper sings:—

(H.E. the GOVERNOR *loquitur.*)

"Come hither to me
O great Q. C.!
Paddy May has got a C.M.G.
But I really think
This stand for ink,
Sufficient reward for a Secretaree.
"What cheek (with blanks),
'I decline with thanks
Your present of filthy lucre.'
To rescue H.E.
Came the P.W.D.,
That's the reason they say, Crook took'er."

[NOTE BY THE EDITOR.—Our correspondent has had to make "inkstand" feminine, but as it was "very handsome" we suppose his gallantry is excusable.]

SHOOTING AFFRAY IN TOKYO.

THE *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* states that on the afternoon of the 7th inst., Ebizawa Tojiro, who had been employed at the residence of Count Goto for over ten years, suddenly assaulted Goto Sakaye, an attendant of the household, with a pistol. Mr. Goto Sakaye was shot above the left ear, and sustained also a slight wound below the nose. Ebizawa then shot himself in the throat and chest, neither of which wounds were fatal. The assailant was lately dismissed from Count Goto's service, and he is supposed to have imagined that Goto Sakaye was the cause. Count Goto was at his villa at Shibaura when the affray took place.

TEST SHIPMENTS FROM AUSTRALIA.

WITH a view of testing the Japanese market for Victorian meats and fruit, says the *Australasian*, the Minister of Agriculture is making arrangements for an experimental shipment of live stock, apples, and pears to that country. Mr. Taverner has had an interview with Mr. Marks, the Japanese Consul, on the subject, and he feels confident that good results would follow a trial shipment. Mr. Taverner has discovered that Japan has a very large population, and if its inhabitants could be induced to acquire a taste for our meat and fruits a large market would be opened up. Several graziers, includ- Mr. Connor, M.L.C., have promised to supply a few head of cattle so as to enable the trial to be made.

THE GREAT NORTHERN PACIFIC.

FIVE steamships, says the *Shipping and Commercial List*, may be run on the Pacific in connection with the Great Northern. Regarding the object of Mr. J. J. Hill, of the Great Northern Railway, in visiting Europe, it is asserted that Mr. Hill, having demonstrated the success of his venture in the Northern Steamship Company on the Great Lakes, now proposes to extend that service by placing a line of vessels, five in number, on the Pacific Ocean to connect with the Great Northern Railway, sailing out of Seattle, Wash., for China and Japan.

ANOTHER WAR CELEBRATION IN TOKYO.

MR. SHIBUSAWA YEIICHI and other members of the Tokyo Chamber of Commerce, says the *Jiji*, met at the office on the 10th inst., and decided to shortly hold a great war celebration in Uyeno Park, to which Ministers of State, and military and naval officers engaged in the late war, will be invited. They also propose to petition for the presence of H.I.M. the Emperor. Marquis Hachisuka, President; Marquis Kuroda, Vice-President, and some members of the Upper House, and over 70 other peers held a conference at the Noble's Club on the 10th inst. to discuss matters connected with a war celebration, and finally agreed to promote such a function.

LONG DELAYED.

THE Shanghai papers contain a growl against the Post Office authorities in Hongkong. A letter to a resident in Shanghai was posted in Sydney, N.S.W., on the 20th of January and reached Hongkong on the 6th of February, but as the postmarks show, it did not leave Hongkong for Shanghai till the 25th of May, so that it remained in the Crown Colony one hundred and ten days!

OUTRAGE AT CHENGTU.

THE following telegram was received in Shanghai on June 5th from the U.S. Consul at Hankow:—In the riots at Chêngtu, the capital of Szechuan, the Catholic church, the bishop's residence, the hospital, orphan asylum, and Catholic school were destroyed and the bishop wounded. The Protestant residences were also destroyed. No farther particulars.—*N.-C. Daily News.*

REWARDING LONG SERVICES IN THE N.Y.K.

THE Nippon Yusen Kaisha, says the *Nichi Nichi*, has presented a medal of merit and an annual pension of *yen* 300 to each of the eight captains (of whom three were Japanese and the rest foreigners) and eight chief engineers (of whom two were Japanese and the rest foreigners), who have been in its service for over ten years.

NEW TREATY BETWEEN JAPAN AND RUSSIA.

THE *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* states that the new treaty of commerce between Japan and Russia was signed at St. Petersburg on the 8th inst., by Prince Lobanoff, Minister of Foreign Affairs in the Russian Cabinet, and Mr. Nishi, Japanese Minister to Russia.

RETURNED FROM THE FRONT.

SEVERAL soldiers, natives of Yokohama or of the adjacent district, arrived here on Sunday and were received by many processions, which marched from their respective wards or villages. The banners carried in the processions all bore patriotic and complimentary mottoes.

HONOURS TO LITERATURE AND ART.

HER MAJESTY has been pleased to confer the honour of knighthood upon Henry Irving, the distinguished actor; and upon Walter Besant the author. Dr. Russell, of *The Times*; Lewis Morris, the poet; W. H. Kingston, the novelist, have also received the dignity.

THE NEW SECRETARY OF STATE OF THE U.S.

A TELEGRAPHIC message, dispatched by Mr. Kurino, Japanese Minister to America, and received by the Foreign Department on the 12th inst., states that Mr. Attorney-General Richard Olney has been appointed to succeed the late Mr. Secretary Gresham.

THE RUSSIAN MINISTER.

M. HITROVO, the Russian Minister, accompanied by the First Secretary of the Russian Legation, visited Admiral Tyrtoff on board his ship in Yokohama on Tuesday. He was received with the usual salute.

NEW CHIEF SECRETARY OF THE LOWER HOUSE.

Mr. OKUDA, Chief of the *Official Gazette* Bureau, is gazetted Chief Secretary of the Lower House in succession to Mr. Mizuno, now Chief of the Administrative Office in Formosa.

KOBE CRICKET.

IN a cricket match at Kobe on Thursday the K.C.C. beat a team from the *Undaunted*; the scores being K.C.C. 137, *Undaunted* 49. Duff retired hurt at 30; H. C. K. Lucas made 50 runs.

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POLITICAL AND PERSONAL.

The *Yomiuri Shimbun* gives a summary of the present condition of various political parties. First, concerning the Radical party, our contemporary observes that, at the time of the publication of the Peace Treaty and the Imperial Proclamation relating to the return of the Liaotung Peninsula, the great Party seemed to be in favour of cöoperating with the other sections of the Opposition. But gradually the Radicals have drifted back to their original position of apparent neutrality, and it is announced that their leaders have decided upon the following programme:—First, official expenses should be reduced and the Navy should be increased; secondly, members of the Party should enter the Cabinet; and thirdly, should these two conditions be accepted by the Cabinet, the *Jiyu-to* will become a Ministerial Party; while, on the other hand, should they be rejected, the Radicals will attack the Cabinet. In our (*Japan Mail's*) opinion, this report is evidently untrustworthy. The Radical leaders know well enough that the present is not a favourable opportunity for the inauguration of Government by Party. For the rest, the *Yomiuri's* statements about other parties need not be quoted here, being substantially the same as the accounts already published in these columns.

The Anti-Cabinet League—which goes by the name of the *Atagokan-ha*, because its meetings are usually held at the Atagokan—recently appointed a Committee to draw up a programme of future procedure for the combination. The committee included Mr. Suzuki Shigetoo, Mr. Ozaki Yukio, Mr. Suyehiro Shigeyasu, Mr. Inukai Ki, and Mr. Minai Giichi. The last named gentleman is a prominent member of the National Unionist Party, and the presence of his name on the committee has created some surprise, among political circles, for his Party is understood to be opposed to the agitation in question. It is now announced that Mr. Minai has since declined to serve on the Committee, and the belief is that he will altogether sever his connection with the League. We are also informed on good authority that, notwithstanding all reports to the contrary, a portion of the Reform party is not in favour of the agitation fomented by the above mentioned League.

The rumour that Russia had demanded the withdrawal of Japanese troops from Korea was received in this country as though it were an undoubted fact, and the Cabinet Council held at the Premier's official residence on Tuesday last was generally believed to have had some connection with that new movement on the part of the northern Power. It was also reported that the Ministers of Russia, Germany, and France had called upon Marquis Saionji, the acting Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, on Thursday. The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, on trustworthy authority, emphatically denies the truth of the rumour. It thinks that the report probably owes its origin to a London telegram dated May 29, published in a recent issue of the *N.-C. Daily News*, to the effect that Russia was about to demand the withdrawal of all Japanese forces from Korea.

The *Jiji Shimpo's* favourite scheme of *Genkun Naikaku* (Cabinet of Distinguished Servants of State) is attracting some attention, but thus far nobody seems inclined to think it practicable. The *Nippon* does not hesitate to assert that the combination of Counts Okuma, Itagaki, and Goto with the elder statesmen in the Cabinet would be as difficult as an alliance between England and Russia. "Will Count Ito," asks our contemporary, "consent to pay a visit to Count Okuma at Waseda? Are Counts Yamagata and Matsukata likely to send an invitation to Count Itagaki? Will Counts Saigo and Oyama ever find their way to ask for Count Goto's advice?" However, the greatest obstacle to the union of these men, in the opinion of the *Nippon*, is the fact that the feeling of animosity is hopelessly bitter between their respective followers. Our contemporary is convinced that the plan proposed by the *Jiji*, though attractive at first sight, is utterly impracticable, unless the experienced editor of that journal knows of some means not yet announced by him.

Count Matsukata's reported resignation is not true. It seems to be true, however, that he once tendered his resignation while at Hiroshima, the ground of his dissatisfaction being the inclusion of the Liaotung Peninsula in the territory of which the cession was to be demanded from China. He was known to be strongly opposed to the taking of the peninsula, principally from an economical point of view. Instead of acquiring territory on the mainland, it would be better, he used to say, for Japan to obtain a large indemnity. However, in deference to the mediation of a certain friend, he waived his point, and withdrew his resignation. Since then there is no reason to suppose that he has asked to be released from official duties.

Count Goto is stated to be deep in consultation with Mr. Oye Taku about some political matters. Count Oki, former Minister of State for Education, is also showing some activity. Of late he is a frequent visitor to Count Okuma and Viscount Tani. Whatever may be the future prospects of Count Goto, there can be no doubt that the time is irrevocably past for Count Oki to reappear in the political arena.

The *Nippon* quotes at some length the remarks recently made in these columns with reference to the inconsistent conduct of party politicians and the general unpopularity of the anti-Cabinet agitation they are trying to foment. Our contemporary then writes as follows:—"Such exaggerated observations are not unnatural for a foreign editor unacquainted with the condition of political parties in Japan. But a glance at the state of these parties makes it impossible for us to characterise the remarks of the *Mail* as exaggerated in all respects; there is some truth in what our contemporary states. The Opposition parties would do well to reflect upon their own conduct. They should at least take care not to afford ground for an outside observer to remark that their movements "do not seem likely to command sympathy even in political circles."

Such advice is not heeded by the politicians of the Opposition. They are as indefatigable as ever in their efforts to bring about a combination of all parties in their scheme of attack upon the Government, but their prospect of success is as discouraging as ever. They claim that they have at last succeeded in their purpose, because the meeting of the 7th instant was attended by some Radicals and National Unionists. The *Nippon* even mentions, on the authority of a Radical leader, that the Party is now in entire sympathy with the proposed agitation and that the Radicals will henceforth be at the head of the movement. But quite a different assurance is made by the official organ of the Party, the *Jiyu Shimbun*, which bases its statements upon the authority of a distinguished Radical. He states that his Party can never agree with the other parties on the question of the responsibility of the Cabinet Ministers, and that, consequently, action in union with those parties is out of the question. With regard to the presence of a few Radicals at the last conference of the projectors of the agitation, the authority quoted by the *Jiyu* states that they did not attend it as members of their Party, but in their individual capacity. This explanation is apparently insufficient, but the point seems clear that the Radical Party as a whole has nothing to do with the projected agitation. Such, we hear, is also the attitude of the National Unionists. Under these circumstances, the next conference fixed for the 15th instant is expected to lead to no practical result.

The Radical Party's refusal to join the ill-considered agitation proposed by the *Kaishin-to* and other extreme sections of the Opposition, has naturally led to the circulation of rumours calculated to damage the credit of that Party in the eyes of the people. One of the rumours already mentioned in these columns, is to the effect that the Radical leaders contemplate a coalition with the Government on condition that official expenses be reduced and that the Navy be increased on a large scale. The story is emphatically denied by the *Jiyu Shimbun*. The Radical Party, says our contemporary, may not be in sympathy with the other parties, but there is no truth in its alleged coalition with the Cabinet. The *Jiyu* acknowledges that while the war with China was still in progress, Count Itagaki repeatedly offered advice to the Cabinet. But that fact should not be taken as a proof of an understanding between the Radical Party and the Government; neither is there any desire on the part of the former to effect such an understanding.

Count Matsukata, as we have stated more than once, has not yet tendered his resignation, but his continued absence from all the meetings of the Ministers of State furnishes a plausible ground for the report that he is resolved to resign. It is now alleged that, although all ordinary visitors are turned away on the pretext of sickness, a few intimate political friends are freely received by the Minister of Finance at his private residence. Among the friends are Viscounts Takashima and Tani. The nature of the subjects discussed at their secret meetings is not known, but the enemies of the Cabinet assert that Count Matsukata and his friends are contemplating the organization of a new ministry. How they could hope to do so while the present Ministry enjoys the confidence of the Sovereign, we fail to perceive.

A project is on foot for the celebration of the restoration of peace on a grand scale. The originators of the plan are Marquis Hachisuka, President of the House of Peers, Mr. Mitsu Yasushi, Governor of Tokyo, and Mr. Shibusawa Eiichi, President of the First National Bank. Their original idea was to entertain the Ministers of State and the principal Military and Naval officers at a grand banquet, but as the result of subsequent conferences with the members of the Diet, the programme has been changed to a congratulatory demonstration at Uyeno to which the Emperor would be invited. The principal point of objection raised by the members of the Diet to the original plan, is that they cannot conscientiously celebrate the restoration of peace because they do not approve of the manner in which peace has been rëestablished, and that, consequently, they see no reason why the Ministers of State should be entertained at a banquet. Definite answers are to be made by the different political parties by the 16th. In our opinion the projectors made a mistake in seeking the cöoperation of party politicians whose attitude might easily have been foretold by the least intelligent observer. We believe that the project having been dragged into the sphere of party politics, is doomed to failure. Another result to be apprehended from the present peculiar state of party feeling is that the celebration, should if it ever takes place, may be perverted into a political demonstration against the Government.

Viscount Shinagawa, leader of the National Unionist Party, is not in sympathy with politicians that are wasting their time over the hopeless task of fomenting an anti-Cabinet agitation. On the eve of his departure for Kyoto, he was interviewed by a friend who supplies an account of the meeting to the *Chuo Shimbun*. The Viscount laid much stress upon the importance of the whole nation's union for the increase of the country's fighting capacity, and stated that the present was not a time for personal intrigues and party struggles. "Politicians, were daily holding conferences. If their object were to demand the retirement of the Ministers of State in connection with the alleged diplomatic defeat, why did they not direct their *jinrikisha* to Waseda, instead of to the Atago-kan, and call upon Count Okuma to assume the direction of State affairs? I know Okuma well; he is certainly one of the greatest men of the age. He has few equals as a deviser of financial measures, and he consequently seems to be a

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suitable man to take charge of the national finance after the war. The post of Minister of Foreign Affairs, too, would not be ill-adapted for him if that position needed a worthy occupant. It would be better for politicians, instead of wasting their time in fruitless conferences, to advise Okuma to open communications with Ito, Matsukata, Mutsu, and so forth. . . . . Having been disgusted with the conduct of those politicians, I intend to refresh myself by a visit to the beautiful city of Kyoto, and there to commune with the spirits of the departed heroes. Those heroes were not inconstant and selfish; their only ambition was to serve their country."

ECONOMICAL AND COMMERCIAL.

The Monetary System Investigation Commission held a meeting in the Department of Finance on the evening of the 5th inst. It had been expected that the labours of the Commission would come to an end at this meeting, but such is said to have been the enthusiasm displayed by the members in the discussion of the various points awaiting decision, that it was finally resolved to defer the taking of final votes until the next conference. Mr. Kawashima Jun, Professor Kanai Nobu, Mr. Soyeda Juichi, Mr. Taguchi Ukichi, Mr. Watanabe Hiromoto, and Viscount Tani, are said to have been the principal speakers. The majority of the Commission are believed to be of opinion that the time has not arrived for any modification of the present monetary system of the country. But considerable doubt is expressed as to the ultimate decision of the Commission, it being understood that opinion is very much divided among its members.

Reports from the silk centres all illustrate the tightness of money throughout the country. Complaints come from every locality about the difficulty of obtaining accommodation, and the silk markets are in many cases reported to be very dull. It is only in places where people have made profits by supplying the Army and the Navy with provisions and other things of necessity, that no such complaint is made. The *Chugai Shogyo Shimpo*, from which we take these facts, is confident that the scarcity of money in the silk centres will soon be remedied by supplies from the banks of Tokyo and Osaka.

The exports of matches from Osaka and Kobe in the month of May were as follow:—

	Cases.
Osaka	470
Kobe	28,941
Total	29,411

Compared with the same month of the preceding year, there is an increase of 6,800 cases. Comparing the above mentioned returns for May with those for the preceding month, we again find an increase of 817 cases. Of 29,411 cases exported in May last, 20,045 cases represent the manufactures of the Match Guild of Hyogo, while 9,366 cases were made by the members of the Osaka Match Manufacturers' Guild. The average price ruling in the month of May is not known, but taking that for the preceding month, 13 *yen* 50 *sen* per case, as a basis of calculation, the market value of the matches exported during the month under review amounts to 397,048 *yen*, an increase of 12,379 *yen*.

The prosperous condition of the tea trade at Kobe during the present season has attracted wide attention. The total quantity of tea purchased by foreign firms there since the commencement of the season till the 1st instant exceeds over 3,940,000 *kin*, an enormous increase compared with the figures for the corresponding period of the preceding year. Not only in quantity has there been increase, but the price realised has been far higher than those prevailing last year. The increase as compared with last year's prices, has been 8-9 *yen* in leaf of the best quality, 5-6 *yen* in those of medium quality, and 3-4 *yen* in those of the lowest quality. Another noteworthy feature about the present season is said to have been a remarkable absence of all complications in business relations between buyer and sellers. A certain tea merchant, quoted by the *Chugai Shogyo Shimpo*, ascribes the favourable condition of the tea trade in Kobe to the recognition that the improvements effected in the manufacture of Japanese tea have received from foreign merchants as well as consumers. Of late years, Japanese tea has been in danger of losing the American market in consequence of deterioration in quality. This danger roused the Japanese producers to extraordinary zeal for the improvement of their manufacture, and the results of their efforts is visible in the superior quality of tea bought to the market this year. While this improvement must be regarded as the primary cause of the favourable prices prevailing in Kobe, it must not be forgotten, says the merchant in question, that competition among the foreign firms is in a measure responsible for such high prices. According to his own calculations, the prices prevailing in the United States would not permit him to buy Japanese tea in Kobe at the current quotations; he would certainly lose by the transaction. He is, consequently, at a loss to understand why such prices are maintained in Kobe, and he apprehends a ruinous reaction, and wishes to call this fact to the attention of all the producers of tea throughout the country.

The London *Financial News* says that "the cessation of the war in the East should improve the market for cotton yarn and piece goods, and give a fillip to Lancashire consumption of raw cotton, the more so [redacted] the excise duties handicap India in supplying China, and the war may be presumed to have put obstacles in the way of the continued growth of the Japanese spinning and weaving industries." It may interest our contemporary and those that share the notion expressed in the concluding part of the passage just quoted, to know that quite a different view is entertained by Japanese writers. In their opinion, the war has opened a new path for the growth of spinning and weaving industries in Japan. Of course, while fighting was in progress, these industries sufferred in common with other classes of business. But the Japanese cotton factories are ready at any moment to extend their operations so as to meet the increasing demand. The *Keisai Zasshi*, which is a high authority on financial matters, expresses itself in a similar strain, and declares that, in the coming struggle between Indian and Japanese yarns in Chinese markets, the final victory will rest with the latter, because the cost of production is cheaper in Japan than in India. Our contemporary also calls upon its countrymen to avail themselves of the privilege of erecting manufactories in Chinese ports secured for them by the new treaty with the Middle Kingdom.

LITERARY.

The recent war with China and the life that it has breathed into the people, seem likely to inaugurate a fresh epoch of Japanese literature. Thus far, however, no work bearing the stamp of the altered age has appeared. There is an evident desire for the rise of a poet to put into song the sentiments actuating the Japanese people, and although the call has not yet been answered, it may be confidently expected that a want so keenly felt will be supplied before long. Poetry, history, and fiction will receive a new impetus. We know that several aspiring novelists joined the army for the purpose of collecting material for new stories. Historical literature is already beginning to show signs of increased activity.

The study of Chinese literature is on the decline. Formerly it was customary even with students of European languages to take lessons in the Chinese classics under competent scholars. But such a practice is now seldom followed. The knowledge that Japanese between the ages of twenty and thirty have of Chinese history and philosophy has been mostly obtained through works written in the ordinary mixed style of Chinese ideographs and Japanese *kana*. This [illegible] tendency is natural and inevitable, and is, consequently, beyond the control of human effort. But there seem to be some belated votaries of the Chinese classics that think it possible to restore the study of their favourite language to the place it formerly occupied in national education. Persons of this type, about thirty in number, recently held a convivial meeting at the Chojo-tei, Uyeno, to consider ways and means for reviving interest in the study of Chinese literature.

The Japanese Bible seems destined to play an important part in the future development of the national literature. The *Kirisutokyo Shimbun* recently discussed the necessity of revising the Japanese translation of the sacred book. As it stands, the work reflects no little credit upon its translators, but it is a recognized fact that the book is not free from errors of rendering and inelegancies of style. Seeing that the study of the Bible is rapidly increasing in this country, the Church authorities would do well to adopt the timely suggestion of the *Kirisutokyo Shimbun*.

A prospectus is before us for the issue of a new religious journal to be called the *Nippon Shukyo* (Japanese Religion). It is to be a monthly publication, and aims at the investigation and exposition of all the systems of religious faith in Japan as well as in foreign countries. The projectors of the Journal hope that, in this way, it may be possible to excerpt whatever is excellent and true from the different creeds of the world. From the prospectus we learn that the magazines and newspapers devoted to religious purposes in Japan aggregate more than one hundred and fifty. The first number of the new journal is to be issued on the 5th proximo.

We are happy to state that Mr. Fukuchi Genichiro, one of the greatest writers of the age, has almost completely recovered from a sickness that at one time seemed almost fatal. The malady was a severe attack of pleurisy. Another distinguished writer, belonging, however, to a younger generation, Mr. Koda Roban, is reported to have become tired of a literary career, and to have decided to take to commerce. He is undoubtedly one of the most gifted novelists of the day, and it would be a pity should this report turn out true.

JAPANESE SEAMEN'S AID SOCIETY.

The Japanese Seamen's Aid Society (Nippon Kaiin Yekisai Kwai), gratefully acknowledge the following donations and subscriptions since November last:—

	Yen.		Yen.
H. Iwasaki	20,000	H. Nakamigawa, in 10 years Inst.	200
Y. Shibusawa ...	1,000	M. Mayejima, in 10 years Inst.	200
A Foreigner.....	14,000	K. Gama, in 10 years Inst. ...	100
Y. Akaboshi.....	200	Y. Nakano, in 10 years Inst.	100
Z. Yasuda	200	Z. Yasuda, Jr., in 10 years Inst.	100
K. Sonoda	100	T. Fujita, in 10 years Inst.	100
K. Masuda	100	Z. Shimomura, in 10 years Inst.	100
N. Yamamoto...	100	M. Takei, in 10 years Inst.	10
M. Suyenobu....	100	S. Uyeda, in 10 years Inst.	10
Dodwell, Carlill & Co.	100	T. Yamada, in 10 years Inst.	1
Samuel Samuel & Co.	100	T. Gunbayashi, in 10 years Inst.	1
Hokkaido Tanko Tetsudo Kaisha	100	K. Noda, in 10 years Inst.	
Butterfield and Swire	50	N. Hiroumi, in 20 years Inst.	1
W. M. Strachan & Co.	100	J. Johnston annually	
Settsu Nada Kogio Kaisha	100	I. Nakajima, annually	
T. Tanaka	100	T. Abe, annually	
M. Futatsubashi	100	D. Robertson, annually	
S. Waoriu	50	H. Sato, annually	
S. Oka	50	T. Nishikawa, annually	
The Engineering & Iron Works.	50	K. Sonoda, annually	
A Macmillan, in 2 years Inst....	100		
T. H. James, in 4 years	100		
N. Y. K., in 10 years Inst.	60,000		
Mitsui Bussan Kaisha, in 10 years Inst. ...	6,000		
T. Asano, in 10 years Inst. ...	1,000		

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MR. OISHI ON THE KOREAN PROBLEM.

The prospect of achieving Korean reform is hopeless, Mr. Oishi, ex-Minister to Korea, is reported by the *Chuo* to have stated. To make Korea reform her decayed systems of her own strength, is to charge her with an impossible task. When a State is rotten so that its progress becomes checked, some element still preserving the germs of healthy growth generally emerges, and, by revolutionary measures, attempts to rouse the body politic from its lethargy. Genuine reform, however, needs a more healthy basis than a revolution, for its object is to effect the regeneration and improvement of the nation by normal, not abnormal, processes. Hence a nation incompetent to accomplish even a revolution is still more unfitted for the work of reform. Korea is thoroughly permeated with the atmosphere of corruption. No germs of sound progress or reform exist anywhere. That is the main reason why no revolutionary scheme has thus far been projected in the peninsula, and why no hope of reform exists. Any programme to enable Korea to achieve her regeneration with Japan's help must prove, Mr. Oishi fears, entirely fruitless. The only possible course for the regeneration of the Kingdom is that administrative affairs should be entirely entrusted, for a limited period, to the hands of Japan. Unless the reform be effected in some such way, the work that Japan contemplates in the closing years of the 19th century will prove abortive.

Refraining from discussing in detail the grave internal problems of Korea, and turning rather to the practical issues of the problem, Mr. Oishi can not but think that no opportunity could be better suited than the present for Russia to achieve the programme that she entertains about the Oriental question. The circumstances of the moment open to her an easy road of access, and her domestic condition is equally suited for unfolding the wings of aggression that have been unfurled for a long period. The young Czar can scarcely be as zealous as his father was for the preservation of peace. His youthful and enterprising spirit must be eager to achieve some glorious successes as his predecessors did. The new Foreign Minister has a high reputation for shrewdness and dexterity. He will not be satisfied with merely holding an uneventful portfolio. Moreover, Russia's war funds are ample, and it is extremely likely that since her southerly movement toward the Balkans is checked, she will seek an outlet for her ambitious development in the East. Her counsel that, for the purpose of preserving the tranquility of the Orient, Japan should renounce permanent possession of the Liaotung peninsula, having been accepted, she must be confident in her belief that Japan will not object to similarly remove her troops from Korea, and to abandon her intervention in that Kingdom's affairs. Germany and France having combined as they did with Russia in her late movement against Japan merely for the purpose of propitiating Russia's favour, and not in any sense because their own interests in the East were imperilled, the two will readily fall in with Russia's plan of presenting another representation to Japan. This, however, is only a hypothetical issue of the situation, based on the fact that it is the business of diplomatists to shape the course of affairs for the benefit of their own countries. There never has been an occasion when Japan's diplomatists can execise their tact and ability to better advantage in the country's behalf. Turning next to the question of Formosa, Mr. Oishi observed that since the founding of the Empire this is the first occasion of Japan's being required to extend her administration to other nationals. Whether she has the qualities needed for governing others, will now be determined by the test of practice. The administration of a conquered region has from time immemorial been a troublesome affair. The attention of the world will therefore be directed toward Japan. Men will watch keenly whether she has competence for the task that she has now taken upon her shoulders. The issue of her administration in Formosa will not be confined to that island alone: it will have wider bearings.

At such a grave crisis as the present the thing to be avoided before all others is domestic squabbling. Frankness and cordiality should reign throughout the land, and every standing enmity should be abandoned. Hence the Government should give porfolios to popular leaders like Counts Okuma, Itagaki, and Goto, and with the hearty cōoperation of the whole nation should strive to realize the Imperial Aims. To conclude treaties with non-treaty Powers is also one of the urgent duties of the day. It is strange that the Foreign Office does not pay more attention to this important point. Ministers and Consuls should be stationed at various places, since that step would subserve, just now, two very useful purposes, namely, the promotion of national prosperity and the utilization of able politicians among the people. This is not a time to be tied up by petty internal difficulties.

EDICT OF INDEPENDENCE.

The King of Korea recently issued the following edict:—"On the 12th day of the 11th month of the 503rd year of the founding of Our dynasty, We solemnly vowed at the mausolea of Our ancestors to reject all interference of China and to place the independence of Great Korea upon a solid foundation. The independence of the country has just obtained an additional safeguard from the Shimonoseki Treaty, by which the fact has been published to all the world. We have already issued orders to Our Ministers of State to devise some method of commemorating the glorious event. It is Our wish that Our subjects in conformity with Our solicitous desires for the prosperity of the country, should never forget the fact of Our independence. As to the establishment of a date for the annual celebration of independence, it shall be made known to Our subjects by a separate edict."

It is stated that the King has since fixed the date of the exchange of the ratified Peace Treaty at Chefoo as Independence Day, to be observed as a national holiday for all years to come. The latest telegraphic intelligence from Sōul states that the invitations issued by the Korean Government for the banquet given in honour of the country's permanent independence were declined by the foreign Ministers.

THE THANKS OF THE KOREAN KING.

The independence of Korea having been recognised in the Treaty of Peace, of which the ratifications were recently exchanged at Chefoo, the King of Korea instructed his Minister of Foreign Affairs to request Count Inouye to convey His Majesty's thanks to the Emperor of Japan. The Korean Minister of Foreign Affairs accordingly addressed the following note to the Japanese Representative in Sōul:—

"Excellency:—I have the honour to inform Your Excellency that I am commanded by His Majesty the King of Korea to convey the following to Your Excellency:—"The first article of the Treaty of Peace, the ratifications of which were recently exchanged at Chefoo, recognizes the independence of Korea. Such a result could not have been achieved except by the gracious benevolence of His Majesty the Emperor of Japan, who was pleased to form an alliance with Us, and whose profound wisdom has been exercised for the maintenance of the peace of the East. We know not how to adequately express Our deepfelt thanks to His Majesty. We command you, Our Minister of Foreign Affairs, to address a note to the Japanese Minister, asking him to convey Our thanks to His Majesty the Emperor of Japan. I consequently, entreat Your Excellency to take steps for presenting my Sovereign's thanks to His Majesty the Emperor of Japan.

I take this opportunity, etc.,

KIM,
Minister of Foreign Affairs.

Dated the 22nd day of the 4th month of the 504th year since the foundation of the Dynasty.

REPRESENTATION OF SILK COMMISSIONERS.

The Silk Commissioners of the 4th Domestic Exhibition now held in Kyoto have submitted a representation to the Ministers of State for Finance and for Agriculture and Commerce in connection with the silk industry of Japan.

The representation dwells primarily on the important part taken by silk in the economics of the realm, and the significant progress achieved by the industry since the commencement of the *Meiji* era. This progress is, however, still far from satisfactory, continue the Commissioners, for in quality Japanese silk is inferior to that of France and Italy, and in quantity to that produced in Italy and China. Nor is the silk industry of those countries stationary. On the contrary, its development is greatly encouraged, with the result that both in quality and quantity it is making steady progress.

With reference to Japanese silk, many points demanding considerable improvement present themselves. For instance, the eggs used lack uniformity, and the cocoons produced are consequently of diverse descriptions, while the yield is not as good in proportion to the quantity of eggs hatched as in France and Italy. The manufacture of silk goods is also very limited, and the machines used are in almost every case rude and irregular in operation. The Commissioners were confident that the Government would take timely steps to extend suitable protection over this important Japanese industry. They have been disappointed to find in the present Exhibition that matters are far from satisfactory. With respect to the eggs, no improvement whatever has been made since the Third Domestic Exhibition. Microscopic examination has revealed the fact that the percentage of diseased eggs is even greater than on the last occasion. With cocoons too the change has been for the worse: the shape is more wanting in uniformity and the fibres are more irregular in size and length. Only one or two new silk districts of Kwansei have exhibited silk of marked excellence, while the samples sent from celebrated silk districts of Kwanto show deterioration as compared with those in the last Exhibition. In size there is as much difference as from 5 to 8 deniers, the fibres are full of knots, and not a few are totally unfitted for weaving purposes.

The Commissioners cannot overlook such a state of affairs and are, therefore, desirous of drawing the attention of the Authorities to the following points, which they hold to be of urgent importance for the improvement of the silk industry.

1.—To put speedily into operation the silk conditioning houses.
2.—To establish experimental institutions both in Tokyo and Kyoto on a larger scale than the one now existing in the former place.
3.—To enforce speedily the examination of silkworm eggs.

The establishment of conditioning houses was approved by the Imperial Diet last session so that the matter ought to be quickly attended to. The other two schemes should also be put into practice with all possible promptitude.

THE STATUS OF KOREA.

A rumour, apparently of untraceable origin, has been in circulation for some days, to the effect that preliminaries for a conference of the Powers with the object of guaranteeing the independence of Korea, have been arranged, and that the conference will very soon be held. We are in a position to say that this story is entirely baseless. Many people will be disposed to think that such a plan would be the best means of solving the Korean problem, and thus eliminating one of the chief menaces to the peace of the East. But whether it would be a wise or an unwise device, no steps have yet been taken towards its accomplishment. Let us hope that rumour is premature rather than deceptive in this instance.

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ALLIANCE BETWEEN JAPAN AND CHINA.

The canard about an offensive and defensive alliance between Japan and China has long since been exploded, but it is nevertheless a fact that a section of the Japanese public are in favour of such an alliance. The idea is poohpoohed by the *Jiji Shimpo*, which regards China ■ a patient past all hope of recovery. Li Hung-chang, says our contemporary, is believed to have represented to the Japanese Plenipotentiaries at Shimonoseki the immense advantages of an alliance between Japan and China, and there are in this country men persuaded that the present is a good opportunity to form a coalition of the two empires. Peace having happily been restored, the *Jiji* recognizes the importance of cultivating the friendship of China, but is positively opposed to all ideas of an alliance with her. China is compared by our contemporary to a physician of the old school, opposed to all scientific methods of treatment; while Japan is like a practitioner of the modern school, open to the suggestions of science and inventive genius. It is inevitable that doctors of such divergent tendencies should disagree in the treatment of their common patients. The truth of this statement has been proved by the history of the two countries' relations in Korea. As to the contention that the recent war must have opened the eyes of the Pekin statesmen to the necessity of reforms and reorganization in every department of national life, the *Jiji* ridicules such an idea. The malady from which the Chinese body politic suffers is too deep seated to be cured by Li Hung-chang and his followers. Some persons may point to the rumoured alliance between England and China as a proof of the possibility of a similar alliance between the latter country and Japan. But the Anglo-Chinese alliance is the result of more or less compulsion exercised upon the weaker by the stronger party. An alliance formed and maintained under such circumstances can not be productive of much benefit. What ought to be aimed at is an effective alliance resting upon the basis of mutual free-will and mutual recognition of common interests. In our contemporary's opinion, such an alliance is impossible so long as the present Tsing dynasty remains in power. That dynasty, like the Tokugawa House in its later days, has no real power, and is on the verge of a final downfall. Only with the regeneration of China under a new dynasty will it be possible and advantageous for Japan to form an alliance with that country.

While fully agreeing with the general views of the *Jiji Shimpo* upon this topic, we must point out that the widely circulated story of an alliance between Great Britain and China is a delusion, and that it becomes doubly extravagant when the public is asked to regard it as the result of pressure exerted by England upon the reluctant Chinese. Not in the columns of the *Jiji Shimpo* should we have expected to see such a singular distortion of contemporary history. The idea of an alliance between Great Britain and China had its origin in 1885, after the conclusion of the Franco-Chinese "State of Reprisals." China had just negotiated a treaty of peace that conveyed a very false impression of her military importance, and, at the same time, she found herself confronted by disquieting contingencies on Russia's account in Central Asia. Russia's southward march suggested similar uneasiness in London and Pekin, and moreover, the leading statesman of the Middle Kingdom, the Viceroy of Chihli, whose prestige stood just then at its zenith, had conceived the ambition of crowning his career by recovering from Russia the Amur provinces, the cradle of the Manchurian Dynasty. China had everything to gain and nothing to lose by an alliance with England, and from China the proposal came in an indirect form. But England does not throw herself into all arms opened to embrace her. She knows too well her own value as an ally. It may be assumed that, like the rest of the world, she over-estimated the capacities of China, and was not unwilling to establish an *entente* that might be useful in certain contingencies. But an alliance is another matter altogether. That never existed between the two countries. China was only too willing that it should exist, but England never seriously contemplated anything of the kind. So far from employing pressure to bring about any union, she treated China's overtures in that sense with deliberation and even coolness.

POLITICAL.

There is a cry among certain sections of the people for the convocation of an extraordinary session of the Diet. Two different, and in some respects antagonistic, motives seem to actuate advocates of this measure. One class of persons appear to desire a speedy session of the Diet in order that they may obtain an immediate opportunity to exert effective pressure upon, and force the resignation of, the Ministers responsible for the conduct of the country's foreign policy. Another set of publicists think the present moment most suitable for seeking the Diet's consent to the various Military and Naval measures now under contemplation. They fear that, by the time of opening the next ordinary session, the popular excitement and indignation against the conduct of the three Powers may have cooled down. To the latter category belongs the *Jiji Shimpo*. The measures of urgent necessity enumerated by it are the building of warships, the increase of the Army, the construction of forts, the extension of railways, and the opening of new steamship routes to foreign countries. These measures, says our contemporary, cannot be delayed any longer: they ought to be undertaken at once. The *Jiji* does not think it politic for the Cabinet to carry out such measures on its responsibility and then to ask for the *post facto* approbation of the Diet. It professes confidence that the measures would receive hearty approval from both Houses of the Diet should an extraordinary session be now convoked; whereas should parliamentary discussion be deferred until the next ordinary session, public sentiment may have undergone a change and difficulties now unthought of may present themselves.

The Korean question continues to absorb public attention. The rumour that Russia has demanded the withdrawal of the Japanese troops from Korea is no longer believed. Neither is much importance attached to the story of Boku Eeiko's alliance with the Russian Minister. But anxiety about the situation in the peninsular kingdom has not by any means been allayed. On the contrary, the situation is more acute than ever. The Opposition parties, now trying to foment an anti-Cabinet agitation, are stated to have adopted a resolution, one item of which is that Japan should never give up the guidance and leadership of Korea. The Radical party also is understood to be in favour of such a policy. Meanwhile, the press is unanimous in calling upon the Government to maintain, even at the point of the bayonet, the position taken up in the Korean peninsula.

As might have been expected, the Radical Party is the subject of various rumours. One is that the leaders of that Party are now in favour of an increase of the land tax by ½ per cent.; in other words, they propose to raise the rate from 2 per cent., at which it now stands, to 2½ per cent., of the assessed value of land. The money thus realised—about 10 million *yen*—would be used for Military and Naval purposes. We do not know the truth of this report; probably it is a fabrication of the enemies of the Party in order to discredit it in in the eyes of the landed class. Another rumour is that the Radicals are threatened with a serious schism, a section of its members, mostly from the North-Eastern provinces, as Messrs. Kono Hironaka, Shigeno Kenjiro, Yamashita Chiyowo, Hirashima Tosaku, and so forth, being dissatisfied with the moderate views entertained by Count Itagaki and his immediate followers, Messrs. Misaki Kamenosuke; Shigeoka Kungoro, and so forth. We reproduce these reports for what they may be worth.

KOREAN NEWS.

The anxiety felt about Korea in consequence of a reported alliance between Boku Eiko, and the Russian Minister, has been allayed a little by a telegram from Messrs. Shiba Shiro and Sasa Tomofusa, announcing that the relations between Japan and Korea have been placed on a satisfactory footing. These politicians, as we stated at the time, went to Korea for the special purpose of tendering advice to Boku Eiko, with whom they are on terms of close friendship. They are reported to have held repeated conferences with him, but their telegram is rather vague, no body knowing exactly what they mean by the term "a satisfactory footing." None the less, the news has, in a measure, relieved the tension of public feeling. The various political parties engaged in considering the Korean problem, have agreed to defer the adoption of any definite line of action until the return of Messrs. Shiba and Sasa.

The latest intelligence from the Korean capital states that Boku Teiyo, the new Minister President of State, is a partisan of Boku Eiko, the powerful Minister of Home Affairs. We stated at the time of the former's appointment that he was a neutral, and indeed such was his position until very recently. But according to a correspondent of the *Yomiuri Shimbun*, the new Premier seems to have joined Boku Eiko's faction just when the recent persecution of Kin Koshu and Gyo Inchu began to succeed. It is needless to say that Boku Teiyo is a mere puppet in the hands of the ambitious Minister of Home Affairs. He was formerly Korean Minister in Washington, and all accounts concur in describing him as a man of no consequence. The Tai Wŏn-kun is still residing in his villa at Kotokuri, where his daily proceedings are strictly watched by emissaries of the Government.

THE PROSPECTS OF THE SUGAR INDUSTRY IN FORMOSA.

Many Japanese capitalists are, according to the Japanese press, desirous of establishing large sugar refineries in Formosa when that island becomes completely incorporated into Japan's dominions and when peace is restored there. It seems, however, that a great obstacle lies in the way of the enterprise, making it highly doubtful whether it can be carried out, at any rate for the time being. Sugar is produced in the two districts, Taku and Anping, whence a refinery established in the island would get its supply of raw material. At present, however, the whole produce of raw sugar is monopolized by the two Hongkong firms, Jardine, Matheson & Co., and Butterfield and Swire, through a certain Chinese agent. The connection between the two firms and the sugar cultivators in Taku and Anping is very close, as the former advance money to the latter through the medium of their agent, just as the wholesale silk merchants of Yokohama do to the silk manufacturers in this country. Such being the case, a sugar refinery in Formosa would at once collapse for want of raw material. On the other hand, it is well nigh hopeless for Japanese to compete with the above-mentioned firms in point of capital.

Matters relating to the ownership of land are in a very unsettled state in the island. Not only are the two firms not proprietors of the land from which the raw material for their refineries is obtained, but it is exceedingly doubtful whether the sugar growers themselves are rightful owners of the farms that they cultivate. In most cases it seems that they plant canes on land of uncertain ownership.

Even in Korea land goes with the house standing on it when the latter is sold, and it is not unlikely, therefore, that land in Formosa is accessory to the crop growing upon it. The Administration Office of Formosa would do well to attend to the matter and to define precisely the ownership of land.

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A SIGN OF THE TIMES.

As an illustration of the keen attention now paid to all questions concerning Russia, we may point to the latest issue of the *Keisai Zasshi*, which devotes three out of its seven leading articles to the discussion of subjects connected with Russia. The first problem dealt with is the great Siberian Railway. Its completion is now put within the next five years. The opening of the line, says our contemporary, will revolutionalize the commercial relations between Europe and Asia. Most of the trade now passing by the Indian route will be directed to the new road. The country destined to be affected most extensively by the Siberian Railway, after Russia herself, is Japan, for the latter forms, as it were, the natural terminus of the line. All the ports on the coasts of the Sea of Japan will receive more or less benefit, but the greatest advantages will accrue to the Shimonoseki-Moji port. If only the right commercial policy be pursued by the Japanese Government, the *Keisai* does not doubt that the Shimonoseki-Moji harbour will become the centre of trade in the East. By the right commercial policy, our contemporary means free trade. Not that free trade, much as the *Keisai* desires it, should be made the guiding principle of Japan's economical policy as a whole, but that the above mentioned port should be made a free port like Hongkong. Our contemporary has little doubt that Russia will place vexatious restrictions upon foreign trade at Vladivostock. In that very probable event a free port in the south-western part of Japan cannot fail to attract to it most of the trade passing along the Siberian Railway.

The next subject touched by our contemporary is the study of the Russian language. Since the recent war, the study of the Korean and Chinese languages has become very fashionable, and the *Keisai* is glad of it. But it strongly advises its countrymen to turn their attention to Russian also. From a political as well as a commercial point of view the study of that tongue is as important as that of Chinese. In the case of other European countries, English is spoken to a large extent, and men understanding it have little difficulty in carrying on business connections with the people of those countries. But in Russia, there is a tendency to reject English as the medium of conversation and correspondence. Whatever may be Japan's political relations hereafter with Russia, it is important for the Japanese to study the language of that country. Our contemporary does not mean that the matter should be taken up by the Government. On the contrary, without any assistance from the State, there will be no lack of private enterprise for the opening of Russian schools, if only the general public awakens to the sense of the importance of the language.

The third and last Russian topic dealt with in the number before us is the finance of the great Northern Empire. Attention is first drawn to the extraordinary development of the Russian Navy in recent years. Figures are then tabulated with reference to the budgets for 1894 and 1895. The *Keisai* goes on to allude to the striding progress made by Russia in the field of industry, quoting in this connection a speech of M. Witte, Russian Minister of Finance. At present the Russian annual budget is five times ■ large as that of Japan. But in Russia the peasant class, which forms the greater half of her population, is in great distress, and the Government feels the necessity of relief on a large scale. In Japan, on the contrary, the farming class is in ■ very prosperous condition. Should the progress of her industries and commerce be as rapid and solid as heretofore, our contemporary has no doubt that Japan will soon attain a financial position in which she need not fear comparison with Russia.

We (*Japan Mail*) find difficulty in crediting the forecasts of the *Keisai Zasshi* with reference to the results of opening the Siberian Railway. All experience is opposed to the idea that a ■le line of railway travelling through hun- of miles of comparatively unproductive y can divert a large carrying trade from maritime routes. For passenger purposes the Siberian Railway may play an important part, but that considerable quantities of merchandise will be carried over it in preference to well established ocean roads, is a prospect inconsistent with either reason or precedent. We do not believe that the completion of the Siberian Railway will make any substantial difference to the prosperity of the Suez Canal, still less that the immense consequences anticipated by the *Keisai Zasshi* will ensue.

LETTER FROM VLADIVOSTOCK.

A correspondent in Vladivostock writes thus to the *Jiji*:—The rumours recently published in several Japanese papers to the effect that Russia had assembled 50,000 soldiers in Vladivostock and despatched 15,000 to Gensan, are entirely untrue and show complete ignorance of the actual state of affairs in Eastern Siberia. In Vladivostock the peace standing of the army is four batallions, that ■ to say, 3,200 men. Two more batallions were recently added, making the whole strength about 4,800. Of these, raw recruits levied from among the natives, forma part. At Obolisk, which is situated some 1,200 Russian miles from Vladivostock, the peace standing is 20,000, and these have been increased to 32,000, also by levying raw recruits. These troops are for the defence of the vicinity and cannot be easily moved to Vladivostock.

The Japanese in Vladivostock vary considerably in number, according to the time of year. In summer there are usually from 2,000 to 3,000, while in winter there are only about 800. Seventy have lately returned home, but not for fear of any possible outbreak of war. The relations of the Japanese residents and the Russians in Vladivostock are of a very cordial nature. The former, being aware that the law of siege recently declared at the place was merely a demonstration, were not at all alarmed by it.

The total number of Chinese in Vladivostock is 30,000, and these carry on business of various kinds in a smart way. The Japanese are no match for them in that respect, at any rate, not in Vladivostock. Very few Japanese there are engaged in trade, the majority having failed in one way or another. Mechanics' and labourers' wages are very high, a mason, for example, receiving 1½ to 2 *yen* a day. The market price of commodities is about 4 or 5 times as much as that of Tokyo. Hotels and green-grocers' shops would do well and would prove a good investment for a Japanese capitalist. It takes a week to reach Vladivostock from Tokyo, and the expenses do not exceed 40 *yen*.

THE ENGLISH-SPEAKING SOCIETY.

Considering the ever-increasing influence of the English language on all matters affecting the progress of Japan, it is somewhat remarkable that societies organized for the purpose of affording their members facilities for the use of conversational and extemporaneous English, have hitherto failed to prosper. They start well, get on for a time, and then, quietly but surely, fall into a state of "innocuous desuetude." It is not easy to assign ■ definite reason for this fact. Difficulties that confront similar societies and clubs at home are of course equally operative here: students and professional men are generally fully occupied, and these societies frequently claim a part of their time that it is difficult or impossible to give. One of the chief causes here seems to be that the conversational use of English, however desirable it may appear in the abstract, is not sufficiently appreciated in practice, and though the *hensoku* method is now happily a matter of the past, the tendency to be satisfied with merely understanding the "meaning" of English sentences and books still lingers. Where more than this cannot be attained, it is well to make ■ thorough an advance in that direction as is possible; but wherever the thing is feasible English conversation ought to receive the attention it so fully deserves, and in schools no better complement to the instruction in the class rooms could be found than the organization of an English speaking society of the students, carried on under the supervision of strict and thoroughly competent teachers and critics. An English-speaking Society such as this has during the past school year been organized in the Higher Commercial School at Hitotsubashi, Kanda. It enjoys the full sympathy and hearty support of the Director and the Faculty, profits by the practical management and excellent criticisms of Prof. N. Kanda, and gives promise and assurance of permanent success. Last Saturday, the Society held its first general meeting, which was open to visitors also, and the members went through a lengthy but interesting and well carried out programme. The original addresses, recitations, and readings had been written or selected by the students themselves, and the programme, as was inevitable, reflected the warlike spirit of the time and the sentiment of the day, but the good sense and the calm reflection that breathed through the whole, could scarcely have been surpassed except, perhaps, by the self-restraint of delivery and the complete absence of boisterous declamation. The proceedings were opened with a short introductory speech by Prof. N. Kanda, and, after listening to a well-rendered and well-arranged programme, the judges, one foreigner and two Japanese, professors of the Imperial University, withdrew to decide on the prizes to be given for excellence in thought and delivery. On their return they gave two prizes for excellence of thought, the first to Mr. Otake and the second to Mr. K. Wada, a third-year student, while the prizes for delivery and correctness of pronunciation were carried off by Messrs. Z. Sano, B. Ishikawa, and S. Shiboi, in the order named. In a doubtful case where both competitors seemed to be equal, the prize was very properly given to the speaker that had distinctly and correctly pronounced every *l* and *r* that occurred in his discourse. Honourable mention was also made of the debate and the dialogue. We append the programme:—

THE FIRST GENERAL MEETING OF THE ENGLISH SPEAKING SOCIETY, JUNE 8TH, 1895, AT 7 O'CLOCK P.M., AT THE LECTURE HALL OF THE HIGHER COMMERCIAL SCHOOL.

1.—The Veterans of the Battle of Bunker's Hill; by D. Webster	Z. Murai	Prep.
2.—An Imaginary Address to our Soldiers	N. Otani	3rd year.
3.—Credit	K. Wadá	3rd year.
4.—Napoleon's Farewell Address	K. Kurokawa	Prep.
5.—National Greatness	K. Otake	1st year.
6.—Dialogue, Dr. Gregory and his Patient	T. Nakamura J. Kawarabayashi	2nd year.
7.—The Murderers's Secret, by Dr. Webster	Z. Sano	3rd year.
8.—Spartacus to the Gladiators, by Kellogg	K. Wada	Prep.
9.—Debate, Resolved, "That the Mental Capacities of the Sexes are Equal"	K. Tanaka T. Tanaka B. Ishikawa K. Oyaidzo	1st year. 1st year. 1st year. 1st year.
10.—The War and its Result	K. Kikuchi	2nd year.
11.—"Shirakami Genjiro," by Edwin Arnold	S. Shiboi	3rd year.
12.—A Few Words to the Students of the Third Year	K. Takahashi	Prep.
13.—The Battle of Waterloo	R. Hiuga	3rd year.
14.—Mark Twain's European Guides	R. Kafuku	3rd year

SERIOUS ACCIDENT TO THE AUSTRIAN CONSUL.

About a quarter past five o'clock on Tuesday evening, Dr. A. de Flesch, Acting Consul for Austro-Hungary, while driving along the Bluff road met with a serious accident, through his dog-cart's axle cap striking against an electric-light pole. These poles having been stuck along the Bluff road quite irrespective of the exigencies of vehicular traffic, and generally at bends or in the narrowest portions, the wonder is that accidents have not been more frequent. The one which caused the mischief on Tuesday is situate nearly opposite No. 72-B, close to the Mexican Consulate. The shock of the impact caused the shafts of the vehicle to snap off short, and Dr. de Flesch leaped ■ the ground still holding the reins. The frightened horse broke into a gallop and before his driver could release his hold of the reins he was dragged down and along the road. Dr. de Flesch's wounds are confined to the left cheek, which is badly cut and bruised. The injured man was conveyed to the General Hospital as quickly as possible, where his wounds were speedily attended to.

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ENGLAND AND RUSSIA IN THE EAST.

The *Jiji Shimpo* recently published a full translation of Professor Vambery's article in the *North American Review* on the position of England and Russia in Asia. Discussing the question in a subsequent issue, our contemporary calls the attention of its countrymen to the importance of watching the course of events in these parts of the globe. The interests of the two great European Powers being diametrically opposed to each other, their ultimate collision is only a question of time. Hitherto little attention has been paid to this question by the Japanese. But the recent war with China having completely changed the position of Japan, it is no longer possible to remain indifferent to the impending struggle between England and Russia. Our contemporary concludes in the following language:—"Since it (a struggle between the two countries) must affect the position of affairs in the East, Japan will have a right as well as an obligation to interfere as a third party. She can not possibly watch the conflict with folded arms. Hence there is imperative necessity for her to bestow serious consideration on the matter, so that she may at any moment know what course to pursue in case of emergency. As to which Power she ought to assist, we think it unnecessary to make any definite declaration. Our readers will doubtless experience no difficulty in forming a sound judgment on that point, if only they take into consideration the past history of Japan's foreign relations and the present condition of the national feeling, as well as the fundamental interests of the country. What is now of most urgent necessity for Japan is to increase her Military and Naval forces, especially with reference to construction of war-vessels. We most earnestly recommend our countrymen to devote their whole energies to the increase of the nation's wealth and the augmentation of its fighting capacity, patiently waiting for a future opportunity to achieve glorious deeds."

THE REPORTED ENGAGEMENT BETWEEN JAPANESE AND GERMAN WARSHIPS.

On the evening of Saturday last, the citizens of Tokyo were startled by the issue of "Extras" announcing a sharp fight between Japanese and German vessels in Formosan waters. Well informed persons did not attach any importance to the news, but it caused no little excitement to the general public. Of course the rumour has since been found to be entirely baseless, and the Domestic and Foreign News Agency (*Naigai Tsushinsha*) that supplied the information, had to apologize to the different newspaper offices that had been credulous enough to publish it in their columns. The manner in which the story found its way to the News Agency is thus related by the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*:—On Saturday evening, the principal members of the staff of a certain news agency, a rival of the *Naigai Tsushinsha*, were chatting together, when one of them proposed to play a practical joke upon the *Naigai Tsushinsha*, which is noted for coolness in appropriating for its own use information procured by its rivals at the cost of infinite labour. The proposal was at once adopted, and after brief consultation it was decided to manufacture a Shanghai telegram reporting fighting at Tamsui between Japanese and German men-of-war. One of the employés of the agency forming this plot was suspected of holding secret communication with the *Naigai Tsushinsha*. A copy of the bogus telegram was, therefore, dropped in the way of this suspected man, who, thinking it genuine, at once seized it and sneaked away. The originators of the joke quietly awaited developments, and were rejoiced to see the members of the rival agency presently "hustling around" to distribute copies of the "important telegram" to different newspaper offices in the capital. The name of the News Agency that this signal vengeance on its unscrupulous rival is not given by the *Nichi Nichi*, but it is not difficult to form a conjecture. The *Naigai Tsushinsha* explains, in its letter of apology, that it received the news by telephone from its habitual supplier of telegrams from Shanghai. The time of receipt being rather late in the evening, the principal members of the staff had already left, and only a few persons remained behind, so that no means existed to verify the news. This incident is likely to have good effect as a timely warning to a section of the metropolitan press, notorious for credulity and want of discernment.

METHODS OF PAYING THE INDEMNITY.

The indemnity of 200 million Kuping taels, corresponding to over 300 million Japanese *yen*, writes the *Jiji*, to is to be paid by China in several instalments within seven years, the first instalment of 50 million taels being due by November 8th of this year. The payment of the indemnity is not likely to be an easy task, judging from the present state of affairs in China. A surplus in the Central Treasury of a country whose financial system is so bad as is China's, is an unheard-of thing, and there does not seem to be any reliable method available for raising an emergency fund. There are, it is true, the Customs duties and the tax on table salt, but as these are the chiefs items of the Ordinary Revenue, if they were appropriated for the indemnity, the operation of the Administrative machine would be impeded. A certain sum might be obtained by curtailing the expenses of the Court and of the Empress-Dowager, but that would not amount to much. Unless, therefore, the Imperial accumulations be resorted to—a very uncertain event—the only course for China is to raise a foreign loan. If she decides on this plan, she will most likely ask Germany, Russia, and France to lend the required amount. One of two things would then happen—either a foreign loan in gold bonds would be floated, or the silver reserves of the three countries would be temporarily accommodated to China. These two points need careful deliberation, as they concern not only Japan's interests, but also those of the money market of the world. The indemnity is to be paid in silver, so that if the loan be granted in gold bonds, China will have to purchase silver with the fund thus accruing, and will, therefore, be obliged to undergo twice the trouble, and to incur double expense. Moreover, if the silver required were to be bought abroad, the market of the world would be subjected to no small disturbance. Such a process would not conduce to Japan's interests. She does not need any large amount of silver in her market, and as the greater part of the indemnity would be appropriated for military purposes, a large portion of it would go to Europe. In other words, the silver bought by China in Europe would be sold back to Europe by Japan, if China adopts the process above referred to in paying the indemnity. If that course be followed, Japan ought to take steps to receive the indemnity in gold, according to the market valuation of the time, notin the East, but in London or Paris. Even if China were to adopt the other alternative, and the three countries mentioned above were to utilize their reserved silver, the silver market would be agitated. For if silver to the amount of 100 million *yen* were to flow into the market, the exchange rates of the East and the West would be unusually deranged. Japan having stipulated to receive the indemnity in silver, she has, it is needless to say, no right to interfere with China's process of obtaining the required sum. Still, as explained above, not only Japan and China, but even outsiders will incur more or less loss if China delivers the indemnity in strict conformity with the letter of the Treaty, and it is extremely advisable that some methods be devised by which such loss may be avoided.

TOKYO SCHEME FOR CELEBRATING THE VICTORIOUS ISSUE OF THE WAR.

On the occasion of the triumphant return of the Emperor to his palace in Tokyo, various preparations suitable to the occasion were made to welcome His Majesty, and now, as already noted in these columns, both the nobility and the merchants of the capital are discussing the propriety of a special ceremony to celebrate the victorious ending of the War. Conferences are still taking place, but the vernacular press is confident that the project will be successfully carried through, despite the political difficulties that have been imported into the affair. Among the peers it was Marquis Hachisuka, President of the Upper House, that first suggested the scheme, and though every brother peer that the Marquis consulted was also of the opinion that something must be done to celebrate the glorious achievements of the Empire, ideas varied greatly as to the programme to be adopted. Some said that the ceremony must not be to celebrate the restoration of peace, others that it should be for the purpose of thanking the officers of the Army and Navy for the pains and hardships they had undergone in the discharge of their duties; others objected that to hold a ceremony complimentary to the Army and Navy while many of the troops were still in the field, either in the Chinchow peninsula or in Formosa, could not be proper. Hitherto on occasions of difficulty the influence of the Court has invariably proved a potent charm to arrange the trouble. So it has been in the present case. A suggestion that every loyal subject must feel deeply grateful for the hardships that the Emperor underwent while personally conducting operations at the General Headquarters in Hiroshima, and that something must be done to signify the nation's appreciation of those hardships, won the approbation of all, and it was decided to frame the programme in that sense. At a conference held on the 10th instant in the Peer's Club, representatives of the various political parties were invited, and were asked whether they would join a celebration to be organized in honour of the Sovereign. They replied that so far as their own opinions went, they were perfectly willing to join, but that they could not pledge their respective parties until they had consulted with the other members. Their answer is to be given by the 16th instant.

A similar undertaking projected by the citizens has reached a more advanced stage. The professed object is simply to celebrate the country's triumph. The idea originated with the leading members of the Tokyo Chamber of Commerce, of whom more than thirty met in the Chamber last Sunday, and held a preliminary conference. They all approved the general idea, though as to the guests to be invited, different opinions were entertained. It was at last decided to invite as guests the Princes of the Blood, the Ministers of State, the military and naval officers that had taken part in the campaign, and other distinguished civil and military functionaries. As to the foreign Representatives, it was decided not to invite them, there being certain difficulties with regard to a few of their number. As on the occasion when a war rejoicing was held in Uyeno Park last fall, so on the present, support will be widely canvassed for among the citizens at large. About fifty will be organised into a committee and entrusted with the task of carrying out the practical details of the programme. The prospectus issued by the projectors, simply says that a ceremony on an extensive scale is to be held in Uyeno Park to celebrate the nation's triumph; that the presence of the Emperor will be solicited; that each projector is to pay toward the fund for carrying out the programmes a sum of not less than 5 *yen*, and that an ordinary member is to pay 1 *yen*. The date of the ceremony is not yet fixed.

"There goes Mr. Grey. He's an octogenarian, Mrs. Wiggins." "Well, Mrs. Simpson, as you say, he doubt it mus' be so; but I allus understood he was a Unitarian."

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THE STOCK MARKET.

The *Chugai Shogyo Shimpo* reviews the condition of the stock market during the past twelve months. By way of prelude, it refers to the state of the national economics during the last few years. The favourable condition of the country's foreign trade in the three years 1891, 1892, and 1893, led to the importation of more than 30 million *yen* in specie. Simultaneously, the redemption of loans bearing high interest was steadily proceeded with by the Government. Such an increase of floating capital at a time when yet the field for the employment of money was comparatively limited, could not but depress the money market. As the result, an extraordinary rise in the price of stocks took place, the Tanko Tetsudo's shares being quoted, in May, 1893, as high as 106 *yen*. The revival of old industries and the rise of new ones toward the close of 1893 gave a slight check to the appreciation of stocks; but as a result of the continued general prosperity of trade and industry, the stock market remainded lively until the beginning of the summer of 1894, when the darkening aspect of affairs in the East produced a deadlock in trade all over the country. Stocks then began to fall and reached their nadir in the month of August, when war actually broke out between Japan and China. The *Chugai Shogyo* publishes the following table showing the fluctuations in the price of the principal shares during the twelve months ending May last :—

1.—The Sanyo Railway Company.

	Paid up. Yen.	Highest. Yen.	Lowest. Yen.	Average. Yen.
June, 1894 (27)		31.900	25.900	29.630
July, 1894 (27)		29.000	24.800	27.501
August, 1894 (27)		25.600	21.800	23.404
September, 1894 (27)		32.200	23.300	27.229
October, 1894 (27)		31.400	27.800	29.294
November, 1894 (27)		33.600	31.400	32.286
December, 1894 (27)		32.000	39.200	30.670
January, 1895 (30)		32.700	30.300	31.500
February, 1895 (30)		32.800	31.500	32.200
March, 1895 (30)		36.000	32.600	34.200
April, 1895 (30)		37.800	35.000	36.200
May, 1895 (30)		38.300	33.300	36.200

2.—The Kansai Railway Company.

June, 1894 (47)		58.800	47.500	54.640
July, 1894 (47)		54.200	45.500	50.254
August, 1894 (47)		48.500	41.700	45.120
September, 1894 (47)		51.700	43.700	47.523
October, 1894 (47)		51.500	47.700	49.232
November, 1894 (47)		53.500	50.500	52.195
December, 1894 (47)		51.600	47.100	48.381
January, 1895 (47)		49.700	45.800	48.000
February, 1895 (47)		50.000	48.200	49 200
March, 1895 (47)		55.500	49.800	52.900
April, 1895 (47)		59.400	54.800	56.400
May, 1895 (47)		60.300	52.000	57.000

3.—The Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

June, 1894 (50)		71.000	64.900	67.648
July, 1894 (50)		70.500	65.900	68.224
August, 1894 (50)		67.500	51.300	62.507
September, 1894 (50)		67.200	58.000	61.583
October, 1894 (50)		73.000	64.500	66.337
November, 1894 (50)		80.700	72.800	76.016
December, 1894 (50)		77.200	73.000	74.454
January, 1895 (50)		78.000	73.600	76.300
February, 1895 (50)		78.500	75.200	76.500
March, 1895 (50)		78.200	74.000	75.100
April, 1895 (50)		82.700	74.000	80.600
May, 1895 (50)		80.300	75.700	77.900

4.—The Kanegafuchi Cotton Spinning Company.

June, 1894 (50)		57.300	47.300	53.446
July, 1894 (50)		51.200	43.300	47.658
August, 1894 (50)		43.000	33.000	37 310
September, 1894 (50)		44.500	35.500	38.847
October, 1894 (50)		42.600	37.900	39.904
November, 1894 (50)		48.300	41.300	45.168
December, 1894 (50)		45.800	43.000	44.367
January, 1895 (50)		44.500	42.100	43.600
February, 1895 (50)		44.500	42.300	43.400
March, 1895 (50)		50.000	43.700	48.100
April, 1894 (50)		65.000	52.300	56.400
May, 1895 (50)		62.000	50.100	58.800

The *Chugai* refers to two other tables for the Kyushu Railway Company and the Hokkaido Coal Mining Railway Company, but they are not reproduced, since they merely confirm the tendency shown in the other railway companies. From the above figures, it will be seen that all kinds of stocks reached their lowest price in August last, and subsequently began to gradually rise again, in consequence of the favourable condition of the money market which resulted from the steady and brilliant successes of the Japanese arms and from skilful management of the national finances. A slight check was experienced in December owing to the floating of the second war loan, but it did not greatly retard the general upward tendency of stocks. That appreciation reached its highest point at the end of April and in the beginning of May last, namely, about the time of the conclusion of the Peace Treaty. Then the intervention of the three Powers and the return of the Liaotung peninsula at once turned the tide, and at present the stock market is almost at a deadlock. Two other circumstances are alluded to by way of explaining the present dull state of stocks; namely, that men had formed too high hopes about the prosperity of trade after the war, and that, all persons foresee still greater tightness of money in the near future. In our contemporary's opinion, the money market will regain its activity within a month or two. The *Chugai*, by way of reference, publishes the following figures :—

1.—Comparative Table showing the Price of the Hokkaido Mining Railway Company's Shares for the first Five Months of 1894 and 1895.

		Highest. Yen.	Lowest. Yen.	Average. Yen.
January ...	1895	84.100	78.100	81.100
	1894	81.900	77.100	79 952
February ..	1895	82.500	79.900	81.000
	1894	79.700	73.000	76.938
March.....	1895	92.700	81.800	87.400
	1894	85.100	80.300	81.746
April	1895	95.000	82.500	91.400
	1894	86.700	81.700	83.439
May	1895	90.800	82.000	87.700
	1894	85.500	78.000	83.171

2.—Comparative Table showing the Volume of Currency for the first four Months of 1894 and 1895.

	1895. Yen.	1894. Yen.
January	167,428,078.750	154,964,704 250
February	161,987,345.250	153,036,580.750
March	158,845,481.250	148,483,905.750
April	157,458,499.250	145,076,603.750

3.—Comparative Table showing the Rates of Monthly Interest for the first five Months of 1894 and 1895.

		Highest. per cent.	Lowest. per cent.	Average. per cent.
January ...	1895	1.068	0.938	0.997
	1894	0.939	0.777	0.841
February ..	1895	1.062	0.933	1.000
	1894	0.942	0.792	0.856
March	1895	1.050	0.931	0.991
	1894	0.934	0.795	0.868
April	1895	1.057	0.933	1.001
	1894	0.950	0.822	0.874
May.....	1895	1.060	6.930	0.999
	1894	0 951	0 814	0.875

THE BLACK EAGLE FOR THE EMPEROR OF JAPAN.

His Majesty the German Emperor having conferred upon His Majesty the Emperor of Japan the Collar of the Black Eagle, His Majesty on Monday, the 10th instant received His Excellency the German Minister in audience for the purpose of conveying the insignia. The audience was of a solemn character, Their Excellencies the Grand Chamberlain, Marquis Tokudaiji, the Minister of the Imperial Household, Viscount Hijikata, the Minister for Foreign Affairs *ad interim*, Marquis Saionji, and the Vice-Grand-master of Ceremonies, Mr. Sannomiya, being in attendance on His Majesty. Baron Gutschmid was accompanied by Captain Sarnow, Commander, and the First Officer of H.I.G.M.'s cruiser *Arcona*, who has been specially ordered by the German Emperor to attend the ceremony. At the close of the audience His Majesty conferred upon the German Minister the Grand Cross of the Order of the Rising Sun, an act that may be interpreted as indicating the existence of good relations between Japan and the Three Powers.

In a subsequent audience the German Minister presented to His Majesty the Emperor the insignia of the Royal Bavarian Order of Saint Hubertus, which the Prince Regent of Bavaria had conferred upon His Majesty some time previously.

THE NEW COMMERCIAL TREATY BETWEEN JAPAN AND RUSSIA.

The conclusion of the Revised Japanese-Russian Commercial Treaty at St. Petersburg forms the subject of a leading article in the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*. The exchange of ratifications is to take place in Tokyo within six months after the signing of the Treaty, but our contemporary is informed that both Governments will endeavour to effect the exchange as quickly as possible. The conclusion of the new Treaty is regarded as a matter of sincere congratulation for the two countries. The *Nichi Nichi* refers to the friendly intentions displayed by Russia towards this country all through the latter's endeavours to accomplish Treaty Revision. In 1889, when Count Okuma was Minister of Foreign Affairs, Russia, unlike other European States, made no demand about the appointment of foreign judges to Japanese courts of law. It is true, of course, that the same privilege would have been enjoyed by Russia in virtue of the most favoured nation stipulation; and it may also be said that she had no occasion to be particular on such a point, because there were very few Russian subjects in Japan. Even taking these circumstances into consideration, however, our contemporary recognizes the friendly attitude that has always been maintained by Russia in connection with Treaty Revision. In the present instance, too, negotiations were opened with her about the same time as with France and Germany, but she has been the first to accede to Japanese proposals. It is a matter of special congratulation, says our contemporary, that the political complications recently existing between the two countries, have not retarded the progress of the negotiations for Treaty Revision. There is a tendency among the Japanese to pay little attention to the conclusion of a new treaty with Russia, on account of the comparative insignificance of the trade with that country. The *Nichi Nichi* strongly condemns such an attitude. The trade with Russia is at present comparatively unimportant, but an unlimited development is likely to follow the now imminent completion of the Siberian Railway. That event is now not more than five years distant, and the opening of the line will make Vladivostock a rival of Hongkong in the trade of the East.

The other papers in the capital have not yet discussed the subject. Probably they will not. The news so far has been received with a sullen apathy characteristic of the present mood of the people. For our own part, we are astonished to find the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* predicting such results for the opening of the Siberian Railway. We do not believe that Vladivostock will ever be a rival of Hongkong. Even with equal physical advantages, no such issue could be anticipated, and that the Siberian Railway will take the place of the Suez Canal as a tradal route, is beyond the range of reasonable conception.

FIRE IN YOKOHAMA.

At three o'clock Thursday morning the alarms announced an outbreak of fire at or near No. 33, Settlement. Superintendent Morgin quickly responded to the call, and took with him the Yokohama Fire Brigade, a steamer, and three stand-pipes. He soon discovered that the fire was in a godown in the occupation of Messrs. Mourilyan, Heimann and Co., and that it had gone too far too leave much hope of saving the building or its contents. Attention was accordingly directed to prevent the spread of the flames, and this was eventually achieved, the Police Brigade rendering signal service towards the result. The godown in which the fire originated, and which with its contents was completely destroyed, is a two-storied stone structure, and at the time was full of tea already packed for shipment. The loss is estimated at about $120,000. The cause of the fire is unknown, but it is surmised that some coolies had been smoking near the place and the live embers which they probably knocked from their pipes were blown into the godown and so brought about the disaster.

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BANQUET TO THE HON. B. G. NORTHROP.

A large gathering of prominent members of society met at the Tokyo Club on the 10th inst. on the occasion of a dinner given to the distinguished American educationalist, Dr. Northrop, now on a visit to this country. Among those present were Their Excellencies Marquis Saionji, and Mr. Makino, Minister and Vice-Minister of State for Education; Viscount Tanaka Fujimaro, Privy Councillor; Count Shimazu, Viscounts Okabe and Matsudaira; Mr. Tajiro, Vice-Minister of the Finance Department; Mr. Hamao, President of the Imperial University; Mr. Kusaka, Governor of Nagasaki; Messrs. Tomita Tetsunosuke, Yano Jiro, Megata Tanetaro, Hara Rokuro, Abe Taizo, Fujii Saburo, Nagai Kyuichiro, Profs. Mitsukuri, Nakajima, Kojima and others. After the dinner, Marquis Saionji made a speech which was translated by Mr. Makino. Then Mr. Kanda spoke on behalf of the former Japanese students in America as follows:—

GENTLEMEN,—On behalf of our former students in America, it is with feelings of great pleasure that I rise to propose a toast in honour of our much esteemed guest, the Hon. B. G. Northrop, and to say a few words in grateful remembrance of his many personal kindnesses to them during the years of their study, and of his great services to Japan in the cause of her education and her friendly relations with the United States.

It gives us peculiar pleasure at this season of great national rejoicing to welcome amongst us so distinguished a veteran from a field sustained by any bloodshed.

That he, in his great age, should have travelled over nearly half the earth in the noble cause of education, is a feat at which we simply gaze with wonder and admiration. It is a lesson which impresses itself indelibly on our hearts. From another point of view, however, nothing is more natural than that he, like a good husbandman, should pay us a visit now, to see how the crops have prospered, the seeds of which he helped to plant so many years ago. Yes, what Japan has accomplished both materially and intellectually in so short a time, she owes to the generous services of those friends of hers of whom he is a distinguished representative. When, however, her great aspirations and the part she is destined to play in the future history of the Orient are considered, she has achieved but little. The harvest is not yet at hand. It is for us, actors on the present stage, to follow his admirable example of untiring energy and devotion to a noble cause, and to consecrate ourselves to the one great object of making Japan a truly enlightened nation.

Nor must I omit to mention his generous efforts and powerful influence to awaken the conscience of the American people to a deep sense of international justice with reference to the Shimonoseki Indemnity. With the people, in general, of the United States the final passage of the bill was made a matter of conscience,—an act which has enhanced their character in the eyes of this people, as a nation pre-eminently distinguished for justice.

With him, however, his untiring efforts, through ten long years, were actuated by a sincere desire to help on a newly awakened nation struggling under the weight of burdens consequent upon the sudden adoption of advanced ideas in almost every sphere of human activity. Mr. Northrop's name will be forever associated in the grateful remembrance of this people with whatever is of the best in the character of his countrymen.

In closing we sincerely hope that his stay in this country will be as pleasant as possible, and that every facility may be afforded him to further the object of his visit.

May many, many more years of his usefulness be spared to America and to the world. This is the earnest prayer of his sincere friends in Japan. —(Loud Applause.)

Mr. Northrop then rose and made the following reply:—

Your Excellency Marquis SAIONJI and GENTLEMEN,—I thank you for your hearty welcome to this banquet, and for your expressions of high appreciation of my humble services in promoting the educational interests of Japan and the return of the Shimonoseki Indemnity. Among the many agencies favouring the return of the Indemnity, it is simple justice to acknowledge the great influence of the religious press and of the Christian ministers who co-operated so efficiently to arouse the conscience of the American people on the subject.

My hearty thanks are tendered for the flattering toast just read by Mr. Kanda, though I do not merit such high commendation. I deemed it a great privilege to aid you in plans and places of study while you were in America. I rejoice to learn that you are filling such high positions in civil and commercial life.

How greatly have your opportunities and achievements for your country excelled those of the one hundred and twenty Chinese students who were under my general supervision as to their studies and schools at the time many of you were in America! They were each to continue in the United States fifteen years and to be thoroughly trained in school and college, and especially in modern science in its practical form. After nine years' continuance with great successes in study, there was a spasm of conservatism in China, and for frivolous pleas, such as "these boys are becoming denationalized and Americanized, playing base-ball and singing college songs," they were all ordered by cablegram "to learn telegraphy and return home!" On their return they were received with marked disfavour, and little opportunity for any public service was open to them, except as telegraph operators. The Mandarins, hostile to civilization and science, showed them no favour. Had the grand educational scheme of Yung Wing been carried out, and thirty or more Chinese students been sent annually to America, and become thoroughly versed in modern science as applied alike to the Army and Navy, your triumphs in the late war might not have been so easily won.

The brightest of these Chinese students, Captain Tsoy (Sai) Ting Kan, is now a prisoner of war at Osaka, where I have recently visited him. He says that he and all the prisoners are most kindly treated. By the edict of the Emperor of China, he is doomed to decapitation whenever he is caught. I have presented his case to Generals Oyama, Saigo, Kodama, and other high officers, by each of whom my plea for him has been kindly received. It would be undiplomatic to repeat their kind words. I deemed it a privilege to present his case this evening to His Excellency Marquis Saionji. I may be permitted to express the hope that Captain Tsoy will become a citizen of Japan, and be able with his knowledge of the Chinese language, and his remarkable command of English as well, to render valuable service to his adopted country.

The world over this is an age of transition, most hopeful to the philanthropist. I can now name but two causes tending to this result; one is the great acceleration in the working of material, intellectual, and religious forces, so that in a decade—sometimes in a single year—are accomplished broader results than formerly in a century. Another cause is the growing assimilation and power of public sentiment. Kings may reign, but far above all earthly potentates the principles of justice and right rule alike over Kings and peoples, and are beginning to wield a power which no schemes of diplomacy and no combinations of human forces can resist, and which is stronger even than armies and navies. Russia will yet rue the day when, without a shadow of justice and in violation of international law, she interferred so grossly with the rights of Japan.

More than in any other country this is an age of transition in Japan, for this Empire has jumped at one big bound out of the fifteenth century into the nineteenth. When the gates of isolation were first opened, your people learned that unification was the watch word of Europe, as there fifty six petty principalities were in process of being merged into the ten strong centralized governments of that continent. Hence unification became the rallying cry in Japan. In what rapid succession have followed the great events of your recent history of the Restoration, the overthrow of the feudal system, and the announcement of a national parliament, that voluntary, unexpected, yes, unexampled surrender of power to the people—one only of the noble acts that have so endeared the Emperor to this nation! Of course, an elective Parliament implies parties and earnest discussion, but I am glad to learn that never has the authority of your Emperor been once menaced or assaulted. The Imperial throne rests securely on the firm foundation of the affection and reverence of the entire Japanese people. I was in Kyoto on April 27th, when the Emperor arrived and when the grand triumphal arch near the depôt and the universal decorations of the streets testified to the enthusiastic devotion of the people; as also did the magnificent decorations and unbounded enthusiasm shown here on the Emperor's return to this city on May 30th. Is there any other King on this globe so universally honoured and beloved by his people as His Majesty the Emperor of Japan?

We may add that, on the afternoon of the 11th, Dr. Northrop visited the Higher Commercial School, and gave a very interesting and instructive lecture, the thirty-fifth since his arrival in this country in April.

FORMOSAN NEWS.

Telegram from Kagoshima, June 8th, 1.08 p.m.

From Viscount Kabayama to Head-quarters.

The naval squadron, after consultation with the land forces, left Santiao-chue on the 2nd inst. and steamed to Kelung Bay. On the 3rd, the land and sea forces opened fire upon Kelung harbour. In the afternoon a storm came on, and the squadron took refuge from the wind and waves in Tanshai Bay. On the morning of the 4th, the ships returned to Kelung and it was found that the enemy had retreated. Our ships took possession of the harbour. There were no torpedoes in the entrance, but within the harbour there were many. We are now engaged removing them. The particulars of the fighting by the troops have been reported to the War Office. I arrived at Kelung on the forenoon of the 5th, and decided that it should be used as a landing place. The transports carrying the mixed detachment arrived yesterday, and the men are now landing. We have had two or three cases of cholera, but there is no appearance of its spreading.

(Dated) *Yokohama Maru*, Chilung, June 5.

Telegram from Kagoshima, June 8, 1.02 p.m.

The general facts of the fight on the 3rd inst. are as follow:—The forts on Pialeushan Island show a flag of surrender. In the fight near Chilung, our loss was 30 killed and wounded, and the enemy's loss about 80. A body of the Guards is about to be pushed on to Shinfauche. The enemy's troops in Formosa are offering an obstinate resistance.

Dated Chilung, June 5th.

(Signed) Major-General OSHIMA.

Telegram from Kagoshima, June 8, 1.20 p.m.

After consultation between the land and sea forces, the 3rd instant was fixed for a combined attack upon Chilung, and on the first operations with that purpose were commenced. The enemy made several attempts to oppose us, and the weather was very bad, the sky never clearing, and storms of rain and wind constantly recurring. The roads also were extremely difficult. The mountain guns were carried forward by the men at the cost of immense labour, and by 5 p.m. on the 3rd we finally took possession of Chilung.

The following report has been received from the Guards:—"On the 2nd instant, the Division drove the enemy out of Dzuiho (a place shown on the map as Chinhiao-tsiang). The enemy left about 100 dead, and we had 18 killed and wounded. On the 3rd we advanced towards Chilung, and reached a point about 2½ miles eastward of it by 11 a.m. The attack was immediately commenced. The enemy offered resistance at the batteries about Pohteu and Chilung, but were unable to hold their ground, and finally retreated. At 2.25 p.m. we reached Chilung and attacked the forts on the east and south. A hot engagement ensued, the enemy mustering their whole force to resist us, but at 5 p.m. they retired from Nwannwanchie in the direction of Taipeh, and we obtained complete possession of the town of Chilung and of the forts around it. Our van then pushed on to Nwannwanchie. Many prisoners and considerable quantities of arms and ammunition were taken. The Division is now quartered in Chilung and its neighbourhood. We have no exact information as to the strength of the enemy opposed to us, but the people of the locality say that they mustered about 6,000. Their Commanding Officer, General Chang, was wounded and retreated to Taipeh.

(Signed) KABAYAMA, Commander-in-Chief.
(Dated) Chilung, June 5th.

The *Kokkai* publishes a telegram from Shanghai, dated the 8th instant, saying that an engagement has taken place between some German and Japanese ships in Tamsui Bay, and that the casualties are not yet known. Our contemporary caps the story by saying that a sudden and secret meeting of the cabinet was held in Count Ito's residence at 4 p.m. on the

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9th, and had not broken up at 10 p.m. We (*Tokyo Mail*) do not attach any importance to this rumour.

Telegram from Kagoshima,
June 10th, 6.57 a.m.

At the battle of Zui-hô, on June 2nd, Captains Ono Yasunobu, of the Infantry, and Utsugi Iwakichi, also of the Infantry, were slightly wounded, while Sub-Lieutenant Sato Monsaku received serious wounds. Among the non-commissioned officers and privates, the loss was 3 killed and 13 wounded.

At the battle of Kelung on the 3rd instant, the loss among non-commissioned officers and privates was 3 killed and 25 wounded. Of the officers, Sub-Lieutenant Okubo Tokuji, Artillery, received slight injuries.

By the explosion of bombs left in the streets of Kelung, on the 5th instant, Lieutenant Tanaka Matasaburo, of the Infantry, was killed, and the casualties among non-commissioned officers and privates were 6 killed and 15 wounded.

The Chinese prisoners thus far taken are 40 non-commissioned officers and privates. The spoils are 1,202 rifles, 14 heavy guns, 29 small guns, 540,000 rounds of rifle ammunition, 4,712 rounds of artillery ammunition, 1,025 cases of gunpowder, and a quantity of fodder and coins. In addition to the above, 2 Chinese officers and 70 non-commissioned officers and privates surrendered.

All the forts are provided with prismatic powder, which can be very conveniently conveyed to the guns. There is an abundance of such powder. Particulars will be reported after further investigation.

(Signed) Major-General Oshima,
Kelung, June 7th, 4 p.m.

To Lieut.-General Kawakami,
Imperial Head-quarters.

Telegram from Kagoshima,
June 10th, 6.57 a.m.

A trustworthy report has reached me, to the effect that Chang, leader of the enemy in the neighbourhood of Kelung, was delirious on account of his wounds at the time of sending the report. It is probable that he has since died. There is no enemy along the road connecting Kelung with Masoling and Taipoh. The Chinese troops stationed at Taipoh have fled, most of them in the direction of Sanchak. Those who remained behind combined with a mob and plundered the inhabitants. In consequence of this, 30 British and 25 German marines were landed there; they are still on shore.

No accurate report is obtainable about the condition of things at Tamsui. It seems to be true, however, that a powder magazine in one of its forts has exploded. It is also stated that the Chinese soldiers have all fled from that place.

Both foreigners and natives at Taipoh and Kelung have repeatedly requested the despatch of our troops thither. A battalion forming part of the van of the Imperial Guards Division, has consequently been despatched to-day to Taipoh. Another battalion, under Major-General Kawamura, has also advanced. A portion of the former battalion has already reached Taipoh, where they have seized two railway locomotive engines. They have been well received by the people.

Telegraph lines and railroads have not received any serious damage.

The troops are in exceedingly good health.

(Signed) Viscount Kabayama Sukenori,
Governor-General of Formosa,
Kelung, June 7th, afternoon.

To H.I.H. Prince Akihito, Principal Staff Officer, Imperial Head-quarters.

Major-General Oshima, telegraphing from Keelung to Lieut.-General Kawakami, Chief of Staff, under date of the 9th instant at 10 a.m., says:—On the 7th instant, a detachment of the van of the Guards was despatched to Kungtau, where the troops were excellently received by the people. Two companies of infantry and a squadron of cavalry were also sent on the same day to Tamsui. We have about two battalions of infantry now in Taipeh, but the remainder of the Guards are to set out for that place from this to-morrow, the 10th. The enemy have broken up and fled from Taipeh, and they have no force as far as Tamsui and Sanchoh. A few German and English marines were landed and are quartered in Tamsui, but those in Taipeh have left the place. Our medical men and tax-collectors reached Tamsui to-day, and telegraphic communications have been established between Keelung and Taipeh. We have seized six engines, and more than twenty baggage vans. There have been some slight indications of cholera among the Guards since the 6th inst. The number of new seizures on the 7th was 16 and the number of deaths 2. The Mixed Detachment commenced to land yesterday (8th) in the afternoon, and will be charged with the duty of guarding this place. The Commander-in-chief and Governor is expected to arrive in Taipeh on the 12th, having set out on the 11th.

THE POSITION OF JAPAN AMONG THE POWERS.

The *Kokumin-no-Tomo* publishes in its latest issue an interesting article on the above subject. Nothing, says our contemporary, can adequately express the chagrin and resentment felt by the Japanese people at the loss of the Liaotung peninsula. It is now the duty of the leaders of the nation to direct the strongly excited feelings of the people into the right channel, so that, instead of being disappointed, they may be stimulated to greater exertions. The cheering rays of hope should always be made visible to the people even in the darkest hours of their fortunes. In our contemporary's opinion, an opportunity for the recovery of the national glory is already in sight. The Liaotung peninsula has been snatched away by the combined intervention of Russia, Germany, and France, but in return Japan has obtained a recompense in the increased self-confidence and determination of her people. If she has statesmen sufficiently sagacious to take advantage of the state of public feeling, the retrieval of the country's prestige is a task of little difficulty. The Tokyo periodical then goes on to consider the bearings of the recent war upon the balance of power in Europe and in the East. During the progress of the war, Germany was on the watch for an opportunity to purchase the goodwill of Russia by rendering her a service in the East. Such an opportunity was afforded when Japan demanded a portion of territory long regarded by Russia with covetous eyes. The action then taken by Germany served in a measure to cement the *entente* that she had been so assiduous to establish with her northern neighbour. France had no choice but to follow in the footsteps of the two Powers. This was a great blow to the Triple Alliance between Germany, Austria, and Italy: that alliance has virtually been annulled. Moreover, in consequence of the interference of Germany and her allies, the influence of Russia, hitherto insignificant, has become paramount in Pekin and Tientsin. Up to that point Russia had succeeded in obtaining a commanding position among the Powers of the World. But, in the *Kokumin's* opinion, the ultimate success of her schemes of development depends upon the goodwill of Japan, for her prime desideratum is an open port on the Pacific, and an open port on the Pacific cannot be obtained without the consent of Japan. Korean territory is out of the question, for the independence of Korea having been secured at the point of Japanese bayonets, this Empire will not permit the alienation of any port of the peninsula without its approval. As to the coasts of Manchuria, there, too, Japan has the right to oppose the cession of territory to Russia or any other Power. Thus Japan lies in the direct path of Russia's extension toward the Pacific, and our contemporary reminds its countrymen of the splendid opportunities in store for them to display their power and strength. Not Russia alone, but France also is more or less held in check by Japan with regard to the development of her power in the East. For Japan has the right to be heard in any future complications in Indo-China. It will thus be seen that opportunities are already in sight not only for retrieving the sullied honour of the country but also for acquiring new and substantial advantages. It is not Japan's ambition to be aggressive, but her peculiar position requires her to develop her fighting capacity, for, in the *Kokumin's* opinion, an occasion demanding the use of force will present itself in five or six years to come. Our contemporary, therefore, strongly urges the increase of the Army and the Navy on a large scale without a moment's delay.

THE SOUTHERLY EXPANSION OF JAPAN.

The press and public in Japan seem for the moment to believe unanimously that the expansion of the Japanese Empire is to take place on the continent of Asia. The unpleasant rebuff that the country recently received at the hands of the three European Powers, has greatly tended to strengthen the nation's determination on this point. Even those hitherto opposed to the continental scheme now appear to take it for granted that the national honour leaves no choice but to recover the position from which their country has been so rudely ousted. It is not to be understood that the nation's opinion is definitely committed to such a plan of expansion. Doubtless, when the present excitement cools down, more or less modification of public views will take place with regard to this question. For the present, however, the ideas that find expression in the press and in conversation all tend in the same direction, and any view differing from the general creed is regarded as heresy.

It is refreshing, under such circumstances, to find an independent opinion expressed by a man like Mr. Sugiura Shigetake. He writes in the editorial columns of the *Tokyo Asahi Shimbun* under the *nom de plume* of *Hasen-shi*. Having first alluded to the slow development of Hokkaido and to the scanty measure of success attending the strenuous efforts made by Japan during the past three decades for the colonization and defence of that island, he proceeds to note the similarly unsatisfactory condition of affairs on the opposite shores of the Sea of Japan, namely, the Korean peninsula. He thinks it a mistake to ascribe this state of affairs to the erroneous policy followed by the Government. There seems to be something in the natural order of things that induces nations to expand from north to south rather than in the opposite direction. The history of dynastic revolutions in China illustrates the theory. All the dynasties that have ruled that country have invariably come from the north. That the energy conserved by Japan wants expansion in some direction is not doubted by this distinguished writer, who was among the first to awaken his countrymen ten years ago to a consciousness of the splendid path of development lying before them. He rightly holds, however, that it is of paramount importance to decide at the outset upon the general direction in which the expansion is to take place, and, in his opinion, that direction must be southward. Japan's policy in the north should be strictly conservative and defensive. He even goes so far as to say that, under certain circumstances, it might be advisable for Japan to give up the position that she now occupies in the north in order to devote her energies more completely to enterprises in the south. He does not mean that the island of Hokkaido may be abandoned. We interpret him as saying that the maintenance of Japan's prestige in Korea is not so important as the extension of the Empire in the South. In short, his counsel is that she should devote her energy to the establishment of a great island Empire by a process of southward expansion, the newly obtained Formosa serving as a basis. Having thus consolidated her position as the greatest maritime Power in the East, it would be easy for her to include the whole eastern coasts of the Asiatic continent in the sphere of her influence. This policy would require a large Navy, but in any case the increase of the Navy is a matter of imperative necessity, so that difficulties on that score can never be urged in opposition to the scheme propounded by Mr. Sugiura. We quote these views without any comment of our own.

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COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL.

The *Chugai Shogyo Shimpo* states that coloured tea, which was in general disfavour last year, has recovered its position in competition with uncoloured tea. The latter kind of tea is said to be still in demand, but to have fallen far behind the other kind in the quantity exported to foreign countries, as may be seen from the following figures :—

COLOURED TEA EXPORTED FROM YOKOHAMA IN THE MONTH OF MAY, 1895.

Destination.	Quantity. Catties.	Value. Yen.
India	2,220...	355.20
Canada	418,505...	150,668.95
United States of America.	1,979,643...	702,813.53
Total	2,400,368...	853,837 68

UNCOLOURED TEA EXPORTED FROM YOKOHAMA IN THE MONTH OF MAY, 1895.

Destination.	Quantity. Catties.	Value. Yen.
Canada	123,014...	41,081.87
Hawaii	75...	50.00
Hongkong	4,760...	1,820 00
United States of America.	473,995...	166,297.09
Total	601,844...	209,248.96

Thus coloured tea exceeds the uncoloured kind by 1,798,524 catties. As to black tea only, 37½ catties were exported to France during the month under review. According to the report of the Yokohama Japanese Tea Merchants' Guild, as quoted by our contemporary, the quantity of tea of all kinds sold to foreign export merchants at this port from the commencement of the present season till May 31st, shows a decline compared with that for the corresponding period of last year. Figures are given in the following table :—

Year.	Quantity Sold. Catties.	Value. Yen.	Average Price. Per 100 Catties.
1894	12,004,600	3,626,747	30.2113
1895	10,434,700	3,484,146	33.3900

The Japanese tea merchants of Kobe loudly complain of the inconvenience they suffer from continued interruptions of railway accommodation for the transport of new tea, in consequence of the lines being monopolized for carrying the troops returning from China. They have presented a memorandum to the Chamber of Commerce, stating their grievances and asking that body to forward the complaint to the Departments of State for Agriculture and Commerce, and for Communications. The position taken by them is that, in consideration of the important place occupied by tea in the foreign trade of the country, special facilities should be provided for transport of that commodity by rail.

The cotton spinning industry seems to have been most injuriously affected by the recent war. Several companies were unable to pay any dividend to their shareholders for the half-year ending December last. Even in the case of companies that could show some profit, the dividend was much lower than before. Things began to wear a brighter aspect from the commencement of the present year, and the revival of the cotton trade since then having been steady, it is expected that the profits of the factories will show on the average an increase of about 15 per cent. as compared with the latter half of last year.

The Japanese dealers in silk goods in this port seem to be alarmed at the increasing tendency of provincial manufacturers to trade directly with foreign merchants. In the month of April last, their representative, Mr. Suzuki Toyosuke, called at the Department of Agriculture and Commerce, and urged the adoption of some measures to prevent all direct transactions between provincial manufacturers and foreign merchants. Having received no answer from the Noshomusho, the aggrieved dealers held a meeting on the 11th instant and appointed a deputation, consisting of Messrs. Suzuki Toyosuke, Suzuki Kenkichi, Tsukui Heiyemon, and Sawa Kichiyemon, to wait upon the Minister of Agriculture and Commerce. They intend to visit the capital on the 17th instant. The reasons on which these dealers base their application for official interference are, first, that the direct transactions above alluded to are infringements of the commercial rights of their guild ; secondly, that direct transactions make it impossible for the members of the guild to carry out effectively the system of boycotting that they deem necessary for the maintenance of their interests ; and, thirdly, that, provincial manufacturers being unacquainted with the customs of foreign merchants, are liable to be imposed upon by the latter. Viscount Enomoto will doubtless scoff at these selfish and illiberal representations. His duty as a statesman is to promote the interests of trade in general, not those of a body of would be monopolists.

THE MONETARY SYSTEM INVESTIGATION COUNCIL.

The labours of the Monetary System Investigation Council, which was organized by Imperial Ordinance No. 113, of October, 1893, were brought to a conclusion on the 12th inst. The final conference that met on the above date was attended by Viscount Tani (President), Mr. Tajiri Inajiro (Vice-President), Vice-Minister of State for Finance, Professor Wadagaki Kenzo, of the Imperial University ; Messrs. Sakatani Yoshiro and Soyeda Juichi, of the Department of State for Finance ; Professor Kanai Nobu, of the Imperial University ; Viscount Hotta Seiyo, member of the House of Peers ; Mr. Watanabe Hiromoto, member of the House of Peers ; Mr. Shibusawa Eiichi, President of the 1st National Bank ; Mr. Sonoda Kokichi, President of the Yokohama Specie Bank ; Mr. Kawashima Jun, M.P., Mr. Kurihara Kyoichi, M.P., and Mr. Taguchi Ukichi, M.P. ; Mr. Obata Tokujiro, member of the House of Peers ; Mr. Masuda Takashi, of the Mitsui Bussan Kaisha ; Mr. Shoda Heigoro, of the Mitsubishi Firm ; and Mr. Hayakawa Senkichiro, Private Secretary to H.E. the Minister of State for Finance. The first point on which a decision was taken had reference to the causes of recent fluctuations in the relative values of gold and silver and the general results of those fluctuations. On this point it was agreed that the views recommended by the Special Committee be adopted. What those views are, we are not informed by any of the vernacular papers reporting the proceedings. The next point related to the effects of the recent fluctuations in exchange upon the economic condition of Japan. On this point the Council was divided into two equal sections ; one section regarding the recent fluctuations in exchange as beneficial to Japan, on account of the great impetus given to the export trade of the country ; while the other section argued that the impetus given to the export trade was not a blessing but a disaster in disguise. The third and the last point demanding a decision covered extensive ground :—Whether or not there is a necessity for modifying the present monetary system of Japan in consequence of fluctuations in exchange, and if there be such necessity, what standard of money should be adopted and in what manner should the change be effected? In the course of the discussion on these topics, it was discovered that opinions were greatly divided as to the standard money suited to Japan ; some advocating a gold standard, others a silver standard ; others a bimetallic system ; others a mixed system, in which a gold standard would be used in foreign transactions and a silver standard in domestic ; while a few advocated the postponement of all action on this matter until a uniform standard should have been adopted in the principal countries of the world. Amid these multifarious views, the advocates of a bimetallic system seem to have been most numerous. The *Asahi Shimbun* says that bimetallism had 8 supporters out of the Committee of 17, and the eight included Messrs. Shoda and Taguchi. Gold monometallism also had powerful supporters, the number of its advocates being reckoned at 6. The decision finally arrived at was that there is no necessity for the present to make any change in the monetary system of the country. The report of the Conference is to be compiled by Mr. Hayakawa, and will be submitted for the approval of the Council before presentation to the Government.

MARITIME EDUCATION.

Mr. Nakamura Rokusaburo, ex-Director of the Tokyo Mercantile Marine College, delivered in Osaka a few days ago, before an assembly of shippers of that place, an address relating to the maritime education of the country. The gist of what he said was as follows :—

About four decades have elapsed since a foreign ship was first used in Japan. The Tokugawa Shogunate had bought it from a certain Western country. The example set by the Regency was followed by powerful fiefs like Satsuma and Saga, so that at the time of the Restoration, the total number of steamers owned by Japanese was over ten. They were mostly war-vessels, and it was not until 1872 that the Government purchased several merchant steamers, entrusting them to the care of the Mitsu-bishi Firm, which was thus enabled to undertake shipping business on a large scale. The number of trading vessels went on increasing until, about the year 1878, they totalled some 200. Fifteen years later, Japan possessed in all 375 steamers and 279 sailing vessels. They were, however, mostly of small capacity only 59 being over 500 tons burden. Since the war broke out between Japan and China, the number of ships has suddenly increased, so that vessels above 500 tons now aggregate more than 70, and the total tonnage has been augmented by about 200,000 tons.

Matters pertaining to the training of sailors have not made progress commensurate with that of the shipping business. During pre-Restoration days there existed an office called the *Kaigunjo* (Naval Institution), but the men trained there were entirely absorbed after the Restoration into the service of the Navy. The need of navigators and engineers gradually became so pressing that at last the Government was induced to establish a merchant marine college in Tokyo, the graduates of which were given employment in steamers of above 500 tons. Subsequently, branches of the college were started in Osaka and Hakodate. Originally supported by local taxes, these institutions were transferred in 1890 to the direct control of the Central Government. At the same time a briefer course of instruction was inaugurated, to train seamen for smaller ships. A Seamen's Society was also started, for the same purpose of training mariners. The result of such earnest attention being paid to the education of sailors has borne good fruit. For example, up to 1892 more than 200 graduates had passed the collegiate course, of whom 34 are now captains, while those that graduated in the simple course aggregated above 1,100.

The late sudden addition of ships has, however, involved an insufficiency of hands to man them, and, moreover, not a few of those now serving are too old for active duties at sea. Thus there is a plain necessity for the establishment of two more marine training institutions, one in Kyushu, and another either in the Sanyodo or Sanindo districts.

There used to be no rule as to the education of sailors and stokers in Japan, but about the year 1880, the members of the Seamen's Society and others interested in maritime affairs conducted inquiries into this matter and found that, in the West, especially in England, great importance is attached to it ; so much, indeed, that it is made a sort of national business. Convinced that Japan also should take that direction, certain rules were drawn up and, as a first step toward the protection of mariners, boarding houses for their special convenience were established. The objects aimed at were to train seamen ; to extend relief to their families when in distress ; to encourage habits of saving, and so forth. At present the members supporting these institutions number more than a thousand.

The breaking out of the war and the sudden addition of ships for transport purposes, rendered it imperatively necessary that the scope of these institutions should be extended. Branch offices were accordingly started at Saseho, Bakan, and Ujina, and through the strenuous exertions of the members of the society and of the institutions, it became possible to satisfy the urgent demand of the time. The measures taken, however, were of a temporary character. In order to promote the permanent development of maritime business, it is necessary to devise larger means for training seamen and protecting their interests. This cannot be done without the support of the public at large, and unless a sound system of organization like that of the Red Cross Society of Japan be adopted.

The importance of piloting, from a military and economical point of view, needs no explanation. It is regrettable to see, however, that this vital branch of navigation is little attended to by the public, so that foreign steamers coming

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Japan are even now frequently obliged to employ foreign pilots of long experience. Recently, under the pressure of absolute necessity, a few Japanese pilots have appeared upon the scene, but their number is insignificant. There are at present 21 pilots in Japan, of whom 15 are foreigners and only 6 Japanese. The total income of these pilots, according to the records of the last two or three years, is about 70,000 *yen* a year, but of that amount, only 20 per cent. came into hands of the Japanese, the remainder going to the foreign pilots.

Such a state of affairs ought to be amended. In England, careful attention is paid to the training of pilots, so that no room is left for employing foreigners in that capacity. The total income that pilots annually obtain in Great Britain amounts to about 4 million *yen*, a sum large enough to constitute no insignificant item in the national revenue of this empire.

What the ex-Director of the Merchant Marine College could not but regard with regret was the fact that in no Russian or French man-of-war lately cruising between Nagasaki and Kobe or elsewhere, was a Japanese pilot found; the pilots used being exclusively foreigners. Mr. Nakamura suggested that the Government ought to establish a certain fixed system of pilotage, and should refuse to issue licenses to foreign pilots, at the same time taking steps to encourage the training of Japanese in this capacity.

In short the ideas of the people about maritime enterprise do not keep pace with its development, and are almost as primitive as they were in the early years of the *Meiji* era. In this respect Japan falls below even the petty countries of the West. For instance, while the protection of sailors is made a national affair in Europe, it is in Japan confined to a few thousand persons belonging to the Seamen's Society and another society for relieving sailors in distress. The public at large seem indifferent to this important affair. Now that Japan has entered the arena of the world, it is high time to take native steps for perfecting the education of sailors.

THE PROPOSED JAPAN-CHINA COMMERCIAL TREATY.

The Commercial and Industrial Society of Tokyo has carried out some very useful investigations with regard to the Commercial Treaty hereafter to be concluded between Japan and China, in accordance with the terms of the Treaty of Peace. The result of the investigations is embodied in a special report issued a few days ago. It is a lengthy document, and we shall confine ourselves to three points to which the attention of the authorities are specially directed. They are, first, special arrangements with respect to the navigation of rivers; secondly, abolition of the veto upon the travel of Japanese in the interior of China, dressed in Chinese costume; and thirdly, arrangements about currency.

The inland routes, one by the Yangtzekiang to Chungking, and another from Woosung to Sunchow and Hangchow *via* the Grand Canal, freedom of navigating which has been secured to Japan in virtue of the Treaty of Peace, are of great importance from a commercial point of view, Woosung, however, is notorious for its bar. Steamers often run aground there. Moreover, the route connecting Chungking and Ichang has been left undredged for many years, so that goods have to be carried in flat bottomed Chinese junks. English steamers once tried to navigate this portion of the river, but owing to obstruction by the natives and negligence on the part of the authorities the enterprise was abandoned. Hence, unless the Chinese Government be obliged to undertake the responsibility of dredging and effectively controlling the traffic on the river, the freedom of navigation obtained by Japan after considerable trouble will remain merely nominal. It may be possible, however, to secure the aim in view by inserting a special provision in the Commercial Treaty to be presently negotiated. Japan should constantly offer advice to the Chinese Government with the object of inducing it to attend to these matters.

Hitherto China has forbidden Japanese to travel in the interior in the garb of Chinese subjects, the right of veto being specially secured in the old Japan and China Commercial Treaty. The interdict is traceable to historic causes. During a great part of the Ming Dynasty, Japanese freebooters frequently infested the interior of China and devastated it to no small extent. Hence the desire of the Chinese to keep the Japanese out of the interior. But such a veto has no *raison d'être* at present. Moreover, a Japanese once came back to his country in Chinese costume in the capacity of interpreter to a Chinese Minister. China herself may thus be said to connive at the breach of the interdict. So far as concerns the Japanese the abolition of the veto is of great importance, for in travelling through the interior of China, where the natives are apt to look down upon foreigners as beasts, it is a great advantage to wear Chinese garb. The provision should be expunged from the amended Commercial Treaty. The third point, having reference to currency arrangements, is perhaps of more importance than either of the above. The object in view is to make the Japanese silver *yen* circulate as an ordinary medium of exchange in the Chinese market, just as the Mexican dollar does now. Everybody knows that there is no fixed currency system in China; no legal currency properly so called. There results inestimable inconvenience in business transactions. To remedy this defect, Spanish silver dollars came to be used as ordinary media of exchange more than 40 years ago. As the field of their circulation grew wider, the demand began to exceed the supply, with the natural result that the value of the coins appreciated. Fortunately at that time, Mexican dollars had passed more or less into circulation in the Orient, and for the purpose of correcting the deficiency of Spanish coin, the Taotai of Shanghai issued a proclamation in 1855 that Mexican dollars should be used in business transactions in the same manner as the Spanish. Next year the Shanghai Chamber of Commerce, organized by foreign local merchants, decided to accept Mexican dollars for purposes of commercial transactions in the same way as the "Carolus" dollars. Thereafter the influx of the new coins into China grew more and more abundant, till at last the "Carolus" dollar was superseded entirely by the Mexican in the markets of China. The import of the Mexican coin is so great at present that, in the year before last, it rose to no less than 10 million dollars. Every year the inflow exceeds the outflow by about 3½ million dollars. In spite of such an import, so great is the demand for the coin in China and so far has the supply been diminished in Western markets, that Mexican dollars are gradually destined to follow the example of their predecessor the "Carolus." The value has already risen far above that of the same weight of silver sycee. A price of as much as 75 to 76 taels to 100 dollars has been paid in Shanghai since May of last year.

Under the circumstances, it is evident that there is need of new silver coins to take the place of the Mexican in the Chinese markets. The Society is firmly convinced that at the present juncture, when the Commercial Treaty between Japan and China is amended, means would be taken to make the Japanese silver *yen* current in China in the same way as the Mexican dollar, since such an arrangement would prove of considerable benefit commercially to Japan. As matters stand, Japanese merchants suffer no small loss in transactions with Chinese, for in purchasing commodities at Shanghai they are obliged to pay Mexican dollars at the rate of about 75 taels to a hundred dollars, whereas the rate for remittance from Japan is about 72 taels. Were Japanese *yen* current in China in the same way as the Mexican dollar, not only would the latter cease to command the value it now has, but also the exchange between the two countries would be corrected and Japanese merchants would be enable to purchase cotton and so forth at lower prices. In general, the prosperity of the commerce between the two countries would be considerably promoted. Some may apprehend that silver would leave the country in large quantities were the Japanese *yen* accepted as currency in China; such a fear is baseless. The exodus would not exceed the balance of trade between the two empires. Even if it did, Japan, in turn, might import gold from China, whence that precious metal is annually exported in large quantities, the exodus last year being as much as 13 million taels. Of course there are objections to any attempt to fix artificially the exchange rate between the silver *yen* and the Chinese tael. What is wanted is to provide merely that the Japanese *yen* shall be as serviceable as the Mexican dollar for paying Chinese Customs or other duties, the rate in terms of the tael being determined according to the market quotation of the time.

The Mexican dollars do not, in reality, surpass the Japan *yen* as to quality and quantity of silver. In both respects the dollars are not uniform, the weight varying from about 899 to about 902 grains, and the fineness from 417 to 417⅞. There is no valid objection to the circulation of the Japanese *yen* in the same way as the Mexican dollar, and it is extremely likely that in the long run the two will become equivalent in value.

THE "KEIZAI ZASSHI" ON FORMOSA.

The *Keizai Zasshi* strongly criticizes the conduct of the Chinese Government in relation to the transfer of Formosa. It is bad enough, says our contemporary, that the Chinese soldiers in Formosa should resist the Japanese army, but it passes the limits of endurance that the troops specially sent by the Chinese Government to put down the disturbance should combine with the insurgents in their opposition to the new owners of the island. The Chinese Government can not escape the suspicion of giving secret countenance to the insurgents. "Under these circumstances, Japan is entitled to demand an indemnity from China. We are opposed to the exaction of monetary compensation in return for the Liaotung Peninsula, because such a procedure would not be manly. But the case is entirely different with Formosa. The neglect of its manifest duty on the part of the Chinese Government has compelled Japan to use force in connection with the transfer of the island. Such conduct on the part of China should not be pardoned. The Japanese Government is not to be insulted in that manner."

It can not be denied, so far as appearances go, that Japan has a perfectly legitimate grievance against China in this matter. China was bound by Treaty to hand over Formosa to Japan, whereas she has left Japan to win it by conquest. Such, at any rate, seems to be the conclusion forced upon us by events. But we doubt whether the whole truth is yet before the public. China can not be expected to do more than she is capable of doing. The fact that the soldiers sent by her to Formosa joined the insurgents' attempt to oppose Japanese occupation, extenuates rather than accentuates her breach of engagement, for if she is powerless to control her own troops, then she was evidently incompetent to quell the insurrection in Formosa. But there is no question about the disgrace she incurs. Whether she has connived at and assisted the resistance that Japan is encountering, or whether she had no means of subduing it, she stands convicted either of having deliberately broken her promise or of having made a promise that she could not fulfill. If the latter, as we believe is the case, the utter helplessness of China to govern herself and her utter untrustworthiness as a contracting party are well illustrated.

Flammarion, the ingenious French astronomer, has been photographing the celestial pole! The position of this is constantly varying on account of the procession of the equinoxes and other movements of the earth, but with a stationary telescope its place at any particular time may be accurately determined from the circular lines drawn on a photographic plate by the circumpolar stars. Some of the plates used record the tracings of more than 200 stars. On a photograph taken last September with an exposure of 250 minutes, the arcs of the paths of the stars have a length of 60.5 degrees and the different paths closely join to give a series of broken circles around a centre which represents the point toward which the earth's axis is pointed.

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THE CONTINENTAL PRESS AND THE LIAOTUNG QUESTION.

IT is evident that England's abstention from the European coalition against Japan produced a great sensation. The newspapers of Germany and Russia discussed the subject with more or less irritation. The German journals, however, show much more dignity and self-possession than the Russian. Their key note was that nobody wanted England sufficiently to solicit her aid; that her cō-operation could be perfectly well dispensed with, since the Three Powers were quite strong enough to enforce their wishes without her, and since they had the advantage of not being "troubled by the hatred to which England had exposed herself during the early part of the war." But it would appear that the tone of the German press did not accurately represent the sentiment of the Berlin Government. Despite Great Britain's abstention, the weight of her influence was not underestimated by German statesmen, and any exhortation addressed by her to Japan in the cause of concession to the Three Powers, would have been heartily welcomed by Germany. On the whole, it is notable that marked solicitude existed in Germany not to sacrifice Japan's friendship. Though joining Russia and France to administer a bitter pill to the new Eastern Power, Germany was anxious to gild it as much as possible. She was prepared to give to Japan any reasonable limit of time for replying to the representation of the Three Powers; she was most desirous not to be understood as opposing any obstacle to Japan's enjoyment of the legitimate fruits of victory, and she would even have been prepared to support a demand for the payment of an increased indemnity in consideration of the return of the Liaotung Peninsula. In fact, the Berlin statesmen evidently felt many qualms of conscience about the course they were pursuing towards Japan, and would gladly have preserved her friendship while playing into the hands of her enemies. But neither in newspaper articles nor in any other *exposé* of Germany's case can we find the slightest seriousattempt to explain how her interests were menaced by Japan's occupation of the Liaotung Peninsula. All the great military empire's defenders did indeed claim that her interests were imperilled, but not one of them was rash enough to attempt a logical defence of his assertion. Germany's position, in sooth, demanded all the adroitness of Mr. FACING-BOTHWAYS. That she entertained, and does still entertain, really friendly sentiments towards Japan there can be no question. From the commencement of the war to its close her newspapers were conspicuously consistent in their appreciation of Japanese military achievements and in their recognition of Japanese national capacities. Thus, when the exigencies of European politics compelled her to join hands with Japan's natural enemy, she probably felt almost as bad about it as did Japan herself. As for Russia, however, if she is to be judged by her press, her wrath against England for declining to coerce Japan is of the most genuine type. Only a very few months have elapsed since the world was talking of a wonderful *entente* between St. Petersburg and London, and speculating about the results of the lion and the bear lying down together after so many years of sullen animosity. But now the Russian press is screaming for England's blood and denouncing her as the enemy of all Europe. The plainest possible speaking is indulged in. It is charged that England deliberately ignores the danger threatening her own interests should the Japanese obtain possession of the Liaotung Peninsula, and that she ignores it because Japan in that position would be a welcome check to Russia's southern development. The Pamir arrangement is condemned as a triumph of English diplomacy, Great Britain having, as usual, got everything good for anything and left Russia whatever is good for nothing, and the Government is further condemned for closing the Pamir question while that of China and Japan was still open, thus leaving England free to play her own hand in the Far East. In this thoroughly hostile spirit the notion of submitting the Liaotung question to a congress of Powers is strongly objected to, on the ground that England, and perhaps others also would be found on the side of Japan. Columns of such Anglophobe writing are capped by an invocation to Europe to adopt NAPOLEON THE FIRST'S policy of 1806, namely, to blockade the British Isles. The crucible of events, as we recently observed, never fails to fuse the false from the true. The Russian press has helped materially on this occasion to designate the natural allies of the East and their inevitable enemies. Russia writes herself down as entirely opposed to the development of the Japanese empire, and proclaims that fresh fuel has been added to the fire of her Anglophobia because Great Britain declines to recognise in the growth of Japan a "common danger to Europe." We can not pretend to say how far the Russian press may be regarded as an exponent of educated and official opinion in Russia. Indeed we find it impossible to believe that the incendiary tirades of either the Russian or the French journals at the present juncture truly represent the sentiment of the Russian or the French people. The facts, however, are what we desire to set forth, not our own interpretation of them.

JOURNALISTIC INCENDIARISM.

WHILE we publish Bishop NICOLAI'S vicarious statements — *vide* our correspondence columns—with pleasure, and are glad that he is in a position to contradict the allegations in question, it is necessary to point out to our correspondent that none of the stories traversed by him was given on our authority. That referring to the receipt of a mysterious document by the Bishop, and the subsequent posting of a police guard at the Greek Cathedral, was quoted explicitly from the *Mainichi Shimbun*: that describing how the Bishop had been warned by the authorities not to make any journey at present, and how the annual congress of the Greek Church in Sendai had consequently been abandoned, was quoted explicitly from the *Hochi Shimbun*; and that alleging that the number of worshippers at the Russian Cathedral had visibly decreased, since the action of the Three Powers, was explicitly declared to be a street rumour. For the rest, we entirely endorse our correspondent's comment that it would be a grateful relief if "all the blustering war talk that some of the foreign papers, as well as most of the native press, enlarge upon, were dropped." But, frankly speaking, we think that the reform should commence in Russia. If our correspondent doubts the justice of our retort, we beg him to peruse the articles that have appeared in the Russian press with reference, first, to the contingency of Japan's obtaining a footing on the mainland of China; and secondly, to the abstention of Great Britain from interfering with the terms of peace. If ever the newspapers of a country devoted themselves heart and soul to stirring up strife, the Russian newspapers may claim that distinction. Yet it is said that the Government in St. Petersburg has the press in the hollow of its hand. Two wrongs do not make a right. The violence of journals in Russia constitutes no excuse for similar transgressions in Japan, nor do we for one moment desire to defend sensational or impatient writing of the kind alluded to by our correspondent. Facts must be recorded, however, as they exist. That the Japanese nation should entertain a very strong feeling of resentment against Russia at the present juncture is perfectly natural, nay even inevitable. No nation imbued with even the most rudimentary sentiment of patriotism, could be expected to resign itself contentedly to the rebuff recently inflicted on Japan. Were we to assert the contrary, or to rebuke the Japanese for harbouring umbrage that no Western people could repress under similar circumstances, we should merely invite the contempt deservedly attaching to all display of hypocrisy and injustice. What we can do, however, is to point out to our Japanese readers that the utterances of the Russian

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and French journals are so palpably unreasonable as to be worthy of ridicule rather than of resentment. Both agree in denouncing England in the bitterest and most uncompromising terms because she declined to cöoperate in depriving the Japanese of the fruits of their victories. Not merely by insinuation, but by open assertion, do these newspapers charge England with dishonesty and disloyalty. She invited, they say, the cöoperation of the Great Powers of Europe to interfere at the outset of the war, but stood aloof in the sequel and left them to act without her, the reason of her disgraceful inconsistency being that, having discovered in the interval Japan's value as an ally, she desired to secure for herself alone the friendship of the new Oriental Power. Not half a dozen Englishmen's pulses will move a beat quicker for the sake of a charge so silly. They will not even think it worth while to insist that Germany, Russia, and France having declined to join Great Britain's original proposals for preventing or shortening the war in the East. Great Britain could scarcely be expected to spring to their side the moment it suited their convenience to move in line. Such an answer is not without force, but no one acquainted with English statesmanship will pretend to think that the satisfaction of a petty retaliation in kind would weigh with the British Government were the interests of peace at stake. England's course throughout the war has been perfectly consistent with the best principles of abstract and international morality. So long as any prospect offered of averting war, or of confining it within the narrowest limits after it had broken out, Great Britain endeavoured to arrange joint action by the Great Powers, and failing their cöoperation, she spared no efforts of her own in the cause of peace. But when, the war being virtually over and peace assured, she was invited by Germany, Russia, and France to assist in playing a part that might prevent the consummation of peace and must inevitably lay the foundation of future quarrels, she stood aloof. The miserably paltry motives assigned to her by the journals of Russia and France must be interpreted, we apprehend, as indications of the moral calibre of her accusers. Certainly they will not provoke recriminations. Those journals believe and declare that the expansion of the Japanese empire constitutes a menace to Europe, and that England is a traitor to Europe because she declines to suppress Japan's growth. England does not think so. She regards Japan as a civilizing, liberal Power, entitled to the rewards of its own progress, and she certainly will not interfere to oust the Japanese from the continent of Asia lest their presence there should impede Russian aggression. Slander and abuse have never moved Englishmen seriously. They know well that ons become only a bad cause. Besides, there are reasons for the anger of France and Russia. It can not be pleasant for the latter to observe in the Orient a newly arisen Power guarding the Pacific shores that she has long laboured to reach, and to reflect that she has already contrived to force that Power into the arms of her old rival. It can not be pleasant for France to remember that, but for her own suicidal blundering, she might have shared with England the control of the valley of the Nile, whereas now she is absolutely powerless to recover her footing there, since to land troops in Egypt it would be necessary first to sweep the British fleet out of the Mediterranean, a feat that France can scarcely hope to achieve. It is a wretched spectacle to see the leading nations of the world snarling at each other's heels in this age of enlightenment, but the calm self-contained tone of the English press shows that one great nation at least retains its moral equilibrium. The Englishmen of to-day are not inferior to the Englishmen of three or four generations ago. What the latter did, the former also can do, and will do, if the necessity present itself. Doubtless the Japanese, who have not a similar record to inspire confidence and calmness, may be excused if, in the presence of much provocation, they exhibit a little excitement. But we invite the editors of the Tokyo journals to estimate conscientiously what their own sentiments would be were their country attacked with the violence and hatred now exhibited by the French and Russian Press toward England, and we further invite them to consider how much England gains in dignity and impressiveness, and how much confidence she inspires, by her tranquil and unruffled demeanour under such provocation. It is an object lesson that conveys its own teaching too vividly to call for comment.

THE CHINESE LOAN.

RUSSIA as a money lender is a phenomenon to which we are not accustomed. Yet there appears to be little room to doubt that she has promised to lend China seventeen million pounds sterling, the rate of interest being 4 per cent. and the issue price of the bonds 90. These figures are remarkable. That China, at the close of a war in which she suffered disgraceful defeat, and from which she emerged in a condition of such obvious helplessness as to invite the aggression of any Power, however weak—that China under these circumstances should be able to procure in Europe a large loan at less than 4½ per cent. interest, a loan far more considerable than any monetary accommodation hitherto obtained by an Oriental State in the West, can not for a moment be regarded as a purely financial transaction. It is plainly a political move. China could not have commanded such terms in England, where money is much cheaper than it is in Russia. It is quite plain, indeed, that there is no idea of inviting Russian capitalists to subscribe to the loan. They would scoff at the idea. Even if the bonds bore six or seven per cent. interest, it is doubtful whether they could be floated to anything like the required amount in Russia. Nor is there, so far as we know, any intention of proceeding in that manner. The money is to be sought for in Paris, the Russian Government's share in the matter being confined to that of guarantor. Russia, in short, pledges her credit on China's behalf, and France supplies the funds. Many people hold that France is not in a position to finance such a sum as seventeen millions sterling, and that recourse must be had to London for a considerable part of the amount. However that may be, it is scarcely possible to avoid the inference that France and Russia are combining to get China into their power, and that they are prepared to put up a good price at the outset to purchase that advantage. Russia, it seems to us, is faring famously at this stage of her national career. All the plums are falling to her share. Germany has helped her to eliminate a serious obstruction that threatened to check the southern and western expansion of her empire, and France furnishes the money needed for the prosecution of her ambitions and projects. On the other side of the account, Germany's gains are not discernible. She interfered originally hoping that her addition to the Franco-Russian mixture might dilute the compound. She obeyed, in short, the old principle that two is company and three is not. But having played Russia's game in her own interests, as she thought, she now finds Paris and St. Petersburg associated more closely than ever for the prosecution of a scheme from which she herself is totally excluded. If Germany derives satisfaction from that result, supplemented as it is by the reflection that despite various interchanges of Black Eagles and Rising Suns, she has effectually alienated Japan's amity, and added another page to her own record of international untrustworthiness, she must be strangely constituted. But she is far from being satisfied, we imagine. After all is said and done, she has a really genuine sentiment of friendliness toward Japan, and she has also commercial interests in China that will not be promoted by the preponderance of French and Russian influence there. France's rewards, too, are very difficult to discover at the moment, but possibly she is content to place her hands in Russia's with a view to the future division of Chinese spoils. We should be sorry to do an injustice to either Russia or France, but truly no reasoning being can be expected to imagine that the statesmen of Paris and St. Petersburg have put their heads together for the amiable purpose of keeping China on her feet. The chains they are forging for her may be

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golden, but they are chains none the less. As for England, she can afford to watch all these manœuvres quietly and patiently. The doings of nations are governed by a fate that forces the procedure of all down to a common level. When the designs of Russia and France have matured; when they have provided a sufficiency of pretexts to justify some territorial "re-adjustments" in the East, England will be fully prepared to step in and take her share. She has never yet been "left" in a game of scramble, and there is no prospect of her record being presently changed in that respect. Russia can have her port on the Pacific; France may push a little farther up the valley of the Meikong. England, in that event, will simply alter her position to suit these changes. It is all very bad morality, we admit, but just as a corporation is beyond the reach of libel, so a nation can not be arraigned before any tribunal of ethics. If the millenium is ever to come, it will be inaugurated by a union of the Anglo-Saxon race all over the world. In the meanwhile, nations that have not passed their zenith, must grow, by fair means if possible, but at any rate, grow.

JAPANESE LOYALTY.

IT is very remarkable to observe the process of erecting pinnacles of deduction upon pin-points of fact, as practised often by writers about Japan. The Special Correspondent of the *China Mail*, who was also the war correspondent of *The Times*, illustrates this propensity in a letter recently addressed by him to the former journal. He writes:—

> There are not lacking patriotic Japanese who, as a matter of form, express regret at Tsuda Sanzo's murderous attack on the Czarewitch in 1891, but are ready at the same time to admire his love of country in spite of the way he tried to show it. In the case of Li Hung-chang they are more confident in extenuation of the outrage. In fact, though I have heard many say "I am sorry—oh, so sorry!—because this attack on the Chinese Ambassador will bring discredit on Japan," I have not heard even one say "I am sorry because Li is an old and feeble man, already to be pitied," nor for any reason except the one of effect on Japan. In fact, but for this, they seem disposed to regard the affair almost with pride, as showing the strength of Japanese patriotic passion, sublime indifference to punishment or death. Of course, there is something in that, but it ought not to be more prominent in their minds than the intrinsic vileness of the outrage, viewed purely as an outrage rather than as a political mishap.

It should be remarked by way of preface that the writer of the above paragraph does not speak Japanese, and that his total residence in Japan may be measured by months. We doubt whether any one, under such circumstances, can properly undertake to interpret the feelings of individual Japanese about TSUDA SANZO or KOYAMA TOYOTARO. Looking back twenty years, it is easy to recall vividly the time when foreign critics used to allege that want of patriotism would prove to be one of the most serious defects of Japanese character were the empire required to play a national rôle. They based this forecast on the fact that in feudal times the fief was everything to the vassal, and that events had never tended to educate any broader sentiment of nationalism. It was certainly a reasonable conclusion in view of the premises. But it has turned out to be as mistaken as any conclusion could well be. To-day, on the contrary, patriotism so intense as to amount almost to a mania, is recognised to be a leading trait of Japanese character, and we have an English writer asserting that "extreme love of country leads the Japanese in everything, good or bad." For our own part, this change of estimate does not take us at all by surprise. Even before the feudal system fell, the fervid patriotism of the Japanese *Samurai* forced itself again and again upon our observation, and many a time did we combat the fallacy that the *chiugi* of the vassal interfered in any essential with the *aikokushin* of the subject. Immediately before and after the Restoration and prior to the surrender of the fiefs to the Central Government, numbers of Japanese *Samurai* used to visit the British camp in Yokohama for the purpose of studying military tactics and strategy, and never among all these men—we speak from intimate personal knowledge—could one be found that acknowledged any motive for his efforts except the desire of raising his country to the rank he longed to see her occupy. Students of the Japanese language in the days when BROWN'S Conversations and HEPBURN'S Dictionary were the only available aids, must remember well how unceasing in the mouths of the upper classes was the formula "*takoku to kata wo naraberu*." Rivalry among fiefs yielded at once to solicitude for country when the startling fact of Occidental superiority came to be recognised. And now we are asked to consider a new question, whether Japanese patriotism is not in truth fanaticism; whether the Japanese does not regard any act and all acts permissible so long as love of country is their motive. The correspondent of our Hongkong contemporary replies in the affirmative, but, as we have said, the exceeding slenderness of his premises is astounding. He takes the cases of the murderous attack on the CZAREWITCH at Otsu and on the Viceroy LI at Shimonoseki, and alleges, in effect, that the Japanese do not condemn these crimes from a moral standpoint, but regret them simply on account of their evil consequences to the country's reputation. What the Japanese see, he says, is not the vileness of the outrage, but the inconvenience of the political mishap; not the sin of the would-be assassin, but the strength of his patriotic passion; not the age, feebleness, and already humiliating position of LI HUNG-CHANG, but the embarrassment of assaulting a foreign ambassador. Well, the truth is that this critic errs greatly as to his facts. Had he studied the vernacular press of Japan after the Shimonoseki outrage, he would have found that scarcely one newspaper failed to take the very view from the assumed absence of which he draws such inferences. All alluded to the age of the Viceroy, to the painful mission upon which he was engaged, and to the terrible violation of hospitality that must be laid to Japan's charge. Considering the overwhelming gravity of the political consequences, it would certainly have been unjust to conclude that because prominence was given to them, the moral aspect of the crime was extenuated. But undue prominence was not given to them. The "intrinsic vileness" of the deed received ample recognition, though we ourselves think, as every reflecting person must, that a very distinct line of demarkation has to be drawn between acts of violence such as those perpetrated by TSUDA and KOYAMA, and acts perpetrated by common malefactors. The motive counts for much, and when a man is plainly actuated by love of country, it is only just that the extenuating weight of that fact should be considered in judging his violations of law. Among every people permeated by a powerful sentiment, there are some whose moral balance can not support the strain. Such are the TSUDAS and KOYAMAS of Japan. No one can truly say of Christianity that it "covers a multitude of sins" because certain Christian fanatics proceed to suicidal extremes of self-torture, or to fierce exhibitions of intolerance. Men admit that such excesses are disfiguring, but acknowledge that a faith incapable of lighting sacrificial fires must be a perfunctory affair at best. So too if the potentialities of Japanese patriotism are really large, we must expect some startling extravagances, and it becomes a very nice question to determine whether, in passing judgment upon these delirious deeds, we should speak first of their disgrace to the cause in which they are erroneously perpetrated, or of their departure from the general moral code. At all events, neither standpoint, we think, has ever been so exclusively adopted by the Japanese as to warrant the criticisms of the *China Mail's* correspondent.

THE HONGKONG COMPLICATION.

THERE is one thing that no man has ever succeeded in achieving with grace; it is the return of a gift on the ground of its inadequacy. Mr. J. J. FRANCIS of Hongkong has made the essay and has accomplished it after a fashion not certainly wanting in ability, but altogether wanting in grace. Mr. FRANCIS acted as Chairman of the Permanent Committee of the Hongkong Sanitary Board during the plague epidemic of 1894, and rendered services of a most substantial and praiseworthy character in that capacity. In return for his work, the Hongkong Go[illegible] "with the approval of H[illegible] Government," presented to

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him a silver inkstand bearing an inscription. Mr. FRANCIS sent back the inkstand. The Governor of Hongkong, when forwarding it to Mr. FRANCIS, described it as "a handsome silver inkstand." We may infer from this peculiar proceeding on the Governor's part—extolling the beauties of a gift presented by a body politic of which he himself was the head—that Sir WILLIAM ROBINSON had doubts as to the suitability of the inkpot as a recognition. Mr. FRANCIS soon confirmed those doubts. His letter announcing his rejection of the testimonial filled nearly two columns of a daily newspaper and contained a categorical statement of reasons that rendered the Colonial Government's gift inadequate. The reasons were exposed in eight paragraphs, every one of which was, in effect, a panegyric of Mr. J. J. FRANCIS' services penned by Mr. J. J. FRANCIS himself. We shall not enter into these reasons. It is enough to quote their pith as contained in Mr. FRANCIS' summing up:—

I am sure your Excellency will feel with me that it is impossible for me, under such circumstances, to accept the inkstand you have sent me, and which I now beg most respectfully to return. Will you say to the Right Honourable the Secretary of State, when forwarding to him this letter, of which I furnish you three copies for transmission, that I am perfectly satisfied with the thanks of the community conveyed to me by their Committee and with their recorded opinion as contained in their letter of the 3rd December already referred to. I am much obliged for the expression of thanks received from your Excellency and from the Secretary of State. I shall have a sufficient memorial of the plague year and of my work during it in the gold medal to be presented to me by my fellow-citizens and in the state of my fee book. I am not at all ashamed to say that I should have been highly gratified if Her Majesty had thought fit to honour me as my friend and colleague, Mr. May, has been so deservedly honoured; but the gift of a silver inkstand from the Government of Hongkong is, if your Excellency will pardon the expression, so ludicrously inadequate to the services rendered, even to the mere time expended by me in working on the Permanent Committee, that I can only come to one conclusion, and that is, that the Marquess of Ripon has, in some strange fashion, been left under the impression that I was simply Secretary to the Permanent Committee, and not, from force of circumstances and because of the necessary division of labour between us, its brain and motive power. This is not said in any way in derogation of the ability or skill of my colleagues, who deserved the very highest praise and commendation, but they themselves constituted me their leader, accepted my leadership, and would be the very first to admit and proclaim that in our five months' campaign against the plague, I was the General in command. It is usual in England, or at least it always has been, to award the honours of the campaign to the leader, however distinguished may have been the services of his colleagues.

It will be observed that Mr. FRANCIS takes up slightly contradictory positions in this *résumé*. He is "perfectly satisfied" with the recognition already extended to him in the form of the thanks of the community, yet, in view of his eminent services, as detailed by himself, it is impossible for him to accept such a paltry supplementary acknowledgement as a silver inkstand. He has "a sufficient memorial of the plague year and of his work during it in the gold medal to be presented to him by his fellow-citizens and in the state of his fee book," yet he finds the additional gift of a silver inkstand "ludicrously inadequate." In fact, he is content with what has already fallen to his share, but he would have been "highly gratified" if HER MAJESTY had made him a C.M.G. in addition. Of course the first thought that occurs to us in reading this letter is, for what did Mr. FRANCIS work during the plague? If his labours were perfectly disinterested, if they were dictated solely by benevolence to his kind, all public recognition of them subsequently must have seemed superfluous. If their motive was to obtain distinction and reward for himself, then he would naturally scrutinize the quality of the fame and the quantity of the recompense coming to him. By the course he has taken, Mr. FRANCIS invites the public to put the latter construction on his acts. At the same time, it is impossible not to sympathise with him. The procedure of the Hongkong Government towards him seems miserably wanting in tact. The widow's mite was a noble offering, but the Government of a great British Colony can not claim the privileges of an indigent widow. If it was not in a position to recognise Mr. FRANCIS' undoubtedly great services in some manner worthy of an Administration and proportionate to his merits, it should have confined itself simply to a despatch of warm thanks. But to send him a silver inkstand, and to describe it as "a handsome silver inkstand," was to make itself contemptible and to bring ridicule on his services. Mr. FRANCIS has been kind to the Government of the Colony. He has softened the situation for it by diverting to himself a portion of the criticism that would otherwise have been monopolized by the Government. The whole affair makes an ugly page in the annals of the Colony.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[Our readers must distinctly understand that we are in no sense responsible for the sentiments or opinions of our correspondents, for the accuracy of their assertions, or for the deductions they may choose to draw therefrom.]

THE FIRE AT SHIBATA.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—I send you herewith a brief account of the recent fire in the city of Shibata, distant seven *ri* from this city.

The fire broke out at 11.30 p.m. of the 2nd inst., and burned fiercely until after day-break next morning, during which time the city was almost destroyed. The whole heart of the city, including practically all the shops of any importance, is now one vast ash-bed.

Yesterday morning, Rev. M. Dunlop of the Canadian Methodist Mission and myself rode out from here to view the scene, and do what we could to aid the unfortunates. On reaching the burnt district we were completely bewildered, as all the old landmarks were entirely destroyed. Save for the presence of a few godowns that had withstood the flames, and piles of rubbish, one could easily have imagined himself in an uninhabited region, and it was not until the Police Station came in sight that we were able to get our bearings.

A visit to the police and city headquarters revealed the following facts:—Houses burnt, 2,410; killed, 45; injured, 17; people homeless, 10,000 in round numbers; people receiving aid from the city, 400, and this latter number will probably increase to over 1,000 in the next few days. Not within 200 years has there been such complete destruction as this in Shibata.

The above facts seem sufficient to constitute a reason for appealing to the sympathies and purses of your readers. Having in remembrance their kindness in connection with the great calamity at Sakata last fall, I trust that on this occasion also a generous response will be made.

Contributions will be gladly forwarded to Shibata, by Rev. J. G. Dunlop, Asahimachi, Rev. H. B. Newell, Minami Hama-dori, or the undersigned.

Yours sincerely, HILTON PEDLEY.

Niigata, June 5th, 1895.

"PHALLICISM IN JAPAN."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—In a recent issue of your paper, "Z" criticises Mr. Buckley's pamphlet upon "Phallicism in Japan." I claim no wisdom concerning the subject treated by Mr. Buckley, but feel that justice to him demands that something be said for the benefit of those who, not seeing the essay, may judge it from the description given by its critic.

Readers of the criticism would probably gain the impression that all or most of the objects in the phallic section of Mr. Buckley's collection were obtained from houses of prostitution; whereas, so far as can be learned from the pamplet, this is the case with only two articles, and concerning one of these it is stated that it was an object of worship. Most of the others were obtained in or near temples and shrines. "Z" says that *four minutes* would suffice to make a much larger collection in Chicago, New York, or any large western city. In which of these cities could such objects be found in temples, having offerings made before them; and where, even in houses of ill fame, would they be worshipped? The question is not concerning obscene images, which doubtless can be found in all lands, but concerning phallic emblems associated with worship.

To "Z" it appears that less than a dozen of the articles mentioned by Mr. Buckley could have any phallic signification to the normal mind. This is a somewhat summary judgment even though the critic were justified in drawing his conclusions from a catalogue too condensed to give full particulars. I feel sure that an inspection of the objects themselves would in most cases lead at once to an acknowledgment of their meaning; while, with other articles, their presence in phallic shrines favours Mr. Buckley's view.

"Z" says that Mr. Buckley considers the Buddhist symbol of the *hoshi-no tama* to be "obscene." The pamphlet simply describes a nest of five objects—two being phalloi—carved in wood so that one fits inside the other. There is nothing to show that Mr. Buckley supposes three of them to have any phallic significance. I happen to know that he was very much puzzled to know why the *hoshi-no-tama*, the innermost of the five objects, should be found in such a connection. The critic sneers at the idea of certain shells having any "obscene" meaning; but will he kindly explain why they are so often found in connection with phallic shrines.

It will be noticed that "Z," in marked contrast with Mr. Buckley, constantly uses the word "obscene" of the objects mentioned; and this leads to one remark on the motive with which the pamphlet was written. The critic declares that it was to bring discredit on the Shinto religion as being obscene. No one acquainted with Mr. Buckley would make such an assertion. The pamphlet says, as "Z" himself quotes, that various facts "require consideration before the connection with Shinto can be considered settled" (p. 32). Mr. Buckley does not condemn even the phallic cult itself, for he regards it as one form in which men have sought through nature to see a superior being, spirit, or god embodied in the objects worshipped. He says that the cult "forms as natural, proper, and legitimate a system of worship as that of the sun or fire, and can only by gross misconception be associated with obscenity, though this is often done by those devoid of sympathetic historic imagination and anxious to point a moral or adorn a tale" (p. 16). Many will think this an over-charitable view; and the testimony of many Japanese is that the cult is closely associated with immoralities. Be that as it may, the author is *free* from the charge brought against him.

"Z" remarks, "Further notice of the pamphlet is scarcely necessary,—except, indeed, to remark the absolute untruthfulness of the statement that the form of superstition referred to has priests, rites, and ceremonies to-day. This is simply conscious *falsehood*." I fail to find the alleged statement. The context shows that phallicism in general is referred to when it is said to have "shrines, festivals, priests, and amulets identical with those of Shinto" (p. 32). The author says. "No fixed ritual for the phallus is known to me" (p. 22). He mentions one famous temple where there "were *once* fifteen resident priests" (p. 19). He also describes a festival which he himself witnessed in 1892 at the phallic shrine in Kande, when a priest presented offerings and prayed. If this last description is what the critic calls a "conscious falsehood" (Why not use the shorter Anglo-Saxon

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word?), the style of argument is unsatisfactory unless some proof is produced that the festival did not occur at the time alleged. It is easy to say that the Japanese Government "banished the matter out of sight a generation ago;" but some of us who travelled in the interior *half* a generation ago know that in several localities phallic symbols were openly displayed as objects of worship. Even within the present year the phallic shrine close by the Ise Temples was pointed out to a foreign gentleman and lady as something specially interesting.

Much connected with the cultus may be repulsive; yet students of the intellectual, social, and religious development of the people among whom we live can not overlook the facts. It is discouraging to see that, though one studies in the most charitable spirit, yet the fact that he happened for a while to teach in a "mission school" causes his motives to be misinterpreted, while he is accused of conscious falsehood and perhaps, as in the last sentence of "Z's" letter, spoken of in a way that the more sober thought of the critic himself must condemn.

Yours respectfully, OTIS CARY.

Kyoto, June 8th, 1892.

CHRISTIAN WORK WITH THE ARMY.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—I am requested to furnish your readers with a brief minute of the work of the Tokyo Committee appointed to collect funds in connection with the Christian Work among the soldiers in Hiroshima and Manchuria. At a meeting of the Committee held this afternoon, at which were present Rev. Drs. Verbeck, Greene, Wier, Christlieb, and Rev. Messrs. White and Wadman, the Treasurer of the Committee presented his report, in which it was shown that *yen* 369.58 had been received in collections and subscriptions and the same duly forwarded to the Central Committee in Hiroshima.

Rev. J. H. Pettee, a member of the Central Committee, was present and addressed the meeting in reference to the work being prosecuted, and referred likewise to the plans for the future. The Committee decided to continue its existence, and would hereby intimate to any who wished to aid this good work, that the undersigned Secretary and Treasurer will gladly receive and acknowledge such.

I have the list of subscribers, which any one is at liberty to see. It is deemed advisable not to publish it.

Yours very sincerely, J. W. WADMAN.

15-A, Tsukiji, Tokyo, June 10th, 1895.

THE GREEK CHURCH IN JAPAN.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—In your issue of the 6th inst. was an article stating that in view of the existing unfriendly feeling of Japanese toward Russian subjects, there was a marked falling off in the attendance at the Greek Missions presided over by Bishop Nicholai of Tokyo; that the Rev. Father had recently been handed a communication supposed to have been a warning against threatened danger; and that, in view of these things, it had been thought prudent to abandon the Missionary Conference to have been held in Sendai this present month.

During a call upon the Bishop at his residence, since the publication of your article, he remarked to your correspondent that there was not a grain of truth in any of these assertions, nor in the previously published statement that the Japanese members of his church had given him notice of their intention to withdraw from the church because of the strained relations between Russia and Japan.

Said the Bishop:—From the very beginning of my mission work in Japan, I have been very particular to impress upon the minds of converts that our mission work in this country has no connection whatever with the politics of the Russian Government; that Christianity and civil government are distinct; or in other words, that members of our churches may be true Christians and remain loyal subjects of Japan."

"I have not been warned," said he, "of any supposed danger to myself, yet it is true that there is special police supervision at the entrance to our mission compound. These precautions, however, have not been taken at my request, and I look upon them as an evidence of the friendly feeling of the Authorities toward our work."

"As to the meeting of the Mission Council that was to be held at Sendai; it has not been abandoned. Owing to the expected large attendance, it was found that no suitable building could be procured in Sendai, and for this reason alone it has been decided to hold the Council here in our cathedral."

While the bishop says that he knows nothing about the policy of his Government, he does not anticipate a rupture of the friendly relations now existing between Russia and Japan.

Mr. Editor, may we not safely put down most, if not all, the newspaper utterances implying that hostilities may ere long break out between this country and Russia, over Korea, as being unfounded; the mere fanciful vagaries of editors and correspondents to furnish excitable matter to their readers?

What a grateful relief it would be to drop all this blustering war talk that some of the foreign papers in this city, as well as most of the native press, love to enlarge upon.

C.

Yokohama, June 8th, 1895.

THE SILK CROP.

(Continued from Saturday.)

Shimonosuwa, Province of Shinano, June 1st.—In this district the time of the production of the cocoons is still far distant, the worms being generally in their second sleep. If the weather continues favourable, as at present, the crop will be plentiful. The yield of silk, however, will show a decrease. The price of cocoons is not yet settled; it will depend upon the state of the market at Yokohama. The estimated price is 1 *yen* per 30-32 *momme*.

Mizukaido Prefecture of Ibaraki, June 2nd.—The worms in this locality emerged from their fourth sleep two or three days ago. Their growth being magnificent, the quantity of cocoons will be larger than that of last year by 30 per cent. The silk-yielding quality of the cocoons will also be good. The cocoon market will be opened about the 10th instant, and the busiest time will be about the 20th. The cocoons of better quality will probably fetch prices ranging between 2 *yen* 70 *sen* and 3 *yen*, while those of lower grade will sell for from 2 *yen* 40 *sen* to 2 *yen* per *kwamme*.

Mayebashi, Prefecture of Gumma, June 2nd.—The early variety of worms have already completed their cocoons, but the ordinary kind are, for the most part, just having their fourth sleep. The crop of cocoons will show an increase of over 20 per cent. as compared with that of ordinary years. The mulberry leaves being deficient in lustre, the cocoons will be rather poor silk-producing quality. New cocoons are just beginning to appear in the market. The price is 1 *yen* per 24 to 30 *momme*.

Koriyama, Province of Iwashiro, June 3rd.—The worms in this locality are in their third or fourth sleep, and it is too early to speak of the crop of cocoons. The growth of the worms, however, is unusually good. The hailstorm of May 31st did great damage to the mulberry leaves, and their price is rising.

Nagoya, June 2nd.—The crop of cocoons will show an increase of 20 per cent. over that of last year. The silk-producing quality of the cocoons will be about the same as that of last year, and the price of cocoons ranges from 3 *yen* 20 *sen* to 3 *yen* 80 *sen* per *kwamme*.

Toyohara, Prefecture of Aichi, June 2nd.—The crop of cocoons is so extraordinarily good that an increase of about 50 per cent. is confidently expected. The producing quality of the cocoons will also be better than that of last year by 10 per cent. The largest transactions will take place about the 11th or 12th instant. The price ranges between 3 *yen* 40 *sen* and 3 *yen sen* per *kwamme*.

Kohitsu, Prefecture of Chiba, June.—The crop of cocoons in this province (Shimosa), is expected to be 30 per cent. larger than that of last year; but the silk-yielding quality will be inferior by about 10 per cent. The cocoon market has not been opened. The price will be from 2 *yen* to 3 *yen* 10 *sen* per *kwamme*.

Otaki, Prefecture of Chiba, June 2nd.—The yield of cocoons will show an increase of 10 per cent. above the average, and the silk-yielding quality will be about as usual. The price will range between 2 *yen* 50 *sen* and 3 *yen* per *kwamme*.

Uyeda, Prefecture of Nagano, June 2nd.—There being more than 10 days before the production of cocoons, no definite forecast can be made, but according to general estimates, the yield is believed to be about 40 per cent. larger than that of year. The silk-producing quality of the cocoons will be about the same as in ordinary years. The estimated price is about 3 *yen* 30 *sen* per *kwamme*.

Kiyohara, Prefecture of Aichi, June 1st.—There will be a slight increase in the crop of cocoons as compared with last year. The market is rather dull on account of the inconvenience of railway accommodation since the 25th ultimo. The price will be about as follow:—Best quality, 3 *yen* 50 *sen*; middle quality, 3 *yen* 20 to 30 *sen*; ordinary quality, 2 *yen* 80 to 90 *sen* per *kwamme*.

Nagoya, June 2nd.—There will be an increase of about 20 per cent. as compared with last year. The silk yielding quality of the cocoons will be poorer by 5 per cent. The market is lively, on account of a large influx of cocoon merchants from the provinces of Shinano, Omi, and Mino. The present price is 25 *momme* per *yen*, but it will gradually fall as the season advances.

Toyohashi, Province of Mikawa, June 2nd.—Compared with last year, the increase of the crop will be about 20 per cent.; but the silk-producing quality will be slightly inferior to that of last year. At first the price was 3 *yen* 70 *sen* per *kwamme* in the case of first class cocoons, but it has gradually fallen to 3 *yen* 50 *sen*. In the case of inferior cocoons, the ruling price is about 3 *yen*. Very few merchants have come in from other provinces, but the extraordinary development of the local silk manufacture has led to an exceedingly lively state of affairs in the cocoon market.

Ote, Prefecture of Shizuoka, June 2nd.—Compared with last year, the increase of the crop will be about 20 per cent. The silk-yielding quality, however, is not proportionate to the increased crop. The market has been dull on account of inconvenience of railway transportation since the end of last month. The prices are as follow:—Best quality, 3 *yen* 50 *sen*; middle quality, 3 *yen* 20-30 *sen* per *kwamme*.

Ichinomiya, Prefecture of Aichi, June 3rd.—The crop will show an increase of 30 per cent. as compared with last year. The price of cocoons of the best quality on the 1st instant was 3 *yen* 60-70 *sen*; but the following day it fell to 3 *yen* 50 to 55 *sen*. To-day, the best cocoons are sold at 3 *yen* 50 *sen*, while the lowest quality are quoted at 2 *yen* 98 *sen*. Money being scarce in this locality, the market is dull.

Haguri Gun and Nagajima Gun, Province of Mino, June 3rd.—Compared with last year, there will be an increase of 10 to 20 per cent.; but the silk-producing quality of the cocoons will be 10 per cent. less than the average. The cocoons of early variety have begun to appear, but the market will be most busy about the 10th instant. The price is at present about 35 *yen* per 10 *kwamme* in the case of first class cocoons; those of second quality are bought at about 33 *yen* per 10 *kwamme*. Prices are daily falling.

Nishio, Prefecture of Aichi, June 3rd.—The increase in the yield of cocoons will be over 30 per cent. as compared with last year. The silk-producing quality is good. The cocoons began to be offered for sale from the 27th ultimo, and it is now the busiest time of the market, there being daily transactions of about 7,000 *kwamme*. The price, however, falls about 10 *sen* per diem. From the 28th ultimo till the 1st instant, the average price was 3 *yen* 70 to 80 *sen* per *kwamme*. On the 2nd instant, the prices stood as follow:—Superfine quality 3 *yen* 50 *sen*; ordinarily fine, 3 *yen* 30 *sen*.

Miyata, Prefecture of Aichi, June 3rd.—The increase in the yield of cocoons, as compared with last year, will be about 10 per cent.; and a similar increase will be found in the silk-producing quality. The market is brisk. The price was at first from 3 *yen* 50 *sen* to 3 *yen* 94 *sen* in the case of the best cocoons; while those of the lowest quality fetched 3 *yen*. The price has since gradually fallen until now the best quality sell for about 3 *yen* 50 *sen*, and the fall continues.

Isesaki, Prefecture of Gumma, June 4th.—Compared with last year, there will be an increase of about 10 per cent. The silk-producing quality will be about the same as last year. Cocoons of earlier variety have begun to appear in the market, but the busist time will be between the 10th and 15th instant. The price now ranges from 3 *yen* 20 *sen* to 3 *yen* 50 *sen* per *kwamme*.

Sosa Gun, Prefecture of Chiba, June 3nd.—The growth of the worms being very good there will be an increase of at least 30-40 per cent., as compared with last year. The silk-producing quality will be about the same as last year. The busiest time in the market will be about the middle of the present month. The price for delivery on the 25th instant, is from 3 *yen* to 3 *yen* 20 *sen*.

Makabe, Prefecture of Ibaraki, June 4th.—There will be more or less increase in the crop of cocoons, and a similar increase will be seen in the silk-producing quality. The price will be about 30 *momme* for 1 *yen*.

Mihama, Prefecture of Shizuoka, June 3rd.—The increase in the crop of cocoons, as compared with last year, is 15 per cent. The silk-producing quality of the cocoons will be slightly inferior to that of last year. The cocoons have mostly been sold already, the demand being larger than the supply. The price ranges between 3 *yen* 30 *sen* and 3 *yen* 50 *sen* per *kwamme*.

Ishii, Prefecture of Tochiki, June 5th.—The yield of cocoons, compared with last year, shows

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an increase of 20 per cent. The silk-producing quality will be inferior to that of last year. Cocoons of the early variety begun to appear in the market from the end of last month. The price is about 1 *yen* per 30 *momme*.

Fukushima, Prefecture of Nagano, June 3rd.—In this locality the crop of cocoons will show a decrease of 15 to 20 per cent. as compared with that of last year, but no definite estimate can be made

Futamata-gawa, Province of Musashi, June 3rd.—The crop of cocoons will be abundant this year, and the silk yielding quality will also be good, it being estimated that a *kwamme* of cocoons will produce 110 *momme* of silk. A syndicate having been formed for the purchase of cocoons, the price is rather high, the average being 3 *yen* 50 *sen* per *kwamme*.

Matsumoto, Prefecture of Nagano, June 5th.—The worms in this locality are now either in their third or fourth sleep, so that no accurate estimate can be formed about the crop of cocoons; but the growth of the worms is very good. As to the silk-yielding quality of the cocoons, also, no estimate is yet possible, because the manufacture of silk will not be commenced until the 25th or 26th instant.

Koga, Prefecture of Ibaraki, June 6th.—The increase in the crop of cocoons, as compared with that of last year, will be about 30 per cent. The silk-yielding quality will be about the same as that of ordinary years, namely, 100 *momme* per *kwamme* of cocoons. The cocoon market is very lively, the price of the finer qualities ranging between 3 *yen* and 3 *yen* 30 *sen*.

Yasuhara, Prefecture of Fukushima, June 5th.—The increase in the crop of cocoons will be about 50 per cent. The silk-producing quality will also be better than usual, the rate of yield being probably 10 per cent. larger than that of last year. The cocoons have not yet begun to appear in the market and consequently there is no means of fixing the price.

Hagiwara, Prefecture of Gumma, June 5th.—Compared with last year, the crop of cocoons will show an increase of 20 per cent. The silk-producing quality will also be good. Few cocoons have been offered for sale. The 20th inst: will be the briskest time of the market. The estimated price, in the case of the finest cocoons, is from 3 *yen* 50 *sen* to 4 *yen*.

Kanazawa, Prefecture of Ishikawa, June 5th.—The crop will no doubt be good, but the worms being still in their fourth sleep, no definite report can be made as to the rate of increase.

Muki Gun, Prefecture of Gifu, June 5th.—The worms are in their fourth sleep. If they go on at the present rate, there will be an increase of 10 per cent. in the crop of cocoons as compared with that of last year. Judging from the growth of the worms, the silk-producing quality of the cocoons will also show an increase of 5 per cent. Cocoons of the earlier variety, at present in the market, command very high prices, as much as 4 *yen* per *kwamme*. It is estimated that those of the ordinary variety will not fetch more than 3 *yen* 20 *sen*, even in the case of the finest quality.

Yaotsu, Prefecture of Gifu, June 5th.—The hatching of the eggs was not good, but the weather having been suitable since then, the produce of cocoons will show an increase of about 10 per cent. as compared with that of last year. A similar increase is expected in the silk-producing quality of the cocoons. Cocoons began to appear in the market from the 2nd instant, and at present the demand is larger than the supply. The price ranges from 3 *yen* 60 or 70 *sen* to 4 *yen* per *kwamme*.

Haga Gun, Province of Shimozuke, June 7th.—The yield of cocoons will be very good this year, and their silk-producing quality will probably show an increase of about 10 per cent. as compared with that of last year. The price yesterday was 1 *yen* for 2 *sho* 8 *go*.

Fukushima, Province of Iwashiro, June 5th.—The earlier varieties have completed the making of cocoons, but worms of ordinary variety are now just leaving their fourth sleep. The growth of the worms being very good, it is expected that there will be an increase of about 20 to 30 per cent. in the produce of cocoons, as compared with last year. At first mulberry leaves were very cheap, but the frost of May 25th suddenly raised the price to 20 *sen* per *kwamme*. The damages actually sustained having afterwards been discovered to be less serious than had been generally supposed, the price soon fell to 12½ *sen* per *kwamme*. Fine weather having continued for so many days, it is supposed by some persons that the silk-producing quality of the cocoons will be rather poor, but the recent occasional showers and the healthy growth of the worms warrant the expectation that the silk-yielding quality will be about the same as in ordinary years. The cocoon market will be opened from the middle of the present month.

Naraga Gun and Kamihabu Gun, Prefecture of Chiba, June 5th.—In these localities, there will be an increase of about 30 per cent. in the produce of cocoons. Mulberry leaves are very cheap, the present price being from 1 *yen* 20 *sen* for a horse-load weighing 36 *kwamme*. Cocoons began to appear in the market from the 1st instant, and the present is about the briskest time of sales. The silk factories hesitating to purchase any large quantities, the price is very low, ranging between 2 *yen* 30-40 *sen* and 2 *yen* 50 *sen*. Even at these prices, there are few purchasers.

Tome Gun, Province of Rikuzen, June 5th.—The worms are in their third sleep and their growth is very good. Frost did not do much damage to the mulberry leaves, but considerable injury having been caused by insects, the price of the leaves has risen to 1 *yen* 20 *sen* per 10 *kwamme*.

(TO BE CONTINUED.)

LETTER FROM PEKIN.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

Pekin, May 27th, 1895.

The crisis in China has in one sense passed, so far as the harmonious settlement with Japan is concerned, but in another sense it is still here, as relates to the larger problem of developing China and securing permanent peace in Eastern Asia. Prior to the ratification of the treaty, Pekin was the centre of action, as never before, during the whole period of the war. The opposition was intense. Memorial after memorial came pouring into the Emperor's palace from Viceroy and Governor-General and Censor, no one of whom was responsible for the decision, but more or less vexatious protestors. Amid such a rush of opposition, those responsible for the decision kept their own views and actions in the closest secrecy. Even to this day the secrecy has continued. We imagine how each man voted, but we cannot know for a certainty. We know indeed that the Emperor at the very last ratified the document, but whether willingly or not, as his own personal conviction or as the expression of his advisers' decision, has not been revealed. So far as we can ascertain, the members of the General Council were the responsible agents. They, however, delayed day after day till the very day when the deed was done. Then Prince Kung returned from his sick-leave and saw that action must be prompt. The Emperor likewise urged and commanded that each member should vote one way or the other, either for the treaty as it was or for war. The result was as we all now know it to be. Just in the midst of this confusion of ideas came the interference of the three Powers, Russia, France, and Germany. They, however, delayed in offering aid to China. They were ready to protest against Japan's aggressiveness, but not to aid China. China, therefore, receiving no guarantee of real aid, closed the scene by ratification. After ratification there was still uncertainty as to the exchange of ratifications. The Three Powers seemed more determined. The crisis continued. Japan extended the period of armistice. China was wavering to and fro. The Foreign Ministers one after another were duly consulted. Then the exchange came. In all this China has been playing into the hands of the European Powers. She has escaped to a certain extent from Japan's clutches, but she hardly realizes how far she has got into the clutches of Russia and France. As it is, China can hardly look to Japan for a friend; neither can she look to the Powers who have interfered. She is left friendless. So far as China was concerned, it would have been wiser to have secured the friendship and aid of Japan, establishing a compact to resist the inroads of European Powers. Such an opportunity was offered by the Chinese Plenipotentiary. So far as Japan was concerned, it seems to us that her wisest policy would have been to receive China as a friend, to avoid all points where other Powers could interfere, to have secured her own glory by setting China on the pathway of progress and reform, and to have sought such a treaty that both of these nations might henceforth be at peace not only with themselves, but with all the world. Japan may become strong by a policy of military development, able to defend herself from all foes from near and afar. In her own estimation she is able to take care of herself.

China—poor China! friendless and bereft, what is to become of her? As a result of the war and the treaty, there is no chance of China becoming a military power, neither an aid to Japan; nor is she guaranteed aid in return. She is so crushed that military glory can never be won. If Japan wished to crush her so as to prevent future hostilities or revenge, the object is gained. The only hope for China is by peaceful measures. But peaceful measures are not the aim of Japan, and hence will not be advanced by her. If China would bring about such measures, she must inaugurate them herself. This she can do, if she vigorously adopts reforms, suppresses corruption, employs prudent and efficient officials, and learns from the rest of the world in all ways superior to her own. Also, we see no likelihood of such an outcome.

Such then, is the unfortunate situation as we find it in China and more especially in Pekin. Those of us who live here and seek China's welfare cannot but lament. We hoped that good would come from the war, but our hopes have vanished. Some other impression must be made before China either develops or removes the possibility of future interference and aggression from other Powers. The Emperor has as yet published no edict. The country is ignorant of the situation. The soldiers are still at their encampments. No plan has been formed for their being disbanded or disarmed. China has not even the money to pay them off. To call for aid from the country is impossible, for the country has not been consulted in either war or peace.

A committee of eight, consisting of Prince Kung, Prince Ching, the Tutor Wung, two other members of the Grand Council, Sun and Hsü, the ex-envoy, Chang Yin-huan, and two others, have been appointed to manage the matter of borrowing money and paying the indemnity. The Three Powers are now showing their loving interest by wanting to guarantee the requisite loan, and in other ways relieving China of vexatious cares. The representatives of different syndicates are hovering over the scene, and more are on the way. Their success or failure will partly depend on what China promises the Three Powers. Many have an idea that great schemes are to be initiated, but they dream in so doing.

The United State Minister has now ceased his work of over four months. He has been formally thanked, but he surely deserves more than empty words. We wonder what the recompense will be. Why should not the United States forego the Monroe doctrine, and tell the Three Powers to stand aside till all the Americans are satisfied in the new undertakings?

Li Chin-fang's appointment as Commissioner to hand over Formosa is a very serious affair. He is aided, however, by Hon. John W. Foster, and may avoid all dangers. No official here wanted the job. The Li family is regarded as friendly to Japan, but it has few friends here.

SCULLING FROM KOBE TO OSAKA.

A correspondent signing himself "Sportsman," sends the *Kobe Chronicle* the following interesting note:—"In your account of Mr. Swann's sculling trip to Osaka there are some inaccuracies in the references to a previous feat of a similar character which I should like to point out, for having had a small bet on the race against time made by Mr. Sim some five or six years ago, I am well acquainted with the circumstances. Mr. Sim had some five years previously paddled from Kobe to Osaka in a canoe (the distance is very nearly 16¼ miles) in 3 hours and 15 minutes, on which occasion the gentleman who laid the wager saw him start in Kobe, took the train to Osaka, and was in time to see him land at the steps on the Concession. Having done the distance in a canoe, Mr. Sim naturally thought he could do it easy in three hours in a sculling boat, and he made the attempt accompanied by time-keepers in a steam launch. Unfortunately, he had rather hard luck, as on nearing Temposan it blew pretty fresh from N.E., and the pilot whom he was allowed took him round the east beacon back again to the west one, thus making him do about three-quarters of a mile of unnecessary rowing, and landing him among the piles on the way up river. It was getting dark at the time, however, and the pilot not being perfectly acquainted with the river the accident was excusable. There had also been a heavy flood in the Kyoto valley, and as there was a very strong current to row against from the sea to the Concession, a distance of three miles, Mr. Sim was 7 minutes and a few seconds over the time. You state that Mr. Sim used a tooth-pick sculling boat. The fact is he used an old converted canoe no better if so good as the one used by Mr. Swann. I have little doubt but that an athlete like Mr. Swann can do the distance in the time mentioned, but unless athletic times are well authenticated by independent time-keepers they are of no value as records. I would suggest that when Mr. Swann goes over the distance again, he should get some one to time him starting and another to receive him when he lands. The feat would then be of value among local records."

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CHEVALIER DE KONTSKI'S CONCERT.

There can be but one opinion in regard to the principal performer at the Grand Concert given in the Public Hall on Thursday evening: his age is "as a lusty winter, frosty, but kindly." The passage of the years has served but to mellow and ripen the marvellous powers of the Chevalier de Kontski, and though long past three-score-and-ten he can hold in thrall a crowded concert-room, and perform feats upon the pianoforte which would sorely tax the muscular energy and nervous resources of men of less than half his years. The subjects which the *Maestro* handled on Thursday were very diverse, and ranged from Schumann's exquisite "Lullaby" to his own stirring composition, "The Awakening of the Lion." He was recalled twice for his rendering of Weber's Allegro from a "Sonata in A flat;" but much greater enthusiasm was evoked at the close of his dainty "Souvenir" from "Faust," a composition full of tender reveries and reminiscent moods. Another "Souvenir," also by himself, was given in the second part of the programme, the theme being based on "Glinicke," and the piece dedicated to the Empress of Germany. This was persistently redemanded, and the Chevalier, yielding to the encore, gave "The Turkish Patrol" in a manner which will not be easily forgotten for many a year to come—it was truly a masterpiece of orchestration. The Chevalier de Kontski is a great artist, and we can assure the Tokyo community that the opportunity to hear him ought not to be missed. Assisted by some of the best amateur talent of the capital, he will give a concert at the Imperial Hotel on Thursday next. It will be a *matinée*. Miss Bloxham's two contributions were very charming, and given in her sweetest style. A huge basket of flowers was presented to her after Gounod's "Ave Maria." Mr. Launay was heard to best advantage in his second song, "Nous avions 20 ans." Messrs. Ramseger and Schmidt, both in the trio from Beethoven and the obbligato to Miss Bloxham's song, rendered valuable service: and a word of thanks is also due to Mrs. Poole for her accompaniments to the songs. The following was the programme.—

PART I.

1.—TRIO.....In C. Minor.....BEETHOVEN.
Piano, Violin, and Cello.
Chevalier DE KONTSKI, Messrs. RAMSEGER and SCHMIDT.

2.—SONG...Aria from "Il Trovatore" .....VERDI.
Mr. P. LAUNAY.

3.—PIANO..."Allegro" from "Sonata, in A flat."
Chevalier DE KONTSKI. [WEBER.

4.—SONG.."Ave Maria" (by request)...GOUNOD.
Miss ADA BLOXHAM, accompanied by Mrs. POOLE, Messrs. RAMSEGER and SCHMIDT.

5.—PIANO....."Souvenir" from "Faust."
GOUNOD-KONTSKI.
Chevalier DE KONTSKI.

PART II.

6.—SONG....."Nous avions 20 ans" .....——;
Mr. P. LAUNAY.

7.—PIANO. { (a.) "Lullaby" .....SCHUMANN. (b.) "Souvenir of Glinicke," dedicated to the Empress of Germany. KONTSKI.
Chevalier DE KONTSKI.

8.—SONG..."Le parlate d'amour" from "Faust" (by request).....GOUNOD.
Miss ADA BLOXHAM.

9.—PIANO..."The Awakening of the Lion."
Chevalier DE KONTSKI. [KONTSKI.

THE ITALIAN CONSULAR COURT.

Before Count ORFINI, Chargé d'Affaires and Consul General, President, and Messrs. E. MEREGALLI and C. DENTICI, Assessors.

FRIDAY, 7th June, 1895.

E. ADET v. E. ANDREIS.

ASSAULT AND BATTERY.

The complainant conducted his own case, while Mr. Scidmore represented the defendant.

By consent the proceedings were carried on in French.

The Complainant then read his complaint, handed to the Court when instituting the proceedings:—I, Emile Adet, of No. 95, in the foreign settlement, Yokohama, merchant's clerk, a British subject, do hereby declare that on Saturday evening, 6th inst., I was going up Yatosaka hill, along the wall of the French Consulate, wheeling my bicycle, when just past the Japanese library I was called back by Mr. Andreis who had come up along the big road and was then a few yards behind me. He addressed me in French saying that I was a thief, that we had robbed him of the Moet and Chandon agency; calling me a coward. I turned round and told Mr. Andreis that I did not choose to answer him. He then continued insulting me repeating about the same terms. I then said in French, preparing to get on my machine without turning round to look at him, Mr. Andreis, you know as well as anybody that I have nothing to do in the matter, it is not my business. I was then very near the steps of the English Hospital, when Mr. Andreis struck me from behind right across the face, and caused my nose to bleed profusely. I let go the handle bar of my machine, and rushed on Mr. Andreis whom I caught round the waist and threw down. He being under me, I kept my elbows down on his arms and shoulders, and put my hands on his throat. He remained quiet, trying only once to move from under me. I then addressed him telling him that it was useless, that I was the strongest and that he had better not move. He moved no more. I called for the police, and only let go Mr. Andreis when the police arrived. He then got up, and again when free from me said, "vous connaissez mon adresse, vous pourrez venir me trouver demain." The doctor of the American Hospital then took me into his house where he kindly dressed my wound. I am now still suffering from the blow, my head aches very much, and my eyes are very painfull, specially when I use them for reading or writing.

The certificate of Dr. Eldridge was then handed in, he having been appointed by the Court to examine complainant's wound. This was to the effect that the wound was a contused one, and might have been caused by a blow with a fist.

Complainant said that the report of Dr. Eldridge having been read, he would like the Court to read the certificate of Dr. Wheeler, who saw his wound the day after the assault. It read—"I examined E. Adet and found a lacerated contusion on forehead and bridge of nose, caused by a blow with a blunt instrument. (Signed) Edwin Wheeler."

Complainant, in reply to a question by the Court as to whether he had anything further to say relative to the charge, stated—Mr. Andreis came up one hill while I came up the other. I was going along when Andreis followed me, and was stopped by a blow from him. He came up behind, saying you stealer of the Agency of Môet and Chandon; you coward. I replied that I did not know him and had no desire to have anything to do with him, and that the public street was no place for quarrels. I was getting on my bicycle when Andreis hit me from behind; but where and in what position he was standing I could not exactly tell. He hit me over the eyes and nose. I thought at the time my nose had been broken. I jumped off my bicycle, caught hold of him and threw him down, and placing my knees on his shoulders told him to keep quiet. When he got up, he said, probably in French, "You know my address, you can see me to-morrow." I cannot be precise about what I did; I only know that he was below and I on top almost immediately afterwards.

Defendant wished Mr. Scidmore to plead his case as he had placed all his affairs entirely in his hands.

The Court said that this could not be allowed at the present, but that he would have an opportunity to plead later on. At present it was only a question of facts.

Defendant said he met Adet at the top of Yatozaka, and called out to him stigmatizing him as a *voleur* and a *lache*: he was not only a stealer of the French naval contract but had now come to one of agencies. He then brandished his stick, when Adet jumped off his bicycle and tapped him on the shoulder. He then hit back and in the struggle, they both fell, Adet being on top. A policeman here came along, to whom Adet made his complaint, but he was not arrested as the policeman probably knew him. He then said "You know my address, and can see me to-morrow."

Complainant at this stage questioned whether it was not customary to swear persons in Italian Courts.

The Court—Only witnesses.

Defendant (sotto voce)—In Italy we don't as a rule lie.

Defendant was called to order by the Court.

The first witness called was Mr. Ahrens, the interpretation being done by Mr. Gasco—

H. A. Ahrens, sworn—I saw the disturbance between Adet and Andreis. They were walking in front of me up Camp Hill near Jinjiya's store. To all appearance Andreis gave Adet a knock with a stick.

The Court—Did he only threaten or actually strike?—I did not see the hitting itself, but saw Andreis put down his stick. I was slightly in front of the two when the blow was struck. I saw the blood flowing. After the blow Adet dropped his bicycle and threw Andreis on the ground. My impression is that Andreis struck Adet with his stick, as I heard the sound.

By Complainant (through the Court)—Was it not immediately after the sound that you saw the stick being put down?—Yes.

Continuing—I then saw Adet putting Andreis down. He called on myself and another to be witnesses, and then called out for the police. I did not see him actually striking Adet. Adet did not appear aggressive.

Dr. Stokes, sworn—It was about 6 p.m. on April 6th that I heard two foreigners had been fighting in the road. I saw Adet on top of another, both being covered with blood and dirt. I separated them. Andreis did not appear to me to be hurt. Adet got up, and I then saw that both were sober. After separating, Adet asked if he could not be treated in the hospital, as he feared his nose had been broken. I noticed a contusion on the forehead leading vertically down to the nose, where there was a contused wound of ¼ of an inch. I saw Andreis with a stick in his hand. My impression at the time was that Adet had been struck with a hard, blunt instrument; it was a sharp cut with contusion above and below.

Complainant was about to ask about the nature of the wound, when he was interrupted by the Court, on the ground that it would be expert evidence.

Complainant said he had called the doctor as an expert.

Dr. Stokes then proceeded—I judge the wound was inflicted by the impact of a dull hard instrument. I also think it came from above downwards, a blow with a fist would go upwards. From the nature of the injuries to the forehead and the nature of the wound on the nose, I should judge it to have been done with a blunt instrument. It is barely possible, but not probable that the contusions were the result of a blow with a fist. It could not have been done with a fist, and I should never think of connecting the two. There was but one wound, but the skin was abraised in two places.

Mr. Scidmore was about to plead on all the bearings of the case, when he was told to confine himself to the matter at issue.

Counsel contended that the fact of Andreis having struck the first blow had not been borne out. Dr. Stokes declared it had been done by a blunt instrument, whereas Dr. Eldridge said it could be done with the fist. Dr. Stokes said it was possible, but not probable. There was no doubt that both were excited, that there was considerable aggravation, and that high words passed between the parties, but there was no proof that Andreis had struck the first blow, and he should have the benefit of the doubt. There had been no direct evidence on this point.

Mr. Scidmore then asked permission to speak on certain circumstances which had previously occurred that had culminated in the disturbance, in the form of extenuation. Adet's conduct all along showed that he was desirous of doing damage to Andreis. He had done so in the Club, where he had spoken to his disparagement and also elsewhere and he wished to refer to them.

The Court would not allow this.

Mr. Scidmore then asked whether defendant could not speak of the provocation that had led up to the case, and why he had accosted Adet.

This being permitted by the Court,

Defendant said that he had received news from home that through the machinations of the complainant he had lost the agency of the firm of Môet and Chandon, that he was a bad character, was a drunkard, and had been suspended from the Club for misconduct. That it was in consequence of these malicious reports the agency had been taken away from him. A letter he had received from Caudrelier was to this effect. He had consequently at the first opportunity accused Adet. He got the letter about four or five days before the disturbance. When Adet the elder first came to Japan he came to his (Andreis) house though the introduction of Mr. Boudou. After a time he learned that Adet wanted to purchase his business, and in consequence showed him all his books, invoices, &c. But after he he had learned sufficient he said he would start business on his own account. Now the same firm had damaged him by writing to the firm of Môet and Chandon.

Mr. Scidmore—Andreis had bruises on his hands, which Dr. Eldridge said could have been caused by his striking a person.

Complainant said that they must have been caused when he fell, as his own knuckles were also bruised. He was examined by Dr. Wheeler on the 7th, while Dr. Eldridge only saw him on the 16th, in the course of which he had caused him considerable pain. He came again next day, but he refused to allow him to touch his wound, but said he could see him. He considered Dr. Wheeler's evidence better than Dr. Eldridge's as the latter examined him so long after the event. Andreis,

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he might mention, had previously threatened him with a revolver. The business done by them he did not consider clashed in any way; but even if it did it was no concern of his, he being only an *employé* of his brother to look after the books and attend to the office generally. He was in no way interested in Adet, Campredon & Co. As to the statement that he struck the first blow that was an impossibility as he was pushing up his bicycle. This Ahrens had fully proved in his evidence. As for the matter of the Y. U. Club he could prove that he had not maliciously pursued defendant, by merely reading his letter to the Committee. This merely detailed the circumstances of the assault, and concluded as follows:—"I write these few lines, Gentlemen, for my own justification, in case of any false report having reached your ears. As I was assaulted in a most cowardly manner and only defended myself there was no fighting, and you may be assured that I acted as a gentleman and in no way have I been a disgrace to the Club of which I feel honoured to be a member. My only regret is to be exposed to meet Mr. Andreis in the Club. As this is a disgraceful affair for any member of the Club be guilty of, I feel I am entitled, under the expectation that you will take cognizance of it." He did not think his letter could be taken as anything but justification of himself. As for the Môet and Chandon agency, it had never been Andreis' although he had stated himself to be so: they were just as much, if not more, entitled to that right. With regard to Mr. Andreis statement anent the examination of his books, etc., by the elder Adet, complainant claimed the right of bringing up the matter later in an action for libel, if necessary. He asked for judgment under the Civil Code for costs of Court and expenses. He had suffered considerable pain for three weeks in consequence of the assault, and would bear the mark of it on his nose for life. He only wanted the law applied and did not wish to press the case.

Mr. Scidmore said that if defendant did strike complainant he had had gross provocation.

The Court then rose, intimating that judgment would be given on Monday, the 10th inst., at 10 a.m.

Monday, 10th 1895.

The Italian Court in Yokohama has delivered the following Finding in the action brought by Emile Adet, British subject, merchant, residing at No. 95, Yokohama, against E. Andreis, Italian subject, merchant, established in Yokohama.

From the evidence adduced it appears that, according to the written testimony and verbal declarations of the complainant Mr. Adet, Mr. Andreis on the 6th April, going up Yatozaka met and insulted Mr. Emile Adet and struck him with a stick from behind; whilst Mr. Andreis' testimony was that he admits having used the offensive words and threatened to strike with a stick, but that the wound was caused with a blow with his fist during the struggle.

From the statements made by the witnesses at the trial we find the that the evidence is insufficient to subantiate the allegation contained in the petition as to the manner of the assault. The expert evidence not having established the impossibility of the blow being inflicted with a first, the Court must only consider the actual facts: that is the provocation on Mr. Andreis part and the wounds described by Mr. Adet. Under Article 372 of the Penal Code, any offence against the person irrespective of the means employed is punishable, therefore the responsibility for the provocation in the case and the results thereof rests upon Mr. Andreis. And Mr. Adet's wounds not incapacitating him from work for a period longer than ten days, and considering that the provocation received by Mr. Adet was not of such a serious nature as might have been imagined by the import of the words:—"Vous pouvez me trouver demain, vous connaissez mon adresse," and considering also Mr. Andries was behind him, if Mr. Andries' intention was really to grievously hurt Mr. Adet, it would have been more natural and easier for him in his position to strike Mr. Adet directly on the back of the neck. Considering also the fact that Mr. Andries was labouring under the impression, real or imagined, that Mr. Adet had harmed him, it was sufficient for him to lose his self control at the moment.

Taking all these circumstances into consideration, we declare Mr. E. Andreis, Italian subject, responsible under Art. 372 last section and 374, 51 and 59 of the Penal Code for the wounds inflicted upon Mr. E. Adet and sentence him to a fine of 250 [illegible] the payment of 1 franc in respect of the civil [illegible] and the medical and lawyer's expenses [illegible] Court,

[illegible] intimated that five days would [illegible] appeal.

CRICKET.

A Club Eleven versus the P. & O.

The game on Friday between an eleven of the Club, captained by Mr. E. O. Kenyon, and an eleven from the P. & O. ships *Siam* and *Verona*, proved very one-sided, the home team being defeated by forty-four runs. The Yokohama eleven were certainly very weak, but the visitors played a good game, especially Dixon, whose score of 58 was the best of the day: while Dalton's bowling analysis, 58 balls, 32 runs, 7 wickets was very good. The home side went in first, Tyng and Bugbird defending against the bowling of Dixon and Dalton. At 24 Bugbird was held by Dixon off Dalton. Denne took his place, but stayed only just long enough to make a single. Todd, who followed him, was in some time, but after he was bowled, no sting was left in the side, the innings concluding for 68. The P. & O. scored rapidly, and Yokohama total was passed with the loss of only one wicket, though good luck was on the side of the batsmen. Four wickets had fallen at 94, but after this Bugbird became very dangerous and the game concluded with the visitors' score at 112. Bugbird's analysis is 25 balls, 20 runs, no maidens, and six wickets—a rather remarkable performance. Score:—

Yokohama.

Rev. T. S. Tyng, run out	19
Mr. F. H. Bugbird, c. Dixon, b. Dalton	11
Mr. Denne, c. and b. Dixon	2
Dr Todd, b. Dalton	26
Mr. E. O. Kenyon, b. Dalton	3
Mr. Johnson, b. Dalton	6
Mr. E. J. Libeaud, b. Smith	1
Mr. F. H. Hooper, b. Dalton	0
Mr. G. Braess, not out	8
Mr. A. S. Garfit, b. Dalton	3
Mr. Tennant, c. Pitt, b. Dalton	0
	68

Bowling Analysis.

	B.	R.	M.	W.
Mr. Dixon	35	22	—	1
Mr. Dalton	58	30	2	7
Mr. Smith	35	15	3	1

P. and O.

Mr. Dixon, b. Bugbird	58
Mr. Pitt, c. Bugbird, b. Braess	6
Mr. Burt, c. Garfit, b. Bugbird	17
Mr. Smith, b. Bugbird	0
Mr. Liddard, run out	9
Mr. Haynes, c. Denne, b. Johnson	4
Mr. Dalton, c. Denne, b. Bugbird	3
Mr. McDonald, st. Kenyon, b. Bugbird	1
Mr. Peterkin, c. and b. Bugbird	8
Mr. Watson, b. Johnson	3
Mr. Ordish, not out	0
b. 4, l.b. 4, w. 2	7
	112

Bowling Analysis.

	B.	R.	M.	W.	Wides.
Mr. Braess	55	25	2	1	—
Mr. Johnson	30	18	1	2	1
Mr. Libeaud	20	20	—	—	—
Mr. Denne	30	26	2	—	—
Mr. Bugbird	25	20	—	6	—

HAKODATE.

(From our Correspondent).

Hakodate, June 11th, 1895.

Yesterday the British schooner *Umbrina*, Captain Charles Campbell, put in with 1,187 skins. She has made the best catch of the 23 or more schooners that have put in here since May last. Yet it is by no means a good catch when compared with former years. Up to date the average catch of the schooners that have been in here is something like 574 skins only, which is very poor indeed. Though the *Umbrina's* catch is not an exceptionally good one, yet it is an exceptionally fine one; for she has some of the finest and largest skins that have ever been brought into Hakodate for transhipment.

Our new Consul, Mr. A. M. Chalmers, accompanied by Mrs. Chalmers, arrived here on the 6th inst. Nagasaki's loss of him is decidedly our gain.

Her Majesty's ship *Caroline* left here on the 7th inst. for Copper Island.

On the 9th June two Norwegian steamers put in here. The *Oscar II.*, 2,000 tons, Captain H. Arnesen, in ballast from Vladivostock and bound for San Francisco, put in for bunker coal, and the *Tamarind* 739 tons, Captain L. Castberg, in ballast from Kobe, to load sea-weed for Shanghai.

On the night of the 9th a fire broke out in a bath-house situated at the lower end of the town, but was quickly subdued, the damage being confined to the building itself.

The *Umbrina* reports having spoken the following schooners:—

		Skins.
3rd June	E. E. Webster	520
3rd June	Brenda	800
1st June	Agnes McDonald	580
3rd June	Diana	500

Prof. Bickmore, who is lecturing on American forestry at the Museum of Natural History in New York, illustrates the durability of wood by exhibiting an Egyptian image made of wood which he states is at least 4,000 years old.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[Reuter "Special" to "Japan Mail."]

London, June 6.

The Sultan of Johore is dead. The body will be embalmed and taken home.

London, June 9.

The rumoured Russo-Chinese Loan has been confirmed. It is for seventeen millions sterling, and is received with disfavour in London and Berlin, because it places China in a position subservient to Russia.

London, June 11.

Five French banks have signed an agreement to lend China fifteen millions sterling on the guarantee of the Russian Government.

London, June 13.

A Free Silver Convention has been held at Memphis [U.S.]. Two thousand one hundred of the delegates present advocated the rehabilitation of silver at a ratio of sixteen to one.

["Special" Telegram to "Japan Mail."]

Hakodate, June 14.

The following schooners arrived here yesterday:—*Golden Fleece* with 642 sealskins, the *Chishima No. 1* with 539, and the *Ocean Belle* with 1,056.

(From the "N.-C. Daily News.")

London, 6th June.

There is a panic in Jeddah and fears of further attacks by the Bedouins are entertained.

The British cruiser *Pique*, which is on her way to the China Station, has arrived at Jeddah and her presence is welcomed even by the Turks

Advices from Antananarivo, dated 15th May state that a French force advancing from Mojanga suffered a repulse, and that the mortality amongst the troops is increasing.

Russia is sending eight thousand Kirghis families to colonise the Pamirs.

Taipeh, June 6.

Last night the native city of Taipeh and the Powder Mill were burnt. This morning while the Chinese were looting, the magazine exploded, and nearly one hundred were killed. The Japanese were ten miles away at Hobé.

The German gunboat *Iltis* fired on the Chinese (republican) forts, silencing them, so that the German steamer *Arthur* with President Tang and 2,000 soldiers on board might be allowed to proceed to sea.

Hongkong, June 6.

The native city of Taipeh with the Powder Mill were burnt by the Chinese last night. The powder magazine exploded this morning and a hundred Chinese were killed. The *Iltis* fired on the forts at Hobé, and the Chinese fled.

Hobé, June 7.

The Chinese (republican) fort which fired at Hobé killed seven persons on board the German steamer *Arthur*, and wounded seventeen. The German gunboat *Iltis* answered, killing thirteen of the garrison in the fort.

The Japanese have now taken complete possession of North Formosa with the loss of only eight men. The natives are submitting willingly. The Japanese head-quarters are at Taipehfu.

No foreigners have been molested so far.

The value of the property looted is estimated at a million dollars.

(From Japanese Papers.)

Shanghai, June 13.

A report from Amoy states that Tamsui, was completely occupied by the Japanese on the 11th inst. One Japanese man-of-war was seen off Anping and one off Takow, and although they were fired on by the forts they did not reply. The Taotai proposes to leave Taiwanfu, but General Lien Yei-fuk protests and desires to light the Japanese.

Sôul, June 13.

Ming Yei-yoku and Ming Yei-shun, who, it was stated, recently arrived at Ninsen from Chefoo, are now said to have gone to Hongkong upon the advice of a Russian resident in the capital.

Kobe, June 14.

The British ship *Undaunted* has left for Yokohama.

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CHESS.

(All Communications to be addressed to the Chess Editor.)

The Yokohama Chess Club is closed for the season: and re-opens on Thursday 3rd October.

The Tokyo Chess Club is now closed for the holiday season and will reopen on Friday, 4th October, 1895.

Solution of Problem No. 180.

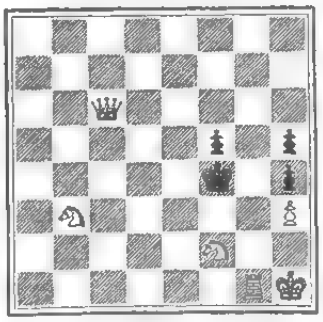
WHITE.	BLACK.
1—R to Kt 3	1—Any
2—Mates accordingly.	

Correct solutions received from Omega, Digamma, E.D., Kr., E. J. King, W.H.S., and J.D.

Problem No. 182.

By Herbert Alton.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in two moves.

Tokyo Chess Club.

(Communicated.)

The following is the score of the consultation game played by Messrs. Pownall and Krug against Messrs. Mason and Cox at the closing meeting of the Tokyo Chess Club. The game began at three o'clock and was immediately before dinner declared a draw after the fortieth move. It was, however, resumed after dinner against the inclination of one of the players, and though the Black allies could have drawn by 56..... Q to K 5 ch., they ultimately lost the game by a series of hurried moves. Duration, 5½ hours; notes by "Digamma" and the players.

Game No. 279.

FOUR KNIGHT'S GAME.

WHITE.	BLACK.
1—P to ■ 4	1—P to K 4
2—Kt to K B 3	2—Kt to Q B 3
3—Kt to Q B 3	3—Kt to K B 3
4—B to Q B 4	

A good continuation for White is 4—B to Kt 5, B to Kt 5; 5—Castles, Castles; 6—P to Q 3, P to Q 3; 7—B takes Kt, P takes Kt; 8—Kt to K 2: doubling Black's Bishop's Pawn, leaving his Bishop in an inactive position, and practically forcing 8....., P to K R 3. Another good continuation for White is 4—P to Q 4, P takes P; 5—Kt takes P, B to Kt 5; 6—Kt takes Kt, etc. Lasker against Mason (Amsterdam Congress, 1889) played 4—B to K 2, merely as the most cautious move that the board affords at this juncture.

	4—P to K R 3

Weakening; but the White allies, even after Black have castled, fail to take advantage of it. As this move prevents complications and is successful enough in this instance, we give it the benefit of the doubt. Preferable, however, was 4..... Kt takes P; 5—B takes P ch. (or if 5—Kt takes Kt, P to Q 4, etc.); 5..... K takes B; 6—Kt takes Kt, P to Q 4. This would have given Black an excellent game; and if, according to Steinitz, White should continue 7—K Kt to Kt 5 ch., K to Kt sq.; 8—Q to B 3, Q to Q 2; 9—Kt to B 3, P to K R 3, Black would get the superior position against this apparently strongest continuation of White.

5—P to Q R 3	

Loss of time. Gunsberg favours this for White's fourth move and then follows it up with B to Kt 5, which is less objectionable but is none the less disapproved by a majority of chess masters.

	5—P to Q 3
6—P to K R 3?	6—Kt to K 2
7—P to Q 4	7—P takes P
8—Kt takes P	8—P to Q B 4!
9—Kt to K B 3	

The White allies disliked the complications that might have arisen from Kt to Kt 5.

	9—Kt to K Kt 3
10—P to Q Kt 4	10—B to K 2

10..... P to Q Kt 3 was better.

11—P takes P	11—Q to R 4!
12—B to Q 2	12—Q takes P
13—B to Q 3	13—Kt to K 4
14—Castles	14—Kt takes B

Removing a dangerous bishop but also uniting two isolated pawns.

15—P takes Kt	15—Castles
16—Kt to K 2	16—Kt to R 2
17—B to Kt 4	17—Q to B 3
18—R to ■ sq.	18—Q to K sq.!
19—P to Q 4	19—P to K B 4
20—P to K 5	20—P to Q 4
21—Q to Kt 3	21—B to K 3
22—Kt to B 4	22—B takes B
23—Q takes ■	23—R to K B 2
24—Q to Q 6	

Useless as it cannot be followed up. Q to Q 2 was preferable.

	24—Kt to K ■ sq.

The Black allies have at last secured their position and, thanks to the absence of the hostile Queen, proceed to the attack, not ineffectively.

25—K R to K sq.	25—R to Q 2
26—Q to Kt 4	26—P to K Kt 4

Bold, but sound enough.

27—Kt to Q 3	27—P to K Kt 5
28—P takes P	28—P takes P
29—Kt to R 4	29—Kt to Kt 3
30—Kt takes Kt	30—Q takes Kt
31—Kt to B 4	31—Q to B 4
32—Kt takes B	32—Q takes Kt
33—Q to Q 2	33—R to Kt 2
34—R to B 3	34—P to K R 4
35—K R to K 3	35—R to K B sq.

35..... P to R 5 was worth consideration at this point.

36—P to Kt 3	36—R to R 2
37—P ■ B 3	37—P to R 5
38—P takes R P	38—R takes B P!
39—Q to K sq.	39—R to Kt 2
40—Q to Q B sq.	40—K to R sq.

Adjournment for dinner. Time 4½ hours.

41—R to Q B 8 ch.	41—R to Kt sq.
42—R takes R ch.	42—Q takes R
43—R to Q B 3	43—R takes R
44—Q takes ■	44—Q to K 3
45—K to Kt ■	45—Q to K B 4
46—K to Kt 3	46—K to Kt sq.
47—Q to K 3	47—K to R 2!
48—Q to K 2	48—P to Kt 4
49—Q takes K Kt P!	49—Q to Q 6 ch.
50—K to K B 2	50—Q to Q 7 ch.
51—K to K Kt 3	51—Q to Q 6 ch.

White cannot afford to give up his Q P, perpetual check is threatened, and the game looks like a draw which—barring blunders—it actually is.

52—K to Kt 2	52—Q to Q 7 ch.
53—K to B 3	53—Q to Q 6 ch.
54—K to Kt 2	54—Q to Q 7 ch.
55—K to R sq.	55—Q to K 8 ch.
56—Q to K Kt sq.	

A very well played game indeed, and much to be recommended to the student, for the various moves were carefully made and invite the most detailed analysis.

We extract the following amusing tale from the *Times Weekly Edition*.

An Old Story Re-told.

In times gone by there dwelt in the good City of Bordeaux a chess-player, whose skill in the Royal game had gained him the universal cognomen of the "*Chevalier de l'Echiquier*." No rival had he met with in all his native province of Gascony; and to contest a game at all with him, or even to merit his approbation, was deemed high honour by the most illustrious in the game. In all chess matters his word was law, and he could not touch a pawn without eliciting bursts of applause from the bystanders.

Our Gascon was enjoying the plenitude of all this glory when there chanced to pass through Bordeaux a certain Spanish Cavalier, who, hearing of our hero's great skill, sought an opportunity of judging of his prowess in the game. He accordingly was presented, and having premised his wish to be admitted to the honour of contending with the renowned professor by stating that the best player in Spain usually gave him the odds of the rook, and played without seeing the board, our knight unhesitatingly bowed assent, removed his Queen's rook from the board, retired to an opposite corner, and, addressing his opponent, "Sir Cavalier," said he, "I give you the rook, the move is mine," 1—P to ■ 4. "May I inquire whether you have very many strong players in Spain?"

"Many, Sir." 1....., P to K 4.

2—B to Q B 4. "Please name them."

"Since the death of our celebrated Ruy Lopez, Don Diego de Lucena, whose grandsire was one of our earliest writers on the game, has not degenerated from the parent stock. He is unquestionably a fine player, but he cannot compare with—"

2....., B to Q B 4.

"With whom, pray?" 3—Q to K 2.

"With Don Gabriel de Rojas." 3..... Q to K 2

"De Rojas. I never heard the name." 4—K to Q B 3.

4....., P to Q B 3. "Can it be that his fame has never reached you?"

"Never. His residence?" 5—P to K B 4.

"Seville; and the finest players in Spain have all visited him to turn." 5....., P to Q Kt 4.

6—B to Q Kt 3—(musingly). "Rojas! Rojas And do they never win?"

"Alas! no, they all leave him crestfallen, and forced to acknowledge no chess player in the universe can compete with Don Gabriel de Rojas." 6....., P to Q R 4.

"You inspire me with the greatest desire to make his acquaintance; and if we ever meet, despite the opinion of your Castilian players, I may no unworthily maintain the honour of our escutcheon of Gascony." 7—P to Q R 4. In this manner they continued playing and conversing, the game meanwhile running thus:—

WHITE. The Gascon.	BLACK. The Castilian.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—B to B 4	2—B to B 4
3—Q to K 2	3—Q to K 2
4—Kt to Q B 3	4—P to Q B 3
5—P to K B 4	5—P to Q Kt 4
6—B to Kt 3	6—P to Q R 4
7—P to Q R 4	7—P to Q Kt 5
8—Kt to Q sq.	8—B takes Kt
9—R takes B	9—Kt to K B 3
10—P to Q 3	10—P to Q 4
11—P to K B 5	11—P takes P
12—P takes P	12—B to R 3
13—Q to K B 3	13—Q Kt to Q 2
14—B to ■ Kt 5	14—Kt to Q B 4
15—B to R 2	15—Castles K R
16—Kt to K B 2	16—Q R to Q sq.
17—P to K Kt 4	17—Q to Q 3
18—Q to K 3	18—Kt takes Q R P
19—B takes Kt	19—Q takes B
20—P to K Kt 5	20—Q to Q 3
21—P to Kt 6	21—Kt takes Q Kt
22—Q to K Kt 5	22—Q to K B 3
23—Q to K R 5	23—P to K R 3
24—P takes B P ch.	24—K to R 2
25—R to Kt 6	25—Q to K 2

White mates in three moves.

At this point our hero rose, saying, "You have lost, Señor; the mate is now forced in exactly three moves."

After this conversation the *Chevalier de l'Echiquier* became an unhappy man. The idea that he had a rival, and perhaps a master, embittered every triumph, and the laurels of the Sevillian Miltiades banished sleep from the lids of this new Themistocles.

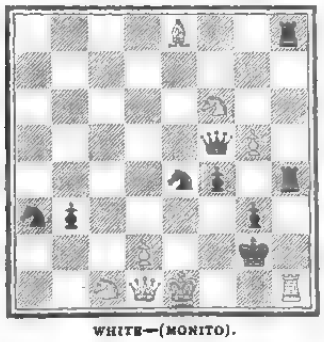
This state of uncertainty became finally so insupportable that he resolved to end it, and, having made his arrangements, he departed for Seville. No sooner had he reached that city than he hastened to the residence of Don Gabriel de Rojas. He found the great man intent upon a game of chess, a monkey with a grave phiz occupying the seat opposite him, and looking for all the world like his adversary.

"Señor," said the French champion, "drawn hither by the renown of your skill in the noble game of chess, I dare present myself as an aspirant to compete with you on the chequered field, if you will admit me to so great an honour. In Bordeaux I enjoy some reputation, and I may even venture to say that no players in that city can dispute the palm with me." "Come, Sir," replied the Spaniard, smiling, "be seated; I shall endeavour to prove worthy of the favour you confer." The two champions fairly face to face, the game began but hardly had a dozen moves been played when Don Gabriel rose suddenly and said to the astonished Frenchman, "It is useless, Sir, to continue. You cannot play with me; you are at most a mate for my monkey." "What!" replied the Chevalier, "Do you mean to insult me?" "By no means," answered the Spaniard. "Know that Monito is a finished player, and you need feel no humiliation in being placed on a level with him. I should even bet against you." "Since you insist," replied the astounded Frenchman, "I consent to your proposal, were it only for the singularity of the thing. We shall see whether this brute can contest the victory with me."

Monito was soon in Don Gabriel's seat, and, continuing his master's game with the gravest countenance in the world, he played move after move until, having reduced the game to the following position and it being his turn to move—

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BLACK—(LE CHEVALIER).



WHITE—(MONITO).

White mates in four moves (Calvi's position).

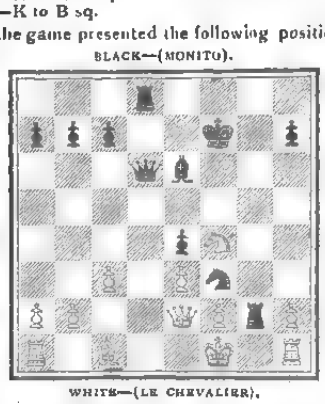
he uttered a most indescribable chatter, displaying at the same time his left paw with the fingers extended, as if to indicate check-mate in four moves. As the successive moves developed the mate, the Chevalier, overcome with shame and mortification, lost all control over himself, and striking the poor animal a violent blow, he sent him reeling into the middle of the room. The Spaniard, much displeased, interposed, and addressing keen reproaches to our hero for his brutal conduct, the latter apologized, but inwardly stung to the quick, he falteringly demanded his "*Revanche*." "Monito," replied Don Gabriel, "will hardly consent to play another game with you after such severe handling. I will try, nevertheless, what persuasion will do."

With much coaxing, and more especially by promises of better treatment, the Spaniard succeeded in bringing him back to the chess board, and Monito commenced another game, but not without evident signs of fear and distrust. The move was the Chevalier's, and notwithstanding his recent defeat he made bold to retort on Monito the opening of the preceding game. The battle proceeded thus:—

WHITE. Le Chevalier.	BLACK. Monito.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—B to B 4	2—B to B 4
3—Q to K 2	3—Kt to Q B 3
4—B takes P ch.	4—K takes B
5—Q to B 4 ch.	5—P to Q 4
6—Q takes B	6—P takes P
7—Q to B 4 ch.	7—B to K 3
8—Q takes P	8—Kt to K B 3
9—Q to K R 4	9—Kt to Q 5
10—Kt to Q R 3	10—P to K 5
11—P to Q B 3	11—P to K Kt 4
12—Q takes Kt P	12—R to K Kt sq.
13—Q to K 3	13—Kt to K B 4
14—Q to K 2	14—R takes P
15—Kt to Q B 2	15—Q to Q 3
16—Kt to K 3	16—Kt takes Kt
17—Q P takes Kt	17—Q R to K Kt sq.
18—Q to K B sq.	18—R to Q sq.
19—Q to K 2	19—Kt to Kt 5
20—Kt to R 3	20—Kt to K 4
21—Kt to K B 4	21—Kt to B 6 ch.
22—K to B sq.	

and the game presented the following position:—

BLACK—(MONITO).



WHITE—(LE CHEVALIER).

Black mates in six moves.

At this point Monito, with the same queer chatter as before, darted away with all the nimbleness of his tribe, and in an instant he was perched on the top of his master's cabinet. The Gascon looked around inquiringly at Don Gabriel,—"Do you not see," said the latter, "that your game is irretrievably lost? Play as you will you are checkmated in exactly six moves, and most assuredly you need not be surprised at Monito feeling some apprehension for the consequences of his victory." Then, with a tone betokening somewhat of superiority, he added in his own noble language, "My friend, nothing exemplifies more forcibly than the game of Chess, that strength is relative. Seldom do I now experience defeat, but know that the time was when from our much lamented Ruy Lopez de Segura, I usually received the odds of pawn and move." After his discomfiture, our hero deeming it useless to prolong his stay in Seville, sadly wended his way back to the scene of his triumphs; and when upon his arrival his chess friends eagerly inquired whether he had won of Don Gabriel de Rojas "Alas!" said he, "I could not even win of his monkey."

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From America	per P. M. Co.	Friday, June 21st.*
From Canada, &c.....	per C. P. R. Co.	Sunday, June 16th.†
From Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Sunday, June 16th.‡
From Hongkong	per P. M. Co.	Sunday, June 16th.§
From Europe, viâ Hongkong	per M. M. Co.	Friday, June 21st.‖
From Hongkong	per C. P. R. Co.	Thursday, June 20th.¶
From America	per O. & O. Co.	Tuesday, July 2nd.
From Europe, viâ Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd	Wed'day, July 10th.

* *China* left San Francisco on June 4th. † *Empress of India* left Vancouver on June 3rd. ‡ *Ancona* will leave Kobe on June 14th. § *City of Rio de Janeiro* left Hongkong on June 8th. ‖ *Saghalien* (with French mail) left Hongkong on June 13th. ¶ *Empress of China* left Hongkong on June 12th.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For Victoria, B.C., & Tacoma, Wash.....	per N. P. Co.	Monday, June 17th.
For Hongkong	per C. P. R. Co.	Monday, June 17th.
For America	per P. M. Co.	Wed'day, June 19th.
For Canada, &c.	per C. P. R. Co.	Friday, June 21st.
For Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Saturday, June 22nd.
For Europe, viâ Shanghai	per M. M. Co.	Saturday, June 29th.
For America	per O. & O. Co.	Saturday, June 29th.
For Europe, viâ Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd	Friday, July 19th.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Ashdown, British steamer, 1,893, Jas. Cowie, 8th June,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Benmohr, British steamer, 1,935, Clarke, 8th June,—Hongkong 2nd June, General.—Cornes & Co.

Angers, British steamer, 2,076, W. G. Bannister, 9th June,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Omba, British steamer, 1,907, Munroe, 10th June,—Otaru, Coal.—Hokkaido Tanko Tetsudo Kaisha.

Victoria, Swedish steamer, 1,181, J. Hellberg, 10th June,—Moji, Coal.—Mitsu Bishi Sha.

Amaranth, British steamer, 1,753, Cliff, 10th June, —Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Else, German steamer, 747, Christiansen, 10th June,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Energia, British steamer, 2,063, Saw, 10th June, —Otaru viâ ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Doris, German steamer, 771, Bruhn, 11th June,— Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hohensollern, German steamer, 2,376, H. Walter, 11th June,—Hongkong 6th June, Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.

Leander (10), cruiser, 12th June,—Kobe 11th June.

Rosary, British steamer, 1,426, Dowling, 12th June, —Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Anjar Head, British steamer, 1,826, Motyer, 13th June,—Niigata, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Cosmopolit, German steamer, 760, Holtz, 13th June,—Otaru, Coal.—Hokkaido Tanko Tetsudo Kaisha.

Mount Lebanon, British steamer, 1,555, Chas. Hendry, 13th June,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

City of Peking, American steamer, 3,128, Wm. Ward, 13th June,—San Francisco 25th May, viâ Honolulu 1st June, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Irene, German steamer, 1,630, R. Schneder, 13th June,—Hongkong, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Strathesk, British steamer, 1,454, Foulds, 14th June,—Otaru, Coal.—Hokkaido Tanko Tetsudo Kaisha.

Cam, British steamer, 1,630, Mathias, 14th June, —Otaru viâ ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kaisow, British steamer, 1,934, Long, 14th June,—London viâ ports, General.—W. M. Strachan & Co.

Orono, British steamer, 1,321, Hancock, 14th June, —Fushiki, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Strathlyon, British steamer, 1,511, Phillip, 14th June,—Otaru, Coal.—Hokkaido Tanko Tetsudo Kaisha.

Bayard (24), French flagship, Captain Chouneur, 15th June,—Nagasaki.

DEPARTURES.

Glenfarg, British steamer, 2,646, Selby, 8th June, —Hongkong viâ ports, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Agamemnon, British steamer, 1,342, Steeves, 9th June,—London viâ ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Ashdown, British steamer, 1,893, Jas. Cowie, 10th June,—Otaru viâ ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Boynton, British steamer, 1,630, Irving, 10th June, —Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Strathdon, British steamer, 1,720, Johnston, 10th June,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Angers, British steamer, 2,076, Bannister, 11th June,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Krayssser (6), Russian corvette, Captain Rojestwensky, 11th June,—Kobe.

Benmohr, British steamer, 1,935, Clarke, 12th June,—Kobe, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Victoria, Swedish steamer, 1,181, J. Hellberg, 12th June,—Moji, Ballast.—Mitsu Bishi Sha.

Lavang, German steamer, 1,578, Formes, 13th June,—Hamburg viâ ports, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Specialist, British steamer, 1,685, Moss, 13th June, —Hongkong viâ Moji, Ballast.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Amaranth, British steamer, 1,735, Cliff, 13th June, —Otaru, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Doris, German steamer, 771, Bruhn, 13th June,— Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Else, German steamer, 747, Christiansen, 13th June,—Bonin Islands, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Energia, British steamer, 2,063, Saw, 13th June, —Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Omba, British steamer, 1,907, Munroe, 13th June, —Otaru, Ballast.—Hokkaido Tanko Tetsudo Kaisha.

Rosary, British steamer, 1,426, Dowling, 13th June, —Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Glamorganshire, British steamer, 1,845, Vyvyan, 13th June,—London viâ ports, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Merionethshire, British steamer, 1,960, D. Davis, 13th June,—New York viâ ports, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Hohensollern, German steamer, 2,376, H. Walter, 14th June,—Hongkong viâ ports, Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.

City of Peking, American steamer, 3,128, Wm. Ward, 14th June,—Hongkong viâ Nagasaki, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Anjar Head, British steamer, 1,826, Motyer, 14th June, — Niigata, General. — Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Cosmopolit, German steamer, 760, Holtz, 14th June,—Otaru, Ballast.—Hokkaido Tanko Tetsudo Kaisha.

Ernest Simons, French steamer, 3,370, Vimont, 15th June,—Shanghai viâ ports, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per German steamer *Hohensollern*, from Hongkong:—Mr. Mosle, Mr. and Mrs. Sachse and children, Mr. Levy, Mr. Knobloch, Mrs. Vernon, Mrs. Kuhn, Mr. Elvey, and Mr. H. Hagen in cabin.

Per American steamer *City of Peking*, from San Francisco, viâ Honolulu:—Mrs. Chas. Denby, Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Denby, Jun., Mr. Rheinbrecht, Mr. Grunwaldt, Mr. Edward Krause, Paymaster L. C. Kerr, Mr. H. Hirata, Mr. F. de la Fontaine Verney, Mr. T. F. Dredge, Bishop and Mrs. J. M. Walden, Miss Walden, Miss Louise B. Goff, Miss Florence Wells, Miss Nillie Oskamp, Mr. Wallace, Mr. W. N. Armstrong, Mr. and Mrs. E. V. Hall, Mr. J. A. Blatteau, and Rev. G. F. Draper and family in cabin, and Mrs. Emily Cohen and Mr. J. Lindquist in European steerage. For Nagasaki and Hongkong:—Rev. and Mrs. D. A. Bunker, Mrs. H. E. Doberck, Mr. W. B. Walker, Mr. and Mrs. John Bradbury, Miss C. O'Connor, Mr. Lau Chau, Mrs. Chin Quai and

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4 children in cabin, and Mr. C. A. Stuhlmann, Mr. R. C. Crick, and Mr. L. Berndt in European steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per British steamer *Verona*, for Hongkong viâ ports:—Mr. J. S. Neil, Captain M. N. Baugh, Mr. and Mrs. Leicester, Miss M. H. Blakeway, Mr. Cowen, Mr. Todoroki, Mr. and Mrs. Garrels and child, Miss Struss, Mr. R. Masujima, Mr. R. Pollak, Mrs. Gibbens and servant, Messrs. Gibbens, Playfair, W. E. Curtis, Elroy Curtis, G. H. Scidmore, E. Kircher, E. Stein, Copmann, J. Strauss, G. W. Brockhurst, Rev. W. Smart, Mr. Tamamoto, Mr. and Mrs. Conan, Mrs. Evans, Dr. Paul, Mr. A. Coye, and Comte H. de la Vaux in cabin, and 3 Chinese and 2 Japanese in steerage.

Per German steamer *Hohensollern*, for Hongkong viâ ports:—Messrs. A. W. Schmidt, B. A. Münster, Stauby, Davies, W. C. Elvey, Sitting, S. Hashimoto, Wm. Arnecke, John Junis, Jas. A. Young, W. M. Wilson, C. R. Mitchell, and A. Davidson in cabin; 18 Europeans in third class, and 2 Chinese on deck.

Per American steamer *City of Peking* for Hongkong viâ Nagasaki:—Mr. A. P. Nobbs and Mr. T. B. Cunningham in cabin.

CARGOES.

Per British steamer *Verona*, for Hongkong viâ ports:—Silk, 56 bales; Waste Silk, 152 bales.

Per German steamer *Hohensollern*, for Hongkong viâ ports:—Raw Silk for Europe, 80 bales; Waste Silk for Europe, 252 bales.

REPORTS.

The German steamer *Hohensollern*, Captain H. Walter, reports:—Left Hongkong the 6th June; had during the whole passage light variable winds, light sea, overcast sky and off Rock Island, 5 hours dense fog. The *Hohensollern* made the trip in the short time of 4 days, 23 hours, and 20 min.

The American steamer *City of Peking*, Captain Wm. Ward, reports:—Left San Francisco the 25th May at 3.55 p.m. Arrived at Honolulu the 1st June at 8 a.m. and left Honolulu the 1st at 6 p.m.; crossed the meridian on the 5th at 4 p.m. Arrived at Yokohama the 13th June at noon. During the passage light to moderate S.W. to N.W. breeze, moderate S.W. and N.W. swell.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

With the return of the Government to Tokyo there is a rumour of returning confidence in the commercial world. But at present it remains a rumour, and money remains as tight as before. It is difficult to see where relief from the stringency is to come from, at least until the Indemnity begins to be paid into the Treasury. Meantime, all business in textiles is feeble and small in amount; Dealers and Consumers all seem to be retrenching, at least for a time.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirtings—8½ lb, 38½ yds. 39 inches	$2.25 to 2.85
Grey Shirtings—9lb, 38½ yds. 45 inches	2.70 to 3.10
T. Cloth—7lb, 24 yards, 32 inches	1.60 to 1.95
Indigo Shirtings—12 yards, 44 inches	1.70 to 2.35
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches	2.00 to 3.75
Cotton—Italians and Satteens Black, 32 inches	PER YARD. 0.16 to 0.22
	PER PIECE.
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	7.25 to 9.50
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches	0.80 to 0.95
TurkeyReds—2.0 to 2.4lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.60 to 1.70
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.75 to 2.05
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.30 to 2.60
Turkey Reds—4.8 to 5lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.80 to 3.15

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.
Flannel	$0.30 to 0.47½
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches best	0.30 to 0.35
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Medium	0.25 to 0.27½
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Common	0.20 to 0.22½
Mousseline de Laine—Crepe, 24 yards, 32 inches	0.15 to 0.22
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches	0.35 to 0.50
Cloths—Presidents, 54 @ 56 inches	0.60 to 0.65
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0.30 to 0.70
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 3lb, per lb	0.60 to 0.75

COTTON YARNS.

	PER PICUL.
Nos. 16/24, Ordinary	—
Nos. 16/24, Medium	$34.00 to 34.50
Nos. 16/24, Good to Best	35.00 to 36.00
Nos. 16/24, Reverse	—
Nos. 28/32, Medium	36.00 to 37.00
Nos. 28/32, Good to Best	37.50 to 38.50
Nos. 38/42, Medium to Best	42.00 to 44.00
No. 32s, Two-fold	42.00 to 44.00
No. 42s, Two-fold	47.00 to 49.50
	FOR SALE.
No. 20s, Bombay	—
No. 16s, Bombay	—

METALS.

Quiet and unchanged. There seems a little disposition for business sometimes, but nothing results; and the trade will soon be complaining that the weather is too hot for working metals.

	PER PICUL.
Flat Bars, ½ inch	$3.30 to 3.35
Flat Bars, ¼ inch	3.35 to 3.40
Round and square up to ¼ inch	3.30 to 3.40
Iron Plates, assorted	3.40 to 3.50
Sheet Iron	4.40 to 4.60
Galvanized Iron sheets	8.25 to 8.75
Wire Nails, assorted	5.60 to 6.00
Tin Plates, per box	5.65 to 5.75
Pig Iron, No. 3	1.55 to 1.60

KEROSENE.

Nominally unchanged, but some transactions will shortly come to light. Holders are said to be firm at quotations.

American	Nom. $2.45 to 2.47½
Russian	Nom. 2.40 to 2.42½
Langkat	2.25 to 2.35

SUGAR.

Brown—Fair demand at late quotations. White moves regularly without notable change in price.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Takao	$3.50 to 3.60
Brown Manila	4.20 to 4.30
Brown Daitong (New)	3.10 to 3.15
Brown Canton	3.00 to 3.50
White Java and Penang	6.30 to 6.40
White Refined	6.40 to 9.20

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Still some small daily purchases in Old Silk at irregular prices. A few boxes of New Crop are on the market; but, as usual, these are sample lots from various Filatures, and some retail sales have been made at from $750 to $780 per picul. All crop reports are good and speak of a considerable increase over last year. We withdraw all quotations, it being between seasons.

WASTE SILK.

Some business continues at irregular prices. A large buyer could probably get a "wad" at a considerable reduction if he chose to take an all-round lot of either Noshi or Kibiso with quality *tale quale*.

QUOTATIONS.

Pierced Cocoons—Good to Best	—
Noshi-ito—Filature, Best	$125 to 130
Noshi-ito—Filature, Good	115 to 120
Noshi-ito—Filature, Medium	105 to 110
Noshi-ito—Oshu, Good to Best	110 to 125
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Best	—
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Good	—
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Medium	60 to 75
Noshi-ito—Bushu, Good to Best	—
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Best	—
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Good	70
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Ordinary	60 to 65
Kibiso—Filature, Best selected	100 to 105
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds	85 to 90
Kibiso—Oshu, Good to Best	—
Kibiso—Shinshu, Best	—
Kibiso—Shinshu, Seconds	—
Kibiso—Joshu, Good to Fair	30 to 27½
Kibiso—Joshu, Middlingto Common	20 to 22½
Kibiso—Hachoji, Good to Fair	20 to 23
Kibiso—Hachoji, Medium to Low	— to 20
Kibiso—Neri, Good to Common	12 to 8
Mawata—Good to Best	—

TEA.

Small business, and prices are firm for good quality leaf, while low grades are easy. A large fire this week is said to have destroyed at 2,000 piculs, choice quality, first crop leaf; this will now be difficult to replace. Japan holders of Fine Teas are already anticipating some benefit from the misfortune of the Insurance Companies.

	PER PICUL.
Choicest	$35 to $
Choice	31 to
Finest	28 to
Fine	25 to
Good Medium	23 to
Medium	21 to
Good Common	18 to
Common	15 to

EXCHANGE.

Exchange has hardened.

Sterling—Bank T.T.	2/1
— — Bills on demand	2/1
— — 4 months' sight	2/1
— Private 4 months' sight	2/2
— — 6 months' sight	2/2
On Paris—Bank sight	2.6
On Lyons—Private 4 months' sight	2.7
On Hongkong—Bank sight	⅛ °
— Private 10 days' sight	⅛ °
On Shanghai—Bank sight	71
— Private 10 days' sight	72
On India—Bank sight	19
— Private 30 days' sight	19
On America—Bank Bills on demand	52
— Private 30 days' sight	53
— — 4 months' sight	54
On Germany—Bank sight	2.1
— Private 4 months' sight	2.2
Bar Silver (London)	30

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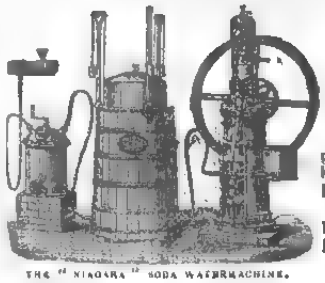
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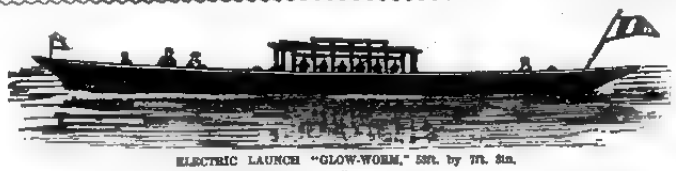
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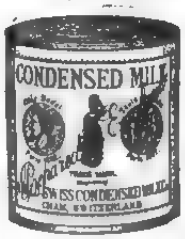
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The Japan Weekly Mail:

A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

No. 25.] REGISTERED AT THE G.P.O. AS A NEWSPAPER. YOKOHAMA, JUNE 22ND, 1895. 明治廿八年六月廿二日郵便物認可 VOL. XXIII.

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, JUNE 22ND, 1895.

BIRTH.

At the Royal Naval Hospital, Yokohama, the wife of Staff Surgeon HOWARD TODD, Royal Navy, of a Son.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

EIGHT houses were destroyed by fire at Kanda, Tokyo, on the 19th inst.

PRINCES MORI and Shimazu have been promoted to the First Class Second Grade.

A FARM-HOUSE at Honmoku, Yokohama, was destroyed by fire on Saturday night.

THE *Sans Nom* won the Swiss Residents' Cup in the sailing race last Saturday.

THE Railway Authorities propose to double some of the more important sections of the Tokaido Railway.

RAIN caused the cricket match arranged against the fleet to be indefinitely postponed on Wednesday.

THE new office for Formosan Affairs has been organised within the Cabinet, with Count Ito at its head.

THE Duke of Abruzzi, a nephew of the King of Italy, arrived in Yokohama on Sunday. He has been received in audience by the Emperor and Empress, and dined at the Palace during the week.

THE Hon. J. Foster was publicly entertained in the capital before leaving Japan for home on Friday.

THE foreign trade of Japan for May amounted to *yen* 20,861,722.210, of which imports exceeded exports by *yen* 1,181,023.270.

MISS LOWTHER won the Tokyo Ladies' Singles Lawn Tennis Handicap, beating Miss Divers in the final tie by only two points.

THE resignation of Mr. Den, a member of the House of Representatives for Hyogo Prefecture, was accepted on the 15th inst.

THE Yokohama General Merchandise Exchange has petitioned the Government for permission to float and arrange foreign loans.

THE returns of the visitors to the Kyoto Exhibition during 70 days ending the 10 inst. were:—818,601 ordinary, 10,921 special, 2,518 foreign, and 15,399 students and soldiers.

CHOLERA is very prevalent in the southern provinces. Some cases are reported daily in Tokyo. Throughout the Empire 663 persons have succumbed since the outbreak.

IT is proposed to start in Tokyo a magazine to be called the *Honyaku Zasshi* (*Translation Magazine*). It will be very much on the lines of the English journal *Public Opinion*.

PROFESSOR JOHN MILNE, F.R.S., who has been "wined and dined" in the capital and in Yokohama for several days past, left Japan on Friday by the *Empress of China*, for England.

DURING a severe thunderstorm on the 14th inst. a boy and an old man were killed by lightning in Kawachi Province, and a man and a woman met with the same fate in a rural district of Kyoto.

MESSRS. SASSA TOMOFUSA, Shiba Shiro, and Yamada Itaro, in their report upon Korean affairs, exonerate Boku Yeiko from many of the charges brought against by Japanese newspaper writers.

FROM the commencement of the war up to April last, *yen* 4,994 was contributed to the War and Naval Departments by Japanese settlers in Hawaii, and *yen* 9,738 to the Red Cross Society of Japan.

THE number of persons awaiting judgment at the Metropolitan Police Office is at present about 900, and is confined to criminal cases only. This total shows a decrease of from 400 to 500 against the previous month.

JUST within a year of the appalling fire in Motomachi, Yokohama—when some fifteen hundred houses were destroyed—the same locality has again been visited by a conflagration. This time only one house was burnt.

PRINCE WI-HWA, who comes to Japan to convey the thanks of Korea for this Empire's intervention in the cause of the little Kingdom's independence, will stay at the Seiyo-ken, Uyeno Park, while in Tokyo.

IT is stated that the Emperor has decided to observe a grand triumphal ceremony on his Birthday, November 3rd, as all the expeditionary forces are expected to have returned and the disturbances in Formosa will have been subdued before that date.

REUTER telegraphs:—A movement has been inaugurated in Paris for the formation of an Egyptian Committee, in order to obtain European support in a scheme for the evacuation of Egypt by the British and the neutrality of the Nile basin. In this connection the French Press count upon the support of Russia. M. Hanotaux, French Minister for Foreign Affairs, in the course of a great speech on Foreign affairs, delivered in the Chamber of Deputies, declared that France joined Russia, because by refusing her support France would have left Russia to confront difficulties which would have maimed the general policy of Russia. Secondly, because the conditions of peace imperilled the existence of China, whose provinces opened a vast field of trade to the Colonies in Indo-China. The policy of the Government was approved by a large majority.

COUNT GOLOUCHOWSKI (who has succeeded Count Kalnoky as Austro-Hungarian Minister for Foreign Affairs), in addressing the Hungarian Delegation at Vienna, stated that he adheres to Count Kalnoky's policy, especially as regards the peaceful Triple Alliance, as being best calculated to foster the friendly relations of all the Powers. The correspondent of *The Times* at Odessa states that one thousand Russian troops have been sent to reinforce the guard on the Armenian frontier. Great Britain, France, and Russia have demanded the disarming of the Bedouins and the payment of an indemnity for the recent outrage at Jeddah. The Sublime Porte has urged that there will be extreme difficulty in disarming the Bedouins. A Committee of the French Chamber of Deputies has resolved to demand a full discussion in the Chamber of the petition by the native Egyptians organised by M. Deloncle against the reformed judicial procedure in Egypt. The Spanish Government have decided to quell the Cuban Rebellion at any cost, and are preparing to despatch forty thousand men to Cuba in August. The Russo-French loan to China is a four per cent loan, secured by the Customs in the Treaty Ports and the absolute guarantee of Russia, and issued at a price of about ninety-eight. The House of Commons has voted to give Government the whole of its time for the remainder of the session. The German States are generally adverse to a Monetary Conference. The Italian Budget shows an estimated small surplus without adding to taxation or to the debt.

THE general import trade of the week has been principally confined to small transactions, dealers merely filling orders for absolute necessaries Yarn is rather neglected, except for Doubles forward lines of 9lb. Shirtings are slightly enquired for, with small doings in T.-Reds and Velvets. Large arrivals of Metals continue, bu most of them are said to be contracts: prices are therefore nominally unchanged, as very little business is doing on the open market. The state of the Kerosene trade is rather remarkable Holders are said to have reduced quotations but deny doing business of any kind—yet deliveries of something like 300,000 gallons pe week continue. More is evidently doing than appears on the surface. There have been steady arrivals of Sugars during the week, with fair sales at rising rates. The market fo Raw Silk is firm in tone, but at present there is no important stock to deal with. The new Crop progresses well throughout the Empire and the yield is expected to be about 20/25 pe cent. above last year. Waste Silkmen have at last accepted the inevitable, and with lowered prices a considerable portion of the stock ha moved off this week, though 7,500 piculs still remain: it is of low grade, however. Te has been very steady, and the export now about the same as at this time last year Second-crop leaf is now beginning to arrive and tisters hope that it will prove good in quality. Exchange is steady at latest quo

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THE SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS DURING THE WEEK.

The press continues to circulate rumours about probable changes in the *personnel* of the Cabinet. Count Inouye is now considered as Count Matsukata's most likely successor at the Finance Department. As to Count Matsukata himself, the popular belief is that, in spite of the Emperor's advice to the contrary, he is resolved to resign. Viscount Mutau is said to be somewhat better, but his resumption of Ministerial duties is regarded as highly improbable. Count Inouye and Marquis Saionji have been named in the press as candidates for the portfolio of Foreign Affairs. Various stories are also told about Mr. Ito Miyoji, Secretary-General of the Cabinet. These reports are very contradictory, some alleging that, dissatisfied with the course of things, he has tendered his resignation, while others say that he will be appointed to a Ministerial post, either that of Education or of Communications. As to the state of things in the sphere of party politics, the anti-Cabinet agitation and its rigorous suppression by the Authorities attract the largest share of attention. It is a question whether the agitation would have assumed a dangerous character; certainly it could scarcely have been destined to attain its object, namely, the resignation of the existing Cabinet. But it has to be remembered that, in the present mood of the people, a little stimulant skilfully administered might cause a troublesome vertigo. At all events, the Government deemed it dangerous to suffer the agitation to work its course. The repressive measure adopted is condemned by the organs of the Opposition parties as an act of despotism, while the independent papers seem to regard it with indifference, if not approval. The general public consider such movements out of touch with the spirit of the times. An impression still prevails that the restoration of peace is not permanent, and that at any moment a crisis may be precipitated. A story has been quoted by several newspapers that all the generals returning home from China declare that it is not peace now, but simply an armistice. Reference is constantly made to this fact as an indication of the state of feeling in the Army. Much of the bombastic methods hitherto adopted to manifest the nation's truly intense feeling of indignation against the three European Powers, has been abandoned, and the press, as a whole, is settling down to consider calmly questions that are felt to have a vital bearing upon the military and naval and commercial development of the Empire.

* * *

Matters of foreign policy continue to be discussed. The latest journalistic proposal is that a man of commanding influence and superior capacity should be accredited to a Western country, and that he should be empowered to direct and control the other Japanese Ministers in Europe. By such a method, the *Kokumin Shimbun*, the originator of the scheme, thinks that Japan's foreign policy could be kept in touch with European politics. The newspapers now recognize the importance of increasing the salaries of diplomatic officials and the allowances to the Legations. The organs of all parties as well as independent papers unite in thinking that Japan ought no longer to pursue a neutral foreign policy. As to the question with which Power she ought to move hand in hand, the papers, with a few exceptions, do not express any definite opinion. These exceptions are, however, very important, for they represent the most influential sections of the nation. The *Jiji Shimpo*, for instance, now openly advocates an alliance between Japan and England. Its latest article on the subject is reproduced elsewhere in our columns.

* * *

The feeling of resentment against Russia and her allies has made the nation turn its eyes to the north, and the press has hitherto been almost completely absorbed by the problem of vindicating the honour of the country in that quarter. It seemed for a time as though the nation was bent on a contin[illegible] scheme of expansion. But of late some writers have begun to remind the people of the existence of other and equally hopeful fields of activity. Mr. Sugiura's article on the subject has already been reproduced separately. In the same strain writes the *Chuo Shimbun*:—"To the south of Formosa spread groups of islands; are these not gifts of Heaven specially reserved for the Japanese nation?" Surprisingly frank language it must be confessed. The same journal refers, apparently with approval, to the adventurous enterprises undertaken by the Japanese in the latter part of the 16th and the beginning of the 17th century.

* * *

Public anxiety about the situation in Korea has been somewhat allayed in consequence of repeated denials by prominent men of the story of Boku's alliance with the Russian Minister. The recent report of Messrs. Sasa, Shiba, and Yamada has no doubt been principally instrumental in relieving the tension of national feeling. But, in spite of the assurances of Boku's friends, a section of the public still refuses to think that things are as satisfactory as these men say. Even papers that from the first attached little importance to the rumoured alliance between Boku and the Russian Minister, express fears that, unless an uncommon degree of vigilance be exercised by Japan, there can be no security against clandestine arrangements between the Korean Court and some foreign country. Having stated their views on the subject, the metropolitan journals are impatiently awaiting the course of action that the Cabinet may decide to adopt. As to the successor of Count Inouye in the event of his not going again to Sōul, various names have been mentioned. The *Chuo Shimbun* thinks that Count Okuma is best qualified for the post. He prides himself on being the greatest diplomat of Japan at present, and moreover he is looked up to with great reverence by Boku Eiko. Should the post be offered to him, our contemporary thinks that he would gladly accept it. Next to him, Count Ito is stated to be most suitable. But there might be opposition to him on account of his connection with the return of the Liaotung peninsula. Thus, considered from all points of view, Count Okuma is declared to be the man for the office. The *Chuo* thinks that the Progressionist Party would hail his appointment with delight.

* * *

The question of increasing the taxes is beginning to attract attention. All parties being agreed that a large addition to the Navy and the Army is of imperative necessity, there can be no dissentient voice as to increasing the taxes. But opinions differ much with regard to the particular taxes that should be thus treated. The *Keisai Zasshi*, in an article separately noticed, advocates the increase of the Land Tax. The Radical Party is reported to be in favour of an increase of both the Land Tax and the Income Tax. The *Jiji Shimpo* is opposed to an increase of either the one or the other. It devotes several long articles to the discussion. After pointing out the reasons that call for an increase of the revenue, it goes on to examine whether the people are in a condition to bear additional taxes. The growth of the nation's wealth during the last thirty years is declared to have been most wonderful, as may be seen from the enormous development of the country's foreign trade, its present value being more than 200 million *yen*. Just how much the national weath has increased, our contemporary cannot ascertain, but various circumstances convince it that the revenue of the country—about 100 million *yen*—can safety be doubled. For the present, however, there is no necessity for such increase. Among the causes of the recent enormous increase of the national weath, the *Jiji* gives prēeminence to the abolition of the old clan system, in other words the disbanding of the hereditary soldiers, who numbered about 2 millions. The maintenance of 300 territorial nobles as well as these *samurai* was an enormous drain upon the resources of the country. As to the kind of taxes that should be increased, our contemporary thinks that the tax on *sake* is best adapted for the purpose. It admits that the farmers are able to bear an increased burden, but fears that any step in that direction might create a widespread feeling of uncertainty. The farmers should be left free to accumulate money. As to the income tax, that is not a very profitable source of revenue, the method of collecting it being cumbersome and expensive. The tax on *sake*, on the other hand, is easy to collect, and is far more profitable. The present rate is 4 *yen* per *koku*. The retail price of *sake* of superior quality is 30 *sen* per *sho*. To bring its price up to the level of that of beer, ought to be the object kept in view in increasing the tax on it. Now the price of beer being about 50 *sen* per *sho*, the *Jiji* thinks that the tax on *sake* might be raised to 24 *yen* per *koku*. Even supposing that it were raised to 20 *yen* only the proceeds of the tax would be enormous. Four million *koku* is the present quantity of *sake* brewed in Japan. Calculating on the basis of 3 million *koku*, however—for the quantity would certainly decrease in consequence of the higher tax—the total amount of revenue obtained from this source would be 60 million *yen*; more than sufficient to cover the increased expenditure. With regard to the objection that such a sweeping increase of the *sake* tax would press very heavily upon the poor working classes, the *Jiji* replies that the lower classes would not be affected, because the inferior kinds of Japanese spirituous liquors, such as *daku-shu* and *shochu*, would continue to be taxed as before. It is only the middle and upper classes, namely, those able to pay higher prices for their luxuries, that would be affected by the increase of the tax on *sake*.

BANQUET TO THE DUKE OF ABRUZZI.

Yesterday evening an entertainment of a striking character was given by the Italian Chargé d'Affaires in Tokyo, Count d'Orfini, in honour of His Royal Highness Price Luigi Amadeo, Duke of Abruzzi. It took the form of a banquet in the grand salon of the Imperial hotel. We need scarcely say that all the notables in the capital were present, their Excellencies the Minister President of State, the Minister of the Navy, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, the Minister of Agriculture and Commerce, the Minister of the Imperial Household, the Grand Chamberlain, the Grand Master of Services to Her Majesty the Empress, the Foreign Representatives, and the Staffs of the various Legations, several officers from the *Cristforo Colombo*, nearly all the leading foreign residents of Tokyo of all nationalities, and several others. Sixty covers were laid, the tables in the handsome salon of the Hotel being disposed in three sides of a rectangle, so that not the slightest crushing took place. None of the Japanese Imperial Princes had been invited, owing, we believe, to the fact that the *réunion* was in a hotel. Several Japanese ladies also were unable to attend, but with these exceptions a more brilliant assembly has seldom been seen in Tokyo. The Prince arrived shortly after the guests had assembled. His Royal Highness was introduced to the ladies by Madame La Baronne d'Anethan, and to the gentlemen by Count d'Orfini. After this ceremony, in which the youthful Duke performed his part with remarkable grace and dignity, the party passed into the dining salon. The arrangements were in every respect irreproachable, the decoration of the tables, the dinner, and the service being really excellent. Immediately after adjourning, the company was treated to a delightful musical performance. Signora Belinfante sang twice, and her magnificent contralto afforded a treat such as has not been enjoyed in this country for many years; Le Chevalier de Kontski played as only he can play, and Signor Braccialini's fine tenor was heard to great advantage. The Duke left at about half-past ten, and an hour latter the party broke up after a thoroughly enjoyable evening.

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EDITORIAL NOTES.

SCANDALOUS GOSSIP.

PUBLIC curiosity was greatly excited a short while ago, writes the *Jiyu*, by a rumour that on the occasion of the Premier's farewell dinner to Mr. Hayashi, ex-Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs, trouble sprang up between Viscount Nomura, Minister of State for Home Affairs, and Lieut.-General Kawakami, Vice-Chief of the Central Staff. A slight scuffle was said to have resulted between the two distinguished dignitaries. The *Jiyu* now professes to have succeeded in learning the particulars of the matter, and gives them for the delectation of gossip-loving folks. The trouble began about certain letters forwarded to the Central Staff in the name of the Constitutional Reformists and the Progressionists to thank the Army and Navy for the glorious achievements of the late war. After alluding to the letters, the Viscount said that he had heard that they referred to political topics and wondered why such letters were not returned at once to the senders, as they could not well be shown to the men of the Army or the Navy on account of their political nature. The General replied that he was not a little ashamed to see that outsiders sent complimentary letters for the slight achievements of the Army and Navy. Still, he could not send back such letters merely on account of their political allusions. For, he continued laughing, it would amount to the same thing as breaking up the party of the evening, merely because one guest was present with whom the rest were dissatisfied. The Viscount rejoined that he understood the General, and remarked further that the discontent apparently more or less felt by the public in connection with the restoration of peace was due to the instigation of political malcontents. The citizens of Tokyo, however, seem satisfied that peace is restored, as may be inferred from their intention of holding shortly a celebration ceremony on a grand scale. Would the General attend this meeting, should it really take place? Hereupon General Kawakami assumed a grave air and asked how he could possibly be present at such a celebration when the expeditionary Army and Squadrons have not yet returned in triumph, and peace has not yet been completely restored. The Viscount, instead of replying, murmured something of a rather insulting character. This incensed the General highly, and exclaiming loudly that he was not yet a dotard, he seized the Viscount by the neck and pushed him forcibly against the window-pane. Seeing this, Lieut.-General Viscount Takashima, a Privy Councillor, who was sitting close by, parted the two. Such is the *Jiyu's* account of the affair.

THE PROSPECTS OF KOREAN TRADE.

A MEETING held a short while ago by the Commercial and Industrial Society of Tokyo in connection, with the future prospects of Korean commerce deserves attention. Mr. Hattori, an official of the Mitsui Bussan Kaisha, who has recently returned from Korea, observed that although formerly there appeared to be but little hope for the future of Japan's commerce with Korea, a considerable change has taken place since the comencement of reform in the little Kingdom. As is generally the case in an uncivilized country, the changes in the administrative system are strongly influencing Korea's commerce. For instance, the issue of the National Garments Regulations was immediately followed by eagerness on the part of the people to get their clothes fashioned according to the new style. If, therefore, transactions in shirtings have declined, those in silk fabrics have become active. Although it is impossible, in this transition period, to give any definite opinion on the subject of the prospects of the Korean market, it seems to be very promising. Mr. Iwaya Matsuhei also made some remarks about his commercial experience in Korea. He said that there were four shops opened by Japanese merchants in Söul, but that they do such poor business that it is rumoured that they will all be closed with the exception of Mr. Iwaya's tobacco shop, which carries on a very brisk trade owing to the prohibition by the Administration of the use of long-pipes in the streets. The Koreans are notorious smokers and used always to have a long pipe in their mouth even when walking in the streets. Since the vetoing of this habit, they have been obliged to have recourse to cigarettes. As might be expected, only inferior sorts of cigarettes, such as those costing about 6 *sen* a hundred, are in demand, and so many are wanted that they are bought as soon as they are manufactured. One grave inconvenience in connection with Korean trade impressed Mr. Iwaya, namely, the extraordinarily high charge imposed upon the transfer of money. For instance, the rate for transferring 100 *yen* from Söul to Ninsen is as much as 1½ *yen*. This ought to be reduced if Japanese trade in Korea is to prosper.

SHADY PROCEEDINGS.

SOME trouble is likely to ensue in connection with the sale of the damaged tea at Messrs. Mouritjan, Heimann & Co.'s godown. It appears that the lot was purchased by a Chinese for $1,450. This man was soon confronted by a delegation of five hundred petty Japanese dealers who forced him to share the sale with them at the purchase price. Then the Japanese went down into the native town and put up the tea again to auction among themselves, the stuff not being knocked down until a figure which they considered to be something like its real value was reached—all this being done before the goods had been paid for or even taken delivery of from the foreigner! The Tea-dealers Guild has now entered the arena to prevent the damaged tea from being sent into the interior for purposes of adulteration, and the unscrupulous dealers are vowing vengeance upon the Guild for thwarting their designs.

SPANISH MERCANTILE ENTERPRISE.

BRITISH steamers, remarks the *China Mail*, have such an undue preponderance in the carrying trade of the world, that it may come as a surprise to some of our readers to learn that a Spanish line of steamers will soon be placed upon the run between Liverpool and Hongkong and Manila. Messrs. Pinillos, Saenz and Co. (for whom Messrs. Villa, Lopez and Co. are agents in Hongkong) are a very large firm of shippers and one of the oldest Spanish shipping firms, in which, however, there is some English capital. Their connections have hitherto been with the West Indies, and on the regular trade between Spain and the West India Islands they have a fleet of fourteen steamers, all large, powerful vessels. Encouraged by the discontent which prevails in Spain and Manila with regard to the facilities provided by the present subsidised line from Spain to the Philippines, and looking to the fact that Spanish manufactures are practically shut out of the China and Japan markets on account of the absence of direct steam communication, Messrs Pinillos, Saenz and Co. intend to inaugurate their Far Eastern line at once, placing eight large steamers upon the run. Three of these steamers—the *Barcelona*, *Cadiz*, and *Manila*—have been built on the Clyde. Their tonnage will be about 5,000, and their horse-power 3,000. The *Barcelona* will be the pioneer vessel, and she is expected to arrive in Hongkong early in July. The ports of call will be Liverpool, Cadiz, Barcelona, Port Said, Suez, Aden, Colombo, Singapore, and Manila; ultimately, it is intended to extend the connections to Shanghai and Japan. The new venture promises to be a success, and should be especially acceptable to Foreign residents in the Spanish Colonies. Although principally freight carriers, the new steamers will have limited accommodation for passengers.

THE DUKE OF ABRUZZI.

THE Duke of Abruzzi visited the Italian Legation at 8 a.m. yesterday, and after interviewing the Italian *Chargé d'Affaires* returned to his residence at 9.20 a.m. At 11.30 a.m. the Duke left for the Imperial Palace. He wore a naval uniform, and bowed frequently in acknowledgment of the hearty welcome accorded him by the citizens, who densely lined the route to the Imperial Palace. After audience with the Emperor and Empress the Duke dined at the Palace in company with Their Imperial Highnesses Prince and Princess Komatsu, Prince Kanin, and Prince Kitashirakawa, Viscount Hijikata, Minister of the Imperial Household; Marquis Tokudaiji, Grand Chamberlain; Marquis Saionji, Acting Minister of Foreign Affairs; Prince Iwakura, Viscount Kagawa, Grand Master of Services to H.I.H. the Empress; Lieut-General Okazawa, Mr. Sannomiya, Vice-Grand Master of Ceremonies; Captain Serata, Messrs. Date and Taku, Masters of Ceremonies, and the Captain of the *Cristoforo Colombo*, the Italian *Chargé d'Affaires*, and two other Italian officers. The Duke left for the Shibahama Detached Palace at 2.15 p.m. Upon returning the Duke visited their Imperial Highnesses Princes Arisugawa, Komatsu, and Kanin. Viscounts Enomoto, Minister of Agriculture and Commerce, and Nomura, Minister of Home Affairs, and Mr. Watanabe, Minister of Communications, paid visits to the Duke at the Detached Palace the same day.

THE MARQUIS OF QUEENSBERRY.

THE Marquis of Queensberry is a humorous nobleman, but tact and delicacy of feeling are evidently not among his gifts. While the Oscar Wilde trial was in progress, the Marquis discovered in a weekly illustrated paper a picture of a big iguanodon as the monster lizard is supposed to have appeared in prehistoric times. Thinking that the reptile bore some resemblance to Oscar Wilde, the Marquis sent the picture to his son's wife with a superscription that the iguanodon seemed to have been the ancestor of Oscar. It was a joke in the worst possible taste, and Lord Alfred Douglas, regarding it as an insult to his wife, attacked his father in Albemarle Street and received a bad black eye. The Marquis said afterwards that although the incident had been very painful, it might help to improve the strained relations existing between himself and his son.

THE ANTI-MISSIONARY OUTBREAK IN SZECHUAN.

THE latest news of the outrages at Chêngtu is contained in the following telegrams, which appear in the *N.-C. Daily News*. The first is dated Chung-king, 9th June, and reached Shanghai on June 10th:—"At Chêngtu, Kiating, and Yochou, the Protestant and Catholic mission property has been utterly destroyed. Smaller cities have suffered similarly. The officials refused protection till the mob had completed their work. The Viceroy Liu is chiefly to blame. Twenty adults besides children are still in the Chêngtu *yamên*. Suchou and other places are seriously threatened. Urge foreign nations to act promptly." The second, received on June 11th, says:—"The English, French, Canadian, and American missions have been wrecked at Chêngtu, Kiating, Yachou, Pingshan, and Sinking. Some of the missionaries are missing, but it is not known that any lives have been lost. Suifu and Luchou are threatened. At Chungking a riot is certain. All foreigners left Chêngtu yesterday."

THE "OCEANIC."

THE White Star steamer *Oceanic* has arrived in Plymouth, says a home paper, from Hongkong and Singapore. The *Oceanic* was the pioneer steamer of the White Star fleet. She was launched on the 27th August, 1870, and has therefore been afloat a quarter of a century. Coming as an entirely new departure, the veritable type of the modern passenger liner, with saloon and state-rooms amidships and other innovations, she ran thirty-three voyages with great success, and achieved a high reputation for speed and comfort in the Liverpool and New York trade. She was then sent out in April, 1875, just twenty years ago, to the Pacific, to run between San Francisco and Hongkong under charter to the Occidental and Oriental Steamship Company of San Francisco. At the end of 1879 she came home to be re-boilered, returning to her station in March, 1880. Since then

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she has not once been taken off, but has continued uninterruptedly performing her work with regularity and efficiency, and has been the most popular steamer on the Pacific. The *Coptic*, which until recently was employed in the trade between London and New Zealand, has gone to the Pacific to replace the *Oceanic*. The other White Star steamers running in the Trans-Pacific trade are the *Gaelic* and *Belgic*. The *Oceanic* was designed and built by Messrs. Harland & Wolff, Belfast, from whose yard have proceeded the whole of the steamers of the White Star fleet.

CHANGE IN EDUCATIONAL POLICY.

THE educational policy has become significantly changed, write the *Kokkai* and other papers, since Marquis Saionji has assumed the portfolio of Education. When the late Viscount Inouye was at the head of the Department, on the occasion of a general meeting of the National Educational Society held at Nagoya, a notification was issued by the Department to the effect that teachers in public institutions should not interfere in executive matters. The result was that hundreds of teachers whose intention it had been to attend the meeting, were obliged to forego their desire to be present. Again, when on the occasion of an annual general meeting of the Japanese Educational Society held in Tokyo the year before last, it was moved that an increase of salary should be paid out of the Treasury to teachers of long and meritorious service, a violent altercation arose between one party objecting to discuss any such matter, and another that insisted that the Society was perfectly entitled to do so. As we reported at the time, the collision of ideas between the two became so violent that Mr. Tauji, President of the Society, whose opinion was moderate, declared his intention of resigning. The general tendency of educationists has, however, undergone a great change since then, and at the extraordinary general meeting held lately in Kyoto, educational problems of a political nature were freely discussed. The following four questions were the most important:—(1) that an increase of salary be paid out of the Treasury to teachers of long and meritorious service; (2) that a perfect educational inspection system be established; (3) that fees at schools where education of a practical nature is given, be abolished, and (4) that the deficiency of teachers be supplied. These are all topics of a partially political character, and yet, although several high officials of the Department of Education were present as well as those of the Kyoto Fu, not one dissentient voice was raised and the questions were carried through the meeting unanimously, to be submitted to the approval of the Department of Education. Other problems of a non-political character were also decided at the same time. The meeting agreed that (1) national ideas should be still further strengthened; (2) Japanese characters and composition should be simplified; (3) female education should be encouraged, and (4) military education should be made more prominent. This programme of education was considered the right one for Japan to adopt at the present juncture.

ANNIVERSARYS.

THURSDAY was the first anniversary of the severe earthquake of last June which did so much damage and caused such loss of life in Tokyo and Yokohama. At about three minutes to noon on Thursday this year, a long, undulating shock was felt in Yokohama, but caused little alarm. By a singular coincidence the first anniversary of the big fire in Motomachi, Yokohama, last year, witnessed a small fire in the same locality but this time the damage was confined to one house.

ACCESSION DAY.

AT noon on Thursday a royal salute was fired by H.B.M.'s ships in harbour—which were full dressed—in honour of Her Majesty's Accession. The Archbishop of Canterbury of that day, who was among the first of the nobles to salute the new Sovereign on that early June morning in 1837, if he had been gifted with the prophetic insight with which Will Shakespeare, in one memorable scene, endows the aged Cranmer, might have exclaimed with him—

> "She shall be, to the happiness of England,
> An aged princess; many days shall see her,
> And yet no day without a deed to crown it."

The friends of Her Majesty's youth have long since departed to their rest, but though the "loneliness which must ever surround a throne," and more especially that loneliness which is the portion of all that have climbed to the snows of age, must be her daily portion, the love of her people and the tender solicitude of her family were never more sure and profound than at this time, though 'tis fifty-eight years since the Queen's accession.

ADMIRAL FREMANTLE.

"ALTAS," in the *World*, who appears to be a reader (?) of Japanese vernacular journals, says, "One of the leading Japanese papers, the *Nichi Nichi Shinbun* (*sic*), in a number just to hand, pays a warm tribute to the impartial behaviour of Admiral Sir Edmund Fremantle during the recent troubles in China. It says that there are among the Japanese some people of ultra-radical views who regard Great Britain as an old and implacable enemy of Japan, and Admiral Fremantle has to a certain extent been the victim of this erroneous prejudice. Referring to the affair at Weihaiwei on August 10th, the paper declares that Admiral Ito has never made any complaint, or in any way insinuated that Admiral Fremantle interfered with his manœuvres. It also hopes that on his return home the Queen will confer upon him the highest honours in her power, and adds that he leaves the station with the best wishes of all educated Japanese."

RULES FOR LETTER-WRITING.

Have you any unkind thoughts?
Do not write them down.
Write no word that giveth pain;
Written words may long remain.
Have you heard some idle tale?
Do not write it down.
Gossips may repeat it o'er,
Adding to its bitter store.
Have you any careless jest?
Bury it, and let it rest;
It may wound some loving breast.
Words of love and tenderness,
Words of truth and kindliness,
Words of comfort for the sad,
Words of gladness for the glad,
Words of counsel for the bad—
Wisely write them down.
Words, though small, are mighty things,
Pause before you write them;
Little words may grow and bloom
With bitter breath or sweet perfume.
Pray before you write them.—*Pansy*.

A BOGUS LETTER.

SOME time ago the *Nippon News Agency* published a copy of a letter purporting to have been addressed by Admiral Fremantle to H.E. Ito Miyoji, upon the latter's arrival at Chefoo in the capacity of Plenipotentiary for the exchange of ratifications of the Treaty of Peace. The letter was obviously a fabrication devised by some clumsey wag who desired to pull the leg of the News Agency and such of its clients as might be sufficiently credulous. Among the latter was an English newspaper in Yokohama, and now we find the letter reproduced by the *Hongkong Daily Press*, with evident doubts as to its genuineness. Perhaps, under the circumstances, it may be well to say that the letter never had any existence until its concoction for the purposes of the New Agency.

REV. W. E. GRIFFIS, D.D.

THE fixed purpose of Dr. Griffis to keep up with the times in all things Japanese, both in himself and in his writings, is once more displayed in the fact, that another revised edition (the eighth in all) of "The Mikado's Empire," will be issued by Harper and Brothers during the summer, and will contain a supplementary chapter on the subject of the war with China. About the same time will be published Dr. Griffis's work on the letters and journals of Townsend Harris. This will unquestionably be very interesting, and will probably surprise none more than the Japanese themselves who have been born since the old régime of Tycoons and Daimios. This book will contain a chapter on "Japan at the End of the Century."

JEDDAH.

REFERRING to the outrage at Jeddah, the *Straits Times* recalls the fact that thirty-seven years ago Jeddah was the scene of a massacre of Christians during a fanatical outbreak, in which the British Consul and the French Consul perished. A British man-of-war, the *Cyclops*, afterwards bombarded the town until the local authorities tendered satisfaction for the outrage. The Turkish Governor and two ringleaders were publicly executed in consequence. From recent telegrams sent to the East by Reuter we learn that the Sublime Porte, in answer to the Powers most intimately concerned in the present case, says that it will now be difficult to comply with their demand to disarm the Bedouins.

THE QUEEN.

SIR WILLIAM JENNER, says a recent issue of *Truth*, visited the Queen at Windsor Castle last week. Sir William maintains a general supervision over the Queen's health, and sees her Majesty about once every fortnight, whilst the Court is at Windsor or at Osborne, but his visits are never recorded in the "Court Circular." The Queen is as strong and well as possible, except for her inability to walk, and the only danger to her Majesty arises from her love of cold rooms and open windows, and her fondness for driving in an open carriage, whatever the weather.

OPIUM USERS.

THE *Boyeki Shimbun* says judgment in the case of Tei Kei-ki, a Chinese residing at No. 150, Settlement, and Misawa Hatsugoro, a nationalized Japanese of Chinese birth, who were arrested the other day while indulging in the use of opium at the residence of another Chinaman, named Ryo-yei, of No. 174, was given by the Yokohama Local Court on the 14th inst. Ryo-yei was sentenced to hard labour for 6 years, for having sold the opium, and the two others to major confinement for 2 years.

H.M.S. "LEANDER."

H.M.S. *Leander*, after a long sojourn in East Asiatic waters, leaves Yokohama for home to-day. She has done excellent service while on this station, and after a thorough overhaul at home should see many more commissions abroad. Her "homeward-bound" pennant is a thing of joy to her crew, being over nine hundred feet long.

SHIPPING DISASTERS.

Two terrible shipping disasters are recorded in Canadian papers. The French steamer *Dom Pedro*, bound for Carril, Spain, was wrecked off Currubede, through the explosion of her boilers, on May 28th. Eighty lives were lost. On May 27th the American steamer *Colima*, foundered off the coast of Mexico. One hundred and sixty passengers and crew were lost.

A MONSTER DOCK FOR KURE.

THE Naval Department recently despatched Mr. Ishiguro, a naval expert, to inspect all the naval ports and to select a site for a large new dock. As a result of his investigations he has recommended Kure, and the Naval Authorities have decided to approve Mr. Ishiguro's report. The proposed, new dock will be able to receive a vessel of 15,000 tons. Mr. Ishiguro has been appointed to draw the plans for the undertaking.

SIGNORA ESTRELA BELINFANTE.

SIGNORA ESTRELA BELINFANTE, an accomplished contralto, whose concerts at Shanghai recently created quite a *furore*, has arrived in Yokohama. She intends to give a concert here shortly.

MR. HAYASHI.

THE *Yomiuri Shimbun* states that a telegraphic message from Tientsin received by the Government announces the arrival of Mr. Hayashi, Japanese Minister to China, at Tientsin on the 15th inst. He received a hearty welcome.

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POLITICAL AND PERSONAL.

It is stated that there is no hope of Count Matsukata's reconsidering his determination to resign. On Friday last he had a long audience with the Emperor, and immediately after leaving the Court, Count Ito and Count Saigo were admitted to His Majesty's presence. That evening the Premier asked the Minister of Finance through telephone at what hour he could hope to see him at home. Count Matsukata replied that he should wait upon the Premier the following morning instead of receiving him at his house. He did so, and told the Premier once for all that under no circumstance could he consent to remain in the Cabinet. Such is the story published in some of the vernacular papers. In some quarters, an exactly opposite construction is put upon Count Matsukata's audience with the Emperor and his subsequent conference with the Minister President, it being believed that he has agreed to reconsider his intended resignation. Which of these versions may prove correct, we cannot at present undertake to say.

Count Yamagata is now recruiting his health at Oiso. He is said to be besieged by men of a certain faction, the most frequent visitors being Viscount Shinagawa, Mr. Yasuda Yasukazu, Mr. Sō Kohei, Mr. Shirane Seniichi, and so forth. The hint intended to be conveyed by the *Hochi Shimbun* in publishing this note is that the younger members of the so-called Military party in the Government have some ambitious scheme in view. It is alleged, indeed, that Count Matsukata's determination to resign is the result of strong pressure brought to bear upon him by these aspiring politicians.

Count Goto has begun once more to figure daily in the columns of the press. He is believed to be secretly instigating a section of the Radical Party to rebel against the moderate counsels of their leader, Count Itagaki, and to join the anti-Cabinet agitation fomented by the extreme sections of the Opposition. What truth there may be in this allegation, we do not know, but it is a fact that the younger members of the Radical Party—men who have no seats in the Diet—are not quite satisfied with the policy of their leaders, and that among them there is a tendency to join hands with the uncompromising enemies of the Government. It is also true that men believed to be under the immediate influence of Count Goto are in sympathy with the agitation organized by the extremists. Thus there is possibly reason to fear that the reappearance of Count Goto in the field of politics may lead to serious dissension in the Radical Party. But after all, the question whether Count Goto will again enter the arena of party politics is doubtful. Some people seem to believe that he is very desirous of being appointed Count Inouye's successor at the Japanese Legation in Sōul, and assert that he is in secret correspondence with Boku Eiko, the celebrated Korean Minister of Home Affairs.

As we foretold, the project of celebrating the return of peace has ended in an ignominous failure. Indeed from the outset, there seemed to be little prospect, in the present state of national feeling, of any public demonstration of a hearty nature. The *coup de grâce* was certainly given to the proposal when it was dragged into the vortex of party politics. As a sort of compromise, the programme was changed into a celebration of the triumphal return of the troops. But even that scheme failed to receive support, most of the political and other public leaders having intimated their opinion that the thing had better be postponed until the return of the troops now fighting in Formosa. Perhaps it is as well that the project has fallen through, for a public fête of the kind proposed would have considerably helped the spread of cholera, which has made its appearance unmistakably in the capital.

The originators of the anti-cabinet movement have resolved, among other things, to call upon the Government to convene an extraordinary session of the Diet. The reasons they assign for thinking such a measure necessary are, first, that the Ministry should take the earliest opportunity to lay before the Diet a full report of the steps taken in the military and diplomatic fields since the commencement of the recent war; and, secondly, that no time should be lost in carrying out the measures that the nation unanimously deems essential to the increase of the country's fighting capacity. They do not seem to recognize the importance of thorough investigation and mature deliberation before drawing up Bills covering such ground.

The projectors of the anti-Cabinet movement are said to have presented to the Minister President of State a memorial recommending the convocation of an extraordinary session of the Diet. The paper is believed to have been drawn up by Mr. Ozaki Yukio of the Progressionist Party. A manifesto is also in the course of preparation. Its issue will be followed by lecture meetings in different parts of the country, commencing with Tokyo, where the meeting will take place in the Kinkikan on the 30th instant.

Count Matsukata's position still seems doubtful. On the occasion of his recent audience with the Emperor, he was strongly advised by His Majesty to remain in his Ministerial post. Nevertheless, he is said to be still bent on resignation. According to rumour, his resignation will be followed by that of Viscount Takashima, a Privy Councillor. Indeed report says that Viscount Takashima is the principal instigator of the Minister of Finance's resignation. In the event of Count Matsukata's being permitted to retire, his place some say, will be taken by Mr. Watanabe, Minister of State for Communications. Mr. Ito Miyoji is indicated as Mr. Watanabe's successor. Another report that the portfolio of Finance will be taken by Count Inouye, for whose successor in the post of Minister to Korea, the names of Mr. Hara, Vice-Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, Mr. Komura, Director of the Political Bureau in the Foreign Office, and Consul-General Okoshi have lately been added to the list of probable candidates.

RAILWAYS.

Railway enterprises were the first—so far as the business world is concerned—to feel the beneficial effect of the restoration of peace. Various private companies have applied for charters for the construction of lines in different parts of the country. Of these some are to be electric lines, for instance, those between Tokyo and Yokohama, and Osaka and Kobe. These places being already connected by Government railways, considerable doubt is entertained as to whether the required charters will be granted. There is also a project for constructing a network of electric lines in the city of Tokyo.

It is stated that the companies competing for the construction of a line between Hakodate and Otaru in Hokkaido will be amalgamated. The length of the line is about 180 miles. Its construction would give a new impetus to the development of the northern island. Besides this projected private line, the authorities of the Hokkaido Administration Office contemplate introducing into the coming session of the Diet a Bill for the construction of important lines in the centre and north of the island. They have been prompted to think seriously of these enterprises by the unexpectedly favourable results of the extension of the Poronai-Otaru line as far as Muroran.

The competition between companies for the construction of a line between Koriyama on the Nippon Tetsudo Kaisha's road and Niitsu in the Prefecture of Niigata is still active. These companies are called the Gan-yetsu Tetsudo Kabushiki-Kaisha and the Niigata Tetsudo Kabushiki-Kaisha. The former is more influential, and is likely to get the better of the contest. It has the support of a large number of men distinguished in official and business circles, such as Mr. Suzuki, Vice-Minister of Communications, Governor Kusak Mr. Shibusawa, Mr. Iwasaki, Mr. Mitsui, M Ono, President of the Nippon Tetsudo Kaish and so forth. In fact, the Gan-yetsu Tets do Kabushiki-Kaisha is promoted by t principal shareholders of the Nippon Tetsu Kaisha, and the latter company has consent to undertake the work of construction. T other company, however, namely, the Niig Tetsudo Kabushiki-Kaisha insists that it has t priority as to the date of applying for a chart Moreover, it is not without influential supporte The belief is that the rival companies will ul mately be amalgamated. The length of t line is about 100 miles, and the estimated co 7 million *yen*.

Another railway project that attracts attenti is that of the Chugoku Tetsudo Kaisha, whc capital is to be 5 million *yen*. The line is to cc nect Okayama with Sakai, a harbour of consid able importance on the sea of Japan. The d tance between the two places is a little less th 100 miles. A provisional charter having alrea been obtained, a general meeting of the sha holders will shortly be convened at Osaka. T construction of this line will probably lead the abandonment of the projected State ro between Himeji and Sakai, for the Okayam Sakai line would answer the purposes of t former much better.

THE ANTI-CABINET MOVEMENT NIPPED IN THE BUD.

The Government has taken a strong measu against the projected anti-Cabinet movement the question of the return of the Liaotung Pen sula. The principal promoters of the moveme were served with an order to appear at the Poli Office in the Shiba District at 9 a.m. on the 1 instant. In obedience to the order, Mess Ozaki Yukio, Kudo Kokan, and Suzuki Shig proceeded to the Police Office at the spec ed time. Police Inspector Inouye handed th the following notice, signed by the Metropoli Police Inspector General:—

"It is hereby notified that the Minister of St for Home Affairs, deeming the association called *Seiyu Yushi-kai* injurious to the public tranquill and good order, interdicts the organization of t said association, in accordance with Art. 29 of t Law of Public Meetings and Political of the 2 year of *Meiji*.

(Signed) SONODA YASUKATA,
Metropolitan Police Inspector Gene

"Dated the 14th day of the 6th month of 2 year of *Meiji*."

Police Inspector Inouye requested Mess Ozaki, Kudo, and Suzuki to write a note ackno ledging the receipt of the above notification. Th objected to the term *Seiyu Yushi-kai*, which, th contended, was a name arbitrarily given to th movement by the newspapers and news agenci But if by that name was meant the coterie politicians that had recently held frequ meetings at the Atago-kan, they would cons to write the required acknowledgement. T Police Inspector said that such was the intent signification of the name, and the required n was written. Thus has come to an end agitation which, according to the boast of projectors, was to convulse the land from e to end. The only course for the disappoint politicians will be to await the opening of t next session of the Diet, when they will certai try to produce a collision between the Diet a the Cabinet. Apart from any question as the wisdom of the course adopted by Cabinet, there can be no doubt of its legali for the movement that the Progressionists a others have been endeavouring to organize v plainly an attempt to combine the vari factions of the Opposition for the purpose o political demonstration.

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, writing on t topic, remarks that the so-called *Seiyu Yus kai* was a device of the Progressionists to un the different political parties under the ficti of an association of political sympathizers their individual capacities, and not as party presentatives: in other words, an attempt sacrifice those parties for the purpo ichi

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ing the aims of one or two ambitious persons. If they had any advice to give the Ministry, they ought to have waited until the next meeting of the Diet. Political commotions outside the Houses of the Diet, like the one just vetoed, are evidently injurious to good order and public tranquillity. The step taken by the authorities to suppress this affair before it had reached a mischievous stage, is opportune and beneficial. If the Progressionists think the present Ministers of State unworthy of their positions, why, asks the *Nichi Nichi*, do they not induce Count Okuma to obtain an audience of the Emperor and present his views for His Majesty's consideration? Or, if Count Okuma remembers his former friendship with men like Counts Ito, Saigo, and Oyama, and Viscount Mutsu, why does he not call upon them and offer them his frank opinion of their policy. These statesmen would not lightly regard his well meant advice. "Being devoid of courage to pursue either of these courses, the *Kaishinto* politicians merely try to foment a popular tumult. Such a procedure is more in keeping with the character of demagogues than with that of statesmen. The Authorities have now disbanded the demagogues. True statesmen well not be affected by the Government's measure. We wonder why they do not either personally approach the Ministers of State and convince the latter of their mistakes, if they have committed mistakes, or appeal to the Throne to replace the present Cabinet by a better one."

MANCHURIA, KOREA, AND RUSSIA.

A correspondent writing from Chefoo, under date of June 1st, says:—"The Russians still seem bent on business. Their fleet here increases day by day, and now amounts to 19 pennants, including three torpedo-boats and three torpedo-catchers. I suppose their greatest disappointment will be if the Japanese evacuate Manchuria and it goes back to China, so that they will have lost the *raison d'être* for their demonstrations, but that Manchuria, will ultimately be appropriated by Russia I should think there is little doubt." We should be disposed to modify this statement, and to say that Russia will ultimately seek to appropriate Manchuria. Whether she will succeed or not, is another question.

Speaking of this, we may allude to the steady growth of disquieting rumours with regard to Russia's action. Perhaps the simplest way to deal with these rumours is to quote them seriatim. First, it is stated that Russia has imposed on Japan certain conditions as to the withdrawal of the troops stationed by the latter in Korea. We have the best authority for saying that that is absolutely untrue. Secondly, it is alleged that Russia has declared her intention of occupying certain ports in Korea until her instructions shall have been carried out. We have the best authority for saying that that is absolutely untrue. Thirdly, it is affirmed that Russia has occupied the province of Kirin. We have the best authority for saying that that is absolutely untrue. No one can look into the future. We speak only of the time that has elapsed up to the moment of writing this. Within that limit, all the rumours mentioned above may be dismissed as wholly baseless.

THE OUTRAGES IN SZECHUAN.

The following telegram was received by H.M.'s Consul-General at Shanghai on June 12th from Sir Nicholas O'Conor, H.M.'s Minister at Peking:—

"Inform the China Association and the Press that I received last night a telegram from H.M. Consul at Chungking, dated the 8th inst., stating that so far no lives had been lost, but the situation was very grave. Tachow and Kiating had been wrecked and Hsuchou was in danger. I am insisting upon the utmost energy, and holding the officials responsible."

H.H.S. *Porpoise*, Capt. Pelly, was to leave Shanghai on June 13th for Yangtze ports as may be required, disturbances being threatened at Hankow and Nanking. H.M.S. *Firebrand* has been directed to proceed to Ichang.

The *N.-C. Daily News* learns that strict orders have been issued by wire from Pekin to the Viceroys of the Hukuang and Liang-kiang provinces that no fresh anti-Christian riots are to take place in the Yangtze Valley.

Mr. Jernigan, U.S. Consul-General, received on June 13th from Mr. Lewis at Chungking the following telegram:—

Missions in Chêngtu, Kiating, Yachou, Suifu, Luchou, and many other places wrecked or abandoned. No place in the province safe. Apparently wide-spread conspiracy. Scores of missionary refugees descending Yangtze. Some narrow escapes, but no lives reported lost. Chungking still holds; officials vigilant.

It seems that the full extent of the Szechuan outrages is not yet known. The Kiukiang correspondent of the *North China Daily News*, writing under date of June 11th, says:—

At last foreign wires from the west have been permitted! All yesterday, last night and today, hundreds of official messages have been coming through from all the principal Szechuan telegraph stations. They came in cypher to the Tsung-li Yamên, the Wuchang and Nanking Viceroys and doubtless were reporting progress. A number of wires were sent west by foreigners but it was distinctly stated that no foreign messages would come through in reply till to-night or to-morrow. Perhaps the Ministers have by their representations in Pekin caused the lines here to give up their secrets, and serious enough they are. The news just to hand is that Chêngtu, Kiating, Yachou, Sinking, and Pengshan have been completely wrecked and that Luchou and Suifu are threatened, also Chungking where the examinations are about to come off. The Chêngtu foreigners were sent away from that place yesterday, 10th June, after 13 days' confinement in the *yaméns*. From certain indications to hand it seems that a number of other palces have gone and that Yünnan is in the same condition as Szechuan. It is reported in the telegrams that some foreigners are missing and the natives have it that some foreigners have been killed. Chungking people urgently request assistance. Communications have been received here by the natives from the *literati* or officials of the west urging them to rise at once and, as the Hunan programme provided, drive the foreign devils into the sea.

One cannot but be struck by certain designed coincidences. As soom at the riots begin the wires are reported to be down and remain down ten days. The stoppage was said to be a trivial damage, 175 *li* west of Shashi and near Ichang. If this be true—and there is grave reason to doubt the whole story—it is but a few hours' journey to Shashi where there is a telegraph station and messages could easily have been sent by boat or courier entailing only some few hours' delay, but we have ten days' interruption and it is impossible to give a satisfactory explanation of this occurrence. Again, when sufficient time has been allowed to get the scheme of the Viceroys well under way, and when the Ministers in Pekin will no longer be put off, the lines are in repair again and after some 36 hours' further delay for government messages, foreign news is permitted to come through.

Another coincidence is striking, namely, that the Wuchang and Nanking Viceroys are in full touch with the Yünnan and Szechuan Viceroys, and probably the Canton Viceroy as well. That is, all the high mandarins of the Empire are well aware of and probably will soon be actors in the tragedy now being enacted.

THE FORMOSA BOARD OF CONTROL.

The *personnel* of the Formosa Board of Control has been determined, though not yet gazetted. The names are:—

President.	H. E. Count Ito.
Vice-President.	Lieut. General Kawakami.
Commissioners.	Mr. Ito Miyoji, Grand Secretary of the Cabinet.
	Mr. Suyematsu Kencho, Chief of the Legislative Bureau.
	Rear-Admiral Yamamoto.
	Mr. Hara, Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs.
	Mr. Tajiri, Vice-Minister of Finance.
	Mr. Den, Chief of the Bureau of Communications.

FORMOSAN NEWS.

Telegraphic information respecting the movements of the Japanese troops in Formosa has from time to time been reproduced in these columns, but the last mail having brought a batch of letters from Japanese correspondents accompanying the army, we shall endeavour to weave out of these letters a connected story of the present expedition.

Admiral Viscount Kabayama, Governor-General of Formosa, and his administrative staff, leaving Ujina on May 24th, arrived at the port of Nakakusuki in the Okinawa group on the morning of the 27th. By previous arrangement, a mixed Brigade of the Imperial Guards, conveyed in 14 transports, had arrived there from Port Arthur the evening before. The remainder of the Imperial Guards Division was due in a short time. After a conference between the Governor-General and H.I.H. Prince Kitashirakawa, Commander of the Imperial Guards Division, it was decided that the former should leave for Tamsui at noon that day, and that the latter should resume his voyage the same evening, followed by the transports, heading for a point to the north-east of Keelung (N. 23° 2c' —E. 122°). These transports reached the appointed place (at sea) on the morning of the 29th, and were soon joined by the *Yokohama Maru* having the Governor-General on board. As a result of inspections made by the latter and by some of the war-vessels, it was decided that the landing should take place at a roadstead between Santiao-chue and Sieti, places on the coast a few miles south-east of Keelung.

At about 1 p.m. that day (29th May) the transports with the Imperial Guards on board assembled at the above-mentioned place. The operation of landing was at once proceeded with. The place does not seem to have been ill-adapted for the purpose, there being an extensive beach and the water, though shallow near the shore, being deep enough to allow the ships to drop anchor within a moderate distance. The task of getting the troops ashore was rendered very difficult, however, and even dangerous by strong gales that blew right into the port. Debarkation was commenced from the transports *Himeji*, *Sakura*, and *Toyohashi*. The wind blew so hard that the waves dashing against the boats, often drenched the uniforms of the soldiers. Moreover, it was necessary to wade through the water for a considerable distance before reaching the land. A company of the Second Regiment was the first to land. Immediately after getting ashore, these troops came into collision with a party of Chinese soldiers, about 500 strong, who, it seems, had not offered any resistance to the landing, but waited to be attacked by the new comers. They soon fled over the mountains, leaving behind them 4 killed, who were found to be in possession of Martini rifles. The retreating Chinese were pursued by a part of the Second Regiment. Meanwhile, the landing of the troops proceeded vigorously. The engineering corps not having yet arrived, a party of marines with carpenters went ashore and constructed a pier to facilitate the landing operations. It is stated that the debarkation of the whole Division (about 12,000 strong) was completed in the course of the next day (30th May).

The principal part of the First Brigade passed the night of the 29th at Sieti, and on the 30th proceeded as far Chishwangting, a little over nine miles from the place of landing. The road traversed by the troops is stated to have been exceedingly bad. It was narrow and rugged, winding over mountains and through dense woods. H.I.H. Prince Kitashirakawa and his staff had to dismount and walk on foot for the greater part of the distance. The mountain guns and machine guns were taken to pieces and carried by the soldiers themselves. Some of the commissariat horses are said to have lost their footing and tumbled down precipices. Chishwangting is a small village among mountains, containing about a hundred houses. There is a church there belonging to the Episcopal Mission of England. No resident missionary was present, his place being ordinarily

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filled by a Chinese pastor. The latter is accused of having behaved somewhat insolently to the Japanese, telling them that he and his flock were under the protection of the British Consul. This bragging preacher seems, however, to have been valued at his true worth, and to have received no serious notice, though the fact that such a plea was advanced by a Chinese is sufficiently remarkable. The streets of the village were placarded everywhere with official proclamations dated March and April (old calendar), exhorting the people to take up arms and resist the invading *Wojens*. In one of the notifications it was announced that according to a telegram from Pekin, the war-vessels of Russia, France, and Germany were coming to protect the people of Formosa.

On June 1st, the head of the column left Chishwangting. The advance guard consisted of the Second Regiment, a company of engineers, and medical staff corps, the whole under the command of Major-General Kawamura. On the night of that day, they bivouaced on the top of a mountain pass called Santiaota-ling, about 7 miles from Chishwangting. The road between these two places was even worse than that hitherto traversed, and the hardships of camp life were aggravated by constant showers of heavy rain.

On June 2nd, the advance guard, dividing into three columns, marched by three different roads to the attack of the enemy's stronghold, a few miles distant, at a place called Zhuifang, (sometimes called Chinhiaotsiang), whence a battery had been firing futile shells at scouting parties of Japanese during the preceding day. Leaving their encampment at 5 a.m., the Japanese forces advanced against the Chinese stronghold from three sides by about half-past seven. A company of the leading battalion at once stormed the battery and took possession of it, whereupon the Chinese troops fled towards the village of Zhuifang and there organized a determined resistance. After a short time, however, they were forced out of the village and retreated in a westerly direction. But they rallied, and occupying an elevated position to the north-west of the village, opened such a well-directed fire from under the cover of a dense wood, that their pursuers had a hard time of it. The Japanese correspondents are loud in their praise of the courage and skill displayed by the Chinese on that occasion. But nothing could stop the steady advance of the Imperial Guards. They very soon succeeded in dislodging the enemy from the woody eminence. It was 8.30 a.m. when the place was completely taken possession of. A part of the retreating Chinese, about 100 in number, had the pluck to turn back and try once more to regain the village. The force was soon increased to about 300. They were, however, beaten back without much difficulty. It appears that they retreated in good order in the direction of Kelung. The exact number of Chinese engaged in the fighting on this day is not given, but it is thought that their strength was not less than 1,500, seeing that their loss in killed alone aggregated about 130. Thirty were also taken prisoners. The casualties on the Japanese side were 9 killed (non-commissioned officers and privates), and 16 wounded (3 officers and 13 non-commissioned officers and privates). Of the wounded officers, Captains Onuma and Utsugi received only slight injuries, but Sub-Lieutenant Sato was severely wounded. Two mountain guns and a quantity of other arms, weapons, and ammunition were seized at this place. The topographical advantage was always on the side of the Chinese, but they had to contend against the smokeless powder of the Japanese. This circumstance doubtless accounts partly for the great difference in the number of killed and wounded on both sides. The officer that distinguished himself most on the Japanese side was Lieutenant Furukawa, who headed the company that so gallantly stormed the enemy's battery. He had made himself thoroughly acquainted with the features of the locality by reconnoitering on the preceding day at imminent risk and in the face of great difficulties. H.I.H. Prince Komatsu and Staff arrived at the hill shortly after its occupation, and at once paid a visit to the temporary hospital, where the wounded were under treatment. The Prince's self-denial and condescending solicitude for the welfare of his officers and men make him a universal favourite in the Army.

The bulk of the troops having arrived, it was decided to make a general attack upon Kelung on the 3rd instant. The direct attack upon Kelung was entrusted to the 2nd battalion of the 1st Regiment and a company of Engineers, under the command of Colonel Kojima. The protection of the right flank of the advancing column was assigned to Major Sunaga, with half of a battalion, while the task of covering the left fell to the lot of the 7th company of the 2nd Regiment. The reserve consisted of the 1st Brigade (minus 8 companies), a battalion of Engineers, and the general Medical Corps. The attacking column under Colonel Kojima began to move out of the village of Zhuifang at 6 a.m. on the 3rd. It met on the road about 200 Chinese troops, who were easily driven back. A few more skirmishes took place before the head of the column reached the top of an eminence about two miles and a half to the west of Kelung. It was now 10.30 a.m. Why the column made its appearance on the west instead of on the east or south of Kelung,—which would have been the natural direction, having regard to the general *route*—none of the correspondents offer any explanation. It might have been the necessity of avoiding exposure to the enemy's guns or it might have been the want of practicable road in the other directions. At all events it seems certain that the point at which the head of the Japanese column first came in sight of Kelung was to the west of that town. About this time the Japanese fleet off the coast opened fire against the forts to the north-east of the place. Some critics conjecture that previous knowledge of this intention led the land force to operate from the west.

The attack was not commenced at once, about two hours being spent in waiting for the arrival of the bulk of the attacking column and in reconnoitering the valley in which the town of Kelung is situated. Everything being ready for the assault, a company under Major Miki was despatched to attack a fort to the left of the Japanese column's position, while a battery was planted on the side of the mountain opposite on the right. The work of dragging two mountain pieces up the side of the hill is described as having been attended with great difficulties and hardships. Meanwhile, the bulk of the column under Colonel Kojima began to march down into the valley in the direction of the town, which was two miles off. Fortunately it began to rain so heavily that the onward movement of the Japanese column was completely concealed from the enemy. At the entrance of the town, the Japanese were greeted by a sharp fire, and had to deploy among the rice fields, while those in the rear got upon an eminence and poured down deadly volleys. The Japanese soon succeeded in forcing their way into the town and then ensued street fighting. However, once in the town, resistance does not seem to have been serious, and the place was almost immediately in the hands of the Japanese (500 strong).

Major Miki's company meanwhile succeeded in seizing the fort by a bold charge. The fort of Shchiu-ling, overlooking the town from the north-west, now became the object of the Japanese fire. Two companies had been despatched against it, but its position being exceptionally favourable, their attack produced little effect. A mountain piece was with great difficulty brought into position, but it accomplished little, being on a point very much lower than the Chinese fort. The sides of the mountain leading to the fort were so steep that it seemed impossible to attempt a charge. Nevertheless the effort was made. Sergeant Kawakoshi, followed by 19 privates, climbed the mountain from the back and charged into the fort from the rear, and were soon followed by Sub-Lieutenant Ogi at the head of a company. Loud cries of *Bansai* were now raised by the whole body of the Japanese troops who were watching the heroic onset of their comrades. It was 5.05 p.m. The rest of the forts seem to have been won without any resistance worth speaking of. That night the Japanese troops were able for the first time to sleep under roofs in the town of Kelung. The strength of the enemy is stated to have been about 6,000. The number of Japanese troops that took part in the fighting was about 1,700. The loss on the Japanese side was 3 killed and 29 wounded (of whom 3 died in hospital). The Chinese loss is put at about 300.

On the day of the battle, the citizens of Kelung shut themselves up in their houses and did not come out even after the capture of the place by the Japanese. But the proclamations issued in the name of the Governor-General soon removed the fears of the Chinese, and the next day they began to be more docile and less perturbed. On the third day after the battle, they had become so accustomed to their new masters that even women freely mingled with the Japanese.

The natives in the vicinity of the landing-place are said to have been very weak and easy to manage, but those further inland were less tractable, and behaved with much insolence.

The Japanese army had difficulties in dealing with the natives, because the official interpreters could not understand the dialect of the island and all communication had to be conducted by writing.

With the capture of Kelung close the letters thus far published in the Japanese papers. Later intelligence sent by telegraph says that the Guards have taken possession of Taipeh, and that a detachment occupies Tamsui, whence a reconnoitering party has been sent out to Sinchu. The Mixed Detachment holds Kelung. Major-General Oshima telegraphs from Kelung, under date of the 13th instant, that the man-of-war *Akitsushima*, which had been sent to find a landing-place, was fired at from the coast near Takow on the 9th instant at 5 a.m., and the enemy is holding Anping, Takow and Pungchiang. Seventeen hundred Chinese soldiers had been sent from Tamsui to the mainland, where they were to be released. They were carried in a Japanese transport. These liberated troops seem to behave in a most lawless manner. A number of them sent to Amoy in foreign vessels chartered for the purpose, raised a serious disturbance at that place, and it became necessary for the German man-of-war *Iltis* to proceed thither. The railway between Kelung and Taipeh is in Japanese possession, and a train consisting of an engine and 2 baggage vans ran over it on the 10th instant. Southward of Taiwan the enemy seems bent upon resistance. The Japanese expect to be able to use the telegraph line from Tamsui *vid* Fuchow to China.

THE TRANSFER OF FORMOSA.

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* publishes a *resumé* of an official report upon the transfer of Formosa, which took place between Viscount Kabayama and Lord Li. The account runs as follows:—Lord Li came on board the *Yokohama Maru* at 10 a.m. on June 2nd, to confer with Governor-General Kabayama about the transfer of Formosa. This was the first meeting. The conference was attended on the Japanese side by Governor-General Kabayama, Minister Mizuno, Secretary Shimamura, and Interpreters Nire and Okubo, and on the Chinese side by Lord Li Ching-fang, and two Secretaries. At the commencement of the meeting, in reply to an inquiry by Viscount Kabayama, Lord Li said that, after returning to China from Shimonoseki, he had fallen sick and was undergoing medical treatment at a hospital in Shanghai, when he received the commands of his Sovereign to proceed to Formosa as Commissioner for its transfer; that he had no alternative but to obey the Imperial order despite his indisposition; and that he had been chosen for the post probably on account of his connection with the peace negotiations as well as because he had once represented his country in Tokyo. Viscount Kabayama then praised the services rendered to China by the Viceroy Li and Lord Li at Shimonoseki and subsequently, and assured Lord Li that his appointment as Commissioner

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was especially fortunate. He further stated that, as he had intended to arrive in Formosa by May the 25th, he had instructed Secretary Shimamura and other officials to proceed thither before him by the warships *Naniwa Kan* and *Takachiho Kan*. Arriving at Tamsui, these officials had attempted to go ashore to give early notice of Viscount Kabayama's arrival to the local authorities, but they had not been able to do so because the steam launch of the *Takachiho Kan*, in which they were proceeding toward the shore, was repeatedly fired at from a fort on the right bank of the river. The Governor-General was, consequently, obliged to change his course in the direction of Kelung. For the purpose of meeting the Chinese commissioner at Taipeh-fu, he had caused his escort to land at Santiao-chue, but they, too, had been attacked by the insurgents. Under these circumstances, continued Viscount Kabayama, it became necessary to employ, for the suppression of the insurrection, troops that had originally been despatched for the purpose of maintaining order and tranquillity after the transfer of the island. Finally, he inquired what were Lord Li's ideas about the manner of effecting the transfer. In reply, the Chinese Commissioner stated that the inhabitants of Formosa, holding himself and his father responsible for the cession of the island, had conceived sentiments of hatred against them; that he would certainly be killed should he go ashore; that he would, therefore, request the Japanese Commissioner to effect the transfer of the island without landing; and that, concerning the resistance of the inhabitants of Formosa to the orders of the Chinese Government, he understood that his father had sent telegraphic notice to Count Ito. The Governor-General replied that he had received from Count Ito a telegram respecting the notice alluded to by Lord Li; that it was not necessary to effect the ceremony of transfer on land; and that he would endeavour to consult the convenience of the Chinese Commissioner in every way possible. This assurance was received by Lord Li with evident satisfaction. The conversation then turned upon the telegraphic correspondence that had taken place between the Viceroy Li and Count Ito. Lord Li said afterwards that, the inhabitants having risen in insurrection, it was impossible for him to effect the transfer in a proper manner; and appealed for the assistance of the Governor-General, confessing that, without the latter's kind consideration, he should be unable to discharge the duties of his mission. The Governor-General remarked that, according to the stipulations of the Shimonoseki Treaty, it would seem necessary to draw up a catalogue of the forts, fortifications, and all other Government property, but that, under existing circumstances, it being impossible to go through such formalities, the only feasible course appeared to be that the transfer should be made *en bloc*, omitting all specification of details. He asked the Chinese Commissioner's ideas about the method of procedure and place of effecting the transfer. Lord Li answered, that, since he was unable to stay long in Formosa on account of sickness, he desired to accomplish the purpose of his mission as quickly as possible; that, Formosa having been ceded to Japan by Treaty, the sovereignty over the island had already passed into her hands; and that the transfer was a mere formality. He then asked permission to continue the conversation in his personal capacity, and begged leave to lay before the Governor-General a private memorandum on the subject of the transfer, which, should there be no objection on the part of Viscount Kabayama, might at once be recognized as an official document. To this proposal Viscount Kabayama replied that, much as he desired to expedite the conduct of business, he could not agree to hold a private conversation at a meeting of the Commissioners of the two countries. But as he had received special instructions from Count Ito, he expressed himself willing to endeavour, within the limits of those instructions, to suit the convenience of the Chinese Commissioner, and he consequently proposed to

Mizuno and Secretary Shimamura

to the latter's ship to confer with his secretaries. This proposal having been gladly consented to by the Chinese Commissioner, the time of conference between these officials was fixed at 2 p.m. on that day. Lord Li then referred to a story that he had learned from the Captain of a Japanese warship at Tamsui, to the effect that some Chinese officials having with difficulty escaped from forcible detention by the populace, had fled to Foo-chow; and drew the attention of Viscount Kabayama to the desperate and wicked character of the people of Formosa. The Governor-General, in reply, referred to the bravery and good discipline of the Imperial Guards, and bade the Chinese Commissioner be at ease as to the suppression of the insurrection. After conversing about the geography of the island and the customs and manners of the inhabitants, Lord Li observed that the dominions of Japan and China having come into closer proximity, the friendship between the two countries ought to be more intimate than formerly. He also thought it exceedingly fortunate that Viscount Kabayama had been appointed the first Governor-General of the island. After a correspondingly courteous reply from the Governor-General, the conference came to a close. It was then 10.45 a.m.

At 11.20 a.m. the same day, Viscount Kabayama paid a visit to Lord Li on board the *Kung-yi*, accompanied by Major Matsukawa, Commander Takikawa, and Interpreters Nire and Okubo. At this meeting there were present on the Chinese side the same officials as on the occasion of the first conference. The Governor-General remarked that he should send his subordinate officials to the Chinese ship, as promised, at 2 p.m., and hoped that a satisfactory result might ensue from their consultation with the officials under the Chinese Commissioner. Lord Li once more alluded to his inability to stay any length of time on account of ill-health, and added that the sovereignty of the island having already passed into the hands of Japan, he hoped to effect as quickly as possible the object of his mission, which, after all, had no concern with anything but the mere formality of transfer. The Governor-General concurred entirely with the Chinese Commissioner as to the advisability of a speedy completion of the transfer, but wished to say a few words on a matter of some importance. He had hitherto believed that the resistance offered to the Japanese troops on their landing a few days previously had been the act of insurgents only, but he had just been surprised to find, from a notification discovered in a barrack at Sieti, that the Chinese officials had issued instructions to the inhabitants and troops under them to attack and drive away the Japanese. He had already reported the matter to the Government at home. At this announcement, Lord Li seemed to be considerably embarrassed. He, however, did all in his power to explain away the unpleasant revelation. He stated, that he had heard of the establishment of a republic only since his arrival there; that the insurgents had by force prevented the civil and military officials from obeying the Imperial command recalling them; that under these circumstances, the notification in question was presumably the result of coercion; that he himself would in all probability be subjected to such coercion, should he go ashore; that the notification and the seal attached to it might altogether be a forgery; and that, under any circumstances, the Government at Pekin had nothing to do with the matter. The Governor-General then passed on to the subject of the suppression of the insurrection, and observed that the insurgents could not be regarded in the light of legitimate belligerents; that the object of the Japanese Government being on the one hand, to purge the island of such as might offer resistance to its arms, and, on the other, to treat all good citizens with consideration and clemency, he had no doubt that the people, appreciating the just and righteous conduct of the Japanese Government, would soon be glad to place themselves under its administration. Lord Li seemed to admit the truth of these observations. He extolled the ability of the Governor-General and said that the inhabitants of Formosa were to be congratulated on possessing such a ruler. He also begged that, upon the complete restoration of order and tranquility in the island, the Governor-General would let the people understand that Formosa had become Japanese territory in consequence of the Peace Treaty, and would otherwise endeavour to remove the feeling of resentment against the Li family. The Governor-General assured him most emphatically that he should spare no pains to eradicate any sentiment of umbrage from the minds of the islanders. Lord Li thanked Viscount Kabayama, bowing his head several times, and the Governor-General promised to supply him with a convoy on his return voyage to China. The convoy was, however, declined afterwards by Lord Li. This conference terminated at 11.45 a.m.

In fulfillment of the Governor-General's promise, Minister Mizuno and Secretary Shimamura waited upon the Chinese Commissioner on board the *Kung-yi* at 2 p.m. Minister Mizuno asked for the production of the memorandum alluded to by Lord Li in his conversation with Viscount Kabayama, and the document was at once shown to him. It was in the form of a note describing very fully the state of things then existing in Formosa. Minister Mizuno observed that the condition of affairs in the island was of course well-known to the Governor-General; but should such a note be officially addressed to him, it would be tantamount to a recognition by the Commissioners of the two countries of the outbreak of an insurrection and the establishment of a republic. The Governor-General would then demand the suppression of the insurrection by China before the transfer of the island; whereas the Chinese Commissioner would not be able to agree to such a demand. Minister Mizuno, consequently, advised the withdrawal of the note. Lord Li acknowledged the justice of these observations, and complied with Mr. Mizuno's advice. Minister Mizuno then presented to the Chinese Commissioner a draft memorandum relating to the transfer of the island, Lord Li approved the memorandum on the whole. Referring to the catalogue of Government property in the different parts of the island, he expressed himself entirely unable to draw it up, as he had never been in Formosa, and he therefore desired to effect the transfer on the basis of any catalogue compiled by the Japanese Commissioner, who doubtless knew more about the island than he. Mr. Mizuno accepted the offer, and proceeded to arrange with the Chinese Commissioner about the manner of enumerating the Government property, the names of the islands, and so forth. Minister Mizuno then demanded the transfer of the submarine telegraph between Tamsui and Foochow, since that line had been constructed for the benefit of the island. Lord Li replied that the question of the cable was beyond the scope of his mission; moreover he did not even know whether the cable belonged to the Government or to a private company. It was finally arranged to include the line in the catalogue with a note that the matter should be settled on a future occasion between the Governments of the two empires. In the course of the above conversation, Lord Li remarked in a laughing way that, China having given to Japan a whole province, it mattered little to her whether or not she retained a telegraphic cable. At this stage of the conference, Mr. Ma entered the room and remained until the end of the meeting. It was decided that the matters arranged at that conference be set down in a duplicate note in Japanese and Chinese. At 4 p.m. Messrs. Mizuno and Shimamura left the ship.

At nine o'clock that evening, Secretary Shimamura waited upon Lord Li on board the *Kung-yi*, with a note bearing the signature and seal of Viscount Kabayama, which document then received the signature and seal of Lord Li. This completed the transfer of Formosa. After conveying his thanks to the Governor-General for the speedy completion of the ceremony, the Chinese Commissioner left for the north by the *Kung-yi* at thirty minutes past midnight, on June 3rd.

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BOYCOTT OF THE CHINESE MERCHANTS.

An important agitation, as our readers are already aware, is now being conducted by the Japanese merchants engaged in foreign trade in Yokohama against the Chinese resident traders, with the view of obliging them to forego the old custom of levying commission and percentage from the Japanese. The agitation is decidedly important, since its issue is connected with the future commercial prosperity of the country. Some underrate the incident, says the *Nippon*, seeing that only two or three out of several Japanese guilds are involved, and that the movement is directed against the Chinese alone. That, however, is a superficial view of the matter, for it is owing to the strategy of the agitators that the movement is confined to a limited number of guilds so as to reduce the commercial disturbance to a minimum. Moreover, this evil custom of levying commission and percentage is most notorious in the case of the Chinese. Other foreign merchants, who are far less covetous than the Chinese, would easily be induced to abandon the practice if the campaign against the Chinese were successfully concluded. In short, though the agitation appears to be limited in scope, it really covers the whole field of Japan's foreign trade and has therefore a distinct bearing on the future of that trade.

The origin of the practice of paying commission to Chinese merchants is really traceable to Japanese servility, of which the sordid Chinese took advantage. The Japanese were generally chief clerks of the Chinese, not having sufficient capital to commence business on their own account, and the crafty Chinese seeing their opportunity in this financial weakness, dictated their own terms to the Japanese. For the origin of another practice, that of levying percentage, the Japanese merchants must also be held accountable. In the early era of foreign commerce they used to corrupt the chief clerks of the Chinese by bribing them in that manner, the object being to procure the surreptitious appropriation of a portion of the goods passing through the clerks' hands, or the deferment of payments due by the Japanese merchants. It frequently happened, however, that the advantages obtained in that way, bore no adequate proportion to the sums employed by way of bribes, and thus it came to be arranged between the two parties, subsequently to the year 1874, that the rate of percentage should be fixed at a certain definite figure. We quote these explanations from the *Nippon*, but it must be confessed that our contemporary's story leaves much to be desired in point of lucidity. Reading on, we learn that the arrangement did not prove advantageous to the Japanese, and at present they simply incur loss without any accompanying benefit. Still as the percentage is not levied upon manufactured goods, but on articles like silk, tea, sugar, and so forth, and as it is much lower in rate than the commission, it does not put the Japanese merchants to any serious inconvenience. There is, in short, a wide gap between western and Chinese merchants in respect of their manner of conducting commercial transactions. Not only do the Chinese levy heavier commissions and percentages—the former as much as 2 per cent. upon miscellaneous wares—but also they appropriate for their own direct benefit the whole of the sums thus exacted. That is not the case with Western merchants. In the first place, their levies are much smaller, and in the second, they do not put them into their own pockets, but use them to reward their *banto* twice a year. Hence the practice is regarded with much greater indulgence in their case. Such is notably true of German merchants. They strictly forbid their *employés* to resort to any underhand practices, are punctual in payment, and moreover pay to the *sen*; whereas the sordid Chinese make a habit of not paying any fractional amounts. It is not strange, observes the *Nippon*, that the Germans are acquiring more and more influence in Oriental markets.

The Chinese say that they get only one or two per cent profit from home merchants and as much commission from the Japanese, and that, the margin of profit being so small, they cannot acquiesce in the demand made upon them by the Japanese. That is, however, a merely childish pretext, according to the *Nippon*. Suppose, it adds, that a Chinaman trading in Yokohama receives an order for miscellaneous goods to the amount of 100 *yen*. He is sure to buy them here at 70 to 80 *yen*, thus securing a profit of from 20 to 30 per cent. Yet, not satisfied with such a margin, he is so greedy as to levy a commission of 2 per cent. With respect to sugar alone, owing to competition among those engaged in that trade, the commission, which was at first 2 per cent. as with other articles, has gradually been reduced to ½ per cent. or even dispensed with altogether. Consequently, the abolition of the percentage also, which is at the rate of 1 per cent., would prove a serious blow to the Chinese. Still less to their liking would be forfeiture of a title to the common fund created by laying aside a portion of the percentage every year, which fund now reaches the great sum of hundreds of thousands of *yen*. It is said that any member of the Chinese Merchants Guild who violates the mutual agreement is excluded from partaking in the benefit of the common fund. Even Kau Wan-tai, powerful as he is among the resident Chinese, is said to have made himself an object of severe criticism by establishing a branch shop in his Japanese *employés* name in Tsukiji, so as to sell sugar in defiance of the mutual agreement that binds all the Chinese in Yokohama.

With regard to the present boycott, the most powerful of the guilds engaged is undoubtedly that of the Sugar Merchants. Only six or seven traders receive that commodity wholesale from the Chinese, the yearly transactions aggregating several millions of *yen*. They are therefore large capitalists, and possess great staying capacity. Moreover, the sugar supplied to them by the Chinese does not exceed a third of the whole transactions in that staple. Other foreign merchants observing the temporary suspension of business between the Japanese and the Chinese sugar importers, are shrewdly watching for an opportunity to supersede the latter, whose business being exclusively confined to sugar, any interference with that staple must expose them to great embarrassment. Hence the Japanese will suffer no inconvenience even if their transactions in sugar cease with the Chinese. The foreign merchants levy a percentage of only $\frac{5}{1000}$, a mere trifle, abolishable, it is confidently hoped, at any time. The Chinese sugar importers know these circumstances well and are now much dejected. The boycott against them is likely to prove a very successful affair. The case of the Miscellaneous Wares Merchants Guild is somewhat difficult. There are more than 380 members in the guild, all small capitalists. They are, moreover, for the most part ex-*banto* of the Chinese against whom the boycott is directed. Even these petty merchants are so far imbued with the spirit of the time, and so determined to secure permanent benefit by sacrificing temporary gain, that while at first a dozen of them daily evaded the rules of the boycott, not more than two or three do so now.

The Silk Fabric Merchants' Guild is also one of the boycotters. The Chinese buy silk fabrics to export to Hongkong, India, and Australia, but other foreign merchants are ready to fill the vacancy should the Chinese be excluded from this branch of the trade. The joining of this guild to the boycott association is a great blow to the Chinese.

The Iron and Copper Merchants' Guild is also affiliated with the boycotters. The goods handled by this guild are sent to India, and as merchants have come thence to open direct transactions the Chinese are said to have been much alarmed.

The Marine Products Merchants' Guild, though much inclined to espouse the cause, is obliged at present to hold aloof, owing to the fact that this is not the season for carrying on transactions in that line.

The business conducted by the other guilds is exclusively confined to foreign resident merchants, who are comparatively free from such evil practices, and are, moreover, far more upright and honourable in their dealings toward the Japanese than the Japanese are toward them. They are not much concerned to perpetuate the custom complained of, and would be ready to consent to its discontinuance were the Chinese induced to acquiesce in the proposals made to them by the boycotters.

DEVELOPMENT OF THE NATIONAL DEFENCES.

The necessity of developing the defences of the Empire is apparently admitted on all sides, but with regard to the resources required for that purpose, opinions are by no means unanimous. The point to be determined in this connection, writes the *Nippon*, is the probable amount of funds required. According to official estimates, excluding from the account expenditures needed on account of extraordinary works such as the construction of new military depôts and forts, the issue of improved weapons and the building of men-of-war, and confining the statement to ordinary items, such as have reference to military corps and military harbours, an additional outlay of at least from 6 to 7 millions *yen* a year must be paid out in future. Whence is this additional sum to be furnished? Of late years the national budget has come to yield a surplus of from 4 to 5 million *yen per annum*, but last year the accumulated surplus was appropriated for war purposes, so that the expenses needed for works of a continuous nature must, for the time being at least, be defrayed out of the Ordinary Revenue. In short, during the succeeding four or five years, the outgoings will exactly balance the incomings: there will be no surplus of ordinary revenue over expenditure.

At present the readiest way of meeting the increased military expense is to have recourse to the war indemnity that Japan is to receive from China. But a measure of uncertainty attaches to that source. For suppose that China, notorious as she is for procrastination, should fail to fulfill punctually the obligations that she has incurred, the result would be that the business of expanding the military preparations of the country, though an imperative national necessity, would be interrupted. Moreover, an indemnity is not fully adapted to meet the ordinary military expenditures of an Empire. Even if China pay the indemnity punctually, it may not be possible to appropriate the additional military outlay out of the first instalment, to be received this year, inasmuch as the uses to which that instalment is to be applied may be regarded as already fixed. For it is said that, peace having been restored, the Government are resolved not to raise any further instalments of the war loan, but to defray expenses incurred pending the complete adjustment of affairs by having recourse to a loan from the Nippon Ginko or some such temporary accommodation, and the first instalment of the indemnity will be needed to pay off these debts. Nor is it possible to anticipate much better results from subsequent installments, seeing that demands not only military but also of many other kinds, will arise out of the altered condition of affairs consequent on the war. Thus the indemnity not being available for the contemplated expenditures, some other source of supply must be found. The authorities are said to be conducting inquiries with the object of finding a sound and trustworthy source, and it is expected that the result of their inquiries will be submitted to the Diet next session.

A MELBOURNE telegram reports the dismissa from the service for insubordination of Surgeon Lea of H.M.S. *Ringarooma*. He was rebuke by Captain Johnson for a breach of duty, an thereupon he put the Captain on the sick lis insinuating that he was suffering from i disorder.

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LADIES' SINGLES LAWN TENNIS HANDICAP IN TOKYO.

The Tokyo Ladies' Lawn Tennis Handicap (singles) has just been concluded. The method of scoring was that recently adopted in England for tournament purposes, the usual partie of three six-gamed setts being replaced by a single game of ninety up. After every fourth ace the service passed, and when the point of 45 was reached by the player starting from scratch, sides were changed. The Handicap stood as follows :—

Miss F. V. Dening	Scratch.
Miss Divers	+ 11
Mrs. Pownall	+ 18
Miss Lowther	+ 19
Mrs. Kirkwood	+ 27
Miss Tuck	+ 57
Madame Bougouin	+ 57
Madame La Baronne d'Anethan	+ 60
Miss Munter	+ 60

The drawing of the First Ties and the results of the play were :—

	Points given.	Results of Play.
Miss Divers		Not played, Madame
Madame La Baronne d'Anethan	...+49...	La Baronne having retired.
Mrs Pownall		77
Miss Lowther	...+1 ...	90
Mrs. Kirkwood		82
Miss Tuck	...+30...	90
Madame Bougouin		Not played, Madame
Miss Munter	...+3 ...	Bougouin having retired.

Miss Dening, a bye.

In this round much interest centered upon the match between Mrs. Pownall and Miss Lowther, both ladies being in a high rank, and the odds given being insignificant. During the first part of the game the play was remarkably even, but from the point of Mrs. Pownall 26, and Miss Lowther 27, the latter forged ahead steadily but slowly, and finally won by 13 points. The play was marked by great judgment and steadiness throughout, long rallies and excellent placing being the order of the day. Miss Lowther, however, not only showed greater staying power, but also succeeded in discovering and taking clever advantage of her adversary's weak points, which, though very few, became accentuated as the strain of the long fight began to tell. It was a well contested game, won on its merits. The contest between Mrs. Kirkwood and Miss Tuck was disappointing in the sense that Mrs. Kirkwood did not play up to her usual form. Nevertheless, giving 30, she managed to get within 6 of her opponent when the score stood at 82 to 88, and had the game been a little longer, the result would doubtless have been reversed. Miss Tuck played in a uniformly steady manner, turning to valuable account the facility she has of playing with the left hand as well as the right.

The Second Ties were drawn and played as follow :—

	Points given.	Results of play.
Miss F. V. Dening.	—	90
Miss Munter	+60	80
Miss Lowther	—	90
Miss Tuck	+38	70

Miss Divers, a bye.

The immense odds—60 out of 90—that Miss Dening was obliged to concede to Miss Munter, rendered the issue of the first of the above games uncertain, despite Miss Dening's position as championess of Tokyo. But Miss Dening's skill made little of the heavy handicap. She played splendidly throughout, her service being very strong and her returns accurate and well placed. After the first six strokes, she gained steadily on her opponent, until the scores stood equal at 78, after which Miss Munter added only 2 points to her total, and the game ended, Miss Dening 90 and Miss Munter 80. In the second game of the round, Miss Tuck, receiving 38 from Miss Lowther, fared almost as badly as Miss Munter had fared in the preceding contest, though when the game was called at Miss Tuck 60 and Miss Lowther 50, it seemed almost possible that the former might hold the lead to the end. Miss Lowther's play [illegible] tion. Her force and tactics proved irresistable. She overtook her opponent at 65, and thenceforth Miss Tuck virtually struck her colours, scoring only 5 points in the final run of 25.

The third Ties and their results were :—

	Points given.	Results of Play.
Miss F. V. Dening.	—	84
Miss Divers	+ 11	90

Miss Lowther, a bye.

The match between Miss Dening and Miss Divers excited the keenest interest. Both ladies are exceptionally fine players, and as Miss Dening had to give 11 points, it was felt that with a *vis-à-vis* of such prowess, her task was too heavy to justify any prediction of victory. Miss Divers has distinctly the advantage in point of reach and strength of wrist and arm, and her much longer experience as a player, supplemented by remarkable coolness, often gives her the victory in a rally where other things are equal. All the preceding games had been fought under very favourable circumstances as to weather, the sky being clouded and a cool air stirring. But Miss Divers and Miss Dening had to play with a blazing sun overhead and in the heavy heat characteristic of the Japanese rainy season—conditions that seemed to tell very severely on the younger lady. It was a hard fight throughout. Miss Dening's backhand play lacked at first something of its wonted accuracy, and, on the whole, her strokes seemed to be deprived by nervousness of the brilliancy that usually distinguishes them ; while Miss Divers on the contrary, played fully up to her form from first to last, her cuts along the line eliciting frequent applause, and the general quality of her performance being admirable. The scores at the end of every five overs are worth recording, as showing the closeness of the tussle :—

Miss Dening	11	20	31	41	52	60	69	82	84
Miss Divers.....	20	31	40	50	59	71	82	89	90

The contest was marked by long rallies in which both combatants showed great brilliancy and resource, eliciting rounds of applause and offering a specimen of play such as is seldom witnessed among ladies.

The last struggle had now to be fought between Miss Lowther and Miss Divers, the latter conceding 8 points. A heavy shower of rain fell before play commenced, thoroughly wetting the ground and seriously handicapping Miss Divers, who played with leather-soled shoes, which became, after a time, so slippy as to prevent anything like rapid movement or sudden change of direction. At first it seemed as though the game would be altogether one-sided, for in the three opening overs Miss Divers scored 10 points against Miss Lowther's 2, thus at the very outset eliminating the handicap. Miss Lowther, however, played with the greatest pluck and steadiness. Even when the game stood at Miss Divers 83, Miss Lowther 77, the latter fought on undaunted, and to the surprise and intense excitement of the onlookers, "88 all" was presently called. It had seemed for many overs that Miss Divers had the game completely in hand, but whether she did not realize the state of the score, or whether the fatigue of playing two parties on the same afternoon had begun to tell upon her, she allowed herself to be beaten on the post. The scores at the end of each fifth over stood as follow :—

Miss Divers	13	20	32	41	52	64	77	85	88
Miss Lowther.....	15	28	36	47	56	64	71	83	90

The prize, a silver censer, was handed to Miss Lowther, amid applause and congratulations. It is to be hoped that this handicap may prove the forerunner of similar contests. They provide a pleasant break in the monotony of life in the East, and their invigorating effects need no comment. There is already talk of a Tokyo Ladies' Championess prize, to be fought for in the Autumn. The results of this handicap show that such a prize should produce most interesting contests.

THE CHÊNGTU OUTRAGES.

It is estimated that the loss sustained by the Roman Catholic Mission alone in Chêngtu, at the hands of Chinese anti-Christian rioters, is three million francs. Among the buildings destroyed are three chapels, more than 150 years old, mission-houses, schools, hospitals, and orphanages. Other mission bodies are said to have suffered proportionately. French Fathers representing the Missions Etrangères have been in Chêngtu since 1753, and their propagandium has succeeded so far that in Western Szechuan they have 40,000 converts. Monseigneur Durand, the Bishop who is reported as "wounded," has been 26 years in China, and has spent most of that long period at the scene of these wholesale outrages. He, together with the rest of the missionaries, French, American, and British, are now taking refuge in the *yamên* of the local officials, where some writers allege that they are receiving friendly protection, others that they are held prisoners. The latter version seems unreasonable, but some displays of unreason must be expected, of course, under the circumstances. The situation of the unfortunate missionaries is certainly most precarious. Their place of refuge, or detention, is in the heart of a province 700 miles above Chungking, so that to send a foreign military or naval force to their rescue is out of the question. Several ladies are among the number, we believe, and thus no element of uneasiness is wanting. Singular statements are made as to the action of the Viceroy of Szechuan. He is said to have issued proclamations declaring that the "foreign devils" are in Szechuan against his will, and that any one harbouring them, renting houses and lands to them, or dealing with them in any way, will be bambooed and otherwise punished. China is conventionally bound to allow the missionaries to buy and hold land in the interior. It is, therefore, very difficult to believe that a high official can have permitted himself to publish documents of such a nature. Nevertheless, the foreign journals of Shanghai concur in declaring that the decrees were promulgated over the Viceroy's seal, and that copies of them have been forwarded to the French Representative in Pekin. The affair is exceedingly serious. Probably, however, it will be settled by the payment of an indemnity and the exaction of some fresh pledges from China. If the charges preferred against the Viceroy can be substantiated, his summary disgrace and signal punishment must be demanded. The British, French, and American Representatives may be trusted to deal with the matter firmly and effectively, although we observe that the usual phial of journalistic expletives is already poured upon their heads.

It sometimes occurs to us that these repeated acts of violence against foreigners in China may perhaps owe their origin to the feeling that inspired the anti-foreign outrages in pre-Restoration in Japan, namely, a desire to embarrass the Government by embroiling it with Western Powers. We now know that many of the lawless deeds perpetrated by Japanese Samurai against foreign life and property in the last days of the Tokugawa Regency, were prompted, not by hatred of the alien, but by political considerations, namely, the hope of weakening the Shogunate by involving it in foreign complications. It is certainly a remarkable coincidence that just as China has succeeded in obtaining respite from her war with Japan, the Manchu Government should find itself confronted by a new and serious trouble in Szechuan. If the enemies of the Manchu Dynasty sought to discredit and embarrass it, few better devices could be adopted than a raid upon foreign property such as has just taken place in Chêngtu. We are well aware that hypotheses of this nature generally prove erroneous, but possibly the present case may be an exception.

An illustration of the excitement and indignation caused among foreigners in China by the outrage is found in the language of one of the Shanghai English journals, which recommends that "a month or six weeks should be given [illegible] to hold his Excellency Viceroy (of

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Szechuan), and that he be hanged at the yard-arm of a foreign man-of-war outside Nanking in the presence of all the Chinese bigwigs that can be got together. Failing his production, the same journal goes on to advise, "the nearest and highest Chinese official should be seized and treated in his stead."

FAREWELL DINNER TO PROFESSOR MILNE.

A farewell dinner to Professor John Milne, F.R.S., who leaves for England on the 21st instant, was given by the members of the Tokyo Club at the Rokumeikan on the 15th instant. About seventy sat down to dinner, the chair being occupied by Mr. W. H. Stone, Foreign Vice-President of the Club, his *vis-à-vis* being the United States Representative. The British and Italian Representatives, and several of the principal Japanese residents of Tokyo were also present. Professor Milne's health was proposed by the Vice-President, Mr. Stone, in the following terms :—

GENTLEMEN,—It is incidental to a life spent in the Far East that we are often called upon to say good-bye to our friends,—sometimes only for a season, occasionally altogether for good. The parting guest to whom we say farewell this evening is one whose name is almost a household-word among us, and one who has been a member of this Club since it was first opened. It is now about twenty years since Professor Milne first started from home for Japan. Being an uncommon man he took an uncommon route, as he came here overland through Siberia and China. By this we benefited, as it was made the occasion of an interesting lecture delivered before our branch of the Asiatic Society. Professor Milne came to Japan more especially in connection with Mining, Geology, and Mineralogy, but the *ups* and *downs* here, especially in a physical sense, soon directed his attention to earthquake movements. I remember, a good many years ago, dining, together with some other friends, at the Professor's house. The centre-piece on the dinner-table was a very pointed cone made of foolscap paper, having a volume of imitation smoke made with stained cotton wool. When dinner was finished our genial host lifted up the cone and displayed to view—*pen, ink*, and *paper*, saying :—"Now Gentlemen! please sign your names." That was the birth of the "Seismological Society of Japan," an institution which, together with its learned founder, soon became known all over the world, more particularly wherever earthquakes make themselves plainly and disagreeably felt. Amongst many other distinctions—too numerous to mention in detail—it is hardly necessary to remind you that six years ago he received the *blue ribbon of science*, being elected a Fellow of the Royal Society of London. In "A Midsummer Night's Dream," Puck says he'll "put a girdle round the earth in forty minutes." Well, science has already done that, and in less time. Now, Professor Milne wants to break that record; his present and future aim being to get direct and more rapid signals right through the earth, and thus learn what it is made of. How? I confess I don't quite know. But, if it can be done, and if perseverance will do it, Professor Milne is the man. As our guest intends making an early start for the old home country, I ask you to join with me in wishing him a safe and pleasant voyage, and all success and prosperity in the future.

The toast having been drunk enthusiastically with all the honours, Professor Milne rose and replied as follows :—

Mr. PRESIDENT and GENTLEMEN,—I must confess that the great pleasure you have conferred on me by inviting me here this evening, is to some extent spoiled by regret that you should have exposed yourselves to such inclement weather for the sake of paying me this honour. Let me assure you that I am thoroughly sensible of your kindness, and let me thank you very heartily for the cordial way in which you have echoed the too flattering sentiments expressed by the Vice-President. But, Gentlemen, I must say that I am perplexed. I don't understand it all. You seem to me very inexplicable and peculiar folks. Mr. Stone has told you something of the origin of a society with which I have been more or less connected since its birth. Well, gentlemen, I can tell you also something about the origin of clubs in Tokyo. I remember the days when clubs were more numerous and more promiscuous, though at the same time more primitive, than those we now have. Our clubs then were of a somewhat fortuitous kind. You used to stroll down the street without [illegible] you [illegible] and suddenly you perceived fluttering in the breeze a chequered banner, blue and white. You walked in to the building from which the flag was flaunted and you found all your friends, several new acquaintances, and various kinds and conditions of men. Perhaps you got a free drink at once, perhaps you didn't. There was a charming uncertainty about it that made the drink doubly agreeable when it came. But there was always sport to be had. You saw an emaciated, cheaply-clothed man calling out "ten dollars"—father of a family, straitened income, ends would n't meet, sad case. You bid fifteen at once. That brought you into the game without any trouble. "Sixteen" said the other gently. It was very sad, very hard lines for the thin man with the wife and family. "Twenty," cried another voice from the other side of the room. "Twenty-one," whispered the father of a family. "Thirty," you ejaculated, now hot on the sport. "Thank you, Sir. What name did you say. Mr. John Milne. Mr. John Milne, Peter. Thirty dollars. Baby's cot." That was the way, Gentlemen. It was so pleasant; so free and easy, and so well calculated to promote one's faculty of aggression. I frequented all those embryonic clubs. There were many of them, because, you see, the Government wanted a great many foreigners to come and live in Tokyo in those days, and wanted a great many to go and live somewhere else after a while, and there was no end of dealing in one another's chattels. I can't tell you all the wonderful things I acquired in those embryonic clubs. At last I thought I'd try a club of my own. I spread all my acquisitions on the green before my house and got a fellow to hang out the blue-and-white flag. Twenty perambulators, twenty-seven baby's cots, a dozen mosquito bars, one pie dish, sixteen stoves—they covered the whole compound and slopped over into the next. To give the thing an aristocratic air I put in five bath-tubs and a *jinrikisha*. It was a wonderful *jinrikisha*. When you were shut up in it you found yourself doubled into a pretty shape like a half-closed two-foot rule, and you didn't have any inclination to think of anything else but your *jinrikisha*. It diverted your attention splendidly from scientific topics. When you reached your destination, you opened the roof, threw back the sides and there you were—a splendid bed, mattress and pillows complete. I never found any two men that could pull it. It was too great an invention. So I put it into my embryonic club. But the thing did n't work. The spirit of sport was getting low, and the fathers of families were ungrateful. They did n't reciprocate the good offices I had done them. Then a real club started into existence by accident. Somebody dropping into an embryonic club in Yokohama, had a billiard table knocked down to him. It's the third billiard table in the next room. Oh, that table could tell strange stories, gentlemen, I assure you. Its happy owner did n't know what to do with it. He consulted two of his friends and they said "let's build a club on it." So they took a room in an old temple, put the table there and had a trinity club. It was the sort of thing they call a "sawback" in America—two fellows putting up a good thing on a third. But it did n't work. They had to increase their number: first to eight, then to twelve; then to fifteen. When it got to fifteen I was let in. I did not abuse the opportunity. I acted on the principle established in our embryonic clubs: I opposed everybody. Then there was a pow-wow and two clubs came into existence. Gentlemen, that was the chance of my life. I became a member of both. I attended all the meetings and I was always in the opposition. But it did n't last. The Imperial Government put up this fine building, and the two clubs were sheltered together under its roof. That was my last chance. I formed an opposition of one and wouldn't join. Something ought to have happened, but it didn't. A week passed, two weeks, three weeks. I remained in opposition unopposed. Then I came in quietly. The sporting days were past. Yet even here I found some chances. Your various Vice-Presidents could do some justice to my displays of resolution if they chose to speak, Mr. Stone, here, or his predecessor, Mr. Denison. We upset the laws of mechanics, did Mr. Denison and I, by getting coolness out of friction, but even that didn't last long, and I am glad it didn't. You understand now, Gentlemen, why I call you singular persons. Here am I, your perpetually fractious member, going away and you give me a grand dinner and pretend to be sorry. I suspect the truth is that you are showing your joy at getting rid of me. But you have not got rid of me, Gentleman. Do you think I could turn my back for ever on such friends? I have hopes in leaving Japan, hopes of emerging from the mines to some higher plane of work and commotion. But the best hope I have is to rejoin you all again, and you may be sure that if I can I will, as soon as possible. (Loud applause.)

THE FOREIGN COLONY IN SEND.

This northern metropolis of Japan,' a v pretty and important city, includes in its po lation a foreign colony of about twenty- members, exclusive of children and Catho (Roman and Greek). Most of these Engl speaking foreigners are missionaries and A ricans, and unite in forming a very plea society, that gives variety and avoids the mo tony and nervous strain incident to rou work among the Japanese, and yet is free from the interruptions, distractions, and form ties of life among a larger number of foreig in an open port or a concession.

The only mission of the "Reformed Ch in the United States," is at Sendai, wher representatives make up almost half of foreign colony of that place. They inc Rev. and Mrs. W. E. Hoy (now in the U States on a vacation); Rev. J. P. Moore, D and wife; Rev. and Mrs. D. B. Schneder; and Mrs. S. S. Suyder; Rev. H. K. Miller; the Misses Hallowell and Zurfluh. This sion has an important educational plant i Tohoku-gakuin, with its preparatory, colle and theological departments, and with Re Oshikawa as President. The mission also the responsibility of the bi-monthly En magazine called *The Japan Evangelist*.

The Baptists also are well represented in dai, where they have the Rev. and Mrs. Jones (now in America), the Rev. and Mr W. Hamblen, and the Misses Mead and Bu The last two are rejoicing in the prospe new buildings for the work of their girls' s

The Congregationalists are to lose the and Mrs. W. W. Curtis, who are to be trans to a new and important work in Sappo Hokkaido, and will be missed after their and earnest service in Sendai. Rev. J. Forest, D.D., and wife, are expected b the fall from the United States, and Miss shaw will remain at Sendai.

The Methodists also are represented by missionaries—the Rev. H. W. Swartz, M.D wife, and Miss Phelps. The *Michi no S* or "Guide to Holiness," as its title is t translated, is a magazine issued under the vision of Dr. Swartz.

The Episcopalians (U.S.) have only t presentativess, but good ones, in the Rev. Jeffreys and wife. In the fall the "Ch Church of America" will settle the Rev Fry in Sendai.

The are also two Christian laymen con with the Koto Chu Gakko as instructors o lish. These are E. Hamilton Sharp and Bick, who, with their wives, make an a of four to the colony of foreigners. these gentlemen, however, finish their co this month, and return to their home and it is not yet known who will succeed

This body of Sendai foreigners suppo English service on Sunday afternoon, w missionaries take turns in preaching, ex one of them confessed, when some happening to be in Sendai over Sunda be entrapped. There is also a union meeting on Thursday afternoon; and fur öperation is found in a soldier's club, m by the foreigners and natives of all de tions. The feminine portion of the maintain a "Woman's Association" ference on methods of work; and th ladies of Sendai support what they the call "The Old Maid's Club," which is a menace to the only bachelor in the city

Last Thursday (June 6) the "Wom sociation" held a conference in the aft invited the gentlemen to tea, and gave sant entertainment in the evening; a home of Dr. and Mrs. Moore. The programme in the evening included n paper on "First Impressions of a Ne by the Rev. Mr. Snyder; and most in "Reminiscences of Early Mission Japan," by Mrs. E. R. Miller (neé Miss of Morioka, who was the first single lad a missionary from the United States After the regular programme, pleasan sciences were given by Messrs. Mille oka), Curtis, Moore, Swartz, and

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KOREAN NEWS.

Boku Eiko and his doings continue to fill the greater part of letters from Korea published by the metropolitan papers. About his reported alliance with the Russian Minister, the *Kokkai's* correspondent declares that there are sufficient proofs to establish the truth of the story, though certain reasons forbid the publication of those proofs. He thinks it justifiable, however, to allude to two circumstances known to every body in the Korean capital; namely, first, that confidential communications between the Russian Minister and the Queen-Boku faction are made through the medium of a Korean named Kim Koiku, who is admitted to the Palace at any moment, and who usually delivers his message in the joint presence of the Queen, Boku, and Li Saijun, and secondly, that a Korean employé of the Russian Legation, Li Inyei by name, who formerly served as a medium of communication between his employer and the Court, has been appointed a Councillor of the Home Department and Private Secretary to the Home Minister. These circumstances, he says, are sufficient to show the nature of the relations existing between Boku Eiko and the Russian Legation.

Concerning the Home Minister's relations with the Queen, several correspondents take the trouble to trace the steps by which there enemies, once so bitterly hostile, have come to act in concert. If there were two enemies past all hope of reconciliation, such apparently were the Queen and Boku when the latter took office toward the close of last year at the strong recommendation of the Japanese Minister. Boku's hatred of the Queen went so far that he made no attempt to conceal or disguise his opinion that the first step in the regeneration of the Korean Administration should be the deposition of Her Majesty, or, in other words, her banishment from the Court. But in deference to the counsels of the Japanese Minister, all such extreme courses were avoided. The Queen was merely advised thenceforth to stand aloof from politics. It was, however, justly feared that a woman of such energy and ambition would not remain inactive, and that she might be expected soon to disturb the peace of the country by recourse to her habitual intrigues. Boku, therefore, was secretly commissioned to watch her. For such a mission he seemed particularly well qualified, inasmuch as his connexion by marriage with the Royal family gave him the privilege of visiting the Palace at any moment and approaching the Queen personally. In course of time, however, Boku became a complete dupe to the artful address and crafty devices of the Queen. Among the instruments employed by this clever woman, the Japanese correspondents speak of large monetary accommodation, of which Boku was in sore need. Toward the close of Spring a Japanese in the service of Boku brought to the branch office of the Japanese 1st National Bank in Sōul a quantity of silver bullion to the value of from 170,000 to 180,000 *yen*, and asked for a loan on that security. The required advance was duly made, and the bullion was sent to Osaka to be coined into Japanese money. From the proceeds, the sum originally advanced to Boku was deducted, and the rest was deposited in the Bank in his name. Drafts were afterwards repeatedly made, but a sum of about 20,000 *yen* is said to remain to Boku's credit. It is alleged that the bullion was a gift from his new patroness. The original informant of these correspondents, who professes to entertain no doubt whatever as to the truth of the story, is further represented to have told them the circumstances under which the gift was made. One day, the Queen, in the course of conversation, told Boku that she had some debt to discharge to a certain person, and requested him to take a quantity of bullion out of the Myŏng-yé Palace and have it exchanged for Japanese coins. The remainder of the sum, after paying the debt, Boku was desired to deposit in a bank in his own name. A few days afterwards, the Queen told Boku that she had no present need for money and that the above mentioned deposit was at his entire disposal. The hint was gratefully taken, and Boku is said to have become a more and more frequent attendant at his benefactress's Court. These stories are reproduced here for what they may be worth.

On the afternoon of the 5th instant, Count Inouye gave a garden party in the compound of the Legation. The guests, about 60 in number, comprised the principal Japanese in Sōul. Mr. Hoshi Toru was nominated to offer thanks to the Minister on behalf of the guests. The alleged reason of his nomination was that he was the oldest man in the company, which he certainly was not. The thing was, of course, a joke, and was received as such by her Mr. Hoshi and the whole company. He spoke as follows:—"I have been singled out for the purpose of offering thanks to our distinguished host, on the ground that I am the oldest man here. I strongly protest against that imputation: I am the youngest in the company. However, having been forced to stand up, I must say something. Had we all been in Japan, I might have a great deal to say. But I have come to Korea for the express purpose of keeping silence; in other words, I have come here because I did not wish in remain in a country where I had to say so much. Consequently I ought to for bear from speech altogether on the present occasion. Moreover, the situation in this country does not allow me to say a word. If I did, I should certainly come to grief. I trust, however, that the ideas filling my mind and the sentiments threatening to burst forth in despite of my reason, will, though unexpressed, find ready sympathy in the heart to our host, Count Inouye, and in the hearts of all assembled here." To this singular speech Count Inouye is reported to have responded in the following strain:—"Mr. Hoshi has alluded to the propriety of the oldest man offering thanks to me. He may think that I am an old man and that I am consequently fit to be addressed only by an old man.—(Great laughter.) I protest against such an idea. I am somewhat stricken in years, it is true, but in energy I am confident that I equal any young man. In case of emergency, I shall certainly prove myself stronger than any of you young men. As to Mr. Hoshi's opinion that the present is not a time for speech, I am entirely in accord with him. Silence and perseverance should be our watchwords. Impatience is one of the gravest defects of Japanese character. If the nation has sustained a defeat in one direction, success looms on the horizon in another. We must stick to the course we adopted at the outset, patiently waiting for ultimate success. As you are to remain in this country for some time, I earnestly advise you to be patient in all things, keeping your eyes fixed on the fulfilment of the wishes of His Majesty the Emperor of Japan." At the instance of Mr. Hoshi, three cheers were enthusiastically given for Emperor, the Empress, the Army and the Navy, and Count Inouye.

Messrs. Sassa Tomofusa, Shiba Shiro, and Yamada Itaro, who recently went to Korea for the special purpose of discovering the truth about Boku Eiko, have published a report upon the results of their investigation. The position these gentlemen occupy in Japanese politics, and the intimate relations existing between them and the Korean Minister of Home Affairs, combine to make their report especially worthy of attention. On their arrival in Sōul, they interviewed not only the Japanese Minister and Boku Eiko, but also the other members of the Korean Cabinet. Nor did they neglect to inquire into street rumours. As the result of these researches, they discovered, they say, that the actual situation of affairs is essentially different from that reported by the newspaper correspondents. They consider seriatim the various accusations brought against Boku Eiko.

First, with regard to the struggle of factions that caused general anxiety in this country, the report remarks that, although personal considerations and ambitious motives may have been at work, the struggle was essentially political. In other words, it was a conflict between the conservatism of Gyo Inchu, Kin Yun Shik, Koshu, and Kin Inshoku, on the one hand, and the liberalism of Boku Eiko, Kin Kachin, Jo Kohan and Li Kanyo on the other. To maintain harmony between these two antagonistic parties in the Korean Cabinet is stated to have been the object of Count Inouye ever since his arrival in Sōul. But men of the liberal faction, especially Boku Eiko, deemed it impossible to work in union with the conservatives, and were of opinion that such a coalition, even if practicable, was not calculated to facilitate administrative reforms. When the contest between these two factions became acute, and threatened the position of Cho Gi-yen, Minister of War, Count Inouye warned Boku against the unwisdom of letting that official go out of office. But the Japanese Minister's advice was not adopted by Boku, and the result was not only the disgrace of Cho, but also the resignation of the Premier, Kin. Such in brief are the general outlines of the recent dissension in the Korean Cabinet, and the writers of the report do not seem to think it proper to lay any serious blame upon Boku.

Secondly, concerning the reported alliance between Boku and the Russian Minister, Messrs. Sassa, Shiba, and Yamada emphatically deny the allegation. It is true that, according to general belief, there has existed for some years an intimate friendship between the Queen and the Russian Minister and his wife. Hence the writers of the report cannot undertake to give any assurance for the future; but they can affirm of the present that no positive evidence is forthcoming of the existence of any political understanding between the Korean Court and Russia. As to the relations of Mr. Boku and the Russian Minister, it is alleged that he once passed several hours at the Russian Legation. But the fact is stated to be that he paid, on that occasion, a visit to an American Missionary lady to whom he had entrusted the education of his daughter after the *émeute* of 1884. With regard to the reported interchange of secret communications between the Court and the Russian Legation, the report alleges, on the authority of a certain responsible personage, that the story probably had its origin in the circumstance that Jo Kohan was sent to the Russian Legation as a Royal messenger to express thanks for presents recently received from the Minister's wife. In short, from the position that Boku now holds in his country, as well as from his personal sentiments toward Japan, the compilers of the report do not hesitate to reject emphatically all idea of his connection with the Russian Minister.

Coming, thirdly, to the charge that Boku has become an enemy of Japan, plausible explanations are offered as to two of the more important incidents usually cited as proofs of his anti-Japanese propensity. The first is his opposition to the sale or lease to any Japanese of land along the street leading from the Southern Gate to the Palace, and to the lease to a Japanese of an open space in the vicinity of the capital. The reasons offered by Boku for his conduct in that affair are, first, that the street in question being immediately in front of the Palace, it was undesirable to permit foreigners to own the land, and that should land there fall into foreign hands, difficulties and troubles would probably crop up were it deemed necessary at any future time to change the configuration of the streets. As to the lease of an open space in the vicinity of the capital, he had objected to it because such a precedent would certainly be followed by other nationalities. Another circumstance noticed is Boku's action in connection with the advance of money by Japan to Korea. Being sorely pressed for money to carry out administrative reforms, the Korean Government applied to the Japanese Minister. The latter, after consultation with the Korean Ministers of State and the Japanese Advisers in the Korean service, fixed the sum at five million *yen*, and then brought the matter before the Japanese Government. The latter despatched Mr. Suyematsu Kencho with three million *yen*, one half of which was in specie and the other half in paper money. The condition imposed was that it should be repaid in three years. Believing themselves unable to pay the money back in three years,

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and perceiving also that Japanese paper money was not in circulation in Sōul, the Korean Ministers declined the loan. But they ultimately borrowed the money, as the Japanese Government consented to modify the terms. The rejection of the loan was thus entirely unconnected with any anti-Japanese sentiment.

Fourthly, the allegation of extravagance and luxury usually brought against Boku by newspaper correspondents, is stated to be an exaggeration. The correspondents affirm that the household expenditures of Boku amount to 3,000 *yen* per month, the fuel alone costing more than 200 *yen*. But even supposing that the report were correct, Mr. Sassa and others think such an expenditure not uncommon among Korean nobles. Moreover, they doubt the truth of the report, though on this point they seem unable to offer a full explanation. Another report, that Boku had received two young ladies as a present from the Queen, is stated to be incorrect. The Queen, did, indeed, express an intention to that effect, but the offer was declined by Boku.

Such is the defence of Boku undertaken by his three Japanese friends. In some points the defence seems unsatisfactory, but upon the whole it reads plausibly. We are not in possession of sufficient information to pronounce any judgment upon Boku's case but it seems very probable that the alarmist correspondence lately occupying so much space in the Japanese papers was greatly exaggerated.

Messrs. Sassa, Shiba, and Yamada refer in their report to a few other topics. Speaking of the general political situation in Sōul, they state that a reconciliation has been effected between the two contending factions, and they believe that for the present there is little fear of any outburst of party quarrels. They also allude to the fact that the Japanese residents in Sōul are ignorant of the great change that has taken place in the condition of politics at home, and still labour under the misconception that there is an impassable gulf between the policy of the Government and the views of the nation at large. The Japanese merchants in Korea are prone to urge their claims in utter disregard of the interests of the country of their sojourn. They usually regard anti-Japanese those Korean officials whom they believe to be in the path of the gratification of their wishes. In short there are not among them men of sufficient weight and standing to lead them in the right direction. Messrs. Sassa and others also regret that the intercourse between the Japanese Legation and the mercantile settlement is not so close as could be desired.

THE DUKE OF ABRUZZI.

On Wednesday at 3 o'clock p.m., His Royal Highness Prince Luigi, Duke of Abruzzi, landed at the Goyo-ten, accompanied by Count Orfini, the Italian *Chargé d'Affaires*, Mr. Gasco, and two officers of the *Cristoforo Colombo*. The party drove in carriages provided by the Imperial Household Department to the Italian Consulate, where H. E. Governor Nakano, Mr. Arakawa, Secretary of Kanagawa Ken, Chief Inspector Yoshida, Councillor Oki, Mayor Sato, and Marquis de Nembrini Gonzaga, were waiting. After introductions to these gentlemen had been made by the *Chargé d'Affaires*, His Royal Highness complimented the Governor and Mayor upon the prosperous appearance of the city. At 4 p.m. the Italian residents of Yokohama were received by the Prince, who left at 5 o'clock by special train for Tokyo accompanied by the members of the reception committee. Arriving at Shimbashi at 5.55 p.m., the Duke was received by Captain Serata, Messrs. Taku and Date, Masters of Ceremonies, and several others. He was conveyed, in a carriage sent from the Imperial Household, to the Shibahama Detached Palace. It is stated that he will be received by the Emperor on Thursday.

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CHINESE ITEMS.

An outrage against missionaries is reported from Chêngtu, the capital of Szechuan. It was an outrage of unprecedented magnitude so far as concerns the amount of property involved. "In Chêngtu," says the *North China Daily News*, "there were four Protestant establishments, one belonging to the Canadian Methodist Mission, under the presidency of Dr. Virgil Hart, one to the China Inland Mission, and two others; while the Missions Étrangères have been established there for a hundred and fifty years, and number thirty thousand converts in their fold. There are several ladies among the missionaries at Chêngtu, and the missions, the French especially, had a large amount of property, which it will cost a vast sum to replace as far as replacement is possible. On Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday last this property was entirely destroyed by mobs. That it was an organised and systematic attack on the Christians is obvious, and there is very good reason to believe that the organiser was no less a personality than the retiring Viceroy of Szechuan, Liu Ping-chang." Up to the date of our latest news from Shanghai no further particulars of this outrage had been published. Happily, however, no lives seem to have been lost. Bishop Dumand, who was in charge of the Roman Catholic Mission, was wounded, and it is feared that some other missionaries must have been injured, but the main fact is a great destruction of property.

The fallacy that her defeat by Japan would have the effect of awakening China is gradually though reluctantly abandoned. We ourselves never had any hope of such a result. A nation can not be regenerated unless it possesses the sentiment of nationalism. If there had been any reasonable ground of hope, it would have been effectually removed by the action of Germany, Russia, and France. These Powers, by interfering to protect China's continental integrity and to discharge her monetary engagements so that her shores might be freed from hostile occupation, have lulled her into the belief that her safety is guaranteed by the jealousies of Western States, and that she may dispense with any effort to insure her integrity by her own strength. It might at any rate have been expected, however, that the insolent arrogance of the Chinese towards a Power at whose hands they received such signal and crushing defeats, would have undergone some modification. But even that expectation proves delusive. On the 25th of March, when the Viceroy Li was actually suing for peace at Shimonoseki, the following Imperial decree was published in Pekin:—

With reference to the report of the Boards of War and of Civil Appointments upon the conduct of the high officers in command of our armies in Manchuria, they recommend in the case of General Sung Ch'ing, that "this officer having at the head of his army been repeatedly defeated and on the present occasion failed to defend Tienchuangtai successfully against the impetuous bandits, insomuch that Yingk'ow (foreign settlement of Newchwang) also fell into their hands, the said Sung Ch'ing should by law be degraded two steps of rank and transferred to another and lower post." As a matter of fact this penalty is too light to cover Sung Ch'ing's delinquencies, as he deserves all this and more. But since we are willing to exercise our prerogative of mercy and leniency and be the dispenser of true justice, we commute the penalty recommended by the said Boards to that of stripping Sung Ch'ing of his rank, at but the same time he is to be allowed to retain his post in command of his army. We have done so in consideration of the fact that Sung Ch'ing was attacked by the bandits (Japanese) at Tienchuangtai before he had time to get his army into position, and that although attacked under difficulties by superior forces his officers and troops were able to offer a determined front and caused the enemy considerable loss in the battle near that town. The penalty recommended in the case of Wu Ta-chêng is that "he should be degraded three steps of rank and transferred to an inferior and commensurate post." Although Wu Ta-chêng was guilty of brag and empty boasts and fled disgracefully with his troops at the first attack of the bandits at Newchwang, and thus deserves the penalty recommended by the said Boards, we are inclined in mercy having the fact before us that when in Hunan, Wu Ta-chêng was patriotic enough to give up his post of Governor and was the first to volunteer to lead an army to fight the enemies of his country. At Tienchengtai, also, after the route at Newchwang, the troops of Wu Ta-chêng contributed their share of fighting against the enemy. Hence there are grounds for our leniency and Wu Ta-chêng's sentence is also commuted to the loss of rank but to retain command of his troops.

It will be observed that in this Decree the Japanese armies are three times referred to as "bandits;" once by the Boards of War and of Civil Appointments, and twice by the Emperor himself. Such consummate arrogance on the part of a totally routed enemy at the moment of suing for peace has no parallel in history. Not even China's attitude toward Japan has been modified by the war. How can we imagine, then, that her general ideas of state policy have been altered?

A testimonial has been presented to U.S. Consul-General Jernigan by representatives of all the American Protestant Churches in China:—

The Missionaries of the American Protestant Churches in China, recognising the difficult and perplexing duties devolving on the United States Consul-General during the war, and appreciating the readiness and promptness with which Mr. Jernigan has at all times given his aid and influence in furtherance and protection of their interests, desire to present to him this testimonial of their sincere regard and acknowledgment of his unfailing faithfulness with which he has upheld the honour of our country and its Christian institutions.

According to the Chefoo *Express* there have been some pleasant interchanges of courtesy between the Russian and Japanese ships. A portion of the Russian Squadron steamed through Weihaiwei harbour, and the Japanese ships lying there cleared for action. Then the Japanese sent two torpedo-boats through the Russian Squadron with their bands playing the national anthem. These amenities must have given satisfaction to both sides.

The usual bushel of Chinese lies have been scattered around in Pekin with reference to Formosa. The son of Liu, the Black Flag leader, destroyed 14 of the Japanese ships and allowed only 4 to escape. His father ordered him to receive 60 strokes of the bamboo for letting so many of the enemy's vessels get away. We shall next hear that Liu himself is under the bamboo for telling inartistic lies.

It seems to be thought in Pekin that Japan will not dream of evacuating Port Arthur until the whole indemnity is paid, and that Russia is helping China to find the money because the statesmen in St. Petersburg know that after five or six years of occupation, there might be many new reasons for the Japanese to remain permanently in the Liaotung peninsula.

The Pekin correspondent of the *North China Daily News* says that, on a recent visit to one of the Chinese Generals, he was shown a soldier 9ft. 1½ inches high. This giant received three times the ration of an ordinary soldier.

A recent visitor to Korea has sent to the *North China Herald* some interesting notes. After describing the corruption and oppression that prevails in the peninsula, he says:—

The Japanese Minister in Korea, Count Inouye, is really a very able man, and since he arrived in Sōul he has set himself energetically to work, and in the short time that he has been there, he has done a great deal of good. Having organised the Ministries, the first task of an administrator anxious to bring the country into order, he divided the eight provinces into eighteen prefectures. He has created a complete police force, and is forming the nucleus of an army. He is engaged in widening the streets and making them more convenient. He has reorganised the prisons; and it is reported that he is founding at Sōul a university, from which will come the future officials of the Kingdom.

To accustom the people to work, or rather to remove some of the obstacles which, being in thorough accord with the lazy character of the people, promoted in a thousand ways the delightful *far niente* life for which they have always been renowned, the use of the long pipe has been interdicted and the national dress has been reformed. The coat with large sleeves was not to be worn after the 14th of May, and the long white gown must never be seen out of doors. These

reforms, although they touch the inner life of the people, have not been resented; exteriorly at least, they have been readily carried out. The Korean, accustomed to obey, has a marvellous faculty of giving way. He knows that resistance is hopeless, and that *nolens volens* must do as he is told. But it must not be imagined that his will has been so crushed and the spirit of slavery so developed in him that he has become a machine unconscious of the movements which it makes. This people, like all others, has a keen sense of its abasement. The Korean knows his own misery, and does not attempt to conceal the wickedness of his oppressors. He regards the Japanese as a new master, but a master from whom he has expectations.

It is generally known that it is the Japanese arms that have rid the country of the Tonghaks, a party organised by the Regent, who was anxious to overthrow the King and put his own grandson on the throne. These devastating hordes carried fire and sword through Chollado. Nothing could withstand these fanatics, the leaders of the plot knew their strength and looked forward to the honours they would receive when the new dynasty was inaugurated. The very day on which they were to enter the capital was fixed and the Regent had made every preparation to ensure their triumph. The Japanese, knowing the real strength of these rebels, surprised them, killed a large number of them—several thousand, it is said—and the remainder fled to the mountains. The ringleaders, made prisoners and brought to Sōul, were decapitated, and their heads exposed near the West Gate. It is only lately that the complicity of the Regent in this rebellion has been proved beyond question, and his grandson has been sentenced to ten years' exile in the island of Konghoa.

It will interest our readers to compare the following notes from a Kelung correspondent of the *N.-C. Daily News*—dated June 1st—with the accounts given by Japanese correspondents, and collated in our columns on the 17th inst.:—

On the afternoon of the 29th of May Japanese troops were landed at Owtee which by sea is 15 miles distant to the south-west from Kelung. One regiment of Chinese soldiers was stationed there, but quickly retreated, leaving the Japanese in full possession of the town and camp. An advance was made the day before yesterday to Santue, four miles distant and about twenty miles from Kelung. Commander Chung of the Kelung forces says his men carried on guerilla warfare and killed several Japanese without Chinese loss of life. How much of this is true, I do not know; however, three Japanese heads were brought in last night and 100 taels was paid as a reward for each.

The road is very rough and hilly and but little speed can be made in moving soldiers, and the character of the country can scarcely be excelled for guerilla warfare. This noon the Japanese had advanced within ten miles of Kelung and retreating Chinese soldiers, some with uniforms and others with coats turned inside out or thrown aside, have been passing most of the afternoon. About 5 p.m. an officer was carried by stretched out in his chair with a bad bullet wound in his head. The Chinese say the Japanese force consists of about 2,000 soldiers.

Commander Chung says four thousand men have been sent out to oppose the Japanese and to-morrow or next day 2,000 more are to be sent. The reinforcements have been arriving by every train all day: $30,000 is promised the soldiers if they succeed in driving the Japanese back. The town is almost deserted, shops and markets closed up and train after train has been crowded with natives and their families, leaving for Taipeifu. Many have also loaded their effects in sampans and gone down the river.

The Japanese correspondents do not speak of any casualties until the attack of Zhuifang on June 2nd, when 9 Japanese were killed and 16 wounded. But it is very conceivable that in such a country as that between the landing-place and Kelung, men of the advance guard may have been picked off by Chinese lurking in the forests or among the rocks, and no intelligence of such casualties may have reached the correspondents.

A case known as "the Kuling Affair" seems likely to assume serious dimensions. Our readers have probably forgotten, or have never known, what is meant by the Kuling Affair. A few words of explanation will therefore be useful. Some time in last year—we have not the exact date—certain foreigners, British subjects, purchased a considerable tract of land on the top of a hill called Liishan, 4,500 feet above the sea, which was reserved as an [illegible] sanitorium, the temperature never rising above 70° F., mosquitoes being unknown, and the water and soil leaving nothing to be desired. Every precaution to satisfy legal requirements was made in effecting the purchase. Official opposition, unwarranted by treaty but always possible in China, was overcome, the title deeds were obtained from the magistrate duly sealed, the stamp fees were paid and the transaction was registered in the British Consulate. These preliminaries satisfied, a road was constructed leading from the plane to the site of the sanitorium, bungalows were built, brick kilns were created and other enterprises were started, giving large employment to the people of the district, whose goodwill was thoroughly secured. Suddenly, however, the Taotai of Kiukiang paid a visit to Kuling, discovered that the title deed granted by himself was invalid, and declared that certain "beasts" had sold to foreigners a tract of sacred land. After this events moved quickly. A band of men, from a distant part of the province, attacked and raided the foreign buildings, and the people who had sold the land were seized, imprisoned on a charge of illegal transactions with foreigners, and subjected to terrible cruelties under orders of the very officials that had signed and sealed the deeds of transfer. Such was the state of affairs at the beginning of May. Then the case was taken up in Pekin, and, under foreign diplomatic pressure, telegrams were sent from the capital directing that the prisoners should be speedily brought to trial. The rest of the story is thus told by the Kiukiang correspondent of the *North China Daily News*:—

A great trial was held on Tuesday (June 4th) in the presence of four mandarins and some 2,000 people in the examination-halls where the Governor's deputy is being lodged. It lasted without intermission from noon till ten o'clock at night. The Ecfu's man who was sent to examine the land was very severely beaten. At its close a number of prisoners were released, but all those who had rendered any assistance to foreigners were taken back to their dungeons. The city is quite excited over these events. The whole movement is intensely anti-foreign and designed to bring foreigners into contempt, and this end is being rapidly reached. The chief instigator of all the trouble, Li Mingyin, is held in high honour and not the slightest attempt is made to restrain him or any of the villains who have executed his will. Distinct orders have come from Pekin to release the prisoners but not the slightest heed is paid to the commands. It is now reported that the prisoners are to be removed to the provincial capital so that foreigners may not see them or know what is being done to them. It is fearful to contemplate the horrors that will be perpetrated on these men it they are thus carried away.

The Ec-fu who is well disposed towards foreigners, and who was largely consulted when the land was acquired is, so the deputy announced, deprived of his rank and degraded. It has practically become a crime to be connected with foreigners, do anything for them or show them, any friendly disposition. Daily since the war this has become more and more pronounced. All through the province this is true and the opposition proceeds not from the people but from the official classes. If the present feeling is allowed to develop foreigners will be in an intolerable not to say critical position at least all over the Yangtze valley. The Ministers in Pekin will do very little at this stage by diplomatic words, much stronger pressure is required. The Kuling case shows that they are deliberately flouted by the Chinese mandarins.

The friends and families of the prisoners make the lives of the foreigners concerned perfectly miserable by their cries and tears and entreaties. The only way at present to end all this, the official says, is to give up the land. They have acknowledged that the deed is a valid one and the foreigner is the lawful possessor of the land, but it must be given up because the gentry object. Absolutely the only proposal now made is to give up the land. It is needless to say that if this is done now in such a perfectly strong case foreigners will in the future be in an exceedingly bad plight and will find the greatest difficulty in obtaining redress in any case of trouble. It is currently reported that the gentry and officials have persuaded two Censors to memorialise the Throne. At any rate the deputy at the trial stated that the Great Emperor knew all about the case. From this it would appear that the highest officials—who belong to the anti-foreign class—are determined to [illegible] foreigners at every step and turn. Can Western Powers at this stage tolerate such high-handed policy with either credit or dignity to themselves! It was confidently expected that the close of the war would usher in a period of reform and the opening up of China; exactly the opposite of this is so far the case. How long can the present state continue and what will be the end of it all?

The great Viceroy Chang Chih-tung is said to be responsible for all the trouble. He is big enough to defy Pekin.

Wu Ta-chêng, who, when he arrived in Manchuria to take command of an army, distinguished himself by inviting the Japanese to come and surrender gracefully before their heads were cut off by his braves, has been released from his command and allowed to return to the governorship of Hunan. But the unfortunate General has not yet received money to pay his troops their February dues, so he has to remain in Manchuria.

With regard to Chêngtu, where the recent anti-foreign riots took place, the following facts are interesting:—

Chêngtu itself has hitherto borne the best reputation for friendliness to foreigners. It is the largest and wealthiest city of all the West, with an estimated population of a million. As the capital of Szechuan it is the residence of the Governor-General, and is filled with civil and military officials of all classes, with soldiers enough to control the province—all of which should have made a riot there impossible. Besides, there was there the additional security that Chêngtu is a great commercial centre where the only interest is peace, and where people from all parts of China reside, as well as many outlandish and foreign men from the countries further West. In the absence of all information it is needless to speculate on the causes of this riot, but this much may be said: considering the official and commercial character of Chêngfu, its hitherto peaceful record, its remoteness from the scene of the war, and the freedom of all apprehension on the part of the missionaries; it was the very last place where such a disturbance was naturally to be expected.

AN ARMY ON THE MARCH.

The average rate of advance of the Japanese troops in Korea was six miles daily. There were scarcely any roads, mountains of considerable height had to be negotiated, and the bridging of rivers was a frequent operation. Under such circumstances, every military man knows that six miles per diem is a very good record. Nevertheless, many critics, possessing no knowledge to justify their comments, have said that, while the organization of the Japanese in the field was deserving of all praise, the slowness of their operations greatly marred the brilliancy of their successes. We have already explained, more than once, that in a country like Korea, to carry an army forward at the rate of from five to six miles a day is as much as any General could reasonably expect, or would attempt unless forced marches for a special purpose were necessary. Of course there was the alternative of not moving over-land, but of transporting the troops by sea to Pingyang, or even to the Yalu. We have to remember, however, that to thrust every Chinese brave out of the peninsula was Japan's prime duty, and that to accomplish it her only way was to march northward, driving the enemy before her and covering Sōul against any attempted occupation by the Chinese. Apart from these special exigencies, however, we have now a standard by which to determine the character of the Japanese advance from, let us say, Pingyang to the Yalu. The Japanese rate was from six to seven miles daily. The French rate in Madagascar appears to be four miles at most, and even that is double of the rate originally estimated. When the advance from Majunga to Antananarivo commenced, it was expected that the French Army could not cover more than two miles daily, and that from three to four months must be spent between the coast and the capital. Something like one half of that distance had been traversed by May 19th in about one half of the estimated time, so that the rate of progress was four miles daily.

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THE COMMERCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE TREATY OF PEACE.

COMPARING the schedule of demands originally submitted by Japan at the Shimonoseki conference with the list of concessions finally embodied in the Treaty of Peace, it is found that three important proposals appear in the former and are omitted from the latter. They are, the opening of Pekin to foreign trade, the removal of the Woosung Bar, and the opening of the West River. Each of these concessions would have materially benefited British trade, and the fact that they were not exacted, is construed by some of the foreign journals in China as an evidence that British interests were purposely neglected by Japan in the settlement of the question. One writer, indeed, suggests that the omission of the three demands was "a slap in the face to the British Government;" asks "who has given her this slap;" declares it to have been "perhaps the most humiliating act connected with the whole war, as far as Great Britain is concerned," and inquires whether "Great Britain will, consent to be thus set aside and treated as a *quantité négligéable*." These comments are not likely to commend themselves to the judgment of any reflecting person. It is certainly much to be regretted that Japan did not succeed in exacting terms such as might have removed all the principal obstacles to foreign trade with China, and helped materially to wean the big empire from its conservative prejudices. But in elaborating conditions of peace, Japan's first duty was to Japan, and had she chosen not to prefer any demands of a commercial character except such as concerned herself directly, no outside nation could have justly complained. That was not the programme pursued, however. Several tradal concessions of general utility were included in the terms of peace; concessions from which Japan could derive no differential advantage, and the inclusion of which must therefore have been dictated by cosmopolitan considerations. One of the terms, indeed, was distinctly undesirable from a Japanese point of view; namely, the condition that no further objection should be raised by China to the importation of foreign machinery. It would be emphatically to Japan's advantage that cotton-spinning mills and other manufacturing enterprises should not be started in the Middle Kingdom, because she might reasonably hope, in that case, that her own manufactured goods would find larger access to Chinese markets. If, waiving that reflection, she required China to sanction the unrestricted import of machinery, the act must be placed to her credit as one of marked disinterestedness. Concerning the demands that she preferred at first and ultimately agreed to waive, it is altogether hypercritical and almost childishly suspicious to suppose that their withdrawal was suggested by some Power unfriendly to England, and as for the query whether Great Britain should tamely "submit to be thus set aside and treated as a *quantité négligéable*," we cannot think it worthy of answer. The Treaty, as concluded, was a matter of compromise. All treaties are matters of compromise. Were they not so, what conceivable end could be served by appointing plenipotentiaries to negotiate them? It has been charged against Japan that she betrayed her Oriental disposition by asking for more than she intended to take. Where in the pages of Occidental history can there be found an example of a Power that acted otherwise? There are indeed instances of a victor dictating terms to a crushed and helpless foe. But such instances are not in point. Whenever and wherever a treaty has had to be negotiated between two countries, each of the high contracting parties, in formulating its proposals, has always left itself a margin over and above its irreducible minimum. What Japan regarded as her margin at Shimonoseki we do not know, but we can not think, for example, that much hope was entertained of inducing China to agree to the opening of Pekin. At all events, the Viceroy Li is alleged to have taken the strongest exception to that proposal, and succeeded in adducing arguments conclusive as to the fact that his Government would be seriously embarrassed were the demand insisted upon. The removal of the Woosung Bar appears to have turned upon financial considerations. The Chinese Plenipotentiary could justly point to the great expense involved in such an undertaking, and could plead his country's inability to saddle itself with large outlays in addition to the payment of a heavy indemnity and to the charges incurred in the prosecution of the war. As to the opening of the West River, it is plain that the Pekin statesmen must see grave difficulties in the way of the project, since, despite the pressure repeatedly brought to bear on them by the British Representative, at the instance of the Hongkong merchants, they have declined to make the concession. Doubtless, they objected strongly to the proposal when put forward by the Japanese Plenipotentiaries, and it is perfectly natural that Japan, in arranging terms of compromise, should have been most ready to yield on points that had a minimum of direct interest for herself. Surely it is undignified, if not contemptible, to cry out that Great Britain has reason to be offended because the Japanese neglected to procure certain tradal advantages for her in the sequel of a war no part of the risks or charges of which were borne by her. Great Britain, we should hope, can obtain what she wants without the assistance of any Power, and assuredly there can be no question of her submitting or not submitting to a lack of gratuitous generosity on Japan's part.

JAPANESE ESPIONAGE.

THE old fiction about Japanese esp
age has been vigorously revived
ing the present war. It used to be a c
mon belief among foreign residents in
early days that every act of their lives
watched, that their servants were in
cial pay, and that records of their do
were periodically submitted to the
vernment. Some foundation, how
slight, must have existed for the fa
but truly a private individual's estimat
his own importance has to be very
siderable before he can imagine him
the object of so much official attentior
is easy to conceive that when foreig
were altogether novel and curious be
to the Japanese, they may often have b
observed so closely as to suggest the
of espionage. But after that is said, t
probably remains nothing more to
That any organized system of spying
practised, or that reports were regul
submitted for official information, is
worthy of belief, and has been repeat
contradicted by men in a position to k
and having no object in deceiving. C
ing down to later times, especially a
Japanese successes in the recent war
begun to excite universal surprise, a g
deal was written on this subject, and by
critic, at any rate, methods and mot
of a treacherous and degraded chara
were freely attributed to the Japan
It was alleged, for example, that Japar
travelling in Western countries abuse
hospitality extended to them by tal
notes of everything they see, and
collecting information likely to be us
to their Government in the event of
ternational complications. Very str
language was employed to denounce
practice, and those resorting to it
characterized as persons unworthy to
admitted to civilized intercourse. B
moment's reflection would have sh
that Japan herself is the object of preci
similar scrutiny at the hands of for
visitors. There are on record many
stances of European and American
tary or naval experts who, coming
Japan as mere travellers and being
pitably and unreservedly received, c
piled minute reports and submitted t
secretly to their Governments. No
thinks of censuring such acts. They ar
cognised as perfectly proper. What
a man is unconditionally permitted to
in a foreign country, that he is assur
at liberty to describe, either publicl
privately, for the benefit of those tha
not enjoy the same opportunity of see
If, as an expert, he can collect mat
likely to be of service to his country,
plainly dictates that he should collec
To denounce the Japanese as treache
informers and violators of the law
hospitality, because they do exact
we ourselves would do und
circumstances, shows prejudic

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of thought. It is probably true that the business of collecting and transmitting information is conducted on a much more extended scale by Japanese visiting foreign countries than by foreigners visiting Japan. The West still offers a mass of material in great part novel and altogether useful to Japan, whereas Japan is studied by foreigners on account of its curious rather than its serious aspects. But with that merely accidental and temporary difference, intelligent travellers, whether European or Japanese, obey similar canons and pursue similar objects. The attempts made by superficial critics to establish a charge of treacherous espionage against the Japanese, will not bear impartial examination. It is, however, a fair question whether the educational facilities hitherto unreservedly extended to Japanese military and naval students in Europe should not be more or less curtailed. Japan has grown too big to be treated with indifference, and if, by allowing her cadets to be educated at European military colleges or trained in European men-of-war, service matters generally concealed from a possible enemy are exposed to the danger of inconvenient revelation, it becomes a problem for the State concerned to determine whether greater reserve should not be practised. Japan can no longer be everybody's friend. She has excited jealousy, and must henceforth expect perfectly frank friendship only at the hands of nations that have no interests opposed to hers.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[Our readers must distinctly understand that we are in no sense responsible for the sentiments or opinions of our correspondents, for the accuracy of their assertions, or for the deductions they may choose to draw therefrom.]

CHRISTIAN WORK FOR THE SOLDIERS.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—When this work was begun we appealed to Christians in Japan for financial assistance. The response was prompt and liberal and the required amount has been raised. The work is not completed yet, but we have enough, and I wish to inform friends who may contemplate giving more that we will decline with thanks further contributions.

Later, there will be a financial report; also, a report by the men whom we sent.

The liberality of friends in Japan, America, England, and Australia made the financial part of the work easy, for which interest they have our sincere thanks.

Yours respectfully, W. A. WILSON.
Hiroshima, June 14th, 1895.

PHALLICISM IN JAPAN.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—Your correspondent, Mr. Otis Cary, says that the author of the pamphlet, "Phallicism in Japan," is "quite free of the charges made against him." Mr. Cary does not so free him. The first charge was that the writer of that pamphlet, a former teacher in the Doshisha, collected and exhibited, as objects belonging to Shinto, obscene images obtained from Japanese houses of ill-fame. The evidence for this was Mr. Buckley's own printed assertion of the fact; and this Mr. Cary does not deny. He says that "only two objects" had such an origin. That is quite sufficient. Mr. Buckley *did* exhibit those two objects as Shinto "cultus implements" in Chicago; and those two obscenities were from brothels. They were, I should suppose, the principal pieces of his collection.

Mr. Cary asks whether such images are worshipped in similar houses in America? That has nothing to do with the matter. We should not expect an Oriental to look for evidences of Christianity in American brothels, or to attempt to identify the superstitions of their inmates with the religion of the nation.

Mr. Cary asks me to explain why certain shells are "so often found in connection with phallic shrines." I suppose he means in Japan. When the existence of the shrines are proved so that the use of the phrase "so often found" has any meaning, I shall be quite willing to give information on the subject, even to Mr. Buckley. The symbolism of shells ought to be familiar to those professing capacity to study the religions of Japan;—but such small knowledge as I possess about these matters is not for the present, at the service of everybody who asks for it.

I declared the pamphlet as an attempt to bring Shinto into ridicule, as well as to connect it with prostitution and obscenity. "No one acquainted with Mr. Buckley would make such an assertion," says his apologist. The acquaintance of Mr. Buckley could not possibly change the character of the little pamphlet to which his name is attached. The neighbourhood of Ise—because the holiest shrine in Japan—has been selected for the point of the attack, and for the field of exploration. The attack is cowardly and artful,—contradictions being purposely introduced into the text to allow of a subsequent printed denial of such purpose. It is quite true the pamphlet declares in one place that "phallicism can only by gross misconception (!) be associated with obscenity," but the ex-Doshisha teacher takes good care to make the association, and to belie his text. He gets phallus-images from brothels, translates from Japanese what he finds himself obliged to put into Latin; and his scholarly comment is "Show me your man, I will show you his God." This is the argument, he tells us, for the "Christian." What has this to do with scientific work? Obscene the pamphlet is, not in the meaning of "hidden," but in the meaning of immodest and nasty. It is not is because it refers to a subject which every scientific man of this day knows how to discuss decently; but because it refers to it with the ignorance that is vulgar, and with a purpose that is base. The subject is not one for the general public to discuss in detail;—it is a subject for learned societies to discuss, and there is a periodical to which such matter can be submitted for scientific treatment. The books treating of it in the manner of Knight are not suffered to be sold at prices that places them within popular reach; and the American Society for their Suppression promptly and properly suppresses cheap publications of the same kind. But the ex-Doshisha teacher prints his pseudo-cryptic trash in a cheap pamphlet of a few pages, offered under missionary auspices, to the general public by newspaper announcement,—a cheap pamphlet to prove that Shinto is a religion of brothels! If Mr. Buckley had anything else to say worthy of scientific attention he might have offered his MS. to the Asiatic Society. But although that Society comprises many missionaries, he would not, in any event, have been there allowed to make a filthy attack upon the State Religion by insinuations or otherwise.

Mr. Buckley's statement that what he calls phallicism *has* shrines, festivals, priests, &c., "identical with those of Shinto" is a statement in the present tense. Had he used the past tense, I might not have charged him with "conscious falsehood," or (as Mr. Cary objects to this gentle phrase), with "knowingly telling lies,"—in both senses of the word knowingly. The pamphleteer is very careful to use the present tense in other cases as well,—to convey the impression that he is talking about what now exists,—not about what was, or may have been. Even in relation to the past, however, the mission-teacher's statements and suggestions could have no value unless supported by the testimony of the very few men (not missionaries) who can speak with authority of ancient Japanese customs, literature, and belief. It is not the young Doshisha-zealot who has been trying to get a university degree in Chicago, that can enlighten us on matters about which Aston and Satow have maintained silence, and to which Professor Chamberlain barely makes a few decorous allusions. Mr. Satow visited Yamada! and the temples of Ise have been so fully described by him that his paper on the subject still remains the most valuable monograph of its kind. He found nothing to say about phallic rites, or priests, or ceremonies. Fanatics may pretend to have made valuable new discoveries in the same field, but they will probably prove to be self-discoveries. Twenty-five years ago all that is necessary to be known about phallicism is Japan was known to men capable of giving it the only attention it deserves. It is nonsense to represent Mr. Buckley as a martyr. A serious and competent worker does not classify as "phallic," objects of grass, &c., of which he openly confesses he does not know the meaning,—nor does he indulge in dirty slurs.

As for Mr. Cary's assertion, that the pamphleteer witnessed a phallic festival at a phallic shrine in Yamada, I must declare that I do not believe it. Unless Mr. Buckley paid some people to get up a private entertainment for him, I am at a loss to imagine how he could see such a festival. The testimony of the Japanese police would not, I fancy, be in Mr. Cary's favour.

Mr. Cary refuses to understand my objection to Mr. Buckley's exhibition of brothel-images as emblems of the Japanese state-religion. Let me therefore reiterate it. Mr. Buckley, after doing all in his power to associate Shinto religion with an *imaginary* existing phallicism, in ten pages of disgracefully written text, affects a final doubt on the subject, as cited by Mr. Cary. If he doubted his facts why did he exhibit in Chicago as "Shinto-cultus implements," obscene images got from brothels? One would say that he desired, by methods the reverse of truthful, to contrive loopholes of escape in his text,—a few declarations that might enable Mr. Cary to claim for him a "charitable motive;" but he worked so incautiously that he forgot to make the most important one of all. It is not the business of a worker in this field, who knows nothing of archaic Japanese, and as little about Shinto, to draw inferences of his own about meanings. That is work above his range. There is no escape from the fact that he did exhibit brothel images in America as emblems of Shinto; and that he did this with the comment: "Show me your man, I will show you his God." This attempt to belie the character of a great national religion was begun by a teacher in the Doshisha, endorsed by missionaries, and should find nothing but condemnation from men not under the influence of bigotry. It is not because the man "*happened* to teach in a mission school," as Mr. Cary hints, that these remarks have been made;—there are wiser men than Mr. Buckley connected with mission-schools. But this particular undertaking to misrepresent the living faith of millions, seems to be solely a missionary undertaking. For example, will Mr. Cary say that those "objects" of Mr. Buckley's collection, which he knows so well, were not brought to the Doshisha, and kept in the museum of that establishment?

I remain, Sir, very truly, Z.
June 14th, 1895.

THE RESPONSIBILITY OF TELEGRAPH COMPANIES.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—In yesterday's *Mail*, under "American Items," you mention the case of MacLaughlin *v.* the Union Telegraph Co., as one of great interest, involving the question how far a telegraph agency is responsible for neglect to deliver in time a message entrusted to it. For citizens of the United States, the point involved in this case, though interesting, is unfortunately not new. The English rule, as based upon the decision of the Queen's Bench in Playford *v.* the United Kingdom Telegraph Co., seems to be that a company is liable to the sender of the telegram only, on the ground that the addressee has no property in the message; while the American rule is that either sender, sendee, or both may recover on the common law ground that for every injury the law supposes a remedy. In matters of trade this principle is easily applied; but whether compensatory damages can be recovered for mental suffering alone has been, and unfortunately still is, a moot question. The courts of Texas, North Carolina, Kentucky, Tennessee, Indiana, and Alabama decided in the affirmative; those of Kansas, Mississippi, Georgia, Minnesota, etc., as well as the Federal Courts (with one single exception, I believe) have negatived the liability of a company in a case involving mental suffering alone. Loyal and popular sentiment seems to incline to the theory of liability. In one case a mother who had not been able to reach the bedside of her son before he died, owing to negligence in the delivery of a telegram, had a verdict for $5,000, which, on appeal, was reduced to $2,500. In view of this, the claim for $5,250 damages in the very remarkable case you have stated, does not seem excessive. If the litigation and decision of this case should ultimately lead to greater uniformity in the practice of the various courts, nobody ought to be more heartily congratulated on such a result than the members of the legal profession, whose interests, as well as those of the public, suffer from that "glorious uncertainty of the law" to a greater extent than is generally supposed.

Yours respectfully,
AMICUS CURIÆ.
Kobe, 15th June, 1895.

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IMPERIAL ORDINANCE.

We hereby give Our Sanction to the present Ordinance relating to the Organization of the Bureau of Formosan Affairs, and order it to be promulgated.

(His Imperial Majesty's Sign-Manual).
(Great Seal).
(Countersigned), Count Ito Hirobumi.
Minister President of State.

Dated the 13th day of the 6th month of the 28th year of *Meiji*.

Imperial Ordinance No. LXXIV.

Organization of the Bureau of Formosan Affairs.

Art. I.—In the Cabinet there shall be established a Bureau for Formosan Affairs under the control of the Minister President of State.

Art. II.—The Bureau of Formosan Affairs shall have charge of all matters, civil and military, relating to Formosa and the Pescadore Group.

Art. III.—The Bureau of Formosan Affairs shall present to the Minister President of State its views upon the representations and reports forwarded by the Governor-General of Formosa.

Art. IV.—All correspondence between the different departments and offices of the Central Government and the Governor-General of Formosa, shall be conveyed though the medium of the Bureau of Formosan Affairs.

All correspondence directed to the Governor-General of Formosa from the different departments and Offices of the Central Government, shall previously be submitted to the inspection of the Bureau of Formosan Affairs.

Art. V.—The Bureau of Formosan Affairs shall be constituted by a President, and Vice-President, and a certain number of Commissioners.

Art. VI.—The position of President shall be filled by an official of *Shinnin* rank, and that of Vice-President by one of *Chokunin* rank.

Art. VII.—Commissioners shall be nominated on the recommendation of the Minister President of State, from amongst officials of *Chokunin* rank.

Art. VIII.—The President shall make regulations about investigations, debates, and the management of business, and shall report the same to the Minister President of State.

Art. IX.—The President shall preside over the debates, report the results of the debates to the Minister President of State, and superintend the general business of the Bureau.

Art. X.—In case of the disability of the President, his functions shall be discharged by the Vice-President.

With the exception of the case mentioned in the preceding clause, the Vice-President shall have in the debates exactly the same status as the Commissioners.

Art. XI.—Besides taking part in the debates, the Commissioners may, by order of the President, be entrusted with a share in the management of the business of the Bureau.

Art. XII.—The President, the Vice-President, and the Commissioners shall receive an annual allowance not exceeding a thousand *yen*.

Art. XIII.—Two Secretaries shall be appointed to the Bureau of Formosan Affairs. They shall be of *Sonin* rank; and their official grade and salary shall be regulated in accordance with the accompanying schedule.

The Secretaries, under the direction of the President, shall manage the general business of the Bureau.

Art. XIV.—A certain number of clerks shall be appointed to the Bureau of Formosan Affairs. They shall be of *Hannin* rank; and they shall be engaged in the conduct of general business under the direction of superior officials.

Schedule.

	Sonin Rank.				
Official rank and grade.	3rd grade.	4th grade.	5th grade.	6th grade.	7th grade.
Annual Salary	A 2,500	B 2,400 C 2,200	D 2,800 E 1,600	F 1,400 G 1,200	H 1,000 I 900 J 800

THE PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY OF JAPAN.

An ordinary meeting of the above-mentioned Society was held in the rooms of the Chigakukyokai (Geographical Society) Nishikonyacho, Hibashi-ku, Tokyo, on Friday June, 14th at 5 p.m. Mr. C. D. West in the chair.

The minutes of the last meeting having been printed in the *Japan Mail*, and in the Japanese Photographic periodicals, were taken as read.

Mr. K. Ogura, who had recently returned from China, where he had been official photographer to the Japanese army, during the recent war, showed some interesting results of his work.

Mr. W. K. Burton showed a machine designed by Professor John Milne, F.R.S., of photographing animals—or thieves—in the dark. The slightest pull on bait attached to a thread, or the touching of a stretched cord, ignited a quantity—small or great as might be considered desirable—of flash powder, placed alongside a camera, and anything at the point of contact was photographed.

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the Chairman.

ASIATIC SOCIETY OF JAPAN.

A general meeting of the Asiatic Society of Japan was held at No. 17, Tsukiji, on Wednesday, June 12th, at 4 p.m. The President, Rev. Dr. D. C. Greene, occupied the chair.

After the preliminary business of the meeting had been transacted, the President called upon Rev. Clay MacCauley to read a paper by Rev. H. E. Newell of Niigata on the Petroleum Industries of Nagaoka. The author began by giving an account of the history of the petroleum of this district. Traditions of oil discoveries went back as early as the year 674 A.D., but it was not until 1830 that the people of this district used the oil in a practical way, and then only to a very limited extent until 1865. After the latter year, many attempts were made to refine the oil on a larger scale, but most of these attempts were failures. Since the year 1886, however, companies had been established that had proved successful.

The writer gave a minute account of three places where the oil was produced,—Urase, Hire, and Katsubo. He described the method of pumping the oil and of taking it to the place of refining, the island of Nakajima, near Nagaoka. Statistics were mentioned of the amount produced and the cost of production. The paper closed with an account of the effect of these oil discoveries on the welfare of the people of Nagaoka and the surrounding villages.

The President thanked the author and reader of the paper in behalf of the Society. He stated that he had himself travelled through the region described, and while the new work had had the effect of adding to the prosperity of the place as described by Mr. Newell, yet it had the drawback of being extremely filthy. The carriers of the oil from the wells to the refineries were covered with the crude oil, and were indiscribably dirty.

Following the reading of this paper, was a Lecture on the Luchuan and Japanese Languages by Professor Basil Hall Chamberlain, as follows:—

A Comparison of the Japanese and Luchuan Languages.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies, and Gentlemen:—Grammar is a notoriously dry subject,—so dry indeed that I should scarcely have ventured on it before any audience less well-equipped than one composed of members of the Asiatic Society. As it is, I take it that almost all of us have devoted no little time to endeavouring to master the grammar of Japanese, which is of all languages perhaps the most hopelessly and heartrendingly difficult. We are fellow-sufferers. Why should we not, then, imitate the invalids at those European health-resorts, who derive a kind of sad and mitigated pleasure from talking over their various pains and aches, and comparing the dreadful nights that they have spent? One sometimes gets useful hints in this way; and if nothing else can be accomplished by a comparison of Japanese grammar with Luchuan, one good result at least may possibly accrue,—we may become half reconciled to our fate here, as students of Japanese, by a peep into the yet deeper depths of difficulty and complication in the sister tongue.

I visited Luchu in the spring of 1893, and after my return thence was lucky enough to come across an educated Luchuan in Tōkyō, and thus to continue the study of the language at intervals during the last two years. These studies have been embodied in an outline grammar, vocabulary, and conversation-book, which the Asiatic Society has undertaken to print in its *Transactions*, and from which—it being obviously impossible to claim your attention for the whole—I propose to extract a few of the leading conclusions.

First and foremost among these conclusions comes the discovery, already alluded to, that Japanese and Luchuan *are* sister tongues,—that, though mutually unintelligible, they stand related to each other in about the same degree that Spanish and French are related. Hitherto Japanese had stood alone in the linguistic world. Dialects she had, no doubt; for what language was ever spoken uniformly over so wide an area? Korean, too, might have been adduced as constructed on the same general pattern. But there was no second language at once sufficiently like Japanese and sufficiently unlike it, to afford a convenient and fruitful term of comparison, such as, for instance, French, Italian, Spanish, and Portuguese afford among each other; and this isolation, among other reasons, caused Japanese philology to remain singularly uncertain and barren. Now that Japanese owns a sister, things are changed. As between the words of other sister tongues, so here also rules of letter-interchange can be established, derivations can be tested from the outside, and the genesis of at least some of the grammatical forms made out.

A few practical instances of common Luchuan phrases will best show, in a general way, the likeness and unlikeness of the two languages. Take, for example:—

Luchuan.	Japanese.
Chiū wuganabira ..... / Kyō ogamimashō	Konnichi wa.
Sachi nghai nā mishēbirī ... / Saki ye iti nasai	Dōzo o saki ye.
Nagadā wugaming shabirang. / Nagaku ogami-mo shimasen.	Shibaraku go busata itashimashita.
Ayabirang! ..... / Arimasen	Dō itashimashite!
Nā yutasha y'abing ..... / Mō yoroshiū gozimasu.	
U chā ushagarani? ..... / ■ cha oshi-agaranai ka?	O cha agarimasen ka?
Umjō, tushē, ikutsi na- / Anata wa, toshi wa, ikutsu nari- / *mishēbī' ga?* ..... / nasaru ka?	Anata wa o toshi wa ikutsu desu ka?

A general comparison of Luchuan words with their Japanese equivalents shows that

Luchuan	*ch*	corresponds to	Japanese	*k*	
,,	*j*	,,	,,	*g* and *d*	
,,	*f*	,,	,,	*h*	
,,	*i* and *u* respectively	,,	,,	*e* and *o*	
,,	*ê*	,,	,,	*ai* or *aya*	
,,	*ô*	,,	,,	*au*	

These changes are all familiar in languages further west. A more peculiar correspondence—though, to be sure, not unknown in other languages—is that of Luchuan *n* to Japanese *m*, while the constant dropping of the difficult letter *r* in Luchuan is familiar to us from the practice of many speakers of English who pronounce "carriage" *ca'iage*. If Luchuan drops its *r*'s, Japanese drops initial *w*'s and *y*'s, also *ng*'s at the end of words and syllables. Bearing in mind these correspondences, we can identify such pairs of words as the following, which are but samples of hundreds:—

Luchuan.	Japanese.	
chichung	*kiku*	to hear
chūng	*kuru*	to come
ching	*kin*	gold
jing	*gin*	silver
fiji	*hige*	beard
fē	*hai*	a fly
fisha (leg)	*kisa* (knee)	
fijai	*hidari*	left hand
kōyung	*kau*	to buy
kanung (to eat)	*kamu* (to bite)	
nā	*mō*	yet
nūng	*miru*	to see
wunjin	*oji*	uncle
yyō	*ai*	indigo

The most different-looking words are by no means always the most difficult. For instance, the Japanese word for "quick," *hayai*, and the Luchuan word for the same idea, *fēsang*, look as different as well can be. Yet it is quite easy to identify them, letter by letter. For Luchuan *f* is Japanese *h*, Luchuan *ê* is Japanese *aya*, and Luchuan *sang* (for *sa ang*) on the one hand, and Japanese *i* on the other, are mere terminations.

In many cases, easier perhaps at first sight, the precise method of correspondence cannot yet be ascertained. Between such pairs of words, for instance, as:—

Luchuan.		Japanese.	
kūbā	and	*kumo*	spider
chu	,,	*hito*	person
wā	,,	*i* (classical *wi*)	pig
yutashang	,,	*yoroshii*	good

all we can yet say is that *some* relationship seems likely.

Considering that the Luchuan language had never been analysed before, and that no helps of any kind towards the acquirement of it existed, excepting one very stilted and imperfect Luchuan-Japanese Conversation-book, it is not to be expected that all difficulties should be solved at once, or even after two years' study. Most of the present audience, no doubt, have had bad times with so-called Japanese teachers, who, whatever else they may know, certainly have not the faintest idea of how to teach their own language. At Naha matters were even worse; for if I then knew no Luchuan, the Luchuan so-called teachers had but a very hazy knowledge of Japanese, and as for their own language, they had never speculated on it in their lives. One of them, fortunately intelligent, warmed to his task, and grew

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quite enthusiastic over the, to him, new revelation of such things as verbs and adjectives. But the fact of his having lived for forty years in total ignorance of such phenomena, made him an unsafe guide even on points so elementary as the question where one word should leave off and another begin. Consequently I was at first thrown back very much on guesswork, and some of these guesses proved to be happy inspirations. For instance, take the word "tobacco," why should my Luchuan friends sometimes call it *tabaku*, some times *tabakō*? At first I thought I must have heard wrong; and yet,—no! there was no doubt about it. Day after day, first *tabaku*, then *tabakō* came from their lips, together with the smoke from their long Luchuan pipes. At last one day, after puzzling over it for a long time, the idea suggested itself: is not *tabaku* the simple word, and *tabakō* the equivalent of Japanese *tabako wa*? There being no equivalent to *wa* in the Luchuan language, this hypothesis would account for its absence. The guess proved right; for every instance in which it could be tested by a comparison of sentences where Japanese syntax would require the use of *wa*, showed a certain modification of the termination of the Luchuan noun,—a sort of inflection in fact; and further research proved that this inflection and one or two others afterwards verified, varied regularly according to the final vowel of the plain word. To be brief, Luchuan nouns turned out to have a declension. There is not time to enter into the theory of the Luchuan declension, nor even into the whole of its practice. Here are specimens of two of the regular declensions :—

DECLENSION OF NOUNS.

	Kasi, "Wind"	*Gafang*, "Mosquito"
Plain Form	*kasi*	*gajang*
Isolated Form	*kasē*	*gajamō*
Aggregated Form	*kasing*	*gajanung*
Interrogative	*kasi ?*	*gajanui ?*

There are three other declensions.

Pronouns are declined like nouns, the first pronoun *wang* being, however, very irregular. *Wang*, you will notice, recalls Japanese *ware*, "I," which was *wa* in the older pre-classical speech, and has been replaced by the compound *wa-takushi* in modern colloquial. *Watakushi*, as you doubtless know, is believed to be a corruption of *wa-tskushi*, lit. "exhausting self," *i.e.* "pushing selfishness to its furthest limits." The *wa* of *wa-takushi* is simply Luchuan *wang* minus its *ng*, in accordance with the rule that Japanese drops such final nasals.

LUCHUAN PRONOUNS.

1st Person	*wang*
2nd Person (common)	*yā*
2nd Person (polite)	*unju*

I fear that your patience must be getting sorely tried; and the most important chapter in the comparison of the two languages must be dismissed as lightly as possible—I mean the conjugation of verbs and adjectives. Put into a nutshell, Luchuan proves two things concerning the parent language from which itself and Japanese both sprang. It proves first, that there was originally but a single conjugation,—not three, as we see in actual Japanese; but secondly that this original simplicity in one direction was counterbalanced by greater complication in another; for whereas modern Japanese possesses only one form for each tense of the indicative mood and the earlier Classical Japanese only two, Luchuan has five, the use of which is governed by an elaborate set of rules. Luchuan also has three past tenses instead of the single one of modern Japanese.

CONJUGATION OF A REGULAR LUCHUAN VERB.

Tuyung, "to take" (Jap. *toru*).

POSITIVE VOICE.

INDICATIVE MOOD.

Present.		Perfect.	
Conclusive	*tuyung*	Conclusive	*tutōng*
Attributive	*tuyuru*	Attributive	*tutōru*
Apocopated	*tuyu'*	Apocopated	*tutō'*
Interrogative	*tuyumi ?*	Interrogative	*tutōmi ?*
Verbal Noun	*tuyusi*	Verbal Noun	*tutōsi*
Imperfect.		Pluperfect.	
Conclusive	*tutang*	Conclusive	*tutōtang*
Attributive	*tutaru*	Attributive	*tutōtaru*
Apocopated	*tuta'*	Apocopated	*tutōta'*
Interrogative	*tuti ?*	Interrogative	*tutōti ?*
Verbal Noun	*tutasi*	Verbal Noun	*tutōtasi*

Future.

Conclusive, Attributive, Apocopated	*tura*
Interrogative	*tui ga shabira ?*
Verbal Noun	(missing)
Stem	*tur*
Indefinite Form	*tui*
do. Apocopated	*tu'*
Gerund	*tuti*
do. Isolated	*tutē*
do. Aggregated	*tuting*
Imperative	*turi*
Concessive Present	*turé*
Concessive Past	*tutang-tōkang* / *tutang-tēng*
Desiderative Adjective	*tui-bushang*-conjugated according to paradigm of Adjectives.

Imperative Compound [*tutōri*

Conditional Present *turé*

Hypothetical do. *turā*

Coincident *tuinē*

Contingent *tuidungsē*

Conditional Past *tutōrē*

Hypothetical do. *tutōrā*

NEGATIVE VOICE.

INDICATIVE MOOD.

Present.		Perfect.	
Conclusive, Attributive, Apocopated	*turang*	Concl., Attrib., Apoc.	*tutē wurang*
Interrogative	*turani ?*	Interr.	*tutē wurani ?*
Verbal Noun	*turangsi*	V. Noun	*tutē wurangsi*
Imperfect.		Pluperfect.	
Concl.	*turangtang*	Concl.	*tutē wurangtang*
Attrib.	*turangtaru*	Attrib.	*tutē wurangtaru*
Apoc.	*turangta'*	Apoc.	*tutē wurangta'*
Interr.	*turangti ?*	Interr.	*tutē wurangti ?*
V. Noun	*turangtasi*	V. Noun	*tutē wurangtasi*

Future.

Conclusive, Attribute, Apocopated	*turang kasi.*
Interrogative	*turang ga shabira.*
Verbal Noun	(missing).
Gerund.	*turangti.*
do. Isolated	*turangtē.*
do. Aggregated	*turang-ting.*
Imperative (conf. ¶ 127 of Grammar).	
Conditional Pres.	*turang dung arē.*
Hypoth. Pres.	*turang-dung arā.*
(for other tenses conf. ¶ 128 of Grammar).	
Desiderative Adjective	*tui-bushakō nērang.*

The Conclusive form of the various tenses of the Indicative is used only at the end of a sentence; the Attributive is used before nouns, just as when we say in Japanese, *toru toki*, *toru hito*, and also instead of the Conclusive when the common emphatic particle *du* precedes. The Apocopated replaces the Attributive in certain special cases. The Interrogative serves of course to ask questions. For instance, *tuyumi ?* is equivalent to Japanese *toru ka ?*—*tuti ?* to Japanese *totta ka ?* The Verbal Noun represents Japanese *toru koto*, and also performs other functions too technical even to indicate here. When I add that adjectives are conjugated nearly like verbs by means of the suffix *ang* which corresponds to Japanese *aru*, "to be," have I done enough to give you a glimpse into the subject, and to prove, as was said at starting, that we here in Tōkyō should be grateful for the comparative ease of Japanese, and thank fate for not having sent us to Nafa instead ?

* * * * * * * * * * *

Leaving all such grammatical dry bones, and leaving also on one side for to-day all discussion of the numerous cases in which the Luchuan form of words throws light on Japanese forms hitherto obscure, it may be interesting to terminate by quoting a case in which a comparison of the two languages opens out quite a different vista,—a vista not enclosed with the limits of mere linguistic research. The word *torii* is such a case. The Japanese *torii*, as you well know, is a peculiar kind of gateway set up in front of Shintō temples. The word is written with the two characters 鳥居, that is, "bird dwelling," and the native account of its origin is quoted and, as it would seem, accepted, by even so high an authority as Mr. Satow, who writes of it as follows :—

"The *torii* was originally a perch for the fowls offered up to the gods, not as food, but to give warning of daybreak. It was erected on any side of the temple indifferently. In later times, not improbably after the introduction of Buddhism, its original meaning was forgotten; it was placed in front only, and supposed to be a gateway. Tablets with inscriptions (*gaku*) were placed on the *torii* with this belief, and one of the first things done after the restoration of the Mikado in 1868, in the course of the purification of the Shintō temples, was the removal of these tablets. The etymology of the word is evidently 'bird rest.' The *torii* gradually assumed the character of a general symbol of Shintō, and the number which might be erected to the honour of a deity became practically unlimited. The Buddhists made it of stone or bronze, and frequently of red-painted wood and developed various forms."

So far Mr. Satow. Nothing could well be more explicit. Notice, however, before proceeding any further, that *we really know nothing whatever of Shintō until a century and a half after the introduction of Buddhism into Japan*, our earliest extant Japanese book, the "*Kojiki*," dating only from A.D. 712, when Buddhism, which brought civilisation in its train, was already an established power in the land. What modern native *literati* have to say concerning the state of their country in pre-Buddhistic days is therefore almost all conjecture,—conjecture enlivened by a patriotism of the most jingo hue. Mr. Aston, struck apparently by the intrinsic improbability of the erection of gateways for cocks to perch on, prefers to derive *torii* from *tōru* 通, "to pass through," an etymology which might seem appropriate enough for a term signifying "archway," though the long *ō* of the one word and the short *o* of the other cause serious difficulty. Now the Luchuan form of the word, which is *turi*, strikes at the root both of the orthodox derivation and of the proposed alternative. "Bird" in Luchuan is *tui*, and "to pass though" is *tūyung*, both words corresponding quite regularly with Japanese *tori* and *tōru* respectively, even in the matter of vowel quantity. The absence of the *r* is what the rules of interchange between such pairs of Japanese and Luchuan words would lead us naturally to expect; and the Luchuan equivalent of *torii* according to the former etymology would be *tuwi*, according to the latter probably *tūyi*. But the Luchuan form *turi* has an *r*, and must therefore either have descended from some source distinct from both the word signifying "bird" and that signifying "passage," or else it must have been borrowed from Japanese at a comparatively late date. If the former alternative be accepted, the etymology of the word remains a mystery. If the latter, then the word is shown to have formed no part of the common Japano-Luchuan heritage; and a suspicion arises that the thing itself,—that is to say the shape and use and even the name of the *torii*,—is not really of Shintō origin at all, but a foreign importation. Of course we must not therefore hastily jump to the conclusion that the Japanese *torii*, or Shintō archway, is but a modification of the Indian *toran* (the Chinese *p'ai-lou* or *p'ai-fang*); but we may at least say that one obstacle to such a conclusion is removed.

One consideration more before finishing,—a consideration still farther removed from mere grammatical detail. Does not the sisterly relationship of Japanese to Luchuan prove, once for all, that Japanese is the language of the last invaders of Japan,—not, as there might hitherto have been equally good reason to think, the language of earlier aboriginal inhabitants of the central provinces (Yamato for instance), adopted by conquerors comparatively few in numbers, just as provincial Latin was adopted by the Gothis and the Franks? The case of Japanese must rather resemble that of Anglo-Saxon, which thrust back and has at last well-nigh effaced the languages of earlier populations. The solidarity between Japanese and Luchuan would otherwise be inexplicable. My belief is that legend points true for once in making Jimmu Tennō, the first "earthly Emperor" of Japan, begin his career in the extreme West of the country, and thence fight his way eastwards. A glance at the map shows Kyūshū to be the portion of Japan nearest to the mainland of Asia,—Kyūshū, with little Tsushima as a convenient stepping-stone. By this easy route we may imagine the conquering race to have entered the country at some date previous to the third century of the Christian era; for the geographical and other names mentioned by the Chinese historians of that century have an unmistakably Japanese ring. From Kyūshū the invaders would have pressed forward East and North, exterminating some tribes of aborigines and incorporating others, as legend asserts to have been the case. This process which, by the eighth century after Christ, carried Japanese colonisation up to about the 40th parallel of latitude, is still going on; for Yezo is only now beginning to fill up with Japanese, and the aborigines there still form a considerable factor in the population.

Now is it not intrinsically probable that, while the main body of invaders moved North-East in the general direction of the land, a few stragglers, laggards, or weaklings should have wandered South, driven perhaps by defeat in internecine strife to take refuge in the little Southern archipelago, whose islets stretch like the rungs of a ladder the whole way from the Gulf of Kagoshima to what is now known as Great Luchu? History tells us of the arrival of such refugees during the Middle Ages. Why should not the same thing have occurred at an earlier date? Racial and linguistic affinities would thus find a very simple explanation, while the distance in time and space amply accounts for the existing differences.

Thus far to-day. As you see, quite a number of side-issues open out before the comparative student of Luchuan and Japanese. It would not be possible for me to exhaust them in one lecture; but it would, I fear, be very easy for me to exhaust your patience, if indeed it is not exhausted already.

Dr. Divers thought it a hazardous conjecture to suppose, as Mr. Chamberlain did, that the Japanese came by way of Korea into Japan, as there were no similarities either of language or of anything else between the Japanese and the people of the mainland.

Mr. Chamberlain stated that there was close similarity between the Korean and Japanese tongues, similarity not indeed of vocabulary but of grammatical construction. In all other directions, whether westwards in China, southwards in For-

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mosa and the isles of the Pacific, eastwards on the American coast, not only the vocabulary but the grammatical construction proceeded on altogether alien lines.

Mr. Mason remarked that there was a further corroboration of Mr. Chamberlain's theory from the fact that the dialects spoken in the islands lying between Japan and Korea, such as Tsushima, Oki, and Goto, were a purer form of Japanese than even the dialects spoken in Kyūshū. Had the Japanese come to Japan from the North, this would be almost inexplicable.

Mr. Chamberlain spoke of the peculiarities of language in the various Luchuan islands as sustaining his theory of the origin of the Japanese people. The distribution of dialects, though as yet very imperfectly known, seems peculiar and opens out a wide field of study. The islands nearest to Japan are not in all cases those whose language most nearly approximates to standard Japanese.

The President, in thanking Mr. Chamberlain, called attention to the great value of his work on the Luchuan language, soon to be issued in the Transactions of the Society. This work would not only be of practical value to those who wished to visit the Islands, but of still greater value to students of comparative philology, especially to those interested in the position of the Japanese language.

The meeting adjourned at 5.30.

A LEADING ITALIAN JOURNAL ON THE TRIPLE ALLIANCE.

The *Corriere di Napoli*, one of the most prominent organs of the Italian Liberal party, has the following article in its issue of May 2nd :—

JAPAN AND EUROPE.

With what marvellous exactitude do human events reproduce themselves in the course of time. Sadowa in 1866 seemed to France, without any real and legitimate cause, a humiliation. She had no rest until she sought means in some way to recover her position of supremacy. And behold, after 30 years, the Japanese victories seem, also without any cause, an insult to Russia, who is trying to turn the half of Europe upside-down in order to prevent Japan from obtaining the price of her victories.

During the war of 1866, France also, as long as arms were glittering on the battle-field, thought fit to remain quiet. It did not happen until after the war was over that the French became devoured by a longing to humiliate the victor, even at the cost of coming into accord with the vanquished. While not only Russia but all the Powers of Europe, which is no more a collective body, found it convenient not to move a finger until the war was raging, now some of them are showing their courage in order to try to get possession of a portion of the spoils, which they did not help at all to procure.

The indignation is not perhaps against China, who has allowed herself to be ignominiously beaten, but against Japan, who, while offering to the world the spectacle of an admirable military and naval organization, has beaten her adversaries everywhere she met them.

It is indeed astonishing to observe the tone of the St. Petersburg and Moscow press. If the Japanese had audaciously penetrated into vast Siberia and had shown their intention to open through that country a way to Europe, the Russian newspapers would not have spoken differently. What has always happened since the world exists, that is to say, that the victor after a successful war adorns himself with the spoils of the vanquished foe, has become in Russian eyes an unbearable fact, almost a crime. Because Japan obliged the defeated Chinese Empire to surrender the Liaotung peninsula in Southern Manchuria, St. Petersburg and Moscow consider their interests touched to the quick, and raise their voices apparently in order to protect Pekin, which they say is threatened, but in reality in order to claim compensation to which they have no right. And while asking people to believe that the equilibrium in Asia would be disturbed if Japan were permitted to take advantage of her victories, they are threatening new wars in order to undo what the last war did.

We are again as we were in 1866. Moreover, at the instigation of the Czar, in addition to attempted alliances and grouping even among Powers up to the present hostile, it is now essayed, as it was at that time to bring even Austria and Italy together in every possible way, to associate France and Germany in a common diplomatic and military undertaking by which only Russia would benefit.

Let us hope for the honour of humanity and for the sake of justice that this hybrid coalition will be dissolved before it has time to be consolidated by some concrete act of force. Such a coalition is not justified either by any reasonable motive or by any aspiration to protect interests unjustly trampled upon. The war between China and Japan has been straightforwardly fought. If any foolish and immoderate pride has been shown, it was wholly on the side of China, who, believing herself the more powerful, did not consent to any of the conciliatory proposals advanced by Japan before having recourse to arms. If the Chinese Government had only recognized the right of Korea to live as an independent State, neither Japanese war vessels nor Japanese soldiers would have moved.

It is her own fault if China, in the supreme moment of the struggle, found herself unprovided with the essentials of victory. The battles she lost on the banks of the Yalu, at Port Arthur, and everywhere round the Pechili Gulf, show less the skill of the Japanese than the moral and material decay of the haughty and self-conceited Celestial Empire.

That empire fell ignominiously to the ground because it was rotten to the root and incapable of any resistance. The whole campaign did not cost Japan more than 2,000 or 3,000 men, so careful were the Chinese to fly before the enemy.

Unlike other nations unfortunate in war, the Chinese have not a single deed to show during the whole campaign that might be placed to their credit, or entitle them to be considered victims of unjust and undeserved punishment. If at the end China had to surrender and hastily accept the terms of peace dictated by the victor, whom she formerly despised and ridiculed, she must ascribe this only to her cowardice and to the boundless corruption prevailing through the whole country. It is therefore absurd and unjust to save her from the destiny she has so well deserved and to stir up a new war in order to chastise not the guilty party but the instrument of justice.

They say that the Shimonoseki Treaty secures to Japan an excessive preponderance in Asia, which Europe cannot permit. All things considered, this fact has no reality, for China still possesses enormous elements of power. It depends upon herself alone to develop great strength. But even though the contention be true, the preponderance of Japan deserves to be considered by Europe rather as a benefit than as a disadvantage; to be regarded with pleasure rather than with dislike. For years and years has this country energetically worked and marched forward on the path of progress. While preserving touch with the ancient and secular customs of Asiatic nations, she has accepted all the best essentials of modern progress. She has founded her prosperity upon gradual but constant intellectual and material improvements, and while giving a gigantic impulse to national enterprise, has not attempted to close her doors to the products of foreign industry. What she could take from the most civilized among the nations, she took with great liberality, showing in her modesty a large and genuine desire to learn and to progress.

Even in formulating the terms of the treaty of peace with China, she proved that she did not care exclusively for herself, but that she sought also to benefit other nations with which she has commercial treaties. If new ports are to be opened in China, they will not be exclusively for Japanese trade, but for that of the whole civilized world.

Any attempt made by European Powers to clip the wings of Japan is, therefore, an act of real tyranny, contrary not only to justice but also to the supreme interests of civilization. Intrusted to Japan those interests would be infinitely better safeguarded than they were when superstitious, tyrannical, and corrupt China had charge of them.

We are pleased that Italy has not allowed herself to be seduced by the temptation of a union with Germany, Russia, and France in the odious step that those Governments are taking in order to modify, to the advantage of one of the three, the Shimonoseki Treaty. It is an act of wise policy on the part of Minister Blanc, and we do not conceal at all our cherished desire that the new and hybrid triple alliance, in which France feels herself already uneasy, will vanish away like a soap-bubble.

Not only does the enlargement of the Empire of the Rising Sun inspire no uneasiness, but we consider it a happy event even for the development of the future and probable trade between Asia and Italy. With the Japanese, if we understand how to cultivate good diplomatic relations and to intrust their management to capable men, we shall always come to an understanding, and it is not improbable that they will send us a portion of their products while offering no obstacle to our sending them ours. We ought to think of this at once, as England and the United States are thinking of it. With Japan we can do much; with the hard headed and ignorant Chinese we shall never do anything.

If, later on, Japan, by the mere fact of having vanquished and by the vulgar and voracious jealousy that her victories are causing to one of her new neighbours, should meet with great and unforeseen difficulties, and should have to support her reasons by force of arms, Italy, we do not doubt, although holding entirely aloof from a conflict that does not concern her directly, will from the beginning know where to give her sympathy.

HAKODATE.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

Hakodate, June 17th, 1895.

On the 13th instant, the American schooner *Golden Fleece*, Captain P. Hansen, put in with 638 seal skins. She reports having lost, on the 6th inst., in Akishi Bay (Nemuro), one of her boats with Robert Caughall, hunter, and two others. These men have been since brought down to Hakodate by a Japanese coasting steamer and are now here. They had with them at the time 4 skins, so the schooner's total catch is 642. The *Golden Fleece* further reports having spoken the following schooners :—

		Skins.	Previously landed.
6th June.....	Mermaid	54.....	1,113
8th do	Annie S. Paint...	25.....	1,124
9th do	Retriever	12.....	562
10th do	Josephine	96.....	204
11th do	Sadie Turpel.....	20.....	750

On the 13th instant, the *Chishima Maru No. I.*, Captain W. Edelmaier, a Japanese schooner belonging to the Suisan Kwaisha (Marine Production Co.) came in with 539 skins. She reports having picked up at different times 5 boats—one belonging to the *Jane Grey*, one belonging to the *Vera*, one belonging to the *Chishima Maru No. III.*, and two boats of the *Bonanza* which were picked up during a heavy squall—but she was fortunate enough to be able to put them all aboard their respective schooners.

The same day at 11 p.m. the British schooner *Ocean Belle*, Captain P. Martin, came in with 1,056 sealskins. The *Ocean Belle* reports having spoken the following schooners :—

		Skins.
28th May	Casco	1,214
1st June	Artic	150
7th do	Louis Olsen	576
7th do	C. G. Cox	835
10th do	Annie E. Paint	20

The *Annie E. Paint* had already landed 1,124 skins.

On Sunday the 16th June, the British schooner *Carlotta G. Cox*, Captain C. J. Harris, put in with 906 seal skins. She reports having spoken on the 11th June, the schooner *Louis Olsen*, with 217 skins, which will make her total 630, as she landed for transhipment 413 skins on the 11th of May last. On the same day the British schooner *Geneva*, Captain W. S. O'Leary, came in with 1,137 skins.

The stranding of the British schooner *Rosie Olsen*, reported to you by telegraph, occurred at 2.30 a.m. on Sunday morning in the Tsugaru Straits. The weather was thick and rainy at the time. The Captain has arrived here and will leave immediately with a small steamer to bring off the men and skins.

THE JAPANESE SILK TRADE.

The shop girl who earns five (gold) dollars a week can now wear a silk waist of the sort that the Emperor Aurelian forbade the Empress to buy. The material which was so expensive in the days of imperial Rome that sumptuary laws were enacted against its use as dangerously costly, is now in general use here as a common necessity of women's apparel. Silk has fluctuated. It has been used freely and abandoned alternately, at different periods of the world's history. This is one of the periods of abundance and cheapness.

Fifteen years ago Japanese silks were unknown in this market. Now, they are the best known. As a matter of fact the Japanese have captured the market in light-weight, low-priced silks. No other light-weight silks are sold.

In 1886, one of the houses most prominent in the trade now, sent a representative to Japan who forwarded a few cases of silk to be sold here. Now, the same house obtains in one shipment more silks than it obtained then in an entire year.

In 1891 the Japanese began the manufacture of light silks for the American trade in the province of Fukui, with an output of 3,600 pieces; in 1892 the output had increased to 200,000 pieces. The trade has grown in this country with an equally astonishing rapidity to grand proportions. The

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reports for January of this year show that 22,748 dozen handkerchiefs and 67,359 pieces came into this country. That is not an average month, for in 1894 the totals were:—Handkerchiefs, 887,110 dozen, and pieces, 809,539—considerably more.

Seven years ago there were three houses which merely skirted about the borders of Japan for trade; now there are thirty or more houses which invade the interior and buy direct from the manufacturers or manufacture for themselves, silk for the United States market.

There are Japanese houses, and houses which employ Japanese experts, so that there is quite an air of Japan in the silk district on Greene-street and thereabouts.

The Japanese names of the silks are incorporated into our language. One hears *Habutai*, *Kaiki*, and *Koshu* spoken of constantly, but they are such recent immigrants that few of those who use them constantly know their significations. *Habutai* is a compound word, *Ha* means a feather; *futai* means a two-fold thread. In combination the *f* changes for euphony to *b*, and we have a four-threaded fabric, with a soft, sheeny, feather-like finish; or, in Japanese, the *Habutai* silk. *Koshu* is the ordinary plain weave of the country, chiefly from the province of *Kai*; and *Kaiki* is compounded of *Kai*, the name of the province, and *ki*, meaning silk. The latter is distinguished by stripes, and is of a superior quality to the ordinary weave.

These three weaves practically fill the market. They are light in weight, strong in texture, exquisite in finish, pretty in appearance, durable, and cheap. It is also claimed for them that they will not pull, crack, or break. They are fast-coloured, because dyed in Lyons or with European dyes. In price they range from twenty-five cents to one dollar a yard, and thus they are within the means of those who heretofore have been unable to buy even the inferior fabrics of woollen or cotton. Their cheapness has enabled the Japanese to make peaceful and beneficent conquests in this market. But there is no valid reason why the proverbial skill and pluck of the Yankee should allow the Japanese to hold us in captivity. American manufacturers will soon be able to make light-weight silks to beat even the Frenchman of the East.

As an indication of how strongly the Japanese trade has "caught on," we would state that even "Windsor" and "Four-in-hand" ties for the American trade are now made in Japan. They came in straw boxes, similar in size but not similar in any other way, to our paper boxes. Z. Horikashi & Co., sole representatives of the Japanese Syndicate of Manufacturers, import these in large quantities. They are woven in Japan, and embrace a great variety, consisting of dots, checks, stripes, and corded *kaikis*; there are changeable jacquard taffetas also. These goods are all of superior quality, and find ready sale in the American market, because, in addition to being made to suit the taste of the people and the fashions, they are cheaper than similar goods can be manufactured elsewhere. This firm offer an embossed, tinselled, figured crêpe of cotton, 25 yards to the piece, at from $2.25 to $3.75 a piece. This price brings this crêpe within the reach of a larger number of consumers than can be had for any other material used for similar purposes. A peculiarity of the *Habutai* silk offered by this firm is, that it is warranted washable, and, in this respect, it is superior to the *Kaiki* silk, which cannot always be warranted.—*American Silk Journal.*

THE FIRING ON THE STEAMER "ARTHUR."

The German steamer *Arthur* has arrived at Shanghai. Captain Jenssen and his officers and crew have passed through some stirring times at Tamsui. The *Arthur* left Shanghai on the 31st May for Tamsui with a number of Chinese officials and other passengers on board. She arrived at Tamsui on the 1st instant, finding two Japanese men-of-war outside, and landed her passengers. The next day, Sunday, and the following day, all was quiet so far as the vessel was concerned, but on Tuesday things began to look serious. During the morning the paymaster of the troops went on board with $45,000, the money which had been intended to pay the soldiers, but the paymaster was not so inclined. In the afternoon the soldiers on shore commenced to fire on passengers going off to the *Arthur*, people who were fleeing from the country with what valuables they could hastily collect, and they were compelled to go ashore again and were robbed by the soldiers of all they possessed. Those who escaped had to run the gauntlet for over a mile, for the soldiers were stationed all along the north shore for that distance and while not busily engaged in looting were firing at the boats. This went on all night and bullets were flying about in dangerous proximity to the *Arthur*, though fortunately nobody was hurt. Her sides, however, show that she was hit a good many times whilst she was under fire, the vessel being only from 200 to 300 yards from where the firing was going on.

On Wednesday at 5 a.m. a body of armed soldiers went on board and demanded money, and as the ship's crew were unable to resist; they gave the soldiers $10,000 which they took on shore, the paymaster having concealed himself somewhere on board. At 7 a.m. preparations were made to get the anchors up as by this time the passengers who had been robbed on their way to the vessel were all on board, including some Chinese officials, but as soon as the soldiers saw this, they rained a continuous shower of bullets on the fore part of the vessel, round the bridge and forecastle-head so that it was impossible to work the windlass. Notwithstanding this one anchor was hove up, but the attempt to unmoor the ship or shorten in on the other anchor was abandoned owing to the bullets, and the ship remained at single anchor with 90 fathoms of chain out. During the day two other gangs of soldiers went on board and demanded more money; those who had paid the first visit having gone on shore, divided the spoil, and returned as passengers. The second and third lots got in all $35,000 and they acted like the first lot did. In the afternoon there was more firing from the shore and two passengers were killed, so Captain Jenssen made a signal to the German gunboat *Iltis*, some 600 yards off, asking for help. The Commander immediately sent a boat's crew in charge of a lieutenant who said that he could not lend a guard, but advised Captain Jenssen and his officers to leave the ship. This they could not do fearing that the armed soldiers on board would kill them if they left the vessel. The lieutenant them returned to the *Iltis*. Later on, Captain Jenssen armed his crew and took all arms and weapons that the soldiers and passengers had in their possession, the people making no resistance. Many of the weapons were thrown overboard for there being now some 2,500 soldiers on board, it was impossible to get through them to put the weapons in a place of safety, and so 500 weapons were thrown overboard, about an equal number being put under lock and key. On Wednesday night a fresh attempt was made to unmoor the ship but the soldiers who were watching on shore again fired and the work had to be stopped. Word was sent from the commander of the facts that the men were beyond his control and that they had threatened to torpedo the vessel as she went out or if the attempt was a failure that they would sink her with the 45-ton guns in the fort, and to show that the guns could command the bar, fired a number of shots at cargo boats crossing it, and the shots fell dangerously near them, while the *Arthur* vibrated all over when the guns were fired. In the evening a foreigner went on board and said that arrangements were being made to have the torpedo mine wires cut, which somebody had undertaken to effect for Tls. 500. Whether or not this was effected nobody on board the *Arthur* knew at the time but it was reported that the work had been done satisfactorily.

On Thursday morning all the soldiers who could get away had gone on board the *Arthur*, but during the night firing had been heard on shore, and there was considerable street fighting. At 7 a.m. the crew of the *Arthur* started to get the anchor up, but were startled by firing from the south shore, where there was a field battery of 9-pounders. One shell came on board. It passed Captain Jenssen, went through the upper deck on the port side against the wheel-house, glanced obliquely to the starboard side of the saloon, through the body of the Captain of the guard of the ex-President of the Republic of Formosa, while smoking his pipe at one of the tables, killing him instantly, breaking the steam-pipe and fetching up against the steel bulkhead without exploding, a fortunate circumstance, for there were some forty or more Chinese in the saloon and many of them would certainly have been killed. Among those in the saloon at the time was General Tcheng Ki-tong. Another shell hit the upper deck and exploding killed four men instantly and knocked two others overboard one being dead before he reached the water and the other was wounded and drowned, notwithstanding the attempt to save him, while many were wounded. On this occasion Mr. I. Roberts, the chief engineer, had a narrow escape, as he was standing close to the men who were killed, while the other officers and engineers were occasionally more or less in dangerous positions. The result of the firing was that some fifty or more people were wounded, some so dangerously that they cannot live, and two died at Amoy in the hospital after being landed there, while the vessel herself looked like a slaughter house. A third shell struck the ship's side and exploded but did no damage and another struck her rudder, while the shell whistled by in a manner that was far from pleasant. In consequence of this, the attempt to get up the anchor was most risky, but it had to be done, and Captain Jenssen, signalling to the *Iltis* "Help, I am attacked," received orders to steam astern and get behind her as the vessel was ready for action, and her commander was about to shell the fort. This was a daring thing to do, for the *Iltis* cannot have heavy guns. Nevertheless, her commander had made up his mind what he was going to do and he did it. His first shell fell short, but the second was planted in the fort between the guns so accurately, that on exploding it killed thirteen of the Chinese who, not being used to such experiences, hastily deserted their guns and fled and the *Iltis* then told the *Arthur* to proceed to sea as soon as there was enough water on the bar, so that 8.30 the *Arthur* got out and made for Amoy that being the nearest port. The soldiers on board were now as quiet as lambs, and when Amoy was reached at 7 a.m. on the 11th, the dead were sent ashore and the wounded transferred to the hospital, while the residents and shipping raised subscriptions for them. The soldiers on board, however, did not want to be landed at Amoy. They gave no trouble, but refused to leave the ship as they wanted to be sent on to Canton, though when a gunboat came in they willingly went on board of her.

Ex-President Tang did not leave Tamsui in the *Arthur*. He wanted to, but did not succeed, though he got away in the *Kwongwo* and went on board the *Arthur* at Amoy, and came on to Shanghai. Among her other passengers were Messrs. W. Waters, Prebble, and Christie. The third officer of the *Arthur* had a narrow escape; he was returning to his vessel from the *Iltis* when a shot went clean through his boat. Strange to say that out of the whole ship's complement of some 60 people not one was hurt, saving in one case where a piece of splinter from a rifle bullet struck a man on the leg. The foreigners belonging to the *Arthur* are Captain M. Jenssen, Messrs. O. Y. Andersen, chief, L. Sorensen, 2nd, and A. Grote, 3rd officer, Isaac Roberts, chief, R. Logan, 2nd and, S. Barfoot, 3rd engineer.—*N.-C. Daily News.*

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[REUTER "SPECIAL" TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

London, June 20.

The Emperor of Germany is on a visit to Hamburg, where he has been received with immense rejoicings. At a banquet the Kaiser made a speech, during which he declared, "I shall—I will—uphold the peace."

["SPECIAL" TELEGRAMS TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

Hakodate, June 19.

The *Agnes MacDonald* has put in here with 710 sealskins on board.

Hakodate, June 20.

The *Third Chishima Maru* has arrived with 895 sealskins; the *Casco* has put in with 1,309 skins aboard.

(FROM JAPANESE PAPERS.)

Kobe, June 19.

Count Inouye, Japanese Minister to Korea, left for Yokohama at 11 a.m. to-day by the *Empress of China*.

Count Oyama, Minister of War, arrived here this morning from Osaka, and visited Count Inouye on board the *Empress of China*, leaving again for Osaka by the 3 p.m. train.

Kumamoto, June 19.

A few cases of cholera have been reported in the barracks; and there are signs of a further spread.

Nagasaki, June 21.

The French ship *Isly* has left here.

The following telegram, dated the 18th instant, dispatched by the Japanese Consul at Lyons, has been received by the Department of Agriculture and Commerce.

The cocoon crop in France and Italy this year shows a decrease of about 10 per cent. against that of last year. The quality is not good, but quotations are somewhat high.

Nagasaki, June 20.

The contract for the construction of a new dock at Akunoura has been given to Hashimoto Kiyoshi, at *yen* 300,000.

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CHESS.

(All Communications to be addressed to the Chess Editor.)

The Yokohama Chess Club is closed for the season: and re-opens on Thursday 3rd October.

The Tokyo Chess Club is now closed for the holiday season and will reopen on Friday, 4th October, 1895.

Solution of Problem No. 181.

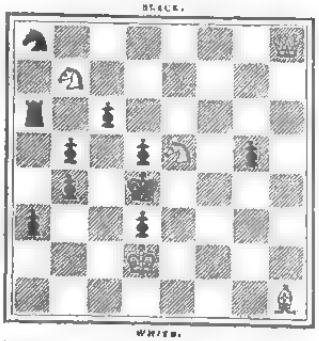
WHITE.	BLACK.
1—Q to K 6	1—Kt × Q
2—Kt to Q 3 ch.	2—K × P
3—B to K 4, mate	
	if 2—K to Kt 6
3—B ■ B 2, mate	
	1—K to Kt 6
2—Q to K 5 ch.	2—K to B 7
3—Kt to Q 3, mate	
	if 2—K to R 5
3—Q to R 2, mate	
	1—Q to Kt 7
2—B to Kt 8 ch.	2—R × B
3—Kt × R P, mate	
	if 2—Q × B
3—Kt to K 2, mate.	

Correct solutions received from Omega, Digamma, J.D., and E. J. King.

Problem No. 183.

By C. Benting.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in three moves.

Blackburne-Bardeleben.

Our latest news gives an equal score:—Blackburne 3, Bardeleben 3, Drawn 3. Apparently a close match; it must surely be over long ere this but none of our exchanges mention the fact. We print here the first game of the match in which Blackburne proved to be the victor.

Game No. 280.

VIENNA OPENING.

WHITE. Von Bardeleben.	BLACK. Blackburne.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—Kt to Q B 3	2—Kt to K B 3
3—B to B 4 (a)	3—Kt to B 3
4—P to Q 3	4—P to Q 3 (b)
5—K Kt to K 2 (c)	5—B to K 2
6—Castles	6—Castles
7—P to B 4	7—P takes P
8—B takes P	8—Kt to Q R 4 (d)
9—B to Q Kt 3 (e)	9—Kt takes B
10—R P takes Kt	10—P to B 3
11—P to R 3 (f)	11—P to Q 4
12—P to K 5 (g)	12—Kt to R 4
13—B to R 2	13—P to K Kt 3 (h)
14—P to Q 4	14—Kt to Kt 2
15—Q to Q 2	15—Kt to K 3
16—Q R to Q sq.	16—P to Kt 3
17—K to R sq.	17—B to R 3
18—R to K Kt sq.	18—B to K Kt 4
19—Q to K sq.	19—P to K B 4 (i)
20—P takes P e p	20—Q takes P
21—Q to Kt 3	21—Kt to Kt 2
22—Q to B 7	22—R to B 2
23—R R to B sq.	23—Kt to B 4
24—Q to K 5	24—R to K 2
25—Q takes Q	25—B takes Q
26—R to B 2	26—Q R to K sq.
27—R to R sq.	27—B takes Kt
28—P to K Kt 4	28—B takes Q P (k)
29—R takes B (l)	29—B takes Kt
30—R takes R	30—R takes R
31—P takes B	31—Kt to Kt 2
32—P to Kt 4	32—Kt to K sq.
33—R to Q sq.	33—Kt to B 3
34—B to Kt 8	34—Kt to K 5
35—R to ■ sq.	35—Kt takes P
36—R takes P (m)	36—R takes R
37—B takes R	37—P to Q Kt 4
38—K to Kt 2	38—K to B 2
39—K to B 3	39—K to B 3
40—K to B 4	40—Kt to K 5
41—P to R 4	41—P to R 3
42—P to Kt 5 (n)	42—P to R 4
43—B to Q 4	43—Kt to Q 3
44—B to Kt sq.	44—Kt to B 5
45—P to B 3	45—Kt to Q 3
46—B to B 2	46—Kt to B 4
47—B to K sq.	47—P to Q 5
48—K to K 4	48—P takes P
49—B takes P	49—Kt takes P
50—B to Q 2	50—Kt to B 4
51—B to B sq.	51—Kt to K 2
52—B to B 4	52—Kt to Q 4
53—B to Q 2	53—P to R 5
54—B to K sq.	54—P to R 6
55—K to B 3	55—K to B 4
56—B to Q 2	56—P to R 7
57—K to Kt 2	57—K to K 5
58—K takes P	58—K to Q 6
59—B to B sq.	59—K to B 7
Resigns.	

NOTES.

(a) A favourite continuation with Herr von Bardeleben, who introduced it in the Vizayanagram tourney, at London, 1883.
(b) B to B 4 or Kt 5 is preferable.
(c) Not a good place for the knight, which should have gone to B 3 after P to B 4. The square at K 2 should have been reserved for the Q Kt.
(d) A very fine stroke, which rids him of the most dangerous piece.
(e) White cannot help the exchange of his bishop, but a little finessing might have netted him some compensation in position thus: 9—B to Q Kt 5, ■ to Q B 3; 10—B to R 4, P to Q Kt 4; 11—B to Kt 5, Kt x B; 12—R P x Kt, P to Q R 4; 13—P to Q Kt 4, P to R 5; 14—P to Q Kt 3.
(f) Loss of time unnecessarily weakening his king's side. Kt to B 4 suggests itself instead.
(g) A pawn like this is always weak and a ready mark for the opponent's attack. P x P was proper.
(h) The beginning of an excellent manœuvre.
(i) Black conducted the last eleven moves with great adroitness. His position ■ by far superior.
(k) Good enough, though B to R 5, suggested by Herr von Bardeleben, is stronger, viz.: 28.....B to R 5; 29—R x B, R x R; 30—Kt x R, R x Kt; 32—P x Kt, R x P, etc.
(l) Best under the circumstances.
(m) B x ■ would have been even worse.
(n) 6 to Q 4 was better, but hardly sufficient to draw, this being a position wherein the advantage is with the Kt against the B.

Game No. 281.

A splendid off-hand game between two recent prize-winners.

FRENCH OPENING.

WHITE. E. Sobernheim.	BLACK. S. Langleben.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 3
2—P to Q 4	2—P to Q 4
3—Kt to Q B 3	3—Kt to K B 3
4—B to K Kt 5	4—B to K 2
5—B takes Kt	5—B takes ■
6—P to K 5	6—B to K 2
7—Q to Kt 4	7—Castles.
8—B to Q 3	8—P to K B 4
9—Q to R 3	9—P to Q B 4
10—P takes P	10—Kt to Q 2
11—P to B 4	11—Kt takes B P
12—Castles Q R	12—P to Q Kt 4
13—B takes Kt P	13—R to Q Kt sq.
14—Kt to B 3	14—P to Q R 3
15—B to Q 3	15—Q to Kt 3
16—P to Q Kt 3	16—Q to Kt 5
17—K to Kt 2	17—Q to R 6 ch.
18—K takes Q	18—Kt takes B dis. ch.
19—P to Kt 4	19—R takes P
20—R takes Kt	20—R to Kt 8 dis. ch.
21—K to R 4	21—B to Q 2 ch.
22—K to R 5	22—B to Q sq. ch.
23—K takes P	23—B to B sq. ch.
24—K to R 7	24—B to Kt 3 ch.
25—K to R 8	25—B to ■ 3 mate.

Note.—The splendid Q sacrifice at move 17 is fully justified. The after play and the funeral march of the Black King will prove superbly entertaining to all players.

Game No. 282.

CHESS IN MELBOURNE.

A match, seven games up, was recently concluded between Mr. Loughran and Mr. Hodgson, and was won by Mr. Loughran, whose final score was seven wins to four wins and one draw. The following is the score of one of the most interesting of the games:—

STAUNTON'S OPENING.

WHITE. Mr. Hodgson.	BLACK. Mr. Loughran.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—Kt to K B 3	2—Kt to Q B 3
3—P to Q B 3	3—P to Q 3 (a)
4—P to Q 4 (b)	4—P takes P
5—P takes P	5—B to K 2
6—B to Q Kt 5	6—B to Q 2
7—Castles	7—Kt to B 3
8—Kt to Q B 3	8—Castles
9—B to K B 4 (c)	9—B to K Kt 5 (d)
10—Q to R 4	10—Kt to Kt sq.
11—P to K 5	11—Kt to R 4
12—B to K Kt 3	12—P to Q 4
13—Q to B 2	13—P to Q B 3
14—B to Q 3	14—P to K R 3
15—Kt to Q 2 (e)	15—Q to Q Kt 3 (f)
16—Kt to Kt 3	16—Kt to Q R 3
17—B to B 5 (g)	17—Kt to Kt 5
18—Q to Kt sq.	18—B takes B
19—Q takes B	19—Kt takes B
20—B P takes Kt	20—Kt takes R P
21—Kt takes Kt	21—Q takes Kt
22—Q to Q 7	22—B to Kt 4
23—P to K 6	23—Q to K 6 ch.
24—K to R sq.	24—Q takes K P
25—Q takes Kt P	25—K R to Q Kt s
26—Q to Q B 7	26—R takes Kt P
27—Q R to K sq.	27—Q to K Kt 3 (l
28—Kt to Q B sq.	28—R (Kt 7) to Q
29—Kt to R 2	29—P to Q R 4 [s
30—R to K 2	30—R to Q B sq.
31—Q to Kt 7	31—B to B 3
32—Q R to B 2	32—Q to Q 6
33—R to B 4	33—Q to B 7
34—R (B sq.) to K B 2	34—Q to K Kt 3
35—Kt to Q B 3	35—Q to Q 6
36—R (B 2) to B 3	36—Q to Q 7
37—P to K R 3	37—P to Q R 5
38—R to K Kt 4	38—Q to K 8 ch.
39—K to R 2	39—Q to K 3
40—Kt takes R P (i)	40—K ■ to Kt sq.
41—Q to B 7	41—R to K 8
42—Kt to Q B 3	42—R to K R 8 ch.
43—K takes R	43—R to R 8 ch.
44—K to R ■	44—Q to K 8
45—R takes P ch. (k)	45—K takes R
46—P to Kt 4	46—Q to Kt 8 ch.
47—K to Kt 3	47—Q takes Q P
48—Kt to K 2	48—B to K 4 ch.
49—K to R 4	49—Q takes P ch.
50—K takes Q	50—B takes Q
And Mr. Hodgson resigns (l).	

NOTES.

(a) The best defence is 3..... P to Q 4.
(b) 4—B to Q B 4 leads to a stronger attack.
(c) The Bishop is badly posted here.
(d) Black has now a very fair game.
(e) 15—B to K 2 would have been better.
(f) Preventing the immediate advance of the White Kt Bishop's Pawn.
(g) This loses a Pawn, and leaves White with a marked feriority in position. 17—P to Q R 3 was imperative.
(h) Better than 27..... R to K B 7.
(i) Ingenious but unsound. Of course, if 40..... R takes White would reply with 41—R takes B.
(j) This fine sacrifice forces the game.
(k) He has nothing better—the advances of the Knig Pawn being necessary in order to prevent the mate.
(l) Black's two passed Pawns ought, of course, to win aga any play.

Game No. 283.

A splendidly-contested game in one of the cent League matches.

(RUY LOPEZ).

WHITE. E. Hymes.	BLACK. A. Albins.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—Kt to K B 3	2—Kt to Q B 3
3—B to Kt 5	3—P to Q R 3
4—B to R 4	4—Kt to B 3
5—P to Q 3	5—P to Q Kt 4
6—B to Kt 3	6—B to B 4
7—Castles	7—Castles
8—P to B 3	8—Q to K 2
9—B to Kt 5	9—P to K R 3
10—B to R 4	10—B to Kt 3
11—P to Q R 4	11—P takes P
12—B takes R P	12—B to Kt 2
13—Q Kt to Q 2	13—P to Q 3
14—Kt to B 4	14—Kt to Q sq.
15—Kt to K 3	15—Kt to K 3
16—Kt to Kt 4 (a)	16—K to R 2
17—B takes Kt	17—P takes ■
18—Kt to R 4	18—P to K B 4 (b
19—Kt takes B P	19—Q to Kt 4
20—Kt (Kt 4) takes R P	20—Kt to B 5
21—Q to B 3	21—B to B sq.
22—K to R sq.	22—B to K 3
23—P to R 4	23—Q to Kt 3
24—P to K Kt 3	24—Kt to R 4
25—R to K Kt sq.	25—Q R to Q sq.
26—B to Q sq.	26—Kt to B 3
27—P to K Kt 4 (c)	27—P to Q 4
28—P to Kt 5	28—P takes P
29—P takes P	29—Kt takes P (d
30—P to R 5	30—Kt takes P ch.
31—K to R 2	31—R to Q 7
32—P takes Q ch.	32—P takes P
33—Q to B 6 (e)	33—B takes Kt
34—Kt takes B	34—R takes Kt
35—R to Kt 2	35—R to Q 6 (f)
36—R to Kt 3	36—R to Q 7
37—R to Kt 2	37—R to B 5
38—Q to K 6	38—B to B 4 (g)
39—K takes P	39—R takes B
40—Q takes P ch.	40—K to R sq.
41—Q to K 3 ch.	41—R to B sq.
42—R to R 6 ch. and wins	

(a) Very strong and apparently forcing the gain of a pawn was tempting to play instead Kt to B 5, which was also very s
(b) The immediate sacrifice is necessary, Kt to B 5 now l obviously a winning move for White. Black's clever atte to avoid defeat render the game from this point highl structive.
(c) The pawns are prettily played to strengthen the attac
(d) Safe, because to capture the knight would lose Wh queen by B to Q 4.
(e) A well calculated counter-attack, and to avoid Bl threatened P to K 5 which would now come with great

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(f) There appears no enduring attack by the dis. ch. earlier. This move threaten immediate mate by R to R 6, followed by R to R 8.

(g) R to R 3 ch. followed by R to R 6 ch. wins the queen for two rooks, but is not good enough. A masterly game.

Game No. 284.

RUY LOPEZ' KNIGHT GAME.

WHITE. H. G. Voight.	BLACK. F. J. Lee.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—K Kt to B 3	2—Q Kt to B 3
3—B to Kt 5	3—P to Q R 3
4—B to R 4	4—Kt to B 3
5—P to Q 3	5—P to Q 3
6—P to B 3 (a)	6—B to Q 2 (b)
7—Q Kt to Q 2 (c)	7—B to K 2
8—Kt to B sq.	8—Castles
9—P to K R 3	9—P to Q Kt 4
10—B to B 2	10—P to Q 4 (d)
11—Q to K 2	11—P takes P (e)
12—P takes P	12—B to K 3
13—Kt to K 3	13—B to Q 3
14—B to Q 2	14—Kt to K 2
15—P to K Kt 4	15—Kt to Kt 3
16—Kt to B 5	16—B to B 5 (f)
17—B to Q 3	17—B takes B
18—Q takes B	18—B to B 4
19—Q to K 2	19—Kt to B 5
20—B takes Kt	20—P takes B
21—R to Q sq.	21—Q to K sq.
22—P to K 5	22—Kt to Q 2
23—Castles	23—P to K Kt 3
24—Kt from B 5 to Q 4	24—Q to K 2
25—K R to K sq.	25—K R to K sq.
26—Q to K 4	26—B takes Kt
27—Q takes B (g)	27—Kt to B 4 (h)
28—Q takes P	28—Kt to K 3
29—Q to R 6	29—Q R to Q sq.
30—R to Q 2	30—R to Q 2
31—K R to Q sq.	31—K ■ to Q sq.
32—Q to K 3	32—P to Q B 4
33—R takes R	33—R takes R
34—R takes R	34—Q takes ■
35—Kt to Q 2	35—Q to Q 4
36—P to Q Kt 3	36—P to K Kt 4
37—P to Q B 4	37—P takes P
38—P takes P	38—Q to Q 5
39—Q takes Q	39—P takes Q
40—K to K 2	40—K to ■ sq.
41—K to B 3	41—Kt to B 5
42—P to K R 4	42—Kt to Q 6
43—P takes P	43—K to K 2
44—K to K 4	44—Kt takes B P ch.
45—K takes P	45—K to K 3 (i)
46—P to B 5	46—Kt takes P
47—Kt to K B 3	47—P to K R 4
48—P takes P en pas.	48—Kt takes P
49—P to B 6	49—Kt to B 4 ch.
50—K to ■ 5	50—Kt to K 2
51—Kt to Kt 5 ch.	51—K takes P
52—Kt takes P	52—K to K 3
53—Kt to Q 8 ch.	53—K to K 4
54—P to B 7	54—Kt to B sq.
55—P to Q R 4	55—K to B 3
56—Kt to B 6	56—K to K 3
57—Kt to Kt 8	57—P to R 4
58—K to B 6	58—K to K 2
59—Kt to R 6	59—Kt to K 3
60—Kt to B 5	60—Kt to B sq.
61—Kt to Kt 3	61—Resigns !

NOTES BY D. M. MARTINEZ.

(a) This move, very much in vogue nowadays, was brought first into practice by Steinitz in his match with Blackburne. The scope is to bring eventually the Bishop to Q B 2 and then the advance of the Queen's pawn.

(b) In the present variation of the Ruy Lopez game the move in the text is at the best a loss of time. The only moves for Black in this position, accepted as correct, are: 6—B to K 2 or 6 to K Kt 3 to place the K B at Kt 2. It is an error to make a purely defensive move not absolutely necessary to avoid loss during the developing stages of the game.

(c) The evolutions of the queen's knight, initiated by this move developed by Rosenthal, who used them first in his match with Zukertort. They are considered by many as the strongest continuation now of the attack.

(d) A very good move, in accord with the best principles.

(e) But now Black falls in the correct continuation of his game. His taking the pawn rather helps his opponent. 12—R to K sq. was the proper play.

(f) The change brought about by this move is disadvantageous to Black; the bishop was of greater value than White, which is very much restricted in its action. 16—R to K sq. seems to be forcible even now, as he could then play Kt to ■ 5 with great effect.

(g) By taking the bishop thus with the queen, threatening the black knight, White gains the time that Black has to lose to attend to the safety of his piece, and is able to capture the K B pawn before Black can support it. But still, the best would have been to take the bishop with the Q B pawn, getting at once the advantage of having two pawns united in the centre, inasmuch as if Black had played correctly after White Q x B, White would have lost his central pawn for the adversary's double one, and therefore some of the advantage that he now possesses.

(h) Black let with this escape the opportunity of at least equalizing the game. With 27—Q R to Q sq., he would have got out of difficulties. If then White 28—Q x P, Kt x P; 29—Kt x Kt (best), R x R; 30—R x R, Q x Kt, etc., with an even game. If White would play 28—P to K 6, Kt to B sq.; 29—P x P ch., Q x P, with game as good as the adversary's. Black's play throughout the opening and middle game has been sluggish, as if under some fatalistic influence. Only in the ending, commencing now, he showed some spirit worthy of such an accomplished player, but then it was too late, as he was a pawn behind, the position was against him and his opponent played also well.

(i) This is rather loss of time; 45—K to Q sq. is better.

(j) White now will capture the [illegible] giving [illegible] hopes for Black's game.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From America	per O. & O. Co.	Tuesday, July 2nd.*
From Hongkong	per O. & O. Co.	Wed'day, June 26th.†
From Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Sunday, June 30th.‡
From Canada, &c.....	per C. P. R. Co.	Sunday, July 7th.
From Europe, viâ Hongkong	per M. M. Co.	Friday, July 6th.
From Europe, viâ Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd	Wed'day, July 10th.
From America	per P. M. Co.	Thursday, July 11th.
From Hongkong	per C. P. R. Co.	Thursday, July 11th.

* *Belgic* left San Francisco on June 13th. † *Gaelic* (with English mail) left Hongkong on June 18th. ‡ *Peru* left Hongkong on June 22nd.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For Europe, viâ Shanghai	per M. M. Co.	Saturday, June 29th.
For America	per O. & O. Co.	Saturday, June 29th.
For Victoria, B.C., & Tacoma, Wash.....	per N. P. Co.	Sunday, June 30th.
For Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Saturday, July 6th.
For America	per P. M. Co.	Sunday, July 7th.
For Hongkong	per C. P. R. Co.	Monday, July 8th.
For Europe, viâ Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd	Friday, July 12th.
For Canada, &c.	per C. P. R. Co.	Friday, July 12th.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Ancona, British steamer, 1,880, W. D. Mudie, 15th June,—Hongkong viâ ports, 7th June, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Strathnevis, British steamer, 1,863, Pattie, 15th June,—Hongkong viâ ports, General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Empress of India, British steamer, 3,003, O. P. Marshall, 16th June,—Vancouver, B.C., 3rd June, Mails and General.—Frazar & Co.

City of Rio de Janeiro, American steamer, 2,246, J. T. Smith, 16th June,—Hongkong viâ ports, 8th June, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Christoforo Colombo (12), Italian cruiser, Captain Gavotte, 15th June,—Kobe.

Undaunted (12), cruiser, Captain Halifax, 15th June,—Kobe.

Lyderhorn, Norwegian steamer, 2,014, Hammers, 16th June,—Singapore, Coal.—Mitsu Bishi Shia.

Dalgonar, British ship, 2,565, Kitcher, 17th June, —New York 5th February, Oil.—Standard Oil Co.

Strathmore, British steamer, 1,836, Cunningham, 17th June,—Bombay viâ ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Palinurus, British steamer, 1,539, Jackson, 17th June,—Liverpool viâ ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Benmohr, British steamer, 1,935, Clarke, 18th June,—Kobe 17th June, Light.—Cornes & Co.

China, British steamer, 2,600, W. B. Seabury, 18th June,—San Francisco 4th June, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Glenesk, British steamer, 2,275, Webster, 20th June,—London viâ ports, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Arcona (18), German cruiser, Captain Hoffmeyer, 20th June,—Target Practice 20th June.

Empress of China, British steamer, 3,003, R. Archibald, 20th June,—Hongkong viâ ports, 12th June, Mails and General.—Frazar & Co.

Henrietta, American ship, 1,203, A. M. Ross, 20th June,—New York 17th December, Oil.—Standard Oil Co.

Saghalien, French steamer, 2,580, Huan, 21st June,—Marseilles 12th May, Hongkong 13th June, Shanghai 16th, Nagasaki 18th, and Kobe 20th, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

Alderley, British steamer, 1,626, D. Nicholas, 21st June,—Antwerp viâ Hongkong, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

DEPARTURES.

Siam, British steamer, 1,897, E. G. Andrews, 15th June,—Bombay viâ ports, General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Esmeralda, British schooner, 130, J. T. Harrison, 15th June,—Guam, Stores.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Manx King, British ship, 1,702, G. C. Karran, 15th June,—Tacoma, Wash., Tea.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Eleanor, American steam-yacht, 405, Scott, 16th June,—San Francisco viâ Honolulu, Stores.—Mr. Slater.

Empress of India, British steamer, 3,003, O. P. Marshall, 17th June,—Hongkong viâ ports, Mails and General.—Frazar & Co.

Arcona (18), German cruiser, Captain Hoffmeyer, 18th June,—Target Practice.

Kaisow, British steamer, 1,934, Long, 18th June, —London viâ ports, General.—W. M. Strachan & Co.

Strathnevis, British steamer, 1,863, Pattie, 18th June,—Tacoma, Wash., viâ Victoria, B.C., Mails and General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co

City of Rio de Janeiro, American steamer, 2,246, J. T. Smith, 19th June,—San Francisco, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

China, British steamer, 2,600, W. B. Seabury, 20th June,—Hongkong viâ Nagasaki, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Irene, German steamer, 1,630, R. Schneder, 21st June,—Hamburg viâ ports, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Palinurus, British steamer, 1,539, Jackson, 21st June,—London viâ ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Empress of China, British steamer, 3,003, R. Archibald, 21st June,—Vancouver, B.C., Mails and General.—Frazar & Co.

Ancona, British steamer, 1,880, W. D. Mudie, 22nd June,—Hongkong viâ ports, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per British steamer *Ancona*, from Hongkong viâ ports:—Mrs. Allison, Captain Zalinsky, Mr. Boag, Mr. Raspe, Mrs. Fitzgerald, Mrs. Rowe, Mr. E. Karcher, Mr. L. Keane, Mr. J. Strauss, Mr. J. H. Symington, Mr. D. P. B. Coulling, Mr. J. E. Shrady, Mr. Benson, and Mr. C. Ross in cabin, and 2 Chinese in steerage.

Per British steamer *Empress of India*, from Vancouver, B.C.:—Mr. M. Asaoka, Mr. H. S. B. Brindley, Mr. H. T. Bridge, Miss Chandler, Miss Cook, Miss Dudley, Mr. and Mrs. N. J. Ede, Mrs. Fairough, Mr. T. Fukushima, Mr. D. Gilmour, Mrs. Hamilton, Mr. E. J. Hagan, Mr. W. B. Kennedy, Mr. A. Kobo, Mr. H. MacArthur, Dr. F. Metcalfe, Dr. J. S. Metcalfe, Mrs. E. F. Metcalfe, Mrs. H. E. Morrison and child, Mr. and Mrs. C. C. Murphy, Mr. and Mrs. Y. Murai and child, Mr. R. F. Nicholson, Mr. Crosby S. Noyes, Mr. M. Pors, Mr. H. Shugio, Mr. C. H. Sim, Rev. H. W. Gibben-Stocken, Mr. T. Sone, Mr. T. Takimura, Rev. J. Ll. Thomas, Miss Taylor, Mr. J. W. Thompson, Mr. A. R. Whitney, Jun., Mr. A. S. Watson, and Mr. Yung Wing in cabin; 7 passengers in second class, and 87 passengers in steerage.

Per American steamer *City of Rio de Janeiro*, from Hongkong viâ ports:—Mr. Fred. Baker, Mr. A. C. Marshall, Captain Geo. F. Elliott, U.S.N., Mr. J. B. Fitzgibbon, Mrs. Bagnall and 2 children, Mr. J. W. Copman, Mr. F. Jordan, Rev. Bishop Evington, Mrs. Evington, Miss Evington, Rev. F. C. Nintz, Mr. M. Paul, Mrs. Wright, and Mrs. Holmes and 2 children in cabin.

Per British steamer *China*, from San Francisco:—Mr. and Mrs. John King, Miss King, Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Cunningham, Mr. E. A. Sargent, Mr. Geo. W. Hume, Mr. E. Hume, Mr. and Mrs. Jas. Connolly, Mr. John Connolly, Mr. Will Connolly, Master Jay Connolly, Mr. C. H. Bain, Mr. J. A. Kahl, Rev. H. M. Tayama, Rev. J. Ukai, Mr. T. D. Brackett, and Mr. W. M. Redwood in cabin.

Per British steamer *Empress of China*, from Hongkong viâ ports:—Mrs. G. H. Stafford, Dr. C. B. Davies, Mr. H. E. Daunt, Miss Doran, Miss Hardman, H.E. Count Inouye, Mr. Futakutchi, Miss Ayugawg, Mr. J. Johnstone, Mrs. Bishop, Mr. J. S. Ruston, Mr. W. Smart, Mr. J. C. Ululamb, Mr. J. Hirafuji, Mr. R. Hara, Mr. G. Atone, Mr. C. Abenheim, Mr. Angus, Captain and Mrs. Bougouin, Mr. Rivington, Mr. A. Coye, Prince Dolgorouky, Mrs. Lafrentz, Miss Corsellis, Mr. Kuhn, Surgeon-Colonel and Mrs. Preston, Miss Preston, Rev. and Mrs. Dodd and child, Mr. H. L. Dover, Mr. L. S. Hunt, Mr. E. W. Barrett, Mr. G. Sharp, Mrs. W. G. and Miss Humphries, Mr. Humphries, Mrs. Hunter, and Miss Stewart in cabin. For Vancouver, B.C.:—Mr. J. H. Cornish, Mr. and Mrs. W. P. Wilkinson, Mr. and Mrs. W. Burke, Miss Choinard, Dr. P. Leach, Mr. L. Flevelle, Mr. L. Rouston, Rev. G. Malone, Mr. and Mrs. C. Holliday, Mr. W. S. Deacon, Mr. and Mrs. Theodor, Mrs. Russel Stokes and child, Mr. A. Burman, Mr. J. W. MacKenzie, Mr. W. H. Short, Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Palm, Mr. Lawton, Dr. and Mrs. W. M. Cairns, Mr. A. Chamnier, Mr. and Mrs. D. Moore and child, Mr. and Mrs. C. Grant, Mr. H. Graham, Mr. A. N. Grover, and Rev. R. Perry in cabin; 11 passengers in second class, and 276 passengers in Asiatic steerage.

Per French steamer *Saghalien*, from Marseilles via ports:—Mr. Adet, Mr. de Garcia and family, Mr. A. Herbet, Mrs. Webster, Messrs. Carlo Gatti, Bruine, Magnan, T. Wang, Naggio Achille, Petter Muller, J. Sone, Kennedy, Shinbobi, Riapo, Mr., Mrs., and Miss Meier, Mr. and Mrs. Komor, Mr. and Mrs. A. Kuhn, Captain A. Keish, Mr. A. N. Hansell, Mrs. Meier's servant, and Mrs. and Miss Donnenberg in cabin, and 4 Chinese in steerage.

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DEPARTED.

Per French steamer *Ernest Simons*, for Shanghai viâ ports:—Mr. Shortall, Mr. and Mrs. Bougouin, Miss Tuason, Mr. C. Abenheim, Mr. Yamaguchi, Mr. R. Sano, Mr. L. C. Kerr, Mr. Nishikawa, Mr. Zuhbki, Mr. T. S. Nisikonski, Mr. K. Miyakawa, Mr. K. Hirota, Mr. Miwa, Mr. and Mrs. Yasuda, Mr. T. Onidzuka, Mr. Y. Takashima, Mr. Ochiai Sono, Mr. Schojberg, Mr. H. J. Moe, Mr. T. MacMansuny, Lieut. A. Campbell, Mr. and Mrs. de Cappa, Sœur Le Marc, Sœur Briene, Mr. T. Fujita, Mr. A. V. Pereira, Mr. Gosonk, and Mr. Heze Yase in cabin, and one Japanese in steerage.

Per British steamer *Empress of India*, for Hongkong viâ ports:—Major A. R. Pembarton, Major and Mrs. Wrottesley, Mr. F. L. Crompton, Miss Humphreys, Mr. S. Chinda, Mr. S. Matsukata, Mr. H. Eitaki, Rev. Bishop Walden, Mr. D. E. Brown, Mr. Jas. Rankin, Miss Brooks, Mr. J. S. Wallace, Mr. E. Kranse, Mrs. Haskell and 2 children, Mrs. Denby, Mr. C. F. McWilliams, Mr. and Mrs. Hull, Mrs. Sharp and child, Mr. A. H. Butler, and Mr. E. H. Tuska in cabin; Mr. Takase, Mr. S. Morikawa, Mr. G. Kato, Mr. J. Hayami, Mr. T. Matsui, and Mr. Geo. Luch, Jun., in second class, and Loo Fut in Asiatic steerage.

Per American steamer *City of Rio de Janeiro*, for San Francisco:—Captain Gen: F. Elliott, U.S.N., Mr. P. W. Kenny, Mr. J. B. Fitzgibbon, Mr. M. Montinos, Mr. J. F. Swanson, Mrs. M. Emme, Mr. Leonard Backler, Mr. D. J. Lambert, Mrs. Allison, and Mr. Henry Tugwell in cabin.

Per British steamer *China*, for Hongkong viâ Nagasaki:—Mr. and Mrs. S. G. Bird, Mr. L. Saunderson, and Mr. G. L. Lysley in cabin.

Per British steamer *Empress of China*, for Vancouver, B.C.:—Mr. Anderson, Mrs. Anderson, Miss Anderson, Mr. J. R. Barker, Miss Bramwell, Miss E. Bramwell, Mr. W. B. Burke, Mrs. W. B. Burke, Mr. A. Burman, Hon. G. O. Cadogan, Dr. W. M. Cairns, Mrs. W. M. Cairns, Mr. A. Chaumier, Miss Choinard, Mr. Clement, Mr. J. H. Cornish, Mr. F. S. Deacon, Mr. L. Flavelle, Hon. John W. Foster and Secretary, Mr. A. E. Garnier, Mr. Gerioke, Mr. H. Graham, Mr. and Mrs. C. Grant, Mr. A. N. Grove, Mr. A. Grover, Mr. Gunn, Mr. Hamilton, Mr. Hatton, Mr. Alfred Herbet, Mr. C. Holliday, Mrs. C. Holliday, Mr. Leigh Hunt, Mr. Lawton, Dr. Philip Leach, Mr. J. W. MacKenzie, Rev. G. H. Malone, Hon. Geoffrey Mills, Professor John Milne, Mrs. John Milne, Mr. D. D. Moore, Mrs. D. D. Moore and child, Rev. Mr. Northrop, Mr. J. L. E. Palm, Mrs. J. L. E. Palm, Rev. R. B. Perry, Rev. Geo. P. Pierson, Mrs. Geo. P. Pierson, Mrs. Campbell Praed, Miss Campbell Praed, Mr. R. H. Ramsden, Miss Reece, Mr. Rivington, Mr. E. Roberts, Miss G. Roberts, Mr. L. Roustan, Mr. J. S. Ruston, Mr. Samuels, Mr. W. H. Short, Mrs. Russel Stokes and child, Mr. Symington, Madame Gunsi Tanahassi, Master Gunsi Tanahassi, Dr. W. Taylor, Mr. Theodor, Mrs. Theodor, Mr. Geo. Voss, Mr. W. P. Wilkinson, Mrs. W. P. Wilkinson, Mr. C. P. Wills, Mr. H. Wills, Mrs. H. Wills, and Mr. Wright in cabin.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

No improvement as yet; dealers confing their purchases to absolute necessaries. Yarn—A small trade continues in doubles, other sorts neglected. Shirtings—Forward lines in 9lb. have again been done, but nothing in other weights. Small doings in T.-Reds, with retail sales in Velvets, all else stagnant. Woollens—A few more "contracts" in Italians, other things give rise to no enquiry at all. All quotations nominally unchanged.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE.	
Grey Shirtings—8½ lb, 38½ yds. 39 inches	$2.25	to 2.85
Grey Shirtings—9lb, 38½ yds. 45 inches	2.70	to 3.10
T. Cloth—7lb, 24 yards, 32 inches	1.60	to 1.95
Indigo Shirtings—12 yards, 44 inches	1.70	to 2.35
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches	2.00	to 3.75
Cotton—Italians and Satteens Black, 32 inches	PER YARD. 0.16	to 0.22
	PER PIECE.	
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	7.25	to 9.50
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-5 inches	0.80	to 0.95
Turkey Reds—2.0 to 2.4lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.60	to 1.70
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.75	to 2.05
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.30	to 2.60
Turkey Reds—4.8 to 5lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.80	to 3.15

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.	
Flannel	$0.30	to 0.47½
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches best	0.30	to 0.35
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Medium	0.25	to 0.27½
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Common	0.20	to 0.22½
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.15	to 0.22
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches	0.35	to 0.50
Cloths—Presidents, 54 @ 56 inches	0.60	to 0.65
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0.40	to 0.70
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 5lb, per ℔	0.60	to 0.75

COTTON YARNS.

	PER PICUL.	
Nos. 10/24, Ordinary	—	
Nos. 16/24, Medium	$34.00	to 34.50
Nos. 16/24, Good to Best	35.00	to 36.00
Nos. 16/24, Reverse	—	
Nos. 28/32, Ordinary	—	
Nos. 28/32, Medium	36.00	to 37.00
Nos. 28/32, Good to Best	37.50	to 38.50
Nos. 38/42, Medium to Best	42.00	to 44.00
No. 32s, Two-fold	42.00	to 44.00
No. 42s, Two-fold	47.00	to 49.50
	PER BALE.	
No. 20s, Bombay	—	
No. 16s, Bombay	—	

METALS.

There is no change in quotations; but they are mostly nominal, as very little business is doing on the open market. Large arrivals continue, most of which are said to be "contracts."

	PER PICUL.	
Flat Bars, ½ inch	$3.30	to 3.35
Flat Bars, ¼ inch	3.35	to 3.40
Round and square up to ¾ inch	3.30	to 3.40
Iron Plates, assorted	3.40	to 3.50
Sheet Iron	4.40	to 4.60
Galvanized Iron sheets	8.25	to 8.75
Wire Nails, assorted	5.50	to 6.00
Tin Plates, per box	5.65	to 5.75
Pig Iron, No. 3	1.55	to 1.60

KEROSENE.

Quotations are said to be reduced to the undernoted figures but quite nominal. It is hard to believe that no sales are being made while deliveries continue to go on at the rate of about 300,000 gallons a week! But the holders apparently wish to keep their transactions *in camera oscura*.

American	Nom.	$2.25 to 2.30
Russian	Nom.	2.20 to 2.25
Langkat		1.90 to 2.00

SUGAR.

Brown—Fair arrivals and fair sales. Holders have succeeded in raising prices a little all round. White—A good amount of business has been done of late, the higher grades hardening in value.

	PER PICUL.	
Brown Takao	$3.60	to 3.65
Brown Manila	4.30	to 4.40
Brown Daitong (New)	3.10	to 3.20
Brown Canton	3.00	to 3.50
White Java and Penang	6.30	to 6.60
White Refined	6.00	to 9.25

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Market quiet but firm in tone, in sympathy with advices from Europe and Shanghai. All quotations nominal in the absence of any important stock with which to deal. New crop goes well throughout Japan and further small parcels have reached this market. Supplies will henceforth increase and we may soon expect a regular course of trade.

WASTE SILK.

Dealers have accepted the inevitable; and at a lower range of quotations considerable business has been done. Stock down to 7,500 piculs, mostly low grade Noshi and Kibiso. No arrivals of New Crop worth mentioning.

QUOTATIONS.

Pierced Cocoons—Good to Best	—	
Noshi-ito—Filature, Best	$115	to 120
Noshi-ito—Filature, Good	105	to 110
Noshi-ito—Filature, Medium	95	to 100
Noshi-ito—Oshu, Good to Best	90	to 120
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Best	—	
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Good	—	
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Medium	50	to 65
Noshi-ito—Hushu, Good to Best	—	
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Best	—	
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Good	—	
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Ordinary	50	to 6
Kibiso—Filature, Best selected	90	to
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds	80	to 8
Kibiso—Oshu, Good to Best	—	
Kibiso—Shinshu, Best	—	
Kibiso—Shinshu, Seconds	—	
Kibiso—Joshu, Good to Fair	15	to 2
Kibiso—Joshu, Middling to Common	20	to 1
Kibiso—Hachoji, Good to Fair	20	to 1
Kibiso—Hachoji, Medium to Low	16	to 1
Kibiso—Neri, Good to Common	10	to
Mawata—Good to Best	—	

TEA.

A steady business during the week and sett ments to date are about equal in quantity to wh they were last year. The demand just now ru principally on grades below Fine, at quotatio Second-crop leaf is now beginning to arrive a tasters hope that it will prove good in cup qualit

	PER PICUL.	
Choicest	$30	to $3
Choice	28	to 2
Finest	26	to 2
Fine	24	to 2
Good Medium	21	to 2
Medium	19	to 2
Good Common	17	to 1
Common	15	to 1

EXCHANGE.

Exchange has fluctuated but slightly during t past week, and rates on the whole remain abo the same.

Sterling—Bank T.T.		2/1⅞
—	— Bills on demand	2/1⅛
—	— 4 months' sight	2/1¼
—	Private 4 months' sight	2/2
—	— 6 months' sight	2/2⅛
On Paris—Bank sight		2.67
On Lyons—Private 4 months' sight		2.74
On Hongkong—Bank sight		⅛ %
—	Private 10 days' sight	¼ %
On Shanghai—Bank sight		71⅛
—	Private 10 days' sight	72⅛
On India—Bank sight		194
—	Private 30 days' sight	197
On America—Bank Bills on demand		51⅛
—	Private 30 days' sight	52⅛
—	— 4 months' sight	53⅛
On Germany—Bank sight		2.1
—	Private 4 months' sight	2.2
Bar Silver (London)		30⅛

Matheson & Grant

13, Walbrook,

London, England.

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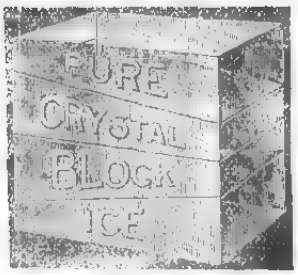
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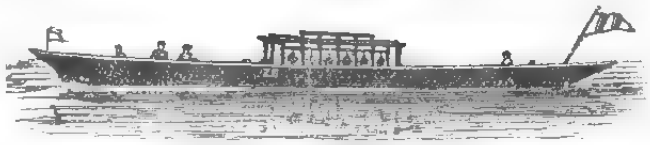
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No. 26.] REGISTERED AT THE G.P.O. AS A NEWSPAPER. YOKOHAMA, JUNE 29TH, 1895. 明治二十八年六月二十九日 Vol. XXIII.

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, JUNE 29TH, 1895.

MARRIAGE.

At the Shinsakae Presbyterian Church, Tsukiji, Tokyo, on Friday evening, June 21st, by the Rev. James M. McCauley, D.D., MASATSUNE ICHINOI, D.D.S., to TEI KAMEYAMA, both of Tokyo.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

COUNT MATSUKATA will not resign the portfolio of Finance.

THE telephone is to be installed in Sôul at an estimated cost of *yen* 1,350.

MR. HAYASHI, Japanese Minister to China, arrived in Pekin on the 22nd inst.

MR. MOTOYAMA, Chief of the Oita Police, has been appointed a Secretary of the Cabinet.

FRANCE is about to make a demonstration on the Yang-tze, to obtain redress for the outrages perpetrated on Missionaries in Szechuan.

THE Duke of Abruzzi was entertained at a hawking party near Tokyo, a few days ago.

THE plague has made it appearance in Hongkong, upwards of seven deaths occurring within a week.

THE latest cholera returns are:—2,731 cases, and 865 deaths, since the commencement of the outbreak.

SEVERE floods are reported from Central Japan, where the train service is much impeded owing to landslips.

SIGNORINA ESTRELLA BELINFANTE, a contralto singer, gave a Grand Concert in the Public Hall on Thursday.

THE first meeting of the Formosa Board of Control was held at the residence of the Premier on the 24th inst.

COUNT INOUYE proceeded to Oiso on the 23rd inst. to visit Viscount Mutsu; and stayed till Monday evening.

COUNT INOUYE, Japanese Minister to Korea, was received in audience by the Emperor on the 21st instant.

THE *Saiyen*, formerly the *Tsi-yuen*, captured by the Japanese at Weihaiwei, has been attached to the Western Squadron.

A MAN was killed by the 8 a.m. train from Uyeno, Tokyo, on the 21st inst. at Iwatsukicho, Kita-Toshima District.

IT is stated that Viscount Aoki, Japanese Minister to Germany, will shortly be ordered home on official business.

THE "Ebony" Minstrel troupe of H.M.S. *Undaunted* drew a full house to the Public Hall on Wednesday evening.

JAPANESE Consulates have been reopened in Shanghai and Tientsin, and a new Consul has been appointed to Chefoo.

COUNTESS COUDENHOVE is to receive the Sacrament of Baptism in the Roman Catholic Cathedral in Tokyo, on July 1st.

MR. SHIMBO KOTORO, of Tokyo, has had the degree of *Rigaku Hakase* (Science) conferred on him by the Minister of Education.

THE Captain of the *Cristoforo Colombo* received the Italian residents of Tokyo and Yokohama on board his ship on Monday evening.

THE week has been very rainy in the Yokohama and district, more particularly on Wednesday, when all the traditions of *nyubai* were realised.

MR. MAGAKI JOCHO has addressed the leading Yokohama residents upon the importance of establishing a commercial chamber in this town.

THE disbanded military coolies who have returned to Tokyo are causing a good deal of trouble; they accuse the contractors of unduly squeezing their pay.

CHEVALIER DE KONTSKI'S concert in Tokyo, was a musical treat, but owing to several exceptional circumstances, did not attract a house worthy of its merits.

VISCOUNT KABAYAMA, Governor-General of Formosa has formally inaugurated Japanese administration in the island and the adjacent Pescadores.

THE Duke of Abruzzi, who leaves Japan for a trip to Formosa *en route* to Europe on July 1st, entertained Princes Komatsu and Tokugawa, and firm

the Minister and Vice-Minister of the Navy, a other naval officers on board the *Cristof Colombo* on Monday.

VISCOUNT TOKIO has been appointed a Pr Councillor, and Mr. Kuki and Baron Takasa Court Councillors, have received additional pointments as members of the Privy Council

THIEVES have been committing several p depredations on the Bluff, Yokohama, dur the past month or so. On Monday evening David Jackson's house was entered and sev articles were stolen.

THE troops of the Nagoya garrison have b returning to barracks during the last few d Lieut-General Katsnura and Staff have b welcomed by the Mayor of the town and p licly thanked.

THE regular general assembly of the Sapp Sugar Co. was held in Tokyo on the 25th i The receipts during the past half-year amou to *yen* 140,037.072, and the expenditure *yen* 175,614,894; a loss of *yen* 35,577.822.

REUTER telegraphs:—Lord Rosebery has signed, and the Marquis of Salisbury has to Windsor, where it is believed, he will i on a dissolution forthwith. The House is pected to pass a vote on account for supp for two months covering the period of the e tion. After conference with the Conserva and Unionist leaders, the following announ ment of a reconstructed Ministry was made Mr. Arthur James Balfour, Leader of the H of Commons and First Lord of the Treasury; Joseph Chamberlain, Secretary of State for Colonies; The Marquis of Salisbury, Pre and Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs; Duke of Devonshire, Lord President of Council; Sir Michael Hicks-Beach, Chanc of the Exchequer; and Mr. George J. Gosc First Lord of the Admiralty. It is reported the Hon. George Nathaniel Curzon will be n Secretary of State for India.

THE Import trade is dull generally, th there has been a little more business in Yar principally "doubles." Grey goods are life and only retail sales have been effecte Fancy Cottons, while Woollens are negle except that a few trifling purchases of It Cloth and Mousselines have been made. S lots of Metals have been bought, but p are weak and there is little life in the t Some business has been done in Kerosene the dealings seem to be somewhat my ous. There have been fresh arrivals fair extent, and there is a good stock of American and Russian, while a small parc Langkat does not appear to evoke much in among buyers, though offered at 25 per less than the top figure for American. Sugar market is quiet, and only small have been made. Formosa sorts are w change in value, and Manila and China are obtainable at slightly reduced rates, Whites are dull. Most of the new Silk p on this market has been taken on arrival vancing prices, and buyers are ready to There has been a fair demand for suitable p of Waste (old), but the stock remaining is rally very poor. The Tea trade has been and settlements are rather more at date those of same period last year. First cr is now pretty well finished, and second pi are being placed on the market in large tities. Complaints are made about the especially of the lower grades, which declare are decidedly dear. Exchang again fluctuated slightly, without much on the whole, but rates close a shade

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THE SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS DURING THE WEEK.

It now seems certain that Count Matsukata has consented to remain in office; and with the withdrawal of his resignation, has been averted, say some persons, the danger of a Cabinet crisis. The truth seems to be that, with the exception of Count Matsukata himself, no Minister of State wanted to leave office. Thus the rumours implying a serious split in the Ministry, have been, for the most part, without foundation. Some contradictory reports are circulated about Count Inouye. He had been regarded as the most probable successor to Count Matsukata, but now that the latter is believed to have reconsidered his intended resignation, Count Inouye is reported to be determined to retire from public life altogether. Some papers, however, state that, under certain circumstances, he may perhaps go to Korea again, or, in other words, that he will return to the peninsula should the Ministry decide to adopt his views and persevere in effecting the regeneration of Korea even at the point of the bayonet. Journals holding that view now observe that the line of action ultimately taken by Count Inouye will be a sure indication of the character of the policy to be hereafter pursued by the Cabinet toward the peninsular Kingdom. With regard to the anti-Cabinet movement, against which vigorous measures of repression have been adopted by the authorities, even the Opposition organs themselves acknowledge it to have been a failure. That the projected agitation was not in touch with the spirit of the times is shown by the almost entire absence of any popular resentment against the strong steps adopted by the Minister of Home Affairs. Some journals, supporters of the agitation, remark, it is true, that the repressive policy of the Government will have the effect of accelerating a combination of the different sections of the Opposition into one great and irresistible party. But, so far as we can see, no such result is likely to follow. The *Kokumin Shimbun*, as usual, shows great zeal in advocating the amalgamation of the different parties. It urges that the time has come for such a combination, since, in its opinion, the existing parties have mostly outlived the circumstances to which they owe their birth. But its enthusiasm in the cause of amalgamation is not reflected by any of the other party organs.

* * *

It is a noteworthy circumstance that the exceptionally strong measures adopted by the authorities in this instance, have not evoked any energetic protest from the organs of the politicians most directly affected. They show a degree of indifference about the matter that passes the comprehension of outsiders. The most reasonable explanation of their singular apathy seems to be that they are aware of the unpopularity of the agitation just nipped in the bud. This peculiar state of affairs has attracted the attention of the *Nippon*, which poses as an impartial critic of both the Government and the Opposition. It strongly criticises the measures taken by the Government, especially the visits that the police have paid to gatherings of politicians in private houses. Such conduct on the part of the police, says our contemporary, is unjustifiable even under the comprehensive provisions of the Law of Public Meetings, and the repressive policy of the Minister of Home Affairs must be denounced as a display of despotism not in keeping with the spirit of the Constitution. "But our principal purpose is not to blame the Authorities, for it is quite natural that the holders of political power should strive to protect themselves against being deposed. The present is not the time to censure the Government. What we find most unsatisfactory is the conduct of politicians that have suffered from the action of the Authorities. They were once more vehement than ourselves in demanding liberty and freedom. Why, then, do they so weakly bow to the treatment they have just received at official hands? where is now their principle of liberty? We are not satisfied with the conduct of politicians that appropriate to themselves the proud title of *Shi-to*." Our contemporary is unjust to the Radicals. From the first they held aloof from the present agitation, and, consequently, have no direct interest in the treatment that its promoters have received from the Government.

* * *

The change of Government in England and its bearings upon the situation in the Far East, occupy the most prominent place in journalistic discussions during the week. The great importance attached to the event shows what a watch is kept by Japanese journalists on the state of affairs in the West. We have already produced the comments of the principal papers on this subject. Several articles have since been published, however, and it is as well that a few general observations should be made upon them. All the papers, with the exception of the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, concur in believing that the new Conservative Cabinet will pursue a decidedly anti-Russian policy, and several go so far as to declare that the coming of Lord Salisbury into power will probably lead to an early rupture between England and the great northern empire. Many of them believe that the new British Cabinet will be in favour of closer relations with Japan, and write as though they themselves advocated the establishment of an understanding with England. Not a single daily newspaper of any influence has yet even hinted that Japan should look for a friend in a different quarter. It is true that the *Kokumin-no-Tomo*, whose article has been noticed separately in these columns, strongly objects to an alliance with England, and insinuates that Japan's natural ally should be sought in Russia. But the *Kokumin-no-Tomo* is a tri-monthly periodical, and, moreover, the article in question was evidently not written by the editor. The only daily that has raised its voice against the prevalent tendency to openly advocate an alliance with England, is the *Kokkai*, and even the *Kokkai* is not positively opposed to such an alliance. What it complains of is a proneness to attach too much importance to a foreign alliance. "If England should come and ask for Japan's alliance, the proposal might be taken up by the latter with due regard for its own interests. But we fail to discover any necessity for Japan to seek an alliance with England. Whether with England or with Russia, however, alliance will be naturally formed when a real necessity for it arises. The discussion of such a step is most inopportune and unwise at present."

* * *

Alone among the Metropolitan papers, the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* thinks it a mistake to conclude that the change of Cabinet in England will be accompanied by any change of foreign policy. It ridicules the rashness of journals that have been thrown into raptures by the thought of the Marquis of Salisbury's pursuing a hostile policy against Russia. In former years, a change of Government was usually followed in England by a change of foreign policy. But that pernicious precedent was first discarded by Lord Salisbury himself, and his example has wisely been followed by Lord Rosebery. Our contemporary points to the policy that the late Liberal Administration adopted in Egypt, in Chitral, and toward Japan on the question of Treaty Revision, and observes that exactly the same policy would have been pursued had Lord Salisbury been in office. As to the contention that Lord Rosebery tried to effect a reconciliation with Russia, the *Nichi Nichi* remarks that what that statesman did was merely an episode such as may happen under any Administration. That his policy was not essentially philo-Russia, is shown by his rejection of the offer made by Russia to unite in an anti-Japanese intervention. Moreover, Lord Salisbury's organ declared that the Japanese terms of peace were harsh and advised Japan against the acquisition of land on the continent of Asia. The *Nichi Nichi* infers that the Conservative leader, seeing that his assumption of office was not far distant thought it wise not to offend Russian susceptibilities. Judging by these circumstances, our contemporary thinks it premature to expect that the new British Cabinet will be more anti-Russian than its predecessor, and sincerely hopes that the Cabinet of Lord Salisbury obtain a working majority in the coming elections.

* * *

The *Jiji Shimpo* is indefatigable in advocating an alliance between Japan and England. In its latest article, our contemporary notices at great length the recent article in *The Times* on the question of subsidizing British steam navigation companies in the Pacific, and the correspondence published in the same paper on the advisability of a maritime alliance between England and the United States. It then proceeds to discuss the importance for Japan of joining such an alliance, its firm opinion being that Japan's destiny lies in a close combination with the Anglo-Saxon race, with which she must share the future trade of the Pacific.

* * *

The insurrections that are beginning to assume some importance in China attract considerable attention in this country. It is feared that the prestige of the Pekin Government having been greatly impaired by its humiliating defeats at Japan's hands, the turbulent population in the southern and central provinces may cause serious troubles to the reigning dynasty. A writer in the *Nippon* discusses the subject in an alarmist strain, and advises the Japanese Government to lend to the Chinese Government a sufficient number of troops to put down the insurrections. The writer notices two kinds of civil commotions in Chinese history, namely, one aiming at the downfall of the existing Government and its displacement by a better administration, and another having no definite political aim. To the latter description, he says, belong the present risings. Such insurrections, though capable of bringing about the fall of the dynasty, may lead to a state of affairs offering pretexts for the greedy Powers of the West to meddle in the internal affairs of China. If any Power is entitled to interfere in the domestic affairs of China, that Power, in the opinion of the writer, is Japan, for, besides mere geographical proximity, the Japanese being possessed of a key to the history, institutions, and national character of the Chinese, are best qualified to deal sympathetically with that nation.

* * *

The other questions discussed in the vernacular press relate to the opportunity afforded to Japanese manufacturers and merchants by the Shimonoseki Treaty; to the increase of taxes; the rewarding of soldiers; to the great Siberian railway, and so forth. On the subject of taxation, the *Jiji's* proposal for an increase of the tax on *sake* has met with general approval.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

PROPOSED REVIVAL OF A DANGEROUS NUISANCE.

For some time past there has been talk of the formation of a rifle club in Yokohama, or the resuscitation of a similar institution that existed here some years ago; and it is alleged butts are to be erected and the Rifle Range granted for the purpose of target practice. We cannot believe for a moment that the Governor of Kanagawa has given his consent to so dangerous a proceeding, or that he is likely to do so. Many years ago, when target shooting was permitted at the place we refer to, complaints were common from persons who had had the unpleasant experience of bullets whizzing about their ears, and there are still present in Yokohama men that can testify to having been within an ace of being killed by missiles fired by erratic marksmen when at rifle practice. Bullets have struck the rails of the race-course at the top of the hill dozens of times, and it is recounted by those acquainted with the facts that the former owner of a dairy nearly a quarter of a mile further on once had a bullet sent through his hat as he was on the road near the five-furlong post. This occurred many years ago, and the traffic on that road now is treble what it was in those days; in fact there is no road out of Yokohama that has a tithe of the traffic that passes the race-

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course: to go "round the road" is *the* drive of the Settlement. The number of *equestriennes* has very largely increased, and horse men and pedestrians likewise, as well as carriages, which were never before so numerous in Yokohama as at present. Nor is this all. Any one who frequents the race-course must have observed that it is a favourite place for mothers and nurses to take children for a romp on the grass, and a more delightful place for the youngsters does not exist. Added to this is the fact that there are within range of stray bullets scores of acres now under cultivation that were formerly covered with coppice, and in these fields Japanese are to be found at work from morning till night. The rifles of the present day carry much farther and faster than those of the period to which we refer, but the accuracy of the marksmen has not improved in the same ratio with the weapons, and it is safe to assert that even if the "pull" were no greater than that of a hair-trigger, some geniuses trying to hit a target on the Rifle Range would plant the bullet in the body of a farmer working beyond the race-course. By the promoters of the rifle club it is stated that screens will be erected in order to prevent accident, but that is not satisfactory. No screen that could be devised would be so effective in stopping stray shots as the bluffs right, left, and centre, but in old days the bullets went over the bluffs, and of course they would do so again. It is useless to urge that the firing would take place only at certain periods, for there is no part of the day that men and women do not ride in the neighbourhood, morning and evening more especially, while children frequent the spot in the afternoon, and there are workers in the fields from dawn till dark. We cannot believe that the authorities will permit this dangerous nuisance to be revived, though it is openly stated as pending. The Nippon Race Club—tenants of the Kencho—having vested interests in the neighbourhood, would do well to make a representation on the subject to the Governor at once, and not wait until a catastrophe renders a protest necessary. If a safe and proper place for rifle shooting could be found, every one might support the club, but the present proposal can not command approval.

AN EPISODE OF THE WAR.

On the day when Port Arthur was attacked by the Japanese Army and Navy, the latter, after getting within suitable range, opened fire on the forts near the coast. The batteries on the Hwangchin Hill answered from heavy guns. These were the strongest forts at Port Arthur, their armament being four Krupp guns of no less than 30 cent. calibre. The squadrons, approaching within range of such ordinance, expected a terrible cannonade, and were not a little astonished by the weakness of the Chinese resistance. It is true that they opened fire upon the ships, but their shells always fell short of the mark. The sailors supposed this failure to be due to the inferior gunnery of the Chinese, and greeted each shell as it dropped in the sea with loud shouts of derision. The officers, however, were puzzled by a performance to them inexplicable, inasmuch as they knew that the artillery in the forts, whatever the faultiness of its handling, could not possibly lack force. Meanwhile, the celebrated naval station of China was stormed from the land side, and the defenders of the fort on Hwangchinshan were either killed or taken prisoners, their retreat having been cut off by the invaders. When the officers that had defended the fort on Hwangchinshan were brought before the Japanese Generals, one of them, apparently an officer of distinction, stepped forward and thus addressed the generals: "I was the commander of the forts, but now that I have incurred irremediable disgrace, I should like to ask a special favour, namely, that I be permitted to commit suicide in your presence." Such a request was not only contrary to the ordinary habits of the Chinese, but, what was far more surprising, it was conveyed in perfectly correct Japanese. One of the officers to whom the captive had addressed himself, asked him where he had acquired the Japanese language so well. The prisoner replied that he was originally a native of Higo, whence he crossed over to China many years ago. Subsequently, by some chance, he attracted the attention of the Viceroy Li, who gradually promoted him till at last he was appointed Commander of the fort. He was determined to requite sooner or later the favour conferred on him by the Viceroy. Fate, however, was against him. Determined as he was to render distinguished service to the Government that employed him and to justify the special consideration that the Viceroy had extended to him, it never entered his head that he would be required by the dictates of duty to fire upon his own countrymen. He could not possibly reconcile himself to that idea. On the other hand, to desert his post when grave peril threatened the Government that employed him, seemed an act of treachery from which his sense of honour recoiled. Placed in this painful dilemma, he decided to choose a middle course—to fire upon the Japanese ships, but to deliberately aim so as not to hit them. He added that if the generals would some day ask the officers of the Fleet about the fire from the fort that he had commanded, they might obtain corroboration of what he had now related. As for himself, having nothing more to care for in the world, he was resolved to commit *seppuku* in the presence of the Japanese generals. The latter, one after another, tried to dissuade him from his resolution, but he was inflexible and insisted on dying. Finally the generals admiring his noble determination, felt constrained to give their consent. The prisoner thereupon showed signs of considerable satisfaction. Making a profound obeisance, he sat down, and committed *seppuku* in the stoutest manner, according to the strict canons of the Japanese *samurai*. The officers were much struck by his manly conduct, and caused his remains to be interred with due ceremony. This story is told by the *Nippon*, in the name of one of its war-correspondents that accompanied the army to Manchuria. We confess that it sorely taxes our credulity, but perhaps some of our readers may have larger faith.

THE FORMOSA CABLE.

Various preliminaries having been completed, Mr. Asano, an expert in the Communications Department, accompanied by eight assistants, will leave in a few days in the *Sumiyoshi Maru* to survey the best route for a submarine cable between Japan and Formosa. The party will begin their investigations at Naha in Okinawa Prefecture, whence they proceed towards Kelung *vid* one important port in the Yayeyama Islands. They will take some thirty or forty days surveying the route. The route between Kagoshima and Naha was surveyed some years ago, and if time allows they will conduct a new survey. The question as to whether it would be better to adopt the upper route, or the middle one, will be decided after the survey is completed.

HIROSHIMA MILITARY HOSPITAL.

From the opening of the Hiroshima Military Hospital up to the 21st instant, the total number of disabled persons brought from the seat of war and placed in the establishment was 19,208, of whom 6,278 were wounded, 8,716 attacked by ordinary maladies, and 4,213 suffered from epidemic diseases. Of the above, 5,027 recovered, 2,786 were removed to other places, 66 returned to their houses, 109 were dischargeded, 628 succumbed to diseases, 195 left of their own accord, and 3,179 are still in the Hospital.

NAVAL NEWS.

H.M.S. *Rainbow*, which returned from Tamsui this morning, says the *China Mail* of the 13th inst., brought down Captain Shubrick, R.M.L.I., and the detachment of thirty marines landed from the *Centurion* to protect British interests at Tamsui during the recent trouble. The Japanese having entered into possession of their new territory have banished anarchy and restored order in North Formosa, so that further protection for the foreigners is unnecessary. The German flagship *Irene*, the *Naniwa* and the *Takachiho* arrived at Tamsui on the 7th, the *Akitsushima* and the *Oshima* on the 8th, an the *Yayeyama* on the 9th inst. The *Rainbo* left Tamsui on the 11th inst. The doctor of th *Tweed*, which is still at Takow, died from pne monia, and the doctor of the *Linnet* has go to Takow. The *Rainbow* went out for gun tria this afternoon, and will return to-morrow a coal ready for emergencies. H.M.S. *Linnet* expected to come out of dock on Saturday. T troopship *Tamar* was commissioned on the 28 May and was to leave for Hongkong on t 10th inst.

WHOLESALE RESIGNATION OF SCHOOL TEACHE

An incident has occurred, resulting in the signation of more than 120 teachers of comm schools in Kitamorogata District, Miyazaki P fecture. The cause is as follows. Last Ap the common schools of 11 villages in t district planned jointly a sham fight for boys, by way of athletic sports, in a cert dried up river-bed. The teachers and dist officials, after consultation, manufactured sev explosives with which to enliven the sports. T undertaking was entirely successful, and the was closed with cheers from teachers scholars. After the lapse of two months, w the affair was almost forgotten, it was a brought to public notice. A suspicion aros the Police Office of Tonojyo that the manu ture of explosives by the teachers and dis office clerks, without obtaining the sanctio competent authorities, was a violation of Explosive Manufacturing Regulations. result was that the principal and head teache each school that had joined in the entertain were punished with a fine of one *yen* a head. acting principal of the Tonojyo common sc took the matter so deeply to heart that he sidered it necessary to resign. This step o part led to the wholesale resignation of hi ferior colleagues that had taken part in consultation and in the manufacture of e sives. Their example was followed by the schools, so that more than 120 teachers ten their resignations. There is not one s open now in the whole district, and the sch are enjoying temporary holidays.

NEWCHWANG.

Writing on 12th June, Messrs. Bandinel of Newchwang, say:—Our last report was 20th April. The Japanese are only cha coast trade duty on native imports; and Chinese Customs will treat exports hence same way, it would do more than anythin to revive business. We are sorry to sa daily arrivals of Beans do not exceed 400 piculs, most of which is at once snapped small buyers for local consumption. T said to be plenty of export cargo up count the river is infested by pirates to an exte makes merchants hesitate to send up fu the purchase of goods. Stocks of Be amount to about 6,000 piculs, and prices Beans, per 3 piculs, Taels 4.50; bean c picul, Taels 4; bean cakes, per 10 piec minal) Taels 5.

A GENEROUS GIFT TO COLUMBIA.

President Low's magnificent gift of a dollars, to be devoted to a library buildi Columbia College, is a signal illustra what is sometimes called the "new throphy." The donor wishes the library as a memorial of his father, the late Abott Low, "a merchant who taught his value the things for which Columbia stands." The announcement of this accompanied by that of a gift from Mr Schermerhorn, of three hundred thousa lars, for the construction of another dep building, the giver suggesting his pre for a scientific laboratory of some sort. President Low's inauguration, five yea Columbia has been made the recipient amounting altogether to more than five of dollars, a record hardly outdone by University of Chicago. It is, in our peculiarly fitting that the central build great university should be the library than the laboratory or the lecture ha library typifies historical and humanistic

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and for this the university should stand more distinctly than for anything else, although by no means narrowly or exclusively. A library building, with an adequate fund for its endowment, is the best of all possible gifts to a great institution of learning, and President Low is to be thanked for the wisdom of his choice no less heartily than for his munificence.—*Dial.*

H.M.S. "UNDAUNTED" EBONY MINSTRELS.

THE Ebony Minstrel troupe of H.M.S. *Undaunted* drew a full house at the Public Hall on Wednesday evening. The entertainment went with a splendid swing from start to finish. Among the most appreciated items in the first part was a song by Mr. Oxford, "Hazel Dell," which was encored. "Silly bally bama Coon"—a traversty on the now famous "The Alabama Coon"—was well sung by Mr. Williams, and proved hugely diverting: the last verse was redemanded. A Hornpipe by Mr. Hill was splendidly done. The neat and graceful performance was loudly cheered, and recalled, and the dancer kindly complied. The Sketch which brought the entertainment to a close was very mirth-provoking, the honours being borne away by *Julius* (otherwise Hercules) and *Joe* (otherwise Ajax, characters well sustained by Messrs. Williams and Prater. The *Arabella Chump* of Mr. Johnson delighted the audience: one hardly knew which to admire most, the suggestions of sylph-like grace in figure and movement, the majesty of the voice, or the rich abundance of golden hair which the love-lorn maiden disported with such charming abandon.

FACTION FIGHTS.

SAYS the *China Mail*:—The Government Civil Hospital and Victoria Gaol contain at the present moment the more or less fragmentary remains of a large number of private chair-coolies who went over to Kowloon a few days ago to settle a racial quarrel with bamboo carrying poles. The contestants comprised Hakkas and Hoklos, in fairly even numbers, and the casualties are fairly well distributed on both sides. As soon as the more seriously injured heroes have passed through the tender hands of Dr. Lowson, the points of dispute will be the subject of investigation before Mr. H. E. Wodehouse at the Magistracy. Meanwhile, several gentlemen in the Peak District have been bereft of their usual chair coolies.

THE NEW BRITISH DOLLAR.

FOR many months now the British communities of the Far East have been anxiously awaiting the advent of the new British dollar. One obstacle after another seems to have been placed in the new coin's way, and now it is stated that although coinage operations have commenced at the Bombay Mint, none of the coins have been issued. By a mistake in the die Britannia's trident has been struck into the scroll at the head of the coin with a curious result. Further instructions are awaited.

THE MURDER AT NAGASAKI.

ON Sunday evening (June 16th) a coloured seaman of the U.S.S. *Yorktown* was arrested in Nagasaki on a charge of murder. Thomas Bush, the man in question, is reported to have attacked a native of Nishi-hamano-machi named Kamimura Kwanjiro with a razor, giving his victim two nasty cuts, one over the heart and one across the abdomen. The native died during Sunday evening. Bush is at present in prison awaiting his trial.

THE SUDDEN DEATH IN KOBE.

THE *Kobe Chronicle* records the death of Mr. John McGilp, second engineer of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha steamer *Yeiji Maru*, which took place on Tuesday morning at the Jiutei Hotel. Shortly before nine o'clock the deceased, apparently in his usual health, went to have a bath. On emerging from the bath-room he complained of feeling a little sick, and proceeding to his room almost immediately fell down and expired. A Japanese doctor who was sent for by the people of the house pronounced the unfortunate man to be quite dead, the cause of death being heart failure. Mr. McGilp was well-known among Kobe football players, and took part in a number of games there last season. He was a native of Renfrew, Scotland, and only 27 years of age.

WEIHAIWEI.

WHEN the Chinese Commander-in-Chief, Admiral Ting, had obtained honours of war for the garrison and the officers and men of his fleet, he surrendered forts and ships, soldiers and sailors; then retiring to his cabin, he and his three most trusted captains took a fatal dose of opium. The next day a war steamer left the port amidst the salutes of the Japanese fleet, bearing the dead Admiral and his officers home:—

To our ears there is nothing heroic
In the name of Admiral Ting,
Yet tears might flow from a stoic,
If a poet his soul could bring
Of Ting's gallant fight against fate,
And his passage home in state
Through the enemy's fleet, to sing.

With the honours of war accorded
To the baffled and beaten braves,
And the last salute awarded
As the ship bore away to their graves
The captains staunch and true,
Of the many, alas! too few!
With their Admiral, over the waves.

The cannon boomed and thundered,
No longer with angry roar;
Whilst the eager victors wondered
At the silence from the shore,
As through the stately fleet,
But not in battle's heat,
They put out to sea once more.

For cold in death they lay
In the proud funereal car,
With the sea-birds all at play
In the spray of the harbour bar;
And their dirge was sung
By the wild waves' tongue
As they went home from the war.

There are names on history's page
That will through the centuries last,
Of warrior, martyr, sage,
The heroes of the past;
Who have died with their hearts aflame,
Self-slain, but not in shame,
And they live from age to age!

And the story shall be told
How the Weihaiwei Admiral died,
Oft times as the world grows old,
With his captains by his side.
Home to a patriot's grave
Carry the honoured brave,
O ship, with thy sacred freight,
The sea-dogs lying in state,
Amongst the immortals enrolled!—*Society.*

SIR WILLIAM ROBINSON OF HONGKONG.

IN a private letter from London, mentioned by a contemporary, a well-informed old Ceylon colonist says he thinks the choice for the next Governor of Ceylon lies between Sir William Robinson of Hongkong and Sir Henry Blake of Jamaica, and that the former has obtained great *kudos* with the home authorities for sticking at his post and doing good work in stamping out the plague.

ANOTHER NEW P. AND O. LINER.

MESSRS. CAIRD and Co., shipbuilders, Greennock, launched on the 14th ultimo, a steel screw steamer of 6,000 tons gross, named the *Malta*, for the passenger and cargo service of the Peninsular and Oriental Company. The vessel, which will be supplied with triple expansion engines, is 430 feet in length and 50.3 in breadth. She is intended for the Company's Indian and Australian trade.

THE "CHISHIMA"-"RAVENNA" APPEAL.

THE *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* says that a London telegram, which was received in Tokyo yesterday, states that the hearing of the *Chishima-Ravenna* appeal, before the Law Lords of the Privy Council in London, concluded on the 29th ult.

THIEVES ON THE BLUFF.

COMPLAINTS have been rife for some time in regard to the depredations committed by thieves on the Bluff, but the police have not succeeded in tracing any of the offenders. On Monday evening the house of Mr. David Jackson was entered just about twilight, but fortunately the thief was disturbed, and only succeeded in making off with a few articles, though from the number of silver things he dropped in his hasty flight it was apparent that he was making good use of his opportunities.

THE NATIONAL TRIBUTE TO DR. GRACE.

THE British Community of Hongkong are subscribing their 50 cents apiece towards the *Daily Telegraph's* national shilling tribute to Dr. W. G. Grace, the world-renowned cricketer. The movement in the Colony is under the auspices of the H.C.C.

THE SZECHUAN OUTRAGE.

BETTER news has been received in reference to the anti-Christian outrages in Szechuan, says the *N.-C. Daily News*. The Pekin government has taken up the French case warmly, and has guaranteed that no more outrages shall occur.

GOLD IN BOKHARA.

MUCH interest has been aroused by a recent announcement in the *Gráshdanin* that extensive gold fields have been discovered in Bokhara. The locality has, it is said, been examined by a mining engineer and specialist, who reports the existence of "almost inexhaustible deposits."

THE PLAGUE.

FIVE cases of plague were reported in Hongkong on Saturday, June 15th. A girl died from the disease the previous day. Three deaths had occurred in Kennedytown Hospital up to the 17th inst. The authorities are taking vigorous measures to stamp out the disease.

OFFICIAL APPOINTMENTS.

MR. HASHIGUCHI, Japanese Consul at New York, is recalled, his place being given to Mr. Miyagawa, Japanese Consul at Lyons. Mr. Hisamizu, a Japanese Consul (unattached), was appointed to Chefoo on the 25th inst.

NEW TREATY BETWEEN JAPAN AND RUSSIA.

THE *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* states that the Commercial Treaty between Japan and Russia, which was signed by the commissioners of both countries on the 8th inst., was ratified by the Czar on the 18th instant.

THE BRITISH CABINET.

The wording of Reuter's telegram of yesterday morning seems to have perplexed some of our readers. But we see no difficulty in interpreting the message. "Lord Salisbury goes to Windsor" means, of course, that he has been summoned thither. That need scarcely be explained. For the rest, since the Rosebery Cabinet have taken the somewhat unusual course of resigning without—so far as we know—suffering a parliamentary defeat or appealing to the country, and since Lord Salisbury can not possibly be expected to assume the reins of administration without a working majority in the House, he would naturally insist on a dissolution before forming a ministry. According to the ordinary procedure, Lord Rosebery would appeal to the country, and would remain in office until the elections showed him in a minority. That he has resigned at the present stage, is probably to be interpreted as signifying that his majority in the Commons has fallen below the "working" standard, and that the defeats sustained by his party at by-elections have thoroughly discouraged him.

BAPTISM OF COUNTESS COUDENHOVE.

On the morning of the 1st July, a solemn ceremony will take place in Tsukiji Cathedral, Tokyo, at ten o'clock. His Grace Monsigneur Osouf, Archbishop of Tokyo, will administer the holy sacrament of baptism to Countess Mitsu Coudenhove, wife of Count Henry Coudenhove. The Count's sister, Countess Vecla Coudenhove, will be sponsor, and will be represented by Madame Natalie de Kontski. On this exceptional occasion the Chevalier de Kontski has consented to preside at the organ, and Signor Braccialini will sing the Ave Maria of Gounod. Although Count Coudenhove has not issued any invitations, the ceremony being private, there can be no doubt that all his friends and acquaintances will be heartily welcomed on the day of his wife's joining the Catholic creed.

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CURRENT TOPICS.

The Minister of Home Affairs is very thorough in his policy of repression. The dissolution of the political association that, under the name of a body of political sympathizers, had been striving to get up a popular agitation against the Cabinet, has been followed by repression of all meetings at which matters relating to that agitation were discussed. In carrying out these measures, the police-inspectors have paid visits to private houses and interfered with conferences held by small groups of politicians. Naturally, the strong policy followed by Viscount Nomura has evoked much hostile comment. But the complaints uttered by party politicians seem to find little echo among the public in general, and there are good reasons to believe that the repressive policy of the Home Minister will prove successful.

Writing on this subject, the *Kokumin Shimbun* advises the opponents of the Government to break up their respective bodies and form a grand party on a broad basis. It is a mistake, says our contemporary, to maintain the existing party organizations, they are already out of touch with the spirit of the ime. In other words, there is no longer any *raison d'être* for so many separate petty coteries. The *Kokumin* has always advocated the amalgamation of the Opposition parties. On more than one occasion there seemed to be some hopes that such a plan would succeed, but personal rivalry between certain leaders and too vivid recollections of episodes in the past history of party warfare, always proved insurmountable obstacles. There is no reason to believe that these injurious influences are less potent now than they were two or three years ago.

Fears are expressed that the extreme sections of the Opposition, exasperated by the strong measures of the Home Minister against their anti-Ministerial agitation, will demand, in the coming session of the Diet, the resignation of the Cabinet before proceeding to discuss any important measures of constructive statesmanship. Very likely they will adopt that method, but will such an unpatriotic programme receive the support of a majority in the House? On the whole, there is little danger of the Diet's endorsing the suicidal course proposed by the Progressionists and their friends, but there is danger that these wary politicians may manage to seriously obstruct the smooth passage of many vitally important measures now engaging national attention. Influenced by that apprehension, several public-spirited men are understood to be enthusiastically endeavouring to bring about a reconciliation between the Cabinet and the Opposition. Among these mediators are included Count Goto, Mr. Fukuzawa Yukichi, and Mr. Oishi Masami. Our readers doubtless remember that Mr. Fukuzawa's paper, the *Jiji Shimpo*, has of late taken much pains to urge the formation of a *Genkun* Cabinet, or in other words a Ministry comprising the principle members of the present Government as well as the leaders of the Opposition parties. A Cabinet containing such men as Counts Ito, Inouye, Okuma, Itagaki, Goto, Saigo, and Yamagata, would no doubt look brilliant and powerful. But the combination of these statesmen will probably prove as difficult to affect as the amalgamation of the different political parties following their leadership.

Count Inouye is the subject of various rumours. Some persons say that he is bent upon going to Korea once more, should the Cabinet agree to his proposal to continue the guidance of the peninsula's affairs even at the point of the bayonet, but that, should such a programme be rejected, he will not only resign his diplomatic post, but also bid farewell to the Government altogether. Others maintain that he has expressed himself quite willing to accept the portfolio of Finance should it be resigned by Count Matsukata. As to the last named statesman, it is beginning to be reported that he is now inclined to give up the idea of resigning in deference to the repeated recommendation of the Emperor. Rumour continues to represent Count Goto as desirous of being appointed to the post of Japanese Minister in Söul. It is stated that some understanding exists between him and Boku Eiko. We ourselves believe that Count Inouye has no idea of returning to Korea, and that, if he re-enters the Cabinet, it will be to receive his former post at the Home Office.

Writing on the question of an increase of taxes, the *Kokumin-no-Tomo* expresses its approval of the proposal so far as concerns *sake*. Should that prove insufficient, recourse may be had to an increase of the Income Tax. Our contemporary is strongly opposed to augmenting the Land Tax, as suggested by the *Keisai Zasshi*. The latter's plan, as may be supposed, is generally very unpopular with politicians and journalists in the capital.

Discharged military coolies are causing much trouble to the police. They have, or pretend to have, serious complaints against their contractors. The latter are charged with illegal appropriation of sums that ought to have been paid to the coolies as wages. Of all the contractors, the Japan Construction Company is accused of having been most unscrupulous and cruel in its dealings with the coolies. Attempts to effect a compromise have been rejected by the infuriated coolies; they have brought the matter before a court of law. Various reports, implicating officers in the army, are circulated. But no data at all trustworthy are forthcoming as yet.

The question of amalgamating the different Opposition parties has once more begun to engage serious attention. Some people talk as though it were the easiest thing in the world. But men were informed as to the connections between the different parties shrug their shoulders and seem in no way inclined to believe in the proposed scheme of union. The whole of the *Kaishin-to* are doubtless in favour of the plan, but in the case of other parties, there is some difference of opinion. Even men like Mr. Kusumoto, President of the House of Representatives, and Mr. Kawashima Jun, though usually counted among the trusty allies of the Progressionists, are believed to be opposed to the idea of amalgamation. Under these circumstances, it is thought that the total strength of the new party, even if its organization prove possible, would fall far short of a hundred.

In spite of a rumour to the contrary, the Radical Party seems resolved to avoid all precipitate and ill-considered action in regard to the so-called question of Cabinet responsibility for the return of the Liaotung peninsula. It appears to be true, however, that some of the provincial Radicals favour the agitation against the Government. Those in the Prefecture of Niigata recently resolved to cöoperate with the Progressionists of the locality, and forwarded to the head-quarters of their Party in Tokyo a memorandum urging the adoption of a strong line of anti-Cabinet action. It is now stated that Mr. Shigeoka Kungoro will be sent to Niigata to dissuade the Radicals of the place from working with the Progressionists. Mr. Hayashi Yuzo is also reported to be using his endeavours to appease the younger members of the Party in Tokyo, who have shown a tendency to break away from the moderate counsels of their leaders.

The Opposition politicians purpose to introduce the Naval and Military Bills in the form of a Supplementary Budget for the 28th fiscal year. They mention two reasons for this course. One is that, if these measures be incorporated into the Budget for the 29th fiscal year, their practical operation can not commence earlier than the 1st of April, 1896; whereas, by adopting the course now recommended, they can be carried out immediately after their approval by the Houses of the Diet. The second and more important reason is that, a serious collision being feared in the coming session between the Cabinet and the Opposition, the ordinary Budget is in danger of not coming into existence; in other words, they apprehended collision may bring about the dissolution of the Diet before the Budget passes both Houses. Most persons, however, wil disposed to conclude that in such an event Government would know how to carry out t measures without any special arrangement the part of the Opposition. There is anc proposal about the Budget, namely, that, ins of being compiled in one indivisible whol should be divided into a number of s rate financial measures. Under the pre system, it may happen that the Budge its entirety has to be rejected on acc of imperfection in some part of it. danger could be avoided by separating it independent Bills. Yet another reform posed with reference to the Budget is tha fiscal year, which, under the present sy ends on March 31st, should be made to er June 30th. That change would have to b companied by an alteration in the Parliame season of the Diet, it would have to sit eitl February, March, and April, or in March, and May.

The *Choya Shimbun* states that Cou spoke in this strain to a recent visitor:—" alone responsible for the return of the Lia peninsula. The circumstances connecte the return are diplomatic secrets, and therefore, precluded from revealing the feel on this subject as keenly as anybody I was quite aware of the excitement that be caused by the affair. But just imagir consequences that would have followed, been prevented by considerations of pe safety and convenience from taking the dictated to me by my judgment. I nee describe those probable consequences; I desire to make known the anxieties tha my mind at the time. I leave these thi the discernment of posterity."

Count Matsukata is reported to have drawn his resignation. The united strances of his colleagues and the wish Emperor have finally overcome his sc On Wednesday last, he called on the F at the latter's official residence and had talk on the various financial measure demanding Government attention. Acc to the *Chuo Shimbun*, Count Matsukat that he has made up his mind to rem office, may be appointed, in addition Ministerial post, to the Vice-President the Bureau of Formosan Affairs. That p is left vacant, and our contemporary thi it has been reserved for Count Matsuka so, the official status of the post will ha raised to *Shinin* rank instead of *Choku* specified in the Law of Organization of the The news that Count Matsukata has de remain in the Cabinet is a severe blo enemies of the Government who hoped retirement would be followed by that other men of note, and that an offic might thus be precipitated. Some pap had extolled him as a great statesm begin to say hard things about him. The for instance, tells him that, by his va conduct, he has forfeited his only claim lar respect, namely a reputation for straightforward and consistent lines o Our contemporary says the same thi Count Yamagata. "It is our opinion political stage is always occupied by between Count Ito and Count Okuma the rest of the elder statesmen, both w without the Government, unconsciously in the struggle between these two an Count Yamagata and Count Matsuk now joined Count Ito. Such is the which Count Okuma is held by his adv

Count Goto is reported to be endeav bring under his influence the Opposit cians from the North-East. But the tion of what he did in 1889, say his d makes men receive his advances with and misgiving. They fear to be aga a stepping stone for the Count's ent Cabinet.

The attempt to combine the Opposit under the standard of an anti-Cabine having failed, projectors of the mov

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do not belong to any of the existing parties, contemplate establishing a new association. Under what name it will be ushered into the world, we do not know. Some people say that it is a step preliminary to the amalgamation of the Opposition parties, but we fail to see how the organization of a small body with scarcely a single representative in the Diet can further the large project of amalgamation in question.

With regard to the rumours circulated about Mr. Ito Miyoji, Secretary General of the Cabinet, that he has tendered his resignation and is endeavouring to obtain a Ministerial portfolio, we are informed on good authority that no foundation exists for the idea. Mr. Ito is as assiduous in the discharge of his onerous official duties as he ever was. Circumstances may occur under which his promotion to a Ministerial post would follow as a matter of course, and no one can dispute his qualifications for such a responsibility.

An address delivered by the Minister of State for Education to the Directors of the Normal Schools recently assembled in Tokyo for the purpose of conferring on some important educational subjects, has evoked various comments. As we reported at the time, the Minister emphasized the importance of moral instruction of a broad and liberal type, and condemned the too exclusively nationalistic character of the system hitherto followed. The speech was welcomed heartily by the *Kokumin Shimbun* and the *Jiji Shimpo*, but the *Nippon* and other papers have criticised it as opposed to the traditional spirit of national education. It is now reported that Marquis Saionji will shortly issue a pamphlet explaining his meaning more fully.

ECONOMICAL AND COMMERCIAL.

Trade is beginning to show signs of revived activity. The *Chugai Shogyo Shimpo* states that wholesale dealers in the capital are unable to meet the large demands for cotton goods of medium quality that pour in from provincial districts. Dealers in Japanese paper and sugar also report that the quantity of those commodities now passing through their hands is fully twice as great as that for the corresponding period of last year. Our contemporary ascribes the revival of business to three proximate causes, namely, the distribution of the war fund among the people, the generally prosperous condition of the farming class, and the return of the farmers' sons as victorious soldiers.

The first half of the present year drawing to a close, various speculations are made as to the probable profit and loss accounts of different banks and companies. In the opinion of the *Shogyo Shimpo*, the banks will generally be able to declare dividends higher than those for the corresponding term of last year. The high rate of interest that has prevailed during the present half-year has afforded an unusual opportunity to the banks in Osaka, which never fail to employ their capital to the utmost limit. But in the case of banks that have exercised extreme caution in making advances, the accounts will probably show more or less decrease in profits as compared with the first half of last year. As to companies, with the exception of a few, there has been on the whole a considerable diminution of profits. Those that have derived gains from the war are the Railway companies and firms that supplied war material. The cotton spinning companies have suffered most from the effects of the war. On the whole, therefore, manufacturing industries have been more or less injured by the war. It is, nevertheless, believed that they will be able to declare dividends not very much lower than those for the first half of last year.

Complaints are preferred by provincial sericulturists about the reluctance of silk dealers in Yokohama to make advances of money. It is understood that the amount of such advances ranged in former years between four and five million *yen*. Last year, the dealers in Yokohama, warned by evil results of too free advances in the preceding season, exercised more caution, and the whole sum accommodated to provincial producers did not exceed 3,500,000 *yen*. In consequence of the general tightness of money this year, the dealers have become still more cautious, and it is believed that the amount lent falls short of 3,000,000 *yen*.

Notwithstanding the exceptionally large crop of cocoons this season, it is generally complained that the quality of the silk has been greatly impaired by the rainy weather prevailing about the time the earlier varieties of worms began to make cocoons. Great anxiety is now felt lest a similar disaster should befall the worms of later kinds. The only hope is that the season of summer rains (*nyubai*) should prove unusually dry this year.

LITERARY.

The controversy about the abolition of the Chinese ideographs in the written language of Japan continues with increasing interest in the columns of the different literary magazines of Tokyo. Thus far defenders of the Chinese characters have been fewer in number than advocates of their abolition. As to the alphabet to be used instead, opinion differs. Some insist on the adoption of Roman letters; others point to the national *kana* as the most natural substitutes for the Chinese characters; while yet others propose modifications of the *kana* so as to meet the requirements of transliterating foreign names and the mode of writing from left to right in the European fashion instead of from top to bottom as in the present Japanese style. The last mentioned proposal now seems to enjoy the support of a majority of literary reformers.

Mr. Sekine Masanao, a prominent authority on literary matters, proposes radical changes in the grammer of the Japanese language. His reforms, so far as we can gather from his writings, consist in recognition of the constructions that have come into general use, despite their deviations from the established canons of classical Japanese. The proposal has evoked a loud protest from the votaries of classical Japanese. In their eyes the slightest innovation is a heresy and a crime not to be pardoned. But the projected reform is welcomed by the literary public in general. Controversies like those on this subject as well as on that of the abolition of Chinese ideographs, are unmistakable signs of renewed activity in the literary world.

Mr. Fukuchi Genichiro, now completely recovered from his recent serious sickness, is reported to be engaged on a new historical drama to be acted by Danjuro and his desciples at the Kabuki Theatre. The scene will be laid in that troubled period of Japanese history, the middle of the 12th century, the celebrated warrior Tametomo being the hero, and Princess Shiranui the heroine. The immortal priest Saigyo will be introduced as Shiranui's father. The distinguished author is also stated to have under contemplation the production of another drama not intended for the stage, and therefore adapted to give full and unrestricted play to his literary capacity. At present he is by far the greatest playwright in Japan. There are a number of other authors in the same field, as, for instance, Bimyosai, Yoda Gakkai, Miyasaki Sanmai-dojin, and so forth. But all fall far behind Mr. Fukuchi—or Ochikoji as he is more frequently called—in breadth of view and knowledge of human nature.

In the field of novels, no new work of a remarkable nature has made its appearance during the present year. But a perusal of current publications shows that improvement is taking place slowly but steadily in this department of literature. The sensational stories, very popular a year or two ago, are being displaced by works written on idealistic principles. Rising novelists like Miyake Seiken, Izumi Kyoka, Mayeda Shozan, and others, attempt, though not always successfully, to analyze the complicated operations of human motives and passions. Thus the new novels may be characterized as psychological. Writing on this subject, the *Waseda Bungaku* remarks that this change in the character of novels is partly a reaction against sensational stories, partly a result of the increasing study of European novels, and partly, also, an outcome of the influence exercised upon young novelists by the criticisms of the leaders of thought in the literary world.

The interesting remiscences of the early life of Count Okuma, that appeared in the *Hochi Shimbun* some time ago, have been collected and issued in book form. It is not exactly correct to say "early life," because the narrative is brought down to the end of the year 1873. It is an interesting as well as an instructive work, recording, as it does, many events and circumstances hitherto unknown in the history of the stirring period covered by the book. The author is Mr. Eujôji Kiyoshi. He records in his own language things heard personally from the celebrated statesman. The work may therefore, be regarded in a sense as an autobiography. It is evident that the book will have an immense circulation.

LORD ROSEBERY'S RESIGNATION AND THE JAPANESE PRESS.

The telegraphic news about Lord Rosebery's resignation has attracted an unusual amount of attention in the journalistic world of Tokyo. Hopes are entertained by the metropolitan papers that a more definite Eastern policy will be pursued by the new Cabinet.

The *Kokumin Shimbun* comments as follows:—"The Rosebery Cabinet has resigned as we hoped. The question now is, whether or not the Ito Government will be able, as we desire, to induce the new Conservative Ministry of England to join hands with Japan for the preservation of peace in the East. It is also a question whether or not the new English Cabinet will have the foresight and courage to settle the Eastern question even at the point of the bayonet. At all events, it must be kept in mind that the attitude of the new English Government will have a direct bearing upon the balance of power in the East.

The *Nippon* discusses in a depreciatory tone the foreign policy of the Rosebery Cabinet. His methods in Siam, says our contemporary, increased the hatred of the French without securing the goodwill of the Siamese, and he recently alienated the hearts of the Japanese without winning those of the Chinese. As the result of his erroneous foreign policy, England is said to have lost her prestige among the Powers; she is now regarded as a state neither trustworthy as an ally nor formidable as an enemy. Consequently Lord Rosebery's resignation will be hailed with delight by all classes of Englishmen. As to the Marquis of Salisbury, his foreign policy will be decidedly anti-Russian, and our contemporary hopes that under his wise administration England may regain her old place of honour among the nations of the world.

The *Mainichi Shimbun* writes:—"This telegram naturally excites our curiosity as to probable changes in the foreign policy of England under the new Cabinet. . . . . The Eastern question now engages the serious attention of European diplomatists. England has hitherto acted justly and manifested sympathy toward Japan. We may look for a more active and brilliant foreign policy under the Marquis of Salisbury."

The *Yomiuri Shimbun* discusses the various probable causes that have led to the resignation of Lord Rosebery. "The question that interests us most keenly, has reference to the effects likely to be exercised by the change of Cabinet upon the foreign policy of England." Having then reviewed the foreign policy of the Liberal Cabinet, and declared that the only purpose discernible in the weak and hesitating methods adopted by Lord Rosebery was a desire to be on friendly terms with Russia, the *Yomiuri* avows its belief that Lord Salisbury's coming into office will mark a new departure in the policy pursued by England in the Far East.

The *Jiji Shimpo*, observes that it remains to

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be seen whether the Conservative Party will obtain a majority in the coming General Elections. But from the trend of public feeling for the past few years, our contemporary thinks it safe to infer that the time has come for Conservative ascendancy. "Supposing that the Conservatives take office, the first question demanding attention is the effect that will be produced upon the foreign policy of England. The history of Conservative Administrations shows that Party to be in favour of a strong foreign policy, and establishes the fact that in order to further the interests of the country, the Conservatives, on several occasions, have pursued very daring lines of action. Now that Russia is bestirring herself in Manchuria and Korea, the change of Government in England may be taken as a sign of impending troubles on the opposite shores of the Sea of Japan." Our contemporary further thinks that the formation of a Conservative Cabinet will give a new impulse to the bimetallic movement, since the Conservative leaders in England are believed to be generally in favour of the rehabilitation of silver.

MR. FOSTER IN JAPAN.

The Honourable J. W. Foster paid a flying visit to Japan on his way home from the scene of his labours. He saw the Chinese through all their troubles. After the failure of the Chang mission, he remained until the appointment of the Viceroy Li as peace plenipotentiary, and after the ratification of the Shimonoseki Treaty, he accompanied Lord Li when the latter was sent to accomplish the difficult duty of transferring Formosa to Japan. Hearing that the distinguished statesman would pass *vid* Japan to the States, the Japanese at once began to think how they ought to receive him. That he had served China counted for nothing in their eyes. They saw in him only a great publicist who had laboured in the cause of peace, and whose guidance and counsels had materially promoted its attainment. Therefore they decided that every effort should be made to welcome him and to treat him with the hospitality always exercised by the Japanese so heartily and gracefully. Any official movement was, of course, out of the question, but the leading citizens of Tokyo resolved to invite him to a great banquet in the name of the city. Unfortunately, the extreme brevity of Mr. Foster's sojourn in Japan made it impossible to carry out this project, and it became necessary to limit the programme to a comparatively small semi-private dinner and to the presentation of an address. The dinner was given on the 19th of June at the beautiful residence of Mr. Okura, one of the leading merchants of Tokyo, with whom were associated as hosts Mr. Shibusawa, formerly Minister of Finance and now President of the Tokyo Chamber of Commerce, and Mr. Yokoyama. There were present several Ministers of State, the great majority of the Japanese officials who had taken leading parts in the Shimonoseki Conference, the United States Representative, probably the most popular man in Japan with all nationalities, and many of the prominent business men of the capital. Mr. Shibusawa's speech, in proposing the health of Mr. Foster, was a genuine reflection of the sentiments long entertained by Japan towards the people of the United States—sentiments that have been strengthened and deepened by the attitude of the Great Republic throughout the recent war. He said:—

Your Excellencies and Gentlemen,—In holding this evening a small *réunion* of friends to furnish a moment's entertainment to General Foster, the well known and universally respected ex-Secretary of State of the United States, who has just arrived in Japan, I must preface the brief remarks which, as one of the hosts, I crave your kind permission to make, by expressing our keen sense of the great honour conferred on us by the gracious presence of so many distinguished gentlemen, both foreign and Japanese. It is scarcely necessary for me to remind you of facts with which you are perfectly familiar, namely, that the relations between our country and the United States of America are of the most genuinely cordial kind; that the commerce between the two nations is steadily growing, and that the United States of America, if I may be permitted to say so, stands in the position of benevolent instructor and friend to this country. The course of his travels in the Orient, in the discharge of noble duties, having brought this celebrated publicist to our shores, I can assure him that any suggestions or advice he may be persuaded to offer, out of the abundance of his deep erudition and long practical experience, as to the institutions or circumstances of Japan, will be received by us with the utmost gratitude and deference, and regarded even as a voice from heaven. It is a matter of much regret to us that General Foster's stay in Japan should be so brief as to preclude the possibility of offering to him some more significant token of the appreciation in which we hold his labours as a peace-maker. We trust, however, that he will take the will for the deed, and we would further beg that if, after his return to his home, this meeting of to-night recurs to him, he will remember also our desire to profit by his counsels and observation. As merchants we have no direct concern with politics. Nevertheless, being thoroughly sensible that the prosperity of a State depends essentially on the management of its economy, we do not shirk the grave responsibility resting on us in that sense, and are fully prepared to discharge to the best of our ability the duties we owe to our country. Our honoured guest and esteemed teacher and friend, will, therefore, appreciate and pardon our hope that he will add to the benefits already conferred by him on the East by lending us the aid of his counsels as an economist and statesman. I should like, also, to say a few words to General Williams, before I conclude these brief remarks. In the early days of the Restoration, while the affairs of the nation were still in an unsettled state, he came to Japan as adviser to the Finance Department, where I also held a position at the time. Twenty-three years have elapsed since, then, yet I feel as though it were only yesterday that we parted. Our mutual friendship is as fresh and warm as ever. Both of us have seen the years come and go many a time since then, yet we are personally little conscious of their flight. Such is not the case, however, with this country. Japan has not passed this period of two decades in vain. I think I may say with confidence that in her administrative institutions, in her education, in her economy, and in all other things, her ancient features have been greatly altered since then. General Williams probably feels like one suddenly meeting a friend whom he has left in boyhood, and whom he finds on the threshold of physical and intellectual manhood. It will give us great pleasure if General Williams will tell us whether such is the impression conveyed to him, and what changes he observes in Japan as it presents itself to him to-day. I ask you to welcome him, and to wish him all happiness and prosperity, at the same time that we drink the health of our distinguished guest, General Foster.

Mr. Foster, whose quiet and unassuming manner of speech were thoroughly characteristic, replied thus:—

Gentlemen,—I thank you very sincerely for giving me an opportunity of meeting you all in this beautiful Japanese home. Will you permit me to say a few words of a personal nature, before I refer to any public topic. When I received in Washington a telegram from the Chinese Government asking me to come to the East and render any service in my power toward the restoration of peace, the first thought that occurred to me was whether, by accepting such a mission, I should imperil the close relations that had existed for so long a time between my Japanese friends and myself. I did not over-rate the nature of the task that would fall to my share. I knew that I should go merely in the capacity of a humble assistant in the interests of peace. Yet, however trifling the part I myself might have to play, it would have presented itself to me at once as a grateful undertaking had I not been distressed by the apprehension that it might impair the friendship I had been been so happy as to form with many of your countrymen. I therefore visited the Japanese Legation in Washington, explained my difficulty, and sought the opinion of your Representative. I did not, of course, approach him officially, but merely asked him in his individual capacity to tell me how the case presented itself to him. He assured me with confidence that any services rendered in the cause of peace, on whichever side they were nominally enlisted, would be welcomed rather than resented by his countrymen. I had no further hesitation in obeying the summons, and it gives me great satisfaction to find, as I do to-night, that a friendship treasured and esteemed by me has suffered nothing by the events of the past few months. The evidence offered to me this evening at this table that my first apprehensions were unfounded, doubly enhances the pleasure I from your kindness and hospitality. I thin no student of the history of the East during years could have failed to see that an armed sion between the two great empires of the was inevitable. It had to come sooner or la need not enter into any explanation of the of causes that pointed in that direction. Th more familiar to you than to me. Well, G men, the collision came, and the results hav victory and prestige for you, but it is per to hope that they have not been without fit to China also. The great Teacher, precepts we in America obey so impe tells us that the peacemakers are blessed thought often occurred to me during the n tions at which so many of you, gentlemen, a Questions have often been raised in the We the degree of your civilization. Well, Gent having had some little experience of intern relations, and being able to claim some kno of the course of conferences in the West, I c that history contains no example of peace n tions conducted in closer accord with th principles of civilization than were those at noseki. My own place in them was very in cant and retired, but it at least gave me tunities of observing the attitude and proce both sides, and I can confidently affirm that courtesy, greater consideration of one an positions, could scarcely have been possible part of any negotiators. I think that the of such obedience to the best principles of c tion can not be over-rated. Your count entered upon an era of peace. There is old saying that peace has her victories as war. Looking back at the history o nation during the past twenty-five years one must admit that the progress you hav is enormous. No country in the world—I must apologise for using an expression so nied in this context, but, after all, what oth of speech can I employ?—no country in th has achieved so much in the same time. men, may I be permitted to say that the you accomplished before this war bro redound even more to the credit of your than do the victories won by your army an and it in the earnest hope of all your frien in these days of peace now happily restor will add to and consolidate your triumphs gress and enlightenment. My host has as to make any suggestions that occur to me ference to your commerce, your industries, finance. But when I look back at what y done, I find that neither advice nor sugge needed. You have only to go on as you ha doing; only to pursue steadily the paths t have hitherto trodden. You say that you is only on the threshold of its manhood. can only speculate what a giant it will be attains its full growth. Let me thank yo for your kindly welcome, and for the senti hearty friendship that you have expressed my country.

General Williams responded briefly. He ed the irreparable loss sustained by Japa deaths of so many great men during the that had elapsed since he left her shores was glad to think that there remained to merous statesmen and soldiers to whose h efficient discharge of the great respon now devolving upon her might be safely e

The following morning a deputation leading merchants and manufacturers o waited upon Mr. Foster, and express regret at being unable, owing to his bi in Japan, to take any steps for ex publicly their deep sense of the valu labours in the cause of peace. Thro Yokoyama, who kindly acted as int they wished the honourable gentlema voyage, and a long preserved life o usefulness, and hoped that it might good fortune to welcome him back to some future date. Mr. Foster, in re that it gave him great satisfaction to ob keen interest taken by the business Japan in public affairs. He had alwa well-wisher of Japan and a pleased ob her progress, and nothing gave better of her steady rise to greatness than shown by her merchants and manu They remembered, doubtless, that Nap First had spoken of the English as a shopkeepers. Well, without dispu great captain's dictum, he asked the sider how things stood with that natio keepers in the very sphere where himself greatest. They had

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ably the most powerful navy in the whole world. No second opinion existed on that point. England had been called the "Queen of the Ocean," and her right to the title remained undisputed. On shore, again, she was the greatest military Power in the world. It was the custom with some people to talk in a disparaging strain of her army in the United Kingdom, but if they considered carefully the troops serving under her banners throughout her vast empire, they would find that in military strength as well as in naval, she stood at the head of all nations. Who had achieved these wonderful results? Was it a succession of ambitious monarchs or autocratic statesmen? By no means. It was her merchants and her manufacturers. It was the so-called nation of shopkeepers. They understood the value of peace, and they obeyed the undeniable dictum, "if you desire peace, prepare for war." The same spirit seemed to animate Japanese merchants and manufacturers. Like that "nation of shopkeepers" they seemed to be well aware that the origin of their country's greatness lay with them. Before the late war, Japan had been known to the world chiefly as a producer of curiosities. She had been admired for her art and its applications: had been petted, in fact, rather than respected. But now she had assumed a very different character. The world now recognises her capacities in a new sphere. She has became "great" in the Occidental acceptation of the term, and she must remember that with greatness come also responsibilities. He believed from what he saw of her merchants and manufacturers and of the spirit animating them, that their country would be able successfully to bear its growing responsibilities and to fulfill the destiny apparently awaiting it. He concluded by thanking them heartily for their friendliness and good wishes.

Subsequently the following Address, accompanied by a pair of very handsome vases of cloisonné enamel, was handed to Mr. Foster:—

From the time that war broke out last year between Japan and China, the complication assumed a more and more serious character, and the prospect of the restoration of peace grew more and more remote. Thus persons, like ourselves, engaged in mercantile or industrial pursuits, could not but regard the future with considerable anxiety. China, however, becoming at length desirous of peace, despatched plenipotentiaries to negotiate for the cessation of hostilities. Nevertheless, we apprehended that, as the statesmen of the Middle Kingdom are not always disposed to adapt their procedure to the recognised canons of international usage, the course of the negotiations might be unduly protracted, and the attainment of the end in view might be impeded by difficulties not properly incidental to the matters under discussion. It was, therefore, with feelings of great relief that we learned that you, who enjoy such a wide-spread reputation and possess such a long and intimate experience of international affairs, had consented to interest yourself on China's behalf, and to lend your valuable assistance to her plenipotentiaries in the conduct of the negotiations. That China promptly decided upon the terms she was willing to concede, and that peace was eventually restored to the two Empires, must be attributed in great part to your exertions. We felt at that time that we owed you no small debt, and now, on the occasion of your return to Japan and sojourn in Tokyo, we desire to avail ourselves of the opportunity to convey to you some slight assurance of the gratitude we feel toward you. With much regret we learned that in consequence of the very brief time at your disposal, you are unable to do us the honour of allowing us to entertain you. Under the circumstances, we must limit ourselves to conveying our sentiments of esteem and gratitude by offering you a trifling souvenir, your kind acceptance of which will still further increase the debt under which you have already laid us.

The whole incident has left a most favorable impression, not merely as showing the perfect tact that Mr. Foster must have exercised throughout a period of difficult and complicated negotiations, but also as proving that the Japanese can distinguish and appreciate services rendered in the highest interests of humanity, even though an enemy's benefit may be the immediate object of [illegible]mance.

DISTURBANCE BY MILITARY COOLIES AND SOSHI.

The trouble between the Hosho-gumi (coolie-contractors) and the military coolies collected by them, sent to the front with the First Division, and lately brought back to Tokyo, has at last culminated in open violence. The complaint of the coolies, who number a thousand, is that the contractors received from the Government a sum of money out of which they still owe the coolies about 17 *yen* each. After their return to Tokyo, they strenuously pressed their demand for what they considered their due, and urged their point so strongly that the President of the Hosho-gumi concealed himself somewhere in the city. At last the coolies became divided into two sections, one proposing to obtain satisfaction through the medium of litigation; the other resolved to establish their claim by violent means. The first section engaged the service of an advocate, and have already instituted a suit in the Tokyo Local Court. The other, bent upon rough and ready methods, grew doubly exasperated when they found that the President had concealed himself and was trying to elude them. Finally, their agitation assumed such a threatening aspect that even the police were at a loss what step to take in the matter. Moreover, the majority of the coolies joined this movement, finding it more congenial to their temper and more consistent with the ideas they had brought back from the war. The President wisely concluded that men disposed to resort to violent means would be easy to deal with, provided that a little dexterity were employed to appease their resentment. He therefore caused an advocate to make overtures to the leading coolies of the stalwart section, and the result justified his forecast, for they were without difficulty persuaded to abandon their claim provided that their employers paid to each of them a sum of 2 *yen*. A temparary office having been established at Atagosho, Shiba, the payment was commenced there on Saturday last. From early morning the coolies flocked to the office to receive their parting pittance, and such was the number of applicants that the clerks employed to hand over the money were obliged to sit up all night. Despite the vigilance exercised by the clerks, more or less confusion was inevitable in dealing with 800 men, so not a few sharp fellows appropriated several shares each. Early the next day, the work was resumed. But as the advocates that represented the employers and clerks were busy handing out the money, two or three *soshi* came to the office, and asked to see the adjusting officers. The servant refused to convey their request, saying that the officers were too much engaged to see any stranger. The *soshi*, however, insisted, and while they and the servant were disputing, about 150 army coolies, many of whom belonged to the section that contemplated seeking satisfaction by litigation, appeared in the neighbourhood of the office, surrounded it, and raised a loud clamour. One of the clerks rushed out of the house to give the alarm to a Police Office not far off. But as soon as he came down the stairs, a number of *soshi* sprang upon him, and shouting, "kill him," "stab him," struck him down. Amid the confusion, another party of *soshi* rushed up the stairs and assaulting the inmates with whatever articles of furniture they could find there, inflicted wounds on all of them, some being seriously hurt. The intruders got at the books and all the documents they could find, and also a bag containing some 150 *yen* in silver coin, and instantly decamped. In the meanwhile, news of the outrage having reached the Police Office, more than 20 police came to the scene in great haste, and succeeded in arresting a number of *soshi*. The rest dispersed. When the intruders had decamped and quiet been restored, it was found that two of the clerks were badly hurt, though their wounds were not such as to imperil their lives. It is supposed that the row was caused by the litigation section, who, angry at seeing their comrades yield their point so easily, endeavoured by these means to interrupt the compromise.

THE PRESENTS OF THE CHINESE EMPEROR AND VICEROY LI TO DR. SATO.

As our special correspondent who accompanied the Japanese Mission to Chefoo stated in one of his letters, H.E. Mr. Ito Miyoji was requested by the Chinese Envoys to carry home to Japan a large and heavy box containing presents from the Chinese Emperor and Viceroy Li to Dr. Sato and Dr. Ishiguro, and to a few other Japanese Army physicians who attended the wounded Chinese Plenipotentiary at Shimonoseki. The *Hochi Shimbun* publishes a description of the more important presents received by Dr. Sato. The gift from the Chinese Emperor is a decoration of the Second Class of the Double Dragon and Sacred Star. The base of the decoration is covered with a kind of *nanako*, or hammered diaper. In the centre is fixed a piece of red coral shaped like a Star. Above the coral are inscribed in gold the two ideographs 賜賜 (Imperial Gift); and on either side is a dragon chiselled in relief on a silver ground. The edges are covered with gold, and carry the inscription, 雙龍寶星 (Double Dragon and Sacred Star). The reverse is of solid gold. The collar to which this decoration is to be attached is made of reddish purple satin, with a double dragon embroidered on it. The jewel placed between the dragons is of gold; while the horns, eyelids, tusks, backs, bellies, and claws of the dragons are of silver. The eye-balls are light green, the mouths red, and the scales green. The edges are covered with gold. The chain by which the decoration is suspended to the collar is of gold. The whole is enclosed in a glass box having a frame of red sandal-wood. Over the glass box is an outer box of red sandal wood lined on the inside with red satin. On the cover of the outer box are inscribed the characters 御賜雙龍寶星 (Imperial Gift: Double Dragon and Sacred Star).

Among the presents from Viceroy Li, are a pair of bowls made of jade, 3.7 inches in diameter and 1 inch in depth. Two fish are chiselled on the bottom inside. The bowls are placed on stands of red sandal wood, and enclosed in a box of the same material. Another article of value is a censer made of old jade, 2 inches in diameter. This, too, has a stand of very beautiful make, and the whole is enclosed in a box of sandal wood lined inside with red silk and yellow damask. There are besides several rich silk fabrics.

COUNT INOUYE ON KOREA.

The following interesting account of Count Inouye's views on Korea has appeared in the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*:—

REFORMS NOT HOPELESS.

The Koreans, from the Royal family down to the lowest class, are equally in the infancy of civilization. Still more regrettable is the fact that, instead of being progressive, this state of infancy has a tendency to become fixed and stationary. Thus it goes without saying that the path of reform is beset with serious difficulties. Money, men, and the requisite degree of national spirit—these essentials of effective reform are wanting. Boku Eiko and his followers, who have some knowledge of civilization in foreign countries, are for imitating the institutions of those counties. It is, however, easier to compile laws and regulations than to find officials capable of carrying them into practice. Notwithstanding, therefore, that I took the initiative in recommending reforms, I was obliged, on several occasions, to oppose the mere drafting of new laws and regulations. It is unreasonable to expect that abuses and corruption, the growth of many years, can be corrected or eradicated in the space of a few months. Naturally, outsiders have thought it impossible to effect reforms in Korea, for even among the advisers of the Korean Government, some are forced to cry out in despair that the task of reform was hopeless. But I think somewhat differently. To conclude that there is no hope for Korea on the strength of experience obtained during my nine months' sojourn in the country, eventful as was that period, would be taken either as a want of sympathy with Korea or a lack of patience on my own part. I never [illegible] Kabinet Tan Govern-

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ment who showed impatience, to look at myself, who, despite a proverbially quick temper, was patiently bearing my share of the task. They are now very diligently at work. In short, the experiences of nine months do not warrant me in concluding that the regeneration of Korea is hopeless.

As to finance, the first essential of reform, there were no guides for estimating the revenue and expenditure; there were neither tax laws nor account books. By one way or another, however, a Budget was compiled, and both the income and expenditure are regulated according to it, since the 1st of April. Efforts are now being made to restore order in the finances of the country, with the assistance of the 3 million *yen* borrowed from Japan. It will be possible at the end of a year to establish a basis for a Budget. As to the law of the constitution of the law courts, its practical operation must be deferred until the students now studying law finish their course. Comparing the condition of things before and after the recent war, there is not any conspicuous difference. But it will be discovered that a check has been put on the exactions of officials and the despotism of the police."

KOREA'S INDEPENDENCE NOT TO BE FORGOTTEN.

Korea is an independent State. As an independent country, we concluded a treaty with her twenty years ago, and our example has been followed in that respect by the Powers of Europe and America. Finally, China has formally recognized her independence by the Shimonoseki Treaty. Korea being an independent country, Japan stands towards her, in matters of rights and privileges, on precisely the same footing as the other Powers having treaties with her. Whatever rights and privileges are granted to Japan or the Japanese may, on the ground of the most favoured nation clause, be claimed by other countries, or *vice versa*.

To illustrate the situation; the Chinese were the first to obtain permission to reside in Sōul. The same privilege was subsequently claimed and obtained by England and Japan in virtue of the most-favoured-nation clause. Since the recent war with China, the number of Japanese residents in Sōul has almost trebled, and a necessity is felt to extend the Japanese settlement. Now Korean law does not recognize the right of ownership in house lots independently of the buildings standing on them. The purchase of a house carries with it the right of ownership over the ground on which the house stands. Consequently, if the Japanese should once be allowed to purchase houses outside the settlement, the land in Sōul might soon become the property of foreigners. Boku Eiko and his friends, fearing this consequence, gave instructions to the metropolitan authorities to prevent the sale of houses to the Japanese until further notice. The Japanese naturally concluded that Boku had become the enemy of Japan, and severely criticised him. Boku's conduct would have been blameworthy had his object been to deny to the Japanese what he was willing to grant to other nationalities. But in point of fact, he is free from censure, because he was actuated by the thought that, if once the privilege were granted to the Japanese, it would be impossible to withhold it from other nationalities, and that, should such an opening be once made, the result would be the gradual transfer of the whole city of Sōul to the possession of foreigners. Such is the origin of the opposition among the Japanese against Boku Eiko.

Some Japanese once attempted to open an experimental farm, and asked the views of Kim Kachin, the Minister of Agriculture and Commerce, who approved the plan and promised to use his influence for obtaining the lease of certain crown lands. Boku objected on the ground that the same privilege would certainly be claimed by other foreigners, and, for his pains, he obtained the reputation of being indifferent to the common interests of Japan and Korea. It is not in the sphere of agriculture alone that the Japanese have sought to obtain special privileges. They do not seem to appreciate the existence of treaties between Korea and foreign countries; treaties that place all foreign nations on the same level. Nor do they seem to realize that Korea is an independent country.

There is another point that must be considered by persons desirous of obtaining special privileges from Korea, namely, the question of jurisdiction. Suppose that the Japanese or other foreigners were to obtain permission to engage in agriculture, or mining, or any other enterprises in the interior, they would not be subject to Korean jurisdiction, as they enjoy the privilege of extra-territoriality. Thus Korea would be unable to exercise proper control over them, a state of affairs not to be endured by an independent State. Boku and others know something about treaties, about the rights and interests of their country. The caution that they show in granting privileges proves that they care sincerely for the good of their country. If my countrymen do not forget the fact that Korea is an independent State, they ought to respect her rights and interests. How much more, then, must they do so when they profess to assist Korea in the maintenance of her independence?

THE QUEEN AND BOKU EIKO.

Her Majesty the Queen has many enemies among the Koreans, and it is from these enemies that the Japanese derive their opinion about her. Under such circumstances, misconceptions are unavoidable about Her Majesty's position. She has few equals among her countrymen or countrywomen for shrewdness and sagacity. She is not free from some of the weaknesses common to her sex. She is too much addicted to invoking the aid of supernatural beings, and also carries her love for the Crown Prince to the degree of indiscretion. But these faults of hers are not unnatural, when we examine their causes.

What happened in the reign of the preceding King need not be referred to. But ever since the present King ascended the throne, plots against him have been formed on several occasions; such, for instance, as those devised by Li Saiben, the first son of the Tai Wōn-kun and formerly Minister of the Royal Household, by the elder brother of the King, and by Li Shunyo, the Tai Wōn-kun's grandson. Thus the present King and Queen have been frequently threatened by treacherous conspiracies. Especially has Her Majesty become an object of popular antipathy since her family grew to be paramount in affairs of State. The cruel fate of her father and other of her near relatives, is still fresh in her memory. Is it wonderful that under these circumstances she should have come to regard everybody in Court and in the Government as an enemy of the Royal family, and that, so thinking, she should manifest an unusual amount of anxiety for the safety of the King and the Crown Prince? Such I think is the origin of her constant prayers for the help of the gods and Buddha, and her superstitious fears for the safety of her son. But even in the matter of bringing up her son, she seems to have found out her mistake from what I repeatedly told her since last year. In the art of conciliating her enemies and winning the confidence of her servants, she has few equals. If only she were content to use her exceptional ability within certain limits she would be of great use to His Majesty the King.

Boku Eiko is neither a saint nor a man of surpassing ability and courage. But, thanks to his experience while an exile in a foreign country, he is intelligent for a person of princely birth. At all events he may be regarded as a Koreau of capacity. The rumours about his intrigues with Russia and his ingratitude to Japan, may be traced to the chagrin of disappointed Japanese. Reasons why he is unpopular in the Japanese settlement, have already been explained. He is frequently admitted to the presence of the Queen, because his title of *Kinryō-i* gives him free access to the Court. The Queen also seems to regard him as a man of some utility. To speak frankly, he is not to be compared with Her Majesty in sagacity. I used to give him warning, and he on his part came to seek my counsel whenever any question of importance demanded his attention. He never failed to do so while I was in Sōul. It is true that he has of late become very powerful in the Korean Government, but there is no truth in the imputation that he has turned his back on Japan. Apart from the disappointed section among the Japanese residents, there is a party of Koreans, both in and out of the Government, who are opposed to Boku. He may have been indiscreet, but I cannot believe that he is guilty of the charges brought against him by his enemies.

In my eyes, there were only the Royal family and the nation. Whenever I attended Court, my audience with the King lasted a long time—occasionally as much as seven hours. Not only His Majesty, but Her Majesty the Queen and His Highness the Crown Prince, were willing to listen to what I had the honour to represent to them. The custom of the country required that Her Majesty should sit behind a screen while I had audience of the King. But I am sure that she listened with pleasure to the conversation between His Majesty and myself; for she was always prompt at making comments or giving replies. The Crown Prince has a good memory, and, contrary to the prevailing belief, His Highness gives promise of growing into a wise sovereign, if only his health be properly cared for. Beyond solicitude for the prosperity of the Royal family and of the country, I had no concern whatever for the faction struggle between Boku and Kim. Whichever faction might be in the ascendancy, I was always ready to cōoperate with it so long as it was anxious for the good of the sovereign and the people. His weak health makes Boku rather patient, and I have always warned him against taking hasty steps.

THE CORRECTION OF THE JAPANESE RESIDE

Japan went so far as to engage in war China for the purpose of effecting reforms in Ko It is incumbent upon us to persevere in the unless we clearly perceive its hopelessness. M while, I trust that reforms will be made an the Japanese residents in Korea.

It is easy to see that there are three evils an the Japanese in Sōul and Inchhōn. One of t is want of combination. Each individual s his own interests, and does not appreciate advantage of combination. Take the cas Chinese residents. Only nine of them rema at Inchhōn after the outbreak of the war. they knew how to combine for the purpose of o ing goods from home, and consequently, were always able to sell their imports at a p without fear of suicidal competition among t selves. With the Japanese, the case is ent different. They only care for individual immediate gains. That is the first point requ reform.

The second point is that the Japanese overbearing and rude in their dealings wit Koreans. The readiness of the Chinese to their heads may be a natural instinct, but trait in their character is their strength as chants. The Japanese are not only over-be but violent in their attitude towards the Kor When there is the slightest misunderstanding they do not hesitate to employ their fists. In it is not uncommon for them to pitch Korean the river or cut them down with sword merchants commit these acts of violence conduct of those that are not merchants ma be imagined. They say:—We have mad an independent nation, we have saved you the Toughaks; whoever dares to reject advice or oppose our action is an ungratefu tor. Even military coolies use language like towards the Koreans. Under such circumsta it would be a wonder if the Koreans deve much friendship with the Japanese. It is n that they should entertain more amicable fe toward other nations than toward the Jap For this state things, the Japanese themselv responsible. Now that the Chinese are ret to Korea, unless the Japanese correct them and behave with more moderation, they entirely forfeit the respect and love of the Ko That is the second point requiring reform.

The third and last point is want dustry and frugality among the Japanese. nese merchants trading in the interior of go about on foot and content themselves wit accommodation as they can find. They quently obtain profits even though selling goods cheaply. The Japanese, on the other hire ponies and waggons, and insist on good food and a nice room to sleep in. in order to clear a profit over and above th penses, they have to sell dear, and they compete with the Chinese.

As Japanese Representative, I was bo protect the interests of my fellow count But unless they reform themselves, no pro will be of any use to them. Official protecti not prevent defeats resulting from want of and exertion on the part of the residen ther can it enable luxury and laziness t plete with diligence and frugality. Anot cumstance that I regret very much for the the Japanese residents is that some of the been unscrupulous enough to cheat the Government and people by supplying the spurious articles. The Koreans, taught experience, naturally hesitate to buy fr Japanese. An examination of recent pu made by the Korean Government from J merchants would cause any conscientious cry out. I do not say that the Japanes have been untrustworthy. But I hope i future, they will endeavour to get cr honesty, instead of aiming at immedia speculative gains.

Extra-territoriality and the most favoure clause, are great obstacles, as I have alrea in the path of Japanese enterprise in Kore these obstacles can be surmounted if J business men of credit and wealth comb Koreans possessing similar qualifications. the only way in which the Japanese can develop the resources of Korea. There is a tendency to have recourse to that plan, an that such a tendency will become more As to the reform of the Japanese residents i it will be necessary for the Japanese Gov to take some steps besides encouraging reform themselves.

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INSTRUCTIONS TO LOCAL GOVERNORS.

The Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce has issued the following instructions to Local Governors with reference to national economy subsequent to the war.

The suitable arrangement of the country's economy, now that the war is over, so as to reap fully the fruits of victory, is one of the most important affairs of the day. If we refer to the scientific principles of economy and to the precedents of other countries that have been placed in the same position as that which Japan now enjoys, we find that the economical tendency subsequent to victory is very similar in most cases.

When war broke out last year between Japan and China, the people, apprehensive of the influence that might be exerted by it over the nation's future, practised rigid frugality. The result was that expenses for articles of consumption were cut down and capitalists resolved to suspend their enterprises till the conclusion of the war, and refrained from investing their funds, so that products of various descriptions suddenly diminished in quantity. Moreover, owing to the constant demand for ships, railways, and other mechanisms of transportation for war purposes, the equilibrium of the relations between supply and demand was disturbed. Now, however, the war is fortunately at an end, and with its cessation State economy is about to be restored to its normal condition. The purchasing power of the people, that has been kept in check for a while, will recover its activity. Then again, in a victorious country, owing (1) to the receipt of a war indemnity; (2) to the return of soldiers and others from the front; (3) to various new preparations and the devising of new undertakings by the Government; (4) to the starting of new companies and other such concerns by the people, and (5) to the development of luxurious habits in the public at large—all these causes combined will increase the demand for commodities; so that market prices will rise more and more. The result of this will be as follows:—

Firstly, the quantity of raw material will not increase in proportion to the appreciation of the price of commodities, and manufacturers will consequently be able to enjoy extraordinary profits, while capitalists will invest their money in various undertakings. As long as this state of affairs lasts, every company and shop started will reap immediate profit. Those constituting the middle stratum of society, who subsist on salaries or fixed income in other forms, will be tempted to sell Government bonds or land that only yields a small sum and will purchase shares of new business concerns. Thus, extraordinary prosperity will for a while attend the economical world.

Secondly, commodities are naturally sent to places where they command the highest price, just as water seeks the lowest level. Consequently, the rise of market prices in Japan will invite the influx of foreign articles, and these will flow into the country in such quantities that the supply will soon exceed the demand. A reaction is sure to set in. The home market will be filled with superfluous commodities, and the result will be an abnormal fall in the price of these. Then will crafty speculators rise into sudden opulence, and honest capitalists will be ruined. A panic will overtake the business world, commerce and industry will suddenly decline, and grave harm will be inflicted upon the public.

The Minister of Agriculture and Commerce then quotes the typical case of Germany subsequent to her victory over France, and concludes with these words:—The Government should, therefore, be extremely solicitous for the future welfare of national commerce and industry, and should provide beforehand against any such disastrous occurrences as those mentioned above. Functionaries directly connected with the administration of the localities, such as Governors, should watch narrowly the general economic tendency of the respective districts subsequent to the war, should give warning against speculation and indiscreet enterprises, and should protect and encourage the genuine development of national industry.

FORMOSA NEWS.

For the past ten days there has been a dearth of news from Formosa. According to the latest letter published in the *Jiji Shimpo*, a battalion of the Imperial Guard was despatched to Nwan-nwan-chie on the 4th instant, namely, the day immediately following the capture of Kelung. On the 5th, the battalion advanced to within some ten miles of Taipeh, and it having been ascertained that Taipeh was just then a scene of looting and rapine, H.I.H. Prince Kitashirakawa sent orders to the battalion to proceed at once to the capital, which it did on the 5th. The insurgents had mostly fled, and there remained a band of only about 50 men. They offered resistance, but were immediately scattered. The total strength of the insurgents at Taipeh was reported to have been about 6,000. They had retreated to Tamsui, where they are believed to have been abandoned by their leaders, who probably crossed the sea to China. Two companies of the First Regiment of the Guards despatched to Tamsui occupied that place without firing a shot. About 3,000 men surrendered. After being disarmed, they were sent to China in Japanese transports. Many of the insurgents had already returned to China in Chinese junks.

The pacification of the northern part of the island having thus been accomplished by the First Brigade of the Guards, the task of restoring order in the south was assigned to the Second Brigade, which was to leave Port Arthur on the 15th inst. The intention was to give an equal chance of distinction to the whole Division of the Guards. It is believed that the Second Brigade must by this time have effected a landing somewhere in the neighbourhood of Anping.

The head-quarters of the Imperial Guards are now fixed at Taipeh, which is also the head-quarters of the Japanese Administration of the island. The ceremony of opening the Administrative office was celebrated there on the 22nd instant. The programme commenced with a review of the troops at 3 p.m. and an hour later, a company comprising 400 Military and Naval officers, 150 Civil officials, 24 Europeans and 83 Chinese, assembled at the Government buildings. Viscount Kabayama delivered the following address:—

"Your Imperial Highness and Gentlemen, Foreign and Japanese—The island of Formosa and the Pescadore Group, which, in consequence of our victories have been incorporated into the dominions of the Japanese Empire, are now placed on such a footing that their inhabitants will be able to enjoy the benefits of the merciful rule of His Imperial Majesty. His Majesty has been pleased to entrust to me the grave responsibility of administering the affairs of this island, and the Chinese troops having been dispersed, I have now the honour to celebrate the opening of the Civil Government. It is my hope, by exertions day and night, to preserve the peace and tranquillity of the people under my charge and to promote their well being and prosperity."

His Imperial Highness Prince Kitashirakawa then spoke as follows:—

"Your Excellency and Gentlemen,—I deem it a great honour and pleasure to attend the ceremony of opening the Civil Government of this island. I need not say that I am fully convinced of His Excellency Governor-General Kabayama's ability to discharge the grave administrative duties devolving on him in such a manner as to benefit the people under his jurisdiction. I call upon you to give three cheers for His Majesty the Emperor and His Excellency the Governor-General.

The invitation was responded to enthusiastically by all present. The British Consul then addressed a few words of congratulation, praising the way in which the Governor-General had hitherto conducted affairs, and asking for his continued protection of foreign interests. This speech was interpreted by Mr. Isawa Shuji. The example of the British Consul was followed by one or two of his colleagues. Chinese dances and music by the Band completed the events of the day.

JAPAN AND SPAIN.

The *Kokkai* urges the importance of appointing a separate Minister to the Court of Madrid. At present the duties are performed by the Minister to France. Historically speaking, Spain is the oldest friend of Japan, but no political relations of any importance have recently existed between the two countries. The island of Formosa having been incorporated into the dominions of Japan, the latter is now a near neighbour of Spain's, owing to the proximity of the Philippine group. Between the two countries, therefore, close connections, political and commercial, are destined to grow up. Our contemporary then refers to the alarm that has been caused to the Spanish Government by Japan's acquisition of Formosa. The Statesmen of Madrid seem to think that Japan harbours aggressive designs against their Eastern possessions. Such absurd apprehensions ought to be at once dispelled. Nothing should be suffered to impair the friendly relations now existing between the two countries. In order to attain that end, our contemporary thinks it of urgent importance to send a separate Minister to Madrid. It then goes on to discuss the resources and the future of the Philippine Islands. With an area of 53,000 square miles and a population of 8,000,000, these islands are fertile in soil and rich in natural resources. "Their prosperity would be unlimited, were they in the hands of an enterprising nation." As to their political position, our contemporary considers them to be critically placed. Spain is not only unable to develop their resources, but even feels considerable difficulty in securing her own independence. Moreover, the group of islands is regarded with greedy eyes by Germany and France. They are in danger of becoming a bone of contention among the great Powers. Under these circumstances, it is essential to the proper safeguarding of Japanese interests to remain in close touch with the policy of the Spanish Government, so that Japan may be prepared at any moment for any contingency.

THE QUESTION OF TAXATION.

The question of taxation, which formerly constituted one of the foremost planks in party platforms, but which of late has been pushed to the rear, is again beginning to claim attention. The character it now assumes, however, is the exact opposite of that under which it was formerly presented to the public. In past years the cry was for reductions all round, especially in the case of the land tax; but now, on the contrary, the necessity of increase generally, and in the case of the Land Tax particularly, is beginning to be recognized by party politicians. A rumour already mentioned in these columns alleges that the Radical Party is making investigations with a view to drawing up Bills for the increase of the Land Tax and Income Tax. Whatever may be the truth of this report, there is no doubt that the advisability of increasing the rate of the Land Tax is engaging the attention of a large section of party politicians.

The *Jiji Shimpo*, in a recent article, points out the absolute necessity of augmenting the burdens of the people in order to meet the increased expenses that the altered circumstances of the country's demand. The maintenance of a larger Navy and Army, the construction of a submarine cable between Kyushu and Formosa, the increase of the secret service fund for diplomatic purposes, and the encouragement of various industrial and commercial enterprises—these and other things make it imperative that Japan should spend far more than she has hitherto been accustomed to spend. Our contemporary sees no alternative but to increase the taxes. The *Jiji* does not say, however, in what directions the increase should be effected.

The *Keisai Zasshi* is more explicit. It strongly urges the advisability of increasing the Land Tax. It writes as follows:—"The advisability of increasing the rate of the Land Tax by ½ per cent. has begun to attract the attention of party politicians.

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That an increase of the country's fighting power requires an increase of taxes, goes without saying. Nothing could be simpler or more proper than that the required revenue should be obtained by an addition to the Land Tax. No class of people have been more fortunate in Japan than the owners of land. They were formerly the tenants of feudal lords or contractors for tenants. But since the reorganization of the Land Tax under the present system, they have been raised to the position of fee-simple proprietors. Further, the present rate of tax on land was fixed when rice sold for 4 *yen* per *koku*, the calculation being that at such a rate the burden of the agricultural classes would remain about the same as it was in feudal times. Rice, however, has risen to 8 *yen*, so that the land-owners' burdens have practically been lightened by 100 per cent. They no longer till their own ground, but realize large profits by leasing their farms to tenants. Under such circumstances, increase of the Land Tax is the most legitimate method of augmenting the national revenue." The *Keizai* points out another economical reason why the Land Tax should be increased in preference to any other tax. In the case of other taxes, as the tax on trades, for example, a light impost benefits not only the party paying the tax but also consumers in general. But the case is entirely different with the Land Tax. Any decrease or increase of that tax affects only the land-owners. Incidentally, our contemporary also refers to the necessity of imposing a tax upon the Nippon Ginko. It must be confessed, however, that Western economists would experience considerable difficulty in distinguishing between a trade tax and a land tax, as the *Keizai Zasshi* distinguishes. The price of agricultural products must depend, to some extent, on the taxation to which land is subjected, and the consumer is consequently affected by that taxation just as directly as by a tax upon trade. All taxes fall ultimately upon the consumer, in whatever form they may be levied.

HOWIE.

The *North-China Daily News* has this paragraph:—

A paragraph is going the round of the papers in Japan to the effect that "Cameron (*alias* Howie) the man who was captured at Liukungtao after having given his parole not to serve against the Japanese, has been acquited by the Court-martial which tried him and has been already sent to Nagasaki to be deported." There is in this jumble of contradictions not one word of truth. The man referred to was *not* captured at Liukungtao but surrendered to the Japanese on the faith of Admiral Ito's promise to release him on parole, like the other foreigners who were in Weihaiwei. He was take to Japan, but *not* tried by Court-martial. Consequently he was not "acquitted," and if he had been how could he after that be sent anywhere, or deported, or deprived of his liberty? Mr. Howie never gave any parole not to serve against the Japanese. He was taken forcibly out of the Messageries steamer *Sydney* in Kobe harbour on the suspicion of being under contract to serve China. This suspicion was shown to be unfounded, and he was released. Before releasing him, however, the Japanese endeavoured to induce him, as the price of the liberty, to give his parole not to serve against Japan. He refused, and the Japanese authorities had to release him just the same, because they had no pretext for detaining him. This is a case of making one outrage justify further outrages, and giving the victim a bad name into the bargain. Japan has still somewhat to learn in the way of civilization, it would appear.

We are not aware that the paragraph quoted by our Shanghai contemporary has been "going the round of the papers in Japan." It may have appeared in some minor journal, but certainly it was not published by any leading newspaper. The mistakes that it contains, however, are fully equalled, if not surpassed, by those of the *North-China Daily News* itself. It is true that Howie was not tried by court-martial in Japan, and it consequently follows that he was neither acquitted nor sent to Nagasaki to be deported. As to the quibble that he was not "captured at Liukungtao," but that he "surrendered," it may be left to take care of itself. But when the *North-China Daily News* asserts that "he never gave any parole not to serve against the Japanese," it errs very egregiously. He did most undoubtedly give his parole; he even went so far as to make a promise in writing that he would not go to China during the course of the war. That engagement he entered into before he was released, and it is therefore a further misrepresentation to say that "he refused to give his parole and that the Japanese authorities had to release him just the same." Howie promised, and then forthwith broke his promise. He deserves the opprobrium of all honest men, as well as the "bad name" against which the *North-China Daily News*, evidently misinformed, seeks to defend him. On inquiry, we learn that the Japanese authorities refrained from bringing the man before a court-martial after his capture, or "surrender," at Weihaiwei, simply because they did not wish to be troubled with him any more. His capacity for mischief was at an end, and had he been put on trial by court-martial, his sentence must have been such as the Government would have hesitated to confirm. It will be seen that our Shanghai contemporary's sneer about civilization occurs in a very unfortunate context. If Howie's conduct be a type of civilization, and Japan's treatment of him an example of barbarism, the bases of morality must have turned a somersault.

MR. FOSTER ON THE SITUATION.

The other day, writes the *Kokkai*, when a certain person called on Mr. Foster, then staying in the Imperial Hotel, the latter observed that, according a to Reuter's telegram from London, five French banks had agreed, on the guarantee of Russia, to advance a sum of 15 million pounds sterling to the Chinese Government. He did not believe that such a promise could be carried into effect, and he therefore regarded the story as a baseless rumour. Mr. Foster came to Bakan, says the *Kokkai*, as adviser to the Chinese Government, and endeavoured to bring about a satisfactory settlement of the questions between the two empires. Moreover, he is well acquainted not only with the affairs of China, but also with those of the European Powers. Hence his remark must be formed on trustworthy considerations. With regard to the internal condition of China, Mr. Forster is reported to have said:—I went twice to Pekin, and personally observed the actual state of affairs there. My observation suggested many painful considerations. To China the results of the late disastrous war were the annihilation of the Peiyang Squadon, the payment of 200 million taels by way of indemnity, the cession of Formosa, and the surrender of the Liaotung peninsula, though it is true that the permanent occupation of the latter was subsequently renounced by Japan. Hereover, the administration of the country is out of order; all possibility of national defence is for the moment at an end, and the 400 million units forming the nation are simply busy looking after their own interests so that they scarcely know of the existence of the empire. Judging from the present state of affairs, the recovery of China's national prestige is hopeless. The *Kokkai* supplements the quotation with a comment of its own: Mr. Foster's emphatic expression of disbelief in the London telegram announcing that certain French banks had consented to furnish the Chinese loan on the guarantee of Russia, cannot be accepted as final unless he has some satisfactory reasons to give, especially when it is remembered that subsequent intelligence informs the public of the loan's having been actually put on the market.

It is said that the Arabs have two methods of estimating what will be the height of horses. By the first a cord is stretched from the nostrils over the ears and down along the neck; this distance is compared with that from the withers to the feet—the colt will grow as much taller as the first distance exceeds the second. By the other method the distance between the knee to the coronet—if it has reached the proportion of two to one, the horse will grow no taller.

THE GOVERNMENT OF SPAIN.

The Spanish Government seems to have bee alarmed by the extravagant tone of some Japa ese newspapers that recently advocated th annexation of the Phillipine Islands. Accor ing to the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, that Gover ment recently communicated with the Foreig Office in Tokyo. The Japanese Government, w need not say, assured Spain that Japan has such designs upon her territory.

ALLIANCE BETWEEN JAPAN AN ENGLAND.

The *Jiji Shimpo* strongly urges the desirab lity of an alliance between Japan and Englan Our contemporary has discussed more than on the necessity of a definite foreign policy f Japan, and hinted at the same time that En land is the natural ally of this country. B this is the first time that the great daily h openly advocated an alliance between the tw countries. The continental Powers of Europ says our contemporary, are too much engrosse in maintaining the balance of power in Euro to seek alliances with countries outside th sphere of Occidental diplomacy. That is natur and inevitable from the standpoint of thos Powers. The *Jiji*, therefore, thinks it unrea sonable to feel umbrage against some of the because they have proved themselves inconsta and changeable in their relations with this cou try. If Japan requires a trustworthy ally amon the Powers of Europe, she must not look for among the continental states. It is England an England alone, in our contemporary's opinio that can be safely relied upon for continue friendship. She keeps herself aloof from Eur pean politics, and maintains undisputed supre macy on the seas. England and Japan a natural allies; they have immense commo interests to safeguard against a common fo The first principle of English diplomacy is t prevent Russia from pushing southward in th direction of the Pacific. Our contemporar expresses astonishment at the boldness of Eng land's foreign policy. Nevertheless, she h hitherto been able to carry out her bold polic and is evidently determined to pursue it steadil On the other hand, Russia is equally determine to get to the sea, and of late she seems to b bent on playing her accustomed game in Ma churia and Korea. Her schemes in these r gions are a direct menace to the interests both Japan and England. For her own pa Japan, says the *Jiji*, is prepared to sacrifi everything in order to prevent Russia fro obtaining a naval station in Korea or Manchuri and England must be equally interested i averting such a danger to her interests. Thu community of interests inevitably draws th two countries into a natural alliance, an alliance far stronger than such as are usually conclude by treaty. "Under these circumstances, English statesmen be at all as shrewd in pr tecting the interests of their country as they a usually reputed to be, we are convinced th they will have no hesitation in forming an alliance with the new great Power of the East. Som people may say by way of objection that it not England's custom to form an alliance wi other countries in time of peace. She has i deed of late kept herself independent of a alliances, not because she is opposed to such policy in itself, but simply because no oth country has a community of interests with her opposing the southerly advance of Russia. H isolation has, therefore, been forced upon he If there be a Power that shares her anxiety ar is ready to cooperate with her in an effecti manner against a common foe, there is no roo for doubt that such a Power will be welcome as an ally by the intelligent Cabinet of Londo In order to oppose Russia, England has n hesitated to join hands even with decade countries like Turkey and China. How muc more then ought she to be willing to coopera with Japan? To speak frankly we do not hes tate to assert that England would derive mo benefit than Japan from the proposed alliance

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PROJECTS OF THE NIPPON YUSEN KAISHA.

Although during the late war a considerable number of ships were added to Japan's mercantile marine, says the *Kokumin*, yet many of these hitherto in use being worn out and serviceable only for the transport of coal, the actual effective strength of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha's fleet does not exceed twenty vessels. In addition to steamers newly purchased by the company, eight, all above 3,000 tons burden, were bought by the Government on the same occasion, and these will probably be transferred to the control of the Yusen Kaisha and the Shosen Kaisha. Leaving these presumed transferred Government ships out of consideration for the present, the question arises, what will the Nippon Yusen Kaisha do with its increment of 20 vessels. The *Kokumin* learns that four of the new ships will be placed on the Bombay line, in lieu of the chartered vessels, now employed for that service; that, commencing with Hongkong, services to and from the most important ports in the Orient will be developed, and that voyages to Australia will be made more frequent, if indeed a regular service be not opened thither. Finally, should there be still some ships available, a regular service will be tried to America. The San Francisco line, however, is out of the question, the Pacific Mail Steamship Company, which is specially connected by contract with the Union Pacific Railway Company, virtually monopolizing that route. But it is thought not unpracticable to open a service to Tacoma and to enter into competition with the Canadian Pacific Mail Company.

Four ships would suffice for that purpose. Another project is to start a regular service to Mexico, there being none yet, and to extend the line to Santiago in Central America. The Company is now said to be conducting investigations with regard to this line. The public may suppose that the company will start a service to the inland ports on the Yang-tze-kiang, newly opened to foreign commerce under the Shimonoseki Treaty. But ships used for that purpose must be specially constructed, and as the Company owns no steamers of the kind, it will not put its hand to any such enterprise. Another report is that a service will shortly be opened to Formosa. That is not the case. The Company does not think it necessary to do anything on that route so long as steamers on Government service are plying between Japan and the island. Moreover, to open a service now to to Formosa, would be certainly unprofitable. When peace is restored in the island and when the communication between it and Japan proper becomes regular and brisk, there will doubtless be occasion to run steamers regularly. As yet, however, the Company cannot determine when the service will be commenced. An officer of the Company is now in the island conducting inquiries into matters pertaining to a line of steamers.

THE QUESTION OF ALLIANCES.

Discussions relating to alliances grow daily more animated among the Japanese. As already mentioned in these columns, an influential section of the public, represented by the *Jiji Shimpo* and a few other papers, favour an alliance with England. A writer in the *Kokumin-no-Tomo* thinks differently; he regards the proposed alliance with England as opposed to Japanese interests. That Japan having entered the arena of the world's politics, it is impossible for her to be on good terms with all the Powers at the same time, and that she must, consequently, look about for allies, is fully acknowledged by the writer, as it is acknowledged by all intelligent Japanese. Indeed, he dwells at considerable length on that very point, passing in review the history of alliances in Modern Europe. Whether the Russo-Franco-German alliance continues intact; whether it be dissolved, leading, on the one side, to a union between Russia and France, and, on the other, to an understanding between England and Germany; or whether the upshot be the grouping of Russia and Germany, on the one hand, and of England and France on the other,—whatever be the resultant political combinations among European Powers, the Japanese, says the writer, must be prepared to face an alliance of two or more countries. The increase of the Navy and the Army must be planned on that basis, and, at the same time, diplomacy should be directed to oppose a counter alliance to the combination of the country's enemies. While thus recognizing the importance of an alliance with some of the Powers, the writer in the *Kokumin-no-tomo* observes that the question with which States Japan ought to join hands, must be considered by the leaders of the people calmly and deliberately, without allowing themselves to be influenced by popular sentiment and prejudices. He recognizes the fact that the recent intervention of Russia, Germany, and France, has alienated the hearts of the nation from those countries, while the attitude of the English in general and the conduct of Admiral Fremantle at Chefoo in particular, have combined to remove from Japanese minds the umbrage occasioned by that officer's behaviour in the early stages of the war. He, however, thinks it a serious mistake to advocate, as some persons advocate, an alliance with England. Popular sentiments and national interests are distinct from each other. It is right that the nation should strive to retrieve its honour; but diplomacy ought to be kept separate from the feelings of the people. We fail to see the reason why the present sentiment of the nation should be allowed to take its course, and why the three Powers should be made permanent enemies of the Empire. Neither do we believe that such a policy is absolutely necessary in order to retrieve the honour of the country. The good-will manifested towards the Japanese mission by the British Admiral at Chefoo, and the refusal of the British Cabinet to cooperate with the three Powers, are certainly marks of friendship that ought to be duly appreciated by Japan. But is it wise to say that, because England has showed us these marks of friendship, we ought to seek an alliance with her? I hesitate to answer in the affirmative." The diplomacy of a great nation, he goes on to say, must be broad and comprehensive, entirely free from the influence of pure sentiment. He illustrates his point by reference to the recent history of European diplomacy. If the proposed alliance with England be meant merely as a sort of intimidation to Russia and France, he sees little danger in it. But if it be meant in all seriousness as a national diplomatic policy, he thinks it grave a mistake. He cannot believe that England is really determined to fight with Russia or France for the sake of her interests in the East. If she were so inclined, she would not have merely looked on while Japan was being hard pressed by the three Powers to give up the Liaotung peninsula. Indeed, her supreme indifference at the recent juncture must have been a severe blow to the advocates of an alliance with her. England owes much to the triple alliance of Central Europe, but as she is not inclined to render any service in return, she has been abandoned by the members of that alliance. From these circumstances, we are asked to conclude that England would be of little use to Japan as an ally. Moreover, the writer believes that Japan's interests are not common with those of England. Like Mr. Sugiura, whose article on the subject in the *Asahi Shimbun*, has already been noticed in these columns, the writer believes that the best policy for Japan is to devote her energies to expansion in a southerly direction. Expansion must take place along the line of least resistance. He refers to the historical truth that expansion has always been from north to south and concludes that the foreign policy of the country must be founded on the basis of that truth. He does not clearly indicate the alternative of an alliance with England, but it is not difficult to read that meaning between the lines of his essay. We remember that, just before the recent war, a prominent writer on the staff of the *Kokumin Shimbun*, which may be regarded as the daily edition of the *Kokumin-no-Tomo*, advocated an alliance between Japan and Russia. To the same hand may be ascribed the present article. We understand that his views on this subject are not endorsed by his colleagues, but our readers will doubtless find them interesting.

THE MEXICAN EMIGRATION SCHEME.

The Japan Emigration Society held a Councillors' meeting at its office on the afternoon of the 17th instant. Viscount Enomoto, President of the Society, Messrs. Sakuma, Ando, Taro, Magaki Jocho, and many others were present. The committee's report on the process of purchasing official land in Mexico was read and approved with a few amendments. The amended report is as follows:—(1) A civil corporation shall be organized and official land to the extent of 116,000 *cho* (290,000 acres) purchased by members of the society willing to invest over 1,000 *yen* each; (2) an experimental plan of cultivation is to be conducted for a while, 300 *cho* being opened up for the purpose, upon which coffee is to be planted and then canes, tobacco, maize, and such annuals, as accessory crop; (3) deputies shall be despatched to Mexico to arrange various affairs incidental to the purchase, and to conclude a contract on the matter with the Government of that country; (4) the President of the Society shall transmit a despatch on the subject to the Republic through the medium of the Mexican Representative in Japan; (5) the corporation shall be called the Mexican Emigration Corporation and the Office located at the Emigration Society's Office; (6) the enterprise may be freely expanded, as anyone desirous of investing the required sum of money in it will be admitted.

The prospectus of the corporation, as drawn up by the President is as follows:—

The Mexican emigration scheme was conceived by us some years ago, since when no less than three explorations conducted in a very reliable manner, have been undertaken. The latest expedition, made last year by Mr. Hashiguchi Bunzo, confirmed our expectations and convinced us that the scheme would be attended with satisfactory results. As we are desirous to carry it into practice, we have decided to inform the public of its salient features and to invite their support.

Those regions of Mexico bordering on the Pacific Ocean are mostly suited for Japanese emigration, but we find that the most excellent for the purpose, if we take into consideration salubrity of climate, fertility of soil, price of land, and facility of transportation, is the land owned by the Government in the Esquintra (?) district of the province of Chiapa. According to Mr. Hashiguchi's report, this district is situated between 15° and 15° 25′ north latitude, and covers an area of 116,000 *cho*, approximately. The climate is mild, rain is plentiful, and the soil very fertile. In the elevated part the land is specially adapted to the growth of coffee, the central plain is suited to the cultivation of rice, canes, maize, and ordinary crops, while the low land bordering the coast would make excellent pastures. Moreover, as the district is by the sea, not only fishery, but also salt manufacture could be undertaken. There is said to be good hope of opening a fine harbour on the coast. It is needless to say, therefore, that the facilities for transportation are all that can be desired. Mr. Hashiguchi urges that prompt steps be taken to purchase the land. The fact is that, although it belongs to the Government, public attention is strongly attracted to it and it may not, therefore, be easy to obtain the whole district. The President of the Republic and the Minister of the Emigration Department have, however, assured Mr. Hashiguchi that they will facilitate Japanese emigration as much as possible. The price of the official land averages something like 1½ *yen* a *cho* (2½ *acres*), that is to say about half the price of the private land in the vicinity. Moreover, there is a certain convenient method in the purchase of official land in Mexico, the price being payable with the

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Government bonds of that country in instalments extending over 10 years. Such being the case, what is wanted at the present juncture is not capital, but promptitude in effecting the purchase.

INTERVIEWS.

Accounts of interviews with Count Katsu are always interesting, though they lose much by translation, the principal charm of the Count's conversation being a certain raciness and vivacity of expression scarcely possible to render into another tongue. A reproduction of an interview with him has just been published by the *Mainichi Shimbun*. The Count of Hikawa —as he is generally called—is of the same age as the Viceroy Li. When a friend of his recently reminded him of the fact, he was moved to strong admiration for the Chinese statesman's indefatigable activity. "But," said he, "I have since discovered the secret of his power. Is he not a Minister of State, and does he not receive an income nearly as large as that of Japan? What am I, but a Privy Councillor, a poor man? What can a poor man do? However, in a moment of national crisis I am convinced I can be of service to my country." At the time of the arrival of the Viceroy Li in Japan, Count Katsu recommended his friends in the Government not to insist on any hard terms. The Chinese Plenipotentiary, he said, was a man of broad views and straightforward methods. But his friends had received the advice with evident contempt, and as a result the tables were turned upon them by Li. Count Katsu then referred to what he had himself done when he was appointed ambassador for the *Shogun* to discuss terms of capitulation with Saigo, the Commander of the Imperial forces. Assured that his antagonist was a man incapable of mean or treacherous conduct, Count Katsu spent a great part of the few days previous to the meeting in sound slumber. At the meeting, he did not say anything but simply requested Saigo to make provision for the poor vassals of the *Shogun*, whereupon the magnanimous Saigo proposed to settle 700,000 *koku* upon the *Shogun*. Even in dealing with Chinese, the Count thought it necessary to adapt the method of negotiation to the character of the *vis-à-vis*. Then speaking of the Cabinet, he proceeded as follows:—"Men attack the Cabinet; I do not attack it, I simply write down whatever I hear. Folks are liable to make blunders in moments of self-satisfaction. Among all the men I have come across, Saigo was the most consistent. Okubo also was a firm and enthusiastic man. Next came Kido, but far behind the two. As to the rest they are all men of ordinary type, and to expect them to do great things is simply cruel. They have made extraordinary exertions in their own way, and it would be well to let them go to hot springs and recoup their strength. I have had experience of diplomacy in my own time; I can assure you that it is no easy thing." Lastly, the Count spoke about Boku Eiko, whom he declared to be a good and honest man. At one time Boku visited him and told him that he had rejected an offer made by a certain Count to advance him a thousand *yen*. The idea of a poor exile rejecting such an offer because he did not like the character of the donor, quite took the fancy of the old Count, who thenceforth never failed to send money every month to Boku. He added that the late Kim Ok-kyun had once visited him in company with Boku. The Count stated that Korea ought to be on good terms with Russia, whereupon Kim went away in high dudgeon, and never again came to see him.

It is difficult to tell whether this interview is published in jest or in earnest, or whether the Count was in jest or in earnest at the time of the interview, supposing it to have occurred at all. Talk of the kind attributed to Count Katsu sounds almost childish. He blames the negotiators that represented victorious Japan, and then, by way of a pattern for their imitation, describes how he himself acted when representing the vanquished Tokugawa. Certainly if the Viceroy Li could have been induced to devote his days to slumber prior to the Shimonoseki Conference, and then to throw himself mutely on the mercy of the Japanese negotiators, a settlement satisfactory to Japan could easily have been reached. But what on earth has that to do with the behaviour of Count Ito and Viscount Mutsu? The anecdote about Boku Eiko, too, is delightful. Boku seems to have applied at the right place when he carried to Count Katsu the tale of his refusal to accept accommodation to the extent of a thousand *yen* from a man unworthy of respect. Being at that time an impecunious exile, without the slightest prospect of doing a service to any one in any conceivable capacity, it ought not to have mattered much where Boku obtained funds provided only that he obtained them. The fact that he managed to obtain them from Count Katsu might be regarded by some persons as a proof of astuteness rather than an evidence of integrity. Counts Katsu and Okuma seem to suffer greatly at the hands of their interviewers.

The *Chuo Shimbun* publishes an account of an interview with a certain General Viscount who is a believer in Buddhism—evidently Viscount Torio. Speaking of the dissolution of the anti-Cabinet league, he is represented as stating that such measures are in keeping with the past policy only of the Government. He wonders why those in power do not hand over the Administration to the statesmen of the Opposition and give them an opportunity of proving their capacity. He is sure that a Cabinet with Count Okuma at its head would not be in any way better than the present one. But still the fact that those now in office are willing to give place to suitable successors would, in his opinion, blunt the edge of those Opposition statesmen's thirst for power. These latter organize all kinds of agitations because they know that the Cabinet is determined to hold out under any circumstances. The Viscount, like Count Katsu, is sure that Boku is not smart enough to think of an alliance with Russia. Concerning the Korean question, he fears that the Government may be meditating the abandonment of the peninsula to its fate. He thinks that the Japanese Plenipotentiaries committed a fatal mistake when they inserted the expression "full and complete independence of Korea" in the first article of the Peace Treaty. By that stipulation, China's interference has been stopped, but at the same time Japan has indirectly pledged herself to regard Korea as a completely independent country, whereas the Viscount is strongly of opinion that she is incapable of independent existence. The maintenance of the peace of the East having been the object of the recent war, Japan ought to hold her position in Korea at whatever hazard. Otherwise peace can never be preserved.

A certain admirer of Count Itagaki contributes to the *Kokkai* a report of a conversation he had with the leader of the Radical Party. The writer states that he made the Count's acquaintance about six years ago when he was on the staff of the *Jiyu Shimbun*. Compared with those days, the Count's views are said to have become more practical. He was then a sentimental reformer; now he is a constructive statesman. The unalterable elements of his character are strong patriotism and sincere reverence for the Emperor. With regard to the attitude of the Radicals toward other parties, Count Itagaki is represented to have observed that he and his followers are dissatisfied equally with the conduct of the Cabinet and with that of the other parties. He illustrated his point by quoting various facts about the Government's policy, but the writer does not think it proper for him to make these facts public. The Radical leader strongly condemned the rash and thoughtless conduct of other parties. "They recognise," he said, "that Japan must repay the kindness of the three Powers, but they ought to remember at the same time that mere bombastic declamation is of little use. Even in avenging the wrong of a lord, it was often necessary, as history tells us, for faithful vassals to undergo various hardships during a long series of years. In diplomatic matters, it is absolutely essential to take the necessary measures in secrecy and silence." Turning to the agitation about th Liaotung question, Count Itagaki does not thin that the Ministers of State are free from blam but the present is not the time to discuss th subject. The Diet is the proper place whe such matters should be debated. To fome an agitation outside the Diet, would be simp to embarrass the Cabinet. Supposing that t Progressionists and their fellow-thinkers su ceeded in taking the place of the prese Ministry, Count Itagaki fails to see that a good could come of such a change, for tho politicians are rash and superficial, and certain not better qualified for the direction of Sta affairs than the present occupants of Ministeri posts. The Radical leader then dilates up the thoughtless and flippant conduct of t *Kaishin-to* and other parties. In conclusio he emphatically denies the truth of the rumo about dissensions in his own Party.

A SKETCH OF WALTER Q. GRESHA.

Walter Quintin Gresham was born a Corydon, Harrison County, Indiana, Ma 17th, 1833. In his early days his father, sheriff of the county, was killed while servin warrant. The family was left in very moder circumstances, and Gresham is another of innumerable illustrations of what a young m may do in the United States, in spite of pove if only he be provided with energy, intelliger and integrity. Young Gresham was educa at the county schools and afterwards at the S University, at Bloomington, though he did remain at the latter long enough to receiv degree. He returned to Corydon to read and upon being admitted to the Bar began practice there. His ability and popularity, h ever, quickly carried him into politics an 1860 he was elected to the Indiana State Le latures. Though quite young and a new mem he at once took a leading position especiall connection with the war legislation. He wa earnest advocate of conciliatory measures long as there was any possible hope of avei war, but, when war was once begun, threw al energies into the movement for the preserva of the Union. He quickly offered himself fo tive service in the field and was appointed Li Colonel of the 38th Indiana Regiment. a brief service he was promoted full Colone given the command of the 58th Regiment. skill and energy were, however, so conspic that he was, while still Colonel, placed in mand of a full Brigade and in this cap served through the Vicksburg campaign. the capture of Vicksburg he was, on the re mendation of General Grant, promoted t full rank of Brigadier-General. In the next paign, that of Sherman against Atlanta, Gre was required to do the work of a Major-Ge being placed in command of one of the div of the Seventeenth Army Corps. This cam culminated in a series of bloody battles abo city of Atlanta. General O. O. Howard in de ing these battles says:—"The battle on th (July, 1864) did not end till Gresham's sion had gone diagonally toward Atlanta, a ing the hostile cavalry of Wheeler bet and skirmishing up against an open knob Bald Hill. General Gresham, a fine office severely wounded during his brisk move This wound was so severe that it was mor a year before Gresham recovered sufficie be fit for active service, for indeed he nev tirely recovered from the effects of that w Meantime, the war had been brought to a In 1865 Gresham was breveted Major-G Had it not been for his removal from service by his wound there is little dou that he would have been raised to the com of a full army corps. For though but 31 y age, he was, as Gen. Howard expressed fine officer," and high in the esteem of th ing Generals, Grant and Sherman. Aft war, Gresham returned to Indiana and th tice of law. In 1866 and again in 1868 an unsuccessful candidate for Congress Speaker Kerr, the district being overwhel Democratic, but he greatly reduced the majority. In 1869, when General Grant t

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President, he wished to appoint Gresham to his Cabinet, but this not being practicable he offered him the Collectorship of the Port of New Orleans, but this was declined. Soon afterward, however, Judge McDonald of the United States District Court having died, President Grant immediately appointed Gresham to the position, though there were many candidates and Gresham was not one of them. In this position he served until 1883, when President Arthur appointed him to his Cabinet, as Postmaster-General, and a few months later Mr. Folger, Secretary of the Treasury, having died, Gresham was transfered to that position. Near the end of President Arthur's administration he appointed Gresham Judge of the United States Circuit Court, a vacancy in that important Court having just then occured for the district composed of Indiana, Illinois, and contiguous States. Judge Gresham as soon as he entered President Arthur's Cabinet acquired national reputation, and his ability and great force of character caused him to be frequently mentioned as a candidate for President during the canvas of 1884. His well-known opposition to Corporations, brought out in his decisions on the Bench, and his tendencies to tariff reform, made him the candidate of what might be termed the Liberal Republicans, and his advocates grew so rapidly in numbers and enthusiasm that for a while before, and during the early session of the Republican convention of 1888, it looked as though he would certainly be nominated, though this honour finally went to General Harrison. Always independent and aggressive, Gresham found himself getting more and more out of touch with his party. Indeed, the great fight in the convention of 1888 was between the extreme high protective tariff wing and those who sought reform within the party. The election of Harrison and the passage of the McKinley Bill killed all hope, compelled a revolt, and prepared the country, to a certain extent, for the announcement of Judge Gresham and many other leading Republicans, that they should support Mr. Cleveland on the tariff issue. All know the result. Mr. Cleveland was elected and gave the country another surprise by calling the leading revolter to be the chief member of his Cabinet. This called out the sneers of the Republicans and excited the chagrin of the Democrats of the old school, but was alike commendable to the judgment of President Cleveland and the ability and independence of Gresham. In his term of a little more than two years, he has accomplished more than than has usually fallen to the lot of Secretaries of State in these times of profound peace, so far as the U.S. is concerned. Among his achievements may be mentioned the extinction by negotiation of the British claim on the Mosquito Coast, of Central America. This had been for so long a time a *vexata quæstio* in American diplomacy that the politicians could hardly believe it possible that he had solved it, and even his former Republican party associates were forced to confer some praise upon him. In addition to this he negotiated a new, satisfactory, and eminently just treaty with China. And as everyone knows a new commercial treaty with Japan. As for the Hawaiian affair, the management of that seems to have been préeminently in the hands of the President himself, and the credit or discredit of it now and in the future will accrue to him rather than Gresham, though the latter seems to have fully agreed with him.

Gresham's career is thus seen to have been one full of responsibility and honour. He is said to have never sought an office. The eminent fitness of the man spoke for him. Brilliant, aggressive, but sometimes erratic, Gresham fell but little short of achieving the highest success. He was a man intensely in earnest, and so impetuous that he sometimes took counsel of his feelings rather than his judgment—or had we better say worldly prudence—but being singularly honest, frank, and independent, his mistakes, if such they may be called, were those of an ideal integrity. The American Secretary of State has uniformly been one of the very ablest men in the country—Gresham was the peer of any of them. In his death Am has lost a great man and the world an

J.W.D.

A HAWKING PARTY.

The sport of hawking, once so fashionable during the Tokugawa period, when it was almost incumbent upon the reigning Shogun to bring down a heron with his own falcon, and present the bird to the Emperor at Kyoto, was supposed to have been abandoned on the fall of the Shogunate. But the public soon learned that hawking parties were still held, the Sovereign himself, as well as some of the wealthier peers and members of the Imperial Household, attaching too much value to the pastime to suffer its extinction in common with some of the less worthy practices of feudal days. A hawking party of the Imperial Household had the honour of the Duke of Abruzzi's company on the 21st instant, and another day was devoted to the sport by the same party on the 23rd. The place of rendezvous was Kamezato-mura, and the hour, 8 a.m. Thence boats were taken, among the the company being Viscount Hijikata, Minister of State for the Imperial Household, Mr. Hanabusa, Vice-Minister of the same department, Mr. Sato, Private Secretary, Chamberlain Kameda, General Okazawa, Mr. Ito Miyoji, Secretary-General to the Imperial Cabinet, several Masters of the Imperial Hunting Service, and others of the Household Department. The scene of sport was the River Naka. Two boats were employed, one of them containing cooks and condiments for refreshment at tiffin time. There were four professional hawkers, each with his bird on his hand, and also several beaters to start the quarry from the clumps of flags and rushes growing along the banks of the river. When a bird was flushed, the hawker happening to be nearest and in the best position, would send off his falcon, which seldom missed its victim. The principal game pursued was the bird called *ban*, a species of moor-hen. The moment the hawk struck its victim, it came down and held the bird until the hawker arrived at the spot. Sometimes, when the falcon missed its quarry, it would fly away and perch on the top of the nearest tree. In such cases the hawker approached the tree, and by employing as lure a pigeon or some other bird attached to a cord, would invite the disappointed falcon to descend, the bird thus employed being made to fly round the head of the hawker, and seldom failing, within a short time, to attract the stray falcon to its place on the hawker's hand. This occurred thrice during the hunting, which, on the whole, was a success. The hawkers followed the boat along the bank of the river, winding their way through the clumps of flags and rushes growing there. Every time the hawk struck its victim, loud acclamations from the party in the boat greeted the bird, and it subsequently received its immemorial reward, the heart of its quarry. It is a quiet kind of pastime, not involving any of the athletic displays or dashing equestrianism that marked the sport in mediœval Europe, but, at the same time, not without excitement.

The party spent nearly the whole day on the Naka river, and gradually rowing down to the Sumida, went ashore at the Hashimoto Restaurant, Kameido, where they dined before breaking up at eight in the evening. The game of the day consisted of twenty moor-hens, a few herons, and several other water fowls. A large portion of it was reserved to be presented to His Majesty, and the rest constituted the *pièce de resistance* at the dinner at Hashimoto. With hawking the Japanese associate ideas of peace and prosperity. The present, therefore, is not an unsuitable time for the practice of the pastime.

THE CHEVALIER DE KONTSKI'S CONCERT IN TOKYO.

The concert given by the Chevalier de Kontski at the Imperial Hotel in Tokyo on Saturday afternoon was not a success so far as concerned the number of those present. Owing to two changes of programme, the second of which, altering the hour of the concert from 9 p.m. to 3 p.m., failed to become known to many of the people in Tokyo until it was too late to take advantage of the intelligence, numbers that would otherwise have attended were not present, and the whole audience aggregated only a little over a hundred. There were disappointments, also, in other respects. The piano destined for the occasion did not arrive, so that the Chevalier was obliged to use a much inferior instrument; Mrs. Grasmann, who had promised to sing twice, was prevented by indisposition from appearing, and even the lady relied on for the accompaniments, failed to come. The Chevalier bore these *contretemps* with the utmost good humour, though they necessitated his almost continuous session at the piano from beginning to end of the performance. So much has already been written about his immense power over the instrument that it would be a work of superfluity to add anything here. His style is that of the old school—the school that boasted such masters as Beethoven and Mozart—and we must confess that to listen to his playing is to be reconverted to the merits of now obsolete methods. It is not, perhaps, altogether wonderful that a man of 79 should retain unimpaired mastery of the mechanics of his art, but that he should continue to show all the passion and sentiment of middle life in his musical renderings seems almost phenomenal. Which of the pieces played by the Chevalier on Saturday most delighted his audience, it was difficult to judge. Each elicited *rounds* of applause, but there was an evident disinclination to add to the already too arduous task of the artist by calling for *encores*. Not until the last piece on the programme had been played, did the audience allow itself the pleasure of clamouring for another, and the Chevalier responded by playing, with inimitable tenderness of touch and depth of feeling a fantasia from which "The Old Folks at Home" and "Yankee Doodle" emerged as gems of musical conception. Mr. Braccialini and Count Coudenhove were each set down for two songs on the programme, and the former gentleman responded to an *encore*. Rarely are such voices heard among amateurs. Not the least enthusiastic of their applauders was the Chevalier de Kontski himself, whose admirable accompaniments added much to the effect of the singing. In the interval between the parts of the concert, a wreath of bays arrived from the Russian Legation. Its presentation was found to have afforded Mr. Hitrovo an occasion to display one of those happy graces of sociability for which he is famous. To the wreath was attached a card bearing the superscription "*Le jeune Hitrovo.*" The Chevalier was delighted. He went about explaining to his many acquaintances among the audience that he had known Mr. Hitrovo's father, and that for him the present Russian Representative was always "le jeune Hitrovo." Indeed, the pleasure of the concert was largely enhanced by the delightful *bonhomie* of the grey-haired artist, who treated his audience with all the genial courtesy of a host receiving his friends in his own salon. We append the programme as originally published, noting that, for Nos. 6 and 10, pieces by the Chevalier himself were substituted :—

PART I.

1.—Andante from C. Minor Symphony ..... Beethoven.
Chevalier De Kontski.
2.—Aria 3° atto "Gioconda" (par tenore)..... Ponchielli.
Mr. Braccialini.
3.—"Invitation à la valse" ..... Weber.
Chevalier De Kontski.
4.—Invocation de "Robert le Diable" ..... Meyerbeer.
Count Coudenhove.
5.—Souvenir de "Faust" ..... Gounod-Kontski.
Chevalier De Kontski.
6.—Song by Mrs. Grasmann..... Franz

PART II.

7.—Song by Count Coudenhove..... Wagner.
8.—{a. Polonaise ..... Chopin.
{b. Tarentelle ..... Schumann.
Chevalier De Kontski.
9.—Romanza 3° Atto "La Forza del Destino." (par tenore).
Mr. Braccialini. (Verdi.
10.—Song by Mrs. Grasmann ..... Brahms.
11.—Le Reveil du Lion..... Kontski.
By the Author.

THE FRANCO-RUSSIAN LOAN.

A telegram received Tuesday from Shanghai confirms the intelligence that the triangular loan said to have been promised to China by Russia and France, may not become an accomplished fact. The Chinese must be greatly lacking in the astuteness generally credited to them, if they conclude any such loan.

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RELEASED FROM DISCIPLINARY DISABILITY.

Mr. Hara Yasutaro, former Governor of Yamaguchi, and Mr. Goto Matsukichiro, former Police Chief of the same Prefecture, who were deprived of their offices as a disciplinary punishment, on account of their administrative responsibility in connection with the Koyama incident at Shimonoseki, have been released from disability by the special grace of the Emperor. It is stated that this measure has been taken by His Majesty in deference to a wish expressed by the Viceroy Li to Count Ito on the eve of the former's departure for home, namely, that the disgraced officials, on whose account the Viceroy felt much sorrow, might be restored to the Imperial favour as soon as possible.

DELIBERATIONS OF THE TOKYO CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

The Tokyo Chamber of Commerce held a meeting of the Commercial Section on the morning of the 19th instant, to consider the result of investigations carried out by a special Committee of the Chamber in connection with certain resolutions passed by the Associated Chambers of Commerce. The resolution of the Associated Chambers that the present system of indirectly taxing tobacco by means of stamps should be replaced by a direct tax, was negatived, as recommended by the Committee. Another resolution that the tax on tobacco should be imposed in Okinawa in the same way as it is in the main island, although a special tax is now levied in that prefecture and in the Seven Islands of Izu, was also rejected, as recommended by the Committee. A proposal as to the advisability of imposing restrictions on the manufacture of *soy* for home consumption, shared the same fate, the objection being that such restrictions would only have the effect of subjecting the poorer classes to great inconvenience: another resolution to amend the stamp duties on drugs was considered unnecessary. The special privilege applying to transactions in rice alone, which staple, in virtue of the privilege, can be bought and sold according to certain standards, was thought worthy of being extended to transactions in other commodities, and it was decided to submit a representation to the Government in that sense.

CHINESE ITEMS.

A correspondent of one of the foreign local journals in China, writing from Tamsui under date of June 7th, says:—

Perhaps one of the most brave, most heroic, exploits of the whole campaign in Formosa was the relief of Taiphehfu and suburb of Tuatutia, where the foreigners carry on their tea business. It seems the Chinese soldiers who were beaten and driven out of Kelung fled to Tuatutia along the railway line, as that was the best road and they could, of course, march rapidly on it. Then as the garrison of Tuatutia was unable to control them they all joined in a general raid, looting, burning, and murdering among the islanders and their own countrymen. Twenty thousand men smarting under defeat was an ugly crowd to have near Tuatutia, so it occurred to the foreigners there that the sooner the Japanese came in the better. A meeting was held and three young men, tea merchants, bravely agreed to set out for the Japanese lines through a country given up entirely to murder and rapine. They found the Japanese advance guard ten miles out on the Kelung road, where they were waiting for re-inforcements. There were only 500 Japanese there, weary and foot-sore with their long march, and not knowing whether their retreat would be cut off. But they held the village pluckily up to the time of the arrival of the foreigners (whose names, by the way, I have not yet obtained, but must do so) who begged them to advance on the capital at once, stated that all was in disorder, and their lives in danger and every hour precious. Having heard this news from a Corporal, the Colonel in charge called his officers together, and held a council of war, with the result that the gallant little band, only 500 strong, fell in, and determined to relieve Tuatutia immediately. They soon reached Tuatutia, and drove upwards of 20,000 ruffians out of the place, in a twinkling, and two hours later had patrols out, and the place perfectly tranquil. This was a courageous act, and it is hoped that the officers in charge and their men will be duly rewarded for their bravery and promptitude.

A curious illustration of the difficulty of obtaining trustworthy intelligence in China is contained in the columns of the *North China Daily News*:—

THE REBELLION IN NORTH KUANGTUNG.

(*N.-C. Daily News* June 10th.)

The other day we published news of an alleged formidable rising of the people in the country comprising certain sections of the prefectures of Ch'aochou and Haichou and the department of Chiayingchou, about three days' journey inland from Swatow, under the jurisdiction of the Taotai of the Hai-Ch'ao'ia Intendancy. Further confirmatory news from independent sources has reached us which leads us to believe that this rebellion has been the result of a long organised movement amongst a number of intelligent natives of the country, most probably returned emigrants. Like the Taiping rebels of forty years ago the leaders and members of the rebellion profess Christianity and this is declared in their pronunciamientoes throughout the countryside. They say: "See what Christianity has done for Europe and see what it has done for Japan"—modern science being evidently coupled with Christianity as far as the last country is concerned "Hence," continue the proclamation, "if we wish our native land to become powerful we must first Christianise her. We have devoted our lives to this object." This was in the district of Ch'ang-lohsien in the department of Chiayingchou to the north-west of Swatow, and from the accounts to hand it seems that the movement has been augmented by the adhesion of thousands of people. Simultaneously with this movement and apparently in concert with the above, in the district of Chiehyang prefecture of Ch'aochou, the rebellion is headed by a man named Chou, a native of the adjacent district of Yunganhsien, and a wealthy returned emigrant from the colonies. His following commenced with some 12,000 men, all very well armed with modern weapons. The flag of rebellion was hoisted at the place on the 17th of May last, and so well was everything arranged that the city of Yungan fell into the hands of the rebels on the 19th of the month within four hours of their advance on the place. This being the native city of the leader he apparently intends it to be the base of his operations. It is situated in the hills and if properly fortified can be made impregnable. Chou calls himself "Commander-in-Chief of the Forces;" so evidently there must be others in the background, and it is intended to proclaim him King or Emperor at the proper moment. In Chou's proclamation to the people he announces his determination, amongst other innovations, to sweep away the corrupt mandarins who have ruined China and march straight up to Pekin and enforce reforms at the capital. The Tartars are to be shown no mercy and are to be driven out of the country to their own hunting-grounds. The people are to continue their avocations peaceably as everything will be bought and paid for the use of the rebel army. The rich only are to be called upon to contribute proportionately towards the expenses of the army. No mercy will be shown to people who resist the march of the army northwards. The rebels in Ch'aogle who are weaker, numerically speaking, than those at Chiehyang and Yungen have been devoting their efforts entirely towards strengthening their position in the country and preaching the tenets of their religion—the rules for the guidance of the members and converts being especially strict. They have made no movement southwards (Changlo being near the borders of Fukien province) in the direction of Chiehyang or Swatow and are apparently waiting for the latter to join them when the proposed march to Pekin will be commenced. Another despatch reports that the people in the districts in the central and coast portions of Kuangtung are quite excited at this rising of their fellow provincials and a large number of secret society men belonging to the Triad (*Sanhop*) and Brothers (*Kalao Hui*) organisations are preparing to give armed assistance to the insurgents. In fact over 4,000 of the latter society are already marching towards Yungan-hsien while the first-named society have issued commands to the members to go quietly, in small bands and disguised, to Chiehyang where the insurrection began. Very few bandits have joined, luckily for the country people, and no robbery or rapine has, so far, been reported in the disturbed districts.

(*N.-C. Daily News*, June 14th.)

The so-called rebellion in north Kuang-tung seems to be merely one of those local risings which occur with such regularity from the neglect of the officials. The country involved has been impoverished by a severe drought, and the appeals of the provincial authorities for aid not having been listened to in time, the starving people have risen and have been joined by the rowdies and bandits who gather as quickly where there is a chance of plunder, as a crowd does round a fallen cab-horse in London.

In Pekin the question of the Chinese loan was evidently causing much uneasiness at the date of latest advices. The Emperor had appointed eight officials to conduct the negotiations but it was found impossible to get them to agree, as the probability was that Prince Kung would have to shoulder the whole responsibility eventually. The great difficulty was the basis—gold or silver. If any financiers had been willing to offer a silver loan, they would have obtained the commission at once. Folks in Pekin seemed to think that 3 per cent. and an issue at 90 were the best terms China could hope for. They were evidently unprepared for 4 per cent. at 90 or 92, as undertaken by Russia with France's aid. The general rumour was that if Russia promised to finance 100 millions of Taels, the second 100 millions would be divided between the other Great Powers. Curious days these when it is regarded as an international courtesy to ask a foreign country for a loan of money.

A writer in Hangkow points out a very weak spot in the system hitherto adopted to obtain reparation for anti-foreign riots in China. After noting that the really guilty persons are never brought to justice, but only some insignificant and probably innocent natives, he explains that the invariable sop, a money indemnity—many dollars for so much damage and a fixed tariff for European heads—simply acts as a temptation, since the very officials under whose auspices the riots occurred, derive large profit from the collection and disbursement of the cash.

"The real effect of the war with Japan," says the Nanking correspondent of the *North China Daily News*, is seen in the sale here on the streets of pictures, highly coloured, representing the Japanese in a suppliant attitude at the feet of Li Hung-chang. It is the same old game of trying to convert defeat into victory by emphatically lying."

It is difficult to ascertain, from the files of Shanghai papers just to hand, any definite news as to the Chêngtu outrages. The *China Gazette* publishes more information than either of its contemporaries, but we do not feel quite confident about accepting it implicitly in view of the somewhat alarmist and sensational tone adopted by our contemporary throughout. The absorbing question whether lives have been lost or are in jeopardy, remains unanswered. The telegrams, said to have been received in Shanghai, early on the morning of the 17th instant, from Father Robert of the Missions Étrangères, indicated that Mgr. Durand and Mgr. Charagnon, Bishops of Eastern and Western Szechuan, were in jail, apparently for having refused to obey the orders of the Viceroy to leave the province. The second of the two telegrams ran thus: "Poukiang, Kia Kiang, Lanki, destroyed. Houses burned and pillaged in every place, and Catholic families looted and persecuted." Another telegram, despatched from Chungking, reached the head-quarters of the China Inland Mission on the evening of the 16th:—"Riot Paoning. Friends safe." "Paoning," says the *China Gazette*, "is a *fu* city on the Kiaoling River about 100 miles north-east of Chêngtu. It is six days journey from Chungking and therefore unless the news was telegraphed in the first instance to Chêngtu, the outrages there must have taken place a full week ago. A correspondent of the same journal, writing from Nanking under date of the 13th inst., says:—

A communication has reached your Correspondent to-day giving the reported origin of the riot at Chengtu, but of course, this is only a pretext and not the cause. Dr. Hart, of the Canadian Methodist Mission, was called out to see a very sick woman, and gave her a hypodermic injection after which the woman died. Dr. Hart was again sent for about midnight and on entering the house an attempt was made to shut the door and keep him there, for what purpose is not stated. He succeeded in getting away from the crowd with some slight bruises. The next day the rioti

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began and the Mission property was destroyed. It is evident that this was only pretext for the beginning of the rioting—which had been pre-arranged for some time to take place at the slightest provocation or excuse.

Of course the terrible fear is that foreign men, women, and children may be exposed to the gravest perils and prevented from communicating with their friends, for the telegraphic wires continue to be closed, either by design or owing really to unrepaired injury. However, the American Baptist Mission in Hankow received, on the 12th instant, a telegram from Chungking saying that all their people, some 20 in number, had reached that city in safety, and were taking boats to descend the river. From the *China Gazette* we learn :—

The French authorities seem to be the only representative foreigners who are at all alive to the gravity of the situation. In response to an urgent telegram sent last week by M. Dubail, French Consul-general, the two fine French cruisers *Isly* and *Algers* were despatched from Nagasaki for Woosung on Saturday and will arrive there to-night or to-morrow morning. The cruiser *Forfait* has been recalled from Amoy and will at once be sent up the Yangtse, and the gunboat *Beautemps Beaupre* is lying here with steam up, to go up-river at a moment's notice. In fact she would leave at once were she not the only representative of the French Navy in port, and M. Dubail thinks it is advisable to keep at least one gunboat here.

It would seem, however, from the following paragraph in the *North China Daily News*, that the stoppage of the wires communicating with Szechuan was a *bona fide* affair, and that the sinister inferences drawn from the fact were consequently without justification :—

The interruption in the China telegraph lines between Shashe and Ichang just when anxiety was being felt as to the fate of the missionaries at Chêngtu was certainly unfortunate, but we have been furnished with information which should leave no room for doubt that the hiatus in the wires was a *bona fide* one and not invented to suit the purposes of designing officials. No telegrams whatever from Ichang and above were received at Hankow during the six days' interruption, and when the lines were restored on the 10th, a circular was at once sent round notifying the fact to the residents of Hankow.

Mr. A. Preble has sent to the *Shanghai Mercury* an account of the taking of Kelung :—

The next morning (3rd inst.), about 6 o'clock, I went to the top of one of the hills at the back of my quarters (in Kelung) from where I saw, through my field-glass, several men-of-war opposite Palm Island. These proved to be eight Japanese. They opened fire upon Palm Island at 10 o'clock, keeping on and off and constantly moving about, keeping up a heavy fire for about three-quarters of an hour. The Palm Island forts could only get two 8-inch Krupp and one 12-inch Armstrong gun to bear upon the Japanese fleet, but with these they replied, firing, however, only eight shots altogether. With those eight shots they disabled three of the Japanese ships, the fleet then retiring out of range. The practise of the Chinese gunners was very good, and I thought they had sunk one of the ships, but this managed to get away safely, so I suppose the watertight compartment saved her. At the same time I heard musketry fire, which, I took it, proved that the Japanese infantry had landed during the night, and were very close by, in great numbers. This infantry fire was kept up steadily until 3 o'clock, when, during a very heavy rain-squall, I saw a small Japanese skirmishing party coming down the hill close to the Custom House. This party were driving the Chinese fugitives down the hill. All the soldiers they saw they ordered to halt, and any who ran away were shot. They did not ill-treat any of the prisoners they took, so far as I could see, merely disarming them and sending them to the rear. All was then quiet for about an hour, when the Japanese hoisted their flag over the forts above the Custom House, which had only fired a few shots, the Chinese soldiers then fleeing. Then the Japanese marched down the hill and into Kelung, some 2,000 marching to the beach and lining up in front of the Custom House, on the sand of the foreshore. Several parties of Japanese were then told off to take different parts of Kelung City and to disperse whatever Chinese there were found, armed. They met considerable resistance in places, the greatest difficulty being met with at the [illegible] of General Chang Tung-ling, which, however, succeeded in taking after about two hours after very many being killed and wounded on both sides. The Japanese then went on to a place about two miles off, which after a little [illegible] fighting they easily took, and hoisted their flag. The hoisting of the flag here was accomplished with much waving of hats and hurrahing for Japan. This was about 6.30 p.m., when they finally had full possession, and all was quiet for the remainder of the night, no disturbances of any sort being heard.

During the night, I went on board a junk which I had chartered to take me to Tamsui, in company with Mr. Dulberg, the only foreigner left, who was in charge of the Customs. About 4.30 the next morning I was aroused by hearing heavy firing. On coming up on deck and looking around I found that the Japanese were taking the forts on the opposite side of the bay from Kelung. I could see the whole of the movements of this attack, and was much surprised at the methodical way in which this was made. The attack was made in three bodies, the main body marching in the middle up the high hill, supported on either side by lesser bodies. As the Japanese soldiers fell out, killed or wounded, their places were at once taken by those behind them, and bodies of fresh men were constantly added to the main body from the flanking parties. Those men were all of them very young—ranging from 17 to 23 years,—and their steadiness under fire was most astonishing. They marched up against a well-directed musketry fire unflinchingly, acting as coolly and being as well in hand as while on parade. The fight lasted nearly an hour, and I should say each company only fired one volley. The Chinese then retired, and fled down the hills. The Japanese again on hoisting their flag, cheered lustily, and waved their hats. A party was then detached to follow the retiring Chinese, firing into them occasionally to hasten their movements. All was then quiet until about noon, when the Japanese commenced to take the fort opposite Palm Island. Here they had a hot skirmish only and that, striking its colours, Kelung was completely taken.

About 3 p.m. some Japanese officers came off to the junk upon which we were, which was flying the German flag, and asked me my business. I informed them I was a correspondent of the *Shanghai Mercury*. They tried to get whatever information they could out of me about Kelung, but I professed to know nothing. The Japanese spoke English fluently and I asked them about how many men they had lost in taking Kelung. One of them informed me about 1,000 and on my inquiring "Killed or wounded," he answered, "Killed, I am sorry to say. Nearly two thousand more were wounded." I asked him if he had had much difficulty in taking Kelung, and he said only in two or three places where they had met with a stubborn resistance. This was most marked at the yamên of General Chang Tung-ling. Their loss was, as they said, very heavy, and they thought the Chinese must have lost at least 4,000 in killed. After a little more conversation they went ashore.

It is plain that this story contains great exaggerations, but some of the details are interesting.

No further intelligence as to the Chêngtu outrages is contained in the last batch of Shanghai journals to hand. The energetic action attributed to the French Authorities by a telegram of the 24th, is foreshadowed in the columns of the *China Gazette*, where we read that the French Government claims not only on account of the destruction of several million Taels' worth of property in Szechuan, but has also seized the occasion to demand satisfaction for several other outrages perpetrated in former years. Full powers having been delegated from Paris to the diplomatic officials in China, the *Isly*, *Alger*, *Forfait*, *Beautemps Beaupré*, and *Comete* were assembling at Woosung on the 19th instant, for the purpose of proceeding up the Yangtze, but their precise programme was not known.

The United States Consul-General in Shanghai has pronounced judgment in the "Council for the Foreign Community of Shanghai against the Gold Bond Investment Company." The charge was the Company were conducting a lottery in the Settlement, to the injury of good morals, and the defence, that the company had no desire to engage in any improper business, but that, having seen lottery tickets sold publicly in the Foreign Settlement, they thought that they could with impunity offer the tickets of the Gold Bond Investment Company. The Consul-General had three difficulties to contend with: first, that there exists no general law of the United States forbidding lotteries; secondly, that, although they are forbidden in some of the States, an American Consul has no authority to administer a state law in such a place as Shanghai; and thirdly, that the Shanghai Municipal Council has never enacted any law against lotteries. Nevertheless, Mr. Jernigan found that lotteries being forbidden by Common Law, he could interdict them in Shanghai, which he proceeded to do in the case of the Gold Bond Company. It is an interesting problem, open to much discussion.

It is stated that the Acting Viceroy of Chihli, Wang Wenshao, has been invested with the power and authority of a Minister Plenipotentiary, in order that, in conjunction with the Viceroy Li, he may undertake the duties of settling the remainning portions of the Treaty, namely, those relating to the evacuation of Liaotung and the commercial convention, the new Japanese Minister, Mr. Hayashi, being their *vis-à-vis*. We are under the impression that these matters are to be settled in Tokyo.

The Tientsin correspondent of the *China Gazette*, writing under date of June 10th says :—

I am very glad to be able to inform you that it is reported here that a Court-martial, composed of the following naval "experts" has been organized at Tientsin for trial and punishment of the officers responsible for the loss of the Peiyang squadron of the Chinese fleet, and the fortresses, dockyard, and arsenal of Weihaiwei, I believe. The experts, of whose qualifications many of your readers are, no doubt, better able to judge than myself, are as follows, viz. :—Taotai Lo Fêng-lo, Commissioner of Customs G. von Detring, Specialist A. Michie. Admiral J. McDonald whose vast experience on naval matters is well known to surpass that of the afore-mentioned judges, does not appear to have been accommodated with a seat on this nautical legal bench, yet he is a well known faithful servant of Li Hung-chang, and his services date back to Tai-ping days at Soochow and elsewhere. This Court will probably saddle the blame for the loss of Wei-hai-wei and the fleet on the proper shoulders, thus relieving "Admiral" McClure and staff of the odium under which they have lain ever since they surrendered to the Japanese Admiral!

The story sounds pretty, but is evidently a bunder of the raggedest type.

It would seem that the insurrection in Kwangtung may prove formidable after all. The *North China Daily News* writes :—

According to despatches from Swatow dated the 10th instant, the Canton Viceroy despatched General Chang, the Provincial Commander-in-Chief of Kwangtung, on the 4th inst. to crush the Ch'anglolsien insurrection with only 1,500 men assisted by the sedentary garrison of that district, numbering 500 men. At the same time the Naval Commander-in-Chief of the province, Admiral Cheng, was ordered to despatch a naval brigade of 500 men, armed with repeating rifles, to crush the Huichou rebellion in the district of Yungan. But another despatch, wired to the local mandarins yesterday afternoon from Huichou, reports the defeat on the 9th and 12th instant respectively of both the naval brigade and the land forces by the rebels. Ch'anglo is in Chiayingchou sub-prefecture near the Fukien frontiers, while Yungan in Huichou prefecture is south of Swatow.

"Some of the better informed and more patriotic Chinese," says the Tientsin correspondent of the *North China Daily News*, "feel that the course Russia is pursuing in this whole affair, is more of a humiliation to China even than to Japan, and is grossly unjust."

The *Peking and Tientsin Times* is a partizan of the Viceroy Li, if it is anything. Here is one of its notes in his defence :—

The opposition to the official who made the peace treaty and saved his country, at the peril of his own life is still very bitter. Blind party-hatred and ignorance do not see that Viceroy Li prearranged the Shimonoseki Treaty in the legations of the Russian, French, and German Ministers; they forget that he—well knowing that Russia would interfere—told Count Ito so; and that he signed Liaotung away well aware that by doing so he gave Russia a positive basis for diplomatic remonstrance. In fact, China, instead of blaming her greatest statesman for the cession of Liaotung, should acknowledge that to his adroit manœuvres it owes, in no small degree, the recession of the Manchurian peninsula.

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GERMANY AND JAPAN.

SOME of our German readers have addressed us on the subject of views published in our leading columns with reference to Germany's policy and its consequences in Japan. The particular expression of opinion that seems open to misconstruction occurred in an article where, summing up the results to Germany of her recent procedure, we said that, in addition to having brought Paris and St. Petersburg into closer association than ever, she had effectually alienated Japan's amity, despite various interchanges of Black Eagles and Rising Suns, and had added another page to her own record of international untrustworthiness. Naturally, such an analysis of the situation does not sound pleasant in German ears. That, of course, can not be helped, so far as the facts are concerned. But it is possible that a fuller exposition of our meaning may remove some of its apparent harshness.

We need scarcely say, of course, that in referring to an interchange of Black Eagles and Rising Suns, no slight to either the German or the Japanese Order was intended. What may be the value of these things as conferring a title to respect in the case of an individual, we do not pretend to judge. But as compliments paid by one Sovereign to another, or by a Sovereign to the Representative of another, they are not without significance, nor is the courtesy of intention underlying their exchange unworthy of recognition. In a time like the present, however, stars and ribbands are no index of international sentiment. The Japanese people, so far as we can judge, are too angry to take serious note of decorative formalities, and may even count them unseasonable rather than consolatory. Turning to the far more important topic of Germany's international untrustworthiness, it is necessary to explain that we spoke in the sense of modern history only, and of course without any ethical significance whatever. No one can soberly conceive the German nation accused of any tendency to moral laches. Prëeminently we Englishmen, Prussia's old allies, by whose side she stood so stoutly when the whole of Europe was under the shadow of a terrible menace, are not likely to question the potentialities of her loyalty. But in the throes of the German Empire's birth, and among the dangers that beset its growth from a congeries of individually weak States to a compact and powerful unity, the difficulties of its situation have often forced its diplomacy into tortuous routes. Any student of history reading Germany's record from 1866 to 1895, is driven to conclude that her foreign policy has been remarkable for lack of continuity. The foe of to-day has been the friend of to-morrow, and the ally of one year has been the enemy of the next. We do not know whether a more consistent course was possible under circumstances so exigent. Perhaps not. Perhaps it is one of the counterbalancing penalties of her wonderfully brilliant story that fate has condemned Germany frequently to follow a policy inconsistent with the character of her people. That, however, is mere matter of conjecture. It may soften but can not alter the historical facts of the past thirty years. They stand out in undeniable salience, and to them we must add this latest episode, where we find Germany consorting with Russia and France, who yesterday were counted her implacable enemies, against Japan whom she had always taught to regard her as a friend. It is claimed, we are aware, that her purpose in joining Russia and France was to create a combination sufficiently strong to deter ineffectual and suicidal resistance on Japan's part. We can not believe anything of the kind. Resentment because the Japanese Government disregarded a warning from Berlin, may have supplied a partial motive, but the origin of Germany's procedure is to be sought in European politics. We are glad to think, however, —and we say it in all sincerity—that the umbrage now entertained by the Japanese against Germany is not likely to be long-lived. In the very article from which we have quoted above, and in the very sentence succeeding the expression of views traversed by our German friends, we wrote :—"After all is said and done, Germany has a really genuine sentiment of friendliness toward Japan." She has given a hundred different proofs of that sentiment during the past fifteen years, and she will add to the catalogue so soon as she breaks away from the unnatural coalition that now holds her. Unfortunately, however, great mischief has already been done ; mischief to British interests eminently, and mischief that will lead to bloodshed on a large scale hereafter. We can never be accused of being Russophobes. Our writing for the past fifteen years completely disproves such a charge. But this we say, that when Russia aspires to acquire constructive rights to a vast littoral on the Pacific, the Power assisting her to acquire them, plays a part emphatically hostile to Great Britain. That is the sense in which the recent conjunction of Powers, above all, Germany's association with it, presents itself to our eyes. Her good relations with Japan may soon be restored, and probably will be, but the position in which she has helped to place Russia constitutes continuous menace to England's interests, to Japan's integrity, and to the peace of the East. We believe that Germany's policy has been mistaken, and we further believe that the German people already recognise the fact.

THE ENGLISH IN JAPAN.

HAVING recently referred, in te of more or less dissent, to the c ments of the *New York Herald's* Spe Correspondent on the subject of the Eng in Japan, we now reproduce some fur remarks by the same writer on the s subject :—

I have a note from an English gentlema resident of Yokohama, in which he says, some statements recently made by me, "I that you are desirous of making bad fee between the English people here and the Ja ese." I certainly resent this insinuation. publishing of facts—and facts apparent to need not necessarily show a desire to fo discord. I have undertaken to show in a way that there is already an unpleasant feeli this country toward the English. It has created very largely, certainly stimulated, b English local press. In Yokohama, for inst there are four newspapers printed in the E language, all edited by Englishmen, and onl can be said to be in any sense a friend Japanese people. This friendly newspap ceives a little consideration at the hands government, and perhaps for this reason as anything else its rivals are either venou hostile or covertly unfriendly to the cause of Their criticisms and sneers have certainl contributed in any degree to allay the suspic the Japanese mind that England's sympath with China.

As for myself, I can say that I have not n Englishman nor conversed with one in Japa did not speak unkindly of the Japanese wh vital point was reached. I have even heard lishmen in the service of the Japanese here their sympathy with China, and regret th that their government had not interfered t Formosa out of Japanese hands. A pro English official in the pay of the Nippon Yus sha, the great steamship company, said to day before the close of the war that Englan soon assert herself in such a way as to put to Japanese "cockeyness," as he expre Assuredly it is what Englishmen say and themselves that creates "bad feeling," an not see why I should be denied the priv stating facts and even commenting thereon

I may add, by way of a dismissal of the that I believe that ninety per cent. of the in Japan regret exceedingly that Japa China such a terrible beating. The fact majority of them had vehemently and cons predicted that the thing could not be do account, in a measure, for the acute disc ment which now besets them. Referring tone of some of its English contemporari the *Japan Mail* of to-day says :—

The conclusion forced upon us by the writing of the journals in this settlement is that the desi a pretext for censuring the Japanese, and the discover an opportunity for denouncing them, ha oped into a mania entirely beyond the control or intelligence. In whose interests such exc committed we cannot comprehend. Certainl British interests.

And I am pleased to echo, "Not in Briti ests," if the British understand themselve

To this review by an unquest ableand astute observer, it should in be added that the article of our sentence of which he quotes, elicit more than one leading British resi Yokohama strong public condemn the unfriendly and prejudiced ton ually adopted by our local contem in speaking of Japan or the Japan elicited also protests, in confirm our own assertion, that such a to not truly represent British sentim is repugnant to the feelings of th ity of the British residents. These deserve to be noted, as greatly mi the gravamen of Colonel Coc indictment. With regard to th that the attitude of this journal thing to do with the inveterate shown toward the Japanese by the of our local contemporaries, it is t

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low to deceive any one. Fifteen years ago, when the *Japan Mail* came into the possession of its present editor, the columns of the local foreign press were disfigured, and had for years been disfigured, by precisely the same displays of contempt, dislike, and hostility to the people of the country that disfigured them during the recent war. Their animus is far older than the career of the *Japan Mail* under its present editor, so that if the two things are to stand in any relation of effect and cause, the development of the former must have been prophetical. In truth, there has been a display of the simplest, most unvarying and most untruthful tactics throughout. Time and again have we remonstrated against such mischievous writing, invariably accompanying our remonstrance by a clear declaration that whatever the local press might say in disparagement or dislike of the Japanese, the British community, as a whole, entertained no such sentiments and did not endorse them. The unchanging reply evoked was that, in offering such a remonstrance and setting up such a distinction, we were abusing the British community and endeavouring to betray our own countrymen. How any journalist could have the effrontery to pretend that the British residents were abused or betrayed because their complicity with writing offensive to the Japanese nation and destructive of friendly relations with it was denied, has always been an unanswerable riddle. Leaving that question aside, however, we find it very unfortunate that the men desiring to be fair and friendly—to which category belong certainly seven out of every ten Englishmen—are thrust altogether into the background by the chorus of noisy declaimers who seek to curry public favour by posing as the community's champions, and whose intemperance creates the evil impression described by Colonel COCKERILL. That, however, is probably inevitable. The delivery of "brawling judgments all day long on all things, unabashed," has from time immemorial been characteristic of "blind and naked ignorance whereas" men of sober vision and impartial minds are never brazen-voiced. We must wait patiently for the situation to mend itself. It does, indeed, already show signs of mending. Colonel COCKERILL'S statement that of the four English papers printed in Yokohama, "one only can be said to be in any sense a friend to the Japanese," though doubtless true at the time when it was written, should now be modified to read, "of the four English papers printed in Yokohama, one only continues to display the bitter anti-Japanese bias that has disfigured its utterances for twenty-five years." Colonel COCKERILL will of course be roundly abused for what he has ventured to set forth, but when next he writes to the *New York Herald* he will be able to say that a healthier and more dispassionate tone begins to pervade the local press, and that the bulk of the British residents heartily welcome the improvement, being utterly weary no less of indirect misrepresentation, than of journalism that lives by snarling and detraction.

THE CHEFOO EPISODE AND THE "NORTH CHINA DAILY NEWS."

OUR special correspondent who accompanied the Japanese Plenipotentiary to Chefoo, described, in one of his letters, how the Russian and German vessels-of-war in that port prepared for action as the *Yokohama Maru*, with Mr. ITO MIYOJI, on board, entered the harbour; how the only French ship present, the *Forfait*, took no such measures, and how courteously the British and American naval officers behaved. In speculating on the object of so singular a demonstration by the Russian and German Squadrons, we conjectured that it might possibly have been intended to prevent the exchange of ratifications. The *North China Daily News* undertakes to pulverize our facts and our conjectures, but as that is an operation so frequently essayed by our good *confrères* as to have become rather backneied, we should submit to it in silence did not some historical interest attach to the present case. The Shanghai journal commences the process of reducing us to powder by declaring that everything written by the *Mail* on this particular subject is "nonsense." In other words, it is "nonsense" to pretend that the Russian and German ships prepared for action; it is "nonsense" to allege that their doing so was intended as a demonstration; it is "nonsense" to observe that the failure of the French ships to join in the demonstration was "significant;" and above all, it is "nonsense" to imagine that such a demonstration could have been intended to prevent the exchange of ratifications. Indeed, with regard to the last point, the Shanghai journal is particularly emphatic: "how could this naval movement affect the transaction?" it inquires with well assumed astonishment. It adds, too, that, "as the *Japan Mail* had a special correspondent with the Japanese, it ought to have been better informed." But since the facts in question are precisely those related by our special correspondent, we need not pause to unravel this final riddle of the Shanghai journal. The indictment standing thus, and the *Japan Mail* having been found guilty of talking "nonsense" on the above counts, we proceed to reproduce briefly the correct story as told by the *North China Daily News*. First, we are informed that "what happened was much more than a demonstration;" that "the Russian ships had been preparing for action for days;" and that "the disposal of all movable and combustible gear is a very laborious job, which was not undertaken suddenly merely to give importance to Mr. ITO MIYOJI." It may be remarked *en passant* that not the most shadowy suggestion was ever made by us as to the demonstration's having been intended to give importance to Mr. ITO MIYOJI. But that count in the accusation, being simply a specimen of the controversial artlessness essential to the building up of a just and sound case in East-Asian journalistic polemics, need not detain us. More interesting is the information that Russian ships take several days to prepare for action and find it a very laborious job at that. We frankly plead previous ignorance of the fact that to get ready for performing the prime duty of their existence involves so much time and toil for Russian men-of-war. We are glad to hear it. But, at the same time, since the practice of British ships—with which alone we claim acquaintance—is so very different, we can plead some excuse for our delusion that what the Russian vessels were doing when the *Yokohama Maru* steamed into Chefoo had not been in progress for more than a few hours, and was not an effort commenced several days previously. The Russian Fleet, then, had been long and laboriously putting itself into readiness for fighting when the Japanese Plenipotentiary reached Chefoo. Whom did it contemplate fighting, and about what? We must here be permitted to quote verbatim from the *North China Daily News*:

> Japan had a force ready to launch against the coast of Chihli from Talien and Port Arthur. Mr. Ito had intimated—what indeed Count Ito had already done at Shimonoseki—that any hesitation on the part of China to complete the treaty would be the signal for the despatch of this force. The Russian Admiral had instructions to prevent the landing of the force on Chinese soil. If therefore the ratifications had not been exchanged on the 8th May, and Mr. Ito had left Chefoo and the Japanese had kept their word, the transports and their escort would have started on the 9th, the Russian fleet would have run out of Chefoo and stopped them, and there would have been a naval battle in the Gulf of Pechili.

These are exceedingly solid assertions. "The Russian Admiral had instructions." There is no question of any of the vicarious methods adopted by an editor when he wishes to avoid full responsibility for a statement. We find no qualifying preface, such as "it is said," or "we learn on good authority," or "it is an open secret." Plainly and squarely our contemporary announces that "the Russian Admiral had instructions." Those instructions were to run out of Chefoo and engage the Japanese Fleet if it attempted to convoy transports bound for Chinese shores. Although wrapped in the unassuming guise of an editorial note these allegations are so very interesting and important that they deserve expansion. Japan, in the sequel of an ever-victorious war, had concluded a treaty of peace with China. Chefoo had been fixed as the place for exchanging ratifications. Japan had clearly intimated to China—as was natural and inevitable—that if the latter failed to ratify the treaty, belligerent operations would be resumed.

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Thereupon the Russian Government ordered the powerful squadron assembled by it in Eastern waters to proceed to Chefoo; to be there in readiness for action at the time fixed for the exchange of ratifications; to watch the progress of the exchange, and in the event of China's breaking faith with Japan and Japan's attempting to assert her rights, to put to sea, attack the Japanese fleet, and if possible blow it out of the water together with any transports under its convoy. Did the Russian Admiral receive such instructions? Was he acting in obedience to them when he undertook the "laborious job" of getting his ships ready for action in Chefoo? Are we to understand that the Russian Government deliberately made preparations to protect China by force of arms against the consequences of violating her solemn engagement to Japan? If these are, indeed, the facts of the case, it is then beyond all question that the presence of the Russian ships in Chefoo and their preparations for action constituted an emphatic invitation to the Chinese to refrain from exchanging the ratifications of the treaty. The treaty contained many provisions irksome and humiliating to China. Nothing could possibly have pleased her better than to be relieved from the necessity of implementing it. The Russian ships had orders to protect her against Japanese reprisals in the event of her refusal to implement it. Therefore, according to the *North China Daily News*, the Russian Fleet's proceedings were deliberately and publicly designed to encourage a breach of promise on China's part. Yet the *Japan Mail* is accused of writing "nonsense" because it conjectured that something of the kind might have been the case.

Another point calls for explanation. The German ships cleared for action at the same time as the Russian. Was their commanding officer, also, under orders to run out of Chefoo and attack the Japanese men-of-war and transports if they attempted to hold China to her promise? And the French ship, why did not she get ready to support her allied consorts? Was France's association with Germany and Russia limited to purely pacific representations? Above all, we should like to know why, if Russia and Germany were prepared to defend China by arms in the event of her refusal to exchange the ratifications of the treaty, why did they not forbid its ratification. The procedure assigned to them by the Shanghai journal was a kind of happy-go-lucky policy. If China exchanged ratifications, well, it could not be helped; if she did not, then she should receive full assistance to carry out her programme of faithlessness. A fine white light, in truth, does our Shanghai contemporary throw upon the doings of the two great Powers. However, the story belongs to the *North China Daily News*. We can not contradict it not being ourselves acquainted with the orders issued to either the Russian Admiral or the German commanding officer. If those gentlemen disclosed their instructions to our Shanghai contemporary in order to vindicate their Chefoo proceedings, they have been more confiding than discreet. But we do not believe that they did disclose them, neither do we believe the Shanghai journal's tale.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[Our readers must distinctly understand that we are in no sense responsible for the sentiments or opinions of our correspondents, for the accuracy of their assertions, or for the deductions they may choose to draw therefrom.]

IS HE A TYPE?

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—An American journalist named E. W. Barrett has sent to a San Francisco newspaper a very minute and particular account of the battle at Tienchwangtai, on March 10th, which he describes as if all the facts were within his personal knowledge. As most of his statements are absolutely at variance with all reports of the same battle elsewhere published, and as I, in common with my countrymen in general, desire to learn the exact truth, I beg to ask him a few questions concerning his description, and I trust that, as an honourable man, he will not refuse to reply.

Mr. Barrett asserts, not as a rumour, but as a proved and indisputable fact, that "fourteen hundred Chinese were killed" at Tienchwangtai, and "only one wounded Chinamen was taken prisoner." I ask him how he knows this? He will not pretend that he was there. Has he ever spoken with any person who was present? Where do his figures come from? He will confer a favour if he will produce any reliable authority for his accusation.

He declares that a "butchery" took place "equalling the atrocities at Port Arthur." Putting aside Port Arthur, on what ground does he declare that any "butchery" occurred at Tienchwangtai? Can he bring forward a particle of sound evidence to support his charge?

He states that "after bayoneting the wounded on the field, the Japanese entered the town and killed every Chinaman who offered resistance." Again I ask, what testimony has he to substantiate this assertion?

"Letters from eye-witnesses," says Mr. Barrett, "describe the butchery as horrible." Will Mr. Barrett be good enough to produce these letters? Will he give a single one of them? He is ready enough to proclaim their existence. I call upon him to print a single authentic example.

Mr. Barrett is profuse in comparisons between the Japanese and Indian savages. "The wounded," he says, "were dispatched on the field in the American Indian style." Does he mean that they were scalped? Whatever he means, let him disclose his authority. "The Custer massacre"—a memorable event in the Indian wars—"was not," he affirms, "more horrible than the slaughter of Chinese by Japanese at Tienchwangtai." "It (the battle) demonstrated that the soldiers of both Oriental races are as bloodthirsty and as brutal as the American Indians." Mr. Barrett is very positive. There is no qualification in his language. He should, then, have no difficulty in presenting the details of his "demonstration." His statements are, presumably, based upon *something*. Having done what he could to disgrace the reputation of my countrymen and degrade them to the "bloodthirsty" and "brutal" level of American Indians, it is at least his duty to make public the source on which he relies for his arraignment.

Will he do this? *Can* he do it? Are there any trustworthy proofs of the stories he has told in the San Francisco journal? Looking at other parts of his letter, in which he sums up the character of the Japanese people with as much assurance as if he had devoted years of residence here to profound study and social investigation, and, while yet an utter stranger, delivers judgments which could only be justified by long and careful inquiry,—looking at these features of his effusion, I confess to doubts of his desire or purpose to be accurate in any particular. "The civilization of Japan," remarks Mr. Barrett, "has been over estimated." "The element of barbarism has not been eradicated in the lower classes." Has Mr. Barrett qualified himself by observation to measure the extent of our civilization? Let us examine. Upon inquiring at the Grand Hotel, I was informed that Mr. Barrett arrived in Japan f the first time on April 15th, 1895. The lett from which I have quoted is dated April 25t 1895. Ten days represent the limit of t research which enables this gentleman to d fine the civilization of a race he has nev before encountered. Ten days in Yokohama, an possibly in Tokyo or its neighbourhood, suppl him all the material required to gauge the min and souls of forty millions of people. I ca afford to let that part of his performance stand o its own merits. But as to his attempts to give t old tales of "atrocities," "bloodthirsty slaughter and "brutal butchery" a new setting of his own and wantonly prolong a prejudice which was or ginally instigated with the basest and meane motives, what can be said? Nothing by him, make sure; for he knows full well that not a sing one of his injurious allegations is built upon ac foundation of certified fact,

Yours truly,
A JAPANESE.

June, 19th, 1895.

P.S.—I am informed that Mr. Barrett's lette has been copied into a prominent New York pape This certainly will not lessen his offence in th estimation of any Japanese reader.

To Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—When a resident foreigner shields himse behind the cloak of "A Japanese," to write newspaper card attempting to discredit a fello newspaper correspondent with the Japanese people he is unworthy of a reply. Yet in your issue o yesterday, by producing garbled extracts from garbled report of what I did write to my ow paper, the *Atlanta Constitution*, which was printe in other American newspapers, this foreign "A Japanese" attempts to place me in bad odou with the Japanese people.

In the first place, Mr. Editor, it must be remem bered that the American Correspondent does no write his own headlines.

In my article about the fight at Tienchwangta I did not intimate that I was there. I had onl been in Japan a few days when I wrote it. Th statement of what I believed to be facts were take from the *Japan Mail* of April 20th and from a article in the *North China Daily News* of a previou date.

With the bare exceptions of comparisons I made the offer of extenuating circumstances for th Japanese soldiers aroused by the butchery o their comrades by Chinese, and some comment upon the character of the people of Japan derive from residents, every statement of fact made i my article was taken either from the *Mail* or th *News*. I quoted the *Mail's* article almost *in toto* and gave all it quoted from its correspondent o the field. I quoted the Japanese officer, quoted i the *Mail*, who said that "in the course of th Tienchwangtai fight his men surrounded a house containing 20 Chinese, who refusing to surrende and fighting to the last, had to be killed." Th same officer described that "in the town of Tien chwangtai, the Japanese as they entered houses were fired upon from lofts and cellars, and unde such circumstances it was practically inevitable that everyone in the house should be killed."

Thus I quoted the *Mail* correspondent in hi statement that, "In this kind of warfare the soldiers' blood is soon up, and it become almost impossible to restrain them. They trea their wounded enemies as a man treats a wound ed snake, killing it before he gives it a chance t strike. The Japanese must not be judged too harshly if they have not in all cases been able t attain the high ideal they set before themselves i the conduct of the present war."

In my article I gave all sides, and had every reason to believe it correct. In my comments I said, "As a matter of fact, while the officers a the Japanese army, the government officials, and the higher classes of the people are thoroughly educated, civilized, and of a high type of the human race: while they have acquired refined instincts and are indeed an advanced and cultivated people, the element of barbarism has not yet been entirely expunged from the lower classes; and in cases like the above it will crop out, so to speak, in the common soldiers of the army, just as it does with our Indians, who, educated at eastern schools return to their native homes and in many cases relapse into barbarism. And again, when they remember the cruelties which have been practised upon the few of their comrades who have been captured by the Chinese enemy, it is but human nature to retaliate in kind."

But it is useless to continue this discussion. I came to Japan to write of its progress in every respect, of its people, and of its future. I came to write the truth without fear or favour. If I have

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been uniformed or have made misstatements no man could be more willing or eager to correct them.

The Japanese gentlemen whom I have met through kind letters from Minister Kurino in Washington have been extremely generous in their attentions to me, and if my series of letters on Japan are read here I am confident that each and every one well decide that I am at least an impartial critic.

If they but knew the purely personal motives which inspired "A Japanese" to vent his malice upon me behind the cloak of a *nom de plume* or the personality of a genuine native, I am sure no Japanese gentleman would give a second thought to it.

In conclusion, Mr. Editor, I hope that my full series of letters upon Japan will find their way here. When examined as a whole, I am sure they will be considered fair. E. W. BARRETT.

June 26th, 1895.

THE BLIND.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Every one living in Japan has seen the large number of blind people, and yet few have given any thought to their need and welfare. Two schools for the education of the blind have been established by the Japanese, but the accommodations are so limited and the expense so great that only a comparatively few have derived any benefit from them.

In view of the great need of this afflicted class Mrs. Gideon Draper, of Yokohama, opened a school for the Blind in November, 1892, and has continued it until the present time. It now numbers thirty pupils, and has four teachers.

The course of instruction includes the art of reading by the use of the Braille or Point System, the practice of massage, acupuncture, music, &c. All the pupils support themselves by work at night and attend the various classes during the day.

This far, Mrs. Draper has carried on this work without the aid of the public. But it has now grown to such dimensions that she feels obliged to ask for assistance in the support of this noble and most worthy enterprise. All that is needed is the sum necessary for outfit, rent, and the salary of the teachers.

Yours, etc., H. LOOMIS.

P.S.—Mrs. Draper's address is care of Miss Brittan, No. 2, Bluff.

June 27th, 1895.

PHALLICISM IN JAPAN.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Though Z.'s second letter does not call for any extended reply, it may be well to remove some misconceptions that those who do not see Mr. Buckley's pamphlet may receive.

Z., who considers the subject one "for learned societies to discuss," says, "But the ex-Doshisha teacher prints his pseudo-critic trash in a cheap pamphlet of a few pages, offered under missionary auspices, to the general public by newspaper announcement,—a cheap pamphlet to prove that Shinto is a religion of brothels!" The title-page of the essay shows it to be "A Dissertation Presented to the Faculty of Arts, Literature, and Sciences, of the University of Chicago;" while the preface says: "The circumscription in the circulation of an academic monograph renders admissible a detail and frankness in the treatment of phallicism which would be inadmissible in work destined for the general public." And yet Z. declares that this pamphlet addressed to a learned faculty and professing to be unsuited to the general public has been offered to that public *under missionary auspices* as a "cowardly and artful" attack "to prove that Shinto is a religion of brothels." Without stopping to ask what kind of an attack this is or what is its object, it may not be too much to ask on what foundation it rests. Unless this also is one of the matters on which Z.'s knowledge "is not for the present at the service of everybody who asks for it," he may be willing to give the names of the missionaries and the newspapers. He may have seen advertisements or other announcements that have not come under my observation; but, outside of the present correspondence, the only newspaper notice I have happened to see was the *Japan Mail's* letter from "W.E.G.," who is not a missionary.

Mr. Buckley does not claim, as "Z.," perhaps by a slip of the pen, says, to have seen a phallic festival in Yamada. The one described was in Kanda.

Twice in his second letter, as once in the first, Z. has put in quotation marks, as though it were sentence of Mr. Buckley's, "Show me your man, I will show you his God." The sentence does not appear in the pamphlet, but is made up from parts of one in a paragraph which, instead of being condemnatory, is apologetic. Unfortunately, the paragraph is too long to quote and thus fully show that the words have a meaning much different from that ascribed to them. In it Mr. Buckley, who evidently believes in a gradual evolution of religious ideas from lower to higher forms, says: "The challenge of the skeptic; 'Show me your God,' must be met by the answer alike of Christian, philosopher, and anthropologist: 'Show me your man.' There was a stage in man's mental progress when God could be revealed to or constructed by man best—that is most intelligibly and impressively—as phallos and kteis." Here again there is no evidence of the motives that the critic attributes to the author whose words he has rearranged and misconstrued.

The question whether Mr. Buckley's collection was kept in the Doshisha is of no importance. Under the restrictions which in other institutions are placed upon such objects, there is no reason why they should not be in the Museum of Comparative Religion, which, however, was not opened until Mr. Buckley returned to America. As to the facts, I find on inquiry of the four professors most likely to know, that they agree with me in feeling confident that the objects were never kept anywhere in the Doshisha.

Yours respectfully, OTIS CARY.

Kyoto, June 24, 1895.

ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE EVANGELICAL ASSOCIATION IN JAPAN.

This body, which is composed of 19 ministers, missionaries and native pastors, met for the Third Annual Conference in the Kiecker Memorial Church, Tsukiji, Tokyo, at 8.30 a.m, on the 20th of June, and continued in session for three days, holding both morning and afternoon sittings. In the evening religious services were held. The disciplinary presiding officer of the Conference was Bishop Esher, of Chicago, U.S.A., but in his absence the Secretary, Rev. G. E. Dienst opened with devotional exercises, after which he called the Conference to order, and Rev. F. W. Voegelein was unanimously elected President. The Rev. G. E. Dienst, was appointed Secretary, and chose for assistants Rev. T. Hirakawa, and Rev. F. C. Keitz. The President continued the devotional exercises, and when the regular business was begun appointed the seven standing committees and several special committees. These made their reports during the session and had their work approved. The principal were the Committee on Boundaries, on Letters, on Quarterly Conference Records, on Statistics, on Sunday and Temperance Observance, on Worship, etc. The questions on Church Discipline were then presented by the President and the necessary answers and business transacted. During the year the work has progressed favourable in spite of the war fever and other difficulties, the future prospects are encouraging. One minister made application to enter the employ of the Conference and was temporarily received during the year. At the Conference session two young men, who had just graduated from the Theological Seminary of the Church, made application for license to preach, and were duly commissioned according to the usage of the Church to preach the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ.

An event of great interest to all the Conference members, as well as to the Churches in Tokyo, was the return of Rev. H. M. Toyama to Japan. This preacher went to America ten years ago as a young boy, but with the ambition and determination to acquire a liberal education. After passing through various trying experiences, he succeeded in obtaining his longed for wish and was able to enter North Western College, where he graduated with honours in the Classical Course and followed this up with a complete Theological Course. Having completed his studies, he returned to Japan on the steamer *China* on her last voyage, and was present at the Conference sessions, where he rendered valuable services. He will have charge of the Kanda Church during the coming year.

The total number of preachers assigned to work at the Conference session is 21, and these are augmented by 3 students of the Theological Seminary, who enter the active ranks for one year as a means of training before completing the final year of their theological course. A committee of three were appointed to revise the language of the translated discipline of the Church, and to bring it into harmony with the recent changes made by the law-making body of the Church, the General Conference. As that body again meets in the State of Illinois, U.S.A., in the fall of this year, the Conference elected one delegate to represent it in that body. Rev. F. W. Fisher was chosen to the position.

The Conference is interested in the publishing and support of a bi-weekly religious paper called *Fukuin-no-Tsukai*, of which the Rev. G. E. Dienst is Missionary Editor, and Rev. M. K. Uyeno, Japanese Editor.

New work was taken up in two portions of Tokyo, one in Shiba Ku, and another in Fukagawa Ku. When these two points are established and churches formed, the Conference will have eight churches in Tokyo.

The statistical report compiled by the Conference Statistical Secretary, Rev. F. C. Neitz, shows an increase in membership during the past year, the total membership now being 727. The number of Sunday School scholars has decreased somewhat. One new church was erected during the year in Idzu province, and the body increased by two new societies. A slight falling off in the average per member of contributions to church work and benevolences is found, but the actual decrease of all monies from last year was only 15.00 *yen*. The total of moneys contributed during the year was in round numbers 1,000.00 *yen*. The disbursements of the Conference including the aid received from the Mission Board amounted to about 3,000 *yen*, but in the coming year will approximate 3,500.

During the session Rev. J. W. Wadman, of the M. E. Publishing House, and the Revs. Miyami and Ukai of the M. E. Church, visited the Conference and made addresses. Suitable resolutions on Temperance, Sabbath Observance, Home Training, and kindred topics were passed, and a committee was also appointed to investigate the provisions of the law with reference to the holding of Church property by Conference Trustees. At the close of the session a vote of thanks to the honoured President of the Conference, Rev. F. W. Voegelein, and also to the Secretaries Rev. G. E. Dienst, and Rev. T. Hirakawa were given. The Sunday Services concluded the work of the Conference, and at the Missionary Meeting held on that day, the Missionaries and native pastors and people together subscribed 175 *yen* to the Conference Missionary Society for the coming year. The appointments of the Missionaries are: in Tokyo, Rev. F. W. Voegelein, Presiding Elder and Director of Theological Seminary, Rev. F. W. Fischer, Treas. and General Missionary, Rev G. E. Dienst, Secretary and Principal of Theological Seminary, Rev. J. I. Seder, General Missionary, and in Osaka, Rev. F. C. Neitz, Missionary.

SIGNORINA BELINFANTE'S CONCERT.

A surfeit of good things was provided at the Concert given in the Public Hall on Thursday evening, when Signorina Estrella Belinfante, made her first appearance in Yokohama, yet there was no feeling of satiety when the programme ended, shortly after eleven o'clock. The hall was well filled, and the audience were not long in demonstrating their appreciation of Signorina Belinfante's delightful singing. She possesses a contralto voice of wide range and great flexibility: her middle notes are wonderfully pure and rich in their sweet liquidity; but the lower are rather disappointing, with an occasional harshness, and the high ones displayed lack of sustained strength. But in thus criticising Mascagni's one-time pupil we do not wish to depreciate the charm which is inherent in her singing, nor to soar into the hypercritical. The opening number was a trio, an Andante of Mendelssohn, and though faithfully given by Mrs. McIvor, Mr. Kaufmann, and Mr. Schmid proved rather tame and dull in comparison with some trios which they have presented here. Signorina Belinfante's first effort was a *scena* from Gounod's "Faust," "Quante a te I.uta," with cello obligato by Mr. Schmid. A charming piece of composition, the singer did full justice to its melodious chords, and as the last notes trembled upon the air, the audience broke into an enthusiastic expression of its delight. The songstress was recalled, but would only bow her thanks. Herr A. Kaufmann followed. He is a newcomer to the Far East, and his first appearance aroused considerable curiosity. Needless to say he made a most encouraging entry on the local concert platform, the light baritone pleasing the most fastidious critics. His selection was a song of Wagner's, and was correctly rendered. An English song, "Daddy," which Signorina Belinfante's next contributed, secured a determined *encore*, and this time she kindly complied with the request of the house and gave a dainty Italian song entitled "Lucia." In Italian opera Signorina Belinfante would evidently find her *forte*: it would be much more congenial to her voice and style than the concert-

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room—at least that was the impression which she left on many minds last evening—and in this encore piece she gave a splendid exhibition of her powers in this direction. The Aria from "Forza del Destino" (Verdi), by Mr. Braccialini was the fifth number on the programme, and was given in his best style. It goes without saying that this piece evoked thunders of applause, and the audience were greatly disappointed at Mr. Braccialini's resolve not to take the *encore*. The concluding item of the first half was given by Signorina Belinfante: a song from Gluck's "Orfeo." It was redemanded, and in reply the singer gave Tosti's "Prayer." Both these songs were exquisite gems of vocalization.

In the second half the same artists appeared again and several *encores* were demanded. In response to a recall for his song, "Das Zauberlied," Mr. Kaufmann gave Schumann's "Ich grolle nicht." Signorina Belinfante gave "The Valley by the Sea," Adams' well-known ballad, in answer to a recall for a song from "Mignon;" and Mr. Schmid eclipsed himself in the *encore* which he gave to his cello solo. The *encore* piece was David Popert's "Gavotte," and proved to the full the high standard of excellence to which Mr. Schmid has attained upon his difficult instrument. Mr. Braccialini contented himself with bowing his thanks for the recall accorded his rendering of "Salve Dimora," though he had to come back twice. The concert concluded with the Death-song of Elaine, the music of Guido Papini being set to Tennyson's immortal words. In all verity it seemed as if the Signorina had kept her best till the last. The setting of the music is as lofty as the theme is noble, and the singer fully realised the aim of both musician and poet. During the evening she had been presented with baskets and bouquets of flowers, but the reception accorded her last song was more than flattering. In Yokohama we have contracted the habit of rising from our seats to leave the hall almost before the last performer has time to make an exit from the platform, but on Thursday evening so great was the spell thrown over the house that everyone remained in their seats and applauded till the singer returned again. The accompanists during the evening were Mrs. McIvor and Mrs. Poole, and great praise is due to them for the way in which they discharged an arduous though pleasing duty. The following was the programme:—

PART I.

1.—Andante of Trio No. 1.....Mendelssohn.
Mrs. McIvor, Mr. Kaufmann, and Mr. Schmid.
2.—Quanto a te Lute, "Faust".....Gounod.
Cello Obligato by Mr. Schmid. Signa. Belinfante.
3.—O du mein holder Abendstern, "Tannhauser" R. Wagner.
Mr. A. Kaufmann.
4.—Daddy.....A. Behrend.
Signa. Belinfante.
5.—Aria from "Forza del Destino".....Verdi.
Sigr. Braccialini.
6.—Che faro senz Entidice, "Orfeo".....Gluck.
Signa. Belinfante.

PART II.

7.—Das Zauberlied.....E. Meyer Helmund.
Mr. A. Kaufmann.
8.—Air.....Goltermann.
Mr. Schmid.
9.—Non conosci il bel suol. "Mignon".....Thomas.
Signa. Belinfante.
10.—Salve Dimora.....Faust".....Gounod.
Sigr. Braccialini.
11.—Elaine, (words by Tennyson).....Guido Papini.
Obligato for Violin, Mr. Kaufmann. Signa. Belinfante.

CRICKET.

YOKOHAMA VERSUS THE FLEET.

Yokohama played its first representative match on Saturday, Mr. A. B. Walford captaining an eleven against a team sent from H.M.S. *Undaunted* and *Leander*. Notwithstanding the absence of Crawford, White, E. B. S. Edwards, and Harries, the local eleven were far too strong a combination for the sailors, Dickinson, Denne, and Murray knocking up 193, against the Fleet's 44. The Fleet went in to bat first, Pearson and Reinold facing the bowling of Philip and Murray. Reinold was the first to go, being caught at point by Denne during Philip's second over. Runs came slowly, the fielding of the local eleven being very smart. Three men were dismissed for 15, four for 19. Pound, who went in next, stayed some time and the score rose to 27: then he was held by Denne off Murray. Slowly the score mounted, till 42 was registered, seven wickets were the down and the end was near. Donkin, the ninth man in, added a single, and the last for his side, the tenth man being bowled before breaking his duck. Dickinson and Tyng opened for Yokohama, and the latter succumbed to the third ball sent down by Borthwick. Denne then joined Dickinson and runs soon began to come. Change after change was made in the bowling, but with no effect, Denne treating one and all in the same easy style. He sent three balls over the fence, two in succession on the leg side. Denne had scored 51—including 3 fives and 3 fours—when Compton bowled him. Dickinson meanwhile had not been idle, the score standing at 95 when Denne left. Murray filled the vacancy, and although he gave several chances remained in till 200 was reached, when Walford decided to close the innings. Murray's 67 not out, included 10 fours, and 3 threes: Dickinson's 75 not out, 8 threes, and 35 singles. The Fleet in their second innings sent in Noble and Vaughan, who made 43, not out. Scores:—

THE FLEET.

	1ST INNINGS.	2ND INNINGS.
Mr. H. B. Pearson, b. Philip	9	
Mr. H. O. Reinold, c. Denne, b. Philip	1	
Mr. E. M. Hale, run out	2	
Mr. L. H. Coxon, c. Murray	1	
Rev. E. R. Borthwick, b. Walford	9	
Mr. A. D. Pound, c. Denne, b. Murray	8	
Mr. F. S. Rising, b. Murray	0	
Mr. E. B. Noble, b. Walford	8	not out ... 22
Mr. C. F. Donkin, c. Libeaud, b. Murray	1	
Mr. J. A. Vaughan, not out	0	not out ... 6
Mr. W. B. Compton, b. Walford	0	
b. 6, l.b. 5	11	b. 8, l.b. 1, w. 5 ... 14
	44	42

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

	1ST INNINGS. B.	R.	M.	W.	B.	2ND INNINGS. R.	M.	W.	WIDES.
Mr. Murray	75	19	9	4	25	3	2	0	0
Mr. Philip	60	19	3	4	45	4	6	0	0
Mr. Walford	25	2	1	3	30	10	1	0	0
Mr. Denne	0	0	0	0	25	5	2	0	0
Mr. Bugbird	0	0	0	0	30	7	2	0	0

YOKOHAMA.

Rev. T. S. Tyng, b. Borthwick	0
Mr. H. V. Dickinson, not out	75
Mr. F. Denne, b. Compton	51
Mr. Murray, not out	67
Mr. A. B. Walford	
Mr. L. J. Healing	
Mr. C. R. Johnson	Did not bat.
Mr. F. H. Bugbird	Innings declared closed.
Mr. E. O. Kenyon	
Mr. G. Philip	
Mr. E. J. Libeaud	
b. 5, l.b. 2, w. 2	7
	200

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

	B.	R.	M.	W.	WIDES.
Mr. Borthwick	30	25	0	0	2
Mr. Reinold	30	36	0	0	0
Mr. Compton	36	37	2	1	0
Mr. Pearson	30	30	0	0	0
Mr. Vaughan	30	24	0	0	0
Mr. Hall	30	24	1	0	0
Mr. Rising	18	18	0	0	1
Mr. Donkin	15	9	0	0	0

MR. DODDS' TWELVE VERSUS MR. KENYON'S TWELVE.

A pick-up game was played on Wednesday afternoon, the teams, captained respectively by Mr. Dodds and Mr. Kenyon, comprising many visitors from Her Majesty's Fleet. The wicket was heavy, making the balls hang, and bowlers had it much their own way. Mr. Dodds' team were all dismissed for 37, the Captain alone getting into double figures. On Mr. Kenyon's side, Mr. Compton was the best scorer, putting together a well-played 33. Rain stopped play about 5 o'clock when there were still five wickets to fall. Scores:—

MR. DODDS' TWELVE.

Rev. T. S. Tyng b. Compton	3
Mr. Vaughan, b. Blount	0
Mr. Coxon, c. Edwards, b. Compton	0
Mr. Kingdon run out	1
Mr. Pound, c. Blount, b. Compton	5
Mr. A. S. Garfit, c. Allenby, b. Blount	7
Mr. Eyshe, b. Compton	3
Mr. G. Dodds, b. Compton	10
Mr. Horne, c. Johnson, b. Blount	7
Mr. Rymer, c. Kenyon, b. Blount	1
Mr. Shaw, not out	0
Mr. Kilby, b. Compton	0
Byes	1
	37

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

	B.	R.	M.	W.
Mr. Blount	52	21	1	4
Mr. Compton	8	8	5	6

MR. KENYON'S TWELVE.

Mr. Keary, c. Coxon, b. Horne	0
Mr. Noble, c. Pound, b. Vaughan	10
Mr. Compton, b. Pound	33
Mr. Allenby, b. Pound	14
Mr. Blount, c. Coxon, b. Kingdon	6
Mr. Johnson, not out	0
Mr. H. Tennant, c. Pound, b. Kingdon	0
Mr. Collum, not out	0
Mr. Donkin	
Mr. Edwards	Did not bat.
Mr. Tyng	
Mr. Kenyon	
Byes	11
	74

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

	B.	R.	M.	W.
Mr. Horne	50	18	2	1
Mr. Vaughan	60	28	—	1
Mr. Kingdon	35	8	2	2
Mr. Pound	30	5	2	2

Since 1888 the Malay Peninsula, according to M. Murtelet, has supplied nearly 30,000 tons of tin, or more than half of the world's total production. England has furnished 9,000 tons; Australia, 6,500 tons; America, Tasmania, and the rest of Europe, 3,000 tons.

HAKODATE.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

Hakodate, June 19th.

There are at present nine sealing schooners lying in harbour, seven from Victoria, B.C., and two Japanese schooners fitted out from Hakodate. The British schooner *Mascott*, Captain E. Lorenz, arrived here on the 15th inst. with 787 seal skins. She carries a crew of 19 men, 6 Europeans and 13 Indians. On the 16th June, the British schooner *Carlotta G. Cox*, Captain C. J. Harris, put in with 906 skins. She was followed on the same day by the British schooner *Geneva*, Capt. W. S. O'Leary with 1,137 skins. On the 17th inst. late at night the British schooner *Vera*, and the American schooner *Ida Etta* came in. The former, Capt. William Shields has 853 skins, and the latter, Capt. W. O. Hughes, has 575 skins. The 18th instant brought in two more boats, the British schooner *E. B. Marvin*, Captain W. D. Byers, with 946 skins, and the *Agnes Macdonald*, Captain M. P. Cutter, also British, with 710 skins. The Japanese schooners are the *Chishima Maru No. I.*, Captain W. Edelmaier, with 539 skins, and the *Chishima Maru No. III.* Captain Thompson, with 895 skins, and they carry Japanese crews with Bonin Island hunters.

The above schooners more or less report one another, but no casualties except the stranding of the *Rosie Olsen*. This vessel was a British schooner, under the command of Captain A. Whidden, and went ashore, on Sunday morning at 3 p.m. At the time of the accident it was blowing strong from the S.E. and the weather was thick with rain. The place where she struck was about two miles S.E. by S. from Low Island, in Tsugaru Straits and about 22 miles from Hakodate. The crew, composed of six foreigners and 18 Indians from Vancouver, landed the skins (627 in number), guns, and a few of her stores. The captain with three men then boarded the British schooner *Geneva* which passed the place about 9 a.m., and came on to Hakodate in her, where, after reporting the matter at the Consulate, a small steamer was chartered, and with two surveyors and a Custom House Officer, returned to the vessel on Monday morning. She was found to be lying on her port side and was full of water on a hard rocky bottom. Her whole starboard side was stove in and a large part of the keel was on the beach, the sea breaking continually over her. As nothing could be done, the survey party returned at 9 p.m. with the crew, boats, canoes, skins, and whatever the crew had been able to salve. The surveyors recommended that she be sold at the earliest opportunity. The date of the sale has now been fixed for the 21st of June at 10 a.m. The Captain and seven canoes will go out to the Behring Sea in the *Agnes MacDonald*, and the other two canoes will go in the *Mascott*, both of these schooners being now here. It is supposed that the vessel was cast ashore through a strong S. E. current, as the course that was being steered at the time should have taken the vessel at least six miles North of Low Island. This current is well known to local coasting captains, and a strong eddy is met when rounding the north point of Low Island. Much sympathy is felt here for Captain Whidden on account of his loss, and, as verifying the proverb that misfortunes never come singly, he learnt on his arrival here of the death of his father. To-day it is blowing strong with heavy rain, and if this weather continues it is feared that not much of the wreck of the *Rosie Olsen* will remain for Friday's sale.

AUSTRALIA AND JAPAN.

BY JOHN PLUMMER, M.J.S.

Sydney, May 23.

The threatened interference on the part of Russia with the conditions of peace imposed by Japan occasioned no little uneasiness in Australia, by reason of the grave possibilities which its would inevitably create. Australians have no desire to find Russia possessing within striking distance of these shores a port open all the year round, and it was instinctively felt that this was the real object of the not wholly unexpected move by the Russian Government. The situation was largely discussed in the Australian papers, and throughout the numerous articles and letters appearing from time to time the sympathy of the Australians with the cause of Japan was unmistakeably apparent. There existed a general impression that if the struggle were confined to Japan and Russia alone, the chances were that the former would be enabled to give a good account of herself. On this point the *Australian Star* remarked that—"Flushed

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with victory, and with a navy reinforced by purchase and by conquest, Japan has serious doubts of Russian ability to carry out this threat. The Japanese fleet is now much more powerful than the Russian force in the Pacific, while on land the Russian base is separated from the scene of operations in Korea and Manchuria by the whole width of Siberia, as yet unspanned by the Russian railway. Thus Japan would be in a position to meet Russia either on land or sea with every prospect of success, and this new first-class power is not likely to allow the fruit of its brilliantly won victories to be snatched from its hands without a death struggle." "But," continued the *Star*, "such a struggle would be bound to involve other nations. France and Germany both have Oriental ambitions, the one territorial the other commercial, and these ambitions are threatened by the marvellous resurrection of Japan. On the other hand, Great Britain has interests, territorial and commercial, opposed to those of France, Germany, and Russia. It is true that Japan also threatens to become her commercial rival, but British statesmen have long been on the watch for an effective ally in the East. This ally Viscount Wolseley and others thought had been discovered in China. Events have proved the impotence of China, as at present organised, either to help or harm British interests in Asia. The obvious ally of England against at least Russian and French aggression is the great insular power of Japan, and if the Russian navy attempts the blockade of Japan the roar of the first discharge of the big guns may awaken sulphurous echoes in every continent and on every sea." The Melbourne *Argus* expressed an opinion that in the event of a conflict the success of Russia was by no means absolutely certain. "Japan," said the paper in question, "has two advantages that are not possessed by Russia. Her officers and men have had recent experience of naval warfare, and know well how to use both their ships and their guns, whereas Russia has never yet been tried at sea; and in this respect is altogether "a dark horse." The Japanese also have the great advantage of having their ports and harbours close at hand, whereas Russia has no available port to which her ships can resort in case of necessity. Weighing the respective advantages of the two fleets, it seems probable that in the end the advantage would rest with whichever was most cleverly handled and showed the best seamanship and the greatest skill in the use of naval artillery, points on which we are at present quite in the dark."

The non-interference of England in the dispute has been favourably regarded in all the Australian colonies. The Melbourne *Age* says:—"England in refusing to join the protesting Powers seems to have acted wisely. It is a matter of indifference to her whether China or Japan rules in Manchuria. Under the new treaty England would share any commercial concessions which China yields to Japan, for provision was made in the Anglo-Chinese treaty of 1883, by the insertion of the most favoured nation clause, to meet such a contingency. She therefore secures an actual gain under the Chino-Japanese treaty. If, however, she were to join the three protesting Powers, and Japan were to persevere in her refusal to yield to their demands as to the cession of Chinese territory, England would be forced to destroy the Japanese fleet, and thus indirectly strengthen the position of Russia, who is doubtless only too ready to take advantage of the present weakness of China to seize a slice or two of her territory. Let us suppose that Japan, frightened at the menacing attitude of Russia, were to agree to help her to seize a Korean port, and to acquire a route for her trans-Siberian railway across Manchuria, what would be the position of England? Could she look on and see Russia become a strong Power on the Pacific coast without fears for her commerce and her Empire in India? It is difficult to see how England could have interfered with any advantage to herself or without helping Russia in her ambitious designs." In like manner the *Sydney Morning Herald* remarks that, "The interests of Great Britain fortify her in her policy of non-interference. It is to the credit of her statesmen that they have seen in time that which Germany and France are only beginning to see. The German commercial interests in the Far East are large, and the *République Française* perceives that France is in danger of losing an excellent position in Japan. England has not made this error. She has in no way jeopardised her free entry to the markets of the Far East, or impaired the strength of her position secured by judicious diplomatic-service in the past. In the commercial rivalry on which the world is about to enter, it is better for England and her dependencies to have the dominant Eastern Power for a friend than for an enemy, and there is no apparent reason why this position and its contingent advantages should be sacrificed in the interests of Russia."

That Japan should have listened to the counsel of England, and relinquished her undoubted right, if she chose to insist upon it, to the cession of a portion of Chinese territory, has not lowered the Japanese Government in the estimation of Australians; they have regarded it rather as a proof that Japan possesses a clear perception of existing circumstances and future probabilities, and recognises the fact that she has simply to bide her time, remaining content with the substantial fruits—in the shape of a huge war indemnity—of her recent victories. The Melbourne *Age*, referring to the changed attitude of affairs, says:—"Japan may be heartily congratulated on having accepted the friendly advice of England. Count Ito and his colleagues thoroughly appreciate the friendly feelings England has always entertained towards their country, the latest instance of which was the completion of the treaty of July last, by which Japan was fully recognised as a civilised Power, and upon the same plane as the nations of Western Europe. Of course the cession of Manchuria and the permanent possession of Port Arthur would have been gratifying to the Island Empire as the first fruits of its rise to the rank of a Power entitled to command respectful attention, but the disappointment will be compensated for by an increase in the war indemnity which Japan has every right to claim. Nor need Japan grieve for the loss of possessions on the mainland. Surely Formosa is no mean trophy, and the Pescadores will give their owner a strong position in Southern China, for they face the important ports of Foochow and Amoy. Retaining possession of Manchuria would only mean a struggle with Russia, and that single-handed. Yielding as she now does to the representations of Germany and France, at the instance of England, in the struggle that must come she will deserve their sympathy and have a claim upon their support." The same paper also remarks that—having induced Japan to yield her present claims, it will be the duty of England to afford her every support to become strong. There are all the signs of a friendly feeling between these Powers, a feeling which should be sedulously fostered. Already the Japanese are inclined to trade with Australia, and advantage should be taken of the present juncture to encourage an intercourse which will offer the producers of Australia a large market. If encouraged this friendly feeling will grow rapidly, and if it should unfortunately happen that England must one day fight to retain her influence and her markets in Asia and the Far East, we have every hope that the commercial community of interests will become a firm political alliance tending towards the maintenance of peace.

But the cession of Formosa is regarded by some as ominous of future ill to Australia, and some of the colonial papers have published a communication from a clerical individual, recently from China, to the effect that the occupation of Formosa is the first step in the plan devised by Japan for the conquest of Australia, but the absurdity of the idea was so evident, that the other papers refrained from noticing it. At the same time the political importance of recent events, as regards Australia, is unreservedly recognised. The *Sydney Morning Herald* says:—"Japan is a force to be reckoned with in the future. Her prowess in the field has been outdone by her strategic skill and military aptitude in carrying on the war. In these respects she has won the undisguised admiration of the best technical authorities. Her skill in diplomatic negotiation has been no less, and it has been shown as much in what her diplomatists claimed as in what they have conceded. The new position now disclosed to us is the presence in the Pacific of a warlike and resourceful Power, whose existence is as important to us as though an ambitious European nation had established herself as our near neighbour."

The possible commercial and industrial developments following the conclusion of the war are, perhaps, attracting more attention than even the conditions of peace. It is instinctively felt that while, on the one hand, Australia may find in Japan a large market for certain kinds of raw produce; on the other it will be to find Japan a keen competitor in the supply of coal and other commodities to the leading market of the world; that in the future there will be a great struggle between Australia and Japan for industrial supremacy in the southern hemisphere. The proposed opening up of China is not regarded with much favour here. The Kobe correspondent of the *Sydney Morning Herald*, quoting from the *Mainichi*, stated that the Japanese national aspiration was to become a great Power in the arts of peace as well as in those of war. Japan must, it was urged, fight a stout commercial battle, and win it. The conclusion of the war was to be so contrived as to strengthen the country's capacity for fighting the coming commercial battle before it. The throwing open of China to trade will offer a near field for the development of this commercial enterprise, by providing an easily accessible market for those products of Japanese craft and acquired skill which have been among the results of the industrial awakening. Commenting on these statements, the *Sydney Morning Herald* remarked that, "It was at first thought that Japan relied on her proximity to this market for any advantage in the inevitable competition, the condition not being so framed as to exclude any nation but herself from participation in its benefit. It is significant of the degree to which Japan has imbibed the theory if not the practice of European ideas that an Oriental version of the "favoured nation" clause seems now to be insisted on. If in the ordinary course of things the nearest neighbour is the most concerned, then, after Japan, and perhaps India, Australia has the chief interest in China. With its 1,000,000,000 tons of coal, Japan is already a formidable rival to this colony in respect of one of our most substantial elements of wealth, and her industrial activity will certainly not be decreased by the new market now about to be thrown open. But there is another side to the question. The forcing of Western ideas on China, just as they were forced about thirty years ago on Japan, will make a new country of the Celestial Empire in even less time than it has taken to work that miracle in Japan. The prospect is not unaccompanied by a certain danger, and in this lies the chief interest of the treaty to ourselves. We are only three week's steam distant from China. If the result of the opening up of that country should be to release its teeming millions, with their untiring capacity for work at the lowest possible wage, their nerveless indifference to the common conditions of industrial competition among Europeans, their racial habits, and all that make them a menace to the United States and to Australia even on the present restricted footing of communication, it may well be that civilisation will not be so much the gainer after all."

The possibilities of increased trade between Australia and Japan continues to engage the attention of colonial producers, but on this point Mr. Marks, His Imperial Japanese Majesty's Consul at Melbourne, who is leaving Sydney by the steamship *Changsha*, will have much to say. While in Sydney, Mr. Marks was addressed by a member of the Australian Woolselling Brokers' Association, who urged upon him the desirability of ascertaining how an increased use of wool can be hastened in Japan. The letter in which this request was officially made pointed out the disproportionately small trade that is at present done in a direct way, even in comparison with the supplies which reach Japan circuitously via London and Liverpool, and the points upon which information is desired are as follow:—(1) The attitude of the Imperial Government of Japan towards the manufacture and use of woollens; (2) the number and extent of existing or projected factories; (3) and particularly any means by which they (the Japanese) can encourage the consumption of our native product, or increase the quantity forwarded thither direct from Australasia. In reply, Mr. Marks signified his intention to do everything in his power to encourage the direct export of Australian wool to Japan, and has promised that information on the points named shall be collated and furnished as early as possible. Some few weeks previous to the departure of the *Changsha*, Mr. Richard W. Synnot, of the National Wool Company of Australia, sought to revive a project for the extension of the Australian wool export trade with Japan. He suggested that Mr. Marks should be officially appointed by the various Australian Governments as their representative in the matter, and that a fund be instituted by public subscription for the purpose of fostering the wool trade with the East, and that subscriptions be received by the Wool-growers' Association in each colony; that a portion of the fund be applied to subsidising every new woollen factory opened in Japan for a stated term, each subsidy to be based on the quantity of cloth (per yard) manufactured by each factory, or to be allowed as a direct rebate on wool purchases made in the colonies; or that financial help might be given, by way of loan, for the purpose of building factories. The proposal did not lead to any practical results, but it is understood that the various colonial governments are prepared to co-operate in any practical measures that may be brought forward.

Mr. Frederic Villiers, described by his manager as "The Hero Artist of Nine Campaigns," has been delivering in Sydney a series of illustrated lectures on the recent war. They have been well attended and have attracted much attention. According to the published reports, Mr. Villiers, who appeared in his campaigning costume—which comprised knickerbocker pants and shooting

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jacket with the necessary appurtenaces of a war correspondent—detailed the various events from his reaching the seat of war to the final scene—the storming of Port Arthur. He dealt at some length with the characters of the Japanese and Chinese as soldiers, and contended that of the two great powers the Japanese were in every respect superior. This they demonstrated by their continued successes, despite the fact that the Chinese appeared to possess everything that modern warfare could supply. Mr. Villiers expatiated on the treatment of the Chinese prisoners and injured by the Japanese, and asserted that the latter extended them much mercy. He also spoke in glowing terms of the Japanese Red Cross Hospital, where all the best surgical skill and appliances for a battlefield were obtained. The storming of Port Arthur was graphically described by Mr. Villiers, and with the assistance of the pictures he was able to impress on his hearers how the Japanese succeeded in the seizure of the port by their strategy and dogged pluck. The scenes which followed the capture of Port Arthur were elaborately described and illustrated, Mr. Villiers exculpating the Japanese Government from all blame for an incident unfortunately too common in all great wars.

YOKOHAMA CHIHO SAIBANSHO.

(Criminal Section.)

Before Judge Katsuura and Associate Judges Miyajima and Ohashi.

Thursday, 27th June, 1895.

Augusto C. Barradas and Morikawa Ginnosuke were charged with having attempted to obtain money under false pretences.

The prosecution was in the hands of Public Procurator Fukuda, Barradas being represented by Mr. Hatoyama Kazuo and Morikawa by Mr. Minagawa Kosai.

Morikawa, in reply to the Court, said he was 59 years of age, a *heimin* of Tokyo, but now having his domicile at Furocho.

Barradas said he was 36 years of age. Was now living at No. 224, Bluff, whence he had removed from No. 127, Settlement. He was a Portuguese subject, born in Hongkong, and had been a clerk in the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, but had lost his employment in consequence of this case.

The Procurator then said that the following charge had been laid against the accused. That in conjunction with one Morikawa Ginnosuke he had been charged with the committal of the following fraudulent acts. That on the 11th July, 1894, Otani Takejiro and Yoshima Hikoichi, representing the people of No. 31, Nagato, Fukuzawa village, Kamimikawa-gori, Toyama Prefecture, had requested accused through Fuba Mitsunao, Tsutsuji Sho, and Suzuki Kenjiro to raise for them a loan of *yen* 100,000, the security for such loan being a mine at Nagato. Knowing their gullibility and their trust in accused, his coadjutor, Morikawa, had traded upon their simplicity. Morikawa first asked Yoshida Hikoichi to write out a statement of the property, to which the latter appended his name as owner, this being intentionally perpetrated for the purposes of fraud, and on the 11th July, 1894, Morikawa introduced Yoshida and others to Barradas at his residence, No. 104. Although having no intention of entering into the speculation, but simply to cheat them, accused requested them to let him have an English translation of the statement of the property, and Morikawa declaing that he knew a party who would do such work cheaply, they agreed to it and gave Morikawa *yen* 6. Secondly, that on the 12th August, 1894, Otani and Morikawa went to Barradas' house with four others, when they were informed by the latter that as they were to meet the President of a foreign bank, having a capital of *yen* 40,000,000, at a foreign restaurant, the sum of *yen* 60 was necessary for the purpose, and that as he (Barradas) would pay *yen* 30 he should like the Japanese to pay the balance. Thirdly, that they were induced by Barradas, under the pretence of bring able to settle their business satisfactorily, to invite the said capitalist to dinner at the Kaikoro. At that party Barradas introduced Jose Antonio da Fonseca as the President of the said Bank and the capitalist for the said loan, and as the result of a conference it was decided to send Morikawa to inspect the mine. In connection therewith Morikawa obtained from the said parties for expenses, etc., on the 23rd August at the Odawaraya, the sum of *yen* 30; on the 1st August at a hotel at Toyama the sum of *yen* 30, and on the 10th August at the said Kaikoro the sum of *yen* 10; making a total of *yen* 70. Fourthly, Morikawa on his return from the mine at Toyama, and previous to making his report, met Otani at the Odawaraya and stated that as the mine was in good order the loan could be raised, and suggested a present of *yen* 200 should be given Barradas. Otani consented, and *yen* 40 was presented together with some ash trays. Fifthly, on the 30th August, Barradas refused to have anything further to do with the loan, on the ground that Yoshida Hikoichi had falsely described himself as the mine owner (although this had been done at Morikawa's suggestion), but subsequently it was again suggested that if the borrower's name was changed to Otani Zenbei further steps would be taken to raise a loan; that as Barradas had paid to Fonseca, the capitalist, for various expenses, the sum of *yen* 320, he would like it repaid by Otani Takejiro and the others. They then made a demand for items which Barradas was unable to supply. That swindling was attempted is proved by the evidence of the witnesses Morikawa, V. F. Barradas, Fonseca, Otani, Yoshida, Watanabe, Fuba, Tsutsumi, and Suzuki, and in a secondary degree by Mrs. Carolina Barradas, wife of the accused. Judgment would be asked for in accordance with sections 390 and 394 of the Criminal Code for fraud, and sections 113, 112, and 100 for concurrent offences.

Morikawa, who was extremely garrulous and kept on reiterating his evidence over and over again, stated that Suzuki Kenjiro and Tsutsumi Kozue came to him on 7th July last year relative to obtaining a loan of money. The asked him whether he could get a foreigner to advance the cash. Witness said he would see Barradas, who upon being approached said he could not do it in his own office, but would see what could be done. He then went to the Odawaraya, where Suzuki was staying, when he was informed that they were prepared to give a mine as security for the loan of *yen* 100,000. He then received a Power of Attorney from Yoshida Hikoichi, the alleged owner, for borrowing the money. They then went to Barradas who said he could not lend money to Japanese on security such as that offered, as it was forbidden by law, and that it would consequently have to be done in a Japanese name. It was the day after this that Suzuki came in, and he, Morikawa, then produced the Power of Attorney he had obtained from Yoshida, the owner of the land. Barradas said the Power of Attorney was not sufficient; he desired to see the quality of the output, otherwise nothing could be done. A few days afterwards Otani Takijiro came to the Odawaraya and after a discussion the party went to see Barradas. On the 15th July all the parties were introduced to each other at the Kaikoro, there being present Barradas and Fonseca. Here again Barradas said to Yoshida that unless he saw the mine, no business could be done, and that until this was done he could approach nobody on the matter. As a result of this he (Morikawa) was deegated to inspect the mine, it being arranged that he should receive *yen* 100 for his trouble and expenses, Barradas having refused to spend any money. He inspected the mine and found it very good, so he telegraphed to Barradas, "mine good, leave to-morrow." Being desirous of acknowledging the favour done them by Barradas, and wishing to make him a present of some sort, he was delegated by the others to go and see him. The next day they asked for an advance of *yen* 10,000 as this sum would be sufficient at the outset. Barradas agreed to this, but wanted a contract drawn up; he also wanted to know whether Yoshida was the real proprietor on not. This led to the discovery that although the owner, he was not the legal proprietor. Barradas then became angry, and although they apologised, he refused to have anything further to do with them. Subsequently, however, after some conversation, Barradas asked for a translation of the document, but none being forthcoming the original was read to him, which he said he understood.

To the Court—He did not receive *yen* 30 at the dinner at the Kaiko ro, nor did he misappropriate the present of *yen* 40 to Mrs. Barradas and other presents. Barradas did not say he had got into the hands of swindlers and would have nothing further to do with them. He, Morikawa, had suggested the name of Yoshida on the statement of ownership. All expenses were paid by the Japanese, but *yen* 20 was never paid to Barradas in connection with this business.

Augusto Cæzar Barradas, in his statement to the Court, said that Morikawa, Suzuki, and another came to him about the business. He told them he had no money, being only an *employé* in a bank. They, however, came again, when he said he would do his best. He then went to see Fonseca and said that if the matter was good he would see what could be done. During the course of conversation Fonseca said that he would send a mining engineer to inspect the mine. Witness then went to the Odawaraya and told Otani that Fonseca would send a mining engineer to inspect the mine, and that he would have to pay his expenses. Otani said he would do so. Witness then went to Fonseca's house, where the Japanese had been taken, it was suggested that some one should be sent to the mine to examine it, when Yoshida named Morikawa, asking him (Barradas) to supply the means. This he said he could not do, as he had no money. Yoshida then arranged with Morikawa. When the Japanese first came they showed him a paper which purported to be a title-deed. Morikawa then went to the mine and on returning said it was in good order. Yoshida then said he would reduce the loan to *yen* 10,000. Witness, becoming suspicious, remarked that if Yoshida was the proprietor it was strange that he could come down at one jump from *yen* 100,000 to *yen* 10,000. Yoshida then went away, and on his returning next day his samples were returned. Otani first said he was Yoshida's relative, but when witness discovered the whole thing was a swindle he said he only held a Power of Attorney for the owner of the mine. When Morikawa came back from the mine, witness gave him *yen* 20 as a present.

To the Court—In the preliminary examination you said the *yen* 20 was received before the man went to the mine?—I said I was not sure whether it was before or after. It must have been a mistranslation. It was after.

The question asked you was "was it before or after?" and you replied "It was before."

Did you receive the *yen* 20 with the ash trays?—Yes.

From whom?—It was left on the table by Yoshida. I did not know what it was until afterwards. Morikawa took it off the table and handed it to my wife.

Why did you not state at the preliminary examination about the reduction of the sum?—I did, at the same time I produced the letter of apology.

Do you remember Morikawa having asked Yoshida and Otani for the return of some money which he said had been paid you by him?—This is entirely false.

At the entertainment at the Kaiko-ro, when Fonseca, your brother, and yourself were present, did you tell them to send Morikawa and that the expenses should be borne by them?—I didn't order Morikawa to go and inspect the mine, but I told them that whatever was done must be at their expense.

Did you place confidence in these people simply because Morikawa said so?—No, I did not trust them at all. I wanted to see further proof of their proprietorship. None could be produced.

Why did you go to the Kaiko-ro, then?—I am not a money-lender, and was only acting as an agent.

Why did you introduce Fonseca, seeing that you had no confidence in these people?—It was only when they reduced the sum from *yen* 100,000 to *yen* 10,000 that I lost confidence.

Is it not a fact that you had no intention of negotiating the loan?—No.

To whom would you have applied for funds?—I only asked Fonseca, who was to arrange the advance.

If he could not have succeeded?—Then it would have been no fault of mine. I declined all responsibility at the outset.

Did not Fonseca say to you that it would be impossible to arrange the loan?—No. If he had said so he would not have been invited to the Kaiko-ro twice.

Did you ever send Morikawa to get the sum of *yen* 320 for disbursements said to have been made by you on account of Fonseca?—No.

You did not, then, ask Fonseca to write a note to the effect that he had spent *yen* 120?—No, this is false.

The Public Procurator then reviewed the evidence adduced at the preliminary examination, upon which he commented at considerable length, also upon the fact of Barradas entering into a scheme of such a description fully knowing that it was illegal. He pressed for judgment under the Criminal Code, sections 390 and 394 for fraud, 113 and 112 for extenuation for unaccomplished acts, and 100 relative to punishment for concurrent offences, for a fine of *yen* 10, two years' imprisonment and six months police surveillance.

Mr. Minagawa, on behalf of Morikawa, spoke at some length on the so-called innocence of countrymen, who he declared traded under that guise to hide their rascality. That persons having the appearance of rustics were the greatest rogues and swindlers known. He contended that there was insufficient proof to convict.

Mr. Hatoyama, counsel for Barradas, contended that Yoshida, Otani and the rest were simply a gang of rogues who went about trying to victimise anyone simple enough to be caught by them in the carrying out of their nefarious designs. It seemed that they had thought of getting a nobleman into their toils, but failing this had endeavoured to [illegible] their kind attentions to—

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a foreigner. They saw Barradas, from whom they asked a loan of *yen* 100,000 for which they had good security. He replied that he had no money, as he was only a clerk in the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank. The allegation by the prosecution that he had disbursed on his own account *yen* 6 for translation, *yen* 30 for a dinner, and *yen* 320 for Morikawa's expenses was a somewhat absurd contention. Considering that Barradas was in receipt of $110 per month, it would be extremely ridiculous for him to think of entering upon a swindle for such a paltry sum of money. The men themselves showed they were dubious characters—they could not pay *yen* 6 for a translation, and when asked for *yen* 30 were obliged to go to Tokyo to raise the sum of *yen* 11. The dwindle from *yen* 100,000 asked for at the outset to *yen* 10,000, and finally to *yen* 1,000, showed the men to be swindlers. All the evidence of the witnesses for the prosecution dovetail too well to command credence. As for the money alleged to have been received by Morikawa and paid to Barradas, and subsequently claimed by him, there was no proof that such had been given. Finally, that the case had been trumped up by a party of rascals who had brought trouble upon themselves. There was nothing to connect Barradas with the business. Relative to the charge of $15 for each person for dining at a foreign hotel, and alleged have been paid at the Kaikoro, any person with common sense could see it was ridiculous. There was nothing to prove Barradas a swindler and he should consequently be discharged.

The Public Procurator again made a few remarks on the law of the case, when judgment was reserved till Saturday.

RUSSIA AND JAPAN.

This Japanese imbroglio, which has not ended yet, as most of our contemporaries seem to fancy, reveals in a strong light the immense weight of Russia in the diplomacy of Europe. The Treaty of Shimonoseki, which did not affect either this country or France or Germany, inflicted, as we have always candidly pointed out, a grave incidental injury on Russia. It practically barred her access by railway to the port on the North Pacific which is absolutely essential to her plan for the commercial and agricultural as well as administrative development of her vast Asiatic dominion. Under the Treaty, to obtain her port Russia must fight both Japan and China,—the former already a great Power, the latter with easy access to Russia in Asia along a line of three thousand miles. The Asiatic Department of St. Petersburg, which is a separate bureau exceedingly well informed and permanently ambitious, perceived this at once, and was furious, but a remedy was not easy to devise. The Russian fleet is not strong enough to be sure of beating the Japanese, and though the munitions stored at Vladivostock are immense in quantity, part of them are necessarily out of date, and no sufficient army could at present be collected there without a frightful expenditure both of treasure and of life. The Department hesitated, when suddenly the German Emperor, though he is absolutely unaffected by the Treaty, in his eagerness to conciliate Russia, sprang forward with an offer of active assistance by sea. This was accepted with gladness, and immediately the French Government, frightened to death lest Codlin should be regarded in St. Petersburg as the friend instead of Short, made a similar offer. That was accepted, too, doubtless with many smiles, and Count Ito suddenly found himself confronted with an unexpected danger. If his master kept the peninsula of Liaotung as ceded by the Treaty, he might have to face three Powers at sea, Powers whose combined reserves were potentially far greater than his own, and who, if he fired on them, would use their resources to the utmost. In the collision China was certain to break faith, and Japan might lose her indemnity, her repute, and her control of the water altogether. There was no chance of securing an ally; for America, though friendly to Japan, was not disposed to fight for her, and Britain, though indifferent as to the Treaty, was determined in almost any contingency to watch and wait. She does not want Russia to be supreme on the North Pacific, or an over-victorious Japan either.

The risk to be run was therefore tremendous, and Count Ito, who understands international resources just as well as his rivals, resolved not to run it. His people being excited almost to madness, there were terrible Parliamentary difficulties in his way; but the semi-sacred authority of the Mikado might overcome them, and he decided to recede just so far as to dissolve the alliance. He therefore resolved that the Powers should force China to increase her indemnity by ten millions, to surrender all claim to the definitive possession of Liaotung," and content himself with holding Port Arthur only until the indemnity was paid, which, if the Powers exert themselves to facilitate a great Chinese loan, need not be a very long period. These terms did not suit the Asiatic Department in St. Petersburg, which is in consequence sulkily commencing another Press war on Japan; but they did suit France and, as we imagine, Germany also. M. Hanotaux is in a horrid mess. The French statesmen and soldiers perceived clearly that they would get nothing out of any modification of the Treaty, not even right of trade in Yünnan, which is *not* within the extended area of Free-trade in China, the Colonial party became uneasy at the interruption to their projects for the conquest of Madagascar, and the electors asked on all sides what on earth their rulers meant by joining Germany. Had they spent two hundred millions in twenty years to gain such a result as that? M. Hanotaux is doubtful of his vote in the Chamber, doubtful of the next election, and eager to be out of the scrape without any visible indignity or breach of faith with Russia. Count Ito's offer gives him the opportunity of saying that France has helped Russia to a great success; and the Foreign Office Press, at all events, has accepted it with a chorus of admiration at the "good sense" and "political moderation" of the Japanese. The journalists, indeed, are so delighted that they even pardon Great Britain, whose calm aloofness struck them at first as eminently suspicious. It is probable that the Kaiser will take the same line. He acted at first with his usual impulsiveness, and it must be acknowledged with some astuteness, but his people have not followed his lead, and would dislike active war for the benefit of Russia very much indeed. It is probable, therefore, that he also will accept the Japanese offer, and then Count Ito will find himself in this position. He will have lost the right to annex Liaotung permanently or to hold Port Arthur for ever; but he will have gained ten millions sterling, with an improved guarantee for the whole indemnity; he will retain Port Arthur for a time, which, if Japan can double her Fleet, may be protracted, like the French occupation of Tunis or our own of Egypt, and he dissolves the ligatures which bind the "European alliance" against Japan. It is not, of course, certain that this will be the precise result of the negotiations, because the German Kaiser has not yet announced his decision; but it is probable, and if so, it can hardly be denied that the Japanese Bismarck has got out of a most difficult situation very cleverly. He stands, in fact, once more opposed to Russia alone.

It is reported on good authority to be a Japanese idea that this will be their permanent position in foreign affairs, and we can readily believe it. Taking very adroit advantage of a European accident—namely, the desire of the German Emperor to establish easier relations with the Czar—the Russian diplomatists have secured a concession from Japan, which soothes the offended pride of their master, and enables him to pose as victor before his people, but they have not altered the great facts of the situation. It is a horrid nuisance for them that a new Power should have arisen in the Far East with a fleet equal to their own, and able, therefore, to prevent a sudden maritime descent on China. It is a worse nuisance that they should be compelled for the next five years to fortify Vladivostock, which they hope one day to abandon; and to keep in Eastern Siberia a costly and useless garrison, with which, hitherto, they have been able so completely to dispense, that they could not without heavy reinforcements place 20,000 regulars on any point of the lower waters of the Amour. And it is the worst nuisance of all, that in order to carry out their great railway project, which has become vital to their Asiatic position, they may have to fight or bribe two Powers instead of one, one of the two being active, mobile, and well armed. Any one who looks at the map will see that, in order to reach Port Lazareff—that is, remember, to reach the only possible safe port for the debouchure of their railway—they must obtain a grand slice of Eastern Manchuria and a whole section, quite a fourth, of the Kingdom of Korea. Formerly, they could have obtained them easily enough, as we can all now see, for China could no more have defeated Russia than she could defeat Japan, and Korea was a fossilised and wholly powerless little State. Now, however, there is China to be coerced, probably just after she has reformed her Army, or, if she does not reform it, she can appeal to Japan, and Korea has become a Japanese dependency. In the best event the effort required will be much greater, and Russia is no more fond of great efforts than any other State; and in the worst, she might, if her fleet were defeated, see her army driven back, suffer exceedingly serious disaster. We all know what a defeat of whom would mean to us in India; and it would be nearly, if not quite, as dangerous an event for Russia in Asia, for though her subject population is far less, it is more restless, and quite as desirous, if it saw a chance, to throw off the European yoke. The position, therefore, has grown most unpleasant, so unpleasant that it will be most difficult for the Russian statesmen by and by to avoid a war with Japan. They can have little hope of conciliating her, or they would not have put the present affront upon the Japanese people, who remembered their expulsion from Korea for three hundred years, and at last avenged it; and unless they conciliate her, they have to extort a free hand in Manchuria and Korea, from an active and vigilant Power which has an iron-clad fleet at sea, and can mobilise a hundred and fifty thousand very good soldiers, supplied with the Murata rifle and an improved Gatling-gun. We can easily conceive that the Asiatic Department is not content, and that, if its allies would stand it, it would like to utilise their assistance in ordering Japan to retire at once both from Port Arthur and Korea. The allies, however, will hardly go that length; and if they recede, there will probably be an uneasy peace for five years, during which Japan will have forty millions to spend in bringing her sea-power up to a level at which it will seem formidable even to a coalition. Mark as symptomatic the Russian desire, revealed in the telegrams, that Spain, which has had nothing to say in this war, should have a leading place in arranging the new negotiations. Spain, as owner of the Philippine Islands, has much to fear from Japan, and could help Russia in a Japanese war most materially.—*Spectator*.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[REUTER "SPECIAL" TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

London, June 23.

Lord Rosebery has resigned, and the Marquis of Salisbury goes to Windsor to-morrow morning, it is believed, to insist on a dissolution forthwith, and the House is expected to pass a vote on account for supplies for two months covering the period of the elections.

London, June 24.

The Marquis of Salisbury is conferring with the Conservative leaders. The Duke of Devonshire and Messrs. Chamberlain and Goschen will be in the Cabinet, and probably also Sir Henry James.

London, June 25.

The new Ministry has been constructed as follows:—

Mr. ARTHUR JAMES BALFOUR, Leader of the House of Commons and First Lord of the Treasury.

Mr. JOSEPH CHAMBERLAIN, Secretary of State for the Colonies.

The Marquis of SALISBURY, Premier and Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs.

The Duke of DEVONSHIRE, Lord President of the Council.

Sir MICHAEL HICKS-BEACH, Chancellor of the Exchequer.

Mr. GEORGE J. GOSCHEN, First Lord of the Admiralty.

It is reported that the Hon. George Nathaniel Curzon will be made Secretary of State for India.

["SPECIAL" TELEGRAM TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

Hokodate, June 24.

Yesterday, the *Viva* arrived here with 608 sealskins.

Kobe, June 25.

Mr. McGilp, second engineer of the *Fuji Maru*, expired suddenly at Jutei's Hotel this morning.

Hakodate, June 6.

The schooner *E. Webster* has arrived here with 776 sealskins.

Hakodate, June 27.

The schooner *Diana* has arrived here with 872 sealskins, and the *Bonanza* with 927.

(FROM JAPANESE PAPERS.)

Singapore, June 26.

The following telegram, dispatched by Mr. Saito, Japanese Consul at, Singapore, has been received by the Home Department:—

Cholera has broken out at Singapore, and 100 persons were attacked within a few weeks, of whom 60 died.

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Hyogo Prefectural Office, June 27.

Heavy rains have prevailed in all parts of the Prefecture, and reports have reached here to the effect that all the rivers are very high. More or less damage has been effected.

Toyama, June 24.

The water in the Kurobegawa was ten feet higher usual on the 19th inst. Embankments to the length of over 100 *ken* (one *ken*=6ft.) was destroyed at Urayama, and the Sakurayebashi has been undermined, one pillar in the middle of the bridge being carried away by the stream.

Tottori, June 27.

Persistent rain has been falling since the 24th inst. It fell most heavily on the 26th. Various rivers have been turned into raging torrents, and an embankment, which was under construction, has been destroyed. Fears are entertained that all the rivers of the neighbourhood will overflow if it continues to rain to-night.

Shimonoseki, June 28.

Prof. Hasegawa Yoshinosuke, Japanese honorary adviser to the Department of Agriculture and Commerce and Public Works in Korea, arrived here by the *Liddesdale* this morning.

A Russian man-of-war passed here towards the west this morning.

CHESS.

[All Communications to be addressed to the CHESS EDITOR.]

The Yokohama Chess Club is closed for the season: and re-opens on Thursday 3rd October.

The Tokyo Chess Club is now closed for the holiday season and will reopen on Friday, 4th October, 1895.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 182.

WHITE.	BLACK.
1—K to Kt 2	1—Any
2—Mates accordingly.	

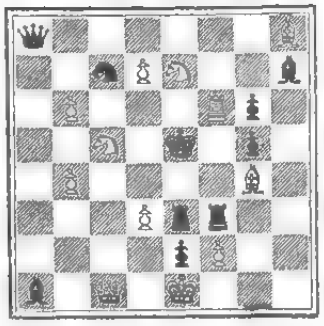
Correct solutions received from Omega, W.H.S., E.D., Digamma, Kr., E. J. King, and J.D.

Additional correct solution of No. 181 received from Kr.

PROBLEM No. 184.

By A. F. MACKENZIE.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in two moves.

BLACKBURNE-BARDELEBEN.

This contest has ended in something like a "fizzle." We copy the remarks made in the *New York Tribune* on the subject and print the scores of the fifth and sixth games of the match. "There was really only one item of news chronicled last week, and that was the sudden agreement upon a draw of the match between Curt von Bardeleben and J. H. Blackburne, a contest which took place at the British Chess Club, London. Whether it was a wise action on behalf of the players to decline to fight the battle to the bitter end is a question which the *Tribune* is inclined to answer in the negative. Drawn matches are unsatisfactory at any sport, and, after all, chess matches must be considered as sport. Moreover, there have been too many drawn matches of late—the Tarrasch-Tschigorin bout, the Mieses-Janowski contest, and so on. However, as these things do happen, and as the excitement of the players naturally must spoil the quality of play if the winning or losing of the match depend on a solitary game, it is perhaps just as well not to lay down the strict rules of other sports in a chess match. Bardeleben and Blackburne have each won three games, three were drawn, and the purse being a small one, £25 (about $125); the players, with the consent of the club, Sir George Newnes, M.P., the president of the British Chess Club, divided the money."

GAME No. 285.

FIFTH GAME—EVANS GAMBIT DECLINED.

WHITE. Bardeleben.	BLACK. Blackburne.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—Kt to K B 3	2—Kt to Q B 3
3—B to B 4	3—B to B 4
4—P to Q Kt 4	4—B to Kt 3
5—P to Q R 4	5—P to Q R 4
6—P to Kt 5	6—Kt to Q 5
7—Kt takes Kt	7—B takes Kt
8—P to Q B 3	8—B to Kt 3
9—P to Q 4	9—Q to B 3
10—Castles	10—P to Q 3
11—B to K 3	11—Kt to R 3
12—P to B 3	12—Castles
13—K to R sq.	13—K to R sq.
14—Kt to R 3	14—Q to Kt 3
15—B to Q 3	15—P to K B 4
16—Kt to B 4	16—P takes K P
17—B takes P	17—B to K B 4
18—Kt takes B	18—P takes Kt
19—B takes P	19—Q R to Kt sq.
20—B to B 6	20—B to Q 6
21—R to K sq.	21—Kt to B 4
22—B to B 2	22—Kt to K 2
23—B to K 4	23—B takes B
24—R takes B	24—Kt to Q 4
25—Q to Q 2	25—Kt to B 3
26—R to K 2	26—P to K 5
27—P to K B 4	27—P to Q 4
28—B to K 3	28—Q to R 4
29—P to Kt 3	29—Kt to Kt 5
30—R to Kt 2	30—Q R to B sq.
31—P to B 5	31—R takes K B P
32—B to B 4	32—P to Kt 4
33—B to K 5 ch.	33—K to Kt sq.
34—Q to R 2	34—Q to B 2
35—K to Kt sq.	35—R to B sq.
36—B to B 4	36—P takes B
37—P takes P	37—R takes P
38—Q to K 2	38—K to R sq.
39—P to R 3	39—Kt to R 3
40—P to B 4	40—R to B Kt sq.
41—P to B 5	41—R takes B ch.
42—Q takes R	42—R to B 3
43—R to K B sq.	43—Kt to B 4
44—B to B 4	44—R to Kt 3
45—R to Kt 4	45—Kt to K 6
46—R takes R	46—Kt takes Q
47—R takes Kt	47—Q to B 3
48—P to B 6	48—Q takes P ch.
49—R to B 2	49—P to K 6
50—Resigns.	

GAME No. 286.

SIXTH GAME—IRREGULAR BISHOP'S OPENING.

WHITE. Blackburne.	BLACK. Bardeleben.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—B to K 2	2—B to B 4
3—Kt to K B 3	3—P to Q 3
4—Castles	4—Kt to K B 3
5—P to B 3	5—B to Kt 3
6—Kt to R 3	6—Castles
7—Q to B sq.	7—P to Q R 3
8—Kt to B 4	8—B to R 2
9—P to Q 3	9—B to K 3
10—Kt to K 3	10—Kt to B 3
11—K to R sq.	11—Kt to K sq.
12—Kt to B 5	12—B takes Kt
13—P takes B	13—P to Q 4
14—B to Kt 5	14—Q to Q 2
15—P to K Kt 4	15—P to B 3
16—B to K 3	16—P to Q 5
17—P takes P	17—P takes P
18—B to B 4	18—Q to Q 4
19—K to Kt sq.	19—Kt to K 4
20—B takes Kt	20—P takes B
21—Kt to Kt 5	21—P to B 3
22—B to B 3	22—Q to Q 2
23—K R to K sq.	23—B to Kt sq.
24—Q to Kt 3 ch.	24—K to R sq.
25—Kt to K 6	25—R to B 2
26—Kt to B 5	26—Q to K 2
27—Q takes P	27—Q takes Q
28—Kt takes Q	28—R takes Kt
29—B takes P	29—Q R to R 2
30—B takes Kt	30—R takes P
31—B to R 4	31—K to Kt sq.
32—Q R to B sq.	32—K to B sq.
33—R to B 8 ch.	33—K to K 2
34—B to Kt 3	34—B to Q 3
35—P to B 4	35—R to B 2
36—R takes R ch.	36—R takes R
37—P takes P	37—B to R 4
38—P to B 6 ch.	38—P takes P
39—P takes P ch.	39—K takes P
40—R to K 6 ch.	40—K to Kt 2
41—R takes P	41—B to Q 7
42—P to K R 4	42—B to K 6 ch.
43—K to B sq.	43—R to K B 7
44—R to R 7 ch.	44—K to Kt 3
45—B to Q 5	45—P to R 3
46—R to R 6 ch.	46—K to Kt 2
47—P to R 5	47—R to B 5
48—R to Kt 6 ch.	48—K to B sq.
49—K to Kt 2	49—R to B 7 ch.
50—K to Kt 3	50—R to B 8
51—B to B 4	51—K to K 2
52—P to R 4	52—B to Q 7
53—R to K 6 ch.	53—K to Q 2
54—R to R 6	54—K to B 2
55—B to Q 5	55—R to Q R 8
56—K to B 3	56—B to K 6
57—P to R 5	57—R to R 6
58—K to K 4	58—R to R 8
59—R to B 6 ch.	59—K to Kt sq.
60—P to R 6	60—K to R 2
61—B to B 4	61—R to R 4
62—R to K Kt 6	62—R to R 8
63—K to Q 5	63—R to R 5
64—R to Kt 7 ch.	64—Resigns.

Champion Lasker holds that 3..... Kt to B is the only safe defence to the Ruy Lopez attacl By means of sundry variations which he ha worked out on his own account, he proves tha Steinitz's favourite 3..... P to Q 3 is weak. H also demonstrates that 3..... P to Q R 3 i unsound. He does this by showing that the firs player, in addition to forcing the second player t weaken his Queen's side, can compel him to en gage both the Queen and the Queen's Rook i looking after the advanced Pawn on the Queen' wing. When the first player has succeeded i these lines of play he can attack the adverse Knight at his leisure.

In open positions (says Mr. Mason) two Bishop are stronger than two Knights, and they are a mating force. "But a single Bishop is gene rally inferior to single Knight. If you have tw Bishops against two Knights there is the difficulty of avoiding an exchange—leaving the enemy wit a Knight against your Bishop. As betwee Bishops, retain that one which will most damage the adverse Pawns—which will attack the most weakest of them, as they are blocked or held by other force. If you have the worst of it retain the Bishop which cannot be attacked by the hostile Bishop. You thus secure 'Bishops of opposite colours,' and may often draw a position in which there is a Pawn or two against you. When your King's position has been damaged, when he is castled in mid-game, especially on his own side, a Bishop next to him at Knight's second is very efficient for defence."

We append (from the *San Francisco Chronicle*) an account of the first cable match between Victoria, B.C., and one of the San Francisco Chess Clubs, and are delighted to see that our beloved game is being so enthusiastically cultivated on the Pacific Coast.

"The international telegraphic match between the Victoria Chess Club and the Mechanics' Institute terminated yesterday morning a little after 7 o'clock. Honours were even, as the game on board No. 1 was captured by the Victoria Club and board No. 2 by the Mechanics. The victorious local team was represented by Rodney Kendrick, Dr. Marshall, George Hallwegan, and E. Yerworth.

"It would have been a difficult matter to predict the winners of No. 2 game up to the thirty-fifth move, so even was the play, but at this juncture the local team made a move which entirely discomfited their adversaries, and it was merely a matter of time ere the game would be brought to a close.

"The game won by the Victoria Club was not contested by the home team in a manner likely to add to their reputation. The local men seemed to be at the mercy of their opponents during the greater part of the game, owing to poor development. Dr. Lovegrove had command of the team, and hence a defeat was hardly looked for."

Herewith is the score of the games played:

GAME No. 287.

BOARD NO. 1—FRENCH DEFENCE.

WHITE. Mechanics' Institute.	BLACK. Victoria.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 3
2—P to Q 4	2—P to Q 4
3—Kt to Q B 3	3—Kt to K B 3
4—Q B to Kt 5	4—B to K 2
5—B takes Kt	5—B takes B
6—P to K 5	6—B to K 2
7—Q to K Kt 4	7—Castles
8—B to Q 3	8—P to Q B 4
9—Q to K R 3	9—P to K B 3
10—Kt to K B 3	10—Kt to Q B 3
11—P takes Q B P	11—B takes P
12—Castles K side	12—P to K B 4
13—P to Q R 3	13—P to Q R 3
14—P to Q Kt 4	14—B to R 2
15—Q R to K sq.	15—B to Q 2
16—Q R to K 2	16—R to Q B sq.

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17—Kt to Q Kt sq.	17—P to Q Kt 4
18—K to R sq.	18—Kt to K ■
19—Kt to Kt sq.	19—B to B 3
20—P to K B 4	20—P to Q 5
21—Q to K R 4	21—Kt to Q 4
22—Q takes Q	22—K R takes Q
23—Kt to Q 2	23—Kt to K 6
24—R to Q B sq.	24—P to K Kt 4
25—P takes P	25—P takes P
26—Kt to K R 3	26—P to Kt 5
27—Kt to K B 4	27—K to B 2
28—Kt to K B sq.	28—Kt to Q 4
29—Kt takes Kt	29—B takes Kt
30—K to Kt sq.	30—R to B 6
31—R to R sq.	31—B to K 5
32—P to Q R 4	32—B takes B
33—P takes B	33—R to Q 2
34—P takes Kt P	34—P takes P
35—Kt to Kt 3	35—K to K 2
36—R at K 2 to R 2	36—B to Kt sq.
37—Kt to K 2	37—R takes P
38—Kt to K B 4	38—R to K 6
39—R to Q 2	39—B takes P
40—Kt to Q 3	40—B to Q 3
41—R to R 6	41—P to K 4
42—P to Kt 3	42—P to K 5
Resigns.	

GAME No. 288.

BOARD 2—QUEEN'S GAMBIT DECLINED.

WHITE. Victoria.	BLACK. Mechanics' Institute.
1—P to Q 4	1—P to Q 4
2—P to Q B 4	2—P to K 3
3—Kt to Q B 3	3—Kt to K B 3
4—Kt to K B 3	4—Kt to Q B 3
5—P to K 3	5—B to K 2
6—B to K 2	6—P to Q Kt 3
7—Castles	7—Castles
8—P to Q Kt 3	8—B to Q Kt 2
9—B to Q Kt 2	9—P to Q R 3
10—Q R to B sq.	10—Q R to B sq.
11—K B to Q 3	11—B to Q 3
12—Q B P takes P	12—P takes P
13—B to B 5	13—R to Q R sq.
14—Kt to K 2	14—Q Kt to K 2
15—B to Q 3	15—K Kt to K 5
16—B takes Kt	16—P takes B
17—K Kt to Q 2	17—Kt to K Kt 3
18—Kt to Q B 4	18—P to K ■ 4
19—Kt takes ■	19—Q takes Kt
20—P to K Kt 3	20—Q R to Q sq.
21—Q to Q B 2	21—Q R to Q 2
22—R at K B sq. to Q sq.	22—R to K sq.
23—Kt to Q B 3	23—Kt to K 2
24—Q to K 2	24—Q to K R 3
25—R to Q 2	25—Kt to Q B 3
26—R at Q B sq. to Q sq.	26—K to Kt sq.
27—P to Q R 3	27—R to Q 3
28—Kt to Kt sq.	28—Kt to K 2
29—Kt to B 3	29—Kt to Q 4
30—Kt takes Kt	30—B takes Kt
31—R to Q B sq.	31—P to Q B 3
32—R to B 3	32—P to Q Kt 4
33—R to Q B 5	33—Q to Kt 4
34—Q to Q sq.	34—R to R 3
35—Q to B 2	35—Q to K Kt 5
36—P to K B 4	36—P takes P e.p.
37—R to B 2	37—R at R 3 to K 3
38—Q to B 3	38—R (Q sq.) to K sq.
39—R takes B	39—P takes R
40—R to Q B 2	40—P to K B 5
41—P takes P	41—R to K 8 ch.
42—K to B 2	42—R (K sq.) to K 7 [ch.
Resigns.	

All things considered the match was a perfect success and a source of gratification to all persons concerned. It is not likely, however, that a second match will be readily undertaken, as the mental and physical strain upon the players is too great. The match lasted in all about thirteen hours, during which time the players remained in eager consultation at their boards, only leaving for a few moments to partake of much-needed refreshment, thoughtfully provided by Dr. Marshall.

Of the man mentioned by Oliver Wendell Holmes, who goes "straightforward like the Pawn," the chess editor of the *Birmingham Weekly Mercury* remarks that "too often he like the Pawn, goes straight only when nothing is to be gained by deviation. The 'straightforward' Pawn, it will be remembered, is always ready to diverge from the path of rectitude when he can take something by his motion. His very first step may be characterised by a decided obliquity—if you offer him a consideration; and he is ready to diverge in the other direction if he can take more by it. He is an opportunist, devoid of principle. The Pawn takes the straight path only when straightness pays him best. He has no soul; and for mere material gain he will zig-zag like a professional politician, until he reaches fortune, and commences a new career as a millionaire."

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From America	per O. & O. Co.	Tuesday, July 2nd.*
From Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Sunday, June 30th.†
From Canada, &c.....	per C. P. R. Co.	Sunday, July 7th.‡
From America	per P. M. Co.	Thursday, July 11th.)
From Hongkong	per P. M. Co.	Friday, July 6th.]
From Europe, viâ Hongkong	per M. M. Co.	Friday, July 6th.
From Europe, viâ Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd	Wed'day, July 10th.
From Hongkong	per C. P. R. Co.	Thursday, July 11th.

* *Belgic* left San Francisco on June 15th. † *Persia* left Nagasaki on June 25th. ‡ *Empress of India* left Vancouver on June 25th.) *Peru* left San Francisco on June 24th.] *City of Peking* left Hongkong on June 28th.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For America	per O. & O. Co.	Saturday, June 29th.
For Victoria, B.C., & Tacoma, Wash.....	per N. P. Co.	Tuesday, July 2nd.
For Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Saturday, July 6th.
For America	per P. M. Co.	Sunday, July 7th.
For Hongkong	per C. P. R. Co.	Monday, July 8th.
For Europe, viâ Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd	Friday, July 12th.
For Canada, &c.	per C. P. R. Co.	Friday, July 12th.
For Europe, viâ Shanghai	per M. M. Co.	Saturday, July 13th.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Cam, British steamer, 1,630, Mathias, 22nd June, —Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Himeji Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,940, McKenzie, 22nd June,—Ujina, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Alacrity (4), despatch-boat, Commander Francis G. De Lisle, 22nd June,—Kobe 21st June.

Baltimore (14), U.S. cruiser, Captain Fay, 22nd June,—Kobe 21st June.

Centurion (14), flagship, Captain Spencer H. M. Login, 22nd June,—Kobe 21st June.

Edgar (12), cruiser, Captain W. H. Henderson, 22nd June,—Kobe 21st June.

Amoy, German steamer, 647, Wolf, 23rd June,—Kobe 21st June, General.—Nada Kogio Kabushiki Kaisha.

Victoria, British steamer, 1,991, J. Panton, R.N.R., 23rd June,—Tacoma, Wash., viâ Victoria, B.C., 8th June, Mails and General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Mattie T. Dyer, American schooner, 103, C. E. Mockler, 24th June,—North Pacific, 660 Seals. —Captain.

Anjer Head, British steamer, 1,826, Motyer, 24th June,—Yokkaichi 23rd June, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Amaranth, British steamer, 1,735, Cliff, 24th June,—Otaru viâ ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Angers, British steamer, 2,076, W. G. Bannister, 24th June,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Omba, British steamer, 1,907, Munroe, 24th June,—Otaru, Coal.—Hokkaido Tanko Tetsudo Kaisha.

Baltimore (14), U.S. cruiser, Captain Fay, 25th June,—A cruise.

Nestor, British steamer, 1,658, Asquith, 25th June, —Liverpool viâ ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Erato, German steamer, 1,926, Ostermann, 25th June,—Antwerp viâ ports, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Gaelic, British steamer, 2,690, W. G. Pearne, 25th June,—Hongkong viâ ports, 18th June, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Tetartos, German steamer, 1,578, Dionse, 25th June,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Mutsu Maru, Japanese steamer, 552, Nakajima, 26th June,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Strathesk, British steamer, 1,454, Taylor, 26th June,—Otaru, Coal.—Hokkaido Tanko Tetsudo Kaisha.

Rosary, British steamer, 1,426, Dowling, 12th June, —Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Decima, German steamer, 1,125, Baumeister, 27th June,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Strathlyon, British steamer, 1,511, Phillip, 27th June,—Otaru, Coal.—Hokkaido Tanko Tetsudo Kaisha.

Arcona (18), German cruiser, Captain Hoffmeyer, 27th June,—A cruise.

Josephine, American schooner, 16, Hanson, 27th June,—North Pacific, Sealing Gear.—A. E. Fisher.

Mount Lebanon, British steamer, 1,555, Chas. Hendry, 27th June,—Otaru viâ ports, General. —Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ashdown, British steamer, 1,893, Jas. Cowie, 27th June,—Kobe 26th June, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Leander (10), cruiser, Captain Metaxa, 28th June, —A cruise 28th June.

Strathfillan, British steamer, 2,206, Wm. Osborne, 28th June,—Batoum, 154,592 cases Oil.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Strathness, British steamer, 1,987, W. Durdin, 28th June,—Batoum, 150,000 cases Oil.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

DEPARTURES.

Braemer, British steamer, 1,876, Porter, 22nd June,—Kobe, General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Amoy, German steamer, 647, Wolf, 23rd June,—Shinagawa, General.—Nada Kogio Kabushiki Kaisha.

Benmohr, British steamer, 1,935, Clarke, 23rd June,—New York viâ ports, General.—Comes & Co.

Else, German steamer, 747, Christiansen, 23rd June,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Energia, British steamer, 2,063, Saw, 23rd June, —Otaru viâ ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Victoria, Swedish steamer, 1,181, J. Hellberg, 23rd June,—Moji, Ballast.—Mitsu Bishi Sha.

Antwerp City, British steamer, 2,237, Borng, 24th June,—Kobe, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Victoria, British steamer, 1,991, J. Panton, R.N.R., 26th June,—Hongkong viâ ports, Mails and General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Baltimore (14), U.S. cruiser, Captain Fay, 24th June,—Target Practice.

Doris, German steamer, 771, Bruhn, 24th June,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Arcona (18), German cruiser, Captain Hoffmeyer, 24th June,—A cruise.

Angers, British steamer, 2,076, Bannister, 26th June,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Anjer Head, British steamer, 1,826, Motyer, 26th June,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Cam, British steamer, 1,630, Mathias, 26th June, —Bombay viâ ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Glenesk, British steamer, 2,275, Webster, 27th June,—London viâ ports, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Leander (10), cruiser, Captain Metaxa, 27th June, —Portsmouth viâ ports.

Tetartos, German steamer, 1,578, Lawson, 27th June,—Otaru viâ ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Amaranth, British steamer, 1,753, Cliff, 28th June, —Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Lyderhorn, Norwegian steamer, 2,014, Hammerars, 28th June,—Hongkong viâ Moji, Ballast.—Mitsu Bishi Sha.

Ashdown, British steamer, 1,893, Jas. Cowie, 29th June,—Otaru, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Saghalien, French steamer, 2,580, Huan, 29th June,—Shanghai viâ ports, Mails and General. —Messageries Maritimes Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per British steamer *Victoria*, from Tacoma, Wash., via Victoria, B.C.:—Mrs. Horton and Miss M. Ward in cabin; 10 Japanese in steerage.

Per British steamer *Gaelic*, from Hongkong via ports:—General Count Oyama, Countess Oyama, Mr. W. H. Migrod, R.N., Miss Oyama, Mr. M. de Friexes, Mr. R. Marks, Mr. Gustave Kuhn, Mr. J. M. Atkinson, Mr. E. H. Tuska, Mr. C. V. Ladds, Mr. M. M. Boyd, Mrs. Melbourne, Miss Melbourne, Mr. John Michell, Mr. M. Adelsdufer, Mrs. Jones, Mr. C. F. Cartledge, Captain W. H. Forbes, Mr. C. Melbourne, Miss Gibson, and Mr. T. S. Sowa in cabin.

DEPARTED.

Per British steamer *Ancona*, for Hongkong viâ ports:—Mr. Secchi, Mr. E. K. Lee, Rev. Mr. and Mrs. Williams, Mr. Wing Yee Woh, Mrs. E. Bois, child, and 2 servants, Major-General H. Jones Vaughes, Mr. and Miss Hunt, Mr. W. M. Redwood, Mr. R. F. Nicholson, Mr. and Mrs. J. F. Connelly, Mr. W. and Mr. J. Connelly, Master J. Connelly, Mr. H. W. Andrews, Mr. Delf, Dr. F. Kronecker, Mr. Yoshida, Mr. K. Menjee, and Mr. H. Yamato in cabin; 3 Chinese in steerage.

Per French steamer *Saghalien*, for Shanghai viâ ports:—Major-General H. T. J. Vaughan, Mrs. Ch. Denby, Mrs. Shinzaku, Mr. and Mrs. Cunningham, Mr. C. Bonnet, Mr. W. H. Slade, Dr. and Mrs. Paul and child, Mr. H. S. Playfair, Mr. G. Sale, Mr. F. W. Fraser, Mr. W. B. Kennedy, Mr. P. Buller, Mr. Ch. de Wapenaert, Mrs. S. B. Rowe, Mr. T. N. Okohira, Mr. H. I. Dower and boy, Mr. P. Krenier, Mr. V. Lavacry, Mr. and Mrs. Levy, 2 children, and nurse, Mr. R. J. Wilkinson, Mrs. Hania, Mr. B. Guggenheim, Mrs. R. Elias and child, Miss A. Hannowitch, Mr. Ch. Anteoni, Messrs. J. Geny, P. Doubuffet, F. Evsard, P. Domain, N. Matsuda, P. F. Daver,

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H. E. Bottlewalla, Lo Wai Koon, A. Kaufmann, Kawaguchi and child, Ishikawa, Chan Lup Sing, Marusa, and Mrs. Akiyama and family in cabin, and one Chinese, 2 Japanese, and 8 seamen in steerage.

CARGOES.

Per British steamer *Strathnevis*, for Tacoma, Wash., viâ Victoria, B.C.:—

TEA.

	CANADA.	CHICAGO AND WEST.	NEW YORK AND EAST.	OTHER CITIES.	TOTAL.
Shanghai	917	3,034	10,767	—	14,718
Hyogo	463	5,601	4,203	—	10,267
Yokohama	1,146	12,636	13,839	—	27,630
Hongkong	325	—	10	—	335
Total	2,869	21,271	28,819	—	52,959

SILK.

	NEW YORK.	OTHER CITIES.	TOTAL.
Shanghai	110	—	110
Hongkong	77	—	77
Yokohama	65	—	65
Total	252	—	252

Per British steamer *Empress of China*, for Vancouver, B.C.:—

TEA.

	CANADA.	CHICAGO AND WEST.	NEW YORK AND EAST.	PACIFIC COAST.	OTHER CITIES.	TOTAL.
Hongkong	—	—	137	70	10	217
Kiukiang	565	—	306	197	—	1,068
Foochow	10,552	1,023	—	—	—	11,575
Shanghai	164	892	4,346	—	—	5,042
Hankow	1,951	—	3,140	132	—	5,223
Hyogo	2,876	760	—	—	—	2,636
Yokohama	3,401	280	—	—	—	3,681
Total	18,509	2,955	7,929	399	10	29,802

SILK.

	NEW YORK.	OTHER CITIES.	TOTAL.
Hongkong & Canton	40	—	40
Shanghai	27	—	27
Yokohama	45	—	45
Total	112	—	112

Per British steamer *Ancona*, for Hongkong viâ ports:—Silk, 99 bales; Waste Silk, 269 bales.

Per French steamer *Saghalien*, for Shanghai viâ ports:—Raw Silk for Europe, 261 bales; Waste Silk for Europe, 195 bales. Treasure for Shanghai, $7,600.

REPORTS.

The British steamer *Victoria*, Captain J. Panton, R.N.R., reports:—Left Tacoma, Wash., the 8th June at 3 a.m., and Victoria, B.C., at 5.30 p.m.; had moderate westerly winds and sea to Meridian, which was crossed on the 15th inst. in lat. 50° North; thence to port variable winds and head sea prevailed. Arrived at Yokohama the 23rd June at 10 p.m. Time on passage, 14 days, 11 hours.

The British steamer *Gaelic*, Captain W. G. Pearne, reports:—Left Hongkong the 18th June at 7.46 p.m., via ports; had variable winds and fine weather throughout the passage. Arrived at Yokohama the 25th June at 6.56 p.m.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

Dull all round, and prospects far from bright. Yarns—Rather more business in "doubles" with a small sale or two in "singles." Grey goods, lifeless. Fancies—Nothing done beyond a retail business in Turkey Reds and Velvets. Woollens—trifling sales in Italians and Mousselines.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirtings—8¼ lb, 38½ yds. 39 inches	$2.25 to 2.85
Grey Shirtings—9lb, 38½ yds. 45 inches	2.70 to 3.10
T. Cloth—7lb, 24 yards, 32 inches	1.60 to 1.95
Indigo Shirtings—12 yards, 44 inches	1.70 to 2.35
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches	2.00 to 3.75
	PER YARD.
Cotton—Italians and Satteens Black, 32 inches	0.16 to 0.22
	PER PIECE.
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	7.25 to 9.50
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches	0.80 to 0.95
TurkeyReds—2.0 to 2.4lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.60 to 1.70
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.75 to 2.05
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.30 to 2.60
Turkey Reds—4.8 to 5lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.80 to 3.15

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.
Flannel	$0.30 to 0.47½
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches best	0.30 to 0.35
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Medium	0.25 to 0.27½
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Commn	0.20 to 0.22½
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.15 to 0.22
Cloths—Pilots, 51 @ 56 inches	0.35 to 0.50
Cloths—Presidents, 54 to 56 inches	0.60 to 0.65
Cloths—Union, 54 to 56 inches	0.[illegible] to 0.70
Union Scarlet and Grey [illegible] per lb	0.60 to 0.75

COTTON YARNS.

	PER PICUL.
Nos. 10/24, Ordinary	—
Nos. 16/24, Medium	$33.00 to 33.50
Nos. 16/24, Good to fleet	34.00 to 35.00
Nos. 16/24, Reverse	—
Nos. 28/32, Ordinary	—
Nos. 28/32, Medium	36.00 to 37.00
Nos. 28/32, Good to fleet	37.50 to 38.50
Nos. 38/42, Medium to Best	42.00 to 44.00
No. 32s, Two-fold	41.50 to 42.50
No. 42s, Two-fold	47.00 to 49.50
	IRON RODS.
No. 20s, Bombay	—
No. 16s, Bombay	—

METALS.

Small business; and values weak, in spite of a declining exchange which favours holders. There seems to be no life at all in the trade.

	PER PICUL.
Flat Bars, ½ inch	$3.30 to 3.35
Flat Bars, ¼ inch	3.35 to 3.40
Round and square up-to ¼ inch	3.30 to 3.40
Iron Plates, assorted	3.40 to 3.50
Sheet Iron	4.40 to 4.60
Galvanized Iron sheets	8.25 to 8.75
Wire Nails, assorted	5.60 to 6.00
Tin Plates, per box	5.65 to 5.75
Pig Iron, No. 3	1.55 to 1.60

KEROSENE.

Market still obscure. Some business has been done, and quotations are said now to be as under. Fresh arrivals of Chester Oil have brought stocks up to about 700,000 cases, of which 600,000 are American and 100,000 Russian. Additional thereto are 15,000 cases Langkat, which seem to hang fire at present.

American	$2.40 to 2.50
Russian	2.30 to 2.40
Langkat	1.90 to 2.00

SUGAR.

Brown.—Formosa sorts unchanged and nominal at quotations. Manila and China kinds dull and tending down. Some little business has been done, but the market is quiet. White—Dull with small sales at quotations.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Takao	$3.60 to 3.65
Brown Manila	4.30 to 4.40
Brown Daitong (New)	3.10 to 3.20
Brown Canton	3.00 to 3.50
White Java and Penang	6.20 to 6.50
White Refined	6.00 to 9.25

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

A lively market for New Crop, and the few arrivals are eagerly taken at advancing prices. Crop news from Italy does not sound altogether satisfactory, while here all goes well as usual.

QUOTATIONS.—(NEW SILK.)

Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers	$870 to 880
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den	None
Filatures—No. 1½, 10/14 deniers	840 to 850
Filatures—No. 1½, 13/16, 14/17 den	840 to 850
Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers	820 to 830
Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	820 to 830
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 deniers	840 to 850

WASTE SILK.

A fair demand at quotations for old fibre; but the quality of the remaining stock is poor and shippers have difficulty in finding good parcels.

QUOTATIONS.—(OLD WASTE.)

Pierced Cocoons—Good to Best	—
Noshi-ito—Filature, Best	$115 to 120
Noshi-ito—Filature, Good	105 to 110
Noshi-ito—Filature, Medium	[illegible] to 100
Noshi-ito—Oshu, Good to Best	90 to 110
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Best	—
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Good	—
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Medium	50 to 65
Noshi-ito—Bushu, Good to Best	—
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Best	—
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Good	—
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Ordinary	50 to 60
Kibiso—Filature, Best selected	90 to 100
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds	80 to 85
Kibiso—Oshu, Good to Best	—
Kibiso—Shinshu, Best	—
Kibiso—Shinshu, Seconds	—
Kibiso—Joshu, Good to Fair	26 to 2
Kibiso—Joshu, Middlingto Common	20 to 1
Kibiso—Hachoji, Good to Fair	20 to 1
Kibiso—Hachoji, Medium to Low	16 to 1
Kibiso—Neri, Good to Common	10 to
Mawata—Good to Best	—

TEA.

A good steady trade and settlements to da[illegible] give an increase of about 3,000 piculs wh[illegible] compared with same date last year. Export[illegible] date (not including *Gaelic* which sailed to-da[illegible] 11,650,000 lbs. against $11,400,000 last yea[illegible] First crop leaf is now finished; but second pickin[illegible] is on the market in full force. Tasters complain [illegible] the quality and say that prices are dear, especial[illegible] for the grades below good medium.

	PER PICUL.
Choicest	$30 to $32
Choice	27 to 28
Finest	25 to 26
Fine	23 to 24
Good Medium	21 to 22
Medium	19 to 20
Good Common	17 to 18
Common	15 to 16

EXCHANGE.

Exchange has fluctuated slightly during t[illegible] week, but there is not much alteration in rate[illegible] which close firm and a shade higher.

Sterling—Bank T.T.	2/1⅞
— Bills on demand	2/1½
— 4 months' sight	2/1¾
— Private 4 months' sight	2/2
— 6 months' sight	2/2⅛
On Paris—Bank sight	2.67
On Lyons—Private 4 months' sight	2.73
On Hongkong—Bank sight	⅛ %
— Private 10 days' sight	¼ %
On Shanghai—Bank sight	72
— Private 10 days' sight	73
On India—Bank sight	194⅛
— Private 30 days' sight	197
On America—Bank Bills on demand	51⅛
— Private 30 days' sight	52⅛
— 4 months' sight	53⅛
On Germany—Bank sight	2.16
— Private 4 months' sight	2.22
Bar Silver (London)	30⅛

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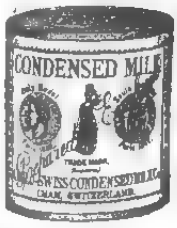
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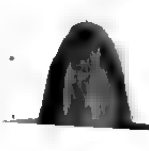
January 1, 1895. Sept. 28, '95.

Printed and Published for the Proprietor at 314 Main Street, Settlement, by James Edward Bull, of No. 58, Bluff, Yokohama, Japan, June 29, 1895.

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